



HAVIN NEWS

SUMMER 2005

Good luck...

Kathy Geiger, one of HAVIN's Counselor/Advocates since November 2002, has decided to pursue a career in psychiatric nursing. We all wish her the best and she will be greatly missed!!!

From the Executive Director...

Advocates across Pennsylvania, spearheaded by PCADV, have been working for nine years on PFA Amendments. After much negotiation, blood, sweat and tears...the amendments were finally passed by the House and Senate. On Friday, July 1, 2005 the decision was made to pull the PFA amendments (HB 1717) back from a floor vote in the Senate at the request of the Governor's Office. The Governor has significant concerns about the "third party" provision in HB 1717, and wants time to work on it over the summer in an attempt to resolve their issues with that portion of the legislation. They have pledged to work to get the legislation passed in the fall.

According to Amy Sousa, PCADV Policy Specialist, their concern stems from the "third party" provision of the legislation that allows a Protection From Abuse (PFA) defendant, who has been ordered by a judge to relinquish firearms, to relinquish guns to a third party of the defendant's choosing. In the current draft, the judge does not have discretion to a) tell a defendant he or she cannot designate a third party or b) object to a particular third party the defendant may identify. All third parties who accept responsibility for safekeeping of firearms ordered relinquished must accompany the defendant to the sheriff's office, sign an affidavit accepting responsibility for keeping the weapons in a secure location, undergo criminal history record checks on the state and federal levels, and acknowledge their understanding of the civil and criminal penalties for returning the firearms, other weapons or ammunition to the defendant. A third party would then receive a license to keep the firearms, which would be returned to the sheriff upon the expiration of the PFA order.

For too long the perception is that the PFA Amendments are a violation of the 2nd Amendment. They absolutely are not....the PFA Amendments want to provide safety for victims. If persons don't want to lose their guns, they should not use them in a crime against a family member or intimate partner. Gun owners and 2nd Amendment advocates do not want guns to be used illegally.....good grief, you can lose your guns for poaching a deer, why shouldn't you lose your guns for threatening to use them against your partner?

Welcome...

HAVIN is happy to announce three new staff members that have joined us. Please help us welcome Karen Vislosky as Counselor/Advocate, Amy Adams as Shelter Services Coordinator, and Heather DeMeno as Substitute Staff to our team!

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This legislation is imperative to support victims of domestic and sexual violence.

There are so many positives about the PFA Amendments that I sincerely hope this delay does not undo all of the hard work of everyone, from local advocates, PCADV and our Representatives and Senators.

I am asking everyone to please contact Governor Rendell's office and voice your support for quick passage of the PFA amendments. If you see any of your Senators or Representatives, thank them for their support and timely passage of the PFA Amendments. Together our voice can make a difference.

Jo Ellen Bowman, L.S.W.



HAVIN'S 2005 MIXED SCRAMBLE & WOMEN'S GOLF CLASSIC

Once again, HAVIN sponsored two golf outings...the Mixed Scramble and the traditional Women's Golf Classic. This year it was a huge success with 112 golfers participating!!! Though the weather was very wet on Thursday, most of the groups continued to golf!!!

HAVIN's golf outings are our major fundraising events of the year. They provide us with much needed financial support to continue to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence. Without the continued support from the community, we would not be able to accomplish this feat.

The following businesses and individuals contributed to this year's outings!

Adidas, Addison House, Advance Auto Parts, Anne Craft, Armstrong County Community Foundation, Auto Zone, Bayada Nurses, Billy's Pizza, Brightmeyers', Buggy's Pizzeria, Carla's Closet, Country Perks, Creative Dreams, Kittanning Dairy Queen, Danielle Cribbs, Dingbats, Dizzy Lizzie's, Doreen Bonner, Fantastic Sams, Farmers National Bank, First National Bank of PA, Garda's Restaurant, Golf Headquarters, Hair Tricks, Hallman Agency, HAVIN Staff, Helmet's Athletic Wear & Tanning, Jackie's Flowers & Gift Shop, James R. Hune, Janny's Hallmark Shop, Jo Ann Nickleach, Jo Ellen Bowman, Karen Hulse, Kimberly's Floral Design, Kittanning Foodland, Kozy Kafe, Kristy McCorkle, Kwik Lube, Lenape Heights Golf Course, Maria LeClaire, Movie Gallery, Mulberry Street Creamery, National Avairy, Nitro Welding, Open Market Tea, Pam Tola, Paul's Flower Gift Shop, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Children's Museum, Pittsburgh CLO, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Pirates, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, Rite Aide, Ron Rich, Rosemary Johnson, Rupp's Car Wash, Sally's Beauty Supply, Scott Andreassi, Senator John Heinz History Center, Sirena's Pizza, Sunoco, Suzanne Hogamier, Sweet Blessings, T & J Floral, Taco Bell/KFC, The Andy Warhol Museum, The Links at Spring Church, The Meadows, Toys Flowers & Landscaping, Typhoon Restaurant, Vicki Myers, Virginia Steimer, Vocelli Pizza, and Wendy's.

Thanks to all of the golfers who participated!!!

SPONSORS

(All sponsors were recognized at both golf outings.)

PLATINUM SPONSOR

ARMSTRONG COUNTY BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION

GOLD SPONSORS

Snyder Charitable Foundation
T.J. Smith Trucking, Inc.

BRONZE SPONSOR

Rosebud Mining Co.

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National City Bank
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC

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TEE SPONSORS

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Kalmar Motor Sales, Inc.
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National Material Company
Scott Andreassi, Armstrong Co. D.A.
Steiner & Steiner
Warren Peter Construction, Inc.

1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE

MIXED SCRAMBLE

FIRST PLACE

Mary Ann Costan Billy Goddard
Ron Lettrich Marie Yobp

SECOND PLACE

Ray Blystone Jack Cumberledge
Brian Meyers P.J. Spencer

THIRD PLACE

Chuck Barger Steve Barger
Fred Bolinger

WOMEN'S GOLF CLASSIC

FIRST PLACE

Charlene Knopfel Crystal Kochka
Carolyn Thompson

SECOND PLACE

Lori Christy Doris Coriale Sharon Bradigan Mary Ann Costan
Jennifer Prazenica Shelly Sturdevant Stacy Smith JoHanna Walters

THIRD PLACE

PRIZES FOR BOTH EVENTS!!!

- FIRST PRIZE:** 4 Rounds of Golf at The Links at Spring Church and Four \$25.00 Gift Certificates for Garda's Restaurant
- SECOND PRIZE:** 4 Rounds of Golf at Lenape Heights Golf Course and Four \$25.00 Gift Certificates for Garda's Restaurant
- THIRD PRIZE:** Four \$25.00 Gift Certificates for Garda's Restaurant and a Dozen Golf Balls

Legislative Session 2005/06

STATUS—MAY 2005:

On May 11, 2005, State Representatives Katie True (R-Lancaster) and Kathy Manderino (D-Philadelphia) issued a co-sponsorship memo to House Members for long-awaited amendments to the Protection From Abuse (PFA) Act. (We expect introduction of a bill, both in the House and Senate, in the near future.)

In an effort to get this bill and issue to a point where a vote could be taken, many difficult concessions and compromises were made-including issues not related to the PFA Act that PCADV does not support. However, PCADV recognizes that the inclusion of these issues is necessary to reach agreement on the legislation.

Fortunately, these amendments represent well over a dozen changes for which PCADV and its member programs have pursued over the last decade. PCADV encourages legislators to co-sponsor and vote YES on this important legislation, as proposed and agreed upon. This bill will enhance the protections and enforcement of the PFA Act in the following ways:

- * Increase the possible duration of a PFA order from 18 months to three years.
- * Clarify that probation up to six months may be ordered as a result of an indirect criminal contempt of a PFA order.
- * Define the terms “firearm” and “weapon” for added clarity. Specifically, the definition of firearm includes both long guns and handguns.
- * Allow judges to order relinquishment of ALL firearms for the duration of a PFA order.
- * Outline a procedure for relinquishment of firearms and other weapons, including a 24-hour timeline, storage, and notification of failure to relinquish.
- * Provide parameters for the relinquishment of defendant’s firearms and other weapons to licensed firearms dealers and third parties; impose penalties for unauthorized return.
- * Ensure that defendants who are convicted of crimes of domestic violence are subject to federal gun prohibitions.
- * Codify jurisdiction of an indirect criminal contempt of a PFA order to include both the court issuing the order AND the court with jurisdiction over the location where the violation occurred.
- * Clarify that jurisdiction over a PFA matter is not nullified by the plaintiff leaving the residence or the perpetrator fleeing the Commonwealth.
- * Strengthen the custody provisions of the PFA Act by requiring courts consider the risk of harm to both the children and the abused parent before awarding custody.
- * Provide a procedure for the return of firearms and other weapons at the expiration of the PFA order.
- * Ensure jurisdiction of sheriffs to serve and enforce PFA orders.
- * Allow for (but does not mandate or finance) the assignment of hearing officers to issue emergency protection orders in the absence of a district judge, providing hearing officers with the same judicial authority as district judges for this purpose.
- * Mandate that the court shall grant an extension of the PFA order upon conviction of the defendant of an indirect criminal contempt.
- * Extend the confidentiality privilege to interpreters assisting victims during the course of a victim/advocate relationship.
- * Increase the surcharge paid by defendants subject to protection orders and increase the minimum fines imposed on defendants for violations of protections orders.

**PCADV encourages
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SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND TEENAGERS

Lots of different people are affected by rape or sexual assault (girls and boys, young and old, persons with disabilities, persons from all different ethnic backgrounds, etc.); sexual assaults occur in many different types of situations; everyone deserves to have support after a sexual assault; survivors of sexual assault should be treated with respect when trying to get help. **Teens (boys and girls) are twice as likely to be victimized than any other age group; in the year 2000, 54% of reported rape victims were girls under the age of 18.** *These statistics were released by the National Center for Victims of Crime on their website at www.ncvc.org.*

Some of the different types of sexual assault or abuse...

- * Invasions of space and privacy including stalking, voyeurism, flashing, masturbation in public (to shock or surprise the victim), sexual jokes, degrading sexual remarks or sexual name-calling, obscene phone calls, emails or faxes, and posting or sharing sexual pictures or videos of someone on the internet or with others.
- * Other unwanted sexual or physical contact. Grabbing or touching the breasts, vagina, penis or buttocks over the clothes or brushing or rubbing against another person with the genitals.
- * Unwanted sexual touching without penetration. Touching breasts, vagina, penis or rectum with an object or a part of the body such as a finger or tongue.
- * Rape. Any type of forced or coerced oral, anal or vaginal penetration with an object or another body part.
- * Statutory rape. If a person has sexual intercourse with a minor under the age of 16 and that person is four or more years older, even if both people agree to have sex.
- * Sexual mutilation. Cutting, burning, piercing or any injury to someone's breasts, vagina, penis or rectum.
- * Incest. Any type of sexual contact between family members not married to each other.

Most sexual assaults happen between people who know each other, not between strangers. This could be someone you know and trust. It can happen in any type of relationship: friends, classmates, boyfriends and girlfriends, teachers and students, coaches and athletes, religious leaders and parishioners, doctors and patients, and parents and children or between other family members.

What about alcohol and drugs in sexual assault?

Most sexual assaults of teenagers involve alcohol or other drugs—either the offender or the victim are under the influence. Sometimes, the offenders purposely give someone alcohol or drugs to take advantage of them later. Drugging someone on purpose to have sex with them is illegal and considered rape in most states. Common date rape drugs include: Rohypnol (known as “roofies”), GHB (known as “G” or “easy lay”), Ketamine (known as “special K” or “Bump”). Many of these drugs are colorless and odorless when put into a drink and they cause the person to pass out and not remember what happened. **EVEN IF YOU CHOSE TO USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS, YOU DID NOT DESERVE TO BE RAPED!**

How to help yourself.

Do not blame yourself. The only person who is at fault is the person who committed the crime.

Hold the perpetrator accountable for his/her actions. If applicable, demand that the violence stop.

Report the violence. Notify the police, a rape crisis shelter (HAVIN 724-548-8888 or 800-841-8881), teacher/guidance counselor, and/or a parent or other family member.

Seek support from others. Tell your friends about the violence and build a circle of support.

Document the harassment. Photograph or keep copies of any offensive material. Keep a diary of the sexual violence with the date, time and behavior.

Seek counseling. Sexual violence can have serious long-term effects. Contact HAVIN to get help and support at 724-548-8888 or 800-841-8881.

Information taken from Sexual Violence and Teenagers Brochure, Coping with Sexual Assault/A Guide for Teens, and A Guide for Friends & Family of Sexual Violence Survivors all from the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape www.pcar.org or contact HAVIN for the mentioned articles at 724-543-1180 ext. 223.

Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)

The ACP is administered by the Office of the Victim Advocate (OVA) and provides an important service to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

The program has two basic parts. First, the ACP provides a substitute address for victims who have moved to a new location unknown to their perpetrator. The second part of the program provides participants with a free first-class confidential mail forwarding service.

This program will provide a legal substitute address that can be used by eligible participants to keep their location information confidential whenever their home, work or school address is required by state and local government agencies. All first class, registered and certified mail received at the ACP address on behalf of program participants will be forwarded to their actual address at no cost.

Victims do not apply directly to the ACP. Application is made in person at the local domestic violence, sexual assault or victim service program. A parent or guardian can apply to the program on behalf of a minor or individual who is incapacitated. ACP decides who will be accepted into the program.

For more information contact ACP at 1-800-563-6399 or HAVIN at 800-841-8881 or 724-548-8888.

HAVIN provides **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our services include a 24-hour hotline, group and individual counseling and advocacy, information and referral, emergency shelter, and medical and legal accompaniment. We have offices located in Kittanning and Leechburg.

HAVIN also has an Outreach Education Department that is available to present educational programs to schools, church groups, physician's offices, and organizations throughout Armstrong County. Our Outreach Education Department is also available to participate in health fairs, community events, etc. **All of our programs and materials are FREE!!!**

For more information on a list of our programs or to schedule an event for your organization, please contact Laurie Johns, Volunteer Education Specialist, at 724-543-1180 ext. 230.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call HAVIN hotlines at 724-548-8888 or 800-841-8881. Also visit our website at www.havinpa.org.

As you know, HAVIN continues to face difficult times within this country. We have again been notified that Victim Services are receiving cutbacks from several governmental sources. We will now need to rely even more on the generosity of our community. On behalf of the survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as their family, we thank you for choosing to support HAVIN through your generous donations of clothing, toys, household items, money, etc.

SHELTER WISH LIST

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Non-Perishable Food Items | Telephone Calling Cards | Department Store Gift Cards |
| Paper Products | Q-Tips & Cotton Balls | Diapers & Wipes |
| Hair Conditioner | Hair Spray & Gels | Hair Dryers |
| Hair Brushes | Feminine Hygiene Products | Deodorant |
| Razors | Writing Journals | School Supplies |
| Batteries - All Sizes | Light Bulbs | Washable Crayons |
| Cleaning Products | Buckets/Mops/Brooms | Laundry Baskets |
| Towels & Washcloths | Kitchen Towels & Dish Cloths | Single Bed Sheets |
| New Pillows | Kitchen Utensils/Silverware | Pots & Pans |
| Small Appliances | Glassware | Alarm Clocks |
| Umbrellas | New Women's & Children's Night Clothes | |
| Money designated for Client Relocation & Direct Services Needs | | |

We are only accepting gently used spring and summer clothing at this time.



**P.O. Box 983
Kittanning, PA 16201**

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24 Hour Hotline
(724) 548-8888
1-800-841-8881



*HAVIN is a
united way agency.*

I WANT TO MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO HAVIN, INC.!

I would like HAVIN to use this donation where it is most needed.

I would like HAVIN to use this donation for _____.

\$30 will provide food and shelter for one day.

Send donations to: HAVIN, Inc., P.O. Box 983, Kittanning, PA 16201.

HAVIN, Inc. is funded in part by grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the United Way. A copy of the official registration and financial information for HAVIN may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free in Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999.