

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE



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A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE LEESHORE CENTER

SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND
SEXUAL ASSAULT
SUPPORT FOR THE CENTRAL
PENINSULA FAMILIES

SPRING 2025

VOLUME 23 NO.1

Mission: To promote healthy families and a violence-free community, while providing a safe haven for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Vision: To be an instrument of change on the Kenai Peninsula to create a non-violent community where all individuals are treated with respect and basic human dignity.

OUR BELIEFS

We believe....

In treating all people with respect *In helping to create an educated and aware public* *In empowering those that have been oppressed while striving to eliminate domestic abuse and sexual assault*

The LeeShore Center is committed to being trauma-informed organization. We acknowledge some individuals may have been affected by trauma. This includes people we serve, our staff, and those we encounter while conducting business. We believe supportive relationships are a means for healing and we strive to adhere to these principles of trauma-informed care: safety, trustworthiness, choice, empowerment, and non-violence.



THE CRISIS LINE
IS AVAILABLE
24 HOURS
283-7257
OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY
9 AM - 5 PM.
283-9479 PHONE
283-5844 FAX

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE

CHOOSE RESPECT



In 2008, through a partnership between the CDVSA and the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, the "Real Alaska Men Choose Respect" campaign was born in an effort to engage men in the work of ending domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. As part of that campaign, former, Governor Sean Parnell was asked to film a public service announcement, along with other Alaskans, to help raise awareness.

In December of 2009, Gov. Parnell pledged that Alaska would take every step necessary to stop the epidemic of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child sexual abuse in Alaska, and began his statewide "Choose Respect Initiative."



Since then, we have witnessed more and more Alaskans finding the courage to speak, and the strength to act. Alaska started with 18 partner communities. By March of 2014, more than 170 Alaskan communities participated in Choose Respect marches, rallies, and community events.

Together, we are sending messages of hope and healing to the many who have suffered from crimes of violence and helping to engage communities in effective strategies to prevent violence in the future. We invite you to join us in continuing efforts to support and spread awareness for the Choose Respect Initiative.

Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Time: Noon to 2 p.m.

**Meeting Point: Leif Hansen Memorial Park
(near the gazebo & clock tower)**

Walk to: Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center

Join us as we walk together in solidarity to raise awareness and promote respect in our community. Following the walk, enjoy lunch and refreshments, and hear from our special guest speaker.

Let's stand together against domestic violence and support a safe, respectful community for all.

Wear purple! Bring signs! We hope to see you there!

Please RSVP by contacting: 907-283-9479

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE

COMMUNITY AWARENESS WORKSHOP



The LeeShore Center will host their Community Awareness Workshop on domestic violence & sexual assault April 7th- 11th. For a small fee of \$35 you will have the opportunity to participate in the workshops below. Hear from invited speakers from the Office of Children's Services, Kenaitze Indian Tribe, Kenai Police Department, District Attorney's Office and learn more about The LeeShore Center's programs. You can earn 4 CEUs through the Kenai Peninsula College, but you must contact them separately prior to April 1st. To complete your CEUs, 30 hours of volunteering for our agency must be completed along with a police ride-along with KPD.



**Call the Education and
Training Assistant
at 283-9479 to save your seat.**

***The LeeShore Center has a
clothes closet available to
everyone in our
community.***

***Hours are: 9AM - 4PM
Tuesday & Wednesday .
Drop off donations - Thurs
& Friday 9AM-4PM***

Workshop Topics Include:

- Domestic Violence Education 101* Neurobiology of Trauma
- *Strangulation / PTSD* Trauma informed Care* Confidentiality*
- *Stalking *Cultural Sensitivity & Rural Barriers*
- *Sexual Assault/SART/CAC*
- *Victim Safety Planning* Abuse Reporting*
- *Domestic Violence & Religion*
- *Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse*
- *Law Enforcement Response to DV* *Vicarious Trauma*
- *Effects of DV on Children*
- *Victim Advocacy - Crisis Intervention*
- *In Her Shoes – an interactive activity regarding navigating the systems for victims.* District Attorney's Office* Vine/Court Watch

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE



UPCOMING EVENTS

Green Dot Training

March 19, 2025 5:30PM-7PM

Kenai Peninsula College

Ward 102, 156 College Rd, Soldotna

Choose Respect

March 26, 2025 Noon-2PM

Leif Hansen Memorial Park

10959 Kenai Spur Hwy, Kenai

Community Awareness Workshop

April 7-11, 2025 9AM-5PM

The LeeShore Conference room

325 S Spruce St, Kenai

36th Violence Free Community Run

August 9, 2025 9AM Sign- Up Time

Kenai Greenstrip

400 Main St. Loop, Kenai

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The LeeShore Center is seeking dedicated year-round volunteers to support both crisis and non-crisis programs. Our volunteers play a vital role in keeping our operations running smoothly and ensuring that clients receive exceptional support as they navigate life-changing transitions and work toward a brighter future.

All volunteers who work directly with our clients must complete the Community Awareness Workshop on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Non-Crisis Volunteer Opportunities

Handy People:

Carpentry

Groundskeeping

Plumbing

Electrical

Parking lot maintenance

Clothing closet organizing

Activities with clients:

(Adults and children):

Teach crafts

Do cooking projects

Offer demonstrations

Story time for children

Teach life skills

Volunteer Opportunities at Events:

Choose Respect Rally

March 26, 2025

Violence Free Community Run

August 9, 2025

Various annual events

Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER
GLENNA STRONGHEART
FOR DONATING HER TIME TO THE LEESHORE CENTER!!!



THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), a time to raise awareness about sexual violence and take action to prevent it. Sexual assault affects individuals of all genders, ages, and backgrounds, and preventing it requires a community-wide effort.

Sexual assault refers to any unwanted sexual contact or behavior without consent. It includes harassment, coercion, and physical acts of violence. By fostering a culture of respect and support, we can help prevent these harmful acts and create a safer environment for all.

HOW WE CAN PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULT AS A COMMUNITY

- **Educate Ourselves and Others**

- Learn about consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention.

- **Speak Up and Support Survivors**

- Believe and support survivors without judgment.
- Share resources and encourage reporting when survivors feel safe to do so.

- **Promote Safe Spaces**

- Establish zero-tolerance policies for harassment and violence in schools, workplaces, and public areas.
- Encourage open conversations about boundaries and respect.

- **Practice and Teach Consent**

- Ensure consent is always enthusiastic, informed, and given freely.
- Teach children and young adults the importance of personal boundaries and respecting others.

- **Engage in Bystander Intervention**

- Speak out when witnessing inappropriate behavior.
- Distract, delegate, or directly intervene to prevent potential harm.

- **Support Local Organizations**

- Volunteer with or donate to organizations that provide support to survivors.



**PREVENTION COORDINATOR
SUPPORTING FAMILY FUN DAY**

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE



2025 MARKS OUR 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The "Lee Shore" shelter in Kenai, Alaska, was founded through the efforts of Giselle Roberts, Sharon Jean, and Pat Miles to provide a safe haven for victims of domestic violence. With the Women's Resource Center's (WRCC) backing, the Shelter Steering Committee, composed of community volunteers, raised funds and coordinated construction despite initial skepticism. The City of Kenai leased a 4.5-acre site, lending credibility to the project. Fundraising events raised significant funds, while local businesses and volunteers donated labor, materials, and expertise. Designed by architect Carmen Gintoli, the shelter was built to house up to 20 women and children for temporary stays. WRCC staff and volunteers played a crucial role in advancing construction, and in 1984, the shelter was named "Lee Shore" to symbolize a safe harbor. The project's success showcased the community's dedication to supporting domestic violence survivors.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER JAN-MARCH 2025

CONGRATULATIONS TAWNA BARRICKMAN

TAWNA IS A FANTASTIC EMPLOYEE WHO IS A HUGE ASSET TO THE LEESHORE CENTER AND FULLY DESERVES THIS RECOGNITION. FIRST AND FOREMOST, SHE IS DE, SHE IS DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING. SHE IS EXTREMELY ORGANIZED AND COMMITTED TO CONSTANTLY LEARNING AND GROWING IN HER POSITION. SHE IS ALWAYS ON TIME AND BRINGS A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND A PERSONAL TOUCH. TAWNYA HAS PROVEN HERSELF TO BE DEPENDABLE AND COMMITTED TO FOLLOWING LEESHORE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO THE T.

40 years later, The LeeShore Center in Kenai, Alaska, continues its mission to promote healthy families and a violence-free community while providing a safe haven for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The center offers a 34-bed emergency shelter, recently expanded to accommodate both men and women simultaneously. Services include 24-hour crisis intervention, advocacy, educational support groups, assistance to abused or neglected elders and individuals with disabilities, and a Transitional Living Center for homeless victims seeking a substance-free, violence-free lifestyle. The center also operates a state-approved Batterer's Intervention Program aimed at helping individuals cease violent behaviors. In fiscal year 2023, The LeeShore Center served 104 residents for nearly 5,000 bed nights in the emergency shelter and 40 residents for just over 3,000 bed nights in transitional housing. The center answered 300 crisis calls, made nearly 11,000 safety check calls, provided legal advocacy for almost 1,000 individuals, and reached 3,000 local students through 150 educational presentations.

PLEASE CONSIDER
GIVING TO THE
LEESHORE CENTER
THROUGH
PICK. CLICK. GIVE.
ALL DONATIONS
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND DONORS
WILL RECEIVE TAX DOCUMENTATION
FROM THE STATE ONCE DONATION
HAS BEEN PROCESSED.



*Happy
Anniversary*
40th



THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE



Thank You

Fred Meyer

**FOSTER
CONSTRUCTION**

**KURT A. WELLONG
FUND**

**CHRIST LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

SOLDOTNA



**Tsalteshi
SKI TRAILS**



**INDIGENOUS
HERBALS**

**PENINSULA COMMUNITY
HEALTH SERVICES**

PC+HS

**MEDICAL • EYE CARE • PHYSICAL THERAPY
DENTAL • BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



Diamond Girls MC



**ESTATE OF ROBERT
D. HANSEN**

**RASMUSON
FOUNDATION**

THE LEESHORE LIGHTHOUSE

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FOR CALENDEAR YEAR 2024



KELLY ANDERSON
MICHAEL BATEMAN
BRADLEY BLOSSOM
JAN AND GREG DANIELS
DANA CANNAVA
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