

STAND!

Against Domestic ViolenceSM

30 years of service

Options

SPRING 2008

INSIDE:

Volunteer Appreciation

Academy Awards:
Benefit Party Recap

Our Donors

Vanity for Charity

Save the Date~
Joie de Vivre

Volunteers—A vital part of STAND!'s Success

"In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it."

~ Marianne Williamson

"STAND! volunteers work in nearly every program the agency has." And it is possible that no one involved with STAND! would know that better than Susan Woodhouse, Manager of Volunteer Services & School Based Program.

Susan has been with STAND! for twelve years and has been the Volunteer Manager for seven years. Susan coordinates the 40-hour training

that each volunteer who is interested in working with the STAND! clients. The 40-hour training program is mandated by the state. After they finish the training, our volunteers not only have the tools to compassionately work with the very specific needs of victims of domestic violence, but also have legal protection. They are legally considered domestic violence

counselors by the state and cannot be compelled to testify in court.

"Since I have been involved with STAND!, the agency has gone through so much transition, but one of the things remain the same is that volunteers have remained the keystone of the organization. Individual volunteer's involvement wax and wane due to their intensity of other responsibilities, but the number of active volunteers remain constant," says Susan. "At any give time, STAND! has about 100 to 125 active individual volunteers. That number does not include the group volunteers like high school clubs, service groups like National Charity League, faith communities, and corporate groups."

In addition to the amazing number of hours and work STAND! volunteers supply, their dedication provides a less tangible but perhaps an even more important benefit. "Volunteers help refresh my paid staff members," says Usha Ramachandran, Intervention Services Manager. Usha oversees STAND!'s Crisis Line and Emergency Shelter. "When staff members see volunteers jumping in and committing themselves to sharing the hard work that





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from the Executive Director

BY GLORIA J. SANDOVAL

Dear Friends,

I've told the story countless times. I have told the story in one-on-one meetings with donors and I've told it to ballrooms filled with hundreds of guests. I have told the story in airports



and elevators. I may have even told the story to you personally, or you may have heard this story from one of our hundreds of board, staff, and volunteers.

STAND! proudly tells anyone and everyone that we were founded by a group of volunteers. A group of dedicated and committed women came together to help a friend escape from an intensively abusive relationship. Their generosity and assistance for one woman grew and transformed over the last thirty-one years into STAND! Against Domestic Violence, an agency which helps thousands of women and children per year.

For as much that has changed about STAND! about since 1977, one singularly important aspect has remained constant—volunteers drive this agency. They are the engine and the wheel. With only about 50 full and part time employees, it would be impossible to accomplish our work without them. Volunteers work in almost every department at STAND! and in almost every capacity from the crisis line to childcare, from speaker's bureau to special event support. Volunteers are indispensable. STAND! couldn't operate without their support.

In an age when time is as valuable as money, we understand and acknowledge the sacrifice that individuals make when they give their precious time to STAND!.

In honor of our volunteers and interns and in conjunction with upcoming National Volunteer Week, April 27 through May 3, 2008, this issue of Options is dedicated to them and will feature stories from several volunteers about their experiences with STAND!.

As we look to the future, STAND! recognizes that one of the most important factors in our expansion and continuing success will be the strength and commitment of our volunteers. Moving forward will depend on how well we can partner with other non-profit agencies, business interests, community leaders and the extraordinary, committed women and men who volunteer their time and talent to STAND!.

Also in this issue...

This February saw the return of STAND!'s legendary Academy Awards Benefit Party on Oscar night. For the complete recap, see pages 4-5.

As we move into spring, don't forget to take a queue from nature and embrace the opportunity to renew and revitalize yourself. STAND! has a great opportunity to do just that this spring with the 2nd Annual Dr. Potozkin, Vanity for Charity Event on May 6, 2008. Board certified, Dr. Potozkin will be donating the proceeds from an entire day of Botox, Restylane, and Juvederm treatments to "freshen up" your look while financially supporting STAND!.

And mark your calendars for the 26th Annual Joie de Vivre on June 7, 2008!

Have an amazing spring!

All best,

Gloria Sandoval

Mission Statement:

**STAND! leads the community
in ending domestic violence and rebuilding lives.**

continued from page 1

STAND! does in all of our programs, it revitalizes them and staves off employee burnout. It's easy to develop tunnel vision when you're moving from crisis to crisis, but volunteers remind you there is an entire community out there who cares about our families and our cause."

One of those volunteers is Dennis Henry. Dennis has a life long commitment to giving back to the community as a mentor in the Big Brother program and a teacher of parenting classes for the Family Stress Center (FSC). Dennis first encountered STAND! in a joint training session at FSC and was blown away by the issue of domestic violence and the breathe of the work STAND! was doing. Shortly after that training, Dennis entered a busy season of life with children and career responsibilities, but in the back of his mind, he was determined to become involved with STAND! as soon as the time was right.

One winter afternoon, Dennis stopped by the STAND! business office to pick up some information. He met the volunteer manager and was soon after enrolled in the summer volunteer training session. Dennis was taking his first solo crisis line shifts by March 2003. Since then, every Tuesday night Dennis has an appointment with STAND!'s Crisis Line.

"Over the five years that I have worked on the line, I have learned so much," said Dennis. "There are chronic clients who call repeatedly and talk for an hour, and there are the ones who call once and get into our shelter or out of their dangerous situation. I've learned that I need to meet both of those clients at the place they are right now. I'm there to listen compassionately and talk with them about their options."

One of the most personally affecting calls, came a few days before his own daughter's birthday, Dennis received a call from a young college woman. The caller's abusive boyfriend had just kicked her out of her apartment and she was devastated. "This call really affected me. She was my daughter's age. I was so grateful to have had an opportunity to be there for her and direct her to help and resources."

Dennis' experience is just one of the hundreds of STAND! volunteers. Each of them has their own heartbreaking and inspiring stories. Each volunteer is a vital piece of the STAND! whole. We recognized and thank each of being a part of the STAND! family.

For more information about becoming a STAND! volunteer, contact Susan Woodhouse at 925-603-0175 or susanw@standagainstdv.org.



We salute our amazing volunteers and interns. Listed below are all those who turned in a timesheet with hours volunteered between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. For those volunteers and interns who are "timesheet challenged", we appreciate your commitment also!

Sadie Abdullah	Sally Kronewitter
Joel Albert	Erik Kruse
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End Domestic Violence	Phyllis Proffer Total
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Maeretha Franklin	Committee
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STAND!'s Oscar Night 2007 Red Carpet Recap



Drama! Intrigue! An Elvis sighting! And that was all before you got past the registration tables!

STAND!'s 7th Annual Academy Awards Benefit Party was a dazzling success! The event committee, lead by always-dynamic Shamila Chand, did an amazing job re-launching the Oscar Party. Over 150 local movie lovers walked down the red carpet framed by gigantic searchlights and two towering replicas of the golden guy himself. There was even a crowd of screaming fans and paparazzi present as Elvis asked the crowd, "Who are you wearing?"

The Brenden lobby was transformed into a beautiful floral fantasy by creative and talented Judy Hembre with the support of a team of volunteer décor divas. The elegant touches infused the event with Hollywood glamour.

The evening featured the live simulcast of the 80th Academy Awards ceremony on one of Brenden's big screens. This year's awards were full of excitement from the surprise wins to the

stars' beautiful fashions. Red was definitely the color of the evening!

The commercial breaks were full of a cavalcade of prizes! Over 15 attendees took home luxury door prizes including manicures, restaurant certificates, exquisite jewelry and tickets to local special events.

And then there were five deluxe raffle packages! Filled with spa time, rounds of golf, tons of movie tickets, martini parties, gift certificates to many of the East Bay's best restaurants and shops. One lucky person walked away with this year's amazing best picture raffle prize—a seven day retreat to exotic Manzanillo, Mexico!

And just in case a guest hadn't won either a door or raffle prize, there was a selection of silent auction packages including one of a kind sports and collectible memorabilia, getaways to Las Vegas and Tahoe, beautiful diamond jewelry, a weekend rental of a BMW and a host of other extraordinary and unique items!

Known for its delicious myriad of food choices, this year's Oscar event did not disappoint! The Tour de Contra Costa buffet table featured an array of tempting treats from over 20 local restaurants including Café Oasis, P.F. Chang, Rocco's, Outback, Rachel Dunn Chocolates, Shinsen Sushi, I Love Teriyaki, La Tapatia, and E.J. Phair. There were dozens of delicious desserts from Sunrise Baking Company, Costco, Walnut Creek Baking Company and Fuddruckers. See the sidebar for the complete list! Unlimited soda and popcorn, courtesy of the Brenden theatre, coffee and tea from Starbuck's, and bottomless champagne (for a small donation) for the over 21 crowd rounded out an evening with something tempting for every plate and taste!

The Academy Awards fundraiser is unique among STAND's events because it is completely volunteer driven. It takes a host of volunteers willing to share their time and talents to help create our amazing Oscar event on a very limited budget. STAND! relies almost solely on volunteers for publicity; canvassing communities with signs, taking handbills to businesses and friends, and emailing invitations to their entire address books. They solicit local businesses for prizes, food, linens, and champagne for the event.

A huge thank you goes out to the employees from local Starbuck's stores who worked with STAND! volunteers on the day of the event doing everything from staffing the food tables to cleaning up late into the night! Paul Carillo of the Starbuck's at I-680 and Monument in Concord coordinated their effort. "Starbuck's volunteers are essential to making this event happen! After four years of their support, I couldn't imagine this event without them," said Patti Link Cawood, Fundraising Manager at STAND!. Along with Starbuck's manpower, their involvement brings with it a monetary grant for their participation as well.

Thank you to all the attendees and friends who came in your ball gowns or blue jeans to support STAND!'s important work to rebuild the lives of Contra Costa families affected by domestic violence! Your generous, festive spirit created a memorable evening. You were the true stars of the night!



We'd like to extend a very, special thanks to all the volunteers whose time and energy made the 7th Annual Academy Awards a reality! STAND! is so grateful for all your hard work, enthusiasm, and willingness to do whatever it took to make the event a success!

Anne Pierce
Big Al Caricatures
Dave and Susan Woodhouse
Denice Fetzer
Dennis Henry
Erik Kruse
Janet Xavier
Joan Weldon
Joel Appert
Judy Hembre
Kathy Brown
Kevin Schweigert

Maria Falavto
Marlene Altman
Maryanne Bjoran
Nancy Prescott
Olin Landrum
Jason Empson
Patty Mowery
Terry Bertolini
Tina Busker
Tracy Hammett
Usha Tuvell



Starbuck's Volunteers

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 Alex Laskaris
 Alyssa Senoren
 Amber Davis
 Chad Scott
 Gary Jaffe
 Jana McDowell
 Jeff Belezzuoli
 Joel Guinto
 Kristine Hung
 Meetra Esfahani
 Robert Skinner
 Sarah

Kiwanis of Concord Volunteers

Patti Barsotti
 Rocci Barsotti
 Mike Elder
 Sandra Hall
 Lynda Kilday
 Robert Hamilton
 Tim McGallian
 Lisa Sherrill

Special recognition for our MC, planner extraordinaire and all around Oscar Diva— Shamila Chand. You are the heart and soul of this event and the STAND! family recognizes your enormous talent and monumental contribution!

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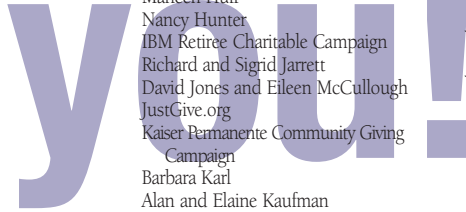
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