



SPRING /
SUMMER
2006

News from the

Susan B. Anthony Project

SAFETY • HEALING • GROWTH

GAEL HAMMER
and
GARY GOODWIN

request the honor of your presence at



the ninth annual
TEA for TWO HUNDRED
A COTTAGE GARDEN TEA

to benefit
Northwestern Connecticut AIDS Project
and
Susan B. Anthony Project

JOAN RIVERS
HONORARY CHAIRPERSON

Saturday, July 29, 2006
4 to 7 PM

63 River Rd., Washington, CT
White attire requested • RSVP by July 21



Hat Contest
Silent Auction

***Raffle: Win a 2-nights stay
for 2 at Winvian***

Domestic Violence: Raising Awareness and Supporting the Victims

Becki O'Brien, a senior at Shepaug Valley High School in Washington, CT, selected for her senior project the issue of domestic violence. Senior projects are a year-long problem solving effort that students research, write about and present to the school in June. SBAP Associate Director Jeanne Fusco and Community Educator Tanya Hague worked with Becki on the project. Jeanne Fusco said "in twelve years of working with students from many schools on similar projects, Becki exhibited a unique depth of knowledge and understanding. Her energy and hard work benefited many of our shelter clients, she is an amazing young woman." Becki will be attending Smith College next year and plans to major in psychology or women's studies.



Project synopsis by Becki O'Brien

My overarching goal in choosing a project on domestic violence was to educate a community that feels very far removed from this issue and to rally support for the victims in our area. I asked myself two major questions: (1) How does domestic violence affect my own life and the lives of those around me? (2) What can I do to educate myself and others about domestic violence? Through this project, I hoped to learn as much as I could about domestic violence and find a way to communicate this knowledge to others in a variety of different ways throughout the year. I also planned to gather community support and execute a supply drive for an emergency shelter.

In October, my school bulletin board went up for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, complete with statistics and interesting pictures, awareness ribbons and brochures. Also in October, I attended a Candlelight Vigil sponsored by the Susan B. Anthony Project and introduced myself to several staff members who later became key parts of my project. The very next day I attended a lecture at UConn Torrington where Barbara Lane spoke of her experience with an abusive husband. I also put much effort into planning for a guest speaker from the Susan B. Anthony Project to come into five health classes as well as the sociology class.

My Valentine's Day Drive was by far the most evident product and proudest accomplishment of the project. I have never worked so hard on anything that was not for my own gain in my life. I spent most of December, January, and February advertising, planning, making contacts, and collecting donations. The work truly paid off when I unloaded my jeep and a pick up truck that filled a spare room at the shelter with box after box of bedding, toiletries, and other necessities that would allow the SBAP some financial relief in not having to buy these necessities for a few months.

(continued on page 2)

Raising Awareness (continued from page 1)

My final task was to bring in a police officer who trains for domestic violence response to Ms. Kazanjian's Women's Studies class for a discussion of the legal aspects of the topic, as well as the role that gender plays.

The idea for my project originated from my interest in Women's Studies, which I took in the Spring of my junior year. Knowledge of gender roles carried over to my project and helped me to analyze some of the alarming statistics I came across, such as the fact that 85% of all victims are female. I am glad to have spread knowledge to my fellow students and to have donated a significant amount of my time to pulling the community together for the donation drive.

Dr. Robert Berson receives Marvin P. Lyon, Jr. Award from the CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.

Dr. Robert Berson, member of the Susan B. Anthony Project Board of Directors, received the Marvin P. Lyon, Jr. Award. Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc., hosted the 4th Annual "Break the Silence" reception on April 26, 2006. The event commemorated Sexual Assault Awareness Month which honors victims and survivors of sexual violence.

The award was established to honor the memory of CONNSACS' Board member Marvin P. Lyon, Jr. who passed away in October of 2004. The award is presented to a man who demonstrates commitment to ending sexual violence and is dedicated to the work and mission of CONNSACS.

Dr. Berson has served on the Susan B. Anthony Project Board of Directors for fifteen years. He is the Board secretary and has been a member of the Executive and Long Range Planning Committees. One of his most significant contributions has been as co-chair of the Rebuilding Lives Capital Campaign.



Dr. Robert Berson and the Lyon Family

Rebuilding Lives Campaign Celebration

On May 11th Susan B. Anthony Project celebrated the success of the Rebuilding Lives Campaign with over 250 people attending an open house. Campaign co-chairs Bob Berson & Marlene Smith announced that we exceeded our goal raising over \$2.7M and received The Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant of \$275,000. Both Bob and Marlene stated that it had been their privilege to spend the past three years working on the campaign with the dedicated Campaign Committee and Board of Directors. Because of this successful campaign, SBAP will be able to increase programs and services for our clients and expand prevention efforts. They commented on how much they had enjoyed the opportunities to talk about Susan B. Anthony Project to many new people and were rewarded by donors who understood the agency's mission and support its work.



Executive Director, Barbara Spiegel extended her heartfelt thanks to the many generous members of the community who supported the campaign. She expressed how proud she is of this beautiful space which shows our clients the respect they deserve. She stated that she and the agency staff look forward to a strong and productive future in the new Counseling & Advocacy Center.

The Rebuilding Lives Campaign received gifts from over 1,500 individuals, 130 businesses, and 30 foundations. The organization also received a \$250,000 grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services.

All campaign materials were designed by John Johnson Art Direction & Design of Collinsville, CT.



Did you know?

Last year Susan B. Anthony Project provided assistance for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to 11,092 individuals through the following services:

- Shelter and Transitional Housing for 53 women and 57 children
- Court Advocacy, Support Groups, Counseling and Advocacy for 1,607 adults and 158 children
- Community Education for 8,890 individuals
- STRIVE Program (Seeking To Realize Independent Values and Esteem) 327 individuals

Agency News and Notes

In January the Board of Directors elected three new members:

- A. Gregory Bachmann, President, *Dymax Corporation*
- Gene Daponte, *CPA/PFS Portfolio Manager, Olson Mobeck Investment Advisors, Inc.*
- Susan Payne, *Development Director, Roxbury Land Trust*

Susan B. Anthony Project is proud to announce the following grants:

- **Benas Memorial Fund** for program support
- **BLN** (Burns Brooks & McNeil, Litchfield Bancorp & Northwest Community Golf annual golf fundraiser) for program support
- **Crosswicks Foundation** in support of children's programs
- **Federated Department Stores Foundation** for program support
- **Fox 61 Family Fund** for community education and program support
- **HCC Global Financial Products** for program support
- **Marion Isabell Coe Fund** for program support
- **Michael Bolton Charities** for client legal and emergency services
- **Swindells Charitable Foundation** for housing and support for children
- **The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut** to purchase a new truck for Polly's Dream Thrift Shop
- **The Nonprofit Assistance Initiative**, a joint project of the CT Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Waterbury for board development
- **Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation** for Community Education
- **TJX Foundation** for shelter and crisis services

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, November 4, 2006

Susan B. Anthony Project Authors' Luncheon

Bistro East at the Litchfield Inn

Route 202, Litchfield, CT

Limited seating. Call for reservations
860.489.3798

Luncheon tickets \$40 per person
(\$25 as a donation to SBAP)



*Sponsored by the Hickory Stick Bookshop,
Washington, CT*



**Susan B. Anthony Project
is a United Way Agency**



*SBAP founder Polly Doremus and
Store Manager Jan Thayer*

Polly's Dream Thrift Shop

To benefit Susan B. Anthony Project
Tuesday–Friday, 10–6 p.m.
Saturday, 10–5 p.m.
114 Water Street, Torrington
860-489-2808

Donations accepted during
business hours only. Please
call Jan at 860-489-2808
to:

- Arrange for a furniture
donation pick-up
- Volunteer to help in
the store and pick-up
furniture

*"Dear Polly's Dream,
My son and I came to the
shelter with very little. We
were able to go to Polly's
Dream and get sneakers
for my son and I found a
wonderful outfit to wear
to a job interview.
Thank you!"
SBAP SHELTER CLIENT*

*"Dear Jan,
You made it so easy for me to
donate furniture to Polly's
Dream. I couldn't figure out
how to get it to you. I was so
impressed that you scheduled
the pick up so quickly. The
men were helpful and
courteous. Thank you for such
a lovely experience."
DEBORAH NORTON,
HARWINTON*

Ways to Give

We hope that you will join the Susan B. Anthony Project as we strive to rebuild the lives of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Options for charitable giving include:

- **Outright gift.** The simplest method of giving by check or credit card.
Make a secure online gift at www.sbaproject.org
- **Appreciated Securities:** A gift of appreciated securities can provide considerable tax benefits
- **Wills and Bequests:** Your gift passes to the Susan B. Anthony Project after your death
- **Other Planned Gift Opportunities:** Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, Life Insurance or Retirement Plan Bequest
- **Real Estate:** A gift of real estate may benefit both you and the Susan B. Anthony Project

To make a gift or to learn about these and other charitable giving programs, contact Nancy Rogers, Director of Development, at 860-489-3798 or nrogers@sbaproject.org. Your financial advisor can tell you more about the tax implications and advantages of each giving method described above. Susan B. Anthony Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY PROJECT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

HEART Group: (Help End Abusive Relationship Tendencies) An on-going, peer support group for women who have experienced any form of family violence meets Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, 6:30–8:00 p.m. Please call to speak to a co-facilitator prior to attending your first group.



Trauma Survivors' Group: An on-going group for women survivors of trauma focuses on coping skills for those dealing with past trauma meets Thursday evenings 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Interested participants must call to speak to a facilitator prior to attendance.

Self-Esteem Support Group: This group will be forming in the near future. Call Lois for more information or to add your name to the wait list.

Volunteer Training: A 40-hour, domestic violence/sexual assault certification training for new volunteers will be forming in the near future. Call Lois for more information.

Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Support Group: A new support group for women who were unwillingly given drugs and then sexually assaulted. This group will address the specific issues that come with this type of assault and focus on the healing process.

For more information about exact dates, times and to pre-register, call 489-3798 and reference the title of interest.

24-HOUR CRISIS LINE: 860-482-7133



STATEWIDE TOLL FREE HOTLINES:
Domestic Violence: 1-888-774-2900
Sexual Assault: 1-888-999-5545
En Espanol: 1-888-568-8332



W I S H L I S T

If you have any questions about an item listed, please call 860-489-3798 and ask for Jeanne, Michelle or Danielle.

CASH DONATIONS For client assistance	BEDDING Pillows Washable pillow covers	CLEANING SUPPLIES Laundry All purpose
GIFT CERTIFICATES Grocery stores Pharmacies Gas stations Department stores Haircuts	Twin sheets Pillow cases Towels and face cloths DIAPERS Older babies Toddlers	CHILD COUNSELING Arts & craft supplies PHONE CARDS

Will You Hold My Child...?

September 14 & 15, 2006
 At the Warner Studio Theatre in Torrington

A one-hour original drama production on creating successful interventions in cases of domestic violence that involve children.



Professionals working with victims, offenders and children, along with college students working towards a degree in an affiliated major will be invited to actively participate in this project. Performances and workshops will be held in the morning and an additional public performance will be offered on Thursday, September 14th in the evening.

The original script was created, out of the Duluth Project, from interviews with dozens of victims. Contact dbreen@sbaproject.org for more information.

Professional Training Offered

Susan B. Anthony Project recently unveiled a **Community Resource and Education Guide Against Domestic Violence** through its Northwest CT Community Partnership Team. The resource guide and a training seminar are available to providers of social services, community educators, child and youth advocacy workers, healthcare and law enforcement professionals and faith-based organizations. The presentation is designed to raise public awareness related to domestic violence while encouraging community collaborations and interventions that will assist in closing the gaps while offering clients resources. The training will provide each attendee with a resource guide, an understanding of safety planning for those living with domestic violence and an opportunity to ask questions of panel members that include domestic violence professionals from the agency and law enforcement. For this training, call Michelle Spuck at 489-3798, x306.

For a full list of professional training offered by the agency related to domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse and tailored to the needs of individual organizations, contact Tanya Hague at 489-3798, x307.

Gift of Afghans and Quilts

Blessings of the Afghans

The "Women's Stitch and Pray" groups of Saint Thomas Church and the Covenant Church in Thomaston participated in a project organized by Thomaston Police Officer Susan Sullivan. The project was to create afghans for women and children at SBAP. On June 9, at Thomaston Town Hall, twenty women who participated in the project attended the blessing of the afghans, fleece blankets, hats, mittens and knitted teddy bears by Pastor Tim Olsen. The women plan on meeting twice per year to continue this project and hope to get the other churches in Thomaston involved.

Bantam Superior Court Quilt Project

Employees of the Bantam Superior Court knitted and crocheted over 100 small squares that were assembled into quilts for SBAP clients. Volunteers from the state Division of Criminal Justice assembled the squares into 10 quilts. The quilts were presented to Gail Manna, the SBAP court based Family Violence Victim Advocate, in May.



Forman School Gift — Students from the Foreman School in Litchfield held a charity benefit in February and selected Susan B. Anthony Project as one of the beneficiaries of the event. Pictured above are Jake Horne, Director of Studies & SBAP Advisory Board Member; Nancy Rogers, SBAP Director of Development; and Helen Waldron, Dean of Academic Affairs.

Women's Doubles Round Robin Tennis Event — The third annual Tennis Event was held on June 13 at the Kent School. Fifty women participated in the event and raised \$4,645.00



Web Page

Please visit the Susan B. Anthony Project web page www.sbaproject.org. We have been very fortunate to have two generous and talented people donate their time and creativity. The web page was created by Nikki May in 2001 and in 2005 Mark Familigetti became the "web master." Mark added information about the Rebuilding Lives Campaign, updates the web page with upcoming events and made it possible for donors to make a secure credit card gift on-line.



Lily Tomlin Reception — Litchfield Bancorp & Northwest Community Bank sponsored a private reception with Lily Tomlin to benefit Susan B. Anthony Project after her performance at the Warner Theatre on March 8th. Pictured above are Mark Macomber, President & CEO Litchfield Bancorp; Lily Tomlin; SBAP Executive Director Barbara Spiegel; and John Ursone, President Northwest Community Bank.

SINCE 1983

Susan B. Anthony Project

SAFETY • HEALING • GROWTH

works to promote the autonomy of women and the safety of all victims of domestic abuse/sexual assault in northwest Connecticut, as well as to promote community action toward ending domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Charity Golf Tournament

On September 11, 2006 Burns, Brooks & McNeil, Litchfield Bancorp and Northwest Community Bank will host the 6th Annual Charity Golf Outing. The event will benefit Susan B. Anthony Project, FISH, the Community Kitchens of Torrington and The Open Door of Winsted.

The event will be held at the Torrington Country Club and includes a buffet lunch, golf tournament, cocktails and awards dinner. If you would like to participate in the event or be a sponsor please contact Steve Reilly, Tournament Chairman, Northwest Community Bank (860) 379-7561.



Executive Director

Barbara Spiegel

Associate Director

Jeanne Fusco

Director of Development

Nancy Rogers

Board of Directors

Marlene Smith, *President*

Ann Bott, *Vice-President*

Bob Berson, *Secretary*

Debra Kenneson,

Treasurer

Members

Greg Bachmann

Gayle Carr

Gene Daponte

Barbara Douglass

Lisa Horne

Carissa Keepin

Vickie Patrick

Susan Payne

Turi Rostad

Mary Schinke

Advisory Board

Claudette Baril

Regina Barreca

Millie Belfort

Allan Borghesi

Louis Donne, Jr.

Elizabeth Keilty Donovan

John Donovan

Polly Doremus

Hon. Anne C. Dranginis

Saun Ellis

Jeanne FitzGerald

Jessica Fowler

Jake Horne

Susan Jordan

Beth McCabe

Cynthia Quinn

Diana Savory

Rev. Ellen Tillotson

Susan B. Anthony Project

179 Water Street

Torrington, CT 06790

24-hour Crisis Line: 860-482-7133

Office: 860-489-3798

www.sbaproject.org

Non-profit
Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 64
Torrington, CT