



Family Safety Center



Hope for victims. Healing for families.

Dear Family Safety Center Supporter:

Spring is around the corner! It's such a fitting time of year for us at FSC, as spring sprouts in us feelings of hope and new beginnings. The days are literally brighter, as we get to enjoy more sunshine each day, and warmer weather means more time spent outside for that much needed breath of fresh air.

The work of our many partners is focused on bringing a spring-like experience to victims of domestic violence. We strive to provide hope that brighter days are ahead and that a breath of fresh air is around the corner. And, we appreciate your support of this mission, as you make it possible for us to offer victims a hand out of the darkness of domestic violence and into a new beginning.

Please continue reading to learn about the latest news and happenings surrounding FSC.

Sincerely,
Olliette Murry-Drobot, executive director

Issue

March 2013

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Domestic Violence Exists in Memphis and Shelby County

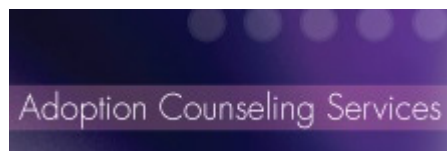
The **Memphis Police Department's Real Time Crime Center** reported **1,146 domestic violence offenses** in February.

The **Shelby County Sherriff's Office Domestic Violence Unit** reported receiving **134 domestic violence-related cases**

Family Safety Center of Memphis and Shelby County

Another Year, a Longer Roster: FSC Partners Renew, New Partners Join Mission

At a recent annual partnership meeting, FSC's 24 partners resigned their memorandums of understanding (MOUs), as three new partners signed onto the center's mission *to provide one location that effectively combines civil, criminal, health and social services for victims of family violence*. Adoption Counseling Services Inc., Friends for Life Corporation and Memphis Shelby Crime Commission are FSC's newest partners.



"This meeting marked the first full year of operation with all of the partners working out of the Family Safety Center," said Olliette Murry-Drobot, executive director of FSC. "We are thrilled with the collaborative efforts seen in 2012 and look forward to growing our partnerships in order to provide victims with access to all of the services they need under one roof."

For a complete list of FSC partners and more information on the services they provide, visit www.familysafetycenter.org/meet-our-partners.

Hard Work of Shelby County D.A.'s Office Showcased on '48 Hours'



On March 2, CBS aired an episode of "48 Hours" featuring the murder trial of Bartlett resident Tina Caronna, who was allegedly murdered by her husband, Joe. Shelby County prosecutors Karen Cook,

with 41 arrests in February. These cases included assaults, vandalisms, burglary, violations of orders of protection, threatening and harassing phone calls, stalking and documented verbal argument memos.

FSC Kicks Off National Nutrition Month with Shelby County Health Department



FSC participated in the Shelby County Health Department's kick-off to National Nutrition Month at the beginning of March. FSC was on hand to distribute resource information about the services available in Shelby County to providers that serve patients or clients who may be in violent relationships.

[Click here](#) to view more photos from the event on our Facebook page.

Teen Dating Violence Event Sparks FSC Movement

Danielle McCollum and Tom Henderson led the prosecution of the deemed domestic violence homicide, and after four years of tedious work, the Shelby County District Attorney's Office was able to breathe a sigh of relief when the jury found Joe guilty of murder.

The Shelby County D.A.'s Office works tirelessly every day to rid our streets of the bad guys, and we are grateful for their efforts to get abusers behind bars *before* the case becomes a homicide. In the heartbreaking case of Tina Caronna, they were relentless in making sure that an abusive husband did not get away with murder.

You can watch the Tina Caronna story on "48 Hours" [here](#), and for the "48 Hours: Extra" interview with the prosecution team, [click here](#).

DV in the News: An Honest and Uncomfortable Portrait of Domestic Violence

TIME magazine recently published an article on its Lightbox Blog featuring a controversial portrait of a domestic violence incident captured by freelance photojournalist Sara Naomi Lewkowicz while she was documenting a couple she happened upon at a festival in southeastern Ohio.



Not only did the article offer an intimate (and uncomfortable) look into a domestic violence incident, it also raised a lot of attention and sparked much controversy, as many commenters on the post took to "the blame game" - and it wasn't to blame the abuser. Comments on the blog challenged Lewkowicz's decision to document the incident, rather than helping prevent it, and some blamed the victim for various reasons. Bloggers and writers from across the country have



The Student Volunteer Media Group did an excellent job promoting teen dating violence awareness throughout the month of February, which led up to an energetic and entertaining benefit concert at Hard Rock Café in Downtown Memphis on Feb. 18. We appreciate their hard work and dedication to drawing attention to teen dating violence, and because of their efforts, FSC is continuing discussions with other organizations to keep teen dating violence on the agenda, spread awareness and break the silence of domestic violence in teen relationships.

[Click here](#) to view more photos from the evening on our Facebook page.

Upcoming Support Group Meetings

YWCA Spanish-Speaking Victims Support Group
Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.

Exchange Club Victims Support Group
Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Event

Healthy Relationships

A creative discussion for anyone wanting to learn how to be in a healthier

picked up on the story, noting that society tends to point fingers rather than find solutions when they don't know what else to do.

Domestic violence is often considered a private matter. It happens behind closed doors and in the privacy of intimate relationships, but a light must shine on the reality of those affected by it so that society is moved to do something about it. Maybe in this case, it took the flash of this photographer's camera to ignite a series of uncomfortable conversations that will change society's perception/acceptance of domestic violence.

You can read the story and view the portrait [here](#).

Rhodes/FSC Partnership Continues to Serve Mission for Victims

After FSC's co-hosted viewing of "Telling Amy's Story" with Rhodes College's Sigma Nu Fraternity in October, it was the Rhodes ladies' turn to partner with FSC and shine a light on domestic violence issues.



On March 5, Rhodes' Kinney Program: Women's Services hosted a Take Back the Night event to draw attention to the phenomenon of date rape on college campuses. The event included an information fair where FSC and other women's organizations from around Memphis and the college provided information on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and sexual abuse. The event culminated with a candlelight march around Rhodes campus to show the unity of the college and greater Memphis community working toward an end to rape and sexual assault.

[Click here](#) to view more photos from the evening on our Facebook page.

relationship with an intimate partner

Tuesday, March 26

6 to 8 p.m.

Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center

892 S. Cooper St.
Memphis, TN 38104

These monthly workshops are free, and anyone can attend as many or as few as they would like. These workshops are designed to help individuals discover the power of their voice through positive relationship building.

Workshops will center on reflecting, exploring and open discussions on issues such as how to define a healthy relationship, personal boundaries, what to do when there are children involved and the importance of building a healthy relationship from beginning to end. Other discussion topics will include warning signs of an abusive relationship, making sense of a home where there are "guns and roses," how to plan for a healthy break up, how to be safe on purpose and how to create your own personal safety plan.

Attendees will be provided tools at the end of each session to help learn more about one's emotions, sense of self and self-esteem. For more information, contact Martavius Hampton at 901-278-6422 or by email at mhampton@mgfcc.org.

Meet Our Partners

Contact Us

Family Safety Center
Madison Professional Building
1750 Madison Ave., Suite 600
Memphis, TN 38104
901-222-4400



There are many partner agencies that work with FSC to serve victims of domestic violence.
[Click here to learn more.](#)



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