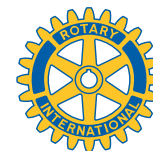
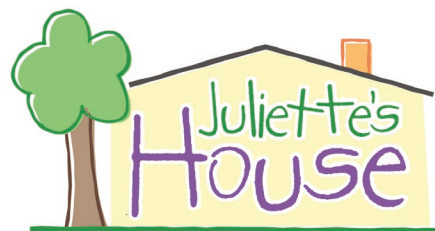


EARLY BIRD WEEKLY



NewbergRotaryEarlybirds.org

August 27, 2020



CHILD ABUSE INTERVENTION CENTER



Russell Mark was our speaker last week as President / CEO of Juliette's House.

The Mission of Juliette's House Child Abuse Intervention Center is to provide compassionate intervention through prevention, assessment, treatment and support for children and families who may have been impacted by child abuse.

Opened Summer of 1997 and recently added "treatment" to work they do. Until now they had been referring the kids out. Trouble is, most of the therapists in our community are not well trained in working with kids who have been traumatized by abuse or serious neglect. JH is hoping to soon add another therapist to the team.

Each year a couple hundred children are referred to Juliette's House by Child Protective Services, law enforcement or medical providers for evaluation as where there is a strong belief of physical or sexual abuse, serious neglect, exposure to drug endangerment, and domestic violence.

This information could come directly from the child, family member or close friend.

The vast majority of child abuse is preventable.

Back in 2018, when Russell was serving as a consultant, he approached people on the street. "What do you know about Juliette's House?"

A common response from those familiar was usually uncomfortable and went something like, "it's that place on the south side of McMinnville that works with kids who have been beaten up."

Over the past couple years, through public awareness and outreach, that response now sounds more like, "Juliette's House! Yeah, you people do great work." They're proud of the fact that JH is part of their community and helps these kids thrive.

We tend to think of abuse as a single, or series of events. But if we as adults don't intervene, and the abuse(s) is kept secret and untreated ... that child is much more likely to experience emotional fallout later in life. Examples are poor physical development, acting out, substance abuse, depression and bipolar disorders, drop-out and truancy, chronic disease, homelessness, and suicide.

Editor's Thought: Every responsible, caring adult wants to do the right thing by the children in our care and community. How many of us did nothing because we didn't know any better, didn't see the problem, or knew but feared doing the wrong thing and making matters worse for the child?

One in four girls and one in six boys will be impacted by child abuse by the time they're 18 years old, either by adults or by peers.

Many times, the abused child will choose to protect their abuser. One reason is that by sharing with another adult, that the person abusing them may be taken away and they will never get to see that person again.

Children get very creative about how they protect themselves, even the person abusing them.

We are trying to create a community where a child feels safe enough to reach out to a trusted adult. Maybe a teacher, neighbor, family member, Sunday school teacher. If we as a community learn what it is and how to respond we can tell our children that this is a safe place and somebody will help them.

If trauma = chaos then structure = healing.

Dr. Peg Miller has been the primary medical provider since the day the doors opened. She does a medical assessment of every child, we also do mental health exam and forensic interview to find out exactly what has happened to the child. Now we can begin to put together a treatment program.

That child will have to heal in an environment that's more supportive than it has been. That is why we work with Head Start, A Family Place, etc.

Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, the program launched about a year ago, helps children, adolescents, and parents overcome trauma related

difficulties.

Another recent outreach is a strong Hispanic program Lucy Dias and Ilma Del Rio working in the fields with migrant workers and in the vineyards. Vineyards will pay the worker's normal wage for them to participate in classes.

The "Prevention Arc" offering services across the age spectrum from preschool to adults and families.

[Abuse Prevention programs](#) include:

Safer, Smarter Kids is a preschool program

Safe Kids, an in-school abuse prevention and intervention educational program for grades K-5. And it is part of a community wide effort to protect children and families impacted by violence and abuse.

Safe Teens, in-school workshops for middle and high school students.

Stewards of Children is based on research by [Darkness To Light](#) and the five practical steps adults can take to help prevent, recognize, and respond responsibly to child sexual abuse.

As we expect our you to constantly learn and grow, we as adults can model that by taking the Stewards of Children training.

The list of Partnering Organizations is impressive. A Family Place, CASA, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Henderson House, Lutheran Community Services, Yamhill Community Care, Yamhill Family Youth.

How is JH different?

Yamhill County has only two crime victim service organizations. The are Henderson House (focused on adult women) and Juliette's. And the two work closely with each other.

JH is the only agency pushing prevention education across all age, faith, and economic sectors.

Safe Touch is a 4-week family workshop for families (natural and foster) to overcome the natural reaction to "not talk about it."

You have to talk about it. Everyone in your circle of influence will eventually find out that your child was abused. How do you talk about it? How do you create a safe place for your child so they don't become part of the 80% likely to be revictimized?

If you suspect abuse, please call DHS at 1-855-503-7233.

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