Randi's Message

Providing Therapeutic Programs to Help Children Who Experience Domestic Violence

2018 | EDITION 1

www.randishouseofangels.org



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#### Approximately 15.5 MILLION

AMERICAN CHILDREN were estimated to live in families in which partner violence had occurred at least once in the previous year, with 7 million estimated to live in families in which severe partner violence had occurred.

– Published in Journal of Family Psychology, Volume Vol. 20, March 2006, pages 137-142. Publisher Available from: American Psychological Association, 750 1st St., NE, Washington, DC 20002

## Letter from the Chair

What makes Randi's House of Angels unique? It has always been the mission of Randi's House of Angels to provide therapeutic programs to help children that experience domestic violence each day of their lives. Based on meeting and dialogue with the local domestic violence agencies, we found that the missing link was the ability to provide therapy from a certified Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavior Therapist (TF-CBT).

Children who have experienced trauma are sometimes not always understood. Randi's House of Angels takes great strides to identity and hire certified TF-CBT therapists who have experience in working with children and adolescents impacted by trauma. We have found that many of the children who attend our programs have been terribly traumatized and regress emotionally after being exposed to domestic violence situations.

Randi's House of Angels provides mobile services and works in collaboration with agencies in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, York, and Perry counties. It is our mission to hire licensed therapists located in the surrounding areas to facilitate our programs in the central PA region: Randi's Kidz Club and Randi's Camp for Hope and Courage.

I am so proud to share that Randi's House of Angels has served over 100 children since its inception. There is so much more to do to give our children a voice that will be heard by many.



## **SAVE THE DATE** Randi's Race 2018: A 5K Run/ Walk For Hope and Courage

Save the Date! Please join us for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Randi's Race! This event is in memory of Randi Trimble, who was murdered in her East Pennsboro Township home on January 10, 2003, by a killer who was hired by her husband. Since its inception thirteen years ago, Randi's Race has raised more than \$388,000!

Registration will start at 8:00 a.m., and the race will kick off at 9:00 a.m. This event is family friendly and will have a kids' race, crafts and plenty of fun! Also, after the race, we will have awesome door-prizes, present ribbons to the racers with the best times and hear from some very inspiring speakers! Please join us to commemorate Randi and to continue strengthening the movement against domestic violence.

# **SPECIAL THANKS** for the Donations to RHOA

Special thanks to the many individuals, colleges, businesses and community organizations that made donations to RHOA during the 2017 calendar year. The donations have supported our yearly Randi's Camp and four Randi's Kidz Club Therapy Sessions:

Bernadette M. Palmer Camp Hill Women's Club Central Penn College Gary and Sandy Box Hashu P. and Harsha H. Shah KPMG, LLP Community Giving Campaign Mid Penn Bank Mindy Ackers New Cumberland Women's Club Shippensburg University Admissions Office Employees Soroptomist International of West Shore Terry & Julie Barley West Shore Evening Coterie Club Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual A Round Fore Randi Golf Outing

A Round Fore Randi Golf Outing returned to the Rich Valley Golf course in Mechanicsburg PA. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual outing was held on a picture-perfect day with more golfers and sponsors joining us for the fun. Through the efforts of many volunteers and the incredible support from our community sponsors and donors, the fundraiser was met with tremendous success. Raising more than \$9,100, "A Round Fore Randi" is now strongly positioned for continued growth in the years to come. A special thanks to our Platinum Sponsor Faulkner Subaru, our Gold Sponsors the Green Family and H&N Landscaping, LLC., as well as our 11 Hole Sponsors and donors. Proceeds support programs and services offered on behalf of RHOA such as Randi's Kidz Club, a ten-week therapeutic group for children: and Randi's Camp, a three-day interactive summer camp.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE – A Mother's Story



My nine-year-old daughter attended Randi's Kidz Club in the fall of 2016. It was a life-changing experience for her! She was quiet, shut down, and had social anxiety. She felt like she was the only child in the world that had experienced domestic violence. When I picked her up after the first day, I could already see a difference in her. For the first time in her life she didn't feel alone. She looked forward to every club day over the next ten weeks.

The following summer she attended Randi's Camp for Hope and Courage. It was another wonderful experience for her. She made many new friends and felt like she could open up without being judged.

My older daughter was so impressed with the change in her sister that she was inspired to start a non-profit, White Dove Domestic Violence Organization -- a charity that financially supports survivors of domestic violence.

I am a victim of domestic violence and would ask that all parents take a minute to recognize the impact of domestic violence on our children. I can't thank Nancy enough for these programs and how they helped my daughter!

Thank you, Amanda Reisinger

#### Thanks to cumberland valley high school and megan reich

Cumberland Valley (CV) High School hosts bi-weekly dress down days for teachers. Each dress down day is for a charity. Teachers contribute money towards different causes for each dress down Friday. For the past 7 years, CV teacher Megan Reich has sponsored Randi's Race for a spring Friday dress down day and has raised over \$1,100.

Recently, the dress down day has coincided with the school's health

unit on Domestic Violence When students learned that there was a collection being taken up for the cause, they also chipped in for the fundraiser. Many thanks to Cumberland Valley's generous staff and students for contributing to the cause and raising money to help support the programs offered through Randi's House of Angels.



# Are you on our mailing list?

Not sure? Quickly sign up and we'll keep you posted on major announcements and events:

#### http://bit.ly/2CV51pj

#### Randi's Kidz Club

Randi's House of Angels works in collaboration with agencies in the five surrounding counties implementing Randi's Kidz Club, an outcome-based therapeutic group for children who have experienced domestic violence.

The ten-week interactive group curriculum is designed for children age 8-13 years with the mission of helping children process the feelings associated with exposure to domestic violence. It is an ongoing interactive group focused on helping children express feelings and emotions through games, art therapy, and relaxation techniques helping children build self-esteem, identifying and communicating feelings.

> Children under the age of 6 years old were at **GREATER RISK** of exposure;

Identified domestic violence households with children

#### WERE MORE LIKELY TO BE

low-income, non-White, and headed by a single female, compared to households at large.

– Published in Journal of Family Violence, Volume 22, Issue 7, October 2007, pages 543-552. Publisher URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10896-007-9105-z

#### Randi's House of Angels: Board of Directors

Nancy Chavez: Chairman and Founder, Retired; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Todd Bashore: Chief of Police, East Pennsboro Township

**Julie Barley:** Director of Eastern Operations, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Human Services

**Deb Donahue:** Vice Chair, Retired; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Adjunct Professor Central Penn College

Sherry D'Agostino-Wickenheiser: Secretary, PA Society of Public Accountants

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Dr. Melissa Ricketts: Professor, Shippensburg University

Karen Rousche: Public Relations Coordinator, PSECU

Donna VandeMortel: Retired; Director of Cumberland County Victim Services

Jodi Pezzuti Sentz: Physical Therapist Assistant



- 1.18.2018 Domestic Violence Intervention of Lebanon County
  - 5.12.18 Randi's Race: A 5K Run/Walk for Hope and Courage
- 9.7.2018 Round Fore Randi 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Outing



## Board of Directors: Spotlight on Gregory Green

Treasurer | Retired, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

I got involved with Randi's House of Angels (RHOA) through my personal relationship with Nancy Chavez, Founder, President, and Executive Director. Nancy and I met while working together at the PA Department of General Services.

Nancy introduced me to her beautiful daughter Randi. I could tell that there was a very special and deep bond of love between the two of them. I remember quite vividly the sorrow and sadness I felt for Nancy when her brother-in-law called that Saturday morning and told me that Randi had been murdered. I remember being at BWI airport when Nancy's family told her that Randi was dead. It is without question, one of the saddest moments of my life.

The courage and determination Nancy has shown in surviving her personal tragedy through helping victims of domestic violence is so inspirational. The more that I learned about domestic violence and its impact on the lives of victims, the more I realized that I wanted to play a role in helping Nancy in raising awareness, funds and advocating against domestic violence. I have been on the Board of Directors for RHOA since its inception in 2011. I chair the finance committee and serve on the board's development and personnel committees. I also chair the annual golf outing and have been instrumental in increasing the number of golfers and funds raised each year. I have completed the 40 hours of domestic violence training, certified as a mandated reporter and received child abuse clearances. This has enabled me to volunteer for Randi's Camp for Hope and Courage each year. It gives me a sense of purpose to know that as a male role model, I could be trusted and make a difference in the lives of children.

It is very sad to realize that children are being exposed to the horror of watching a parent inflict harm upon another human being. The impact on children traumatizes them and often leads to problems in school and in their social interactions with others. Randi's Camp and Randi's Kidz Club are very unique in that they provide therapeutic counseling to children who are victims of domestic violence.

Our mission to break the cycle of domestic violence puts RHOA at the forefront of providing the types of programs we offer for children. It is very challenging but also very rewarding to know that RHOA is making a difference in the fight to stamp out domestic violence.