

Inch By Inch

SUMMER 2005
Newsletter

EVENTS FOR 2004-2005

Festival of the Trees

Attendees, donors, and volunteers helped the Center raise a profit of 30,088.

Annual Dance

13th Annual Dance: "Forever Elvis" had over 500 attendees and raised just over \$16,000.

Peddle Thru the Pines

3rd Annual PTPP had just under 400 participants and raised a profit of just over \$9,200.

Annual Golf Tournament

15th Annual Golf Tournament raised a profit of just over \$7,300

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005

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"Looking to the Future"



Last night a woman and her three children fled an abusive home in the middle of the night; two days ago a three year old girl was removed from her home due to neglect; a week ago a family of four lost everything in a house fire; and last month a woman who suffered years of abuse moved out of shelter into her own apartment.

All of these people have one thing in common, they all received assistance from Bits & Pieces the Family Crisis Center's Thrift Store and Community Assistance Center. Bits & Pieces, which started out in 1992 as a "garage sale" has grown into a valuable resource for the Center and the community. The store has consistently generated a profit to help support the range of critical services the Center provides to victim's of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse and at the same time offered many other valuable services to the community. Over the past three years, the Center has distributed an average of 925 vouchers per year valued at \$37,295 to countless individuals in need for free items such as furniture, clothes, and house wares. These individuals are clients of the Center and individuals referred through partnerships with agencies such as Bluebonnet MHMR, the Texas Workforce Center, Family Protective Services and many others.

With the increasing cost of leasing a thrift store facility and the future uncertainty of state and federal grant funds, the Center's Board of Directors looked to the thrift store as realistic source of fiscal sustainability. Through research and planning it was determined, that by securing funding for a down payment, the Center could build its own thrift store facility and carry a mortgage on the facility for much less than the current lease rates.

This is the logical next step for the agency, as it will decrease the overhead of the store and in turn offer more support for the Center's programs. This project will have the potential to increase store profits by at least \$3,000 per month to support the programs and services. Thanks to a grant from Union Pacific Foundation and local community contributions part of the down payment has been raised and ground breaking took place on August 17th. However, additional funds are still needed for the completion of this project to be a success. By supporting the construction of this facility you are investing in continued support a facility that will enhance services for individuals in need and help ensure the long-term stability of the Center's vital services. We look forward to sharing this project with the community and having the opportunity to discuss the merits of this great project.

Center Services FY 2004

460	Prevention (Anti-violence, Anti-Victimization) Programs to 4,993 elementary 5,711 middle/high school students.
7,054	Nights of emergency shelter to 126 adults and 260 children.
7,539	Hotline calls were answered.
625	Requests for basic needs were filled.
1,200	Adults and their children received services to help them end their violence.
497	Domestic violence incidents were reported the FVIS to help track cases.
140	Adults and teens received counseling to continue their healing process.
260	Children received art/play therapy in the SHAPE program.
1,032	Volunteers provided over 16,026 hours of support to the center and its programs

FESTIVAL OF TREES DONORS NOVEMBER 20, 2004

<p><u>Event Sponsors</u> Barringer Legal Copies Voss Charitable Trust First National Bank-Bastrop, Elgin, Smithville LCRA Employees United Charities, Bastrop Chapter Sabine Investments Bluebonnet Electric David Weekley Homes Hocheim Prairie Insurance- Branch 51 Architectural Installations Curtis & Jamie McDonald First National Bank-Giddings Mike's Metal Lori Tuggle, James Allen-State Farm Insurance</p> <p><u>Food & Beverage Donors</u> Bahia Abrigada Baxter's on Main Daddy's Grill El Nuevo Mexico Green Chai Café Konstantino's Estiatorio Mama Mia's Italian Garden Monzi's Fine Cuisine The Sugar Shack</p>	<p>Wright Distributing Co., Inc. <u>In-Kind Donors</u> A1 Entertainment Barringer Legal Copies, Inc. Berdoll Pecan Farm Peggy Colbert Garments to Go Lane Lott Mike's Moving The Harmoniums</p> <p><u>Tree, Wreath & Other Holiday Item Donors</u> Advanced Health Services Andres Automotive Apropos Antiques & Florist Argent Court Barringer Legal Copies, Inc. Bastrop Academy of Music Bastrop Bead Society Bastrop Cleaners Bastrop Business & Professional Women Bastrop County Sheriff's Office Bastrop Fine Art Guild Bastrop Florist Bastrop MOMS Club-East Bastrop MOMS Club-West Bastrop Party Rental</p>	<p>Bastrop Police Department Bastrop Volunteer Fire Dpt. Cheryl Beden-Premier Jewelry Dr. Erin Best Blue Papaya Trading Co. Children's Advocacy Center ColoVista Charlene Deiso Eagle Marketing Emporium Antique Mall FCC Board FCI First National Bank-Bastrop Fisher Plumbing Garments To Go Georgia's Grooming Bryan, Debbi & Abby Goertz Ronnie & Linda Hart Sharon Harris HEB-Bastrop Kim Hibbs Holiday Inn Express & Suites Home Depot Insurance Network of Texas Iron Bridge Antiques Island Sun Jackpot Portable Toilets John's Hair Design Sam, Shelley & Isabel Shelley Julias</p>	<p>Keller Williams Realty KM Skincare Koeler-Barton Insurance Agency Lady Bug Picnic Lil' Bit of Country Caroline Malinak McCoy's Michael & Linda Moorcock Mike's Metal Miss Priss Designs Monzi's Fine Cuisine Ruby Musante Osmosis Massage June Pace Petal Patch Florist Re/Max-Bastrop Area Rockne Grocery Roscar Chocolates S. Broadway's Schuelke Lumber Stanberry & Associates Realtors The Joshua Smith St. Gang The Pickett Fence The Sugar Shack Dr. Desmar Walkes Wells Fargo Bank Yukon Liquors</p>
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ANNUAL DANCE DONORS JANUARY 15, 2005

<p><u>Event Sponsors</u> The Falls Golf Club & Resort Balcones Minerals Corporation Buford & Betty Farris Fayette Memorial Hospital LCRA-Employees (FPP & SRFM) Voss Charitable Trust Aqua Water Supply Carmine State Bank First National Bank-Bastrop, Smithville, Elgin The Fayette County Record Bob & Susan Wendel Brown Distributing MICO Machine Company Colorado Valley Communications Fayette Savings Bank BEFCO Engineering, Inc. Round Top State Bank State Bank-La Grange Sanford Schmid Charitable Trust La Grange Bluebonnet Lions</p> <p><u>Auction & Raffle Donors</u> Ashley's Attic</p>	<p>Barbara's Flowers Baxter's on Main Blue Papaya Trading Co. Brown Distributing Body Bliss Jo Castillo Chestnut Square Entertainment Center Peggy Colbert Columbus Eye Assoc. Dr. Arun G. Nayar Dr. Todd M. Hovis Dr. Lori J. Learned Come Fill Your Wagon Cottage Gatherings Mark & Debby Dilly Elliot's Southwest Metal Art Faldyn Auto Supply Farmers Lumber Company Fayette Electric Coop First State Bank-Elgin Fitzpatrick Chiropractic Clinics Flowers by LaVerne Gruetzner's</p>	<p>Dr. Edward Holt Hunan's Hunny Bunny's Island Sun Vera Preston-Jaeger Jaeger's Inc. Jane's Joy Katy Sweets Keilers Restaurant Kimas Tejas Nursery Knight Lines Styling Salon Kragh's Jewelry La Grange Smokehouse La Marina Pat Lehmann Jean Lemon Leonetti Gate & Fence M & S Distributing Man's D & Z Shop Jody & Courtney Mihatsch Ruby Musante Nailtique Orsag's Patricia Wolf</p>	<p>Robert & Charlotte Pietsch Pratho's S. Broadway's Serious Relief Slender Lady Smithville Vision Center Smithville Florist Sophie's Beads-Celina Fabela Southwest Airlines Peggy Supak Texana Lodge That's My Style The Busy B The Cedar Treehouse The Flower Company The Outdoor Shop Outfitters The Pickett Fence The Secret Garden Tina's Touch Trends Salon & Day Spa Larry & Carolyn Wachsmann Bob & Jackie Wessels Zimmerhanzel's BBQ</p>
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3RD ANNUAL PEDAL THRU THE PINES MARCH 5, 2005

<p><u>Event Sponsors</u> The Junior League of Austin Aqua Water Daddy's Grille First National Bank- Bastrop, Elgin, Smithville High Tech Mechanical Services James Allen-State Farm Insurance Dr. Sammy Lerma III Roadhouse Stanberry & Associates</p>	<p>Bastrop Auto Works Bastrop County Democratic Club Ben E. Keith Bryan Goertz Bastrop Gym & Fitness Insurance Network of Texas Mama Mia Italian Garden S. Broadway's Clicks The Bastrop Advertiser WalMart HEB-Bastrop, La Grange</p>	<p>Bastrop Academy of Music Clif Bar Discovery Cycle Jackpot Portable Toilets Ozarka Smithville Regional Hospital Southwest Cycle Sport Inc. Wright Distributing Kay Lorenz Bastrop Police Department Bastrop & Buescher State Parks Mayor Tom Scott</p>	<p>Bastrop City Council Emile Elementary St. Michael's Lutheran Park St. Paul Lutheran Park St. Mary's Catholic Church Louis & Carmine Chronis</p>
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15TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT DONORS MAY 7, 2005

<p>Master Friends Bluebonnet Electric LCRA Employees' United Charities- Bastrop Chapter LCRA Employees' United Charities- Fayette Power Project/Smithville Railcar Facility Voss Charitable Trust</p> <p>Eagle Friends Aqua Water Supply Company Barnard Tire & Wheel Covert Chevrolet First National Bank-Bastrop, Elgin, Smithville First State Bank-Elgin Gaeke Construction Company, Inc. HEB International Muffler Company</p>	<p>Birdie Friends Cellular One J & M Enterprises Richard Latham</p> <p>Caddy Friends Bill & Peggy Colbert Colorado Valley Communications Duke Energy Field Services Griffin Industries Roscoe State Bank Victim Impact Program-Federal Prison, Bastrop</p> <p>In-kind Donors Auto Zone Barnard Tire & Wheel Bastrop Chamber of Commerce Al Bauer Bear Country Golf Berdoll Pecan Farm</p>	<p>Mirian Betancourt Blue Papaya Trading Company Brown Distributing Cedar Creek Dry Cleaners Clicks Clint's Liquor & Fine Wines Bill & Peggy Colbert Colo Vista Country Club Covert Chevy-Olds-Buick-Pontiac Jennifer & Chelsea Britton Daddy's Grill Discount Tire Dominoes Pizza Edward Jones Investments-Jim Mills Elbows Fitness El Nuevo Mexican Restaurant First Methodist Church-Bastrop First National Bank-Bastrop, Elgin, Smithville</p>	<p>Green Chai Café Konstantinos Kragh's Jewelry Lil' Bit of Country M & L Designs M & S Distributing Marilyn's Spirited Cakes Mike Hopkins Distributing Oyster Bar Pine Forrest Golf Club Frank Rainosek Roadhouse Restaurant Round Rock Express Baseball Club S. Broadway's Shell Bastrop Quick Lube Sonic Drive Inn Sugar Shack Two Sisters Restaurant Wright Distributing</p>
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VOLUNTEERS THAT HELPED MAKE ALL OF THESE EVENTS POSSIBLE

<p>Mabel & Keith Alexander Jim & Melissa Barringer Clarence Bayer Sunny Beall Donna Blackstone Benita Blish Darcia Boyd Debbie Bresette Gene & Jo Castillo Sherry Clark Terry Clark Karen Cobb Bill Colbert</p> <p>Peggy Colbert-FOT Chair Alberto Coranado Donna Dearbonne Felicia Dickson April Doughty Tracy Hartman-Douglass Steve & Erin Dunn Jaime Eichorst</p> <p>FCC Board Elva & Jim Fertsch Stephanie Fitzpatrick</p>	<p>Jessica Fleck Ricki Fleck Jessica Fornshell Mary Ellen Franklin DeAnna Gillespie Bill Gilstrap Debbi Goertz Jason Goodman Pat Gragon Jonathan Griffin Glen Gruetzner Linda & Ronald Hart Ray Hernandez Doug Hicks Donna Huff Dennis & Jared Jack Alan Jaeger Ed Janecka Will Johnson Alyssa Jones Colton & Tracye Jones Blake Kaiser Marvin Kipp Mark Kobdich</p>	<p>Jacki Koi Billy & Theresa Krause Linda Krautz Colin Logan</p> <p>Steven Logan-PTTP Co-Chair Lane & Christie Lott Zia Lowe Jane Luedecke Dan Manfredini Albert & Margie Matus Anita Mayer Charlie & Lori McDaniel Calvin & Stephanie Mikeska Stacey Mikeska Julie Miller Larry Moomey Linda Moorcock Betty Moore Kim Morales Celina Fabela & Missy Morse Missy Morse Prince Murphy Ashley Mutschink Juan Nunez</p>	<p>Patricia Orr Nita Parker Caroline Parobek Brooke Paysse Cody & Madilynn Pietsch Maurice Pitts Jay Polsky Jill Pruett Betty Richter Elizabeth Rinker</p> <p>Caroline Robertson-PTTP Chair Pinky Smith Bill Stanberry April Stewart Angela Summers Chelsea Vance Estela Villegas David Warren Renee Wenske Jackie Wessels John Wied Stephanie Winkleman</p>
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THANK YOU! Our special events are just one avenue of support from the community. The Center would like to extend its thanks to the many individuals, businesses, churches, civic groups and others that gave of their time, their talents, their resources, and their financial support to the Family Crisis Center. All of these donations mean so much to the Center and our ability to help the many individuals fleeing violent situations find safety, comfort, support and a range of services that help them on their road to healing, self-sufficiency and dignity.

DONATIONS MADE OVER THE PAST YEAR IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING:

<p>In Honor of Cynthia Dick by M.M. Paul Parker</p> <p>Gayle Foster by Adlinie Rathman</p> <p>Dorothy Johnson by Pat Johnson</p> <p>Welda Jones by Adlinie Rathman</p> <p>Ruth C. McKee Dorothy Penny by Kay Penney</p>	<p>Norman & Mauri Saari by Tom & Jody Hatch</p> <p>Dot Winslett by Walter & Jeri Nell Winslett</p> <p>Your mothers by Marvin & Fredia Egger</p> <p>In Memory of Frances Castillo by Gene & Jo Castillo</p> <p>Richard Corkill</p>	<p>by Dan & Angela Beck Richard & Amalia Cernosek Michael & Lisa Corker Joe & Terri Cress Fayette County Clerk's Office Frankie & Bridgette Gaertner C. Jares Prince & Sherry Murphy Carmen Pember Ann H. Rogers Peggy Supak</p>	<p>Larry & Cynthia Tatum E.L. & L.S. Wheeler</p> <p>Kristi W. Guess by Timothy & Barbara Andrews</p> <p>Alyne Hancock Marie H. More Joe Lee Rathman by Adlinie Rathman</p> <p>Hilda Rietz by Clarence & Jeanette Friedrich</p>
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SAINT: Sexual Assault Integrated Nursing Team



One in five Texas women and one in twenty Texas men will be sexually assaulted during their lifetime. Of those victims the ones from rural communities often suffer further trauma due to factors unique to rural areas. They are more likely to know their assailant, have little or no access to transportation, and have to travel long distances to get to hospitals that perform sexual assault exams.

Historically, a woman from the four county service area had to drive to Austin for a sexual assault exam by a **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)**. Victims had to endure not only the 1-2 hour drive but a waiting time of 4-12 hours once they arrived at the ER.

These issues prompted the community to assemble a rural SANE program in an effort to lessen

the trauma on victims. The program is a collaborative effort involving victim service agencies, hospitals, law enforcement, and district attorneys to provide 24-hour on-call services for victims of sexual assault or abuse in Bastrop, Fayette, Lee, and Colorado Counties. The ultimate goal of the program is to establish a process to provide the community with accurate evidence collection and emotional support for victims of sexual assault.

Last October eight nurses began classroom and clinical training. Of the eight nurses three are currently certified with the remaining five finishing their clinical training and/or waiting on certification paperwork from the Attorney Generals Office. The nurses who have coined themselves the **Sexual Assault Integrated Nursing Team (SAINT)** will soon begin serving the community through their partnerships with the Family Crisis Center, Children's Advocacy Center, law enforcement, district and county attorneys, Smithville Regional and St. Marks Hospitals.

Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month



This past April, the Center collaborated with the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), CASA, Family and Protective Services (FPS) and Colorado Youth and Family Services in a

Pinwheel and proclamation project to bring awareness to the community about child abuse. Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette and Lee Counties had pinwheels placed on the front lawn of their courthouses that represented the number of confirmed cases of child abuse for 2004. The four counties had a total of 450 confirmed cases, a 53% increase from the year before. Proclamations were also signed in all four counties by the County Judge and County Commissioners declaring April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention month.

Sexual assault is also a tragic problem for our communities. This year, in conjunction with the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA), 336 posters were hung with survivors stories and the Center's hotline number (in English and Spanish), on windows, payphones, in the bathrooms and break

rooms of medical offices; stores, gyms; restaurants; other establishments!!! Through the campaign the Center hopes that more victims will know that they are not alone and that supportive services are available.

Awareness & Prevention month concluded in front of the Bastrop County Court House with a candlelight vigil honoring the victims and survivors of child abuse and sexual assault. Speakers at the event were Judge Benton Eskew, Bryan Goertz (District Attorney), Judge Ronnie McDonald, DeAnna Gillespie (SAINT coordinator), Sherry Murphy of the FCC, Joan Martin-Thurman of CASA, Cheryl Koch of the CAC, and Mayor Tom Scott

Local Statistics	Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse 2004	Reported Child Abuse Victims/1,000 2004	Reported Sexual Assaults 2003
Bastrop	215	11.7	15
Colorado	74	14.4	4
Fayette	95	18.5	1
Lee	66	15.0	8
Texas		8.2	

Making Mother's Day Special for Shelter Mom's

Holidays can be especially difficult times for the residents of the shelter and supportive housing. It can be especially hard on the women that are separated from their children and other loved ones. As a gesture of support and encouragement to the women and their families who will spend this special day in a shelter or supportive housing, Victoria Secret, Bath and Body Works and Foundation Christian Ministries gave generous donations.

This year Victoria Secret at the Arboretum and Bath and Body Works at Barton Creek Mall partnered together to donate journals and personal

care products from their lines. The Center also received a generous donation from Foundation Christians Ministries of Bastrop, which donated journals, personal care items and lotions. They also stated they would like to make mother's day an annual donation event for their ministries. The total dollar value of the donations was over \$1,000!

This year the community showed the twenty-five mothers in our shelter and supportive housing that they not only appreciate them but also support them on their journey towards a life free from abuse.

Summer Adventure Learning Program

Thanks to a grant from Region XIII and through local partnerships with the community, the Center will be able to provide structured learning activities to the school age children at the shelter and supportive housing. Some of these activities include educational field trips such as: the Austin Children's Museum; Austin Nature and Science Center; the Bastrop Dinosaur Park (Opening in June); and Inner Space

Caverns. After each of the field trips the children will return to the community room at the supportive housing complex and process their learning experience through writing, painting or drawing. The goal of this program is to allow the school age children (6-13) an opportunity for fun and exciting learning experiences over the long summer months.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM A CLIENT

(Letter from a client published in several local papers)

Letter to the Editor:

"I am a survivor of childhood and spousal abuse. I say I am a survivor, because for years I was a victim. I was a victim of allowing men to abuse me in physical, emotional, and sexual ways.

I was married to a man who, when he decided to hit me, he did, when decided to berate me with horrible words, he did, and when he decided to rape me, he did. The Family Crisis Center helped me get out of this very abusive relationship. They did many things to help me, but the most crucial, was to get a temporary restraining order against my then husband. This is not always an easy task, especially when your husband is well-known in town and some of the Judicial System doesn't understand that this person is capable of such actions....I went on about my life for the next six years, continuing to put myself into

abusive relationships. Until I had, had enough. I thought I was 'free' from all the abuse and pain, but I was very wrong. When I hit emotional rock bottom, the Family Crisis Center was there for me. I attend, individual counseling and a support group that is anonymous. I also attended a 8-week class on '*Surviving Childhood Sexual and Physical Abuse*'. My son also attends a support group. Even at the age of three, my son remembered certain incidents.

I am a **SURVIVOR!** I have broken the chain of abuse and I have worked through the issues of my past. I can now chose how to live my life in a healthy, loving, happy way. **I am no longer a doormat or a whipping post** for ANYONE. Today, I say with pride, I will not ever be treated in that way again. I will **never fear for my life or the life of my children** again. Thank you, Family Crisis Center, for freeing me from the clutches of an abusive man, or as I used to say, 'A Living Hell.'"

-Remaining Anonymous for safety reasons .

BULK RATE
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Bastrop, Texas
Permit No. 14

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give. -- Winston Churchill.

Volunteering is a very rewarding way to give of yourself and your expertise. There are different ways that you can impact our community positively by volunteering. The rewards are as unique and personal as your reasons for wanting to volunteer. *Too busy?* We can work with you to provide rewarding experiences, whatever your schedule. *Think you don't have any skills to offer?* You would be surprised!

As a **hotline volunteer** you can volunteer from the comfort of your own home. You will receive ongoing training from the agency that will allow you to **provide this critical service from your home.** The hotline is forwarded to the volunteer's home weekdays after 5 p.m. (for the after office hours) and on weekends and holidays. Hotline volunteers provide information and referral to callers as well as connect victims with the on-call Crisis Advocates.

If you prefer to work with people **face to face, volunteering as an advocate** may be the job for you. Volunteer advocates provide support services, intakes and screening to walk-in individuals seeking assistance. There are also volunteer opportunities that focus on working with children. We need volunteers to help with educational and group activities for children. If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Bernie Jackson at 512-321-7760 or berniej@familycrisiscenter.us.

Thank You Hotline Volunteers!

April Doughty
Bernardita Redoblado
Betsy Pharis
Bill Walters
Carol Armstrong
Celina Fabela
Cora Tierney
Cy Labat
Dee Ternus
Donna Heinrich
Gloria Lee
Karen & David Pollacheck
Gloria Lee
Karen Taggart
Lauren Waite
Linda Fett
Linda Olivarez
Margie McGee
Marianne Metzner
Nancy Salinas
Norisse Bryant
Pat New
Patty Hoerig
Rita Abby
Tara Ayala