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Spruce Run News (November 1978)

Spruce Run Staff

Spruce Run

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SPRUCE RUN ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER - November, 1978

Hello again. 'Tis the season to be generous, so PLEASE. Those of you who are not yet members of Spruce Run: an application is attached for your convenience. We need your help. Many members should be reminded that it is time to renew their yearly memberships, and the form below can be used for that purpose. If you've been with us a year, your renewal will guarantee that you continue to receive our newsletter. ALSO, Spruce Run would appreciate any donations of \$\$\$. We would like to start an emergency fund for food and clothing for shelter clients who are forced to leave their homes with nothing. The office is in need of another desk, chairs, a typewriter, and a mimeograph machine, so if you have something along these lines to donate, or know where we might get them, please let us know. And our thanks to all of you for your continued support.

And now - the news! We anticipate that the first meeting of a new Steering Committee, designed to give Spruce Run more influence, input from the professional community, contact with the community as a whole, and "respectability", will be held in December. This Steering Committee will meet four times a year. Five people from that committee will act as a working committee, meeting bi-weekly, to take care of the general business of the organization.

Spruce Run is continually changing and improving. We have several new staff people, all CETA employees: Mary B., slaving away as our official Grant Writer; Martha M., Office Counselor, and Edna A., as our new Coordinator of Counseling. We are also presently interviewing for the position of Public Education Consultant. Edna has begun a support group for the shelter clients, and we hope to be able to once again offer a support group for all our clients soon.

Cornelia E. and Edna have been training a new group of volunteer crisis counselors who will complete their training within two weeks. We are happy to have Terri, Cindy, Jayne, Bayard, Susan, Helene, and Martha join us. With their help we should be able to serve our clients better.

Two grant proposals have been submitted recently. One, to the Domestic Violence Project for an educational package to be used by groups such as ours as well as various other organizations, was written by Terri L. Sadly, however, it did not get chosen for funding. The other, written by Mary B., is an application for a proposed model shelter/counseling program involving a budget of over \$60,000. It was submitted under the Women's Educational Equity Act on Friday, Nov. 17th.

A concert held Nov. 9 at the Damn Yankee, UMO, brought in \$177. The music was great but attendance was poor. If you didn't go, you missed a fine evening of entertainment with Bruce Thulin, Martha Winchenbach, The Psalterly and Gene Taylor performing.

Spruce Run has a beautiful fund-raising project for this holiday season. Cornelia has brought us some sets of high-quality felt-tip markers from West Germany, donated by her cousin. These are three different sized sets of colored markers, priced from \$ 4.00 to \$ 7.00. Please stop by our office at 44 Central Street and buy these lovely art supplies for the children on your holiday gift list.

Spruce Run is working with other members of the Maine Coalition for Family Crisis Services again this year in seeking state support for shelters for victims of family violence. Nancy G., Coalition President, Terri L. and Mary C. meet monthly with Coalition members from Portland, Saco, Lewiston, Augusta and Caribou to plan the strategy to convince the Legislature and the Governor that domestic violence is a serious problem for the entire State of Maine. Last year the Legislature voted in favor of the bill to provide shelters, but the Governor vetoed the bill. We hope this year to rally the support necessary to help abused women and their children and we ask you to support our efforts to convince the lawmakers. Please plan to speak and write to your state legislators on our behalf.

Since August we have said goodbye to several of our valuable staff members and volunteers, who have left SR for new cities and/or new careers. We all miss Terre O., Wendy, Mary T., Cindy S., Diane E. and Fran very much. B.J. too!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - Spruce Run Association

New: _____
Renew: _____

Dated: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

_____ \$3 regular member
_____ \$5 sponsoring member
_____ \$10 or more, sustaining member

\$ _____ donation

Membership entitles you to receive our newsletter which will now be published quarterly and to participate in the annual meeting. You are invited to call or drop by if you have questions about us.

SPRUCE RUN
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