Summer Newsletter

Women's Information Service, Inc.

P.O. Box 1249
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-796- 6600
www.wiseagainstviolence.org

Volume 5, Issue 5

July, 2019

Highlights:

Staff Highlights

Annual Golf Outing

Upcoming Events

Administration Staff:
Jane Currie, Executive Director

Brittany Dudley, Program Director

Jessica Wilson, Finance Director

Outreach Staff

Teresa Mora, Osceola

Haeli Johnson, Mecosta

Katie Cox, Newaygo
Outreach & Legal Coordinator

Kathleen Cook,
Mecosta/Osceola Legal Advocate

Shelter Staff

Nycole Shepherd, Client Advocate

Alissa Langan, Child Advocate

Sexual Assault Coordinator

Danae Langan

Volunteer Coordinator

McKenna Ecker

Board Members:

Carol Schroeder-Semeyn, Chair
Nancy Baldwin, Vice-Chair
Ashely King, Secretary

Mark Schuelke
Pete Hector
Jim Eddinger
Angela Thomas
Melanie Moffitt

WISE IS A 501(C)(3) REGISTERED NON-PROFIT AGENCY, YOUR DONATION MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

DINNER THEATER RETURNS

In April, patrons were entertained with a murder mystery, "Murder at the Pie Auction"! This play, by Michael Druce was about a fundraising effort in a small town of Mynute Alaska and the famous Mother Mabel Pie Baking competition with a pie auction. Just hours before the competition, the pie judge (played by Joe May) goes missing and during the bidding turns up dead while the audience is bidding for pies. The characters then turn on each other as they try to figure out who committed the murder! Entertainment was provided by local community actors to make this a fun event and to raise money for WISE. Pies were provided by *Three Girls Bakery*. Other supporters for the event were: Steve Beilfuss, Roberta Cline, Tessa McNally, Barb Pillsbury, Quinn's Music, Shay Tullar.



Thank you also, to our wonderful cast: Paula Bielfuss, Chuck Bowden, Xena Cook, Jim Eddinger, Phillip Erlewine, Jesse Iliff, Ashley King, Joel King, Joe May, Brian Miller, Ann McCarthy, Betsy Moskowitz, Kelley Samuels-Good.

The comeback of the WISE dinner theater was a success, and a lot of fun for the participants and audience. Just over $4,000 was raised! It looks like WISE will include this as a fundraising event again, thank you for your support!

Event chair, **Nancy Baldwin** appreciates all who donated their time and talent as well as those who attended. As this was a learning experience, she is asking for feedback from those who attended. You may contact her, suzy7que@gmail.com.

The audience was addressed by the Executive Director of WISE, **Jane Currie**. Jane shared the services WISE provides to the counties of Osceola, Mecosta and Newaygo, along with the emergency support of Spectrum Hospital and local police agencies. WISE provides service to people dealing with childhood sexual abuse, victims of sexual assault and domestic violence and human trafficking. For information on any of our services, please contact us and speak to one of our advocates (800-374-9473).





Employee Highlights

Meet our Child Advocate, ***Alissa Langan*****……..**

Alissa joined WISE in April 2018 as our Child Advocate. Before accepting this role at WISE she first got involved during a summer internship and then worked part-time with our agency in Newaygo. She is currently a student at Ferris State University and will graduate in December 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work.

As the Child Advocate, she works with children while they are in the shelter and with the advocates as the children transition out after their stay. Her duties range from providing individual support for the children, to acting as a mediator to help facilitate discussions with clients and their children. In many cases the moms are taking on a new role as head of the household.

Children in the shelter are forced to deal with a lot of confusion from what they have witnessed. Alissa is a support person for them as they adapt to being removed from home, sometimes changing schools, leaving pets behind, and adjusting to living in a communal space during very traumatic times. WISE also works with Community Mental Health (CMH), Social Workers, and the school systems to make sure children are receiving the support they need. Alissa helps to get the children the services they require.

When children first come to the shelter, Alissa will work with the client advocates to assess the needs, gather the history, get to know the kids and build rapport with them. She distributes welcome boxes that are provided by the **Lions Club** which are customized by age and gender. These boxes have some essentials for the children and are a way for them to maintain their belongings. Upon departure, the children receive exit boxes which includes blankets, a family game, and books from the library. One challenge is the teenagers and making sure she identifies their interests and provides them some personal items such as arts, crafts, sports, etc.

Activities for children is a big part of this role. Grants help her with field trips and programs. This summer she has field trips lined up, a picnic with the police to build relationships, and a trip to the Eagle Village ropes course to work on trust practices.

Alissa says "rewards of this position is at the end of the stay, seeing the growth in the children. Knowing we have provided a safe place and seeing them move into new housing and feeling the connection when the kids pass on their accomplishments from school".

Like all our services at WISE, we are dependent on supporters and partnerships. Actives and support to the children come from our donors but also partnerships with: **Lions Club, Big Rapids Library, Children's Council, FSU: volunteers, interns, sororities & fraternities.**

Fabulous Finds Resale Shop





103 S. Michigan, 231-796-5840

STORE HOURS

Monday 11am –3 pm / Tuesday - 11am—3pm

Wed. 11 am—5:30 pm / Thursday - 11am—5:30 pm

Friday 10 am - 5:30 pm / Saturday - 11am—4pm

Sunday (closed) Like us on Facebook! **Donations of clothing and small home goods are always accepted**. Proceeds & donations from the store help support WISE clients of Mecosta, Osceola & Newaygo counties. Please drop off your gently used items during the store hours noted above. Volunteers Needed, to help us keep up with the daily donations of items and sorting. If you are able to offer us a couple of hours, once a month or whatever fits your schedule, we are in need of volunteers !

Thank you to our Community Sponsors

United Way

Fremont Area Community Foundation

Mecosta County Community Foundation — An affiliate of Fremont Area Community Foundation

Osceola County Community Foundation — An affiliate of Fremont Area Community Foundation

It's that time again for our annual golf outing and our biggest fundraiser! We hope you can join us in this fun event and a day full of good times, prizes & raffles! All proceeds go to the work of WISE and the many services provided to our clients.

We still have room for golfers to sign up, please use the attachment below. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a donation, you may use this form as well. **Thank you** to our many sponsors and volunteers that make this event possible. If you have any questions, please contact any of our committee members: ***Nancy Baldwin, Sharon Doxsee, Vicki Dadles, Bruce Fredrick, Donald Grant, Beth Martz, Sharyn McGreehan, Marcee Purcell, Mike Ross, Jessica Wilson.***

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2019 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The WISE Golf Outing will be held at Spring Valley Golf Course in Reed City.
Wednesday July 17, 2019
Registration begins at 8:30am
Golfing will begin at 9:30am

The golf outing is an annual fundraiser benefitting Women's Information Service, Inc. (WISE).
WISE is a non-profit agency that provides advocacy and support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Yes! I would like to help end domestic violence by sponsoring the Annual WISE Golf Outing

Company Name:_____
(as it should appear on all printed materials)

Contact Name:_____ Phone:_____ Email:_____

Mailing Address:_____ City/State/Zip:_____

Choose One:

☐ Gold Sponsor $700 – Four person team with two carts, recognition at the event, tee sign or banner, logo/name in program.

☐ Silver Sponsor $500 – Recognition at the event, tee sign or banner, logo or name in program.

☐ Tee Sponsor $ 75 – Tee sign

☐ Raffle Basket/Donation – Name in program.

Name/Theme:_____ Value:_____

Yes! I would like to help end domestic violence by golfing at the Annual WISE Golf Outing

Cost: $75.00 per golfer

Name:_____ Email:_____

Mailing Address:_____ City/State/Zip:_____

Phone:_____ Teammates: _____ _____

_____ _____

Method of Payment ☐ **Check (Made out to WISE)** ☐ **Cash** ☐ **Visa/MasterCard/Discover**

Card #_____ Exp. Date:_____

3 Digit Security Code:_____ Total Amount: $_____

Signature:_____

For more information or questions please call (231) 796-6600 Ext. 144 or email jwilson@wiseagainstviolence.org
Deadlines for all ads and sponsorships are Friday, June 28, 2019.
Sponsorships offering recognition on promotional materials will be included on materials only after sponsorship payment has been received.

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WISE SUMMER NEWSLETTER Volume 5

WOMEN'S INFORMATION SERVICE, INC. (WISE) PRESENTS
THE 1ST ANNUAL 5K FUN RUN & WALK

5K FUN RUN & WALK

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 7
2019

NORTHEND RIVERSIDE PARK



9AM OPENING REMARKS/ RUN BEGINS

9:30AM WALK BEGINS

8:30AM CHECK-IN & ON-SITE REGISTRATION

EARLY BIRD: REGISTER BY JULY 31ST
$25 ADULTS
$15 STUDENTS (MUST SHOW ID AT EVENT)
$75 FAMILY
FREE CHILDREN UNDER 10

FAMILY FRIENDLY—ALL AGES WELCOME
*All minors must be accompanied by an adult who is also registered for the event.
STROLLERS & WHEELCHAIRS WELCOME
FREE T-SHIRT WITH EARLY REGISTRATION

EARLY REGISTRATION:
WWW.WISEAGAINSTVIOLENCE.ORG

QUESTIONS & INFO:
JESSICA @ (231) 796-6600 EXT. 144
JWILSON@WISEAGAINSTVIOLENCE.ORG