



The LeeShore Lighthouse



A Quarterly Publication of The LeeShore Center
<http://www.leeshoreak.org>

*Services for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Support for the Central Peninsula's Families*

SPRING 2015

VOLUME 15 NO. 1

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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The Crisis Line is available 24 hours
283-7257

Office hours for The LeeShore Center
Monday - Friday
9 am - 5 pm.
283-9479 phone
283-5844 fax

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month



We are all responsible for the welfare of the children in our communities. You are encouraged to report any incidence of known and suspected child abuse and neglect.

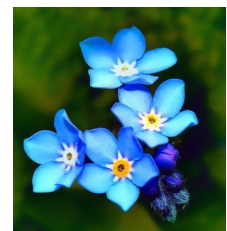
Children of all ages, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds are at risk for physical abuse. Physical abuse affects both boys and girls across neighborhoods, communities, and countries around the world. Children ages 4-7 and 12-15 are at the greatest risk of being physically abused. Very young children are most susceptible to receiving serious injuries. (The National Child Traumatic Stress Network)

ALASKA STATE LAW DEFINES child abuse or neglect by those responsible for a child's welfare to include the following:

- Physical injury that harms or threatens a child's health or welfare;
- Failure to care for a child, including neglect of the necessary physical (food, shelter, clothing, and medical attention), emotional, mental and social needs;
- Sexual abuse, including molestation or incest;
- Maltreatment - A child has suffered substantial harm as a result of child abuse or neglect due to an act or omission not necessarily committed by the child's parent, custodian or guardian.

In 2012 alone: 1,640 children died in the US from abuse and neglect and 686,000 children were found to be victims of maltreatment by child protective services. For more information call The LeeShore

Center at 283-9479 or the **crisis line at 283-7257.**

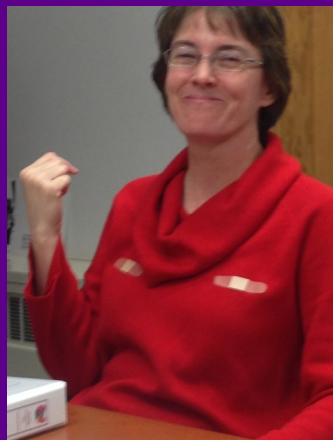


April is also Sexual Assault Awareness Month Your voice. Our future. Prevent sexual violence.

Cheri Smith, the Executive Director, receiving last years proclamation from Paul Ostrander, Chief of Staff.



Learn about Cultural Sensitivity, Abuse Reporting, Domestic Violence Power & Control, Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse and much more.



No one deserves to be sexually assaulted, NO MATTER WHAT! April has been designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the United States. It is never okay to force, pressure or trick someone into having sexual contact. Sexual Assault is a crime. It affects people of all ages, any gender, sexual orientation or ability. According to the National Violence Against Women Survey perpetrators of sexual assault can be friends, acquaintances, family members or strangers. Working together, we can raise awareness and help prevent sexual assault.

- 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men will be a victim of sexual assault in their lifetime.
- College age women are 4 times more likely to be sexually assaulted.
- Every 2 minutes, someone is sexually assaulted in the United States.

For more information go to www.rainn.org



Community Awareness Workshop

The LeeShore Center will host their Community Awareness Workshop on domestic violence & sexual assault April 6- 10. There is a small fee of \$35 for the materials. You will learn about Cultural Sensitivity, Abuse Reporting, Domestic Violence Power & Control, Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse and much more.

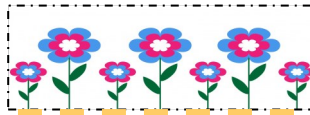
Hear from invited speakers from the Office of Children's Services, Kenai Indian Tribe, Kenai Police Department, District Attorney's Office and learn more about The LeeShore Center's programs.

You can earn 4 CEU's through the Kenai Peninsula College but you must contact them separately by April 3rd. Along with the CEU's, 30 hours of volunteering with our agency must be completed and a police ride-along with KPD.



LeeShore's conference room

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



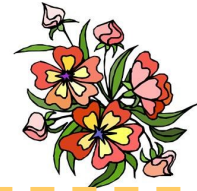
Meet Our Board

Meet Marti Slater, she has been on the board since February of 2014. This is actually her second time being on the Board of Directors. She moved here in 2008 from North Carolina to be Reverend of the United Methodist Church in Kenai. She retired in 2011, but still remains active in the church and their food pantry.



Marti Slater

When not volunteering at LeeShore she enjoys reading, cooking (especially trying new recipes), and traveling. Her favorite place so far was Israel, and says, "I left a piece of my heart there". Her other love is her energetic white schnauzer Abby, who keeps her busy.



Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15



Currently, the world is undergoing significant demographic changes. Estimates indicate that by 2050, the global population of people above the age of 60 will exceed the number of younger people. These changes have led to a worldwide recognition of the problems and challenges that face the elderly. Research has shown that elderly abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation is one of the biggest issues facing senior citizens around the world. World Health Organization data suggests that 4 to 6% of elderly suffer from some form of abuse, a large percentage of which goes unreported.

Elder abuse can happen anywhere - at home, in nursing facilities, or other institutions. There are no boundaries of status or background of people affected by elder abuse; both men and women are abused. Risk factors include mental health, dementia, and substance abuse of both the victims and abusers. Isolation can also be a risk factor.

Elder abuse can be defined as "a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person". There are many forms of elder abuse such as physical, emotional, sexual and financial abuse. It can also be the result of neglect, intentional or unintentional.

If you suspect elder abuse, report it to Adult Protective Services by calling 1-800-478-9996. If you believe the abuse is life threatening, call 911 immediately.

For more information on elder abuse go to the National Center on Elder Abuse at <http://www.ncea.aoa.gov>

(sources: <http://www.un.org/en/events/elderabuse>, <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/eaday/>)

LeeShore's Wish List



HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Liquid dish detergent Toilet Paper
 Laundry Soap Mops
 Paper Towels Brooms
 Dryer Sheets Color Safe
 Comforters Bleach
 Towels / Washcloths Pillows
 Twin Sheets / Twin Mattress Pads

Miscellaneous

Diapers / Pull ups Baby Wipes
 Phone Cards Gas cards
 Alarm clocks Batteries
 Gift Certificates (haircuts, etc.)

KITCHEN / COOKWARE

Dishes Pots and Pans
 Glassware Baking Dishes
 Kitchen Towels Coffee Mugs
 Food Storage Containers

TOILETRY ITEMS

Combs / Brushes Body Lotion Shampoo
 Toothpaste / Toothbrush Q-Tips Conditioner
 Tampons & Pads Hand Cream

CLOTHING (ADULT, TEEN, & CHILDREN)

Hats Gloves Scarves Socks Underclothes
 Boots Shoes Coats Sleepwear Slippers Robes

FOOD ITEMS

Rice / Beans
 Flour / Sugar
 Turkey / Ham
 Dry Soup Mix
 Baby Food Formula
 Coffee / Tea / Creamer

Upcoming Events

Alaskans Choose Respect Awareness Event

March 24th at the Leif Hansen Memorial Park noon—2 pm.

**Community Awareness Workshop
 April 6th - 10th**

28th Kenai Peninsula Run for Women - August 8th

Office Closures:
Memorial Day - May 25th

In Observance of Independence Day - July 3rd

In preparation for the Run for Women - August 3rd

Labor Day - September 7th

Class Schedule

**Tuesday -
 Changing Patterns
 1:00 - 3:00**

An educational support group for women experiencing negative emotional patterns in their daily lives, which may be due to victimization (domestic violence/sexual assault) or substance abuse.

**Thursday -
 Parenting for Women
 1:00 - 3:00**

An educational support group focusing on child development, logical and non-violent consequences for behavior and how to be a kind, yet firm parent.

**Friday -
 Domestic Violence Support Group
 1:00 - 3:00**

The group is for women who are currently in an abusive relationship or who have experienced domestic violence in the past.

There is a \$5.00 fee for each class; however, fee waivers are available.
 Contact The LeeShore Center at 283-9479.



The 2014 Choose Respect Event



The 27th Annual Run for Women warm-ups



Volunteer Opportunities

The LeeShore Center is in need of year round crisis and non-crisis programs. We are currently looking for individuals who enjoy making posters for the youth outreach program.

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

Non-Crisis Volunteer Opportunities Activities with women and children:

Would you like to teach crafts, do cooking projects, demonstrations, story time for children, teach aerobics?

Fundraiser and Awareness Events: Volunteers help out at the Kenai Peninsula Run for Women.

Handy Person:

Is your best friend your toolbox? Do you have a garage full of building materials that aren't being used? We could always use a volunteer to help with electrical, plumbing, and carpentry. Donations are also very much appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Education and Training Assistant



Thank you to Governor Walker and First Lady Donna Walker

For the Kenai Peninsula Inaugural Ball, First Lady Donna Walker chose the LeeShore Center as the local non-profit to receive the proceeds from the evening. Thank you to the Walkers' for supporting us. In the photo from left to right, Marti Slater, Jennifer Joanis (both on our Board of Directors) and Cheri Smith (executive Director).

We are appreciative of each and every person helping our cause to end violence.

Thank You For Your Support & Donations

Thank you to everyone renewing their membership or becoming a member for 2015. Some have chosen to remain uncredited, Thank you to: Steven P. Wright, Leslie and Robert Baker, Elizabeth and James Cooper, Patty Eissler, Judy and Gary Fandrei, Ann-Lillian B. Schell, and to all who donated through Pick.Click.Give in 2015, to all who gave monetary donations, First National Bank Alaska, Lucy Barton, Grant and Jonna Encelewski, to all who donate to our community clothes closet, to our wonderful volunteers. We are appreciative of each and every person helping our cause to end violence.

Thank you to Sportsman's Warehouse 4th Annual Ladies Night for donating the bucket and silent auction proceeds to our agency in February. And thank you to the vendors that provided gifts for the auction. A total of approximately \$3,000 was donated to help us end domestic violence within our community. We Appreciate your support.





The LeeShore Center
325 S. Spruce St.
Kenai, AK 99611
www.leeshoreak.org

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LeeShore is a member program of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

LeeShore's Clothes Closet

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

Hours are: Open to Public - Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Drop off donations - Thursday and Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Please call 283-9479 for more information.

Volunteer Corner

Volunteer of the Quarter

The LeeShore Center announces Viann Mack as Volunteer of the Quarter for

April - June 2015 Viann works for Hope Community Resources as a Special Education Aide and Individual Service Provider. Viann helps us in the community closet, which is no small task.

Congratulations and thank you Viann for volunteering!

The LeeShore Center is currently looking for a maintenance person. Is your best friend your tool box? We could always use a volunteer to help with the electrical, plumbing and carpentry.

If you would like to volunteer, call the Education and Training Assistant at 283-9479.

The LeeShore Center is proud to be a United Way agency.

