

Summer 2016 | Issue No. 10



Dear Advocate of New Horizons,

# 44

This is the number of domestic abuse related deaths in Wisconsin so far this year. An average of 7.3 deaths per month. One occurred right here, in the small community of La Crosse. Victims ranged in age from eleven months to 68 years old. They were children, women and men. It will take all of us working together to end domestic abuse in our state and in our communities. Collaboration is the key. You can help by speaking out against domestic abuse, contributing financially, offering your talents as a volunteer, inviting us to speak to your group and/or informing others of our free and confidential services. I encourage individuals and organizations to reach out to us for awareness training, volunteering or collaborations. Together we can save lives.

In empowerment,

**Ann Kappauf**

*Executive Director*

## WE ARE BACK

Our apologies for our delay in publishing our Empowerment Press. We are excited to get information and updates to you in a quarterly fashion. Thank you for your patience. To keep up to date daily check out our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/>

[NewHorizonsShelterAndOutreachCentersInc/](https://www.facebook.com/NewHorizonsShelterAndOutreachCentersInc/)

Help us go paperless by sending us your email so we can send an electronic version  
[www.nhagainstabuse.org/get-to-know-us/newsletters/](http://www.nhagainstabuse.org/get-to-know-us/newsletters/)

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SINCE 1999,  
A WISCONSINITE HAS  
DIED AS A RESULT OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
EVERY 8 DAYS

2014 Wisconsin Domestic Violence  
Homicide Report

## Did you know?

The first domestic violence  
homicide of 2016 in America  
happened in Wisconsin.

Help is available 24 hours a day,  
7 days a week by calling our  
**CRISIS LINE** at **608-791-2600**  
or **888-231-0066**

[www.nhagainstabuse.org](http://www.nhagainstabuse.org)

# 2016 Wisconsin Domestic Violence Deaths

The first domestic violence homicide of 2016 in America happened in Wisconsin. As of June 19, 2016, the death toll of domestic violence in Wisconsin alone rests at 35 victims and 8 abusers, 1 unknown for a total of 44 lives lost. That is a life every 4 days. Almost a third of the victims were age 18 or under. If the trend continues, that will be at least 92 lives lost in our state this year due to domestic violence. By comparison, End Abuse WI recorded 43 DV related deaths in 2014, the most recent year on record. <http://domesticviolencehomicidehelp.com/>

## NEW HORIZONS CLIENT STORY

Sophie, a citizen of Asia had only been in the United States for a few weeks when the police brought her to our shelter door. Her barriers were significant. She had little cash, spoke poor English and had almost no understanding of her legal rights. In addition, she had a very physically abusive and controlling husband.

Progress at first was slow. All work had to be conducted through a language line which greatly slowed down the exchange of information. But gradually, despite the language barrier Sophie and her advocate were able to work harmoniously. As many survivors of abuse do, Sophie had an exceptional capacity for forgiveness and seeing the best in others. Unfortunately, this put her at risk of returning to her abusive husband.

Sophie did return to her husband. Although the advocate knew that this man (Sophie's husband) was unlikely to ever change, that Sophie would most likely not be able to lead a fulfilling life when with him, and that she would be hard-pressed to ever leave again, the decision was hers and hers alone to make. The advocate developed a safety plan with Sophie and informed her that our doors were always open to her should she decide she needed us in the future. The advocate was sure that she wouldn't ever see Sophie again.

Several weeks went by and the advocate received a phone call from Sophie's daughter. The message was brief but heartfelt. It seems that Sophie had shared with her about the abuse that was happening in her marriage. The daughter had confirmed her fears for Sophie's life and invited her to live with her. Sophie is now safe and ready to live a life free of abuse.

*Written by a New Horizons Resource Advocate*

## Domestic violence victim services are cost-effective. They are life-saving.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, through the Department of Children and Families (DCF), contribute funding to the domestic violence victim services providers and shelters across our state. Currently, DCF provides funds for victim services to 64 non-profit agencies, 11 tribes and two counties. In Wisconsin, victims and their children in every county and in every tribe have a place they can turn to.



More than nine out of ten victims (91%) know more ways to plan for their safety after working with a Wisconsin domestic violence victim service provider. And, 90% of victims report that they know more about community resources because of the help they received. Research has demonstrated that increasing victims' knowledge of safety planning and community resources leads to their increased safety and well-being over time.

<http://www.widvplan.com/>

# Homelessness and Domestic Violence

When a woman decides to leave an abusive relationship, she often has nowhere to go. This is particularly true of women with few resources. Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for assisted housing mean that many women and their children are forced to choose between abuse at home and life on the streets. Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and children in the U.S.

Domestic violence victims frequently are evicted because of violence against them: For instance a women living in Racine County, WI lost her federal Section 8 housing voucher when her child's father, in violation of a court ordered domestic abuse injunction, broke down her apartment door. The police were called and the abuser was incarcerated. As a result of the incident, the apartment manager evicted the woman because of the property damage caused by her abuser. The local housing agency then terminated her voucher assistance because of the eviction.

Domestic violence victims frequently are denied housing because of violence committed against them. Three women were domestic violence survivors residing at an emergency shelter in WI. They attempted to rent a private apartment together and provided their full rental history on their applications. Although they included information regarding their former abusers, they each requested that their former abusers not be contacted to maintain their safety and privacy. The landlord nonetheless contacted their abusers and then also denied them tenancy.

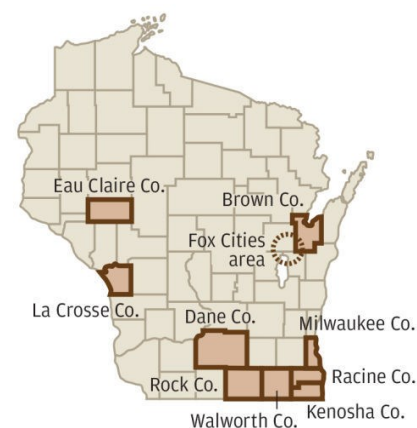
Fortunately, Wisconsin recognizes the impact of domestic violence on poverty and homelessness and offers some legal provision to those who qualify. Survivors do not always know that there are protections applicable in these situations. In addition, seeking out legal remedies amidst dealing with an immediate crisis may seem tedious and overwhelming, especially without help of an advocate. New Horizons advocates are here to help.

Article from *end domestic abuse WI*



## A one-night snapshot of homelessness around the state

The national Point in Time count is a tally of people living on the streets and in shelter and transitional housing on a single night in January. It is carried out by volunteers across the country. The results are reported to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is considered a national point of reference but has limitations. Unlike other counts of the homeless population, it does not capture those doubling up with others, for instance. These numbers are from the January 2016 count.



### Homeless adults and children Pressing needs

Eau Claire Co.

**161**

The two shelters for families with children are always full. Most of the new apartments being built are for people in the mid- to high-income brackets.

Kenosha Co.

**190**

The 35-bed Shalom Center, Kenosha County's only emergency shelter for families, is trying to raise \$1.8 million for a new facility that would expand the number of beds for families and add beds for single individuals.

Racine Co.

**196**

A group of community activists is planning to open a new "low-barrier" emergency shelter of 20 to 30 beds this fall that will serve single individuals who don't qualify for other shelters or programs because of issues such as mental illness and substance abuse.

La Crosse Co.

**200**

Eighteen people were found to be living on the streets in the La Crosse area in January, the highest ever for a winter count and up from five the January before. The Salvation Army homeless shelter is often at capacity at 80 people, twice the number it initially was designed for.

Appleton/  
Fox Cities area

**329**

The 78-bed Homeless Connections shelter had a waiting list all but two days in 2015. The area needs at least 2,000 more low-income housing units to meet demand.

Rock/Walworth Co.

**349**

JANESVILLE: The 25-bed House of Mercy emergency shelter for single women and families with children is filled to capacity most nights with a waiting list.

BELOIT: The number of homeless unaccompanied youth — children and teens not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian — is at an all-time high of more than 150 in the school district.

Green Bay/  
Brown Co.

**485**

The number of homeless children and youth continues to rise. Shelters for families have long waiting lists.

Madison/  
Dane Co.

**663**

About 1,000 more rental units need to be added every year in the city to meet current and future demand. The city and Dane County are working toward opening a comprehensive day center for homeless individuals next year, something the city currently lacks.

Milwaukee Co.

**1,398**

A focus on finding housing for chronically homeless people has seen their numbers drop from 314 in 2009 to 58 this year. Yet shelters remain at capacity most nights. Milwaukee County's waiting list for federal rental housing vouchers has been closed for a decade or so.

SOURCE: Wisconsin State Journal research

State Journal



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Drop off your new and  
gently used handbags at  
1223 Main Street—LAX  
Between 9a-4p  
Monday—Friday  
(closed 1st Tuesday of the month)  
For more information call



## Handbags for a SAFE haven

Have you started your Spring cleaning? Do you want to update your wardrobe while you contribute to your community? New Horizons' needs your support for our fall fundraising efforts. Drop off new or gently used handbags at New Horizons La Crosse Outreach Center at 1223 Main Street between 9am-4pm Monday-Friday.

Save the date! Thursday October 13, 2016 for New Horizons newest event *Handbags for a SAFE haven*. All proceeds will go to support the Shelter programs. The event will feature an Up-Cycled Handbag Market, fashion show and wine tasting. Enjoy signature cocktails and delicious appetizers. The fashion show will feature fashions from local retail and consignment stores.

A live handbag auction will allow guests to take home some of the evening's featured items. "Ladies, mark your calendars and come ready to shop a little and have a lot of fun," said New Horizons, Executive Director Ann Kappauf. "We are excited about this event together and encourage people to come help out a great cause while enjoying an evening with girlfriends."

The fundraiser will be held at Celebrations on the River (next to Shenanigans). More details to follow. If you are interested in the marketing opportunities that this event offers, or other ways to support New Horizons, please contact Sheila Connors at 608.791.2610 ext. 1305 or [sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org)

Handbags for a SAFE haven is  
Presented by



## AREA BUSINESSES GET INVOLVED. . . . .

October is 31 days of Awareness. That's right, we have 31 days during Domestic Violence Awareness Month and we need your help. Pick a day, any day in the month of October that you would like to donate a percentage of your sales to New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers.

Other than 31 days, you will be part of a campaign that has no bounds. Your participation allows us to provide service and support to families and victims of domestic abuse all year long.

### Benefits of participation:

Individual Facebook posts to promote your date with your website link

Name listed on our website with your website link as a participant

Donation box delivered week of event

October is Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month

Contact Sheila Connors at  
[sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org) or  
608.791.2610 x 1305





## STAFF TO RECEIVE HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY TRAINING

New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers has received funding from The Center for Chiropractic to train their staff on the ever increasing threat to our community, Human Trafficking. Often, service providers on the front lines will have contact with sex trafficking victims but will not recognize it. Recognizing the effects trafficking and red flags is crucial for the purposes of victim identification and to provide supportive services. New Horizons has 23 full and part time staff members that are well trained in helping domestic violence and sexual assault victims. This training will help them to identify and provide the best possible care to exploited victims.

“Continuously supporting victims of sex trafficking can be complicated and we are preparing our staff to identify these victims and provide them the necessary services. We are making this training for our staff a priority. Statistics state that 60-90% of exploited victims are without safe housing, 71% of these female victims suffer from PTSD. There are many statistics for these victims but we must remember that 100% are somebody’s child, sibling or partner,” stated Executive Director, Ann Kappauf.

Dr. Nyhus Schaffer from The Center of Chiropractic stated, “When I first saw the article on human trafficking I was appalled, and felt naive about this happening right here in Wisconsin, and even La Crosse. I knew that something had to be done to help these poor people that are being exploited in the human trafficking trap. Our doctors donate their time each year to raise funds for the community, and this training need screamed for needed help. Thanks to our patients and the community for participating in our events, we could offer the funds for the training of those that will be on the front lines of this war”.

“Our gratitude goes out to the patients of The Center of Chiropractic for making this opportunity possible, it is the partnerships such as The Center for Chiropractic that allow us to continue to provide services to our clients.” stated Development Director, Sheila Connors.



## FREE MOVING SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE

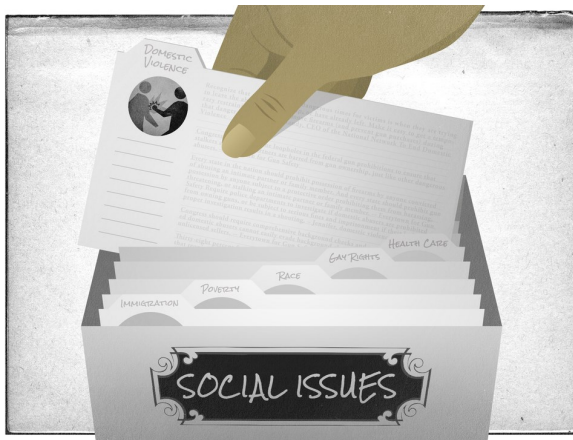
New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers is pleased to announce a new partnership with local business owner Colin Luz of Coulee Region Moving Services. Adults and families fleeing violent relationships face many barriers to accessing safe and affordable housing, and are often forced to leave behind everything but what they can carry. One local business owner has decided to address one challenge head on: by providing moving services free of cost to victims of domestic violence; Coulee Region Moving Services hopes to alleviate the challenges posed by needing to leave in a hurry, and help victims and their families begin new lives in safe homes.

“With rising housing costs, many victims face difficult choices after they have made the decision to leave the relationship” said Kim Jones, Housing Advocate at New Horizons. “Wisconsin rental costs require an adult work at least 67 hours per week to afford market rate leasing prices at minimum wage. Our shelter can accommodate victims and their families, but not much beyond a few personal possessions.”

After providing moving services to someone leaving an unsafe relationship, Coulee Region Moving Services knew they had to get involved. “I saw how hard it was for them to leave the home, and how quickly the situation could become unsafe. I thought, if someone can’t afford a moving company, how could they ever leave? They already needed to leave for their safety, taking the time to pack and load belongings only put them at further risk” said Colin Luz, owner. “I saw online that a company in California had a program set up to provide free services to victims, and I thought we could do that here.”

So far Coulee Region Moving Services has provided more than relocation assistance to families. When available they have generously donated furniture items to households that do not have many furnishings to start their new lives with, and helping to bridge the gap between what New Horizons can provide and what survivors need to be comfortable in their homes. Area residents in need of moving services can contact Colin at (608) 780-0476, and help support local business efforts in combating domestic violence.





## GENDER NEUTRAL / GENDER INCLUSIVE PRONOUNS

A gender neutral or gender inclusive pronoun is a pronoun which does not associate a gender with the individual who is being discussed. Some languages, such as English, do not have a gender neutral or third gender pronoun available, and this has been criticized, since in many instances, writers, speakers, etc. use “he/his” when referring to a generic individual in the third person. Also, the dichotomy of “he and she” in English does not leave room for other gender identities, which is a source of frustration to the transgender and gender queer communities..

Please note that these are not the only pronouns. There are an infinite number of pronouns as new ones emerge in our language. Always ask someone for their pronouns.

Subjective	Objective	Possessive	Reflexive	Example
She	Her	Hers	Herself	She is speaking. I listened to her. The backpack is hers.
He	Him	His	Himself	He is speaking. I listened to him. The backpack is his.
They	Them	Theirs	Themselves	They are speaking. I listened to them. The backpack is theirs.
Ze	Hir/Zir	Hirs/Zirs	Hirself/ Zirself	Ze is speaking. I listened to hir. The backpack is zirs.

Join us in welcoming new faces and new roles:

**Zarah Augustine**, Volunteer Coordinator,  
[volunteers@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:volunteers@nhagainstabuse.org), extension 1301

**Sherri Larsen**, Lead Crisis Advocate  
[leadca@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:leadca@nhagainstabuse.org), extension 1207

**Corinne Billet**, MSW, Trauma Specialist  
[counselor@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:counselor@nhagainstabuse.org), extension 1310

**Jordan Knapp & Kara Weber**, Crisis Advocates

*Interested in joining our team?*

*Check out open positions on our website link*

<http://www.nhagainstabuse.org/get-involved/employment-opportunities/>



Interested in getting emails about upcoming events and/or legislative updates? Send your email with subject line *Add to email list to:*

[sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org](mailto:sheilac@nhagainstabuse.org)

Be sure to like our Facebook page at

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/newHorizonsShelterAndOutreachCentersInc/)

[newHorizonsShelterAndOutreachCentersInc/](https://www.facebook.com/newHorizonsShelterAndOutreachCentersInc/)



# Many Thanks!

New Horizons is grateful to all who have helped this year

**W**e are so fortunate to live in a supportive community. Thank you to everyone who has helped support our mission so far this year!

La Crosse Bantry Friendship Association held their Coulie Hoolie Ceili on April 22nd at the Concordia Ballroom. The Fundraiser was held to benefit the New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers and West Cork Women Against Violence Programs. We enjoyed music by the Houton Hooligans, Irish dancing and a silent auction. New Horizons received \$1,000 check from the group.



Great Rivers United Way continues to support our programs through grants from funds raised through their annual campaign.

New Horizons also received generous grants from the following funds: of the La Crosse Community Foundation *Blahnik-Naugler Help Fund*, COULEECAP, County of La Crosse, City of La Crosse and many more

These are just a few of the multitude of gifts from companies, churches, organizations, and individuals. Your help keeps New Horizons services available for those in need. Thank you!



**Nicklaus Martial Arts—**  
Held self-defense classes with proceeds coming to New Horizons.



UWL's LC Hip Hop Dance Group held their end of the Year Dance Showcase. This year's theme surrounds the idea of power; power in music, and power in women. The proceeds went to New Horizons.



Attendees to the UWL Pride Drag Show in April were so generous. Thank you for your donations

## Top 50 Donors for January—June 2016

Arcadia Community Chest, Inc.

Berg, Bill and Cindy

Blair Lutheran Church

Blair-Taylor Public Schools

Bremer Bank, N.A.

Burkhardt Physical Therapy Center

Burkhardt, Randy and Myra

The Center of Chiropractic

Dairyland Power Cooperative

Denney, Terry

Dynamic Recycling

Fastenal

First Supply Of La Crosse

Foss, Richard and Marilyn

Freedland, Maureen and Robert

Gundersen Lutheran Administrative Services

Hanesworth, James and Janice

Hawker, Rachel

Herbst Safaris

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Johnson, Dawn

Kappauf, Ann and Brian

Kirkey, Jeff and Sheila

Kujawa, Peter

La Crosse Community Foundation -  
Blahnik Naugler Help Fund

LC Hip Hop Dance Team

Lehrke, Richard A

Logistics Health, Inc.

Lough, Jennifer

Mayo Foundation For Medical Education  
and Research

Michaels, Steve and Wendi

Milner, Laura

Naugler, James and Rebecca

Omernik, Jim and Donna

ORC Industries

Parker, Kathryn

The Pilates Studio

Schaffer, Dr. Nhyus

Schroeder, Grace

The Sine Family

Trinity United Church Of Christ

Urbanek, Terri

UWL Pride Center

Welke, Rochelle

Whitehall Area Chamber of Commerce,

Wichelt, Aimee





new  
horizons  
SHELTER & OUTREACH CENTERS

advocating against domestic & sexual abuse

Non-profit  
US Postage  
PAID  
La Crosse, WI  
Permit No. 147

P.O. Box 2031 | 1223 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54602

## BACK TO SCHOOL WISH LIST

Summer is here, but Fall will come all too quickly! Next thing we know the school year will start and many of our families that we serve will struggle with school supplies. The best thing about the first day of school for young kiddos is being able to wear those brand new pair of shoes or brand new outfit that was purchased over the summer. Unfortunately, the children in shelter may not have all the supplies needed or a brand new outfit to wear. New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers works very hard to provide what we can for the first day of school. This is where we need your help! We are looking for donations to help our shelter families prepare for the 2016-2017 school year. Last year we were able to help 29 kids by providing them with brand new backpacks filled with their needed school supplies. We would like to help even more families this year! Here is a list of much needed items:

- Backpacks
- Loose leaf paper (college ruled and wide ruled)
- Notebooks (college ruled and wide ruled) (red, yellow, blue, green and purple)
- 2-pocket folders (red, yellow, blue, green and purple)
- Glue sticks
- Calculators
- Scissors
- Highlighters
- Ear buds
- 3-ring binders
- Sharpie markers (fine line)
- Colored pencils
- Washable markers
- Dry erase markers (black)
- Disinfectant wipes
- Tissue boxes
- Ziploc bags (quart and gallon)
- Shoes (for either gender and any size)
- Outfits (for either gender and any size)

## SUMMER KIDS PROGRAMS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

Movie Tickets  
Shenanigans Passes  
Tickets to Children's Museum & Children's Theatre  
Dairy Queen or Culver Cone Coins  
*Any kids activities greatly appreciated*

## Always Appreciated Items:

- Bus Tokens
- Craft/Art Supplies
- Knitting Supplies
- Gas Cards
- Gift Certificates/Cards
- Pre-Paid Phone Cards
- Cash

## Donations Phone:

608-791-2610  
ext. 1300 or 1305

## La Crosse Outreach:

1223 Main Street,  
La Crosse

LIVE UNITED™



New Horizons is proud to be a participating  
agency of the Great Rivers United Way