



NEWSLETTER

September 2009

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In Her Own Words...

The Newhouse Newsletter is published bi-monthly. With each issue we bring you the voice of a Newhouse resident as she shares her new beginning.

When I met my abuser, he was the kindest, most gentle man I'd met in a long time. He wined and dined me. He said things I've always dreamed to hear. The love was good.

Then I saw another side. One day when I received a telephone call, he snatched the phone from my hand and then repeatedly struck me in the head and face. I was so shocked at his outrage that I was speechless. This incident happened only one month into our relationship. Afterward I went to my room and cried while he sat on the couch and watched TV.

The next morning I awoke to him apologizing to me. He sounded so sincere, saying, "I'm sorry, I don't know what got into me. I love you girl and the thought that you were talking to another man ran across my mind. I can't live without you."

This should have been my first warning. I could have packed my bags and left. But I chose to stay. I loved this man. We hugged and kissed and made up. Of course the abuse continued for years. I tried to turn away but felt I had no choice. We had a son, a beautiful baby boy. I never breathed a word of this to my family. In their eyes this man was good. He had a high occupation. He was a community role model. Then after the birth of my son, I felt obligated to our family. I was digging myself deeper and deeper.

After more violence, I left with nothing—no clothes, no furniture. I grabbed my baby boy and ran. I never looked back. This is how I became a resident of Newhouse. See I still had never told a soul in my family. In the time I have been here I have found my Soul. We're working together now (my Soul and I). I have captured a glimpse of the future for my son and me (together!). Newhouse has given me a new start.

—Rebecca

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Did you know...

- Newhouse served 775 women victims of domestic violence and their children (431 women and 344 children) last year;
- Missouri domestic violence programs provided a safe place to stay to over 10,400 women and children in 2008, but were forced to turn away 9,000 others due to lack of space;
- Missouri law enforcement agencies recorded 34,183 domestic violence incidents this past year;
- Domestic violence is not confined to any specific group or people, but effects people of all races, backgrounds, economic levels, education levels, family structures, ages and religions;
- The crime of domestic violence violates members of our community's privacy, dignity, security and humanity in the form of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic abuse; and
- Advocates, professionals, volunteers and community members concerned with domestic violence will devote the month of October to raising awareness on the causes, interventions and prevention of this devastating crime.

Source: *Alice Database 2009 and Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence 2009*

Newhouse Celebrates August and July Donors

Newhouse thanks the following \$1,000+ donors for their recent contributions:

- Harold Bradley
- DST Systems
- Goppert Foundation
- George and Carolyn Helmkamp
- Homelessness Trust Fund
- Mallin Real Estate
- New Friends of Kansas City
- Dan and Vicki Papa
- River City Marketing
- Second Presbyterian Church
- Sunshine Lady Foundation
- Village Presbyterian Church
- WEB Contracting

If you have included Newhouse in your estate plan, please let us know so we can thank you!

The mission of Newhouse 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!

- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1,000
- Other

I would like to pay by:

- Check
- Credit Card
- Cash

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Account No. _____
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All gifts are tax-deductible. Cumulative cash gifts of \$100 or more to Newhouse each calendar year may qualify for Missouri tax credits.



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SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2009 NEWHOUSE HOUSE PARTY!

All You Need Is Love...

Saturday, November 21, 2009
 The Ritz Charles
 Evening includes: Dinner, music, silent and live auctions
 Individual tickets: \$125
 Table for eight: \$1,000
 For reservations call 816-474-6446 x224

The Newhouse House Party is the shelter's annual fund raising event critical to ongoing shelter operations. We look forward to seeing you there!



Newhouse is a domestic violence shelter serving the KC metro area. Newhouse is also available for presentations to any group on topics including teen dating violence and violence in the workplace.

For help or shelter (816) 471-5800 or (816) HOTLINE