



The Dawn Connection

4th Quarter 2015



Our Mission: To break the cycle of domestic and sexual violence, by providing supportive services and leadership that promotes social change.

Our vision: A community free from violence and abuse.

We changed lives July-Sept!

210 people were provided safe shelter!
 93 of these were children!
 We ended the month at 100% of capacity!

211 people were served through
 Dawn Center Outreach Services!

304 calls were answered by our
 local crisis hotline!

153 people received support with navigating the
 legal system!

As a United Way community partner, Dawn Center is thankful to our local community for contributions to United Way's payroll plans and fundraisers. These plans bring generous funds into Hernando County and help provide valuable resources to our local community.



EVENTS CALENDAR

October 2nd- Candelight Vigil at Pine Island 6:30pm to support those who have survived domestic violence and to honor those who have lost their lives to domestic violence.

October 10th 5pm
 Dash for Dawn 5k Run hosted by
 Dawn Center of Hernando County

Month of October- Step into the Light and out of Domestic Violence- Virtual 5k Run by Undisputed Rus to benefit the Dawn Center. register at <http://www.undisputedruns.com/events/undisputed-runs-step-into-the-light-and-out-of-domestic-violence-virtual/>

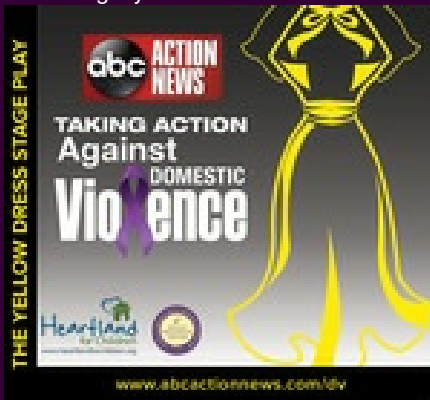


USF theater present THE YELLOW DRESS in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Dawn Center has many working parts of the organization that provides services to the local community.

- * We are most recognized for our Emergency Shelter Services where we provide services to approximately 350 women and children per year.
- * Our Outreach Advocates assist survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in an outpatient setting and provide support groups and individual counseling services to approximately 1,000 people per year.
- * Our legal Advocates assist victims in filling out legal paperwork and advocating for victims within the court setting, and provide referrals to local legal aid program for legal advice.
- * The CPI Project bridges the gap between DCF and

This is a free play **Oct 8th**. Go to the ABC Action News web site to get your free ticket.



November 7th- Youth Engagment Activity sponsored by The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Location and Details TBD

Call (352) 684-7191 for more information on any Dawn Center event



Voices of Survivors

What this *real* participant in Dawn Center programs had to say...

My name is Survivor. I recently attended "awareness" classes at [Dawn Center of Hernando County FL](#) for a domestic battery altercation, I was a victim in. In order to get the "No Contact" order dropped I was to go to 5 classes and then back in front of the judge to be granted an approval to be back in contact with the batterer. I had attended 3 classes upon finding out that the case had been closed when he was sentenced. Anyone who has dealt with this matter knows that another way to get the "No Contact" order dropped is for the case to be closed (which by the way, is when the batterer is sentenced, unless Judge has other orders). Every case is unique and complex. I believe everything happens for a reason! I am so grateful for not being informed about the case closure. I was able to attend 3 of the most educating, informing, and knowledgeable classes that if I had known I didn't have to take them, I would of never of been there. I walked out of the Dawn Center feeling powerful, in control, and now with new tools to help ME out if a situation like domestic violence was to occur again. I want to thank the entire support group, the women, and the victims there who all play a part in

The CPH Project bridges the gap between DCF and Victims of abuse. Using the safe and together philosphy Dawn Center and DCF work together to help keep families safe.

* The 24 hour hotline is available for survivors of Domestic Violence and Victims of Sexual Assault. The hotline is staffed by advocates around the clock to provide the best support.

* Hernando County and Dawn Center is now home to a Sexual Assault Response Team and victims of Rape/ Sexual assault no longer have to go to Tampa for forensic exam services.

* Dawn Center provides Prevention programing to the youth in our community via schools, libraries, youth groups, and more. This helps to ensure our future is aware of issues surrounding violence. Community Awareness and Prevention programming reaches approximately 4,000 community members per year.

We are always looking for volunteers in most areas of service programs. Please contact Missy at the Administration office to fill out a volunteer application.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Community Awareness and teaching prevention to our youth is a large part of our focus in ending the violence. Dawn Center promotes healthy relationships, bystander intervention, and anti-bullying education within our community.

TEEN DATING WORKSHOP

TEENS AGES 14-18 AND PARENTS WELCOME

WHEN
 Thurs. September 17th 6-7pm
 Thurs. October 15th 6-7pm
 Thurs. November 12th 6-7pm

WHERE
 Spring Hill Branch
 Public Library

Teen Dating Violence is prevalent among our Hernando County youth. This monthly workshop will focus on reducing teen dating violence by teaching youth to challenge strict gender roles and to challenge social dating norms. We will teach teens and parents to ACT (assess current relationships, challenge social norms, and transform relationships and community). This free workshop is geared towards teens from age 14-18 and parents of teens. There is no charge for attending this workshop.

www.dawncenter.org
 CONTACT APRIL JOHNSON 352-592-1288 OR EMAIL AJOHNSON@DAWNCENTER.ORG

We were proud to be a part of many community events and provide prevention education to our local youth. A Teen Dating Workshop was held at the Spring Hill Branch of the Hernando County Library in Sepetember and it was the first of many future events to be held monthly.

Parents and Teens ages 14-18 are welcome to attend this free workshop and learn valuable tools to help prevent Teen Dating Violence.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SOMEONE FROM DAWN CENTER TO SPEAK OR HAVE A TABLE AT YOUR UPCOMING EVENT PLEASE CONTACT APRIL JOHNSON AT 352-592-1288

this program to make it a success because it is a force to be reckoned with. I stayed in the relationship in spite of the warnings and red flags, but... I'm equipped with knowledge to recognize an onset of an episode, steps to retract, and a safety plan in play if a need to get out in a hurry!! Thanks again to all at Dawn Center. Your friend, Survivor



Know someone who needs help finding safety or healing due to intimate partner violence or sexual assault?

We are here 24 hours a day!

Dawn Center Hotline:
(352)686-8430

www.dawncenter.org



Volunteer opportunities available!
If you would like to volunteer please access our [volunteer application](#) on our website or contact our Volunteer Coordinator at mhoppes@dawncenter.org or (352) 684-7191.



STAFF CORNER

Our staff participated in ABC Action News feature of Domestic Violence centers in Tampa Bay. "YourStory Matters"



A THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Members of the Elk's Club of Spring Hill showed their support of Dawn Center with a donation

to help fund our many programs.

A HUGE thank you goes to FCB Bank in Brooksville for holding a Wish List Collection and naming Dawn Center as the Monthly Charity Spotlight for August. They also provided a generous cash donation to our center.



Thank you to Edgewater Endodontics for sponsoring a bowling fundraiser for dental care professionals and collecting items for our shelter. Your yearly support goes a long way with our shelter participants.

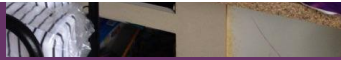


We welcome a few new team members to include a new full time Outreach Advocate, a new part time Legal Advocate ,and a new CPI Advocate to our team.

Executive Director Corner



As we kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I would like to thank our community for its support of survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Domestic and Sexual Violence are major social issues and survivors who are impacted by this violence face a wide variety of challenges on their journey to safety and healing. While we certainly try, Dawn Center cannot meet all the needs survivors have on our own. We are so fortunate to call Hernando County "home" and know we have the support of each of you as we do our lifesaving work each day. Remember, *every day* is a great day to practice awareness and support survivors! Thank you for all you do!



A big thank you to Chad Mathis for bringing back packs and school supplies for the children at Dawn Center! We received some much needed items to get the kids ready for school. Thanks Chad!



We want to recognize our community partners that are part of the Food Donation Connection. These organizations support Dawn Center by providing food for our participants. We encourage you to support them when making your dinner plans. Carrabba's, Bonefish Grill, Bob Evans

Dawn Center is proud to be a recipient of funds from United Way. Many of our programs wouldn't be possible without their support.

Click on the link below for a message from



IN THE MEDIA



Local news media is getting in on the important discussion surrounding domestic violence. ABC Action News will be featuring a story and special presentation October 22nd to support Domestic Violence Awareness Month. They will be featureing local Tampa Bay area service centers including Dawn Center.

24 Hour Hotline: (352) 686-8430

Outreach Program: (352) 592-1288

Legal Program: (352) 540-6222

Administration: (352) 684-7191

Mail: P.O. Box 6179, Spring Hill, FL 34611

Email: info@dawncenter.org

Web: www.dawncenter.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dawn-Center-of-Hernando-County-FL/350378071725358>

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Dawn Center of Hernando County
P.O. Box 6179
Spring Hill, FL 34611
US

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