



sexual trauma services
of the midlands

Volunteer Voice

September 8, 2009

September 2009

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September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Anonymous Kit Training!	16 Anonymous Kit Training!	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Anonymous Kit Training!	25	26 Advocate Training
27 Advocate Training	28 Advocate Training	29 Advocate Training	30 Advocate Training	October 1 OYSTER ROAST		

Free Gym Visits!

We hope you stay healthy and happy as a volunteer at STSM. Health Directions in West Columbia has donated two free visits for any volunteer who completed August shifts at STSM. For more information please visit:

http://lexmed.com/Health_and_wellness/Health_Directions.htm

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Sistercare and STSM

Sistercare and STSM partner together to provide services for survivors of sexual assault. There is always a bed on reserve for STSM survivors. You just have to call! If the STSM staff or volunteer advocates do not call, it is unlikely that the survivor will be able to access that bed.



In the hospital: Call Sistercare from your cell phone or the hospital phone. They will conduct a brief intake over the phone and arrange for police to transport the survivor to the shelter.

On the hotline: Give the survivor the Sistercare hotline number and ask the survivor to call Sistercare in 10 minutes. As soon as you hang up, call Sistercare's hotline and explain that you have a survivor who needs shelter. Let them know the survivor will be calling shortly to arrange for transportation.

And remember, if you have any questions, you can always call STSM staff!

Information

Overload

So much new information!

- * Hospitals have started anonymous kits! Training dates: Tuesday, September 15 at 6:00pm.; Wednesday, September 16 at 7:45am; Thursday, September 24 at 7:00pm. All training sessions will be held at STSM offices.
- * We will also present information on Safety Planning and review the new Advocate Report Form



VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES MUST ATTEND ONE SESSION!



Before 9/14 tickets are \$30, VIP tickets \$45

After 9/14 tickets are \$35, VIP tickets are \$60

*****Oyster Roast***Chili Bar***Custom Designed Rocking Chairs*****

*****Music by Weekend Bender***Beer***Wine*****

We need five volunteers to work at this event!

Contact Mary Dell for more information about volunteering.

Beyond Advocacy

Monika Carey-Green serves as the Executive Director of the women's organization DIVA International Incorporated ("Dedicated Individually to Valiantly Assist"). She has created the DIVA program to assist people in creating a path of success and confidence for each child and woman she meets who may be in need of a "friend" and has decided to change the direction of their lives for the better. Monika has been a volunteer with STSM since October of 2007.

The staggering statistics and reality of violence and assault amongst young people has taken its toll on the community, schools, churches and at home. Pre teen and teen girls are being subjected to behavior by their peers that is uncomfortable and lessens their ability to get along with others. Their choices in these at risk environments appear to be limited. It leaves them no choice, but to accept the actions of unacceptable gestures and taunting. What can we do???



We must continue to educate, empower and encourage them to insist upon change. We must teach them consistently how to maintain their position without feeling alienated, even if they are. We must provide them with opportunities to share their experiences and feelings with their peer groups and speak out to those of authority to assist in ensuring the safety of character, self-esteem building and respect for person.

The media plays such a large roll in feeding this age group with ideas of sexism, violence, fantasy love and almost non-existent family values that volunteer advocates have to work twice as hard to convince them that there are better choices. The feeling of having "no choice" can be quite overwhelming when you are already dealing with insecurities of acceptance.

You are already involved in an organization that works to help end these problems. Now start talking about these topics in your homes, church and community. Make sure that those around you understand that there is a **NO TOLERANCE** policy when it comes to stepping pass boundaries that a person has established for themselves. Respect is such an easy thing when you choose to behave by the old saying "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

August Call Totals

Total Hospital Calls: 23

Hospital Calls answered by volunteers: 14

Hospital Calls answered by staff: 9

Total Hotline Calls: 6

Hotline Calls answered by volunteers: 3

Hotline Calls answered by staff: 3

Updates and Other Important Information

- * **Please submit a photo via email or regular mail for STSM to have on file. We will be honoring a volunteer's service each month and would like to put a face with a name! If you don't have access or would like just to visit, we can schedule a time for an in office photo shoot (Don't expect Glamour Shots!).**
- * **If you are at Lexington Medical Center on a call, please do NOT forget to remind the registration clerk and check out person that the kit and exam will be paid for by SOVA. Survivors should not be charged at the hospital!**

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, September 15: Anonymous Kits

Wednesday, September 16: Anonymous Kits

Thursday, September 24: Anonymous Kits

September 26—October 30: Fall Volunteer Advocate Training

Thursday, October 1: STSM Oyster Roast

Tuesday, October 13: Volunteer Coffee Hour 6pm-7:00pm

Tuesday, November 10: Continuing Education on Teen Pregnancy in SC

*****You must attend at least one continuing education event and one anonymous kit training for this fiscal year! Attend early and attend often!*****