



NEWSLETTER

May 2010

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Newhouse Needs You

On a chilly morning in April, Sandra and her three young children arrive at Newhouse. It is 3:00am when the KCMO Police Officer drops off Sandra, her frightened children, and a trash bag full of what few items Sandra could grab as she fled her abuser. Sandra has no source of income without her abuser and little education-- she is scared, angry, and uncertain about her future.

Tragically, this scenario is not as uncommon as one would hope. As you may have read in the April 29, 2010



Kansas City Star article "Domestic-violence shelters struggle to meet rising demand," domestic violence has been on the rise in Kansas City. What you didn't read was that Newhouse alone has seen a 40% increase in demand for services since the economic downturn began in 2007. In 2009, nearly 1,000 women and children were forced to flee their homes and seek safe shelter at Newhouse. Without Newhouse and **your** support, it is very likely these women and children would have gone without support and safe shelter.

Newhouse is the sole domestic violence shelter primarily serving the urban core of Kansas City, MO, an area with a disproportionate share of crime, unemployment, and poverty. Newhouse clients struggle with a variety of barriers in their attempts to start their new lives free of domestic violence. For example, in 2009:

- 57% of women who entered Newhouse in the first quarter of 2010 had zero income
- 35% of Newhouse residents had past mental health treatment
- 31% reported issues with substance abuse

Often, it is difficult at best for victims of domestic violence to begin addressing these obstacles—let alone without support.

The services provided at Newhouse, with **your** continued support, help them discover the potential for a brighter future and a life without violence for themselves and their children.

But without increased funding to address the increased need for safe shelter and these services, Newhouse has been pushed to provide more with less, and resources are wearing thin.

Thankfully, dedicated Newhouse supporters **like you** are stepping up and volunteering, holding collections for items on our needs list, and making financial contributions to Newhouse. **Your** generous efforts and contributions help us assist victims of violence and their children to begin to mend the hurt and move on.

With the economy still unstable and officials estimating a slow recovery, Newhouse will continue to rely on **you**, our network of friends, allies, and supporters, and **your networks** of potential contributors to continue to offer shelter and services to women and children of domestic violence.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT AND HELP NEWHOUSE:

- **DONATE:** from \$5 to \$5 million, **EVERY GIFT HELPS!**
- **COLLECT:** ask your group, congregation, co-workers, and friends to collect items on the top of our needs list, like used cell phones, sugar, trash bags of all sizes, and dairy products
- **HOST:** from pancake dinners to golf tournaments, we can help you set up a fundraising event to benefit Newhouse

Contact Newhouse at (816) 462-0508 or visit our website www.newhouseshelter.org for more information.

Sign-up for our e-newsletter! Contact DevelopmentCoordinator@NewhouseShelter.org

Newhouse is a domestic violence shelter serving the KC metro area. Our mission is to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing the tools that allow women to make positive choices and lead self-sufficient lives.

Your donation makes a difference!

Yes, I want to support the future of Newhouse!

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> \$25 | <input type="radio"/> \$250 |
| <input type="radio"/> \$50 | <input type="radio"/> \$500 |
| <input type="radio"/> \$100 | <input type="radio"/> Other |

I would like to pay by:

- Check
 Credit Card
 Cash

Credit Card
Information:

Account No.
Expiration Date

Name on Card
Signature

Your
Information:

Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone Email

All gifts are tax-deductible. Cumulative cash gifts of \$100 or more to Newhouse each calendar year may qualify for Missouri tax credits.



PO Box 240019
Kansas City, MO 64124-0019
www.newhouseshelter.org

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Icing on the Cake

Who: Mike Elder, local professional sugar artist and three-time champion of TLC's reality show, *Ultimate Cake Off*

What: Exclusive cake decorating demonstration and tasting, meet and greet, silent auction, and raffle prizes

When: June 9, 2010, 7:00-9:00pm

Where: RSVP with your \$40 tax-deductible donation for location. Hurry— spaces are limited!

Send payment to:
Newhouse, Attn: Elizabeth Wheeler
PO Box 240019
Kansas City, MO 64124

Or pay online by clicking the "Donate" button at www.newhouseshelter.org

Upcoming Events

- **May 26, 5-8pm: Sweet Tomatoes FunRaiser** (1309 Meadow Lake Pkwy. KC, MO): Newhouse will receive 20% of all proceeds. Take the family out for great food, great company and a great cause!
- **June 25, 6-8pm: Bite-a-Burger for Newhouse, Westport Flea Market** (817 Westport Rd, KC, MO): \$20 all you can eat burgers, beer, and a side.
- **July 19, 7-9pm: Newhouse Night at Red Mango & Larry's Giant Subs** (5050 Oak, KC, MO): Newhouse will receive 20% of the sales. Guests can donate used cell phones in exchange for tickets for raffle prizes.