

THE EMPOWERMENT PRESS

Summer 2022 Issue

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June was PRIDE month!

Every June, members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) community and their allies come together to celebrate the activism and accomplishments of LGBTQ+ people for Pride month! These yearly festivities began after the monumental Stonewall Uprising in June of 1969.

During a time when homosexual acts were illegal in 49 states in the United States, police were regularly raiding hangouts popular within the LGBTQ+ community, and on a hot summer night in June at the Stonewall Inn, the LGBTQ+ community took a stand against the unjust treatment leading to an uprising that ultimately built community, brought visibility to the LGBTQ+ community, and started Pride month.



Facilities Manager, Luke, showing his support of LGBTQ+ survivors of abuse.

Did you know?

New Horizons has been providing shelter to men in our community since 2010! This was five years before it was federally mandated.



Development Coordinator, Sierra, showing her support of LGBTQ+ survivors of abuse.

While immense progress has been made since the 60's, there is still work to be done. According to the UCLA School of Law, **LGBTQ+ people are four times more likely to experience violent crimes** than non-LGBTQ+ people, and the acts of violence are more likely with both strangers and someone who is well known to them. **Over 60% of bisexual women, 37% of bisexual men, and 50% of transgender or nonbinary people will experience sexual assault, domestic violence, and/or stalking** in their lifetime. And sadly, 85% of surveyed victim advocates report that a LGBTQ+ survivor they have worked with has been previously denied services because of their sexual orientation or gender identity according to NCAVP.

These alarming statistics show the need for inclusive services for everyone in our community regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression. **New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers is proud to support the right of people of all ages, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, social class, or differing abilities to live without fear, abuse, and violence.**

If someone discloses abuse to you, believe them, remind them it isn't their fault, keep it confidential, and allow them to share information on their schedule.

Together, we can create an environment where LGBTQ+ survivors are respected and provided with equal services and safety.



ALL SERVICES ARE FREE & CONFIDENTIAL



La Crosse and Trempealeau Counties
and Surrounding Area:

Toll-free: (888)231-0066 | Local: (608)791-2600

nhagainstabuse.org

We're hiring Crisis Advocates!

Crisis Advocates are the first connection for victims when they reach out to New Horizons for help. Duties include answering calls on the 24-hour crisis line, interacting with residents, and maintaining a homey environment within the shelter.

This part-time or full-time position requires working evenings, overnights, and weekends, and candidates will need to have availability during all three throughout each month. The perfect candidate is skilled in active listening and trauma informed care, and they are able to de-escalate high stress situations, and remain calm during crises.

Pay rate is \$15.75 an hour, with an additional \$1.00 per hour for overnights. For the full job description and to apply, visit our website www.nhagainstabuse.org/get-involved/employment-opportunities/.

La Crosse Loggers Game

Saturday, July 16th, 6 pm at the Loggers Stadium

For only \$15, get your ticket and a Loggers baseball cap for New Horizons night in the park! 50% of ticket sales go directly towards providing safety and services to our community.

Enjoy a firework show at the end of the game, too!



Follow these steps to get your tickets:

- 1) Go to lacrosseloggers.com
- 2) Click on "Buy Tickets" in the upper right-hand corner
- 3) Type "NEWHORIZONS" under Promotions and click "Find Tickets"
- 4) Select your desired seats
- 5) Continue with checkout as normal

Stewards of Children Training

Thursday, August 18th from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Location TBA

The Stewards of Children® training from Darkness to Light is the only nationally available program that is scientifically proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors. Appropriate for any adult, this training will teach attendees to recognize, react responsibly, and take proactive steps against child sexual abuse.

Thanks to support from the Al Louis' Musky Challenge through the Rotary Club of Downtown La Crosse, New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers will be providing this training with an included lunch for no charge. Save the date! Registration will open in July.

Thank you **Spring 2022 Interns!**

Meet two of the amazing interns that volunteered with us this Spring! We are so thankful for their many contributions, and we are so excited to see how they continue to make a positive difference in our community!



Meet Ari!

Community Education Intern

Ari spent her final semester of her Bachelors degree in Public Health & Community Education as our Community Education intern! She created educational materials used in our emergency shelter and throughout the community. Her favorite part of her internship was interacting with clients and making a difference in the health of others. Now, as a college graduate, Ari is working as a School Age Care Director for the La Crosse YMCA where she applies her training in trauma informed care!

Meet Mya!

Youth & Family Advocate Intern

Mya assisted in our emergency shelter as the Youth & Family Advocate intern where she interacted with clients, worked with families, and helped prepare for special events. She is pursuing an Associates of Human Services degree, and she now works for The Good Fight Community Center! Mya has shared that her internship gave her a better understanding of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, and she will use this knowledge to better serve her future clients.



Intern with us!

Internships and volunteer positions can range in length and involvement. We are happy to accommodate any student interested in making a difference in the lives of survivors.

Interested students can apply through our website or reach out to the Volunteer & Education Coordinator, Doreen, at volunteer@nhagainstabuse.org.

We have internship and volunteer opportunities working with the following staff and programs:

- Outreach Advocacy
 - Bilingual Advocacy
 - Youth & Family Advocacy
 - Community Education
 - Rural Advocacy
- Shelter and Crisis Line Support
- Administrative and Donation Center Support

Wisconsin Improves Sexual Assault Kit Testing



Executive Director, Ann Kappauf, shared the importance of this new system to survivors in our community.

We were joined by the Wisconsin Attorney General and members of the La Crosse Police Department for a press conference to share the good news about improvements to our states process of tracking sexual assault kits. This new system puts the empowerment and confidentiality of survivors at the forefront of processes.

"Every sexual assault kit collected in Wisconsin is being entered into the track kit system. The track kit system will provide survivors with transparency regarding the status and location of their kits. That is going to help empower survivors of sexual assault because it means that they can check in on the status of their kit at a time of their choosing..."

...they will be provided with a bar code when that sexual assault kit is collected, and they can use that barcode to look up the status of their kit."

- Wisconsin Attorney General, Josh Kaul

Our NEW Container Garden

Thank you Bauer's Market!

Our emergency shelter is the first step to living a life free of abuse for over 100 individuals in our community every year. While staying in the shelter, survivors are provided with everything they need including food. It is important to our agency that we are providing options that are healthy and nutritious for our residents.



Bauer's Market graciously donated a container garden for our emergency shelter.

DENIM DAY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Every April, New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers participates in Sexual Assault Awareness Month by providing an educational prevention opportunity to area high school students through the Denim Day Scholarship. In the fifth year of the scholarship, one high school student from La Crosse County and one high school student from Trempealeau County received \$500 towards their future education.

This year's prompt focused on the effects and perceptions of sexual assault and victim blaming in their community. All the applicants did a wonderful job in detailing their personal experiences and ideas for change.



Ashley Dahlke from Onalaska High School was the winner of the La Crosse County Denim Day Scholarship! She will be attending UW-La Crosse in the fall to study business. Her essay focused on the need to change perception around sexual assault in our community, "While sexual abuse is an epidemic, victim-blaming is also an epidemic. In order to change the perception of sexual abuse, we need to better address victim-blaming in our communities."

Macy Ann Grullkowski from Whitehall Memorial High School was the winner of the Trempealeau County Denim Day Scholarship! She will be attending Winona University in the fall with an undeclared major. Her essay focused on the importance of believing victims when they tell you their story to create a safe path for other victims to come forward, "Since these people are silenced and they don't report these crimes, the predators continue to commit those crimes. No one confronts them, and no one holds them accountable for what they have done, so they keep causing trauma to innocent people in our community."

Thank you to everyone who applied for this scholarship and all of the area businesses that supported this scholarship through the Denim Day fundraiser.

Bluff View Bank
Associated Bank
Citizens State Bank
Western Dairyland Community Action Agency
Western Technical College
La Crosse Logan High School
The Salon by InStyle Inside JCPenney-La Crosse, WI
Onalaska High School
Heavenly Crossroads Salon & Spa



Our Current Needs

Due to very limited space, our donation protocol has recently changed.

We no longer accept any clothing or small appliance items unless it is something that we have specifically put out a request for on our Facebook page. ***We recommend calling ahead before coming with donations to help make it a seamless experience. That number is (608)791-2610, ext. 1301.***

We work closely with other non-profit organizations to ensure that those we provide services to have their clothing and furniture needs met, this allows us to remain focused on our mission.

We always accept donations of new and full-sized personal care items.

Safety Tools

- Security cameras/doorbells
- Pre-paid cellphones and phone cards

Hygiene Items

- Pregnancy tests
- Tampons
- Body spray (women's or men's)

Adult Items

- Adult fiction books
- Travel water bottles
- Gift certificates (for gas, grocery, etc.)

Food

- Juice boxes
- Kid-friendly snacks

Children's Items

- Pacifiers (not newborn)
- Sippy cups
- Spanish children's books

Children's Clothing

- 18 mo – 14/16 boys summer clothes
- Kids socks, white
- Girls size 16 underwear
- Boys 2t-14/16 boxer briefs

Adult Clothing

- Women's XS underwear (new)
- Women's size 32a bras (new)
- Women's XS sport bras (new)

THANK YOU!

The continuous generosity of our community is what allows us to continue providing a safety net of support for survivors. We could not do what we do without your support.

OUR TOP DONORS from Quarter 2 2022

Below are just a few of the multitude of gifts from companies, churches, organizations, and individuals.

Jake & Emily Bowe
First Presbyterian Church
Onalaska Enhancement Foundation, Inc.
Barbara Pearson
John Stilwell
Roy Campbell
Dairyland Power Cooperative
Rotary Lights Inc.

La Crosse Community Foundation-AAUW
Citizens State Bank
Larry Hagar
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Black Widow Tattoo Co.
Christine Bass
Holmen Interact Club
John & Diann Honadel
Bluff View Bank



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



advocating against domestic & sexual abuse

**PO Box 2031 | 1223 Main Street
La Crosse, WI 54601**

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Provide hope to survivors in our community with monthly giving!

Give with ease

Every month, your donation will happen automatically removing one more thing off your to do list!

Ensure ongoing support

With monthly gifts, you provide peace-of-mind for survivors of abuse that depend on our services.

Budget for change

By spreading out your donations, you are making a long-term impact that fits your life.

Your monthly gifts will provide hope to victims of abuse in the form of trauma counseling, legal advocacy, shelter, and more. YOU are the supportive hand behind every victim's journey to get onto a path free of abuse.



Scan the QR code to get started!