

The Green House Gazette

For 24/7 Crisis Assistance, Call COPEline at 1.888.285.5665



The agency is in amazement of the support received since 1980. For thirty-five years, WomenSafe has been helping survivors of domestic violence and for thirty-five years, the agency has been receiving support through various methods. WomenSafe would not be providing services and an emergency shelter, free of charge, without that support. Thank you! Pictured: WomenSafe's staff at the holiday party in January 2016.

“Wishes”

When she was a young girl, she wished she would someday meet her Prince Charming.

When she met him at a party in college, she wished the night would never end.

When they married, she wished everyone could be as happy as she was.

When he hit her for the first time, she wished she hadn't made him so mad.

When he'd hit her for the fifth time, she wished she could figure out how to do things the way he wanted so he wouldn't get so angry.

When he hit her the tenth time, she wished he would keep his promise that it would never happen again.

When he screamed vulgarities at her and called her stupid, she wished the kids were asleep so they didn't hear him.

When he hit her for the twentieth (or was it the thirtieth) time, she just wished the bruises would heal before her family arrived for their visit.

Every December, she wished that they could get through the holidays once without him exploding into a rage, breaking things, and ruining the season for everyone.

Most of all she wished there was a way out of this nightmare.

And then one day something happened. Her daughter came home from school with a brochure she'd received in health class. It was information about healthy relationships, and a place called WomenSafe, Inc., the Green House.

She read the brochure. She learned there was hope and help. She called the COPEline. And with the help and support of her community, at last... her wishes came true.

A **SPECIAL** thank you to....

- Christine Pappas, Realtor at Re/Max Results, for raising the funds to purchase new mattresses and the remaining bunk beds that needed replacement. This was one of the agency's essential needs!
- Geauga Park District for hosting the "Holly Days Artisan Boutique." WomenSafe had the opportunity to have a booth at the event to talk to visitors about WomenSafe's services.
- BellAmore Salon & Spa for hosting their 10 year anniversary party where clients were asked to bring donations for WomenSafe!
- Leadership Geauga for visiting WomenSafe in December for Human Services Day.

Thankful for the opportunity to work with Girl Scout Troop 275 and share a lesson about poverty and living on \$5 a day (an average amount a single person receiving SNAP gets). These Girl Scouts were given \$5 each to spend on groceries to be donated to WomenSafe.



Lakeland Support Group

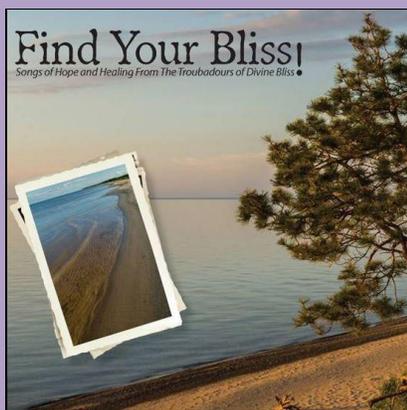
Survivors of domestic violence are not alone

- For any female, who is 18 or older, and feels she is in an abusive relationship or has been in an abusive relationship in the past
- Led by a licensed counselor and community educator with years of experience
- For details, contact the Women's Center at 440.525.7322 or womenscenter@lakelandcc.edu
- For questions, contact WomenSafe at 440.286.7154 x237
- This support group is FREE and confidential

To participate, please arrive
30 minutes prior to class

**This program is provided in part by the Lake
County Board of Mental Health
and Addiction Services**

**Thank you to Dr. James Oh and
Kathy McClure at Proforma Lamar for
creating a CD that features songs of
hope and healing from the
Troubadours of Divine Bliss. The sales
of the CD are intended to empower
listeners and provide funds to support
survivors of abuse. To purchase a CD,
please contact Marilyn Young at
440.286.7154 x248.**



Save the date!

- **The Charity Celebrity Golf Tournament** will take place on Monday, June 27, 2016 at the Beechmont Country Club. Sponsorships are available! Call 216.509.5109 for more information.
- **Fall Luncheon 2016** is scheduled for Sunday, September 25, 2016 at the Acacia Reservation. **Casino Royale 2017** is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2017. For more information on sponsoring these events, please contact Marilyn Young at 440.286.7154 x248 or events@womensafe.org.

Proceeds from all events will be used to provide emergency shelter and resources to survivors of domestic violence throughout Northeast Ohio.

Empowered Parent Program

The Empowered Parent Program is a new program WomenSafe has implemented to help meet the parenting needs of survivors of domestic violence. This program provides a mobile, real life family education approach to help parents and families communicate and fulfill needs, set clear boundaries, and become emotionally healthy following exposure to domestic violence. Highlights of the program include:

- A mobile approach to parenting education that eliminates the transportation barrier experienced in Geauga County.
- A parenting curriculum that is an evidence-based practice for families that have experienced domestic violence.
- Sessions that can take place up to three times per week depending on the needs of the family.
- Real life scenarios to teach survivors how to respond in the moment to stressful situations involving their children.

To register for the Empowered Parent Program, please contact the Parenting Education Specialist, Amber Weinrich, at 440.286.7154 x227 or amber.epp.womensafe@gmail.com.

Funded by: United Way Services of Geauga County and the Cleveland Foundation (Lake-Geauga Fund)

STAY TUNED:

The next newsletter will be released in May 2016. The newsletter will feature:

- Casino Royale sponsored by Penske Cleveland
- New, generous funders
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



Thank you to St. Gabes for volunteering at WomenSafe for their community day! Their hard work in cleaning up the shelter made a huge difference!

Funding Spotlight:

- Thank you to the Reinberger Foundation for awarding the agency with a \$15,000 grant! Their support will provide help and hope to survivors of domestic violence residing in shelter.
- Thank you to the Pentair Foundation and the Episcopal Community Services Development Council for grants that will help maintain critical services!
- Thank you to Whole Foods on Chagrin Boulevard for raising money through the Nickels for Nonprofit Program. WomenSafe loved partnering with you!



Thank you to Reel's Auto Sales for their generous donation to WomenSafe, Inc., the Green House and for rallying for survivors of domestic violence! WomenSafe is so grateful!

Western Reserve Junior Service League funds "Safety and Security Enhancement Project"

The Western Reserve Junior Service League awarded WomenSafe \$2,681.22 to enhance safety and security within the emergency shelter. The items funded include lockers with padlocks and a new medicine cabinet. The Western Reserve Junior Service League has supported the community in awarding over \$1,175,000 in grants to area non-profit agencies in Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula counties.



A BIG THANK YOU to all the 10 wonderful professionals of NAPO of North Coast that came to WomenSafe's Resale Shoppe and "worked their magic" for GO MONTH 2016!

The Resale Shoppe now has well organized shelves, storage areas, cabinets, cleaning supplies, an efficient work space and more! The Resale Shoppe truly appreciates your hard work on making these improvements and advice on how to maintain organization!



WOMENS SAFE LOVES ABB! In 2015, ABB employees raised awareness and funds that were matched by the ABB Foundation. In December 2015, WomenSafe was invited to the awards ceremony where the agency was presented with a \$55,317.20 check and the exciting news that this partnership will continue in 2016! WomenSafe is truly amazed at the employees' generosity and passion to help survivors of domestic violence throughout Northeast Ohio.

Healthy Relationship Program

Thus far in Fiscal Year 2016, WomenSafe's dating violence prevention education has exploded! Over 13,000 middle school and high school students throughout Northeast Ohio have received this information. Prevention education is a vital part in preventing and ending domestic violence. The goal of the Healthy Relationship Program is to provide an interactive way where students can learn about the five types of abuse, warning signs of abusive relationships, the ways to help a friend who is in an unhealthy relationship, and the services offered by WomenSafe.

The Healthy Relationship Program is available, free of charge. To schedule the presentation for your classroom, please contact Megan Bond at 440.286.7154 x229 or outreach@womensafe.org.

Resume Rush!

WomenSafe is growing, growing, growing! The agency would like to have your resume on hand if you have a desire to work with survivors of domestic violence.

Specify your area of interest:

- Days, afternoons, weekends and hour preferences
- Full time, part time, as needed
- Adults, children, general public
- Resale Shoppe, counseling, client advocacy, donations
- Available to start

Send information to:

Andrea R. Gutka, M.Ed., MCHES
Executive Director, WomenSafe
12041 Ravenna Road
Chardon, Ohio 44024
agutka@womensafe.org

No phone calls please. WomenSafe is an EOE.

Board Recruitment

Board members make it happen. All members support the agency's mission and oversee the agency to ensure that best services are provided for survivors of domestic violence. If you are interested in joining WomenSafe's Board of Trustees, please contact Andrea Gutka at 440.286.7154 x224 or agutka@womensafe.org.

Volunteer Recruitment

Volunteers play a crucial role in assisting WomenSafe serve survivors and supporting staff. The agency's volunteers assist with clerical work, administrative work, organize items at the shelter's donation center, spend time at the Resale Shop... the list is endless! If you can give the gift of time, visit www.womensafe.org to download your application and contact Megan Bond at 440.286.7154 x229 or outreach@womensafe.org to schedule your volunteer training session.



Marylin Young met with the Children's Guild of Cleveland in January to talk about the impact of domestic violence on children. WomenSafe partners with the Children's Guild of Cleveland in generating awareness and helping children who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence. Thank you for your loyal support! For more information about their group, visit childrensguildcleveland.org.

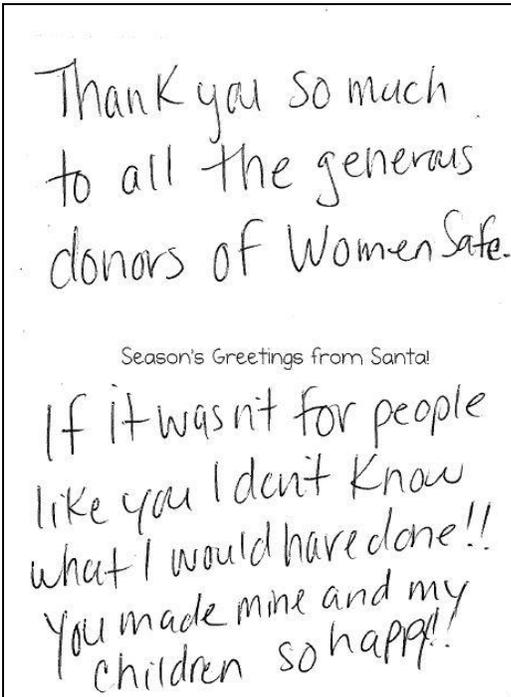
If you are interested in having a WomenSafe representative speak at your event, please contact Marylin Young at 440.286.7154 x248 or events@womensafe.org.

Can't get enough? FOLLOW US for urgent needs and news!

[Facebook.com/WSGreenHouse](https://www.facebook.com/WSGreenHouse)

[Twitter.com/womensafeinc](https://twitter.com/womensafeinc)

Website: www.womensafe.org



ADOPT-A-FAMILY

WomenSafe is overwhelmed by the generous donors and amazing volunteers who helped spread joy and encouragement this past holiday season to those impacted by domestic violence. Because of this support, 215 individuals (81 families and 134 children) received some needed extra holiday cheer through the Adopt-a-Family Program. Thank YOU!

If you are interested in donating year-round, please contact Megan Fisher at 440.286.7154 x230 or wsdonations@womensafe.org.

Left: This letter was received by a client who participated in the Adopt-a-Family Program in 2015.

COUGAR 93.7

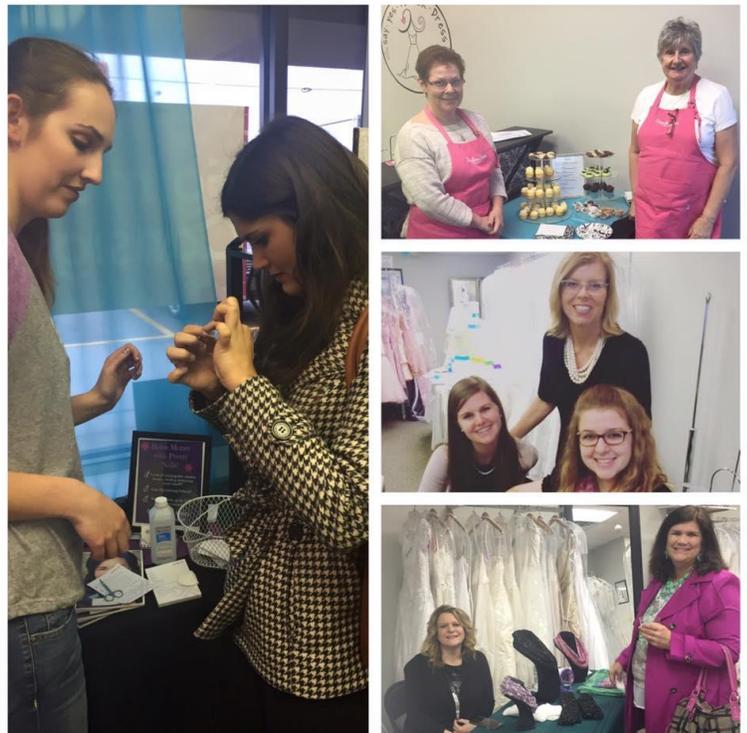
WomenSafe always has fun hanging out with JJ and Cat at Cougar 93.7, but did you know they are HUGE supporters of WomenSafe? This year, they hosted the 2nd annual Lipstick Luncheon where a portion of the funds raised benefited WomenSafe! Listeners actually dropped off items while WomenSafe representatives were on the air!



Marilyn Young (middle) always has a blast talking on air with JJ (right) and Cat (left) about upcoming WomenSafe events, essential services, and how the community can help.

Say Yes to HER Dress

On Sunday, December 27th, Karen Martin, Owner of "Say Yes to HER Dress" in Mentor, hosted "Breakfast at Tiffany's." This open house featured products from Thirty-One, Younique 3D Fiber Lash, Sandra Sue Cupcakes, Rodan & Fields Skincare, Jamberry Nails and more! Plus, 20% of the sales went to benefit WomenSafe! A great time to benefit a great cause.



Most Needed Items 2016

Shelter

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Laundry Detergent
Aluminum Foil
Dish Soap
Disinfectant Spray
40 Gallon Trash Bags
Bath Towels
Cleaning Supplies
Ziploc Bags
Sponges
Carpet Scrubber

Miscellaneous

Baby Wipes
Diapers

Gift Cards

Gas Gift Cards
Giant Eagle Gift Cards
Walmart Gift Cards
Staples Gift Cards

For The Home

Twin Mattress and Box Spring
Bed Frames

Food

Frozen Meat
Cereal
Juice

Clothing

Pajamas-All Sizes
Underwear
Socks

Donations are accepted by appointment only due to safety

To schedule an appointment, please call or email:

Megan Fisher
Donations Coordinator
440.286.7154 x230
wsdonations@womensafe.org

Looking to donate your car, truck, or recreational vehicle?

Contact www.donationline.com or call 877.227.7487



Don't have time to shop? Consider PayPal: www.womensafe.org

The WomenSafe Resale Shoppe

Items the Resale Shoppe are unable to accept:

- Mattresses & bed pillows
- Used sheets, quilts, & comforters
- Cribs, car seats, & bike helmets
- Large exercise/sports equipment & yoga mats
- Medical equipment
- Large appliances
- Furniture with broken/missing pieces
- Computers, printers, & fax machines
- Televisions, video games consoles, & stereos
- DVD players, cassette tapes, & VHS tapes
- Vacuum cleaners, humidifiers, & vaporizers
- Cracked/chipped glassware & dishes
- Toys/puzzles that are missing pieces
- Stuffed animals
- Men's suits & sport jackets
- Clothing that is stained or ripped
- Purses & shoes that are stained or ripped
- Used undergarments
- Items containing profanity & inappropriate content

Furniture donations can be coordinated for pick-up thanks to Two Men & A Truck.

Donations at the Resale Shoppe are accepted at the back entrance during business hours until 30 minutes before closing.

Store hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 10am-5pm

Thursday: 10am-7pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm

12061 Chillicothe Road

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Telephone: 440.729.2780

Email: wresale@womensafe.org

Facebook: [Facebook.com/WSResaleShoppe](https://www.facebook.com/WSResaleShoppe)

*This newsletter was prepared with pride from
Marissa Vanio, Operations & Grants Coordinator
For inquiries, contact 440.286.7154 x223 or fundraising@womensafe.org.*



Providing Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence
Emergency Shelter... Counseling... 24-Hour Hotline
Court Advocacy... Art Therapy... Relocation Assistance
Aftercare Programs...Community Education
All services are provided FREE of charge

*WomenSafe is proud to be supported by
a variety of sources, including
government agencies, corporations, foundations,
and community and individual donors.*

Geauga County Job & Family Services



WomenSafe, Inc., the Green House • 12041 Ravenna Road • Chardon, Ohio 44024

Telephone: 440.286.7154 • Fax: 440.286.1037 • 24/7 VIA COPEline: 1.888.285.5665

www.womensafe.org

The mission of WomenSafe is to provide emergency shelter and support services to survivors of domestic violence throughout Northeast Ohio.