

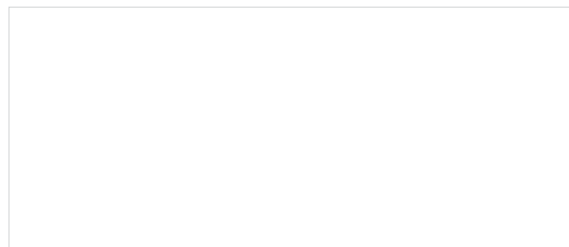


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SAFE HARBOR  
OF SHEBOYGAN  
COUNTY, INC.

P.O. Box 582  
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0582

24 hour crisis hotline  
920-452-7640  
800-499-7640  
info@sheboygansafeharbor.org



To remove your name from our  
mail list please call 920-452-8611  
or email us at the address below.



Safe Harbor is funded by:



**We thank our generous newsletter sponsor:  
St. Nicholas Hospital**

### I support a violence-free Sheboygan County...

Every day, people in our own community know the terror of domestic violence and sexual assault. Safe Harbor provides crisis advocacy, shelter, food, legal referral, support groups and more, all at no cost to the families served.

We invite our community to stand with us against the cycle of violence.

I want to help Safe Harbor offer hope for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Here's my tax deductible donation     Do not publish my name as a donor

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my account below for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MC/VISA No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and mail to: Safe Harbor, P.O. Box 582, Sheboygan, WI 53082-0582

**Thank you!**



# SAFE HARBOR NEWS

## Safe Harbor Purchases Building for Future Site

On May 30, 2008 Safe Harbor purchased the building and property at 929 Niagara Avenue from RCS Empowers (formerly known as Rehabilitation Center of Sheboygan or RCS). The two-story building constructed in 1980 will eventually replace our current shelter on 6th Street. It is large enough to provide administrative space as well, so we will be able to vacate our rented office space on North 8th Street.

Our "new" building's interior will be extensively renovated over the next several months. An elevator will be added and a comprehensive security system installed. A privacy fence will be erected on the property to provide a safe play area for children staying in the

shelter. The 929 building represented a great opportunity because it has **three essential things** Safe Harbor needed in a replacement shelter: zoning, location, and capacity. Our board of directors recognized that the building was a great fit and so they authorized borrowing for the purchase and renovation.

The relocation will immediately save us operating expense because we will no longer have to rent space, and because the "new" building will be **much more energy efficient** than the current shelter, partly because it will be about 90 years newer!

*Continued on pg. 2*

### MISSION STATEMENT

Safe Harbor is dedicated to the prevention of all forms of domestic abuse and sexual assault in the community through raising awareness, education, and providing safety, shelter and support for all victims.

## Events, Groups, Friends Benefit Safe Harbor

Safe Harbor exists because of the great amount of community support we receive. We don't get funds from the county, and only a tiny bit from the city of Sheboygan. Every year we need to raise over 55% of our operating expense from donations. We are often amazed at the creative ways that people choose to raise money for us. Some examples:

- All kinds of clubs collect money during the year for us—bridge clubs, book clubs, social clubs, holiday groups
- A workplace team event featuring donated auction items and food at lunch, or "Jeans for Charity" day
- A "pay it forward" birthday gift of cash signed over to Safe Harbor
- Congregations' aluminum can money or benevolent offerings.

To all of our creative, thoughtful and generous supporters, THANK YOU! A listing of our 2008 donors, memorials and honoraria will be published in fall.

### Building News, continued

The administrative staff will move into space on the first floor of the building, which will house client intake, supplies and donation storage, and offices. We anticipate that move will happen by November. Next, the transfer of shelter supplies and the purchase of replacement items will happen. Finally, in early 2009 the advocate staff and residents of the shelter will move. After the present shelter is vacant it will be sold.

The Safe Harbor board of directors approved the purchase of the 929 building because it represents an opportunity to accommodate our agency's growth in response to community need. In recent years we have expanded our outreach. This has resulted in increased awareness of, and need for, our services. For example, our sexual assault support

program has seen an increase of 25% and 30% in direct victim services from '05 to '06 and '06 to '07 respectively.

We know that crimes of assault are greatly underreported. That means there are many more people in our community who can use our help. Our new shelter location will provide much needed space for our services.

Soon there will be a Quasius Construction sign on the property and you'll see some changes. Watch for updates and photos on our website, [www.sheboygansafeharbor.org](http://www.sheboygansafeharbor.org).

Of course we need to raise funds to finish the project and pay back the money we borrowed to complete the purchase. You will hear more about a capital campaign for that purpose in the fall. Thank you for your interest in Safe Harbor.

Look for updates and photos of progress on the new shelter on our website!

[www.sheboygansafeharbor.org](http://www.sheboygansafeharbor.org)

### Wish List for the New Shelter

Here is a partial list of items we will either need to replace when we move, or don't have now and will need for the new combined shelter/office building:

- 2 or 3 tier wheeled cart for transporting donations and supplies from the first floor storage area
- Conference table and chairs for our new meeting room
- Floor mats for the front and rear entryway
- Brochure racks (wall mounted)
- Bath towels and wash cloths for residents' use
- Dish towels for the shelter common kitchen area

- Bedding for 19 single beds
- DVD players for viewing educational videos and PG movies
- LED projector for presentations
- Office chairs for our staff's use
- White boards for planning and training use
- Folding chairs and tables for use in support group and training sessions
- Plastic tote bins for organizing and storing donations
- Bulletin boards for posting resource information
- Cleaning supplies for before, during and after the move

### A Moment with Mary

**It's not a secret!** When we move to 929 Niagara, we will have a sign.

For too long, talking about domestic violence and sexual assault was considered taboo. People in Sheboygan County did not want to acknowledge such things happen here every day. They did not realize that **silence creates a climate in which those crimes flourish.** Victims feel ashamed and perpetrators feel empowered. As a result, victims are reluctant to seek help and perpetrators are not held accountable.

When we moved to our present shelter in 1996, we **"went public" with our location** for several reasons:

—The location of our first shelter on Superior Avenue was

**supposed to be secret, but many people, including abusers, knew where it was.**

—We knew most domestic abuse perpetrators **are not violent outside of their own home.**

—We believed it was **important to acknowledge** that domestic abuse and sexual assault is a problem in Sheboygan County.

—We believed it would be **easier for those who need our services** to find us.

—We believed it would give donors a better idea of how their contributions are used and provide them with a **feeling of ownership.**

We do not regret the decision. The community is more aware of the need for our services. Donations have increased signifi-



Mary Fontanazza, Exec. Director

cantly. The number of persons requesting services each year has risen. Most importantly, despite the fact there currently is no sign on the door, three or four new clients come to our door unannounced each month, asking for help. We expect identifying our new building with a sign will have a similar impact.

**"When we move to 929 Niagara, we will have a sign."**

Mary Fontanazza

### From the Shelter Advocates' Desk



Do you know what a date rape drug is? It's any substance used with the intent of obtaining sex. In most cases the "drug" is added to a drink without the victim's knowledge. Alcohol is the most common date rape drug, involved in up to 90% of sexual assaults. **Protect yourself from being victimized by a date rape drug by:**

- Opening or preparing your own drink, and keeping it in your sight
- Refusing to drink from a punch bowl or other shared/exchanged drink
- Not drinking anything with an unusual odor, taste or appearance such as salty, soapy or flat
- Drinking in moderation or not at all
- Knowing your limits and communicating them clearly.

### 2008 Safe Harbor Board of Directors

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— — — — —	
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Teri Strub, Associate Director

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