



The Advocate Aspect

By Laurie Cole

Staff Members

- Sherie Lynn Betances-Vela
- Angela Bridegam
- Laurie Cole
- Sharon Cording
- Suzi Fode
- Kirstin Jackson
- Rachelle Jager
- Gloria Martinez
- Yvonne Minnier
- Alex Mueller
- Shannon Scribner
- Christy Smith
- Laura Thompson
- Elisha Verrett



3,600 lbs Nearly 2 Tons Shredded!

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Annual Shredding Event

Our annual Shred Event was a success again this year. We served three cities...Kettle Falls, Colville, and Chewelah, 137 cars, and shredded 3,600 lbs (nearly 2 tons) of personal documents.

We were so pleased to be able to partner with AmericanWest Bank (soon to be Banner Bank) and DB Secure Shred again this year. We were informed that Banner Bank is willing to continue the Shred Event next year, Bravo!

A big round of applause goes to our advocate, Sherie Lynn, for coordinating this event!

Shredding documents that have personally identifying information on them is one big step toward preventing identity theft! So, until next year, keep on shredding at home or securely save your documents for the next event.



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Survivor Clothing Kits

Thank you so much to the Assistance League of the Eastside for replenishing our Survivor Clothing Kits!

These allow assault survivors to leave the hospital with dignity when their clothing is retained as evidence.

Clothing kits are stored at area hospitals for survivors in need.

David Higgins



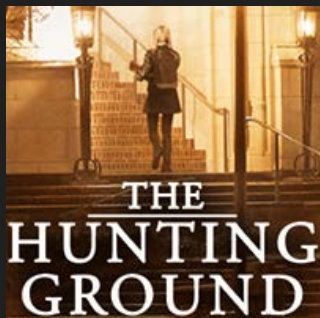
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David Higgins rode his bicycle across the Country, stopping at children's advocacy centers along his way. His mission: heighten awareness of child sexual abuse and raise funds for Kids First Children's Advocacy Center. We celebrated his journey on September 11th, where approx. 50 people shared in his experiences!

David also presented Kids First Children's Advocacy Center with a donation of \$800.00, and his riding shirt framed with special notes and pictures of his trip.

This community is so proud of you David!

September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month!



As college students settle into a new year at school, Lady Gaga has released a new video sending a powerful message about sexual assault on campus.

"Til It Happens to You," with lyrics by Diane Warren, was written for the documentary *The Hunting Ground*, which debuted earlier this year. The new video was directed by Catherine Hardwicke (*Twilight*, *Thirteen*) and shows college students experiencing assault in terrible, but unfortunately all too common, situations: in a dorm room, at a party, in a campus bathroom. "Til it happens to you," Gaga sings, "you don't know how it feels." The video concludes with each survivor getting support from the community and overcoming the stigma of sexual assault.

A portion of the proceeds from the song will go to organizations working to combat sexual assault and support survivors.

****Please be aware that this video is graphic and may be upsetting to some viewers**** Lady Gaga via Twitter "We hope u feel our love & solidarity through the song & perhaps find some peace in knowing u r not alone through this film #TilItHappensToYou" <http://time.com/4040143/lady-gaga-til-it-happens-to-you/>

Our 24-Hour Help Line is:
1-844-509-SAFE (7233)

We Have Expanded our Services into Ferry County

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Meet our Republic office staff: Kirstin Jackson, Gloria Martinez, Rachelle Jager, and Shannon Scribner

Partners, Friends and Allies

We are excited to announce that Rural Resources Victim Service has expanded services into Ferry County as of August 13, 2015.

Nearly two months ago, the Board of County Commissioners for Ferry County made a decision to close Connections. Funders and contractors of domestic violence services, sexual assault services, crime victim services, STOP services and DVLA services approached Rural Resources Victim Services about an expansion of our current services. Knowing it's the right thing to do, we agreed to serve our sister county and the survivors living there. It's been a whirlwind transition with many details to attend to; and our commitment from the onset has been to the people living in Ferry County, ensuring them a smooth transition of available services.

To that end, the four advocates working at Connections have been hired as Victim Advocates for Rural Resources Victim Services in the Republic and Inchelium offices.

Hours of Service

The office in Republic is open Monday through Thursday from 8am to 5pm, and closed on Fridays.

42 Klondike Road
Republic, WA 99166
(509) 775-3331 • Fax (509) 775-2014
24-Hour Help Line: 1-844-509-SAFE (7233)

The Inchelium office will be by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays only.

39 Shortcut Road
Inchelium, WA 99138
(509) 722-7689

Suzi Fode will assume the Director position for all services in both counties.

As most of you know, Rural Resources has long provided numerous services in Ferry County including Energy Assistance, Transportation, Senior Case Management, and Employment & Training. Additionally, at the Commissioners' request, we began operating many Housing services for Ferry County beginning last winter, including the HUD Section 8 Rental Assistance Vouchers. All of these services, when combined with our Victim Services Division will make Ferry County and our offices there our largest satellite location in Eastern Washington, with a diverse range of services to assist Ferry County residents.

Welcome Ladies, we are so happy to have you on board!

TOM THELEN

YOUTH MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER



Our annual *Wo+men Making a Difference* Luncheon is just around the corner (Friday, October 9, 2015 at 12 noon).

Not only is the *Wo+men Making a Difference* fundraiser a fun and tasty way to support the work we do here, you won't want to miss this year's speaker! Tom Thelen, author of *Victimproof*, is one of America's top anti-bullying speakers. He teaches students how to break free from the victim mindset and how to stand up to bullying.

So...give **Laurie** a call to make sure you get on the guest list...seats are by reservation only!

Call 509-685-6088

Tom will also be speaking at school assemblies in Valley, Wellpinit & Springdale on the 8th and Colville Jr. High on the 9th...make sure your kids don't miss it!



October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

5 Facts About Children of Domestic Violence

A violent childhood isn't just forgotten as children grow up.

Consider this: 90 percent of parents who are currently experiencing domestic violence within their relationship believe their children don't know what's happening. But when researchers asked the children, 90% of them were, in fact, well aware.

It's estimated that more than 275 million children worldwide are currently being exposed to violence in the home. UNICEF calls this epidemic, "One of the most pervasive human rights violations of our time." Brian F. Martin founded Children of Domestic Violence, a New York-based non-profit organization, in 2007 to bring awareness to the problem of childhood domestic violence (CDV), a little-known term to the public but used by prominent researchers to describe growing up with violence between parents or a parent and significant other. Through his organization, he educates others about the effects of CDV and is hoping an increased awareness will create more widespread application of solutions. Martin, a survivor of CDV himself, is also the author of *Invincible: The 10 Lies You Learn Growing Up with Domestic Violence*, which topped the *New York Times* bestseller list.

1. **Adversity faced in childhood is very different than adversity faced as an adult because of a child's underdeveloped brain and nervous system.** Experiencing trauma and adversity at home, as a child, can negatively wire a developing brain. "The brain seeks to find evidence that it believes is true," says Martin, meaning, if you were conditioned as a child to believe that you were weak and powerless, wouldn't it make sense for those feelings to carry over into adulthood?
2. **Children with childhood domestic violence(CDV), once they reach adulthood, are six times more likely to commit suicide.** 50 percent more likely to be addicted to drugs and alcohol and 74 times more likely to commit a violent crime. "They will not reach their full potential unless they unlearn what was learned," says Martin.
3. **Experiencing CDV in childhood means you learned a lie – that anger is a good way to teach others a lesson** so they'll do what we want them to do. But, says Martin, "The truth is that you can take the energy that anger produces and use it to pursue passionately the things you most want in life.
4. **Those who experience suffering in childhood truly know what suffering feels like.** Martin says only when we can find compassion for ourselves will we be able to truly have compassion for others.
5. **No obstacle you will face as an adult can compare to what you faced in childhood and have already overcome.**

It's That Time Again! Pre-Service Volunteer Training is Right around the Corner.

Research shows that volunteers, staff, and family and friends of both are the most effective way to recruit new volunteers. So, please spread the word. Tell people why you appreciate Rural Resources Victim Services and Kids First Children's Advocacy Center's services. Explain why the work we do is important, and contributes to the safety and well-being of children, teens, adults, elderly, and animals. Encourage them to call me at (509) 684-3796 to inquire about opportunities.

It's a great time to use our **Wo+men Making a Difference** event to highlight our presence in the community. Many of you will be at this fabulous fundraiser, and will have the time to sit and chat with people about how they can make a difference in the lives of many victims of Stevens and Ferry County.

We couldn't do this work without our devoted volunteers. If you are interested in being part of our mission to end abuse in Stevens and Ferry Counties, contact our Volunteer Program Manager, Angela. Training starts in October!

For those of you who are already our volunteers, the Annual Volunteer Training is also coming up on October 20, 2015 – **SAVE THE DATE!**

The training this year is titled "Crisis Response 101". Please join us to learn about how Stevens County responds to domestic violence, sexual assault and general crimes' calls. We'll start with dispatch, go on a house call with the Sheriff's Office, and hear what it is like to remove a child from their home with Child Protective Services. It will be interesting, so please join us! RSVP to Angela at (509) 684-3796.

ASK ME ABOUT

**Helping Survivors of Abuse
and Crime Find
Hope**

- *Answer Help Line calls
- *Provide receptionist coverage
- *Participate in community education
- *Complete an application
- *Agree to a free background check
- *Attend an interview



VOLUNTEER

Rural Resources Victim Services

www.ruralresources.org/volunteer

(509) 684-3796

Call Angela at (509) 684-3796

Rural Resources Victim Services & Kids First CAC

956 S. Main Street • Colville, WA 99114
509.684.3796 phone • 509.685.6098 fax
509.684.6139 24-Hr Help Line
1-844-509-SAFE Toll-free 24-Hour Help Line



For your donations...

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- Mike Birch
- Ladell Black
- Sabrina Cooper
- Lesla Crane
- Georgana Harley
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- Shannon Kubesh
- Jennifer Loren
- Douglas McCudden
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