



August/September 2011

If you would like to join our mailing list, send an email to newsletter@guardianfamilyservices.net

Take Back the Night And the Silent Witness Project

In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Guardian Family Services and the Community of Women will host the annual Take Back the Night on October 6th.

We will meet at Guardian Family Services at 6:30, 117 West Tenth Street and march from there to the courthouse where a candlelight ceremony and short program will be held and then return to the shelter. If you are unable to walk the 5 blocks please join us at the courthouse.

If you would like to paint a silhouette to display in support of Take Back the Night – we will provide you with a pattern and they will be placed around town as soon as they are submitted to GFS. For more information contact Denese Peebles 270-519-7988 or Rita Gower 618-645-6444 or 618-524-9922



Moment of Silence

During this year's take Back the Night event on October 6th we will hold a moment of silence in memory of Caellagh Eiler. Caellagh was one of our speakers at last year's event. Fourteen year old Caellagh came to GFS Program Director, Rita Gower, and asked if she could speak at the event about domestic violence she had witnessed and how a family friend's rape affected her. Caellagh wrote her own speech and for the first time she spoke so bravely about a very difficult subject to a crowd of strangers and we were all very proud of her!

The community was saddened when it was learned that Caellagh passed away on August 29th from head injuries sustained in a fall while car surfing on August 28th.



August/September 2011



Meet our new Americorps members!

Guardian Family Services would like to introduce our Americorps workers for this year.

Amanda Kirby – returned to GFS with 4 year's experience as a shelter caseworker. She started as an Americorps worker and was then hired as a fulltime GFS employee and worked for three years when she decided to go back to school fulltime. Amanda continues to attend Shawnee Community College and is working part-time. Amanda is the mother of a 16 year old son.

Annie Koerner – returned for a second year as an AC employee at GFS. Annie is a fulltime nursing student at West KY Tech in Paducah and is working part-time for GFS. Annie recently became engaged and will marry in June.

Jamie Turner Copley – returned to GFS as a 3rd year part-time AC employee. Jamie recently married Andrew Copley and has a 2 year old son.

All three are from Massac County and GFS is lucky to have them.

Americorps was funded in 1993 through the National and Community Service Trust Act and provides workers to non-profit agencies with only a small charge to the agency. The workers are paid a monthly stipend and also earn an educational grant to be used toward their college education or to pay on existing student loans. Americorps gives individuals an opportunity to make a difference in their community. The AC member gains new skills and experiences and find tremendous satisfaction that comes from helping others. GFS has collaborated with Americorps for ten years and have found it to be extremely beneficial to GFS. With the help of Americorps members, GFS is able to increase the number of clients we can serve.

Items needed:

Tax-deductible donation

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet bowl cleaner | <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher detergent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom cleaner | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet stain remover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air freshener | <input type="checkbox"/> Kool Aid |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disinfectant spray | <input type="checkbox"/> Apple juice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry detergent | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White kitchen-sized trash bags | <input type="checkbox"/> Tea bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bleach | <input type="checkbox"/> Ranch dressing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry stain remover | <input type="checkbox"/> Spaghetti sauce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fabric softener sheets | |



August/September 2011

Scare Creepers Open Again!

Beau and Jessica Neihoff and Shannon and Deanna Latham will once again be operating the "Scare Creepers Haunted Attraction" located at 3169 North Avenue (Round Knob) in Metropolis and donating proceeds to Guardian Family Services. This is the second year for this Haunted Attraction and it proves to be even bigger and better with added attractions.

The hours of operation will be the last weekend of September and every weekend in October - Fridays and Saturdays from 7PM to 12 AM and Sundays from 7 PM to 10 PM.

Bring your friends, youth group, birthday party or hayride out and support a great local non-profit agency!

Volunteers (teenagers and adults) are still needed. Applications can be picked up at Guardian Family Services or by calling the number below.

For more information or directions call 618-967-9601 or visit them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/scarecreepershauntedattraction.

Volunteer Handyman Needed

We need a volunteer to do some light handyman work in the shelter. If you can help us, please call Rita at 524-4357.

Do you know of someone in a domestic violence situation?

What about yourself?

If we can help with services or information, call us anytime 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 618-524-HELP (4357).

All services are free and confidential.



August/September 2011

Please help us with a donation of feminine supplies

Our shelter can house 16 women so we are always in need of feminine supplies like maxi pads and tampons. These items are essential in the everyday lives of women. If you would like to donate, please drop off these items at the shelter or give us a call at 524-HELP. We are open 24/7. Thank you as always for your generosity!

Please forward our newsletter or print and share!

To keep our newsletter out of your spam box,
please add newsletter@guardianfamilyservices.net to your contacts list.

Job Opportunity

Guardian Family Services has an opening for a call-in shelter worker. This position does not have any guaranteed hours. Candidates must be available to work any shift but will mostly be evenings, overnights, weekends and holidays as needed, must be a high school graduate and able to pass a background check. All training provided on site. If interested send resume to Rita Gower, GFS, P.O. Box 742, Metropolis, IL 62960 or call 524-9922 for more information.

Roadblock needs volunteers

GFS staff and volunteers will be working the roadblocks on Saturday, October 1st from 8 to 12:30. If you would like to volunteer please contact the office at 524-4357. Due to the state financial crisis, we need to raise lots of money!