

### Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By: Emily Putters; Norfolk Outreach Coordinator

This October, Bright Horizons continued to raise awareness about Domestic Violence in the communities we serve. Once again Norfolk, O'Neill, and Ainsworth lined the downtown areas with purple ribbons and yard signs that displayed statistics on domestic violence. The signs were also displayed at the Northeast Community College Campus in Norfolk and in other areas in the town of O'Neill. Walking or driving by these were hard to miss and made a powerful statement. We would like to thank the downtown businesses and Northeast Community College for helping us raise awareness this October. Domestic Violence affects everyone.... and together we can bring it to an end.



### In this issue:

Candle Light Vigil	2
The Ripple Effect	2
Candle Light Vigil	3
The Clothesline Project	3
Diaper Drive	3
PATCH Health Fair	4
Resource Fair	4
Women's Wellness Event	4
Advocacy Awards	5
New Staff	6
Client Services	6
Recognition of Donors	7
Upcoming Events	8

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### Candle Light Vigil

By: Elaine Ginter, Ainsworth Program Director

In honor of October Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Ainsworth office hosted two Domestic Violence Vigils for families and friends of victims in Ainsworth and Bassett. The first event was held on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Ainsworth Public Library. There was also a Candlelight Vigil in Bassett on Thursday evening at 7:00 pm St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Bassett. Bright Horizons provided the traditional small white candles for everyone. Families were encouraged to bring symbolic colorful candles or they could decorate their own pillar style Memorial Candles to place on the display table. There was a short program with music and speakers. At the end of the program the candle lighting began and there was a quiet time of prayer and reflection.

A candle light vigil, is a time for communities to unite to remember those who have lost their life as a result of abuse, celebrate those who have survived, connect with those who work to end violence and raise public awareness about domestic violence in our communities.



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### The Ripple Effect

By: Ashley Johansen, Shelter Advocate

Two advocates from Bright Horizons had the opportunity to do some outreach at a local event. September 23<sup>rd</sup> the Norfolk Area LOSS Team recently hosted an event at North East Community College where they showed a film titled, "Suicide: The Ripple Effect". The event was open to the public and saw a wide variety of individuals ranging from high school age to later adult hood with the theater completely full by the time the film began. Area agencies had the opportunity to have a table outside the theater to spread awareness for various causes. The documentary style film follows the work of Kevin Hines, a suicide attempt survivor. Kevin, who struggles with Bipolar Disorder, attempted to take his life in 2000 by jumping off of the Golden Gate Bridge in a moment of hysteria. Somehow he survived, with no lasting bodily damage, and with his second chance at life has become a powerful advocate and voice for the mental health community. His work has led to the construction of a suicide prevention net to be placed on the Golden Gate Bridge. The net is expected to be completed in 2020. Other proud landmarks such as the Empire State Building and the Eiffel Tower have suicide barriers in place already, and with the Bridge being the number one used location for suicide, it is about time that something is done. Bright Horizons was a proud sponsor in helping bring the film to Norfolk. The LOSS team, which stands for Local Outreach for Suicide Survivors, is a team of local community members and professionals who have experienced the loss of a loved one to suicide. They are dispatched to schools and family members of victims of suicide, providing resources, support and most importantly, HOPE.





## Clothesline Project

By: Emily Putters, Norfolk Outreach Coordinator

The clothesline was hung on display during October. This project is a visual display that bears witness to the violence against women. During the public display, a clothesline is hung with shirts. Each shirt is decorated to represent a particular victim's experience, by the survivor themselves or by someone who cares about them. We would like to thank the places the clothesline project was displayed at:

**Faith Regional Health Services**

**Norfolk Public Library**

**Pierce County Courthouse**

**Stanton Public Library**

**Thank you!**



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## Diaper Drive

By: Emily Putters, Outreach Coordinator

The last eight years during the month of September we, at Bright Horizons, have held a diaper drive. This year our communities helped us raise 9,993 diapers and 83 packs of wipes. Our diaper drive was another great success! The donations of diapers are greatly appreciated, and help many children who are affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. Our staff truly appreciates all of the continued support, as this makes it possible for us to continue to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We would like to thank the following places for collecting diapers for our agency:

**St John's Lutheran Church**  
**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**St. Peter's Catholic Church**  
**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
**Christ the Servant Church**  
**Plainview Area Churches**  
**Elkhorn Valley Bank**  
**Great Western Bank - O'Neill**  
**West Holt Medical Services**  
**Presbyterian Church and**  
**Lutheran Church ECLA-**  
**Niobrara**  
**Johnstown and Ainsworth**  
**United Methodist Churches**  
**Brown County Hospital**



## PATCH Health Fair 2018

By: Lacy Kimes, Housing Supervisor

September was full of some exciting events at Bright Horizons. We had the opportunity to have a booth at the Norfolk Area P.A.T.C.H. Health Fair again this year and “Be a Health Hero” was this year’s theme. Bright Horizons used that to educate our community on the importance of believing victims and offering them support. Bright Horizons is dedicated to the elimination of domestic violence and sexual assault through empowerment, education, social action and support services.

The P.A.T.C.H. Health Fair is a free event that brings hundreds of people to get services and local resources. Bright Horizons enjoys connecting with others and spreading the information on our agency, and how we can all be that “hero” to help others live a life free of violence.



## Resource Fair

By: Yajaira Gonzalez, Bilingual Advocate

During the month of August two of Bright Horizons’ bilingual advocates were able to set up a booth at a resource fair that took place at First United Methodist Church in O’Neill Nebraska. During our time there they were able to provide hygiene bags and Immigrant Victim Relief Project information. The purpose of the Immigrant Victims Relief Project is to improve accessibility of culturally and linguistically responsive services to immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking who live in rural Nebraska. Bright Horizons works with the Nebraska Coalition to end Sexual & Domestic Violence to provide these services to victims.



## Women’s Wellness Event

By: Tori Thrasher, O’Neill Program Director

On September 27<sup>th</sup> we held the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Women’s Wellness Event at the O’Neill Community Center. There was a mixture of vendors at the event this year. We had vendors selling clothes, home décor, jewelry, makeup, cleaning and food products to vendors who were offering services such as counseling, health coach services, and even registration to vote. Roughly 130 individuals strolled through the community center taking in what the vendors had to offer. With over 35 vendors, wine tasting, and wonderful appetizers available, it made for a successful evening.



## Advocacy Award Ceremony

By: Linda Olson; Executive Director

Two members of the Bright Horizons staff were honored by the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence at the No More Statewide Conference on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln. The annual advocacy awards are presented to individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to ending domestic violence and sexual assault and serving individuals affected by these crimes.

Lacy Kimes, Bright Horizons' Housing Supervisor, was presented with the Domestic Violence Advocate of the Year. She was selected because of her exceptional advocacy to families living in Bright Horizons' shelters and her work in developing the Project Homeless Connect – Norfolk. Under Lacy's outstanding leadership Project Homeless Connect – Norfolk brought together 40 service providers and 80 volunteers to serve over 350 individuals.



Kimes stated, “What I’ve enjoyed the most about working at Bright Horizons and working as an advocate is working with such an amazing team. Each day has its struggles, but seeing survivors overcome those struggles and start a new life, free of violence, is so rewarding. And I know that I had a small part in that.”

Linda Olson, Bright Horizons' Executive Director, was selected for the Above and Beyond award. Linda was recognized not only for her work at the local level but also for her leadership statewide. Linda has served on the statewide database committee, sustainability committee, and the policy committee. Linda served five years on the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, two years as president.

“It is such an honor to receive this award and to be able to work with such amazing advocates, not only at Bright Horizons, but across the state. Advocates that truly care and put their heart into serving victims of domestic violence and sexual assault” stated Olson.

Jennifer Bonyng, from the Rape Domestic Abuse Program (RDAP) in North Platte was selected as the Sexual Assault Advocate of the Year. EmmaRaye Petersen, also from RDAP, was selected as the Prevention Advocate of the Year. Christon MacTaggart, the Domestic and Sexual Violence Project Manager at the Women's Fund of Omaha, was selected as the Community Partner of the Year.

“Each year the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence honors individuals who have dedicated their talents to inspiring social change, and serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence across our state. Linda Olson and Lacy Kimes truly exemplify, through their passion and energy, the effort that it takes to make our communities safer for survivors, and we applaud their dedication” stated Lynne Lange, Executive Director of the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence.

## Education Available

**Bright Horizons offers education on bullying, dating violence, healthy relationships, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. We offer education for all ages, including schools, youth groups, and other organizations. If you are interested in having a speaker, please call the Norfolk, O'Neill, or Ainsworth office.**




## Meet Our New Staff!

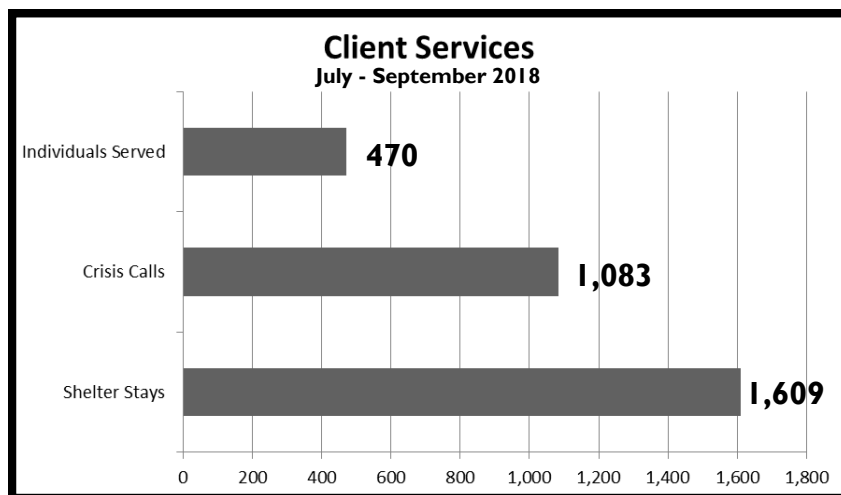

Hi, my name is Kerry Clevinger. I am the new O'Neill Outreach Coordinator. I have lived in Butte NE for over 22 years. I recently celebrated my 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary with my husband Terry. We have one daughter named Mckenna who is 22 years old and works in Atkinson, NE at the hospital. We have three dogs and love to go camping, junking and spend time with our extended family. My husband and I were pastoral ministers for 15 years in Holt and Boyd counties. I also have a background of working in home health and mental health counseling with severe and persistent mental illness. I look forward to meeting everyone and being part of Bright Horizons.

Hello, my name is Jessica Jacobo and I'm a Part-time Bilingual Advocate for Bright Horizons. I've been married for about 22 years to Francisco Perez. We are blessed with 4 wonderful kids; Javier 21, Joshua 17, Johan 12 & Jayla 7. I was raised in Los Angeles, California but I've been living in Norfolk, Nebraska for the past 23 years. I have 3 brothers and 3 sisters and about 17 nieces & nephews. My husband and I are both Chaplains and are currently studying to become Ordained Ministers. In my free time I LOVE to craft, scrapbook & watch movies. I have 2 cockatiel birds, 1 male & 1 female, "that love to make a mess" (LOL). I FEEL BLESSED TO WORK IN A AGENCY THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE FOR THE GOOD!!!

My name is Emileidy "Emi" Zavala, I graduated from Norfolk Senior High in 2012. I am the new Bilingual Advocate for Bright Horizons at Kris' House of Grace. I am married and have one beautiful chocolate lab named Brownie. I also have 3 brothers and 1 sister, as well as 1 niece and 1 nephew. As a past time I enjoy hanging out with my family, doing nails, reading and sometimes going for a walk/jog. I am very excited and thankful to have the opportunity to help others through this agency.



**Help us save some trees and cut some cost by signing up for the newsletter by email! Please contact Emily at [emily@brighthorizonsne.org](mailto:emily@brighthorizonsne.org) to add your name to the email list!**



### NOTE:

These numbers are unduplicated. This means if we worked with a victim 6 times in one month, we only count him/her ONE time for that month.

## Last Quarter Supporters of Bright Horizons

Andrea Borgman  
 Bill & Anita Babutzke  
 Chris Bosn  
 Carol Olson  
 Carol Rodman  
 Connie Deets  
 Delbert Parshall  
 Eileen Moss  
 Elaine Wells  
 Elise Day  
 Eric & Michelle Johnson  
 Gloria Knapp  
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 Karen Haselhorst  
 Kathleen Raasen  
 LeAnn Shelmer  
 Loretta Gill  
 Mackenzie Vogt  
 Mary Sharp  
 Pastor Martha  
 Pat Geiger  
 Pauline Waldo  
 Sharon Appelt  
 Sharon Babi

Stephanie Henn  
 Theo Kohle  
 Virgil Froelich  
 Boyd Co. FBLA  
 Brown County Hospital  
 Christ the Servant Lutheran  
 Church—Norfolk  
 Congregational Church—Plainview  
 Elkhorn Valley Bank  
 First United Methodist Church &  
 Bible School—Norfolk  
 Great Western Bank—O'Neill  
 Lutheran Church ECLA—Niobrara  
 LWML—Valentine  
 GFWC Clarkson Woman's Club  
 Methodist Church—Plainview  
 Mirage Salon & Spa  
 Nebraska North District LWML—  
 O'Neill  
 Norfolk Public Schools  
 Our Savior Lutheran Church—  
 Norfolk  
 Our Savior Lutheran Church—  
 Plainview  
 Presbyterian Church—Niobrara  
 Renewed Hope Community  
 Church—Norfolk  
 Rock County Hospital

Raeville Quilters—Elgin  
 St. Jane Frances Quilters—  
 Randolph  
 St. John's Lutheran Church—  
 Norfolk  
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church—  
 Bassett  
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church—  
 O'Neill  
 St. Mary's School (Drexel House)  
 - O'Neill  
 St. Mary's Quilter's—Leigh  
 St. Paul's Catholic Church—  
 Plainview  
 St. Peter's Catholic Church—  
 Stanton  
 Trinity Episcopal Church—Norfolk  
 Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies  
 Aid—Madison  
 United Methodist Church—  
 Ainsworth  
 United Methodist Church—  
 Johnstown  
 United Stephen Ministries  
 West Holt Medical Services -  
 Atkinson  
 Zion Lutheran Church—Plainview

*Thank  
you*

## Bright Horizons Shelter Wish List

Paper Good Supplies  
 Cleaning Supplies  
 Air Fresheners  
 Disinfectant Wipes/Spray  
 Dish/Laundry Soap  
 Fabric Softener  
 Trash Bags— All sizes  
 Light Bulbs 40-60 Watt  
 Hand Soap  
 Food Items  
 Bottled Water  
 Zip-Lock Bags/Tupperware

LET OUR  
 hearts  
 BE FULL OF BOTH  
 THANKS AND  
 giving

Bedding (Twin & Full)  
 Storage Totes  
 Ice Melt  
 Coffee, Filters, & Creamer  
 Gift Cards (Grocery, Gas, etc.)  
 Baby Care Items  
 Disposable Diapers  
 Baby Wipes  
 Baby Formula  
 Hygiene Products  
 Over The Counter Medications  
 First Aid Supplies

**Bright Horizons**  
Resources for Survivors of  
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

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Norfolk Office  
601 E. Norfolk Ave  
Norfolk, NE 68701  
(402) 379-2026

O'Neill Office  
318 E. Douglas St.  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
(402) 336-1774

Ainsworth Office  
938 East Zero St.  
PO Box 313  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 382-5676

Crisis Line  
1-877-379-3798



[www.brighthorizonsne.org](http://www.brighthorizonsne.org)

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If you no longer want to be on Bright Horizons' newsletter mailing list, please contact Emily at 402-379-2026 or at [emily@brighthorizonsne.org](mailto:emily@brighthorizonsne.org)

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**Ask Us About Becoming a  
Volunteer!**

## Bright Horizons Services

- |                                    |                      |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| •24 Hour Crisis Line               | •Community Education | •Individual Advocacy |
| •Criminal Justice & Legal Advocacy | •Emergency Shelter   | •Support Group       |
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**24 Hour Crisis Line 1-877-379-3798**

**Providing services to Antelope, Boyd, Holt, Knox, Madison, Pierce,  
Stanton, Brown, Rock, and Keya Paha counties.**

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## Upcoming Events:

**Adopt A Family**

**Winter Coat Drive**

**See our flyers for more information!**

**Don't forget to sign up to get the newsletter electronically by emailing [emily@brighthorizonsne.org](mailto:emily@brighthorizonsne.org)!**

**Also find us online and on Facebook!**