



Gurnee Mayor Kristina Kovarik (far right) and Board President Brad Jenks (second from left) join with members of the Youth Allies C.A.R.E. young adult advocacy group to dedicate Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center's new granite sign on Old Grand Avenue.

Special thanks to Churchill Photography for donating the photo services for this event.

Youth Allies C.A.R.E. For Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

April 5 Open House is Rousing Success Thanks to Efforts of Teens and other Volunteers

It's said that the best way to get a fresh perspective on something is to try to look at it through the eyes of a young person. So that's precisely what we did when planning and organizing our 25th Anniversary Open House event on April 5, which also served to introduce the community to our new name: Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center. The "fresh eyes" and helpful perspectives were provided by members of our young adult advocacy group *Youth Allies C.A.R.E.* (Creating A Rape-free Environment). Sixteen members of the exuberant group of teenagers worked closely with our Director of Community Education Jane Hunter and volunteers Phyllis Lubel and Sherri Ballard to help plan, organize, and host the event.

More than 125 attendees joined us for the festivities which included:

- the dedication of our new sign on Old Grand Avenue by Zacharias Center Board President Brad Jenks and Gurnee Mayor Kristina Kovarik
- facility tours and educational discussions
- an art exhibit and sale featuring the works of Youth Allies C.A.R.E. members, Waukegan High School teachers and community artists that raised over \$1,200
- skits about sexual harrassment, written by Erika Nunez and performed by the youth
- a special Barbie exhibit donated by Garron West entitled "*Looking Beyond The Body*" a social justice statement

Visitors were moved, some to tears, by the environment created by the teens; while some of the young people expressed being honored by the respect shown by adult visitors and staff. Everyone was very grateful for the mutual respect and consideration shown. Several survivors of sexual assault were among the Open House visitors, and commented that they felt safe and included... and some disclosed for the first time that they were victims. It was a truly moving experience that provided everyone in attendance with renewed appreciation for our organization and each other.

Thank You!

All of us at Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center would like to express our sincere appreciation to the members of Youth Allies C.A.R.E. for their tireless efforts in helping to make this our most successful Open House ever!

*Maria Alvaldo
Jesus Bererra
Maritza Borjon
Christina Carbajal
AJ Canda
David Colin
Cbelsea Eidbo
Karla Gasca
Sandra Gonzalez*

*Stephanie Gonzalez
Marie Joves
Giselle Martinez
Erika Nunez
Margot Ocampo
Alondra Olvera
Anna Osornio
Francesca Pickle*

Youth Allies C.A.R.E. for Zacharias Center

The following letter was written by Zacharias Center Youth Advocate AJ Canda to recognized youth artists' participation in the Charity Art Show that coincided with our April Open House, hosted by Youth Allies C.A.R.E.

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center invited artists of all ages to participate in a charity art show; a philanthropic opportunity to showcase their art. The art show gave artists an opportunity to express their creativity, skill, and talent out of sincere generosity. The show was an influential element in the Open House for Zacharias Center on April 5th, which served to commence Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Participating artists were urged to keep Zacharias Center's purpose in mind, so images were anti-violent. Instead, the art expressed Zacharias Center's core inspiration for its visitors, "From Here to Healing." For that reason, the art stirred an air of healing and hope, which some may translate as strength or courage. The way the artist interpreted and expressed the concept were infinite.

In addition to the opportunity to exhibit their creative vision, artists had another incentive, as each was recognized with an official certificate so their participation in the show may be added to their 'artistic' resumé's.

To all hopeful artists of all visual media, Zacharias Center hopes that by creating your images for donation, the experience was meditating and rewarding for you as an artist, that you may realize art can be an encouraging medium which leaves a lasting impact of inspiration, to maybe, just maybe, bring viewers from here...to healing.

AJ Canda

Youth Allies C.A.R.E. advocates shared some of their motivations for helping Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center:

Margot: "Some friends were involved in it and invited me one day, I agreed to it. After that I kept going...it really caught my attention how they were all working together to make their voices heard to raise awareness about sexual abuse and I wanted to be part and take action in this."

Maritza: "The most rewarding thing is that everyone in our Youth Allies C.A.R.E. group is very respectful and really committed to help out the Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center. We meet every Saturday to think of ways we can help build awareness among our other people our age and raise money for the center. The Open House was AWESOME because we actually got to see our efforts turn into success...not just for ourselves, but for everyone!"

Chelsea: "I wanted to spend my summer helping other people...and that was nearly two years ago. Since then, we've gotten more members and all of them are willing to help out. We keep coming up with new ideas...and the best ones are used next. We've all become really good friends and are really proud of the fact that we are setting and achieving goals together."

Erika: "When I first heard about Youth Allies C.A.R.E. I was amazed that a group like this could exist and I wanted to be a part of it because it is such a great cause. We've really grown up as a group and are now a force to be reckoned with. For example, we have so many more members now and are getting so much publicity for what we do. It's kind of intimidating, but cool at the same time. We're hoping to build on our own momentum by performing skits about sexual harrassment issues at middle schools...so younger kids are empowered with the news that they can make a difference too!"

Thank You Waukegan High School Art Teachers:

Mrs. Welker, Mrs. Frankel, Mrs. McArdle, Mr. Texidor, and Mr. Injasulian

At the Open House...



Zacharias Center's Youth Allies C.A.R.E. members selling their pieces at the Art Exhibit Auction during our Open House event.



Youth Allies C.A.R.E. members Erika Nunez, 16, and Stephanie Gonzalez, 17, perform a skit about signs to look for in sexual abuse. *



Regina Yoggerst, 7, of Waukegan, is being helped with "The Hands project" by Youth Allies C.A.R.E. Co-Chair Erika Nunez. *



Gurnee Mayor Kristina Kovarik at the "Looking Beyond the Body" exhibit, donated by Garron West of Birmingham, AL.



Youth Allies C.A.R.E. member Chelsea Eidbo, 16, holds Mia Salamanca, 3, as they look at art being auctioned at the Open House. *

* Photos courtesy of Lake County News-Sun

Adopt-A-Family Sponsorships Enable Hiring of New Therapist

One of the most memorable moments at last year's Casino Night event was the response of so many attendees to the opportunity to make a pledge to sponsor Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center's Adopt-A-Family program.

A total of twelve generous souls pledged \$3,000 each to help us raise \$36,000 in a matter of minutes; thus enabling us to add a full-time children's therapist to our Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center staff. This marks the first time in six years we have had four full-time therapists.



(from left) Tammy Hicks, Crisis Intervention Advocate; Jennifer Madeley, volunteer; Wendy Ivy, Director of Advocacy & Volunteer Services; Andrea Bercos, our new Therapist; Michelle Minarcik, Crisis Intervention Advocate; Lori Viera, Bi-lingual Therapist; and Adam Robinson, Children's Therapist

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center Hosts “Making The Invisible –Visable” event for LGBTQI Communities at CLC - June 6

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center is pleased to sponsor a June 6 conference at the College of Lake County entitled “Making The Invisible – Visible: Deepening Understanding and Appreciation for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Questioning & Intersex Communities.” This important event is designed to support and assist professionals in deepening their sensitivity, understanding, knowledge and support of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Questioning and Intersex (LGBTQI) communities.

We started this process in August 2007 by initiating focus groups throughout Lake County; this allowed us to have a better understanding of the gaps in services within the legal, medical and social services areas. Information was collected through surveys, participation in the focus groups, as well as by posting the survey on our website to expand our reach throughout the area. From reviewing this information, we learned that professionals in this county need assistance in better understanding the novices of the LGBTQI.

The anticipated outcome of the conference, which will take place at College of Lake County, 19351 W. Washington Street in Grayslake, is to advance countywide efforts to have law enforcement, medical and social services create “open and affirming” services for all people.

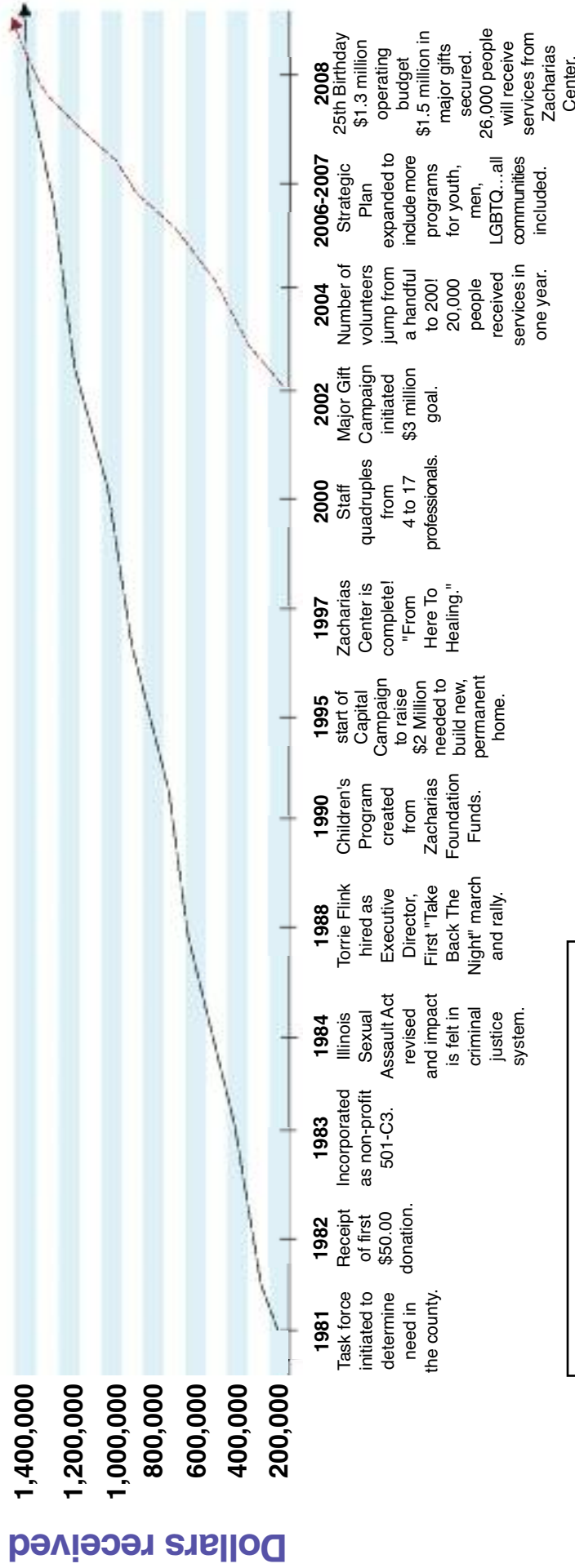
Registration begins at 7:30AM and the conference will start promptly at 8:00AM. The event will include an insightful talk by Keynote Speaker Lisa Gilmore of the Center on Halsted in Chicago, followed by inspiring words from Crystal Ann Gray, a survivor of discrimination. In addition, there will be three breakout sessions with additional presenters.

Sterns Bookstore will be on-hand offering additional resources. For more information, contact: Jane Hunter, Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center's Director of Community Education at 847-244-1187, ext 26 or via email to jhunter@ZachariasCenter.org.

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center Timeline

It all started with a conversation, a phone call and a meeting in someone's home...but what we have become is beyond our expectations. Just think what the future will hold for our organization and the battle against sexual assault and abuse.

ZACHARIAS CENTER CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO RAPE AND INCEST SURVIVORS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND OUR COMMUNITIES



—> Operating Budget
 - - -> Endowment/Major Gifts

Years of Service

Surprise Donor "Wows" Zacharias Center with Generosity

In March, we received a surprise donation, a bequest made by John T. Preston and distributed by his family trust in the amount of \$118,000. Mr. Preston died in 2006. According to a family spokesperson, Mr. Preston was a long-time Waukegan resident who never sought any recognition for his charitable giving. He admired the work of Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center and left money to numerous other community based organizations.

Thank You To Our Q3/Q4 2007 Donors

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center wishes to gratefully acknowledge the following businesses and individuals that generously supported our special events, programs and services between July 1 - December 31st 2007. We apologize for any error in creating this list.

James & Wendy Abrams	Dawn Davidson	Joe Howard	Joyce Meuth	John & Claudia Salstone
Amy Adams	Dana D. Deane	Ellen F. Hyndman	Nancy & Andy Mills	Isabell Samsa
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Paula Castellanos	Margaret Hart	Christopher Martin	Martin E. & Tami S. Rohr	Gregory D. Whitacre
Benjamin Cohen	Donna J. Heaps	Dianne L. Martinez	Denise Rotheimer	Vern A. Witkowski
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Jean Cozier	Kelli Howard	Milton & Joan Meigs	Robert J. & Barbara Salata	Jerry & Marykay Zordani

Tributes received between July 1 - December 31st 2007

Allstate Foundation Helping Hands Grant, in honor of Lynn Kilroy
Jim Ayers, in memory of Joe West
Peggy & Jim Belmonti, in memory of Richard Flink
Vern & Sharon Brunner, in memory of Richard Flink
William & Ann Cofel, in memory of Richard Flink
Suzanne Dam, in memory of Robert Dam
Sandra Flink, in memory of Richard Flink
T. Flink & P. Kroll, in honor of Bartel's 25th Wedding Anniversary
Torrie Flink & Peter Kroll, in memory of Ron Foreman's father Junie
Torrie Flink & Peter Kroll, in memory of Jordan Glassman's wife Wanda
Torrie Flink & Peter Kroll, in memory of Susan Bloch's father Bob
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Nancy Z. Freedman, in memory of Linda Ruder's mother Julie
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Anthony S. & Connie W. Jacobs, in memory of Wanda Glassman
Jeremy Kalan, in memory of Joe West
Gary Kash, in honor of Jon Mills
Margaret Kilburg, in memory of Richard Flink
Bivan & Leslie Kischer, in honor of Patrick & Rebekah Hammerlund
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Kite Family Foundation, in memory of Richard Flink
Linda Kroll, in memory of Richard Flink

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Carl Lane, in honor of James & Jackie Lane
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Patricia Locke & Deborah Rethemeyer, in memory of Richard Flink
Fred J. Louis, in honor of Frank & Kathy Louis
R.J. Mullen, Sr., in memory of Richard Flink
Janet Olson & Allen Streicker, in honor of Arnie, Lila, & Nan Streicker
Janet Olson & Allen Streicker, in honor of Joe Howard
Janet Olson & Allen Streicker, in honor of Zoe Streicker-Howard
Wendy Osborn, in honor of Judy Reuter
Patricia Pantelis Hasty, in memory of Richard Flink
Andy Patrick, in honor of Lori Pease
Sherman & Susan Peterson, in memory of Richard Flink
Lynn E. & William J. Pikrone, in memory of Joe West
Jan Pyrc & Gary Kagan, in memory of Richard Flink
Linda & Dick Saslow, in memory of Susan Steinberger's father
Edward & Irma Schwartz, in honor of Jon Mills
Mary G. Stickels, in honor of Susan Stickels & Tammy Garich
Raul & Maria Tocci, in memory of Alba Greco
USA Trading, in memory of Richard Flink
Rick Valicenti, in memory of Joe West
Carol & Thomas Weinberg, in memory of Richard Flink
Ronald Weldon, in memory of Joe West

Join Us for Women Helping Women 2008

I have the pleasure of working with an amazing committee of volunteers to create a very special celebratory Women Helping Women luncheon on the occasion of our 25th Anniversary! This group of generous humanitarians is lead by the capable **Mellisa Rodden** and spirited **Aggie Baumert**. **Judy Reuter**, one of our Board members, is a creative contributor at our planning meetings. We are in good hands with **Paulette Margulies** and **Chris Hammerlund** who are orchestrating the delicious food and table linen pieces.

Nan Streicker once again spearheads the auction solicitation effort, spending many hours coordinating other volunteers in collecting items. **Adrienne Virgilio** is working in tandem with Nan, bringing new ideas for our auctions! **Sherry Byrne**, **Ricki West**, **Jeannette Hamm**, **Elise Potenz**, **Stephanie Thompson**, and others are soliciting items. **Kim Heron**, and her husband **Joe**, are our event technical geniuses.

Donate an item for our silent auctions!

Contact Nan - nstreicker@att.net or 847- 840-8833

Betty Duncan is our new volunteer event registrar! She has joined us at Zacharias Center for training and is ready to process mail-in RSVP registrations. You will receive your invitation in the mail the first part of May. The RSVP card will be in the invitation. Or, better yet ...

Register online now!

Sixth Annual Women Helping Women Luncheon

June 20, from 11 to 2

Go to www.ZachariasCenter.org to begin!

Deb Zeit is personally inviting members of the Lake County legal community to the luncheon, and she takes the minutes at our meetings! **Maud Behenna** comes in to help with administrative tasks at Zacharias Center and will be the point person for parking. **Nancy Gallagher** has worked for years with other Second Hand Roses (rummage sale committee members) in putting on our huge annual Rummage Sales.

New Luncheon Sponsor

“As a longtime employer in Illinois, it’s very important to Wolters Kluwer that we are working to enhance our local communities, and the lives of people in those communities. We are active in many areas to help those in need—from children to the elderly, to the disabled and those who have suffered from sexual violence and abuse,” said Zrinka Allen, director of strategic staffing for Wolters Kluwer. “Through our sponsorship the Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center “Women Helping Women” luncheon, we hope to help raise awareness of abuse against women and help prevent it, as well as contribute to the programs and services needed to support them. We’ve been a contributor for several years, and wanted to take our commitment to another level this year with the sponsorship.”

Wolters Kluwer. U.S., is a leading global information services and publishing company that has locations in Riverwoods and Chicago, and employs over 1,500 area residents to create and support information and software products for professionals in the health, tax, accounting, corporate, financial services, legal and regulatory sectors, under the brand name of CCH. The company was recently named “Employer of the Year” by AbilityLinks™ for its commitment and success in recruiting and hiring people with disabilities. In addition, Wolters Kluwer is firmly committed to living up to high professional conduct and ethical standards in all its activities, as well as being a responsible partner in society and in giving back to the communities in which we operate and society at large. For details visit www.wolterskluwer.com/WK/Social+Responsibility/Society.htm.

Win Free Reservations for you and a guest!

Online, make a reservation or donation to be in the drawing! Go to www.ZachariasCenter.org to enter.

If you register and then win, you will be refunded \$200!
Winners will be picked the week of June 16.

Nancy, Jackie Divelbiss, Gay Fosberg, Laura Hampton, Lynn Haines, Chris Iripino, Merle Lynch, Joan Reinhardt, Ludwina Homer, and others will be creating luncheon centerpieces and favors for this special 25th Anniversary celebratory luncheon. **Mary Buss, Lauren Julius-Pappas, Jie Li**, and **Salina Carnes** are behind-the-scenes volunteers too. We are all enjoying preparing for our guests.

As in years past, this fundraiser will be held at Zacharias Center and include tours of the facility. Robin Stone, author of “No Secrets, No Lie ~ How Black Families Can Heal From Sexual Abuse,” is one of our keynote speakers. Also on the program is Teresa Bartels, long-time supporter, our first Board President, and CEO of United Way International!

Very Best,

Linda West, Special Events Coordinator

Lwest@ZachariasCenter.org

847.244.1187, x21



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2008 Calendar of Events

We are celebrating our 25th Anniversary throughout 2008!

June 20 Sixth Annual **Women Helping Women luncheon**
at Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

Keynote speakers will be Robin Stone, former editor of Essence magazine and a professor at New York University (www.RobinStone.com), and Teresa Bartels, CEO, United Way International

Oct. 4 **Casino Night**
Exmoor Country Club, Highland Park

For additional information, contact Linda West at
(847) 244-1187 ext. 21 or Lwest@ZachariasCenter.org.

Visit our new website at
www.ZachariasCenter.org

- To learn more about our organization and key issues
- To securely register on-line for upcoming events
- To find out how you can become a volunteer
- To make a donation or join our Aunts & Uncles Club
- To suggest ways we can work together to reduce the threat of sexual assault and abuse.

Thanks again to Volunteer Webmaster Scot Gallup for his extraordinary creativity and care in designing our new on-line home.

Zacharias Center Board of Directors

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Stacey Coleman, Adult/Adolescent Therapist, ext. 31
Andrea Bercos, Therapist, ext. 33
Tammy Hicks, Crisis Intervention Advocate - Medical, ext. 30
Michelle Minarcik, Crisis Intervention Advocate - Legal, ext. 20
Consuelo Sanchez, Office Manager, ext. 19
Linda West, Special Events Coordinator, ext. 21

Zacharias Center Support Groups

Fundamentals of Healing - 12-week introductory group offers information and support for adults just beginning to come to terms with issues of sexual violence in their lives. There are groups for both Spanish- and English-speaking clients.

AMAC Therapy Group - 16-week group provides advanced therapeutic guidance and support for survivors of childhood sexual abuse who have had previous therapy.

Caregivers Group - 6-week group gives support and information to adults who are in parental roles to children who have been sexually abused. Topics: child development, childhood trauma and its impact on the family, mandated reporting, boundaries, discipline, and communication.

Latency Age Group - for children 8-12 who have been sexually abused. May be held in conjunction with caregivers group. Topics covered include understanding sexual abuse, safety, feelings and coping with feelings, and boundaries.

Adolescent Groups - offered for young people 13-18 who have been sexually abused. Topics: safety, feelings, coping strategies, relationships, intimacy, and sexuality.

— Please call Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center to sign up. Groups are run on as needed basis.

Zacharias Center Phone Directory

24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (847) 872-7799
Non-Emergency Office Phone: (847) 244-1187
Website: www.ZachariasCenter.org
TTY: (847) 244-1367