

Crime Victims Treatment Center  
**ADVOCATE NEWSLETTER**

**September 2002**

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**Greetings!**

Welcome back all you summer travelers. We missed you but managed with a cadre of superb advocates who were unfailingly on-call throughout the summer months. You know who you are and so do we. Thank you all.

**IMPORTANT...NEW ON-CALL PROCEDURE!!!**

Check out the new look for the monthly on-call schedule for St. Luke's-Roosevelt! The new format was created to accommodate the new answering service procedure that will be implemented on September 16<sup>th</sup>. All advocates and SAFE's are receiving a separate letter with this mailing, explaining the new on-call procedures. Please read it and give us a call if you have any questions. You will also see the new version of the schedule on our enhanced website (thanks to Bill Dycus, our Webmaster), which now features our newly created home page with links to information about our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary benefit celebration and will soon have information about our Fall training. Our website is: [www.cvtc-slr.org](http://www.cvtc-slr.org).

**Calling all SAFE Examiners!**

You are desperately needed! As you will see from the enclosed schedule, SAFE coverage for the month of September is at what may be an all-time low. Please, please have a look at the schedule and call Sally ASAP (523-4728) if you can cover any of the open dates.

**September 11<sup>th</sup> A Year Later....**

I know that for all of us, this will be a difficult week. Over the year, we cultivated and tailored our coping mechanisms and strategies to better manage our daily lives. As Advocates and SAFE examiners, you identify and experience post-traumatic stress disorder in the survivors you treat and we know that anniversaries can have a powerful emotional impact. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!!! Anticipate that you may have some reactions. Choose how you want to spend your time and acknowledge this anniversary week. Be with people and in places where you feel safe. Control the media exposure. It's ok to turn off the TV. Talk about your feelings and Reach out to us, the CVTC staff if you feel the need. If you need, call the September 11<sup>th</sup> Support Hotline at Safe Horizon, tel. 866-686-HELP. ...AND don't forget that we are here for you.

**Domestic Violence Advocate Supervision**

DVA's- mark your calendars for Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> for supervision with Jane. Please RSVP and post the enclosed flyer somewhere it will serve as a reminder.

**Rape Crisis Volunteer Advocate Training**

Last month, we sent you two fliers for the annual Rape Crisis Volunteer Advocate training, which will be held on *Thursday, October 24, Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>*. If you need more fliers, we'll be happy to send them to you. Those who would be interested in serving as group leaders on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, please call Erika to sign up. The sharing of your experiences is an invaluable part of the training and also satisfies one of your required two supervisions this year.

Current Rape Crisis Advocates who have not been called to the ED for some time, or those who took time off, may need a refresher. We are opening up the Saturday, November 2nd session to all current advocates who haven't used their skills recently or who don't feel confident about being called in. The training session will be held at the Roosevelt site in Conference Room B from 9AM to 6PM. Please let Erika know if you plan to attend.

### **Domestic Violence Volunteer Advocate Training**

Training for new DVA's will be held on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, Friday November 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, again following the Rape Crisis Advocate training. All the new Rape Crisis Advocates will be given the option of attending additional training so that when they are on-call, they will be called in for either Rape or DV. Any current Rape Crisis Advocates are invited to attend this additional training if they are interested in doing DV advocacy as well. Please call Erika to register.

### **New Support Group**

Ruth and Danette will be facilitating a support group for female survivors of childhood sexual abuse starting in October. Interviews are currently being conducted. Referrals for this group may be made by calling the Program office (523-4728) for screening and to schedule an interview.

### **Advocate News**

Wedding bells will be ringing for Rape Crisis Advocate, **Elizabeth Brown**, who will marry Tim Whitestone on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Best wishes, Elizabeth and Tim!

We bid a fond farewell to Rape Advocate, **Vania Briggs**, who can no longer volunteer due to her academic schedule. We will also miss **Mark Myers**, Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Advocate, who may be leaving NYC for the West Coast. Thank you so much for all the good work you've done.

### **Staff News**

Author! Author! Jane has been asking us all the same question for the past two years, "What brings you comfort?" And now- in September, we can read what movies, books, actions, places, music, foods, etc. comfort people in her new book (and some of you are in it!) So... ask for **THE COMFORT BOOK** at bookstores OR go to Amazon.com, click on "books", search for **Jane Seskin** and get a discount! Bravo, Jane! **Karen Reichert** is now on maternity leave...ready to give birth any moment and our student intern, **Sasha Mazza** went back to being a student. She was great all summer...Thanks Sasha.

### **CVTC 25<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Benefit**

Last but not least on the agenda is our event on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The benefit planning committee has been fantastic...just fantastic and Sally and Erika are right on top of things. All advocates will be receiving invitations. We do have sponsors who have donated tickets. So...if any of you want to come and cannot afford the ticket price, speak to Erika or Sally. We are trying to work out a system, which will be fair for all. But, needless to say...this is an event NOT TO BE MISSED!!!

## Thought for the month

In remembrance of September 11<sup>th</sup>, we are reprinting the poem we sent to all our friends last year. In remembrance....

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October 1, 2001

A NOTE TO OUR COLLEAGUES, FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

We are bruised but not broken,  
On alert but not afraid,  
Saddened but not silenced.

We hold in our hearts all those who have lost their sons, daughters, mothers, fathers and friends.  
We salute the bravery and valor of police officers and firefighters.  
We honor the compassionate skills of EMTs, nurses and doctors.  
We applaud the courageous acts of ordinary citizens.

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During the difficult days ahead . . .  
We will work to rebuild, replenish and restore trust,

hope,  
safety  
And spirit

To our neighbors on the Westside  
And to the larger New York community.

CRIME VICTIMS TREATMENT CENTER STAFF  
St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center

Crime Victims Treatment Center 411 West 114th Street Suite 2C 212 523-4728 (JS)