



Issue 62

Connections The Newsletter

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Ferry County - Connections

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Each October Connections hosts several events to raise public awareness about domestic violence.

Again this year we will be holding a **Domestic Peace Rally** at the Ferry County courthouse lawn. This event will be held on October 1st starting at 3:30pm. There will be hot chili, music, door prizes and a silent auction fundraiser at the Rally.

October 14th, **Domestic Violence Awareness Rally in Inchelium** 5-7pm at the health clinic.

On October 15th we will be holding our **2nd Annual Silent Candlelight Walk**. The walk will begin at 7:30pm from Patterson Park in Republic. We will provide candles. This event is held in memoriam of the many people who have lost their lives to domestic violence.

On the 28th of October a **Domestic Violence Awareness Rally** will be held in Keller 4-6pm at the Community Center.

Connections will also be distributing **Purple Ribbons** throughout the county. During the month of October we ask that all community members please wear a purple ribbon to help bring awareness to domestic violence. Domestic violence is a crime that in some way effects all of us. Victims of abuse and their families need our support and involvement to help keep them safe. We all need to work together to end abuse.

For more information about these events please call Connections at 775-3331



A New VISTA Volunteer at Connections

Sarah Reaveley has joined the Connections staff as a VISTA Placement. Sarah is from Camano Island and recently graduated from Evergreen State College with a Bachelors Degree in Cultural Studies. She will be working with our program until next summer. Sarah's main focus while at Connections will be working with the Child Parent Program.

Kid Connections, Summer Fun

Connections summer program, Kid Connections, was held in Republic, Keller, Inchelium, Curlew, and Orient. Over 100 children participated in these exciting activities. Some of the fun included making musical instruments and having a sing-along with Rusty Summy; making giant puzzles; and learning about personal safety at the Inchelium bike rodeo. Kid Connections is designed for all children ages 5-12.

FUN RUN & SAFETY RALLY

On August the 12th Annual Kid Connections Fun Run & Safety Rally was held. Over 20 children participated in this event. Duncan Forsman was the Fun Run winner with Walker Baumbach taking second place. Connections community supporters, **Steve Graham, Debra Dockery and Napa Auto Parts, made donations** so that the fun run participants could take home Kid Connections t-shirts this year. **We're very grateful for their support.** Louis and Jeannie from the Republic Ambulance attended and gave participants a tour of their vehicle. Sgt.

Marcuson of the Republic police department attended with his vehicle and showed the children all of the special equipment he uses in emergencies. Department of Natural Resource personnel attended along with Smokey Bear who was celebrating his 65 birthday. The DNR discussed with the children campfire safety and handed out activity packets.



Twenty Years of Service

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My co-worker Twinflower Wilkie was hired in 1989 by Ferry County Community Services Director David King, to work as a Children's Case Manager. In 1994 Twinflower left that position and transferred into an Advocate position at Connections. Twinflower had previously volunteered with Connections for almost 10 years, beginning in 1985. Over the years Twinflower has conducted many community trainings including collaborating with Tri-County Health to teach parenting classes. She and then co-worker, Barbra Strandberg, started Kid Connections in 1994, which is still going strong, hosting its 12th Annual Fun Run & Safety Rally a couple weeks ago. In the mid-1990's Twinflower also was involved in training the Curlew Drama Club to be peer presenters on sexual assault awareness. With Twinflower's help the club traveled to other schools in the area presenting sexual violence prevention skits for the student bodies. Twinflower reports feeling most proud of the work she has done, teaching children safety skills and how to identify their personal boundaries. Over the years Twinflower has given advocacy services to numerous victims of abuse and rape, helping so many through painful experiences. Twinflower is one of the most even tempered, respectful, people I know. Twinflower is a mother of three, and a grandmother to four. She enjoys travel and gardening, and has been married for 35 years.



This October Twinflower will celebrate twenty years of service to Ferry County. Connections is very pleased and honored to have her on our staff and hope she stays for twenty more.

By Toni Lembcke, co-worker

WASHINGTON STATE EMERGENCY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER AND ADVOCACY SERVICES 2008

This data reflects only the emergency domestic violence shelter and advocacy services provided by contracted agencies (including Connections) and does not reflect the full range of services provided by these contractors.

2008 STATISTICS:

The statewide domestic violence hotline received 15,647 calls.

Programs provided 4,908 adult and children with 119,336 bednights of emergency domestic violence shelter.

12,575 adult survivors and children received non-residential advocacy and support services.

Domestic violence programs answered 40,010 crisis hotline/information and referral calls in 2008.

Programs provided 89,586 hours of individual support and advocacy, and 20,449 hours of group support to adult survivors.

Children and youth received 5,999 hours of individual support and advocacy, and 4,607 hours of group support.

DSHS contracts with 43 programs throughout Washington to provide emergency domestic violence shelter and advocacy services, covering the state's 39 counties. Connections is one of these DSHS contracted programs.

There are approximately 825 emergency domestic violence shelter beds in the State of Washington.

Calendar of Events

October & November 2009

- 10/1 Domestic Peace Rally at Ferry County Courthouse lawn at 3:30pm.
- 10/13 Monthly in-service training 9-10am, location TBA
- 10/14 Domestic Violence Awareness Rally in Inchelium
- 10/15 Connections 2nd Annual Silent Candlelight Walk, 7pm from Patterson Park in Republic. This day is also Washington State Survivor's Day, acknowledging survivor's of domestic violence and remembering those who have not survived.

- 10/16 National Boss Day
- 10/ 28 Domestic Violence Awareness Rally in Keller
- 10/31 Halloween
- 11/3 Election Day
- 11/10 Monthly in-service training, time and location TBA.
- 11/11 Veteran's Day, Connections office will be closed
- 11/26 Thanksgiving Holiday, Connections will be closed



Wear a Purple Ribbon
Each day in October to show your support.
Let's all work together to end domestic violence.

Join us.

Anytime Connections office is closed, we have on-call crisis services available by calling 1-800-269-2380.



PO Box 1158

Republic WA 99166

Connections, serving victims of domestic and sexual violence, victims of other crimes, and the homeless throughout Ferry County