

RCVA NEWS

RUSH COUNTY
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

SUMMER 2015

Coming Soon—OUR NEW WEBSITE:
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

We Are Reaching Out To Our Community— Will You Support Us?



Masquerade Ball Sat., October 17

RCVA is excited to announce that we will be hosting our first annual **Masquerade/Benefit Ball** on Sat., Oct. 17th at the beautiful *201 Building* in downtown Rushville

We are reaching out to our friends and supporters to join us for an evening of fun, good food and entertainment, as well as your financial support to grow our mission.

We are hosting a Masquerade Ball (*masks provided!*) to increase community awareness about domestic violence. The masks will represent the many feelings of victims who too often feel the need to “hide” in secrecy behind the terror of abuse.

The evening will include cocktails, a delicious dinner, entertainment and an auction. We are thrilled that Kerry Hyatt Blomquist will be our guest speaker. Blomquist is the the Legal Counsel at the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Adjunct Professor (continued on page 2)

RCVA
RUSH COUNTY
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

phoenix house
RUSH COUNTY VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

P.O. Box 303

Rushville, Indiana 46173

Return Service Requested

Good News To Share!
-Masquerade/Benefit Ball
-www.RCVAPhoenix.org



Coming Soon:
Our New Website!
www.RCVAPhoenix.org
Thanks to the
CIRCLe Fund Grant

Thanks to the CIRCLe Fund Grant through RCCF, we have a new design and a new address for our website:

www.RCVAPhoenix.org

The new website will “go live” within days. We hope you will make it one of your ‘favorites.’

Created by *Web Solutions* (www.midcompweb.com), our restructured site offers numerous resources such as: a *Safety Plan* for those preparing to leave an abusive relationship, help for family and friends to offer their loved ones facing domestic violence, upcoming RCVA Events and News, online donation and volunteer opportunities, plus the current newsletter.

www.RCVAPhoenix.org is now easily accessible by all social media devices and offers a quick *Escape Button* when privacy is crucial.

Take a moment to visit our newly designed website and learn more about how RCVA is helping families create safe and productive lives!

Welcome to
amazonsmile

New Way to Support RCVA!

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Rush County Victims Assistance** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Simply start shopping for RCVA at:

www.smile.amazon.com/ch/01-0609070

Thanks to our Local Donors
May 15—June 30, 2015

Little Flatrock Christian Church
St. Paul’s United Methodist Church
Dawson Family
Bonnie J. Jones
Aimee Chapman
New Salem Lions Club
Anonymous
Walnut Ridge Friends Meeting
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority Chapter
City of Rushville
Trinity Novell
Paula Sheehan
Harcourt Family and Huskins Family
in loving memory
of Carol Mathews (RCVA Volunteer)



RCVA NEWS is published quarterly by
Rush County Victims Assistance
P. O. Box 303
Rushville, Indiana 46173
Phone: (763) 938 -1555
 Editor: Dena Vittorio

RCVA Officers and Directors

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Penny Busald, President | Rita Emsweller, Secretary |
| Sherri Griffis, Treasurer | Jenny Bullard |
| Patricia Coons | Brandy Rudici |
| Mescal Shelton | Dennis Simmons |
| Wayne Munson | Sandy Ellis |
| Barbara Kuhn, Executive Director | |

(Continued from page 1)

at the IU School of Law in Indianapolis. She will speak about the impact of abuse in small communities.

Please mark your calendar for **Sat., Oct. 17th** and plan to join us for our first—

Masquerade/Benefit Ball.

Tickets will go on sale **September 1st**. Reserve your tickets by calling **938-1555** or ordering at: www.facebook.com/RCVAPhoenixHouse.

For more information or to reserve a table for a large group, give the Phoenix House a call.

We look forward to seeing you!

Penny Busald

RCVA Board President

Clients Served & Services Offered April 1—June 30, 2015

- 36 primary victims including 2 male (plus 70 children in the homes)**
 - 4 clients assisted in obtaining protective orders**
 - 19 accompanied to court hearings, assisted with transportation, food, clothing, housing, and child visitation**
-

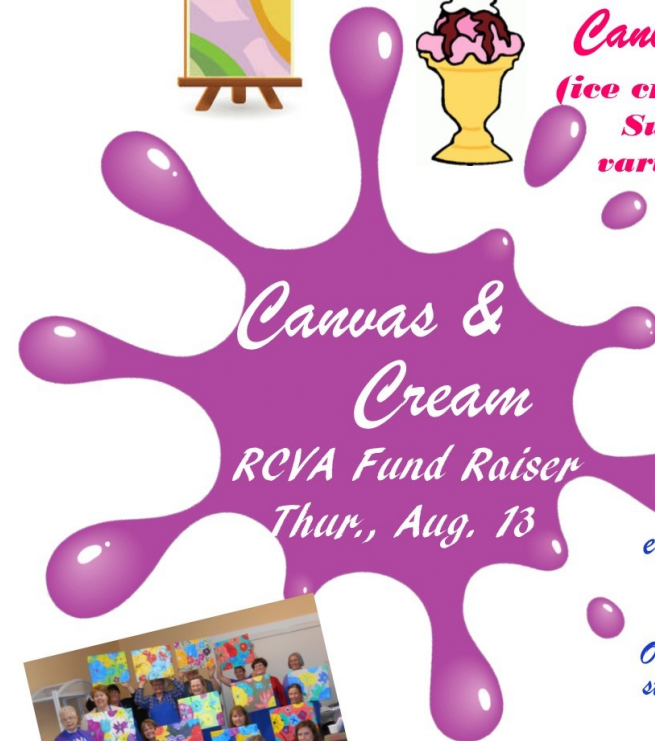
Rush County Victims Assistance (RCVA) is here to serve the entire community and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, sex, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, affection preference, different disabilities or religion.

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).

August "Fun" Raiser



**Join us for
Canvas & Cream
(ice cream, that is!)
Sundaes with
various toppings**



*Canvas &
Cream
RCVA Fund Raiser
Thur., Aug. 13*

*Enjoy
friends,
eat a yummy sundae,
and take home
your own painting!
Our topic: Nature scene in
style of Georgia O'Keeffe*



No Experience Necessary!

**Thursday, August 13
6:00 p.m.**

**RCVA Phoenix House
924 North Main Street, Rushville, Indiana
\$40.00**

*Limited space, please register at 765-938-1555
Includes canvas, paints, ice cream, toppings, drinks,
a fun evening of creativity,*

AND the chance to make a difference for good!

Meet our RCVA Board Directors
Our Newest Director—
Sandy Ellis



Sandy became a member of the RCVA Board at the July meeting, after months of volunteer service.

When asked why she chose to volunteer through RCVA/Phoenix House, she replied, *“I want to help and be part of something that makes a positive difference for people. As part of the Rush County Community, I believe RCVA is important and can help families overcome bad situations. Domestic Violence knows no boundaries. It can and does happen to “good” people of all ages, race and education. We need to educate our community on what is happening right here in our community, to people we know or even love. We also need to let victims know, it is okay to speak out, they don’t deserve to be victimized.”*

Sandy lives an active life as wife to husband Bruce, mother of four children Dale Long, Cari Herbert, Chris Houston and Melissa Buckler, and grandmother of eleven.

She is employed in Project Management at MainSource Financial Group out of Greensburg, Indiana.

As well as her volunteer service to RCVA, she is an energetic member of First Baptist Church in Rushville, and when time permits, Sandy enjoys arts and crafts.

Welcome to RCVA,
Sandy!

If you would like to learn more about volunteering with RCVA, please call our Executive Director



Barbara Kuhn—

**Be Safe:
Report Abuse**

Domestic violence happens everywhere—in single-family homes and apartments, in the north and south, in urban and rural areas. And that means victims are seeking Personal Protection Orders (PPOs) in all of these settings.

A PPO protects a person from being hit, threatened, or stalked by another person. The PPO stops someone from coming into your home or bothering you at work. It can stop abusers from buying a firearm or finding your address through school records.

But do rural dwellers experience PPOs to be as effective as urban dwellers?

A study led by researchers at the University of Kentucky interviewed 213 women across five urban and rural jurisdictions who had secured PPOs.

The first finding showed that women in rural areas reported higher levels of fear of future violence at the time the PPO was issued than women in urban areas. Reasons might include: rural women are more likely to be geographically and socially isolated than urban women, have less access to social services and more likely to be married to their abuser and have children with their abuser.

The study also looked at the barriers to getting protective orders for both rural and urban women. Nearly 40% of respondents mentioned judicial bias as a barrier, especially among the rural women who stated that “who you know” in the judicial system was important in gaining a PPO. Urban women reported having more difficulty navigating the judicial process itself.

The good news is that once protective orders are in place, they have similar effectiveness rates in rural and urban settings. While half of the women experienced PPO violations in the first six months after the order was served, those violations were less violent than the violence that occurred before the protective order.

Need help getting a protective order? Please call 938-1555.

In the first six months of 2015, RCVA provided assistance to seven clients in securing Personal Protective Orders and accompanied nine clients to court hearings. RCVA takes to heart the importance of personally guiding and accompanying clients through the legal process.

You are not alone. We can help!