

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

Maine Women's Publications - All

Publications

Spring 3-1-2011

New Hope for Women Newsletter (Spring 2011)

New Hope for Women Staff

New Hope for Women

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all



Part of the [Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Commons](#), [Family, Life Course, and Society Commons](#), [Gender and Sexuality Commons](#), [Rural Sociology Commons](#), and the [Social Work Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Staff, New Hope for Women, "New Hope for Women Newsletter (Spring 2011)" (2011). *Maine Women's Publications - All*. 301.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all/301

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Women's Publications - All by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

Spring 2011 Newsletter



NEW HOPE *for* **WOMEN**

New Hope for Women offers support to people in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties affected by domestic and dating violence and provides resources to assist our communities in creating a safer and healthier future.



Kathleen Morgan
Executive Director

Mark your calendar

More details about these events and fundraisers will be available at www.newhopeforwomen.org in the coming months.

June 4 & 5, 2011

Serve an Ace for Hope tennis tournament at Midcoast Recreation Center. More details will be available at www.newhopeforwomen.org in the coming months.

August 2011

Concert

September 3, 2011

Designing Women craft fair

October 2011

30th Anniversary & Open House, and other Domestic Violence Awareness Month events

We've moved



New Hope for Women's new office at 5 Beech Street in Rockland, Maine.

On March 28th we moved our crisis services to a newly renovated location in Rockland. Thanks to the good stewardship of the Board, the generosity of Ellis Cohn, and some help from a banker friend, we purchased the former Jaret and Cohn building at 5 Beech Street, just down Union Street from the courthouse and across Beech from the library.

While the whole experience had some unexpected moments, we were extremely fortunate to work with gifted people. Dominic Paul Mercandante did a superb job as architect, keeping a light touch to preserve the beauty of the building and helping us stay on budget. The crew at Phi Home Designs brought Dominic's vision to life, and working with Dominic and the men from Phi (Michael Roy, Will Power and Tommy Uhl) made the renovation experience easy and enjoyable. In another assist toward preserving the look of our new home, Marc Bagala came up from Portland to remove and restore our old wavy-glassed windows. It was amazing how having them reinstalled made the building come alive! Evergreen Home Performance did an energy audit and helped make the building more efficient.

We still have to paint the outside and landscape, and expect that will be done this summer. In the meanwhile, we are delivering our usual services from our lovely new home. We are extremely grateful to the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation and Donald Sussman for their generosity and financial support of our renovations. In addition, I want to thank the New Hope Board, especially the Building Committee members for a job well done, and want to give a huge thanks to the staff for their help, humor, and patience throughout the entire endeavor.

We'll have an open house when all the work is complete. In the meanwhile, you are welcome to drop in for a tour. We're quite excited to be here and pleased to show it off.

Getting the Call

In the Fall 2010 newsletter, Anne had called the New Hope for Women hotline for the first time. Anne was just beginning to open up about her relationship with her abusive husband. Anne, like many first-time callers, just wanted to talk and have someone listen and support her. During that call, Advocate Samantha told Anne about our hotline, office hours, and support group, and how these services were available for her to use when she needed them. Over the last few months, Anne has continued to use the hotline, speaking to a number of advocates, and telling more of her story. Now Anne has reached a point where she is ready to use more of New Hope's services.

Anne's story is like many that we hear at New Hope for Women, but is not about any particular client. If you would like to reread Anne's first phone call it is online at our website www.newhopeforwomen.org under About Us > Newsletter in the Fall 2010 issue.

The front door opens to New Hope for Women's Rockland Office.

Advocate: Hello. Welcome to New Hope for Women. I'm Darcy. How can I help you?

Client: Hi. My name is Anne. I've talked to a couple of advocates the last few months.

Advocate: Oh, hi Anne. I just talked with you last week. I'm glad that you decided to come in.

Client: Yes. I just really need to talk. Is that okay?

Advocate: Of course it is. As I said on the phone, you don't need an appointment.

I am so glad you did decide to come. Let's go somewhere more private.

The advocate and client move to a meeting room and close the door.

Advocate: So, did something happen after we talked last week?

Client: Yeah, things got bad last night, and this time my son, Patrick, walked in.

Advocate: Wow, that must have been scary. I remember when we talked last week that you felt like the tension was building with Kurt, and that you were worried about how much longer you could hide what was happening from Patrick. What happened?

Client: I've got bruises. More than anything I feel exhausted.

Advocate: Are you okay? Did you call the police?

Client: I didn't call the police. I had the cell phone in my pocket just like we talked about for a plan, but he found it and smashed it against the wall before I had a chance to use it.

I just never thought he would hit me in front of Patrick. I haven't been able to sleep since and all I can see is the shocked look on Patrick's face. I've got to get out. This morning in the car, Patrick kept asking me why Daddy and I are fighting. I didn't know how to respond. I wanted to say, "Daddy and I aren't fighting. Daddy is doing all the hitting, I'm just the punching bag."

Advocate: It must be so hard seeing Patrick trying to process what he has seen and heard, and not knowing what to say or do to comfort him.

Client: I certainly can't tell him everything will be all right because as long as I stay with Kurt it won't be. Before I just wasn't ready to admit that,

but now I am. You mentioned last week something about a protection order?

Advocate: Yes, a Protection from Abuse order. Do you think you are ready to fill out the paperwork?

Client: Yes.

Advocate: Okay, Anne. I actually have copies of the paperwork right here. You can fill it out here, and as you're filling it out we can talk about what each section means, the process, and next steps. There are many options to a Protection from Abuse Order, and it can be tailored to fit your needs. It's about your safety. Leaving can be a dangerous time and this is one step in planning for your safety. First, what do you want?

Client: I just want to leave Kurt. I have never wanted to call the police because I didn't want him arrested and our family to have to go through all of that, but I want the Order so he knows he can't keep treating me this way. I don't care about the house. It's right across the street from his parents anyway. I don't think I can take Patrick away from him, but I do not want him to grow up thinking it is okay to treat someone this way. If I do this will he still be able to see Patrick?

Advocate: There is a place to ask the judge to grant you temporary custody of Patrick, and a place where you can write out a visitation schedule for Kurt and specifics about communication, such as only through email and only regarding Patrick. You could ask for a certain location where you feel safe to meet to exchange Patrick, somewhere public, or have a person that you feel comfortable with do the exchanges. There is a place to ask for certain property, pets, child support.

Client: There is a lot to this.

Advocate: Yes, but the most important thing it is about is your safety.

Client: What about him getting help?

Advocate: There is a place for you to ask the Court to require him to get help. New Hope even has a program, Time for Change, where he would learn to recognize his abusive behaviors, the effect domestic violence has on you and Patrick, and healthier, nonviolent communication skills – which is important since he will still have to communicate with you in some form about Patrick.

Client: And it would be better if he wasn't doing it all by swearing, yelling, and putting me down.

Advocate: Those are all lessons Time for Change teaches.

Client: Okay.

Advocate: Let's get started.

While Anne fills out the paperwork, Darcy gives further details about the different sections of the Order, answers questions, and helps plan for her and Patrick's safety.

Advocate: Do you think he will follow the Order?

Client: Yes, he wouldn't want the police involved or his name in the newspaper. Now what happens?

Advocate: This paperwork needs to be taken over to the courthouse. A judge will look it over and decide whether to grant you a temporary order. If a temporary order is provided, the clerk will give you back copies of the order with a court date - one will be served to Kurt. Do you want an advocate to go with you to the courthouse?

Client: No, that's okay. I think I can manage. I am just not sure what to do after that.

Advocate: Well, where were you planning on staying?

Client: I talked with my friend, and she said Patrick and I could stay with her until I get on my feet. I have clothes for Patrick and myself, and some of the other items I saw on your website that I should have. My plan was to pick up

Patrick from school and go right to her house, but now this seems so real.

Advocate: Does Kurt know where she lives?

Client: Yes, and I am worried about that. Now that I am thinking, her house will be the first place he will go when we are not home.

Advocate: We have Safe Homes. You and Patrick could stay at a Safe Home for tonight, and once we heard that the police served him with the temporary Protection from Abuse Order you could go to your friend's house.

Client: That might be better. What is a Safe Home?

Advocate: We have volunteers who open up their houses to our clients in situations just like this. Why don't you call your friend and let her know what is happening, then go to the courthouse, file the Protection from Abuse order, pick up Patrick, and then come back here. While you are gone I'll call a Safe Home and get things set up, and on our way to the Safe Home we can go to the police station and drop off the Order.

Client: Okay. So you will come to the Safe Home?

Advocate: You and Patrick can follow me there, and I'll stay while you get settled. Remember this is about your safety and protecting yourself and Patrick. This is you taking back control, and saying, "You are not going to abuse me anymore."

Anne is granted the temporary Protection from Abuse Order, and goes into a Safe Home with her son, Patrick. After Anne has been in the Safe Home for two nights, she receives a call from Darcy letting her know that the police have served Kurt with the temporary Protection from Abuse Order. At this point, she feels that she and Patrick will be safe at her friend's house. Anne continues to work with the New Hope advocates to prepare for the court date.

To find out more about court and the process to obtain a Protection from Abuse Order, please visit our website.

Legal Services

Our advocates are trained to help clients fill out paperwork requesting temporary Protection from Abuse Orders and Protection from Harassment Orders. We help clients prepare for court, and offer support at hearings.

Our on-staff attorney works with qualifying clients at Protection from Abuse hearings as well as family matter cases, such as divorce and parental rights and responsibilities.

We also have many resources and referrals to offer clients. Clients should call during regular business hours for more information and to find out what support they may qualify for.

Certified Batterer Intervention Program

Time for Change is certified through the Maine Department of Corrections to provide batterer intervention classes in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties. The program is educational, covering topics such as improving communication and listening skills, the effects abuse has on partners and children, and how to build healthier relationships. There is a fee for this service.

Safe Homes

Our Safe Home network, provided exclusively by volunteers, is spread throughout Lincoln, Knox and Waldo counties. We will provide shelter for clients and their children who are in danger and have nowhere else to go. This service, like our hotline, is provided 24 hours a day, every day.

In some situations, abusers threaten to harm pets if their victims try to leave. If these victims can't find safe shelter for their pets, they may feel like they have no choice but to stay in their abusive relationships. To remove this barrier, New Hope for Women's volunteers offer safe homes for pets.

Find out more about New Hope for Women's services by visiting our website. www.newhopeforwomen.org

Remember My Name

Katrina Windred

Age 47 / Rockland, Maine

Strangled to death at her ex-boyfriend's apartment. Her body was found four days later along a rural road.

Arnold Diana, 35, is charged with murder.

Domestic violence is a crime.

24 hour crisis hotline | 1-800-522-3304

Belfast

111 Church St.
207-338-6569

Rockland

5 Beech St.
207-594-2128

Damariscotta

17 Water St.
207-563-2404



New Hope for Women is a non-profit organization funded by the Maine State Department of Health and Human Services, United Way of Midcoast Maine, United Way of Eastern Maine, United Mid-Coast Charities, and local donations.

Return Service Requested

Web: www.newhopeforwomen.org
Email: newhope@newhopeforwomen.org

P.O. Box A
Rockland, Maine 04841-0733



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #292
Rockland, ME