



CONNECTIONS

The mission of Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois is to restore and enhance lives in our community through advocacy, education, counseling and case management.

OUR PROGRAMS»

BELOIT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR CENTER

(608) 364-1083
(608) 365-1119 24-hour help
khood@familyservices1.org

CASA OF ROCK COUNTY

(608) 305-0187
casarc@familyservices1.org
www.casarockcounty.org

FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

(608) 365-1244
jfruini@familyservices1.org

HOME COMPANION REGISTRY

(608) 856-0153
sguetschow@familyservices1.org

LIFE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

(608) 365-1244
cccs@familyservices1.org

SEXUAL ASSAULT RECOVERY PROGRAM (SARP)

(866) 666-4576
asunza@sarpwi.com
www.sarpwi.com

YOUTH2YOUTH 4 CHANGE

(608) 313-9220
debtfk@gmail.com
www.rcy2y.com

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BOUNDARIES AND CHOICES: A PROACTIVE TOOL FOR EMPLOYERS TO ADDRESS NEGATIVE WORK ENVIRONMENTS »

Family Services offers an opportunity for local employers to safely examine hostile work environment issues and educate employees about boundaries and choices when it comes to sexual harassment and other adverse workplace cultures.

Our team of graduate-level professionals, with extensive experience in understanding and addressing abusive and offensive behaviors, will provide customized and interactive training workshops, work-related cultural assessments and solutions to improve the working environment for all employees. We offer three tiers of services:

- **Prevention**

A four-hour interactive workshop with employees, led by our team of diverse and qualified staff. We review the issue from both a legal and social perspective, assist in defining

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HELP US CONTINUE TO HELP OTHERS: SAVE THE DATE FOR STARRY NIGHT – APRIL 14, 2018 »

Family Services’ annual “Starry Night” fundraising dinner and auction is set for April 14th at the Eclipse Center from 6 to 10 p.m. Our theme continues to ring true: The brightest stars are those who shine for the benefit of others.

We promise an evening of good entertainment for a great cause; for the second year we will feature the dueling pianos of Piano Fondue, augmented by a Merrill & Houston’s catered dinner, stellar auctions, and “big bang” raffles. **Be sure to check out what’s new this year: your chance to recognize your own special star!**

When you attend or sponsor one of our events, you can be assured that your support will help empower those we serve to find their way to a better future. Family Services is committed to working to restore and enhance lives in our community through advocacy, education, counseling and case management.

We’d love to have you join us, so mark your calendars. Tickets are \$75 per person. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Alyssa at awhitney@familyservices1.org.



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appropriate co-worker and supervisory boundaries, and help define and develop positive interaction skills.

Workshops are intended to decrease the likelihood of workplace sexual harassment and hostile work environments. Participants can expect thoughtful and productive dialogue on a sensitive and critical issue.

- **Assessment**

The risk of and prevalence of sexual harassment with workplace cultures varies significantly. Our assessment team can help determine the strengths of the workplace as well as areas of vulnerability and concern. Most importantly, the team will provide prudent recommendations for addressing areas of concern.

- **Mitigation**

We recognize that sometimes it is useful to be able to utilize the services of a third party to help address complicated and sensitive workplace issues. We can assist in developing remedial action plans with meaningful measures.

Please contact John Pfleiderer
jpfleiderer@familyservices1.org or 608-355-1244
for more information, pricing and scheduling.



Merrill & 3rd Street



Highland Avenue

SNOW IS FALLING AND BOOKS ARE CALLING »

Beloit's "Little" Little Free Libraries are still filled with books, waiting for a young person to trudge through the snow and take a book home to read under a warm blanket.

COMMITTEE FORMED TO EXPLORE HOW BEST TO ADDRESS "SUPPLY SIDE" ISSUES RELATING TO HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING »

There has been a great deal of attention to the challenges of addressing and responding to human sex trafficking. Most efforts have focused on increasing public awareness, publicizing resources, and supporting interdiction and prosecution of perpetrators. Such efforts are critical to any successful effort to decrease the incidence of these crimes.

Little effort has been devoted, however, to considering how best to address "supply" side issues – how to decrease the vulnerability of those targeted by sex traffickers. Family Services has formed a committee to explore how best to decrease the vulnerability of children sexually abused within families. This population is often easy to exploit: sexually and psychologically traumatized, lacking adequate protection, and distrustful of systemic interventions.

Judith Lewis Herman noted that "Victims of abuse must find a way to preserve a sense of trust in people who are untrustworthy, safety in a situation that is unsafe, control in a situation that is terrifyingly unpredictable, power in a situation of helplessness. Unable to care for or protect herself, she must compensate for the failures of adult care and protection with the only means at her disposal, an immature system of psychological defenses."

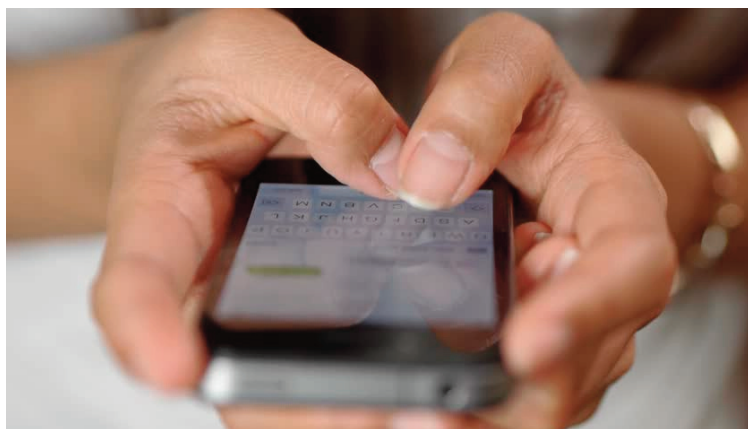
The committee is composed of Ms. Kathy Pomahac, the executive director of the Winnebago County Carrie Lynn Child Advocacy Center; Ms. Pennie Meyers, the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault; Lt. Kristin Devitt, Beloit Police Department; Ms. Carol Wickersham, Director for Community-Based Learning, Duffy Community Partnerships Coordinator, and Sociology Instructor; Ms. Amanda Isunza, director of the Sexual Assault Recovery Program; and Ms. Kelsey Hood Christenson, Director of the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center.

The committee will document best practices relevant to each phase of responding to intra-familial child sexual abuse and will offer practice recommendations as appropriate.

BDVSC ADDS TEXT LINE FOR SURVIVORS »

The Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center has added a text line for victims to access services. According to program director Kelsey Hood-Christenson, some survivors may feel more comfortable reaching out via text, as not everyone is comfortable engaging services by telephone. It will also help those who are deaf or hard of hearing to contact the center.

The text line's number is 608-473-1255 and should be used for non-emergencies. The fastest way to reach the center is to call the crisis hotline at 608-365-1119.



BOARD PROFILE »

TOM FINLEY »



Since virtually everyone in the Stateline area knows Tom Finley, we decided that we were actually writing a profile for two audiences: the few that don't know Tom, and the rest who will be checking us for accuracy. So here goes.

A while back, some of Tom's acquaintances and board members of Family Services, recruited him to join the board for a three-year term. Twenty years later, he is still on the board and has been sentenced to serve for, well, a long and productive time for the agency.

"It is one of the most important agencies in the community," according to Tom, and he hopes that more people who believe in what the agency does, are willing to provide the on-going support with donations and volunteer their time. "The dedication of the entire staff has always been amazing and I'm proud to do my part to help them help others."

Tom is someone who gives back to the community consistently, enthusiastically, and in a big way. He currently serves on the Beloit Health System Foundation, Greater Beloit Economic Development Corporation, Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce and heads up the Advisory Committee for the Automotive Tech program at Beloit Memorial High School.

When he's not volunteering his time, he can be found at work... that would be Finley Buick GMC or with his family and friends helping the Packers and the Badgers. If the breeze is right, you'll probably get a whiff of the aroma of some of the best ribs to be had anywhere. He's been married to his wife Kim for 38 years (-and thanks to her for sharing him). Together they have two children and two grandchildren.

Be a hero to a child
in foster care...

Become a
CASA advocate!



www.CasaRockCounty.org

NEWS IN BRIEF »

CASA GETS HELP PROVIDING GIFTS TO FOSTER KIDS »

Many thanks to Parker Community Credit Union, now known as Educators Credit Union, for their generosity in sponsoring Christmas gifts for children in foster care again this year.

We appreciate their commitment to abused and neglected Children in Rock County.



BDVSC RECEIVES FOOD DONATION FROM LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL »

Thank you to the South Beloit School District for their wonderful donation from their district-wide food drive. Shown here are the student council representatives who organized this food drive to benefit the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center.



THE INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING PROGRAM BENEFICIARY »

The Individual and Family Counseling Program was the beneficiary of the January Girls' Night Out event held at Boundaries Bar & Grill. Thank you to all the women who came out and supported us by purchasing raffle tickets. Guests went home with some fun baskets and gift certificates!



UNITED WAY BLACKHAWK REGION PRESENTS CHECK TO FAMILY SERVICES »



The United Way Blackhawk Region presented a check to Family Services for the following programs 18-month budget cycle:

- Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center
- CASA of Rock County
- Individual and Family Counseling Program
- Sexual Assault Recovery Program
- Youth2Youth 4 Change.

Thank you to all the local donors that made this possible!



United Way
Blackhawk Region Program Partner

NEXT PHASE FOR SERENITY GARDEN:

PERENNIALS! »

Last year we saw the construction phase of the Serenity Garden come to completion thanks to many individuals and businesses who donated time and resources. Once spring arrives, we will begin the final phase: surrounding the hardscape with beautiful and butterfly-attracting plants, trees and shrubs.

We are seeking the help of the community in providing perennials or funds to purchase them and some dedicated green-thumbs to help plant and maintain the garden area. In addition, we are looking for support for the two center piece butterfly mosaics. Please contact us at 608-365-1244 if you are interested in helping beautify this corner of Horace White Park.



THANK YOU TO OUR MANY SERENITY GARDEN DONORS:

Adrian's Landscaping, Angus Young & Associates, Nathan Bolin, Laurel Burke, CCI, County Materials, Dave Drevdahl, Tom Finley, Bill Flanagan, Steve Foley and Foley Electric, Anna and Dave Grzelak, Curt Hansen, Jennifer and Ryan Hanson, Candace Smith Hirsh, Anna Kelly and Rick McGrath, Jeff Johnson, Lonnie Klecker, Jerry Klobucar and Klobucar Construction, Jeff Korbol and Ace Works Pattern Shop, Jerry Lewis, Jake McMahon, McMahon Excavation and Construction, Don Meyer and DM Manufacturing, Leo Mullooly, Nelson Young Lumber, Dee Nutter, Cindy Pingel, Tom Ptacin, Betsy Schmiechen, Sonnentag Foundation, Dan Taylor, Terra Yard Creations, Tommy and Nancy Vance, Joyce Vinz, Margery Wakefield, Dean Wester, Carol Wickersham, Lowell and Arlys Zellmer, David Zibolski.

LIFE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

PROGRAM EMPOWERS, HELPS ADDRESS LONG TERM FINANCIAL WELLNESS THROUGH EDUCATION, COUNSELING AND COACHING »

Our consumer credit counseling program began in the late 1990's and grew in response to the increasingly problematic levels of consumer debt. The great recession saw our program respond to the foreclosure crisis with an innovative mediation program that worked with the local judiciary. But as the economy changed, so did the need for those programs, and so we no longer offer them. What hasn't changed, however, is the critical need for a range of strategies to support financial literacy and financial capability.

We changed the name of the program to Life Financial Solutions to emphasize the essence of the program: empowering those with whom we work to find, develop, and implement solutions for not only immediate concerns but also for long term financial wellness. We do this through educational efforts, but also through both counseling and longer-term coaching.

We are pleased to offer these services to residents within the City of Beloit's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Area. This project echoes much of the agency's work in Beloit in the 1930's – partnering with residents to improve well-being.

Contact Rod at (608) 365-1244 or rod@cccsbeloit.us for more information or to schedule an appointment.





EXPIRED OR NO LONGER NEEDED PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP BOXES IN ROCK COUNTY »

When unneeded prescription drugs aren't disposed of properly they can contaminate our drinking water, poison wildlife, or lead to prescription drug abuse when taken by someone unauthorized to receive this medication. Here's where you can safely dispose of prescriptions drugs in Rock County:

- Beloit Police Department – 100 State St.
- Town of Beloit Police – 1333 Inman Pkwy.
- Edgerton Police Department – 215 W. Fulton St.
- Evansville Police Department – 10 W. Church St.
- Janesville Police Department – 100 N. Jackson St.
- Milton Police Department – 120 Parkview Dr.

YOUTH2YOUTH 4 CHANGE IS DISTRIBUTING “LOCK BOXES” FOR MEDS »

Do your part in ending the epidemic by getting a FREE prescription drug lock box by emailing debtfc@aol.com or calling 608-313-9220.



STAFF PROFILE »

Eboni Nicole Morrow



Eboni Nicole Morrow is the Children and Youth Advocate and Case Manager at the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center. She was born in Virginia but moved to Beloit when she was just six weeks old. Growing up in Beloit, she attended Robinson Elementary School, Aldrich and McNeel Middle Schools, and graduated from Beloit Memorial High School in 2004.

Eboni went on to study sociology and criminal justice at UW-Whitewater and received her BA in 2008. During her time at UW-Whitewater, she studied abroad in Monterrey, Mexico, received the King-Chavez Scholarship, was a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and was involved in numerous clubs and activities.

Eboni has been working at the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center since 2010. She began as a client support specialist and is now the Child and Youth Advocate and a Case Manager, helping families and their children with overcoming the difficulties of domestic violence. Eboni also works part time for Project 16:49, a non-profit organization serving Rock County's unaccompanied homeless teens.

Eboni loves to help people and is always willing to listen to what others have to say. She believes in having a non-judgmental approach when interacting with others. She enjoys working for the agency because it feels like a family. "Everyone is always willing to step in and help each other out" says Eboni.

When not at work, Eboni enjoys writing poems, skating, going to church and making a difference in the world. Family Services is lucky to have her!



THE ESSENCE OF A STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY» FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOHN PFLEIDERER »

The quality of life differences between communities are often obvious, at times subtle, but always very real. We define – or often our funders define – our attempts to improve our communities in terms of efforts to ward off decline by supporting the perceived virtues and strengths within the status quo or by promoting some form of progressive change. Every social service program ultimately makes choices as to which strategies to endorse and to what degree. Ideally, services are sufficiently comprehensive and competent as to contribute effectively to the overall health of the community.



We recently renewed our strategic plan for the agency. Strategic planning provides an opportunity to reflect on not only the relevance of the agency’s mission, the efficacy of services supporting that mission, but also on recognizing unaddressed opportunities to assist in strengthening and supporting the extent of positive “social wellbeing” within the community. We remain committed to the premise that the health and strength of family – broadly defined – is of the essence of a strong and vibrant community.

It is clear that a wide variety of factors affect the well-being of families; the wellbeing of any family is not guaranteed. The experiences of childhood (both within and without the family) are strong determinants of the quality of the child’s functioning as an adult.

The CDC-Kaiser Permanente Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study (ACES; <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/about.html>) persuasively documents the long term negative consequences attributable to traumatic events –regardless of socio-economic factors – throughout the lifespan. It is, or should be, a call to enhance the viability and safety of children and to do so not only by seeking to decrease the volume of adverse experiences but also through efforts to mitigate the effects of those that do occur.

We remain committed to working to enhance protective factors for families, decrease the prevalence of traumatic events, and assist in decreasing the toxicity of trauma. We look forward to sharing with you our efforts to do so.

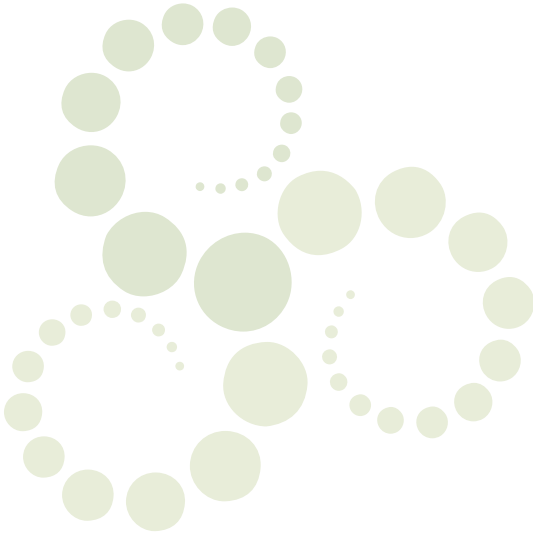
HOME COMPANION REGISTRY: THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT DIFFERENCE IN SENIOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES »



For over 20 years the Home Companion Registry has been linking seniors with home care providers. This is a relatively unique approach to helping seniors remain as independent as possible for as long as possible. The need for these services has increased over the past years as the “baby boomers” have aged and with the increase in demand, so have the number of service providers. So, what is unique about the Registry?

One difference is our ability to create a service plan in which costs align with services actually needed: we do not use a tiered care plan that would result in having to purchase a level of service not needed in its entirety.

As a registry, we also have the advantage of being free to consider and attend to the best interests of those consuming the services as well as those providing the services. Please feel free to give Stephanie a call to learn more about the program and to schedule a consultation: (608) 8556-0153 or sguetschow@familyservices1.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS»

APRIL – Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Go to www.sarpwi.com for information about community events

APRIL 14 **STARRY NIGHT ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER**
6 - 10 p.m. Eclipse Center

APRIL 25 **DENIM DAY**
Show your support for victims of sexual assault by wearing denim.

MAY – New volunteer training for CASA. Go to www.casarockcounty.org for more information.

DETAILS COMING SOON

BDVSC is planning its first annual Butterfly art exhibit. The community will be invited to participate in creating beautiful butterfly pieces to be displayed and auctioned in the fall.

To find out more about Family Services Donate, see our volunteer opportunities, read our 2016 Annual Report, receive our newsletter via email or contact us... please go to www.statelinefamilyservices.org. Like us on Facebook

BOARD OF DIRECTORS»

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Tom Finley – *Vice President*
Pro Tem/Treasurer
Laurel Burke – *Secretary*
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United Way Blackhawk Region Program Partner
United Way of Green County