



ON THE HOMEFRONT

Serving the needs of women with co-occurring mental and addictive disorders
Volume III, Issue 4



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

BY JENNY JOHNSTONE-SMITH

It has been a busy few months at Susan's Legacy. New staff and many new volunteers joined our program. Our Clinical Director, Dr. Tamara Abousleman, and Program Manager, Tiffany Bower, enthusiastically approached our re-structuring with a sense of excitement. They saw it as an opportunity to create new programming and looked to the community to direct our efforts. A community assessment, targeted the question..."What would you like to see in a life skills training program? What's missing and what could we add to benefit those we serve?" Twenty-five agencies responded, providing us a lot of useful information for planning life skills activities.

Community Support Worker, Terry Novaria, began providing care coordination, working with a caseload in Sandoval County. We will be able to provide housing assistance to two jail diversion program participants as a part of this project.

The staff also worked on developing stronger collaborations. As a result, you will find Tamara and Tiffany on-site at two facilities that serve the homeless. Every week, they are at St. Martins helping to identify needs of women St. Martins is unable to serve under the new Core Service Agency (CSA) model. We also began providing similar services on-site at Barrett House.

At the Homeless Crusade, Susan's Legacy was able to provide clothing for women in need and we also participated in the state Department of Health/Behavioral Health Services Division planning meeting on *Barriers to Women's Substance Abuse Treatment in New Mexico*. This two-day meeting was a follow-up meeting from April and the goal was the development of New Mexico's Treatment Standards for Women.

All in all it was an extremely busy few months and as we look to the New Year, we remain positive with a renewed sense of purpose. The Best in the New Year!

On January 21st, Please Join us for...

Women Make a Difference
Proudly Presents

Connected by a Thread...

A Luncheon & Raffle to Benefit Susan's Legacy,
The Mountain Fund & The Women's Foundation of Nepal



Fashion Showase & Sale of Handmade Scarves Made by Women in Nepal
Keynote Speaker: Scott MacLennan* • Win SW Airline Tickets

Friday, January 21 • 11:30 - 1:30pm

The Tanoan Country Club • \$28 per plate

*Scott MacLennan is the 2010 Sir Edmund Hillary Mountain Legacy Medalist
Raffle ticket prices and prizes available online

For more information or to reserve your place,
please visit www.abqwomenmakeadifference.com

Find *Connected by a Thread* on Facebook



On-Line Ticket Purchase & *Connected by a Thread* Mission Story
Can be Found at:
http://abqwomenmakeadifference.com/Special_Event.html

Find *Connected by a Thread* on Facebook!

We lost a Dear Friend



Susan's Legacy lost a good friend recently. Board member Mary Han was instrumental in founding Susan's Legacy, and remained on the board from our first day of business in 1999 until she passed away in November. Susan's Legacy could not have had a truer friend. Mary was a tenacious fighter for the underdog and understood the challenges that the women we serve face on a day-to-day basis. Mary remains in our hearts and in our memories.

"equality for all. privilege for none"

Thomas Jefferson



Make a Difference Day 2010

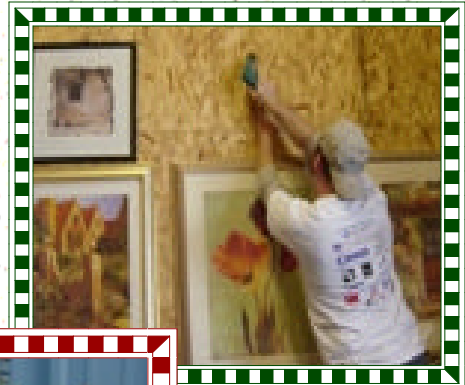
Kesselman-Jones, Inc., "A communications firm specializing in conference and event management," chose Susan's Legacy for their Make a Difference Day



Project. SL Project Manager, Terry Novaria, and Executive Director, Jenny Johnstone-Smith, enjoyed working along side this group and had this to say, "They must have a lot of fun at their work place, if judged by the way they interacted during the clean up. Lots of laughs were had by all. And judging by their efforts, there is no doubt they're also a results-driven group. We couldn't have been more pleased with the outcome!" So on behalf of our board, staff, volunteers and especially the women we serve, our sincere thanks to the following individuals:

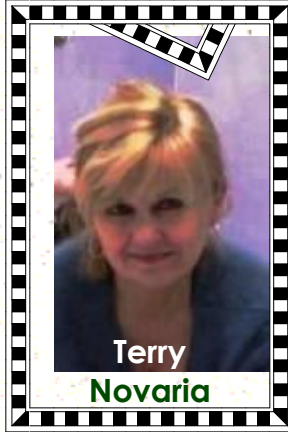
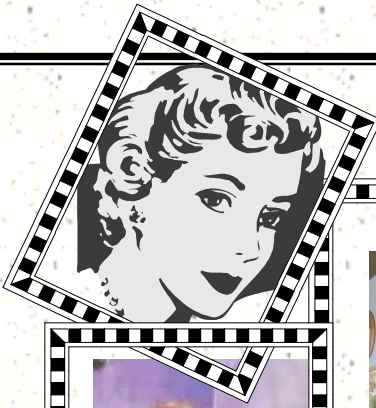
Laura Kesselman, Bernadette Gallegos, Terri Ruegger, Solomon Romney, Nicholas Taylor, Tabatha Bennett, and Monique Spindle...you guys rock!

Thank You Kesselman-Jones...

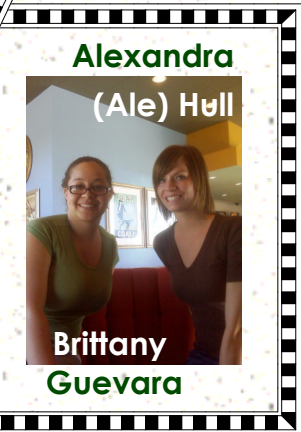


*You Really
Made a
Difference!*

New Faces at Susan's Legacy



**Terry
Novaria**



**Alexandra
(Ale) Hull
Brittany
Guevara**

Terry was born and raised in Albuquerque NM, but

in the late 70's to continue her education in Tucson Arizona. It was there that she received her first job working in a homeless shelter and decided that was the work she had to do. She continued to work for the Salvation Army for 6 years until she moved back to Albuquerque in 1989. Terry has worked at various agencies in Albuquerque, including 8 years at St. Martin's Hospitality Center Day Shelter. After the birth of her son Jonathan, she enjoyed being a stay at home mom. But Terry is excited to be back doing the work she loves and to be a part of the team at Susan's Legacy. And with her "can do" spirit, we are glad to have Terry as a part of the team. Terry is currently working with the FIC-SC Jail Diversion Program.

Please consider Susan's Legacy in your end-of-year giving or workplace payroll deduction through United Way of Central New Mexico's Annual Campaign!

Welcome to new volunteers, **Lara Wilhelm, Devan Ramero, Nancy Ryan, Brittany Guevara, and Alexandra Hull.** This month we are highlighting volunteer service provided by Brittany and Alexandra:

Brittany: A big thanks to Brittany for getting us set-up for Make a Difference Day. We almost didn't get it off the ground. Without your efforts, Brittany, we would never have met the wonderful folks at Kesselman-Jones!

Alexandra: Ale is a student in the Family Studies program at UNM, but makes time to help us with many projects. Ale even sewed 80 fabric bags to hold hygiene items which were handed out at the Homeless Crusade. What an undertaking!

Welcome to new board members, **Glena Gabara, Amorena Almand, and Sherron Smith-Davis!**


Does your agency provide services for homeless women?

Were you aware that Susan's Legacy has essential household goods and clothing? In providing essential services we may be able to provide some of the necessary items for job interviews, or for setting up a home after leaving emergency shelter. If you're a case manager, give us a call, we just may be able to help. Call the office at 843-8450

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE (EIN: 85-0462276)
\$50 buys five \$10 gas cards for clients to carpool! \$120 buys a client's monthly bus pass for an entire year!
Make Checks payable to: Susan's Legacy. Please mail to Administrative Office:
6721 Academy Road NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, NM 87109

Name: _____
Address: _____
Address 2: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please add me to your E-Newsletter mailing: Yes No
\$10.00 \$20.00 \$50.00 \$75.00
\$100.00 \$500.00 \$1,000 Other

 Staff Offices
Make a Donation on-line at:
www.susanslegacy.org





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2010 / 2011 FY Funding

New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority - New Mexico Human Services Department / Behavioral Health Services Division - United Way of Central New Mexico - OptumHealth New Mexico - The Frost Foundation - Bank of the West, A Caring Community and You!

How Else to Help

Susan's Legacy is in desperate need of donated office space in the proximity of the downtown area or on a major bus route. Or maybe you have a vacant house which you would like to see occupied where we can provide services. We can provide sweat equity to paint and clean! **Volunteer:** Teach a Life Skills class, Join the Fundraising Committee, Become a SOUL Sister Mentor, Provide Donation Pick-up Assistance, Write a Grant! **Financial Support:** Sponsor an Event, Make a Cash Donation, Make an In-kind Donation (household goods, toiletries holiday gift bags), Donate Printing Costs or Office Supplies.

Special Thanks to the Following People and Groups

Lara Wilhelm and Ale Hull, for participating in the Homeless Crusade, and Ale and Devan Romero for staffing a table at La Cueva High School, where the DECA Club hosted a fair for non-profits as community "Angels in Service." A HUGE thanks to St. Martin's Hospitality Center, Shelter Director, Linda Woods-Fuller and Client Advocate, Karen Navarro, for inviting us to collaborate with them to offer services on-site, Diana Tuggle and Women Riding Well for choosing our families to donate to over the holidays. Roadrunner Civitan Club for providing holiday spa/hygiene baskets, and Carol Kline of Route 66 Civitan for doing the shopping! A special thanks to Community Education & Awareness Coordinator, Gabrielle Abousleman from the Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico - Luna Nueva Project for providing life skills education. A BIG thanks to Executive Director, Dorothee Otero, and Case Manager, Desiree Barreras of Barrett House Foundation for allowing us to bring our services to their site. And again, thanks to Kesselman-Jones for choosing us for Make a Difference Day, and Wal mart Carlisle Super Ctr. Asst. Mgr, Stephan for donating snacks for the event. Lastly, thanks to Sarah Nance for selecting Susan's Legacy to write a proposal for her UNM grant-writing class. It is with support such as yours that we are able to provide on-going services to families in need.

Program & Services

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Assessments - Support & Recovery Groups - Life Skills Program - Job Development - Case Management - Counseling & Assessments for Co-Occurring Disorders.



Save a Woman, Save a Family!