

Quarterly newsletter, 1st issue/Feb, 2018

## Safe Passage, Inc.

[www.safepassageinc.org](http://www.safepassageinc.org); 812-933-1990/877-733-1990

*Serving domestic violence victims and providing prevention programming to six counties*

### Help. Healing. Hope.

*"I don't know what I would have done without you. Lord, I'd be a mess. You all gave me hope again!"*

Former shelter client and current non-residential client after testifying in court against abuser.

### Staff spotlight: Prevention Team

A major component of our mission is to provide prevention and education programs that promote a safe, nurturing environment for the communities we serve. We want to stop the violence before it starts. With this in mind, our Prevention team presents asset building curriculum to grades k-3 throughout schools and libraries in our six county district. The team also works with teens at the middle and high schools to promote healthy dating relationships. To get an idea of their job, we talked to the four Preventionists on staff.



From left, Lindsey Polly, Morgan Jobst, Bridgitte Taylor and Samantha Santen.

**Lindsey Polly** is our newest addition to the team and has been here 8 months. She graduated from Western Illinois University with a public health degree. She is soon to be married to Batesville chiropractor Brandon Wallpe. She enjoys getting to know the children through the asset building programs. It's inspiring to see their positive reaction when she enters a classroom. "I love how one program can lead to another; the possibilities are endless with the work that prevention entails." She has learned though that it's okay to not always have the right answer for the children "as long as I am mentally present and invested in them."  
**Bridgitte Taylor** graduated from South Ripley and the University of Indianapolis with a degree in

psychology, and has worked at SP for over 2 years. She loves building positive assets with youth, helping them realize "their goals, letting them know they are loved, and empowering them to know they are making a difference." She is rewarded by seeing the differences in families



### A letter from our Executive Director Jane Yorn Kindness campaign kick-off

**Just. Be. Kind.** Seems too simple to be of any real significance, but research says otherwise. **Here is what's in it for you:** A Harvard study showed that those who were giving toward others were the happiest. Habits of kindness have been linked to lower stress, pain, anxiety and even blood pressure. And this is **how it impacts all of us** - lots of research indicates that creating positive social environments builds stronger communities and more resilient children. **Simple, kind acts are the foundation of a positive social environment.**

That's why Safe Passage is promoting **1000 Kind Acts** for the month of February. We have a vision of what our workplace, school, local pub, community and even our family can look like if saturated with kind acts. Take a moment, look around and imagine that for yourself. Then - **take action!** Perform an act of kindness for someone. When they light up with gratitude, **encourage them to do the same** for someone else. Perhaps you will even see one of our **Kindness Cards** around town to pass along and promote this great opportunity to grow a safer, thriving and nurturing community.

We would LOVE to be inspired by seeing examples of kindness in action! If you catch a kind act, **post a picture or comment at #1000kindacts.** OR text it to us at Safe Passage at 812-212-9618.

Kindly,

Jane

who arrive with little hope and leave with a positive attitude. "I love being able to make an impact!" **Morgan Tedesco Jobst** has been working at Safe Passage for 1 ½ years. She graduated from IU with a double major in business and communications, and recently married Alex Jobst of Batesville. Through the interaction and asset programming she teaches, she is rewarded by seeing the children feel good about themselves. The hardest part though is seeing these youth she's connected with hurt, physically or emotionally. "It's heartbreaking," she said.

**Samantha Santen** has been with Safe Passage for 5 years. A new mother, she says the most rewarding part of the job is the relationships they build with youth and seeing them flourish. However, the hardest part is losing connections as they move on to college or other things.

"The biggest surprise about our job is that all of our programs and services are so intertwined and connected to one another. I love that it's not always the same thing and it's very creative.."

## Save the Date!

Teen dance, 7 p.m. Feb. 23, Knights of St. John Hall/Batesville

Volunteer Brunch, April 21, Hillcrest Country Club Heritage Room, 9:30 a.m.

Bash Before the Stash, Lawrenceburg Event Center, June 1

Handbags 4 Hope Batesville, Aug. 11, BMS school (Brookville H4H date pending)

We Help. We Heal. We Hope, Dec. 1, Walhill Farm.

## Volunteer of the Year



**Jeanne Siefert** was honored last month as the Volunteer of the Year by the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce. We agree she's the best! She is one of our weekly volunteers, and does everything from stuffing envelopes to sanitizing offices.

## Bash Before the Stash

## Just. Be. Kind. ideas

- Pay a compliment
- Change the toner or water dispenser at work
- Listen to a depressed person
- Call your grandparents
- Hug a friend or a child
- Bring coffee to your coworker
- Give away a favorite book
- Bake and share
- Smile more often
- Let people through in traffic
- Invite a lonely person to dinner
- Give up your spot in the checkout queue
- Stop complaining
- Hold the door open
- Send some random valentines



An overview of the beautiful event room at Walhill on Dec. 2.

## Record numbers for agency fundraiser

The fifth annual "We Help. We Heal. We Hope." brunch fundraiser on Dec. 2 at Walhill Farm sold out and raised a record amount for Safe Passage. In addition to a silent and live auction, the fundraiser is unique in that businesses/organizations or individuals design the 33 table tops. Mark Giesting served as emcee and as part of the program, he spoke from the experience his sister had, sharing how important it is to be supportive to victims. Haley Begay, Mlss Indiana 2017, also made an appearance and spoke on her personal experience with domestic violence.

To mark the 20 year history, Safe Passage recognized two businesses, one organization and two individuals for outstanding support. Margaret Mary Health was honored as the business supporter; Ripley County Government for local government/civic organization; and for individual volunteers, Leacarl and Jerry Bennett.

"As this agency continues to grow, we need new supporters," Executive Director Jane Yorn said in awarding the Champion of the Year plaque to **Anytime Fitness**. It was noted club owner John Spence and his crew have raised more than \$99,000 for Safe Passage since 2015.

During the program, Safe Passage recognized the six major fundraisers, each donating \$5000, including; MainSource, Margaret Mary Health, Hillenbrand and Batesville Casket, William H. and Martha A Hillenbrand Foundation, Anytime Fitness and In Memory of Ron Fledderman. Enhanced Telecommunications and Maxwell Construction were visionary sponsors, contributing \$3500 each. In all, there were 42 sponsors donating at various levels to the fundraiser. Jane Yorn said, "We are truly grateful for the support of these generous sponsors, plus over 100 local raffle donors, the 300+ attendees, the table designers and the table captains.



Mark your calendar for the annual **Bash Before the Stash** fundraiser **June 1** at the Lawrenceburg Event Center. Sponsored by Anytime Fitness, it's the prelude to the Mudstash at Perfect North. Tickets are \$65, and include, dinner, auction and entertainment. Tickets can be purchased online at the Facebook page of Bash Before the Stash. All proceeds go to Safe Passage.

<https://afinoh.myshopify.com/products/bash-before-the-stash-ticket>

## Every bit helps!

*We are grateful for the wonderful partners--from retailers and churches to motorcycle groups and realtors--who have supported us in the last few months with monetary donations. No matter the amount, we are grateful for all who consider our life-saving service. Every bit helps us help our neediest residents. We recognize below some last quarter grants and/or monetary donors from various organizations (See next page for list of major sponsors from our Dec. 2 fundraiser)*

- Southeastern IN Board of Realtors
- Bird in a Tree boutique
- Ripley Co. Community Foundation
- City of Greendale
- Ripley Co. Government
- Realty Exchange
- Switzerland County Homemakers
- Dearborn Hills United Methodist
- Colorworks Greenhouse
- Bethlehem Lutheran
- Beta Sigma Phi
- Town of Sunman
- Tanner Valley United Methodist
- Community Church of Batesville
- Delta Chi Fraternity, Miami of Ohio
- Hidden Valley Riders
- St Paul Crossroads
- St. Paul Lutheran-Olean



Receiving the awards: Representing Ripley County Government, council members Ron Decker and Mark Horstman, Anytime Fitness owner John Spence, SP Executive Director Jane Yorn, MMH's Julie Keene and volunteers Leacarlo and Jerry Bennett.

## Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

*Teens: Speak up if you suspect abuse among dating friends*



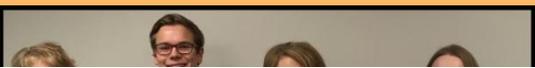
*We know friends don't let friends drive drunk, but friends also don't let friends stay in abusive relationships. "You're harming your friend by not saying or telling them that this relationship or behavior is not normal or healthy," said Bridgitte Taylor, one of four Prevention Coordinators for Safe Passage, Inc. "People need to speak out when their gut tells them something is wrong...Perhaps you see too much control, constant putdowns about her or his friends and family, jealousy or isolation. These are all warning signs of abuse." Taylor adds.*

*February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness (TDV) month and Safe Passage's Prevention team is taking this message on the road. The team has several presentations scheduled to middle and high schools in the six counties the nonprofit serves. (Prevention and education is a component of Safe Passage's mission.) A TDV awareness and teen dance on Feb. 23 in collaboration with Batesville's Matthew 19:26 Mission Team is planned at the Knights of St. John in Batesville at 7 p.m.*

*According to the Love is Respect website, only 33 percent of teens who were in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse, and that includes parents. As Taylor points out, although 82 percent of parents feel confident they could recognize the signs of abuse, a majority (58 percent) could not correctly identify the warnings signs of abuse. Keep in mind too that it's likely their child is hiding it from them as well: 73 percent of teens turn to a friend.*

*Safe Passage also presents teen dating violence at the college level, and has plans for sexual assault programming at Hanover College in Jefferson County and Ivy Tech campuses in the district.*

*If you would like to learn more about teen dating violence or to schedule a presentation, contact Safe Passage Prevention at 812.933.1990 or go to our website at safepassageinc.org*





The Ripley County Community Foundation has had the privilege to work alongside the MainSource Bank Corporate Giving Program. Employees raised \$18,175.50 to provide for many non-profit organizations in Ripley County, including Safe Passage. We thank MainSource donors and RCCF!

### Shop and Donate!



Amazon will donate to Safe Passage using Amazon Smile. Click [here](#) to shop!

### Making a Merry Christmas for all

Sunman Dearborn Middle School students made Christmas cards of encouragement to shelter and non-residential children to be handed out at the annual client Christmas party. Over 150 families were taken care of with gifts from local business, individuals and organizations.



**Thank you for making a difference in so many lives!**

Our 5th annual "We Help. We Heal. We Hope." Event raised a record amount for Safe Passage.



**Special recognition to our major sponsors:**



In memory of



Ron Fledderman



Batesville

The William A. and Martha H. Hillenbrand Foundation

Visionary Sponsors:  
Enhanced Telecommunications & Maxwell Construction

Thank you to Walhill Farm, the 100+ local raffle donors and 340 guests for your generous support.

**WE APPLAUD OUR CREATIVE TABLE DESIGNERS:**

- Amack's Well Coffee House
- Anytime Fitness
- Batesville Main Street
- Bird in a Tree
- b inspired yoga studio/Elizabeth Gratz Designs
- Cecilia Rose Design
- Chef Brandi
- Craig Distributing
- Daffodilly's Flowers and Gifts
- Friendship State Bank
- Guys and Gals Quarters Salon and Day Spa
- Head 2 Toe Hair and Nail Salon
- Jaynebugs Giftique
- Kent Marie Photography
- Kids Discovery Factory
- Make It Special
- Makeovers by Elizabeth
- Margaret Mary Health
- Miss Shannon's Music Studio
- RomWeber Marketplace
- Schmidt Bakery
- Sisters of St. Francis
- Strands Salon and Day Spa
- The Event Rental Gallery
- The Farmhouse Restaurant and B&B
- Thrive Market
- The Toro's Mexican Restaurant
- Twice Blessed Resale Shop
- Versailles State Park
- USW Local 525u Women of Steel
- Walpe Chiropractic and Wellness



Safe Passage is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 organization, dedicated to helping individuals and families live strong, safe lives that are free of violence and providing school and community-based prevention programs.

For more information about how you can help:  
1-877-733-1990  
safepassageinc.org



Ad placed in the Batesville Herald Tribune.

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STAY CONNECTED