How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment to improve the world.

Anne Frank
Providing a safe place for women to live has been at the core of the WCA mission for more than 100 years. Today, the WCA provides critical programs and services for individuals escaping domestic abuse and sexual assault. The statistics tell us that one in three women, regardless of their social and economic background, will experience rape, domestic violence or sexual assault in their lifetime. In addition, almost 40 percent of children will be direct victims of violent acts. This is heartbreaking and, quite frankly, unacceptable.

The WCA’s unduplicated work in our community helps to break the cycle of violence and abuse. Most important is the positive impact the WCA’s programs have on children, creating generational change in behaviors and attitudes towards abuse. This is the tipping point that moves us all closer toward our vision of prevention.

We can’t do this important work without the power of individuals who say, “Include me!”, “How can I help?”, and “What is needed?” This energy fuels our passion and drives our commitment to change. The many individuals who say, “I can!”, collectively help our clients – survivors – to consider the possibility of safety, feel the healing effects of emotional and physical recovery, and experience the freedom of self-empowerment and sustainability.

The WCA Board of Directors hears the life stories of many courageous individuals who have successfully gone through the WCA program. These words and experiences are absorbed into our thoughts and leave lasting impressions. The board, volunteers, and highly-trained staff are passionate about serving our mission and supporting the WCA’s work. We are appreciative of their time, knowledge, compassion and dedication.

It’s been an honor to serve as the President of the Board of Directors this year. The WCA holds a special place in my heart as I’ve personally seen how they empower the lives of so many families. The more we raise awareness of the WCA’s mission and of domestic abuse issues, the greater impact we have collectively.

We are grateful for the many businesses and individuals who have supported us in so many ways this year. Thank you for being an advocate for the WCA.
One of the ways people learn about the Women’s and Children’s Alliance is when they go to the Ada County Courthouse to file a protection order. Imagine yourself going up the steps of the Courthouse, standing in line to go through the metal detector and being scared out of your wits! As you start through the process you are told there are individuals there to help you – and so perhaps for the first time you hear about the WCA as you meet with our Court Advocate Manager or one of our specially-trained Court Advocate Volunteers.

During the past fiscal year, this program expanded significantly, adding a second Victim Advocate and a half-time Domestic Violence Court Case Manager. Based at FACES (our Family Justice Center) and at the Ada County Courthouse, these staff members extend a helping hand to over 1,400 Ada County residents each year. Thanks to this staff, our court advocacy program offers information about how the court works – what to consider and expect, and the strengths and limitations of a protection order. Our court advocates also provide Safety Planning sessions, which help our clients take steps to be as safe as possible given their own unique circumstances.

Attorneys are out of reach for many individuals, certainly for almost all our clients. Offering assistance navigating the civil legal system is a vital resource for clients who have experienced domestic abuse and sexual assault. Knowing in the state of Idaho we have ¾ of one attorney per 10,000 individuals living in poverty (most of our clients) highlights the importance of our staff as a resource for those seeking protection through the courts.

Your support this past year makes this service possible. On behalf of all those seeking protection through the courts – thank you!

In gratitude,
Beatrice Black

Vision
To foster a community where individuals thrive in safe, healthy relationships

Mission
Safety, healing and freedom from domestic abuse and sexual assault

Core Values
Safety: Our safety is dependable, inclusive and compassionate
Healing: Our healing is respectful and heart-felt
Freedom: Your freedom is supported through our advocacy, collaboration and competence
Last year the power of one was never so evident, our Book of Gifts was filled with over 4,000 individuals who give us their time, their talents and their treasures. We are ever so grateful, thank you!

Over 92% of WCA expenses support direct client services. We’re proud of that fact.

Please visit out our Book of Gifts at http://www.wcaboise.org/about-us/reports-policies/annual-reports/

The Power of One comes in many sizes, even that of a small child who had one idea to help someone in his community. Tayson is a tee-ball player in the Meridian Youth Baseball League. This summer, they had a fundraiser for the League and each player was given a packet of Boise Hawks game vouchers to sell. In addition to selling his tickets to family and friends, Tayson collected donations from them to purchase some extra tickets. With the help of his parents, Tayson was able to come down to the WCA and cheerfully deliver ten tickets to a Boise Hawks baseball game for the families at the WCA to enjoy. At just five years old, Tayson might just be one of the WCA’s youngest donors. The Power of One, big or small is remarkable.

"When we extend ourselves to another human being in any way at all, when we positively touch the life of one person, we benefit the whole of humanity.” - Gail Pursell Elliott
For Brenda*, working with the WCA Court Advocacy program was about more than receiving legal assistance. The support she received throughout the process of divorcing her abusive husband and gaining full custody of their children went beyond support and information.

She had no family members or friends who could accompany her to the Ada County Courthouse, but every time she called the WCA Court Advocate Manager to say she had to go in, Brenda would be assured the WCA would be there. She would not have to navigate any of the often-intimidating legal processes or face her abuser alone.

“I was trying not to let him or anyone else know, but I was scared to death. Court is scary, and it was a volatile situation. [The WCA] gave me security, they gave me the emotional protection I needed to be able to show the other side that I was confident even when I didn't really feel it. It was the freedom to fight back,” she said.

While working on her custody case, her lawyer realized Brenda was afraid for her children. If they continued to pursue a typical custody and visitation case, she would have to send them to her husband and his family for regular, unsupervised visits. At the time, she says she still felt too emotionally vulnerable and uncertain about the severity of her situation to articulate her fears, but she was grateful that the lawyer both noticed and validated her concern. He told her, “If you are concerned for their safety, we need to take another look.”

The Court Advocate Manager then gave her some crucial encouragement: “She gave me a sort of permission, validation, to stand up and fight. They helped explain what I needed to do. What I got was a landmark ruling in the state of Idaho.”

She ultimately received full legal and physical custody for both children. Not only this, the judge also ruled it would be entirely her decision if and how visitation could occur at any point in the future, and her now ex-husband would have to be supervised in any situation.

Brenda explains why the court accompaniment services she received were instrumental in regaining her sense of emotional and physical safety both during, and long after the legal process. “I couldn't have had the courage to do that all alone. I couldn't be the woman I am today if I hadn't had the WCA backing me.”

*Brenda has given us permission to use her name. To protect her confidentiality, we are not giving her last name.
Safety

Advocacy

Safety comes in many forms, and the legal system offers protection and remedies that can benefit victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Most importantly, the victim has the opportunity to speak and be heard. Next, victims are able to begin utilizing formal resources along with the informal resources they’ve been using as they develop or increase their safety. Finally, the community is able to support the victim in maintaining that safety. Civil protection orders, safety planning, and other legal avenues enable law enforcement and judges to hold an abuser accountable for their violence. Of course, this may not be the goal of a victim accessing the courts. Often, they just want to live their lives free of abuse. Whatever a client’s goals may be, safety through the court system enlarges a victim’s resources and the number of ways they are able to advocate for their safety.

567 protection order petitioners were assisted, 91 percent of all orders filed in Ada County

334 individuals attended personal safety planning sessions

93 individuals were guided by WCA Victim Attorney Services and 35 were referred to legal assistance (this does not include referrals to private attorneys or legal clinics)

“...The WCA Court Advocacy staff operates a bit like an assistant coach of a sports team. We work with the head coach to help establish their goals or stay on track by asking questions or validating their ideas; we present alternative options; we help plan for multiple scenarios of what to do if x or y happens; we can refer to the rule book for technical questions, like the Idaho Code or volunteer attorneys. Ultimately, we know that our client is the head coach. We are there to assist them. They call the plays, and we offer all the tools we have so that they can make it happen.”

Maureen Wishkoski
Court Advocate Manager

Court Advocacy

Thanks to a long-standing partnership with the Ada County Court system, the WCA walks petitioners seeking protection orders through the process before they have a hearing in court. WCA staff and trained volunteers explain court processes, discuss options, resources and client concerns, and offer emotional support. Having a compassionate, knowledgeable advocate lets victims know they are not alone in the process.

The WCA’s Court Advocacy programming also supports clients navigating family law cases, such as divorce, custody and interstate relocation. By offering pro se support, referring clients to legal service agencies and connecting clients to volunteer attorneys, the WCA is able to provide broader services to clients facing complex civil legal matters.

Safety Planning

Safety Planning is similar to having a disaster-preparedness plan in place. Just as families prepare for what to do in an emergency, safety planning prepares victims should they encounter a violent incident. Each safety plan is a personalized, practical plan that can help a victim avoid dangerous situations and know the safest way to react when they are in danger. This plan includes ways to remain safe while in the relationship, when planning to leave, using technology and staying safe after separating from the abuser.

Safety planning is more than a logistical roadmap - it also involves creating a plan to cope with emotions and for talking with friends and family about the abuse. WCA staff may discuss how certain legal processes may affect a victim’s safety, and spend time brainstorming ways a client can maintain their safety while participating in various legal proceedings.

WCA staff conducts safety planning with victims, friends and family members — or anyone who is concerned about their own safety or the safety of another. Sometimes multiple safety planning sessions are useful. As situations and circumstances change, so does the plan for a client’s safety.
Hotlines
The WCA’s two 24-hour crisis lines are the critical first step for people seeking safety. Staffed by trained Client Advocates familiar with a variety of community services, this is the place for people with questions for themselves or for friends and loved ones.

1,813 calls were answered
157 were sexual assault-related
1,021 were domestic violence-related
635 were referrals

WCA was a beautiful catalyst for me. My time here gave me the support and motivation I need to live a life worth living. Thanks!

2013 thank you note

Safe Shelter
For people leaving an abusive relationship, safety is the most important priority. At the heart of our efforts are a secure shelter and transitional housing which provide 71 beds for women and children. Client Advocates guide residents through their transition. The WCA residential program offers an array of programs including individual counseling, case management, parenting classes and support groups.

83 children were housed for 3,755 bed nights
64 women were housed for 4,997 bed nights
My name is Kristine Dukes. I work in a volunteer position as the Lead Ambassador at the WCA. I’ve overcome enough of my fears that I no longer feel the need to be anonymous. It’s true the work of this agency has helped numerous people to heal. However, I wasn’t living in Boise when my personal situation spiraled out of control, so I didn’t have the benefit of participating in the WCA’s program offerings. However, it’s my firm belief that the WCA’s work ripples out to any of us who put our toe in the water by asking for help, receiving help, offering support in some way, or doing community outreach.

I was a single mother living in Seattle with no idea I was swimming in a cycle of abuse starting in my very early childhood, continuing into my marriage, and exploding several years after my divorce in an act of violence that I now know enough to call rape. I’ve learned since then three other incidents in my life were also rapes. I believed there was something “wrong” with me that was causing these events to occur.

I became reclusive and firmly believed I was somehow deserving of what had been going on in my whole life. I was diagnosed with PTSD and doctors suggested I was in such bad shape I should go on disability and live the rest of my life on medication. Other people trying to tell me how to live my life has often been the catalyst for my making big changes and I was determined not to live my life as a victim.

I had family in Boise and moved here in 2010 to care for my aging mother, who had been my first abuser. Still pushing buttons, even in her old age, I was forced out of hiding. I ended up at Boise State University to complete my bachelor’s degree. Through a service learning project linked to one of my courses, I got involved with the WCA. It felt like home, the stories were familiar, and the more I learned the more determined I became to spread the word and let people know that they don’t have to hide, live with shame, or blame themselves.

Now I talk so often about the cycle of abuse, what it looks like or doesn’t look like, I see myself as an advocate of hope and change. It took me thirty years, but finding the WCA and working closely with people who work so hard to make a difference has softened my reserve. I’ve been drawn out into the warm rays of hope that come with healing, basking in that my own wounds stopped leaking venom and I get healthier every day. I’m not finished; a survivor’s journey doesn’t end. In the Spring of 2015 I will finish my master’s program and from where I stand now, this is only the beginning.

As I began doing outreach, I found my true voice. A voice that didn’t make excuses for other people’s bad behavior, a voice that allowed me to share what had happened to me, a voice that learned to express anger without fear and compassion laced with empathy. I felt some pride I’d survived, but also some dismay I’d buried certain things so deep that their poison was still affecting my choices and behaviors so many years later.

“...in the Spring of 2015 I will finish my masters program ...this is only the beginning.”

Kristine Dukes

Healing
Survivor Story
Support

Counseling is where healing begins for most clients. Whether it’s a weekly support group or individual counseling sessions, the WCA offers survivors master’s-level clinicians trained in offering a variety of approaches that best help clients on the road to healing.

WCA provides services that help individuals recover from the trauma of witnessing abuse as a child or experiencing child sexual assault, as well as that of abuse in adulthood. Survivors of sexual assault and domestic abuse are empowered to rebuild strong relationships with their children and with themselves as they learn how to create the life they’ve always dreamed of having.

Never let your past experiences harm your future. Your past can’t be altered and your future doesn’t deserve the punishment.
As I walked out the door toward my freedom
I knew that if I did not leave all the anger, hatred and
bitterness behind, that I would still be in prison.

Nelson Mandela

When Flora*, a native Spanish speaker with limited English proficiency, came to the WCA seeking refuge, she was offered an interpreter to ensure that she would be able to communicate fully with her counselor, case manager, and the client advocates. Thanks to the interpreter’s services, Flora has been able to receive the full benefits of coming to the WCA and has found new beginnings she said she thought were lost.

Flora and her daughters moved out of the shelter and into their own housing a year ago, but they continue to receive case management and counseling services. She says the WCA staff has been instrumental in providing not only information and physical safety, but also emotional support and tools for healing. “They are all caring and kind people who raise our self-esteem and tell us we are worth so much more,” she said.

Flora still attends RAP Group, the weekly support group for domestic abuse survivors. “RAP Group has helped me overcome many things,” she said. “I feel most importantly it has helped me become a strong woman with my independence.”

She sees the impact of her time at the WCA in her daily life. “The freedom to make my own choices has been so empowering. Now when I am confronted with a difficult situation I know that I have the confidence, self-worth, and ability to make the right choice.”

*Flora’s name has been changed to protect her confidentiality. She shared her story with the help of her interpreter.
Survivors face many obstacles before they can truly be free of domestic or sexual abuse and its insidious hold on their spirit and their lives. The WCA has two full-time Case Managers who help guide clients to community resources that provide them with choices to rebuild their lives. Whether it’s health care, employment, food or housing, Case Managers know how to access the supportive services that create the Treasure Valley’s safety net.

**Guidance**

Classes in nurturing parenting, financial literacy and support groups designed to aid in breaking the cycle of domestic abuse are among the many educational sessions available to WCA residential clients. Basic life skills, such as routine automobile maintenance and how to fix nutritious meals, are also available.

Through education, you’ll find the strength inside yourself to value your own worth more than staying with someone who only keeps you down.

**Education**

Sessions: 1,192
New clients received case management services: 112
Average of clients each month waiting for assistance: 22

- The number of clients who attended Life Skills sessions last year: 36
- The number of individuals who have taken financial literacy courses since 2011, including participants through partnership with the Idaho Department of Corrections: 594
As the WCA strives to empower its clients on their path to healing, we could not do it without assistance from the Susan P. Sherlock Scholarship Fund.

The Sherlock Fund, which has served WCA clients for 12 years, provides vocational training and scholarships for clients attending skills-based training with either Create Common Good or Usful Glassworks. Clients gain skills, and are awarded scholarships, as they successfully complete each phase of the training program.

Clients become eligible to participate in one of the two programs through referral by their Case Manager. They have graduated from the Financial Literacy Course, and have completed the scholarship application. Each client is then interviewed by Bev La Chance, WCA Deputy Director.

"The program provides assistance to women who desire additional skills or vocational training in order to gain employment which will allow them to support themselves and their children," said Amy Howard, Case Manager.

Create Common Good is a program focused on cultivating culinary skills guided by a professional chef. Usful Glassworks is also a job training program, teaching participants how to create new products out of used glass bottles. As clients successfully reach goals specific to each training program, they earn their stipends. This work experience enables clients to obtain the tools and, the self-confidence they need as they head into the workforce.

Many of the clients who have graduated from the Sherlock Training Scholarship program have since obtained employment, and some clients are hired for full-time employment before they even complete all phases.

"The individuals who have had the opportunity to participate through the Sherlock Scholarship gain confidence in their personal ability to excel in an environment where they are continually putting their skills to use," Howard said. "I have also seen individuals strengthen their communication skills, and build positive work qualities."

We encourage you to learn more about these companies. Please visit them at:

createcommongood.org
usfulglass.com
Two incredible collaborations empower the WCA, and help continue our efforts in building healthy relationships throughout the community. Treasure Valley Economic Action Program (TVEAP), as well as FACES Family Justice Center, have each built valuable partnerships with the WCA to provide more assistance to clients in the valley.

Providing financial literacy education to neighboring agencies has enabled the WCA to move forward in its goal to cultivate a safer, healthier community. The WCA is the lead agency for the TVEAP which began in 2010 as a collaborative effort of six valley agencies. The curriculum is called Realizing Your Economic Action Plan, or REAP, which is taught by two Financial Literacy Educators employed through the WCA.

“The curriculum contains information that teaches women about safety, empowerment, economic abuse and other financial concepts such as budgeting, credit, banking and investing. The curriculum encourages individual coaching sessions for the women who want to work on personal financial matters outside the group setting,” said Yazmin McNeal, Financial Literacy Educator.

The educators have now been able to share the material with not only WCA clients, but also partner agencies such as Safe Place Ministries, Easter Seals Goodwill, Friends of Children and Families, and the Idaho Department of Correction. This spring, the educators also provided a financial literacy education and economic abuse training session at the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

McNeal said the third class, “Understanding Credit” tends to be the most crucial for the clients she serves. “It has helped the clients understand how long debts stay on their credit report, what is a credit score and what is a credit report. This class has helped the women understand how to write a letter to the 3 credit bureaus, so errors are removed from their credit report,” she said. “The women find the entire curriculum very informative, but class [three] seems the most eye-opening.”

The WCA has also been able to enhance its Court Advocacy services, thanks to FACES Family Justice Center. The WCA employs two Victim Advocates at FACES, who provide safety planning and protection order assistance. A Domestic Violence Court Case Manager who provides victim advocacy and case management to clients going through court proceedings is also located at FACES thanks to a grant from the office of violence against women.

FACES also provides a variety of services domestic and/or sexual violence survivors may need that the WCA doesn’t provide, such as forensic exams and basic healthcare. By having so many important services under one roof, and in such close proximity to the WCA and the courthouse, clients are given easier access to services they may need as they journey down their own path to safety, healing and freedom.

“...teaching women about safety, empowerment, economic abuse, budgeting, credit, banking and investing.”

FACES is located at 417 S. 6th St. More information on services can be found at facesofadacounty.com
Our Endowment Fund was established to provide funds in perpetuity for the operation of the Women’s and Children’s Alliance. During 2010-2011, in honor of our Centennial Celebration, we invited donors to help jump-start our Endowment Campaign by joining our “Founder’s Circle.” The following individuals became members of this special group by contributing a minimum of $20,000 to the Fund before September 9, 2011, the date of our “Once in a Lifetime” Centennial Celebration Gala.

Founder’s Circle
Russ and Janet Buschert
Suzanne G. Guetschoff
Kaye and Larry Knight
Luci and John McDonald
SueB Fund
“Dolly” Waring Sylvies
Kathy Troutner

Individuals making planned gifts become members of our Heritage Society and are helping us secure our long-term Endowment Fund Goal of $10,000,000. Heritage Society members to date include:
Marcene Austin
Jeff and Bea Black
Carolyn Corbett
Julie DeLorenzo
Serena McAlvain
SueB Fund
Teresa Yragui

Other Cash Donors this fiscal year include:
Nancy Adrian
Dorothy Aldecoa
Jeff and Bea Black
Randy and Elizabeth Hill
Kaye and Larry Knight
William and Cindy Lindner
Luci and John McDonald
James and Patti Stevenson
SueB Fund
“Dolly” Waring Sylvies

Fund balance over $700,000
Balance + Planned Gifts = $1,000,000
Thanks to generous donors, dedicated volunteers and loyal shoppers, The Shop was open last year for 259 days, selling 38,678 items. With 4,295 total donations, gross sales reached $176,013.67 to contribute directly to the WCA’s mission.

Stop by to browse and shop. With complete inventory changes in the spring and in the fall, there’s always something new, and you can feel good knowing that every penny goes to help families and children whose lives have been impacted by domestic abuse or sexual assault.
Members of the Hope Society are multi-year donors who believe passionately in the work we do. They also understand that we need sustainable funding we can count on in order to serve the increasing needs in our community. Joining the Hope Society is a significant commitment, and it represents priceless gifts of safety, healing and freedom to the families we serve.

Please consider joining the Hope Society today. There are three levels available; each represents the minimum level of commitment:

Safety $1,000 per year for five years
Healing $10,000 per year for five years
Freedom $25,000 per year for five years

Hope Society Members

Nancy Adrian
Ahlquist Family
Darrel and Lori Anderson
Anonymous
Marcene Austin
AJ and Susie Balukoff
Jan Bastian and Dennis Whitmore
Jeff and Bea Black
Jim Black
Bill and Karla Bodnar
Matthew and Erin Bohn
Gina Brostmeyer
Jan Bryant
Russ and Janet Buschert
Fran Caprai
Carolyn Casey: Women's Ah! Camp
Rob and Susan Centeno
Mike and Sharon Clawson
Debbie Cleverley
Laura Cobb
Carolyn Crosby Collins
Carolyn Corbett
Julie Custer and Kathy Scott
Shauna Della
Tom and Julie Delorenzo
Deborah and Joe DeSousa
Rich and Judy Dickson
Juliana DiGiosia
Suzie Dustin
Julie Edgar
Tom and Janet Gohlke
Lisa Grow
Raquel and Kjeld Guglielmetti
Bryan and Emmy Guthrie
Mary Hanson
George and Bev Harad
Robert and Anne Hay
Mimi Hayes
Tom and Alice Hennessey
Shari Herrera
Erica Hill
Deni Hoehne
Kenneth Howell and Bernadine Marconi
Daniel and Julee Hunt
Pauline Irish
Lauri Janos
Sally Jeffcoat
Anna Jenny
Tamara Johnson
Zeke and AnnMarie Johnson
Judy Jones
Nancy and Charley Jones
Steve and Barb Keen
Toni and Mark Kelchner
Larry and Susan Kelley
Athena Killeen
Tannan Koehl
Jonathan and Kimiko Krutz
Larry and Kaye Knight
Bill Knowlton and Amy Moll
Nancy and Ernie Lemas
Jack and Pam Lemley
Ann Lewis
Treacy and Kurt Liebich
John Lough and Patti Diener Lough
Edmund Low
Aunick and Tyler Lund
Carol Martin
Carrie and Mark Matsko
Doug and Serena McAlvain
Kelly McConnell
John and Luci McDonald
Mac and Cherie McIlroy (in memory of Randy Della)
Mike and Theresa McLeod
Rob McNutt
Mike and Lori Mers
C.K. Haun and Karen Meyer
Mary and Ernie Monroe
Dee and Bryan Mooney
Karey Morgan
Jason and Annie Morley
Jack and Lois Morris
Ralph and Carol Myers
Dave and Diane Myklegard
Amber Myrick
Neil and Tyley Nelson
Alicia Nichols
Connie Brown Olson
Kris Ormseth and Kathi Pearce
Jim O’Toole and Karla Rosa
Dick and Susie Parrish
Stacy and Mark Pearson
Kendall and Holly Rasmussen
Marjorie and Peter Reedy
Julia Robinson and Peter Kozisek
Kristen Ruffing
Edwin and Stacy Salvi
Darcelle Sander
Margaret Sato
Charles and Jenny Schmoeger
Jack and Jan Scripps
Tom and Jan Shipler Jr.
Tom, Carol and Denise Smith Family
Greg and NorRae Spohn
Craig Stein
Teri Stein and Ed Miller
Brandy Stemmler
Laura and Andy Stento
John and Lynne Sterling
James and Patti Stevenson
Lisa Stoehr
Joni Stright
Duane and Lori Stueckle
Pam and Brian Thomas
Carrie Tucker
Richard and Lisa Uhlmann
Peter and Debbie Wachtell
Jodi Whittaker, CPA
Gina Wolverton and Dan O’Donnell
Michael and Angie Wood
Ryan and Holli Woodings
The Treasure Valley business community recognizes the value of creating a community where people thrive in safe, healthy relationships. By becoming a WCA Corporate Pillar, businesses support the life-changing journey to safety, freedom and healing for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault in our community.

**Partners in Freedom**
- Chandlers Fine Steaks and Seafood
- Concrete Construction Supply, Inc.
- Dam sel in Defense
- ESI Construction
- Gardner Company
- Journal Broadcast Group
- J.R. Simplot Company
- Keller Williams Realty Boise
- Lamar Outdoor Advertising
- Mai Thai
- Norco, Inc.
- St. Luke's Health System

**Partners in Safety**
- Albertsons
- Bank of the Cascades
- BMC
- Givens Pursley, LLP
- Hawley Troxell
- Idaho Independent Bank
- Integrity Audio Visual
- J.Jill
- Key Bank
- Lumen Creative
- Western Trophy & Engraving
- Zee Christopher

**Partners in Healing**
- Blue Cross of Idaho
- Boise Weekly
- Brighton Corporation
- c308 Marketing
- Chad Case Photography
- Citi Cards
- Hewlett-Packard Company
- Idaho Power
- Idaho Statesman
- Kendall Ford of Meridian
- Max Giving
- McMillen, LLC
- North by Northwest Productions
- Oppenheimer Companies, Inc.
- Saint Alphonsus Health System
- Schroeder Creative
- Two Men and a Truck
- U.S. Bank
- Wells Fargo

**Partners in Hope**
- Ahrens DeAngeli Law Group LLP
- Anderson, Julian & Hull LLP
- Fidelity National Title Company of Idaho
- Keynetics
- KPMG, LLP
- Micron Foundation
- Northwest Bank
- Pickens Law, PA
- Red Sky Public Relations
- University of Idaho Boise
- Dr. Vincent Kituku
- Washington Trust Bank

**Mai Thai Restaurant & Bar**
- Billy Pothikamjorn

Mai Thai Restaurant & Bar has been in downtown Boise for almost a decade and has been an active supporter of the WCA as a Corporate Pillar for the past several years. The owner, Chaipat “Billy” Pothikamjorn, is known to be incredibly gracious to his staff and is always willing to support important community works. Mai Thai has participated in many different philanthropic causes over the years, but most recently has partnered with The Women’s and Children’s Alliance to help survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

“Our relationship with the WCA has been incredibly rewarding and inspiring to say the least, and giving back to the community is most important,” said Billy. “We take pride in knowing that we are helping children and nurturing healthy families for future generations.”

“...we are thrilled to be a small part of such a great cause.”

Billy and his staff, including Manager Daniel Rhodes, extend their gratitude to the wonderful people at the WCA for their hard work to make a difference in Boise.
The WCA’s Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN) awards luncheon honors outstanding professional women in our community along with organizations whose policies and practices salute and encourage high achievement by women.

For over two decades, talented and inspiring women have been recognized each year – making TWIN the longest running local program honoring professional women in the Treasure Valley.

The 21st Annual TWIN Awards Luncheon was held Wednesday, March 13, at the Boise Centre. Over 600 people joined the WCA in honoring women who have excelled in their fields. We also highlighted corporations that encourage high achievement and community service. 50 TWINs were honored, and Terri Stein was awarded the 2014 Joyce Stein Award for her extraordinary service to the Boise community.

Congratulations to the 2014 TWIN Honorees!

Shawna Adams
Toni Ayers,
Stacey Baczkowski
Susan Balluff
Tamara Beach
Tracy Bresina
Susan Bundgard
Merry Cole
Reata Conner
Michele de Reus
Amber Dina
Judy Eaton
Hilarie Engle
Dr. Ann Farris
Dallis Fontenot
Dr. Stefanie Fry
Valerie Goebel
Irene Gonzalez
Laura Gorringe
Suzie Hall
Kristine Hamasaki
Deborah Hedden-Nicely
Kara Heikkila
Jenni Hogaboom
Bethany Hughes
Jaymi Hugo
Mary Janowiak, M.D.
Tamara Johnson
Angeliqe Keavney
Linda Kerr
Ji-Yeon Lee
Nancy Lemas
Nan Leonard
Lisa Li
Mindy Lin
Terry Loofbourrow
Jennifer Maier
Marie McGlynn
Korey McSherry
Ann Nelson
Dana Oland
Alicia Ritter
Priscilla Salant
Carole Skinner
Ellen Smith
Linda Sommerville
Marcia Ward
Barbara Wilson
Mandy Wood
Hua Yan

Visit www.wcaboise.org for more information and lists of past TWIN honorees.
This year’s award recipient has been on the giving end of this award, in honor of her mother, for 35 years. It is very special and an honor to recognize the daughter who has grown up to be an involved and generous community supporter just like her mother.

In 1973, Joyce Stein participated in a new women’s group that began as the result of a women’s conference held at Boise State College. The group wanted to continue discussions surrounding women’s issues and joined with the YWCA to open the Women’s Center in the basement of the YWCA. Joyce Stein, as a founding member and the first director of the Women’s Center, took on the issue of sexism in our community. As the group studied the issue, they came to the conclusion that domestic violence was a prevalent problem—which led to the YWCA’s involvement in the prevention of domestic violence. The elimination of sexism and domestic violence became the foundation for the organization’s work. After her untimely death in 1979, the YWCA named its highest award in her memory and has awarded this special recognition every year since 1980.

A teenager when her mother died, Teri was busy with high school activities and not very aware of her mother’s passion and work with the YWCA. In fact, it was after she returned to Boise in 1989 that she found herself drawn to participate and take over making the Joyce Stein award presentations because she felt that it allowed her to be closer to her mother. As an enthusiastic and compassionate steward of her mother’s legacy, she is a long-time friend and supporter of the WCA—raising money and awareness in an effort to ensure WCA clients are able to have the freedom to make positive choices.

Every day when she gets up, she asks herself “How may I give back today?” Her generous spirit and infectious enthusiasm make an impact on everyone she meets.
Since 1998, the WCA has organized a local display of the Clothesline Project in October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Project began in 1990 in Hyannis, Massachusetts, to give a voice to victims and survivors of domestic violence and create a powerful public display of what is too often considered a private matter.

Each year, we invite participants in our RAP group for survivors of domestic abuse and their children to paint t-shirts portraying their experiences with violence, victimization, and healing, as an exercise in art therapy. With the painters’ permission, the WCA delivers clotheslines of these shirts to hang in businesses and organizations around Boise to raise awareness of the lasting impacts of domestic abuse in our community. Every year we are moved by the range of experiences our clients have shared on these shirts. The pain and fear, but also the hope and healing that they depict bear witness to the long, difficult road from abuse to freedom.

In October 2013, we sent over 200 painted t-shirts to businesses and organizations around Boise, including the downtown library, Big City Coffee, HD Insurance, Boise Bicycle Project, D.L. Evans, and Washington Trust Bank. The WCA also joined the BSU Women’s Center on campus for a two-day Clothesline Project event with a 30-shirt clothesline display, WCA outreach table at the SUB patio, and an opportunity for survivors to make shirts in the Women’s Center lounge.
For the WCA’s Communications and Outreach Team, our primary goal each time we set up an information table about the WCA is to have each person who approaches our table walk away with a “shoe card”. These small, foldable cards have the domestic violence and rape crisis hotline numbers printed on them, as well as some basic statistics about abuse. The cards are small enough to fold in half and stash somewhere until the information is needed.

Abuse “shoe cards” are free to the public, and the WCA currently distributes between 5,000 and 10,000 “shoe cards” in the Treasure Valley each year. Many local healthcare providers, restaurants, schools and other businesses keep a stock of shoe cards in their restrooms, dressing rooms and exam rooms. And, last year during Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013 (October), all the ambulances from Ada County Paramedics Association began to carry a supply of shoe cards.

Domestic abuse is a tough subject to talk about, but for many it’s almost impossible to find the right words at the critical point in time when you think someone might need help. Having a “shoe card” handy allows you to simply pull it out and hand it over – without needing to say a word.

Several of our staff members shared stories of recently handing out cards to strangers who they thought might need some help or information at Wendy’s Restaurant, at Home Depot, in the restroom at a local Mexican Restaurant and over breakfast in the dining room at a local hotel. You never know when you will encounter someone who may need assistance, or witness someone being abused in some way. Carrying a shoe card in your wallet can help you be an active bystander and join the effort to break the cycle of violence in our community.

And, our crisis hotlines are not only for those involved in an abusive relationship. Anyone can call the hotline, or as we also like to call it the “helpline,” any time of day, any day of the week. Are you concerned about someone? Do you want to know how to support a friend? Does a co-worker come to work with mysterious injuries? Call the free hotline and speak with a trained client advocate who can share resources and information as well as connect clients with much-needed WCA services.

Contact outreach@wcaboise.org.
Research clearly demonstrates that domestic abuse and sexual assault happen in all different types of domestic living arrangements and economic situations, as well as all different types of intimate partner relationships.

While the Women’s & Children’s Alliance is most well-known for our work with women and children, many don’t realize that we also offer services to men who have experienced the trauma of domestic abuse and/or sexual assault.

All of our services are offered free-of-charge to survivors and we don’t differentiate based on income, race, religion, gender or socioeconomic status. Women and men alike, as well as children of all ages can receive important services at the WCA including case management (adults only), safety planning, counseling, court advocacy and financial literacy education (adults only) among others. These services are offered to both shelter residents and clients living in the community.

Domestic abuse knows no boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 WCA Shelter Clients</th>
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<tr>
<td>26% most recent abusive incident involved strangulation</td>
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<td>41% of the women were ages 18 through 30, while 5% were over 51</td>
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<tr>
<td>44% were abused daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>62% were sexually abused as a child</td>
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<td>64% grew up in a home where there was violence between their parents and, historically, three-quarters of these women have children</td>
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<tr>
<td>67% of shelter residents were children, 38% of the children were 5 years old or younger</td>
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<td>71% of residents reported an annual income of $8,000 or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>71% presented with concurrent or past substance abuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>68 days the average length of stay at the shelter</td>
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Outreach and Education

Each month, we bring educational materials to events including health fairs, community resource fairs, volunteer info nights, and conferences. Let us know if you have an event you’d like us to come to, and we will bring materials targeted to your audience.

WCA Brochures
Shoe cards
Volunteer and Ambassador opportunities
An interactive and informative Healthy Relationships activity
A detailed list of all WCA services and more!

Tables are run by friendly, trained outreach volunteers and WCA staff members. If you’re interested in becoming an outreach volunteer, email outreach@wcaboise.org and we’ll contact you to schedule a training session as positions become available.
The theme of our 10th annual fundraising/outreach event was “Pathways to Healing.” The morning began with a beautiful and moving music video performed by Yvonne Rousseau, a local vocal artist. Also included were remarks by Executive Director Bea Black, and a powerful video of two WCA clients and their inspiring stories. Nancy Lemas, a local businesswoman and community leader, shared her personal story with thanks to the WCA for their continuing efforts to create a healthy environment for clients, and for “working towards a healthier community.”

This past year, 1,221 community members experienced our “If These Walls Could Talk” tour either at one of the two tours held monthly at the WCA’s downtown facility, or at an event planned at their home, place of business or other location in the community. During the tour, attendees learn what our mission of safety, healing and freedom truly means. They hear how victims of domestic abuse and/or sexual assault find a safe place to begin to heal from their past and learn how our clients acquire the tools to build safe, independent lives . . . free from violence.

Visit www.wcaboise.org to learn more

Since its inception in 2011, the WCA’s Ambassador program has continued to grow and develop a solid foundation of members from all over the community. This volunteer program consists of individuals who are passionate about the WCA and about helping those who have experienced the trauma of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Our Ambassadors are the voice of the WCA in the community, helping us share our mission and educating those around them.

Want to be an Ambassador? Simply recruit ten or more people to attend our “If These Walls Could Talk” tour and join this group of fantastic community members.

Visit www.wcaboise.org or email ambassadors@wcaboise.org for more information

The WCA wouldn’t be able to help all the people who need our services without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

Interested in becoming a volunteer? Visit www.wcaboise.org or email volunteer@wcaboise.org

WCA Ambassadors to date
38

Prospective WCA Ambassadors
54

Individuals who volunteered
2,123

Volunteer hours last fiscal year
11,625