



Creating Safe Families and Safe Communities...

Inch By Inch

The mission of the agency is to partner with the community by providing safe refuge and comprehensive services responsive to the individual needs of women, children and men who are experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault or child abuse in Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette, and Lee Counties.

**MAIN OFFICE
MAILING ADDRESS:**
PO Box 736
Bastrop, TX 78602

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
431 Old Austin Highway
Bastrop, TX 78602

512-321-7760
888-311-7755
(toll free hotline)

Visit our webpage for the up to date events, special needs & ways to be involved with the Center!

www.familycrisiscenter.us

fcc@familycrisiscenter.us

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Silver Anniversary Celebration:
September 6, 2008

Domestic Violence Awareness Month:
October 2008

Festival of Trees:
November 22, 2008

Annual Dance:
January 31, 2009

Pedal Thru The Pines:
March 7, 2009

Volunteer Appreciation; Sexual Assault Awareness & Child Abuse Prevention Month:
April 2009



Celebrating 25 Years:

For 25 years, the Family Crisis Center, which began as the Bastrop County Women's Shelter, has answered calls of individuals seeking support for violence and crisis situations. In 2007, over 5,600 hot line calls were answered and 7,100 nights of shelter were given to adults and children. On September 6, 2008, a celebration is being planned to commemorate the Center's 25 years of service.

Since those early beginnings, the Center has expanded to include prevention and education, shelter and supportive housing, counseling and violence intervention as well as operate a thrift store that generates income to help sustain these services. This event will also honor all of the volunteers who have substantiated the Center by graciously giving their time. In fiscal year 2007, over 14,000 hours of volunteer hours were documented.

Anyone who has a connection with the Center in any way and those community members who want to help celebrate and commemorate the anniversary can contact the main office. Tickets to the event are \$25 per person. This ticket will include a social hour at 6 pm; dinner served buffet style at 7 pm as well as guest speakers with a "walk down memory lane" at 8 pm.

Did you know that ... ?

\$25 contribution:

- Feeds a mom and 2 children for 1 day at the Emergency Shelter
- Anti-violence, anti-victimization program for 3 school-aged children
- 1 crisis intake for a victim of violence

\$50 contribution:

- 1 night of shelter for a mom and 2 children
- Assist 1 client through the Crime Victim Compensation application process

\$75 contribution:

- 8 sessions of Battering Intervention and Prevention
- 6 group counseling sessions

\$100 contribution:

- 4 counseling sessions (including staff mileage)

\$200 contribution:

- Hospital accompaniment and exam for a victim of sexual assault
- Assist 1 client in obtaining a Protective Order

\$250 contribution:

- 8 school-based counseling sessions for a child
- A weekend of crisis on-call services

\$500 contribution:

- One week of school-based Prevention Programs

\$1000 contribution:

- 12 months of Transitional Housing for a family
- 3 weeks of Emergency Shelter for a mom and 2 children

**Special heartfelt thanks to all of the Center's donors.
As you can see from the above numbers, there is no gift too small.**

**"How far that little candle throws his beams!
So shines a good deed in a weary world."**

~William Shakespeare



Creating Awareness for Teens on Dating Violence and Sexual Assault:

Primary prevention has been a part of the Family Crisis Center since 1986 when the Center began its Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) in the schools. This year during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April, the Center, in conjunction with Bastrop Independent School district, held a Teen Summit on Saturday, April 26. About 120 teens and adults attended the event. Break out sessions included "Sexual Assault & the Law", "Internet Safety" and "Dating Violence". Special guests were individuals from the organization Men Against Violence from Texas State University in San Marcos, Sarah Wannarka from the Office of the Attorney General, Bronwyn Blake from the Texas Advocacy Project and Tim Love from the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault.

In addition, during lunch, participants enjoyed the music of Young Nick. There were information booths, lots of food and a warm welcome from Roderick Emanuel, superintendent of Bastrop Independent School District. This was the second year that the Center hosted this event but what made this event unique is that an advisory board of local teens enrolled at Bastrop Middle and High Schools directed the planning of this event as well as played an integral role the day of the event. Great fun was had by all that attended. It is the Center's staff vision that the momentum to end violence among teens will continue.

Hosting An International Guest:

On May 9, 2008, the Center was host to Edwina Isaac Elizabeth Kotoisuva from Fiji. Ms. Kotoisuva is the Deputy Coordinator of the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, a member of the Asia Pacific forum on Women's Law and Development and the Violence Against Women Taskforce. The United States Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program as well as the Office of Violence Against Women in Washington DC requested that part of her three-day Austin-area visit be spent in Bastrop with the Family Crisis Center. Ms. Kotoisuva's purpose in participating in the leadership program was to learn about how the United States intervenes as well as prevents domestic violence and sexual assault through laws, prosecution and awareness campaigns. Austin was one of four cities that she visited and the Center was one of 10 agencies from across the nation.

"It was such an honor for the Family Crisis Center to be asked by the Office of Violence Against Women and the International Visitor Leadership Program to meet with and offer ideas and suggestions to Ms. Kotoisuva as well as to have such an accomplished women tour our facility," said Sherry Murphy, Executive Director. A tour of the main office as well as the shelter was scheduled.

Educating Community Leaders To Help Build "A Community of Hope":

Over 40 judges, prosecutors, members of the clergy and victim service advocates came together on Monday, June 2nd, in an effort to help break down the barriers of domestic violence and build hope that one day the violence within families and communities will end. This conference, funded by a federal grant through the Office of Violence Against Women, was held at the scenic Hyatt-Lost Pines Resort located in Bastrop. Each group, judges, prosecutors and clergy, attended their own track that helped them not only understand the importance of maintaining safety for victims but also the importance of holding offenders accountable for the violence that was committed. Specialists in the field came from Dallas, Montgomery and Travis counties. The morning keynote speaker presented a session to all attendees entitled "Domestic Violence Overview" and Bastrop County Judge Ronnie McDonald spoke during lunch on the importance of collaborations between criminal justice, faith based community and the advocacy agency. Other topics included information on protective orders, voire dire in family violence cases, the faith community's response to victims and offenders, evidence based prosecution, dual victimization and stalking.

Men Speaking Out Against Violence in the Community:

This year the Family Crisis Center invited men in the Bastrop area to join them in recognizing Father's Day in a way that is a little different from the usual celebration. The Center asked that fathers and men pledge to "not be silent about, commit, or condone domestic or sexual violence", but will "teach their children about healthy, non-violent relationships and that they will act to make a difference". Over 240 signatures were gathered and an article was placed in the Bastrop Advertiser on June 14th. This community project is part of the special nonresident project funded by the state entitled the "Peace" program. The Center encourages men to volunteer, be trained, and to mentor young males to focus on anti-violence and anti-victimization. Anyone interested can call the office at 512-321-7760.

*The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers.
~Everett Mámor*



Father's Day Pledge:

I, pledge that I will not be silent about, commit, or condone domestic or sexual violence. I pledge that I will teach my children about healthy, nonviolent relationships, and that I will act to make a difference in my home and community.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| James Allen | John Creamer | Rev Vinson Hardeman | Bryan Klaerner | Jim Mills | Dr Gary Rassner | James Thomas |
| Tom Allen | Robert Crone | Jack Harzke | Richard Koch | Robert Mills | Fred Ratliff | Billy Joe Thomas |
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Postage
Required

FAMILY CRISIS CENTER
P.O. Box 736
Bastrop, TX 78602



In an Effort to Be as "Green" as Possible:

The Family Crisis Center would like to be able to update the mailing list as well as give individuals the opportunity to receive electronic information through out the year. Please fill out the information below, fold and mail back to the Center.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like more information on the Center's:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs | Fundraisers: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs and Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Giving | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance <input type="checkbox"/> Festival of Trees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Supply Drive | <input type="checkbox"/> Thanksgiving Meals | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedal thru the Pines |

FAMILY CRISIS CENTER
P.O. Box 736
Bastrop, TX 78602
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*September 6th is the 25th Anniversary
Celebration*

 **October is Domestic Violence
Awareness Month**