



Community Action Program of Lancaster County

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DVS Presents Champion Awards at 35th Anniversary Celebration

(Lancaster, PA) – Domestic Violence Services of Lancaster County (DVS) celebrated its 35th anniversary at a reception held at the Cork Factory Hotel on Thursday, October 6. The event, sponsored by NextStep Technology Advisors, LLC and Reinsel Kunz Leshner, LLP, recognized DVS' 35 years of service to domestic violence victims in Lancaster County and recognized a number of businesses and individuals that have lent their support to the program.

Those honored include:

DVS Corporate Champion – Turkey Hill Minit Markets – Over the last two years, Turkey Hill has contributed \$120,000 to DVS through two corporate golf tournaments and sponsorship of the DVS Evening in Spring Gala.

DVS Faith-Based Champion – Highland Presbyterian Church – Highland Presbyterian Church has offered significant and consistent financial support to DVS over the years, for a variety of purposes including its annual food campaign and holiday gift programs for domestic violence victims and their children.

DVS Medical Champion – Lancaster General Health - Lancaster General Health was at the forefront of developing medical protocols to recognize and treat domestic violence victims at all of their facilities. LGH also initiated and co-sponsored a number of educational programs about domestic violence including Silent Witness and Pregnant Women at Risk for Domestic Violence.

DVS Legal Champion – Michael Goldberg, Esq. - Since 1976, Michael Goldberg has provided legal representation for thousands of domestic violence victims. In addition, he has been recognized at the state and national levels for developing and instituting protocols and policies for legal representation for victims.

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DVS Volunteer Champion – Fran Kane – Fran Kane has volunteered with DVS for over 15 years. She began working with children at the shelter and was instrumental in the founding of Bridge Housing, the DVS transitional housing program, where she became a volunteer mentor.

DVS Legislative Champion – former state representative Katie True – Katie True took a special interest in the issue of domestic violence throughout her 16-year tenure in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. She sponsored important legislation that mandated victims' addresses remain confidential and added valuable safety measures to the Protection From Abuse Act.

DVS Survivor Champion – Marilyn Van Eyk – A victim of domestic violence, Marilyn Van Eyk also lost a daughter and two sons to its ravages. She was a tireless advocate and fundraiser for DVS for many years and a consummate lobbyist who was instrumental in the passage of state legislation that included domestic violence victims in the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

DVS Founding Champion – Jeff Wibberley – As the special programs director for the Community Action Program of Lancaster County, Jeff Wibberley pursued important federal and state funding to begin operating a domestic violence shelter in 1976. He has worked ever since to ensure that DVS has the funding and facilities necessary to serve an increasing number of domestic violence victims and their children.

Bonnie Glover, DVS director, noted that, “Many individuals, community organizations, faith-based groups, and businesses have been instrumental in the success of DVS over the last 35 years. They have championed the cause of ending domestic violence and assisted victims and their children through financial support, volunteer assistance and advocacy. We are deeply grateful to these champions for helping us change people’s lives and making our community a safer place.”

In recognition of its 35 years of service to the Lancaster Community, DVS received a congratulatory letter from Vice President Joe Biden and a congratulatory video message from U.S. Senator Bob Casey, who pledged his continued support of domestic violence programs. Judy Yupcavage, director of communications for the PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence, gave the keynote address.

In Lancaster County, there are an estimated 10,000 victims of domestic violence each year. DVS provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal assistance, individual and group counseling services to victims of domestic violence 24 hours a day and seven days a week. DVS assists an average of 1,740 victims and their children each year and nearly 65,000 victims over the last 35 years. DVS also operates a **24 Hour Domestic Violence Hot Line at 717-299-1249.**

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DVS is one of 32 programs provided locally by the Community Action Program of Lancaster County. Community leaders formed CAP of Lancaster County in 1966 to assist low and moderate-income individuals with the resources, skills, and knowledge needed to become self-sufficient. CAP of Lancaster County has a budget of over \$46 million and employs 300 people who provide services to approximately 35,000 qualified individuals throughout Lancaster County.

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Photo Attached