

**WellSpring
Center For Hope
celebrates its
20th Birthday**

WellSpring Center for Hope was started in 1989 by a husband and wife team of pastors, David Bruce and Rev. MaryNella McLaughlin, on Chicago's southeast side who recognized a critical unmet need for crisis intervention and an emergency safe haven for women victimized by abusive and violent partners.

WellSpring is not a religious organization, but recognizes the significance of religion and a faith-based community in the lives of African-American women, many of whom turn to the Pastor of their church for guidance and support. WellSpring's programs are designed to foster the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellness and wholeness of the women and children we serve.

WellSpring is a ministry under the guidance of Covenant Ministry of Benevolence of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

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WellSpring

Center For Hope

"Empowering Families to Live Healthier, Happier, & Safe Lives"

WORDS FROM OUR DIRECTOR

As we approach the Thanksgiving Holiday we at WellSpring Center for Hope have a lot to be thankful for. I personally thank and am encouraged by the financial support we have received thus far from individuals, corporations, the faith community and the various city and state agencies that have supported WellSpring in our 20 years of service. As we continue in our steadfast mission to reduce the number of individuals and families who experience domestic violence, we face two paramount issues. Our first issue is our funding sources to support our programs and the overwhelming demand for direct services and community outreach. The demand for our services to domestic violence victims continues to escalate, especially as we approach the holiday season, but with the state budgetary cuts we have been forced to curtail some of our program

services. As we approach the holiday season – a time of giving – please consider WellSpring Center for Hope as part of your Holiday gift giving.

Our second issue is community outreach. Domestic violence not only affects women, but it affects the entire health of the family (children included) and the residue of this (oftentimes) learned



behavior is spread throughout the community.

We are encouraging and challenging all to take more ownership and /or responsibility for the safety and health of your community. You must get connected and stay connected to resources to Prevent, Intervene and Educate, yourself about domestic violence. P.I.E.

PREVENTION: To reduce, to

stop, to end. To eliminate the population of Generational "Trickle Down Effect" learned behavior of family violence in the lives of victims of domestic violence

INTERVENTION: Intervening collectively by in-depth awareness, education and understanding of domestic violence abuse. WellSpring connects underserved and underprivileged individuals and communities to create a community-wide accountable support system.

EDUCATION: Change a Mind. Change a Life. Changing the attitude of abuse. Education reverses the way domestic violence is looked at and approached. Domestic violence will no longer be seen as "a family thing", "a private matter", "a secret". Domestic Violence will be acknowledged as what it truly is - a crime against the family and the community.

REMEMBER just one piece of the P.I.E. can and will help ease the pain of those hurting from abuse.

Become a partner today and together let us continue to combat this epidemic on our community.

Elouise Spencer ≈

One Client's Success Story



Thirty year old Alisha (alias) and her children, ages 13,12, and 7 months old, were referred to WellSpring Center For Hope by the Department of Human Services for domestic violence counseling and supportive services after existing in a mentally, emotionally, and physically abusive relationship with her live-in boyfriend of two years.

Her Voice: She reported that her then boyfriend had harassed, threatened, and hit her daily in

the last year. Alisha called the Chicago Police Department, filing numerous reports, petitioned and received an order of protection. She moved away from her abuser to a new place—only to have to move again from a break-in at her new place (believed to have also been perpetrated by the ex-boyfriend.) **Her Choice:** Alisha aggressively began to see safe housing outside of her neighborhood. With the financial assistance of WellSpring Center For Hope, the client was

able to move into a safer environment in another city.

Empowerment: Alisha will have challenges daily to face, but with the tools Prevention Intervention Education (P.I.E.) she received at WellSpring, Alisha is empowered to make and create a sound, safe, and quality life and environment for herself and her children. ≈

States Attorney Office—Award

On April 27, 2009, WellSpring was selected to receive one of the 2009

Victim Service Recognition Awards on behalf of the Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez and the Victims Witness Unit. The Victim Service Recognition Award honors remarkable people or organizations whose efforts and experiences best exemplify the most important



function of the State's Attorney's Office the day-to-day efforts to pursue justice for victims of crime.

WellSpring was chosen for this distinguished award for having demonstrated great respect and compassion for victims of crime and whose efforts have gone above and beyond the call of duty.≈

The Honorable Dorothy Brown

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County salutes WellSpring Center for Hope

WellSpring Center for Hope's Executive Director Elouise Spencer and volunteer Robbin F. Jefferson were in attendance at a press conference headed by Dorothy Brown.

Because October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, this gathering was to give recognition to and award domestic violence advocates like WellSpring Center for Hope. This Exceptional Service Award was presented to WellSpring Center For Hope for outstanding advocacy and leadership in the community.≈



Financial Match

As you are aware, these are trying times. The anxiety of job lost, homes in foreclosure and the uncertainties of the financial markets, unfortunately have pushed many people over the edge. The realities of abuse and abusive situations are not confined by race, class, or socio-economic positions.

WellSpring, like other not for profit organizations, is also trying to see its way through these difficult times. And although we did not reach 100% of our \$50,000 "match fund", WellSpring did receive 65% of its goal. The same donor has agreed to bless us this fiscal year with a \$40,000 match. They will match us dollar for dollar to \$40,000 as of June 30,

2010. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of WellSpring and the ministry it provides to families that have been affected by the consequences of domestic violence. If you would like to become a monthly donor \$20-\$100 per month, please fill out the enclosed pledge card and return to us.≈

Photo Gallery



Rev. & Mrs. James T. Meeks & Elouise
2009 Walk-A-Thon Donation



Elouise Spencer at South-west Covenant Church with donated school supplies



Barbara, Elouise, Evelyn Emmanuel Baptist Church



Marge Palmerlee & Elouise—Sankofa Journey

New Board Members & Volunteers



Board member/Partner:
James Bergstrom,
Retired teacher



Board member/Partner:
Barbara Thompson,
Social Worker



Intern: Victoria Spivey
Student Kennedy King College



Volunteer:
Robbin F. Jefferson

Thank You

Reverend W. H. Foster, Sr.
Margaret J. Palmerlee
Craig Anderson
Miriam Watley
Barry Mitchell-Adorn Lewis
Gladys Dunbar
Covenant Trust Company/
Palm Terry
Curtis B. & Janet R. Anderson
Barbara A. Medley-Thomas
David & Julie Bromley
The Cool Seniors
Martha Hudson
Kathy P. Lewis
Diedra J. Lewis
Hope Evangelical Covenant Church
James B. & Karen F. Berstrom
Gladys M. Graham
Roger & Lilly M. Baldwin

National Council of Negro Women
Jacqueline Robinson,
Community Covenant Church
Evangelical Covenant Church
Aurora North East Covenant Church
Freddie M. McCaskill
Mr. & Mrs. David Dwight
Jerome F. & Ellen M. Kowalski
Lillie M. Young
Diane S. Eigenbauer
Bonnie Phil, Sophia Pappageorge
James E. & Denise Hopp
Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church
Bernard A. & Barbara A. Mateer
Edgar & Darlene B. Anderson
Rev. Frank & Tracey Brim
Jeffrey P. & Janet Gustafson
Dulcie Gannet
Andrea Foster
Martha Stroger
Laura Grays
Gracie Nelson
Rev. David & Marilyn Posley

Barbara Hill
Anniece & Jesse Spencer
Ella Spencer
Winifred French
Elouise Spencer
Lee & Jill Richman
Central Conference
Evelyn Colon
Francis J. & Sandra C. Lappin
R. K. Johnson & C. M. Barsotti
Calvary Covenant Church
Scott A. McDonald
Kathleen Monahan
Rebecca Townsend
Jane L. Nelson
Mrs. Mary Lou Sather
John G. Finley & Lynette Finley
Zerrie Campbell
Jerome & Joann Nelson
Covenant Ministries of Be-
nevolence
Shirley Trotter
Salem Baptist Church Salem

Salem Christian Academy
North Park Cov. Church
Oakdale Covenant Church
Mr. & Mrs. Robert M.
Anderson
Ella Eason
Grace Borggren
Kathy Brawley
Beverly Covenant Church
Barbara Breder
Charles & Mary Berry|
Patrice Bolton
Andrea V. Blackman
The Bjorkman Foundation
Nicolette W. Butler
Charlotte H. Bullock
Deborah C. Blue
Etta Burns
Rev. M. Randolph & Barbara
Thompson
Eugenia Taylor
South District Covenant
Women≈

**OCTOBER
IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**



OCTOBER 2009

- 1st—Recipient Award
- 3rd—Salem Walk-A-Thon
- 3rd—Cool Seniors
- 8th—MODV Summit
- 14th—North Park Covenant Church
- 20th—State’s Attorney Luncheon
- 23rd—Child Services Presentation
- 25th—Salem, Accepting Award
- 28th—Oakdale Covenant Church

NOVEMBER 2009

- 23rd—Thanksgiving food giveaway

DECEMBER 2009

- 21—Client Christmas Party

WellSpring Wish List

Office Supplies

- 2 computers
- 2 laptops
- 2 desktop printers
- Xerox paper

Gift Certificates

- Office Depot
- Office Max
- Wal-Mart/Target
- Gas Cards

Client Supplies

- Clothing (especially for boys and babies)
- Linen
- Pampers and Baby Wipes
- Toiletries
- Bus Cards
(City and Pace for Client transportation)
- Clothing racks
- Women’s business suits

**Holiday Compassion Request
Adopt A Family for the Thanksgiving & Christmas Holiday**