



Fall 2014

## Men's Group is partner for community forum

**W**hat can we do as a community to help bring an end to domestic and sexual violence?

That will be the topic of a free, action-oriented public feedback forum entitled "A Call to Community" scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Tillamook Main Branch Library, 1716 3rd Street, Tillamook.

This will be the first public forum to be sponsored jointly by Tillamook County Women's Resource Center and the Men's Engagement Group, led by Paul Hernandez, Tim Hayes, Michael Hithe and Jim Becraft.

The forum will begin by outlining the problem of violence in our community. Then a panel will discuss what prompted each of them to become part of the solution and to share how that decision is affecting their lives. That will be followed by an open public discussion during which the audience will be asked to contribute their thoughts and ideas for identifying and ending violence where it exists and preventing it in the future.

"We are very excited to mark October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month by collaborating with the Men's Engagement Group in this forum," said TCWRC Executive Director Kathleen Marvin.

"The Men's Group has really stepped up to take a leading role in this work. I believe it is further evidence that domestic and sexual violence are no longer considered just 'women's issues.' These are human issues that affect the entire community and it will take the entire community working together to bring about real change."

Bring your ideas and let your voice be heard!

Attendance at the forum is free and refreshments will be served. Advance signup is encouraged by calling Romy Carver, (503) 842-8294, ext. 209, or by emailing [romy@tcwrc.net](mailto:romy@tcwrc.net).

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



This pocket guide handout is one tool Healthy Futures advocates will be using.

## Healthcare partnerships a great success

### *Healthy Futures Program yields big results in first year*

**S**ince its inception less than a year ago, TCWRC's new Safer Futures Program has been hugely successful at reaching out to local health providers and helping them better identify victims of domestic abuse.

In the short time it has been up and running, the program has generated a 250 percent increase in client referrals from healthcare providers, according to program coordinator Heather Brown.

And that means more victims of domestic violence than ever before are being identified and referred for services.

"We have provided close to 700 separate services to these Safer Futures referrals already," she reported. "This includes such things as shelter, transportation, emergency funds, court advocacy, food, diapers, clothing, you name it."

According to Brown, who was hired early

this year to manage the program, TCWRC's three Safer Futures partners – Tillamook Family Health Centers, the Rinehart Clinic and Healthy Family Home Visitors – are making major strides in recognizing and assisting DV victims, which is leading to these referrals.

The Safer Futures Project is funded through the Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victims' Services Division. The primary goal of the grant program is to improve pregnant and parenting women's safety and wellbeing by increasing access to advocacy services within public health and local health care systems.

"The program helps create a more immediate way by which survivors can learn about and connect with the services they need," explained TCWRC Executive Director Kathleen Marvin. "Experience has shown that this results in more positive outcomes for survivors."

TCWRC was one of four sites in Oregon

See FUTURES, Page 2

## Ensuring sustainability

By Kathleen Marvin  
Executive Director

**W**e hear a lot about sustainability these days. From agriculture and forestry to organizations, people talk about ensuring that things are able to sustain themselves, despite a changing world.

We at Tillamook County Women's Resource Center are keenly aware of the importance of sustainability.

We know that funding for our operations is vulnerable to changes in the economy and government priorities.

We know that community needs can change over time, requiring us to adapt "sustainably."

And we know that changes in our own organization can affect our operations.

In recent months, both our board and our staff have been looking carefully at long-range plans that we hope will ensure our sustainability.

Our first priority, as with all nonprofits, was to look at our funding streams. Months ago, we began working with consultants to map out plans to establish an endowment and encourage bequests from supporters to help fund operations in years to come.

That work is still underway and we have already begun to put pieces of it to work with our HEART Guild.

But more recently we began looking at our own organizational structures and succession plans to ensure that we won't be derailed by personnel changes or evolving community needs.

To this end, I recently traveled to San Francisco with board member Carol Brown and our administrative coordinator Kandy Staples to attend a Futures Without Violence work-



shop.

Futures Without Violence provides training to help organizations like ours – those that receive funding from U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women – strengthen their organizational infrastructures.

All of us found this experience profoundly inspirational. Most importantly, it has led us to focus on our sustainability through the lens of our mission and values.

Our stated mission is to eliminate domestic and sexual violence in our community. Thus, we are studying each element of our operations and staffing structure to ensure that each thing we do is informed by that mission and does not stray from it. This includes our work with partners, our outreach in the community, our staffing decisions, our board composition and even the language we use every day.

What's more, we want to ensure that our policies, protocols and agreements help us institutionalize our mission and values.

Many of the things we are doing are working very well. We want to capture the elements of that success and document them so that they can be replicated going forward, regardless of changing realities.

We believe this organizational introspection will be the key to our long-term success and sustainability.

We love working with and supporting our community. With your help, we want to continue to do so for years to come.

## Futures

From Page 1

to receive grants for the program last fall. Early this year, the project rolled out with Brown at the helm, supported by advocates Kimber Lundy, who is stationed at Rinehart Clinic, and Erin Richardson, who is posted at Tillamook Family Health Services.

The program has taken several approaches to achieve its success, said Brown.

"Healthy Family Home Visitors has been a tremendous champion of this program," she noted. "Erin Richardson has gone on home visits with them, and one led to a referral. The staff people just eat up the training we've been providing. We couldn't be more pleased with their efforts."

At the Rinehart Clinic, Brown said the early work has been to establish the best methods for training staff. Recently, thanks to the assistance of Rinehart interim CEO Ann Blaker, Brown has made two presentations to the entire staff.

"And Ann has asked for more materials and trainings," Brown said. "She's all over it."

At the Family Health Centers, Brown said there has recently been a huge increase in referrals.

"In the past, we were getting about four a month," she noted. "But recently, that leaped to 11!"

Brown said she believes the change came about because TCWRC worked with the clinic to make changes to their screening questionnaire.

"The questionnaire had not been effectively screening for domestic violence in the past," she explained. "Working with us, they added more effective questions that help them identify those who may need help. It's really exciting. Now the next phase is we will be getting them a lot more training in this area. They are really going to be a fabulous partner!"

She said TCWRC has also hung up informational posters in examination rooms at all the clinics and will be using a pocket guide put out by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Futures Without Violence.org entitled "Did You Know Your Relationship Affects Your Health?" It gives women simple cues they can use to determine if they are in dangerous relationships.

Brown said the coming year will be devoted to providing training to the full staff at each Safer Future partner organization – a total of 47 professionals. This training will cover such topics as how to recognize subtle signs of domestic abuse and how to be more informed of the effects of trauma on patients.

"Our goal is to get all the existing staff people trained, then get this curriculum established as part of their standard orientation materials for future employees," she said.



*'In the past, we were getting about four referrals a month. Recently, that leaped to 11!'*

*– Heather Brown  
Healthy Futures  
Program Coordinator*



## Music & Brew Fest benefits TCWRC

Some 500 people attended the Second Annual Tillamook Music & Brew Festival on Saturday, Sept. 6 at the Blue Heron French Cheese Co.

Organized by local resident Cynthia Tuel (see related story below), the event headliner was rhythm and blues performer Curtis Salgado.

The event raised approximately \$1,100 for Tillamook County Women's Resource Center.

Besides various musical groups, the event featured games and a bounce house for the kids, three food vendors and two breweries that did beer tastings (Pelican Pub and Fort George Brewery of Astoria) and the Blue Heron sold beer and wine.



Photos by  
Ann Parish Harper



## Event organizer donates festival proceeds to TCWRC

Cynthia Tuel loves to plan events. And for the second year in a row, she put that love to work producing the Annual Tillamook Music & Brew Festival, which took place Saturday, Sept. 6, at Blue Heron French Cheese Company in Tillamook.

What's more, because she also believes in the work being done by Tillamook County Women's Resource Center, she chose to donate the profits from this year's event to TCWRC. The event raised approximately \$1,100 to support our operations.

"The Women's Resource Center does a huge job in this county, so it seemed like the right thing to do," Tuel explained.

Tuel, 47, has lived in Tillamook County for 19 years and works as a substitute teacher for Tillamook School District. But her other passion is event planning ... a task which she currently does for love, not money.

"I got into planning this festival about a year-and-a-half ago when Jerry Kilgore (a country music artist who grew up in Tillamook) got in touch with me and said he'd love a chance to come back and entertain here,"



Cynthia Tuel, left, with performer Curtis Salgado and Kathleen Marvin at 2014 festival

Tuel recalled.

"The more I thought about it, the more I realized that a variety of people might be interested in an event like this. So last year, I did the first one. I just went with it."

In 2013, she donated the profits to the 2nd Street Public Market.

This year, Tuel began planning the festival in February and believes she put at least 100 hours of time into lining up talent, securing sponsors and organizing the event site.

"I also have a core group of about 15 friends who volunteer to come out on the day of the event and help set up and tear down," she said. And, this year, she also had help from TCWRC volunteers at the event.

She said approximately 500 people of all ages and musical tastes came to the festival.

"That's what makes me happy," she explained. "There is something very satisfying when I see people from little kids to senior citizens enjoying the music or dancing."

She said she believes the key to her event's success is that she gets a good headliner (this year, R&B performer Curtis Salgado), makes sure there are games for the kids and works to create a family event.

Tuel said she will continue to hold the event annually to benefit a local nonprofit organization.

"As plans for next year take shape, I will do updates on the festival Face Book page," she said.

## Advocate to attend new sex assault program training

A new program designed by an Ashland police detective to make it easier for victims of sexual assault to come forward is gaining national attention, and professionals from TCWRC and local law enforcement will receive training in the program October 13-15.

Beth Hope, TCWRC's sexual assault response team coordinator, will travel to Ashland to be trained in the new You Have Options Program. A representative from the Tillamook County Sheriff's Department is also expected to attend.

The You Have Options Program was created by Ashland Police Detective Carrie Hull. It establishes more sensitive law enforcement strategies for working with victims of sexual assault.

The new program is meant to help survivors overcome their fear of reporting. It is estimated that 80 percent or more of sexual assaults go unreported because victims may blame themselves, feel embarrassed to talk about it, fear humiliation or retribution or do not trust law enforcement.

The Ashland program sets up 20 guidelines for law enforcement agencies and sexual assault advocates to use to help victims



decide whether to report and to give them options for the way in which they report, including having the ability to remain anonymous or just report a portion of what happened to them. The goal, according to the Ashland website, is to increase the number of reports received so that law enforcement agencies can use the information to catch serial offenders.

Hope, who is a sexual assault response team (SART) advocate, said she believes one of the groundbreaking pieces of the program is that it will give women the ability to report their attack anonymously online at a new website being set up.

"The most important thing is for a victim to feel that someone cares about them as they go through the reporting process and is there to help and support them," Hope said.

She said she has seen an outstanding collaborative spirit from local law enforcement

in helping to support victims.

"The most remarkable thing I experienced was sitting with a victim and hearing a Tillamook Police Department officer explain to a victim that she had the right to decide what would be done with her information throughout the investigation. It is so important to let women know that they have control of the process."

Hope said that the thing that has surprised her most is the number of sexual assaults that occur locally.

"It just horrifies me to know that for every one I see, there could be six or seven or nine other people who have been victims but never report it," she said.

"The most important thing for victims to understand is that it is not their fault. We need to tell them, 'I believe you. You're not alone.' It's so important to tell those untold stories."

## Carver to lead prevention program in local schools

Long-time staff member Romy Carver, the education and outreach program manager, has often spoken to local students about such topics as cyber safety and stalking awareness.



Romy Carver

Now she will be spending about half her time with students. She recently added the title of prevention coordinator to her resume and will be teaching students about healthy relationships in participating schools in Tillamook and Nestucca school districts.

"Our former prevention coordinator, Maile Cay, has left and we feel that Romy's background and interests make her a perfect person to take on those responsibilities," explained Executive Director Kathleen Marvin. "We believe it will be a good fit and it allows us to use our grant funds very effec-

tively."

Carver will be responsible for planning and conducting healthy relationship classes at Tillamook junior and senior high schools, as well as Nestucca High School.

"The Nestucca students are really enthusiastic about getting this information," said Carver.

Carver explained that the healthy relationships curriculum includes such topics as communication, the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships, bystander intervention and bullying.

Besides providing this information in health classes, she also will be training peer counselors to help fellow students with these issues.

"In the past, we selected a small group of seniors to become peer leaders and receive additional advanced training to help them talk about these things with other students," Carver noted. "But we have learned that it takes a while for the teen leaders to get comfortable with this role. So this year, we will be working with juniors, instead, so they will have more time to internalize and live with the material."

Carver said she is very excited about her new responsibilities.

"I really enjoy working in the schools," she said. "I love to teach. It keeps you on your toes. Everything can totally change between classes. It's always challenging."

She said local youths have been extremely receptive to the healthy relationships material.

"The kids want to know about this," she said. "They are living this material every day. The media does not portray realistic teen relationships. We want to help them learn about what is real and what to do when they are confronted by real issues."

She said she also plans to bring a number of other people into the classrooms to make presentations.

"This isn't just going to be the Romy Carver show," she noted. "I want to mix it up to make things interesting. I want this to be dynamic for them. As the school year progresses, we'll be making adjustments to meet the needs of the schools and the students. We really love to get this information to as many kids as possible. It can change lives and I'm excited to be a part of it."



# TCWRC News Briefs

## TCWRC's Victims of Crime Act funding gets 2-year extension

TCWRC recently received word that the organization's funding through the U.S. Department of Justice Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) has been extended for two years. The funding pays for TCWRC's volunteer coordinator position.

"We are so grateful for this extension," said TCWRC Executive Director Kathleen Marvin. "The process was extremely competitive. Only about 40 percent of the agencies that applied were successful. Getting our extension will ensure that we can continue to develop and manage a strong group of volunteers to leverage our staff work and to increase our focus on building a pool of Spanish-speaking volunteers."

## TCWRC in national webinar

Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), a national organization based in Washington, D.C., that works to build pathways to economic security and equality of opportunity for women, families and elders, featured Tillamook County Women's Resource Center in a Sept. 4 webinar. Executive Director Kathleen Marvin and Romy Carver, outreach and education program manager, participated in the webinar on the topic of "Integrating Job Training into Transitional Housing Services."

Their remarks centered around the job training program that TCWRC has operated at The Wild Flower Thrift Boutique, helping people obtain job skills that they can use in finding jobs in the wider community. "They asked us to participate so we could discuss the benefits of job training with nonprofit organizations," said Marvin. "We were one of



Portland State University author and adjunct professor Walidah Imarisha spoke Sept. 9 at an event co-hosted by TCWRC and Bay City Arts Center. She spoke of Oregon's history of Black exclusion and discrimination, as well as the state's vibrant Black culture. The event was sponsored by the Rural Organizing Project and Oregon Humanities as part of a statewide tour through rural Oregon.



three organizations featured. It was a very great honor."

## Sustainable organization training

Futures Without Violence, an organization headquartered in San Francisco, provides an interactive, multi-day training to help U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women grantees enhance their organizational infrastructure. The goal is to help them maintain and sustain operations and adapt to change.

TCWRC Board of Directors member Carol Brown, Executive Director Kathleen Marvin and Administrative Coordinator Kandy Staples recently attended.

"This dovetails with succession planning we have been working on with the board and staff to ensure that we have sustainable leadership and funding," said Marvin. "We want to be sure that we remain strong and can continue to provide excellent services, even as staff members and resources change and

evolve over time."

## House parties to benefit TCWRC

Over the past year, TCWRC has been working with supporters in the community to encourage them to organize fund-raising house parties to benefit the organization. Now the program is beginning to gain momentum, reports Executive Director Kathleen Marvin.

"Two events are being planned for late October or early November," she noted. "Our board has really gotten excited about this program and we believe it will be a very valuable component in our overall fundraising program.

"We hope supporters throughout the county will get involved," Marvin noted that TCWRC has a house party packet that supporters can use to help them plan their events. For information, contact the main office at (503) 842-9486.

## Advocate-initiated response plan coming together

A person going through the trauma of domestic abuse is frightened, feels powerless and often believes there is nowhere to turn for help.

That's why it can be helpful if professional advocates take the initiative to help survivors get needed assistance.

Earlier this year, this "advocate-initiated response" was the subject of a three-day training for staff members from Women's Resource Center, the Sheriff's Department and the Victims Assistance Program in the District Attorney's office.

Now, as a follow-up, TCWRC Executive Director Kathleen Marvin is working with partnering agencies to draft a working agreement that the partners can use to guide them

in implementing the new advocate-initiated response.

"I am writing out the script for advocates and working with partners to draft documents that list expectations and responsibilities for each discipline," she explained.

Marvin said she and Undersheriff Jana McCandless have been working on a supplemental domestic violence police report form with new questions to support risk assessment and better assist victims. And there will be guidelines for the best ways to involve advocates in the District Attorney's Victims Assistance Program to ensure that victims learn about all the resources available to them.

"We are very pleased that the Sheriff's

Department has been so enthusiastic about partnering with us in this project," Marvin said, "We are working to develop a system that makes it easier for survivors to use the system to report abuse."

Marvin said she considers this a pilot project and hopes the documents she and the Sheriff's Department are developing can become a model for other local law enforcement agencies.

"More than anything, our goal is for everyone to work together in the best ways possible to assist survivors," she said. "Evidence is showing that working with an advocate greatly improves outcomes for domestic violence victims. We want to get survivors connected sooner to the services they need."

## Cycling couple rallies riders to support TCWRC



Lani Short & Bill Johnson

Lani Short and her husband Bill Johnson love motorcycles and enjoy spending time with their large, informal group of motorcycling friends.

So when Short's sister-in-law and long-time TCWRC staff member Romy Carver, suggested she get involved with the organization, it just seemed natural for her to volunteer to put together a benefit motorcycle "poker run," entitled the Purple Ribbon Rally.

This year was the second year the couple operated the rally concurrently with the Music and Brew Festival.

Short explained that a poker run is a rally that follows a route – in this case about 100 total miles. Riders pay a fee to participate. On the route, they make five stops, collecting a playing card at each for their poker hand. At the end, they compare hands. The high and low hands win prizes.

Short and her husband solicited gift certificates from a number of sponsors for this year's prizes. And the Rockaway Beach Fire Department donated sweatshirts. Short and Johnson donated all the proceeds of the run to TCWRC.

"We are very pleased to do this for the Women's Resource Center," Short said. "We hope to do it every year and we hope it will grow to become a major event."

## The Wild Flower expands

The Wild Flower Thrift Boutique is bigger and better than ever. The shop has expanded into the store next door, adding another 4,800 square feet.

"This addition allows us to better organize everything, bring in more light and make everything more easily accessible to our customers," said Kathleen Marvin, TCWRC executive director.

Wild Flower Manager Melissa Finnell said two doorways were cut through the wall to link the two retail spaces and new fixtures were added.

She said the expansion has made it possible to create a separate area for appliances, sporting goods, hardware, men's clothing and camping gear.

"It allows the men who come in to go directly to the things that interest them," she explained, "and it gives us better display space."

Finnell said the expansion also made it possible to create a separate area for new merchandise, handmade items and high-quality donated items.

The Wild Flower began featuring handmade merchandise created by volunteers under the "Wild Flower Designs" label about a year ago.

Finnell said the store's seasonal merchandise and regular sale schedules have not changed. The store features specialty sales daily.

"We know what our customers like," she noted. "People shop at the Wild



The expansion creates room for improved furniture displays (above) and a separate area for appliances reconditioned by staff member Mike Haynes (below).

Flower because we have great prices and we respond to the specific needs of our community. Everyone has said they love the new layout."

Finnell said the store's re-furnished furniture and appliance business is going well, but she noted that it would be especially helpful if people would transport their donations to the store, instead of requesting pickup, whenever possible.

"And we could use volunteers willing to donate their time and vehicles to pick things up from people who can't deliver them to the store themselves," she added.

The Wild Flower is located at 114 Main Ave. in Tillamook. Phone (503) 842-2996.



**Redeem this coupon for 25% off your next purchase!**

May not be used for purchase of appliances

the  
**Wild Flower**

*A thrift boutique benefitting the Tillamook County Women's Resource Center*

**Open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
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Carol Thompson  
David Thompson  
John & Donna Thorgramson  
♥ Tillamook County Pioneer Museum  
Tillamook Cow  
Tillamook Motor Company  
Tillamook Revitalization Assoc., Inc.  
♥ Tillamook United Methodist Women  
♥ Janet Henkel / -Tillamook Veterinary Hospital  
♥ TLC Federal Credit Union  
Susan Tone & Phil Blanton  
Trask River Therapy  
Sue Trout  
♥ Janet Trueblood  
Tsunami Bar & Grill  
Kathy & William Turner

♥ Twin Rocks Motel  
UnFurl  
Up in Smoke  
Kathie & Rod Van Loh  
Video Audio Connection  
Mary Voboril  
Carol and Jim Waggoner  
Eleanor Watkins  
Hallie Watkins  
Tom Waud  
Nancy Webster  
Marleen & Ted Weissbach  
Liane & Carl Welch  
Paul & Tracy Welch  
♥ Werner Gourmet Meat Snacks Inc  
Monica Wiedemann  
Ronald & Charlotte Willamson  
Karen L. Williams  
Wilson River Pottery  
Carl Wilson  
Dave & Joanne Wimpy  
Douglas Windedahl  
Women's Club of Manzanita  
Charles Wooldridge  
Jim & Nancy Young  
Richard & Kirstan Young  
♥ Gregory & Susan Yund  
Christie and Jim Zerfing  
Zwald Transport

## Foundation Grants

Eugene Schmuck Foundation  
Spirit Mountain Community Fund  
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THS Community 101  
Nestucca Community 101  
THS Charity Drive  
Tillamook County United Way  
The Collins Foundation  
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Allstate Foundation  
Jene Fund / Oregon Community Foundation  
Tillamook Kiwanis Club  
Meyer Memorial Trust  
Herbert A. Templeton Foundation  
North Tillamook County Rotary Foundation  
Verizon Wireless  
Jeffrey C. Kozlowski Fund / Oregon Community Foundation



# Tillamook County Women's Resource Center

P.O. Box 187  
1902 2nd St., Tillamook, OR 97141

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## Community FOCUS

### Staff

Executive Director .....	Kathleen Marvin
Administrative/Fiscal Coordinator .....	Kandy Staples
Bi-Lingual Advocate.....	Norma Obrist
Education & Outreach	
Program Manager & Prevention Coordinator .....	Romy Carver
Reception .....	Cyndie Dietz
Wild Flower Supervisor.....	Melissa Finnell
Wild Flower Product Coordinator .....	Mike Haynes
Shelter Manager .....	Justine Culp
Advocate/Community Services Coordinator .....	Eleanor Watkins
Volunteer Coordinator .....	Emily Fanjoy
Safer Futures Program Coordinator.....	Heather Brown
Safer Futures Program Advocate.....	Erin Richardson
SART Coordinator/Advocate .....	Beth Hope
Co-located DHS Advocate .....	Amber Wishoff
North County Advocate.....	Kimber Lundy

### Board of Directors

Kimberly Allen  
Carol Brown  
Darlene Cherry  
Susan Calhoun  
Nancy Contolini

Paul Hernandez  
Richard Johnson  
Alice Magnano  
Jana McCandless  
Hannah Snow

Tillamook County Women's Resource Center  
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[www.TCWRC.net](http://www.TCWRC.net)



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