



Serving as Linn and Benton County Child Victim Assessment Center

ABC House

all because of children

June 2011

Executive Director, Karen Scheler

ABC House

Board of Directors:

- ◇ *Debbi Richards, President*
- ◇ *Gordon Vogt, Vice President*
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- ◇ *Andrea Hampl*
- ◇ *Angela Kemp*
- ◇ *Mike McAdams*
- ◇ *Amy Vandetta*
- ◇ *Jennifer Stanaway*
- ◇ *Karen Scheler, Executive Director*

Our Mission:

To provide a safe, respectful, and healing environment for children who are victims of abuse.



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE®

FULL MEMBER

Member:

- ◇ Albany Area Chamber of Commerce
- ◇ Downtown Corvallis Association
- ◇ Lebanon Chamber of Commerce

Dear Friends,

I am sure we are all happy to see summer on its way. A little sunshine and warmth helps make all things brighter. I have now had the honor of serving as the Executive Director for eight years. Over the past eight years, I have seen an increase of over 150 children served each year and the addition of four new programs in order to provide all the services children and families need to help them deal with the assessment process involved when abuse is suspected.

I would like to start this letter introducing Tammy Bethman to the ABC House team. Through a grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust, we were able to hire Tammy to serve as an Administrative Assistant. Tammy will be providing support to me and our Development Director. We are excited to have Tammy joining our team.

During the first five months of 2011, ABC House provided services to a record number of 255 children. In order to continue to meet the needs of children, ABC House is working and planning for the need of increased exams, interviews and counseling. We are currently in the process of identifying and recruiting an additional medical provider to work 12 hours per week to provide medical exams and consultations.

ABC House is also launching the Darkness to Light prevention program this summer. This program will provide prevention education concerning child sexual abuse to adults working with children, but is also available to the community at large. I would like to encourage everyone to become better informed. If you are interested in knowing more about this program, please contact ABC House.

The expansion of needed services comes during a time of a proposed 15% (down from 25%) cut in one of our largest funding sources and cuts in payments made for medical and counseling services.

These cuts are challenging to say the least but we are pleased to say with the help of all those attending Celebrate Hope and a matching grant from the Doris and William Scharpf Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, we raised \$45,000 to help with decreased funding.

ABC House is also planning the first annual Runaway Pumpkin Half Marathon to be held on October 29, 2011 in Lebanon. We anticipate hosting 1500 runners/walkers and invite everyone to participate or help by volunteering.

I hope you will take time to read more in this newsletter and visit abchouse.org to check out the many things happening and ways in which you might become more involved in helping the children in your community.

If you would like to receive this newsletter on line and help save paper and postage, please email check inside for more information.

I know I speak for the staff and Board of Directors when I say " Thanks" to all of you who help support ABC House being part of a collaborative community response to the children we serve.

Enjoy your summer!

Karen Scheler



Crime Victims' Rights Week 2011

Every year, the Oregon Department of Justice Crime Victims' Services Division recognizes National Crime Victims' Rights Week by honoring those who have fought to protect crime victims and give them a voice in the criminal justice system. The theme for 2011 is *Reshaping the Future, Honoring the Past* which recalls a time in recent history when, among other injustices, victims and their families were excluded from courtroom proceedings and victims of assault were forced to pay for the medical bills and other expenses incurred as a result of the crime.

Four Oregonians were recognized this year for their contributions to victims' services and victims' rights: Chiquita Rollins (Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordinator); Douglas C. Hanson (Marion County District Attorney's office); Matt Wagenknecht (Portland Police Bureau); and Karen Scheler (ABC House).



Karen Scheler (center) with CVSD Director Cynthia Stinson and Attorney General John Kroger

ABC House: "Karen Scheler has created a warm supportive environment, where children feel heard, feel valued and feel safe. What better gift is there than that?"



On May 23rd, Dr. Carol Chervenak was awarded the **Dept. of Public Safety and Standards Training Medical Provider of the year award** at their annual child abuse training. Dr. Carol, as she is known to the children, has served as the ABC House Medical Director for the past 14 years providing medical exams and consultations to approximately 300 children each year. One of Dr. Carol's greatest qualities is her willingness to spend as much time as is needed with a family to ensure children feel safe, and caretakers understand the process. In addition to her work providing medical assessments Dr. Carol serves a vital role as an educator of child abuse issues for frontline medical providers, emergency room personnel, new nursing graduates and state wide Child Protective Service Workers, for the Department of Human Services.

"Not only is Dr. Chervenak a dedicated doctor with a brilliant mind, but she is a kind, caring person with a wonderful sense of humor and great dedication to the children she serves and the partners agencies she works with."



Detective Glenn Fairall of the Albany Police Dept. received the **Randy Nunnenkamp Champion for Children's award** at the **Clackamas Child Abuse Summit** held in Portland in April. Detective Fairall has served as a member of the Linn County Child Abuse Multi-Disciplinary Team for 7 years.

He is assigned as a Child Abuse Investigator and carries an average of approximately 70 cases per year. Over the past three years Detective Fairall has made over 100 arrests for crimes against children. In addition to his dedication to children through his job, Detective Fairall is a past member of the ABC House Board of Directors.



RADIO WAVES: ^A

benefit Concert to support ABC House
Featuring local Musicians to include:

Mid-Valley Carillon Handbell Choir

Thursday, June 23rd—7PM

at the Majestic Theatre

115 SW 2nd, Corvallis, OR.

Tickets: \$10. at the door

Community Partnership Awards

ABC House began a new tradition in April 2010 to recognize three community partners who have helped ABC House support children and families from Linn and Benton Counties. This year ABC House chose to recognize three women who contribute in special ways.



Ann Ayers has been volunteering every Tues. morning for over 10 years at ABC House. Ann answers phones, writes thank you letters and very special cards to the children who visit the center. Ann also helps with special projects and joins our monthly book club. Ten years offering her cheery smile and helping carry the work load. Thanks Ann

Helen Crossley has been providing quilts to the children we see at ABC House for 10 years. . Helen started quilting for ABC House when she was 80 years young. Over the past 10 years we calculate Helen has provided 1500 quilts out of the generosity and love of her heart. ABC House is able to provide over 500 quilts to children who visit with Helen and many others help.



Marleen Arends has been volunteering with the counseling program at ABC House 2 days a week for over three years. Marleen first worked providing administrative assistance and has since started providing counseling services to children and families. We are very lucky to have Marleen as part of the ABC House team.

On behalf of all the children, staff and Board of Directors, we thank each of our wonderful volunteers and supporters.

Celebrate ABC Hope
ABC House's Community Partnership Celebration 2011



Premier Sponsor: Coastal Farm & Ranch

Major Sponsor

◇ Horsepower Productions

Supporting Sponsor

◇ Gordon Vogt & Associates Insurance

Table Sponsors

- ◇ AK Carpet and More
- ◇ Albany Police Benevolent Association
- ◇ Citizens Bank
- ◇ The Corvallis Clinic
- ◇ Johnson, McGowan & Associates
- ◇ King Office
- ◇ National Frozen Foods
- ◇ Samaritan Health Services
- ◇ Scheler Corporation
- ◇ SELCO Community Credit Union
- ◇ Udell Engineering and Land Surveying
- ◇ Vertebrata Chiropractic

In-Kind Donors

Wine: Carino's Italian

Multimedia: Horsepower Productions

Graphic Design: Jessica Hodgson, Graphic Designer

Photography: Danae Jones Photography, L. Stephens Photography

Banner: No Dinx

Posters: Gateway Imprints

Music: Tim and Kathleen Poole

Food: Valley Catering

Floral Arrangements: The White Rose Custom Floral Design



Hands are *not* for Hurting Pledge

ABC House updates:

ABC House has been granted funding from the **National Children's Alliance** and **The Bill Healy Foundation** to help ABC House recruit and train an additional medical provider to work 12 hours per week.

ABC House provides medical assessments and exams to children referred to the center. If you are or know a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant with some available time and keen interest in a unique and challenging position helping children and families, please contact Karen Scheler at 541-926-2203.



The ABC House Education program will be launching a new program in the summer of 2011 entitled "Darkness 2 Light". ABC House will be teaming with Linn and Benton CASA programs to facilitate prevention information to the community. If you work with children or belong to a group interested in learning more to prevent child sex abuse, please contact Patty Sheffield. This new program will be launched with funding from **Pacific Power Foundation**.



Altrusa International of Albany has generously provided support for the next session of "Girls Group".

State Farm Insurance has also provided funding to help continue the school education program for middle and high school students.



ABC House counseling program recently received funding from the **South Albany High School** Community 101 Program and from **Santiam Christian High School** and **Samaritan Albany General Hospital Social Accountability Account**. This funding will help support counseling opportunities for children and families.

Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital Social Accountability Account is supporting continued Advocacy services for families with a local grant.

ABC House services are only available due to wide community support. We thank everyone on behalf of the children and families we serve.

If you have questions about ABC House services or would like to volunteer in some way, please feel free to contact us at 541-926-2203.



In-Kind Donations of : *Quilts, stuffed animals, office supplies, etc.*

Judith Ellingson * Judy Mowery *Diana Trembley *Gary Coakley *Sharry Stitzell
*Alicia Moselle *Judy Baker *LDS Church in Brownsville *Love Inc. of Linn
County *Suzanne Gann *Margaret Wimp *Peak Sports *Betty Thorn *Michaela

Judah *Carol Harrison *Elaine Wogomon *The Jones Girls *The Quilt Loft *Marlene Pete *Donna
Eshelman *Three Lakes Ward Young Women *Christine Schrock *Red Hot Red Hats *Villas at
Courtyard *LDS Stake Center *Sharron Thompkins and MK Sprecher *Carole Perkins

Target (gift card donated to provide three months of juice and snacks for children)

Volunteer Projects Merit Special Thanks



OSU Women's Golf Team transform stuffed animals into therapy tools.



Students from Scio High School donate quilts made in class.



Albany Rotary Club provides Personal Care Bags for Children!

More Volunteer Opportunities:

- ◆ Race Support
- ◆ Light Office Work
- ◆ Child Care
- ◆ Yes: we have Internship Opportunities!

CALL:

(541) 926-2203

1st annual
Runaway
Pumpkin
Half Marathon 2011

presented by  ABC house

100% of proceeds help serve abused children

October 29, 2011 • 8:30 am • Lebanon, OR

For more information and to register, visit
www.runawaypumpkinhalf.org

SPOTLIGHT *on ABC House Community Education Program*

We are wrapping up our 2011 school year and looking forward to an exciting summer. I was able to speak to many students this year about child abuse, domestic/dating violence, and internet safety. It is my goal to reach even more students and members of the community in the coming year.

Our Girls Group continues to meet and has been very successful. I have had many positive responses from parents and from the girls themselves that the meetings are beneficial to their growth and self-esteem. I have had several girls who return to the group because they like the friendship that develops with the other girls.

Soon we will begin our Darkness to Light trainings for members of the community and school faculty. Darkness to Light is a



nationally recognized child sexual abuse prevention program. In September, I was trained as a facilitator to provide trainings for adults who work with children. The 2.5-3 hour trainings give adults the opportunity to learn about child sexual abuse, the impact it has on children and families, and how to protect children from being victims.

If you would like any information on Darkness to Light or have questions about the ABC House Community Education program, feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.

Patricia Sheffield, ABC House Community Educator
 abhouseeducator@comcast.net/(541) 926-2203

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS NEEDED FOR NEW PUMPKIN THEMED HALF MARATHON RACE OCTOBER 29



Like many non-profits, ABC House is looking for ways to generate sustainable funding for our programs. Board member and chair of the Development Committee Amy Vandetta suggested doing a run and the "Runaway Pumpkin Half Marathon" was born. This will be the **first ever** half marathon in Linn County.

ABC House is seeking volunteers to work on planning the race, monetary and in-kind sponsors, runners and volunteer teams for the day of the race. Contact Lynn at abhousedeveloper@gmail.com.

There are fewer half marathons than other race lengths and tend to attract dedicated runners who will travel to run this distance (13.1 miles). The outskirts of Lebanon was selected for the location so the run will be on beautiful, flat country roads along the South Santiam River. 1,500 runners is set as the maximum. Registration is currently open on the website listed below.

For more information or to get involved, go to www.runawaypumpkinhalf.org or call Lynn at (541) 926-2203.

The Vision of Hope Society

The Vision of Hope Society was created to recognize businesses and individuals who support ABC House on an annual basis and at a level larger than \$120 per year. The basis of the Society is to encourage larger gifts and monthly or quarterly giving to provide ABC House with sustainability. The following are a list of 2011 members of this Society as of May 31, 2011:

ANGELS OF HOPE (\$1,000. +)

Jamie and Michel Bryant * Coastal Farm and Ranch *Pat and Elaine Eastman
*William and Marsha Langer *Russ and Dawn McUne *Jim and Becky Merryman
*Tom and Wendy Phelps *Sheet Metal Solutions, Inc *Stranahan Foundation *Eric
and Bonnie Helpenstell *Gordon Vogt Insurance and Associates

CHERUBS OF HOPE (\$600. - \$999.00)

Jonathan Crow and Jane Snyder *Patrick and Stephanie Hagerty *Mick and Susan
Keister-Schy *Amy and Brian Vandetta *AK Carpet & More *Vertebrata
Chiropractic

HOPE BUILDER (\$300. - \$599.00)

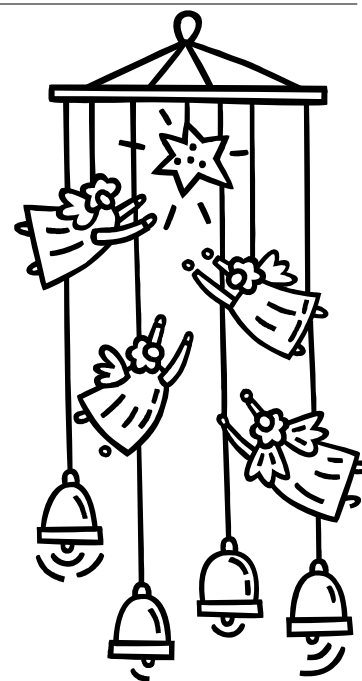
SELCO Community Credit Union *Albany Optimist Club *Deborah Ashley *Matt and Janel Bennett *Christina
Davis *Glenn and Amy Fairall *Dirk Foley *Jerry and Estelle Goodpastor *Johnson McGowan & Associates
*Angela and Scott Kemp *Lance and Stephanie King *Kutsch & Renyer Family & Cosmetic Dentistry *Robert
and Tami Minnick *Wendy Novet *Jennifer Smith *Lynn Youngs *Samaritan Health *King Office *Udell
Engineering & Land Surveying *Albany Police Benevolent Association *Citizens Bank *Corvallis Clinic
*National Frozen Foods

FRIEND (\$120. - \$299.00)

Chris Loretto *Lynn Bentson *Sharlan Colson *Grady & Teena Corr *Mike and Judy Corwin *John and Cynthia
Greene *Pam & Michael Hays *Debbie and Bryan Heim *Margaret Johnson *Avril Koehler *Tom and Katie
Leggate *Janine and Robert Mayer *Georgene McAlhany *Donna Merrifield *Dr. James Nusrala *Amy Price
*Debbi and Robert Richards *Terri Shank *Karin Stauder and Mary Gentle *William and Lynn Tucker *Craig
and Amy Vogt *Dennis and Louise Muscato *Wendie Wunderwald

Special Thanks

- ◇ Carino's Italian Restaurant for sponsoring a benefit night that raised \$369.37.
- ◇ Java II Coffee Shop at OSU raised \$800 from their customers.
- ◇ Paul Hines and Mike Graham for helping to lead the way on the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church penny drive.
- ◇ Downtown Corvallis Association, Donna Bella Lingerie, Mod Pod and Sibling Revelry in donating a percentage of sales on April 12th.



Jeff Wilcox memorial:

- ◇ Elaine Chapman
- ◇ Flat Mountain Riders Association
- ◇ Pat Sullivan
- ◇ Kenneth and Marlys Bilyeu

Spring/Summer Calendar

June

- ◇ Saturday, June 18, Shooters' Match, ABC House benefit
- ◇ Sunday, June 19, Fathers' Day
- ◇ Thursday, June 23rd, Benefit Concert "Radio Waves", Majestic Theater, Corvallis
- ◇ Monday, June 20, 5:30-6:30 pm Vision of Hope Tour
- ◇ Tuesday, June 21st First Day of Summer

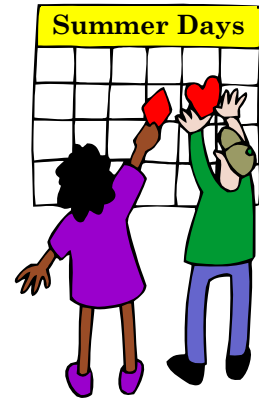
July

- ◇ Monday, July 4th Independence Day
- ◇ Thursday, July 7, 8:00-9:00 am Vision of Hope Tour
- ◇ Monday, July 18, 5:30-6:30 pm Vision of Hope Tour
- ◇ Friday, July 29th, 92 Training Days until the Runaway Pumpkin Half-Marathon for ABC House.

Vision of Hope Tours: Please join us for a tour and see for yourself what all the Raves are about—"Very informative", "Opened my eyes to the subject of child abuse", "I never realized what a warm, comforting environment you had here", "What a great playroom!" "It really warmed my heart to know you are here if anyone I ever know needs your help."

RSVP in advance to: abchousedeveloper@gmail.com **Directions will be provided.**

Special arrangements can be made for groups. Call: (541) 926-2203.



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"Forwarding Address Requested"

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