

*Join us for our Second Annual
RCVA 5K Walk/Run—Sat., June 10*

**P.O. Box 303
Rushville, Indiana 46173
Return Service Requested**

RCVA
RUSH COUNTY
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE
phoenix house
RUSH COUNTY VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

RCVA NEWS

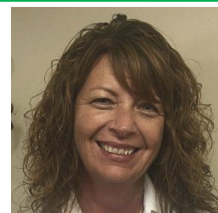
RUSH COUNTY
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

SPRING 2017

www.RCVAPhoenix.org
www.facebook.com/RCVAPhoenixHouse
email: rcva924@frontier.com

Our Mission

- Rush County Victims Assistance:**
- offers a safe shelter to victims of domestic violence
 - provides support services to victims
 - educates Rush County regarding domestic violence and its prevention.



*From RCVA President
Penny Busald*

SPRING—A TIME FOR NEW BEGININGS!

Isn't it nice to see some signs of spring? Green grass, flowers blooming and more hours of sunshine give us hope that winter is behind us. It is a time of new beginning...and hope.

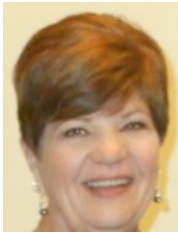
Spring reminds me that there is always hope, no matter what the situation.

Many victims of domestic violence lose hope and think they do not deserve a new beginning. But they do! There is always hope and there is always help from organizations like ours—RCVA/Phoenix House. We have hope to share and help for new beginnings.

As I think of the 53 Rush County Domestic Violence victims we have already served this year, I hope they feel that sense of hope.

Thank you Rush County, for helping us to share a little bit of "spring".

Penny Busald
President, RCVA



*From our Executive Director—
Barbara Kuhn*

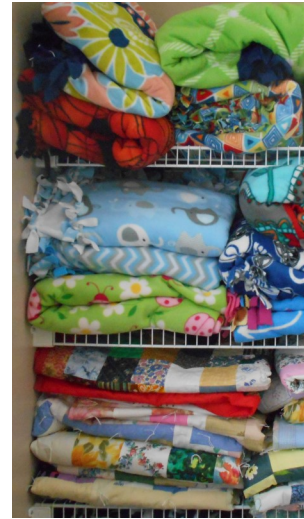
Everybody has a choice to continue an abusive pattern or to seek help. Yet, even when a client has made a good choice and is following all the right steps to distance herself from domestic violence, the vicious cycle of generational abuse can continue to pursue her.

Recently, a woman and her child, encouraged by the local police to seek help through RCVA, received a protective order from her abuser. The abuser was arrested and jailed. But the abuser's mother quickly posted bond for his release. This was followed by the mother's Facebook posts blaming the client, "*She caused it!*" Though the judge had evicted the abuser from the home, the abuser's mother retaliated by turning off the water and utilities, leaving the woman and her child vulnerable.

It seems outrageous that the abuser's mother would perpetuate or exacerbate the violence, yet this is often true. Perhaps, as in this case, *women are their own worst enemies*. This mother blames and punishes her son's wife and even her grandchild as the cause for the violence. This may stem from years of her own abuse, fear and disempowerment that she was never able to leave her own violent circumstances, or some distorted definition of love for her son. Whatever the cause, it leads to generational abuse that culminates in yet another generation making lousy choices that harm others.

This results in the abuser **denying** and **refusing to take responsibility** for his violent actions, **blaming**, with remarks such as, "*If she didn't push my buttons, I wouldn't be in this problem.*" The abuser shows **no remorse** and **fails to profit** from his past experiences, continuing the same vicious cycle.

But—**everybody has a choice**. That is our mission as RCVA. We assist clients and their families to grow and develop good choices. Choices that end devastating cycles. Choices that create lives that are safe, loving and productive. Thank you for your **good choice** of supporting RCVA/Phoenix House!



*Cozy Blankets from the
CWF of Little Flatrock
Christian Church and...*



*from the Youth
Class of First
Presbyterian
Church*



*Thank you for these hand-crafted gifts for
families in need of warmth and comfort!*

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Clients Served— Jan. - Mar. 2017



- 26 primary victims
- 27 children/family members in the home
- 8 clients assisted in obtaining protective orders
- 10 clients accompanied to court hearings/ counsel
- 20 clients assisted with transportation
- 12 assisted with Indiana Department of Child Safety, Indiana Family and Social Services, county mental health agencies and Shares
- 18 assisted with clothing, food and fuel cards
- 2 assisted with new locks for their homes as a result of domestic violence
- 1 client assisted with legal issues through Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and granted a pro bono attorney

Rush County Victims Assistance (RCVA) is here to serve the entire community and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, sex, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, affection preference, different disabilities or religion.

RCVA is incorporated in the State of Indiana as a non-profit organization and has tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service 501 (c)(3).

Thanks to our Local Donors January—March, 2017

- CWF of Little Flatrock Christian Church
- Anytime Fitness
- RUF (Rush United Fund)
- Robert & Jeanie Spaeth
- The Spaeth Family
- Scarlet Lux
- Lisa Holloman
- St. Paul's UMC Mission Committee
- Phi Kappa-Kappa, Kappa, Kappa Chapter
- Carla Meece
- Dawn Netherly
- Jen & Mark Wesner



Thanks, Rachel Gates!

Thank you, Rachel, for serving as our RCVA Intern, contributing volunteer hours as part of your educational major through IU East.

You're making a difference for good!



Meet Our RCVA Board Director—Nancy Rice



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When Nancy Rice moved to Rushville in 2000, with her husband Keith, they did so deliberately! They had lived many years in major metropolitan areas and were looking for a feeling of community that had long been missing. Keith had grown up in Rush County, so over the years they had returned many times to visit family. That is why they knew Rushville was where they wanted to make their home.

Recently elected to the RCVA Board of Directors she said, *“This is a community that as a volunteer you can make a difference. I believe we all have a responsibility to give back to our community and help others in need. Rush County Victim Assistance is a major player in helping those in need in Rush County. Having a safe place where victims can find help is critical to stopping abuse.”*

Once moving to Rushville, Nancy wasted no time building community through voluntarism. She was a member of the board for the Chamber of Commerce for 10 years, holding many offices, as president, vice president, and treasurer. She has also served for 10 years as a board member for the Rush Memorial Hospital Foundation, serving in the office of treasurer. She currently is a member and treasurer of the Rushville Rotary Club and is the treasurer for the Antler Pointe Ladies Golf League.

Yes, there is a theme here! Nancy has a strong aptitude for finances, employed as the Business Development Manager of MainSource Bank during the past eleven years. As she says, *“I thoroughly enjoy helping our customers with their financial needs.”*

Prioritizing family is an essential part of Nancy’s life. She describes, *“I have been married to my husband Keith for 35 years! Keith is from Rushville and my sister-in-law, Cinda Brown (Former Lady Lions Basketball Coach), brother-in-law Dwight Rice and wife Joan also reside here in Rush County. Our nephew Allan Rice is a deputy with the Rush County Sheriff Department. He lives in New Salem with his wife Melody and their family.”*

Amidst family, work, and numerous volunteer activities, Nancy includes personal time, saying, *“I love the outdoors! Flower gardening, Pool Volley Ball, golfing and hanging out at the beach with friends are all some of my favorite things.”*

We welcome you, Nancy, to the RCVA Board of Directors!



Coming Soon!

**RCVA 5K
Walk/Run
Sat., June 10
9:00 a.m.**

**at the Benjamin Rush
Middle School**

Cost: \$10

**Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
or pre-register by calling
RCVA Board Director
Mescal Shelton
at 765-561-0878**

Door-Prize Drawings at 10:00 a.m.

Post race refreshments

**RCVA Walk/Run is an opportunity for
our community to stand together in
the race to end domestic violence.**

**You choose
between the
Cross Country
Course
or the Track**

