

COMMUNITIES OVERCOMING VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS



A Day in the Life.....

Did you ever feel that you didn't have enough time, that you didn't have enough energy, that there wasn't enough of you to go around and your resources were always on the edge, that you were daily trying to find new funds to pay bills and to buy the foods and products necessary for each day, your household included 8 women and 9 children and more were being added and many others not living with you needed lots of support and advocacy too?

Welcome to C.O.V.E. This is life on the edge trying to provide support, housing, resources and safety to those who have fallen over the edge or are hanging on by their finger tips. No one wants to be in crisis. Sometimes we make poor choices and sometimes we are victims of other people's action. No one wants to be there. But it happens and C.O.V.E is the safety net, the safe harbor, the shelter in the storm for families and individuals in Lake, Mason and Oceana counties. Come along side us as we work to support, house, counsel, train, provide, advocate and be a friend to those in crisis. You, too, can help by becoming a donor of time, money and resources to those in our community who are in crisis.

Legal Clinic

COVE now has a Legal Clinic! The concept was developed and is overseen by an Advisory Committee and is staffed by volunteer attorneys who provide free legal counseling to COVE clients on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. The attorneys limit their help to brief counseling, but will refer the client to attorneys in the area for representation or additional help.

The attorneys who are giving so generously of their time are: David Betz, Tom Carlson, Eric Fox, David Glancy, Ryan Glanville, Connie Krusniak, Tim Hayes, Jeff Nellis, Clay Olmstead, Mark Otto, Bob Shrauger, Doug Springstead, Julie Springstead and Tracy Thompson. Please thank them for their caring and commitment.

Community at Work

In March, C.O.V.E. sponsored 2 workshops focused on Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault. Police, lawyers, counselors and other community people attended these invaluable workshops explaining some of the causes, reporting procedures and how to assist those in crisis.

In 2007, C.O.V.E. received 97 police referral from Mason County, 41 from Oceana County, and 20 from Lake County. The professionalism of our law enforcement officers is very appreciated as they respond and respectfully work with our clients in the Shelter.

We are fortunate in this area to have collaborative efforts within our 3 counties as we seek to assist, care and protect those that need it the most.

Volunteer Corner

C.O.V.E is blest with many faithful volunteers donating hours at The Shelter, answering the crisis line, providing legal assistance, transportation, helping where ever needed, working on committees and doing special events.



Meet Tania Cornett who began volunteering for C.O.V.E while it was still known as Region 4 in 1999.

She can be found helping us in the office between 8-10 hours every week. Tania has a huge heart and enjoys helping others. She takes care of the little details that make the big differences. We love having her with us and appreciate how hard she works. When she isn't volunteering at our office, she visits a local retirement community once a week with her husband to sing songs to the residents. She is also a proud grandmother.



The Oceana Fund Raising Committee, chaired by Sylvia Shrauger, strategize for the coming year of fund raising events they are planning in Oceana County. This group of dedicated women are making a difference in many people's lives while having lots of fun.



Volunteers at the Idlewild Music Festival 2007
Dave Gibbs, Susie Tripp, & Karin Hopkins

What Do We Do?

C.O.V.E. is the safety net for those experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness in Mason, Lake and Oceana Counties since 1979. In the last 5 years on average 655 families and individuals have been served yearly.

Emergency Shelter Program:

The Shelter is a 14-bed facility that provides room, board and counseling free of charge for those who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault or homelessness. During the past year 220 women and 180 children were housed at the Shelter for a total of 3479 nights & 10,428 meals. The Shelter was full or over capacity 140 nights. Men were provided with appropriate accommodations off premise.

Community Outreach Programs:

Counseling, legal and medical advocacy, new legal clinic, child advocacy, financial assistance, housing assistance, 24-hour crisis hot line, transportation assistance, support groups and safety planning are some of the services we provide. More than 290 individuals in addition to those who stayed in the Shelter were assisted through our Outreach Programs.

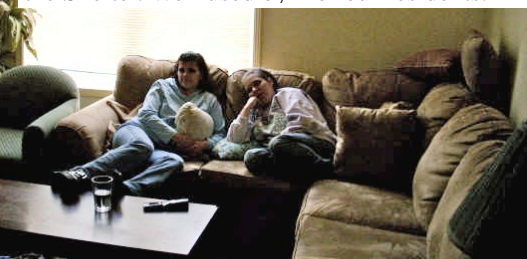
Funding:

With state, federal and community grants C.O.V.E. is able to fund all but 10% (\$50,000) of its mission-based salaries and other expenses. The need for additional support in the form of individual, group and corporate giving is on going and becoming more and more critical as government and local funding decrease and the number of victims and homeless increase.

Adopt the Shelter

Whether an individual or a group, one can adopt the Shelter for a day, a week or a month. Choose your projects- provide food, assist someone as they leave the Shelter, do a work project, teach a craft, be a grandma to some children, provide transportation and many others. Call and get involved. 843-2541 ext. 26

Lundquist's Furniture donated sofas & table to the Shelter. Well used by 2 of our residents.



2008 Events for C.O.V.E.

April - Sexual Assault Awareness Month

May 8 - COVE's Spring Fundraiser at Jamesport Brewing Co.

June 27 - Women's Golden Sands Golf Outing

July 12 - Pentwater Art Fair

July 18 - Friday Night Live - Ludington

July 19 - Mears Craft Fair Booth

July 25 - Friday Night Live - Ludington

Aug. 1 - Friday Night Live- Ludington

Aug. 8 - Friday Night Live - Ludington

Sept. 13 - 5 & 10 K walk/run in Pentwater

Sept. 27 - Pentwater Tour of Homes

October - Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Nov. 20 - "Ready for the Holiday's" Party/ Fund Raiser with Silent & Live Auctions.

Dec. 14 - Afternoon Tea at Hexagon House in Pentwater

Opportunities for Giving

Whether it's time, money or supplies your help is always needed. Here are some ideas, but don't limit your giving to this partial list.

- Money - support client needs & supplies
- Alarm clocks - used help to get to appointments & work on time, also, given to residents when they relocate
- Dial-a Ride tokens- for medical & job appointments
- Gas Cards- to defray cost of driving
- Phone Cards- long distant calling
- Baby wipes/diapers- for the many infants & toddlers who come to the Shelter
- Children & women's socks & underwear- in crisis there is little to call one's own
- Laundry soap/ dryer sheets- for the 70 to 90 loads of wash done weekly at the Shelter
- Shampoo/conditioner/feminine hygiene products to meet needs of over 220 women per year.
- Pillows, sheets/blankets- both for the Shelter and as the women transition on their own
- Cleaning supplies, paper towels/toilet paper- all needed to help run a house with 14-16 people in it.
- Plastic storage containers(any size)- to keep order and storage
- Canned good/cereal/etc. - to help supply the almost 10,500 meals served yearly.
- Computer paper, pencils & pens for teenagers as they do their homework
- Children craft supplies - to keep busy finger happy and creative

We Need You!

If you have just a few hours a month or more and would like to be part of a group seeking to make a difference in the lives of individuals and families currently experiencing trauma due to sexual assault/domestic violence and /or homelessness we need you. Opportunities available:

- ❖ transport people & donations
 - ❖ answer crisis calls
 - ❖ help with special events
 - ❖ office support such as data entry, mailings
 - ❖ website
 - ❖ C.O.V.E. Historians
 - ❖ sort donations
 - ❖ do general repairs
 - ❖ work on fund raising committees in Mason, Lake & Oceana counties
- If you would like to help or find out more about how you can make a difference please call Volunteer Coordinator Kerry at (231)843-2541 Ext. 26

Happenings in Lake County

- The women of Covenant Community Methodist Church share lunch with the Lake County Support Group once a month.
- Special thanks to Under-sheriff Dermeyer for assisting C.O.V.E to see that together we help end sexual assault/domestic violence/ and homelessness.
- Women's Support Group meets on Thursday morning
Advocate phone (231)745-8122

Happenings in Mason County

- Currently there are new housing programs for the homeless in Mason County helping us assist shelter residents to secure permanent housing.
- Domestic Violence support group is doing great. Thanks for everyone's participation.
- Women's Support Group Tuesday evening.
- Advocate Phone (231)843-2541

Happenings in Oceana County

- Welcome to Katie Mendez, Oceana's new Outreach Advocate.
- A Domestic Violence Task Force has been started.
- Women's Support Group - for further information call Katie at (231)843-2541 ext 22

C.O.V.E.

Since C.O.V.E opened its doors in 1979, it has provided services to over 5,500 individuals and families in Mason, Oceana and Lake counties who've experienced the trauma of domestic /sexual violence and/or homelessness. Cove provides a 24 hour crisis hotline, crisis support, outreach services , information and referrals , as well as 14 bed emergency shelter. C.O.V.E is a shelter from the storm.

C.O.V.E.

906 E. Ludington Ave.
Ludington, MI 49431
Phone: 231- 843-2541

C.O.V.E 2008 Board of Directors

- Kristin Bantle, President
- Susan Bradford Tripp, Vice President
- Sharen McBride-Wicklund, Secretary
- Dave Gibbs, Treasurer
- Norma Gilbert
- Linda Haan
- Matt Jastrzembski
- Betty Ligon
- Robert Shrauger
- Sylvia Shrauger

C.O.V.E. Staff

- Marie Waite, Executive Director
- Kathy Griffith, Financial Director
- Kerry Schafer, Volunteer Coordinator
- Frances Elkin, Grant Support
- Angela Mendez, Outreach Advocate
- Katie Mendez, Outreach Advocate
- Bea Rosalez, Legal Advocate
- Chrystal Patton, STOP Coordinator
- Judy Geoff, Shelter Manager
- Shelter Support Staff*
- Krista Walkly, Karen Parsons,
- Louredes Jaramillo, Stacey Chandler



Jean Russell, Susie Tripp and another volunteer making ready the chocolate fondue fruit table for the Christmas Party.



A night in a Tree House was so popular at the Christmas Party's Live Auction that 3 different nights were donated by David Gibbs and family with two of the purchases by Budde & Cheryl Reed and Bill & Patrice Bobier.

A Special Thank You to Everyone Who Made "The Party Before Christmas 2007" a great success raising more then \$10,000 during an evening of fun, food, & silent & live auction.

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| Air Fun | Russ Miller, Master Photog-raphy | Diane Gibbs |
| A Brides' Time | Morat's Cake | Kendra Gibson |
| Bitchen Kitchen | Oldewick Post Gift Shop | Norma Gilbert |
| Boathouse Bar & Grill | Ochard Market | Rich & Dee Gleason |
| Colonial Golf Course | Our Gallery | Richard & Delores Graham |
| Durand Wine Co. | Pamela Tripp Gallery | Arthur & Linda Haan |
| ETC Salon & Day Spa | PM Floral | Ceil Heller |
| Gardener's Folly | Raven's Men's, Women's & Shoes | Francis Hiscock |
| Good Stuff | Rennhack Orchards Market | Carrie Hugenot |
| Golden Cafe | Tye-One J | Lisa Kimes - Mary Kay |
| Gull Landing | Walmart | Herman Miller |
| Gunberg's Appliance | WMOM | Russ Murphy |
| Hansen's Foods | West Michigan Carpet | Tom & Laura Paine |
| Heggs Gallery of Fine Furni-ture | Russell & Sandra Cross | Budde & Cheryl Reed |
| Ida Jean Bed & Breakfast | Bob Childers & Jean Russell | Russ & Kathy Saxton |
| La Fiesta | Edna Delzappo | Virginia Schneider |
| Lake County Round Table | Janay Exdebski | Tom Scott |
| Luciano's Ristorante | Kathleen Fahlsing | Bill & Judy Seeley |
| Max & Cloe's | Krisitn Bantle & David Gibbs | Bob & Sylvia Shrauger |
| McDonald's Bakery | Bantle & Zuzu Gibbs | Mary Shumaker |
| Meijers | Dave & Sandy Gibbs | Rebecca Van Nortwick |
| Metalworks, Inc. | | Judy Weiers |

Please Become Part of Our Community by Supporting C.O.V.E.

Communities Overcoming Violent Encounters

Your support will help save lives now and provide direction and support long into the future.

- I am willing to give \$ _____ for this vital work
- I have of food and clothing I would like to donate.
- I would like to volunteer for C.O.V.E., (at the Shelter), (on a committee), (providing rides) (other)
- I would like to give \$ _____ in _____ Honor _____ Memory of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occasion of gift: Birthday, Anniversary,
Special Occasion, Thank You, Death

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ e-mail _____

Please make checks payable to **C.O.V.E.**, 906 E. Ludington Ave., Ludington, MI. 49431 - or contact Kerry Schafer at (231)843-2541.

Thank You

An acknowledgment of your gift will be sent to the person being honored or family of the memorial. No amounts will be mentioned. Thank you for your gift. Your gift is a tax deductible contribution that will help provide a shelter in the storm.



Don't
miss this
fun time!

C.O.V.E.'s

Spring Fund Raiser at Jamesport Brewing Co.

Thursday, May 8th from 5 to 8

**An evening of fun, food, fantastic music by Kevin Kimes and Beaune Band,
featuring beer and wine tasting**

\$20 per person

or \$25 at the Door

Be part of providing a "Shelter in the Storm"!



Buy
your
tickets
today!

Featuring wines from several wine distributors and beer tasting from Jamesport Brewing Co.
A great evening to connect with friends and support a vital resource in our community.

Get your tickets in advance in Pentwater at *ETC Salon & Day Spa* and *Durand Wine Co.* or
in Ludington at *Jamesport Brewing Co.* and the *C.O.V.E* office at 906 E. Ludington Ave. or
contact Kerry Schafer at 231-843-2541 ext. 26

**C.O.V.E.
906 E. Ludington Ave.
Ludington, MI 49431**

<p>PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. Postage Paid Ludington, MI 149431 Non-Profit Organization Permit No. 25</p>
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