Connect with Bright Horizons
By: Linda Olson; Executive Director

Bright Horizons began mailing out a quarterly newsletter in 2004. Since that time, we have increased our mailing list to 772 individuals and email to another 908 individuals. This has been a great way to share news about our agency throughout our ten county service area.

As technology has evolved, we are planning on changing with the times. We are moving towards a digital model to share our news so this will be the last quarterly newsletter that we mail and email out.

Our goal is to share news more frequently and in a timelier manner. We will be utilizing our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts to post updates on our program. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter and to subscribe to updates on our website.

To subscribe to website updates go to www.brighthorizonsne.org. Under the “About Us” tab, click on “Blog”. That will take you to our news page. On the left hand side of that page you can add your email address to subscribe to updates. This will allow you to keep up with Bright Horizons and the work that we are doing.

We currently have 1,625 followers on Facebook. Our updates will also be posted on Facebook with a link to the article.

This December we will be publishing our first ever annual report. This will be a comprehensive report on our agency’s activities and a wrap up of the previous fiscal year. Those who are on our current newsletter list will continue to receive the annual report. If you would like to subscribe please email emily@brighthorizonsne.org. We would like to thank all of our followers, supporters, and newsletter recipients for staying connected to our agency. We look forward to keeping in touch!
April was Volunteer Appreciation Month and volunteers are a huge part of our agency! We would like to give a big shout out to all of our amazing and dedicated volunteers for all the hard work they do! WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Amanda Nipp
Envisions of Norfolk Inc.

Ben McBride
Gena Jones

Brandy Starman
Heidi Wedgie

Cathy Wells
Jenny Bender

Carleen Warrack
Jessica Gordon

Carol Cruise
Jojo Boyle

Charlotte Christensen
Kelly Polt

Dana Nielsen
Kris Harvey

Dawn Meyer
Laurie Morrow

Linda Asher

Lori Lee

Mike Schmidt

Nany Trimble

Randy Rodenborg

Rosemary Rutten

Sara Twibell

Stephanie Brundieck

Stephanie Suckstorf

Steve & Karen Warner

Susan Green

Suzi Chipp

Tiffany Goetz

Tylynne Bauer

Women’s Empowering Lifeline

The Set Me Free Project
By: Kerry Clevinger; O’Neill Outreach Coordinator

The Set Me Free Project is a nonprofit organization focused on fighting sex trafficking through prevention education for youth and families. The curriculum is informative, interactive, and flexible – reaching students (3rd-12th grade), educators, parents and leaders in every facet of our communities. The mission is to stop human trafficking before it starts. The Set Me Free Project is unique in that it uses interactive, age appropriate curriculum in every presentation. It focuses on defining human trafficking and helping students identify why and how they could be at risk. The project provides a foundation for all students to recognize the intrinsic value in every human being. On March 26th Bright Horizons and Set Me Free presenter, Stephanie Olson, were in the Ainsworth Community Schools, who hosted the Keya Paha County High School 9th-12th grade for the afternoon presentation. In the morning the 7th-8th grades had a presentation. On March 27th we were in Bassett at the Rock County High School. The morning was the 7th-8th grade presentation and the afternoon was the high school students. The youth drama team from Saint Mary’s Catholic School in O’Neill were able to present their drama. It was about dating violence and defining what consent is and isn’t. It was a simple yet powerful skit. It is one thing to present information as an adult but to have youth present to youth was very powerful because it was peer to peer. Set Me Free also hosted an evening event for parents, businesses and interested citizens (adults only) that focused on social media safety, domestic abuse/dating abuse indicators, human trafficking grooming tactics/signs to look for, and identification of sexual/labor trafficking.
Sexual Assault Awareness Month  
**By: Emily Putters; Norfolk Outreach Coordinator**

Sexual violence is a widespread problem, but the good news is it is preventable. Prevention requires many voices and roles. There are many ways individuals, communities, and the private sector can take action to promote safety, respect, and equality. Prevention aims to stop sexual violence before it has a chance to happen. It is possible to create a community where everyone is treated with respect and equality. This can be done by promoting safe behaviors, thoughtful policies and healthy relationships. Prevention strategies that address the root causes and social norms that allow sexual violence to exist in the first place are the most effective. This means making the connection between all forms of oppression (including racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, adultism, ageism, and others). Oppression creates a culture in which inequality thrives and violence is seen as normal. Many communities are already reducing the risk of sexual violence through efforts that promote safety, respect, equality, and accountability. All forms of oppression contribute to sexual violence. Oppression condones sexual violence, uses power over others, and excuses unfair treatment and harm. Consider how sexism, racism, and transphobia are used to silence violence and abuse. What are other examples? As individuals, all of us have a role to play in creating safe environments. We can all intervene to stop problematic and disrespectful behavior, promote and model healthy attitudes, behaviors, and relationships, and believe survivors and assist them in finding resources. The time for prevention is now. Join us in promoting safe behaviors, thoughtful policies, and healthy relationships. Your efforts are important and necessary. Together, we can create safe and equitable communities where every person is treated with respect.

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Denim Days  
**By: Kerry Clevinger; O’Neill Outreach Coordinator**

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Denim Days 2019 was a great way to use casual dress days to raise money for a great cause all through the month of April. Denim Days came about from the injustice and protest to a rape case that occurred in Italy in the 1990’s. An 18-year-old girl was violently raped by her driving instructor. She was wearing denim jeans. He threatened to kill her if she told. With the support of her parents she pressed charges and the perpetrator was convicted of rape and sentenced to jail.

He appealed with the argument that, “because the victim wore very tight jeans, she had to help him remove them, and by removing the jeans it was no longer rape but consensual sex.” Immediate reaction to the verdict pursued and women began to wear jeans to work. In April 1999, the first Denim Days was recognized in Los Angeles, California and has continued every year since, spreading throughout the nation. Wearing jeans to work on Friday’s or any other determined day in April or selling free DENIM DAY COUPONS to employees is a great way for employers and employees and local business to support survivors of sexual assault.

All funds raised stay right here in our 10 county service area.

Nearly 1 in 5 women in a national survey say they have been raped  
44% of sexual assault and rape victims are under the age of 18  
Only 3 out of every 100 rapists will never spend a single day in prison.  
Almost 2/3 of rapes are committed by someone who knows the victim
Survivors of sexual assault are often asked “what were you wearing when you were attacked?” This question implies that their clothes provoked the assault. This reflects the faulty reasoning that the victim is to blame and excuses their attacker. In an effort to dispel stereotypes and myths about rape this exhibit presents replicas of clothes worn by survivors of sexual assault. The exhibit was on display during the month of April at Northeast Community College and at Tyson Foods. The survivors who participated in this project reflect the truth about people targeted by sexual predators. Sexual assault has no boundaries. Any age, sex, culture, race, religion, education, economic status, employment, marital status can be a victim.

In partnering with our local health departments and their Responsible Beverage Server Trainings, Bright Horizons is on its second year of SafeBar Alliance trainings. The Safebar Alliance training provides education and bystander intervention training to participating bars and drinking establishments. Its goal is to keep both bar staff and patrons safer from predatory behavior, harassment, and sexual assault. Bar staff and patrons often witness alarming behaviors and are able to take action that can prevent sexual violence from happening, or help connect victims to the support and resources they need. The SafeBar Alliance training builds upon the skills and experience bar staff already have and educates them about sexual violence myths, consent, and drug and alcohol-facilitated sexual assault. It also gives staff strategies to help them safely deescalate or intervene in a potentially unsafe situation, and to become more confident in making these important decisions quickly. Because every bar has a unique staff, atmosphere, and clientele, each bar will discuss an individual intervention strategy that best meets their particular needs. Bar staff learn about how to utilize community resources like Bright Horizons who provide resources for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Good things happen when we create an environment where everyone is working together and looking out for each other. If your bar or drinking establishment is interested in becoming part of the SafeBar Alliance, please call either Tori or Emily to schedule a training! Again, we would like to thank the North Central District Health Department and Elkhorn Logan Valley Health Department for their cooperation!
WALKIN’ OUT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

JENNIFER SORRELLS MEMORIAL WALK

BENEFIT FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

O’NEILL HIGH SCHOOL TRACK
540 EAST HYNES AVE.
O’NEILL, NE 68763

-Open to the public!
-Refreshments and water provided
-Speakers on Domestic Violence

Bring your family and friends!
We’ll have games for prizes,
Including a TV and quilt raffle
For $5 a ticket!

JULY 13TH, 2019
6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Wear your walking shoes!

ALL PROCEEDS FOR JENNIFER’S WALK WILL BE DONATED TO BRIGHT HORIZONS FOR VICTIMS OF 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 Shanna Sullivan and I am the Ainsworth Program Director for Bright Horizons. My family moved to Ainsworth about 4 years ago, after my husband retired from the Air Force. Our last duty station was Creech Air Force Base located outside Las Vegas. We are a blended family consisting of me, my husband, our 4 boys, and our puppy Malachi. Our oldest attends college at Morehead State in Kentucky and our other three sons will be going into the 12th, 11th and 5th grades this fall in Ainsworth. They are all unique boys and we feel blessed to have them around. I am currently taking classes to get my BA in Addiction and Recovery from Liberty University. My husband Jeremy is also going back to school online, as well as volunteering with the EMS, the Airport Authority Board, and serving as the town’s Mayor. I also served on the Ainsworth Chamber of Commerce. In my free time I love to travel, go kayaking, hiking, fishing and camping. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I have always had a heart for service and had a desire to help in the field of recovery so I was excited to see an opportunity open up in my town. I look forward to working for this agency and meeting everyone!

Hi! My name is Jade Hetzler and I am the new Norfolk Criminal Justice Liaison. I grew up in Stanton and have lived in Norfolk for 5 years. My fiancé, Dean, and I will be getting married in August. I recently just finished a 6 year enlistment with the National Guard as a corrections officer. In our free time, Dean and I love spending time with our niece and nephew, playing with our 3 black labs, Bo, Duke, and Riley, or going camping and fishing! I am very excited to be in this position and look forward to providing advocacy in our service area!

Client Services
Jan - March 2019

Individuals Served
Crisis Calls
Shelter Nights

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

Ali Bryde  
Brenden Worden  
(In honor of Cal & LaRae Worden)  
Brooke Sherbeds  
Carol Dubsky  
Carol & Orlin Olsen  
Cheryl Christiansen  
Chirs Slaymaker  
Desirae Schwager  
Diane Uher  
Duane & Cindy Nelson  
Elaine Moschenross  
Grace Coleman  
Jennie & Rebecca Maroney  
Jennifer Schmidt  
Jennifer Timmerman  
Jill Anding  
Jill & Scott Olsen  
Joni Moore  
Judy Werhle  
Kelli Montey  
Larry & Kathleen Kliment  
LeAnn Sidak  
LouAnn Pribil  
Marian & Donald Roberg  
Mary Minarik  
Misty Appledorn  
Nancy Kratz  
Pat Anson  
Patty Hamik  
Patrick & Cindy Cole  
Paul Parshall  
Philip Schulte  
Robert & Reyne Viergutz  
Serena Clarkson  
Scott Werner & Cindy Harrison  
Sharon Appelt  
Shirley Peterson  
Tina Olson  
Tom Hansen & Ira Hirschfield—  
(In honor of Mary Gibson)  
Alpha Lambda Chapter – Niobrara  
American Legion Riders—Norfolk  
Boy Scout Troop #124—Norfolk  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—Norfolk  
Digital Dreams Photography—Pierce  
Elgin Bargain Box  
Elkhorn Valley Bank & Trust—Norfolk (In honor of Fred Otten)  
Faith United Methodist Church—Tilden  
FRHS Radiology Giving Fund Members—Norfolk  
FRHS Women’s & Children’s Services—Norfolk  
GFCW Clarkson’s Women’s Club  
Hope Congregation Church—Naper  
Lindy’s Shear Creations—O’Neill  
Norfolk City Education Association  
Norfolk Memorials  
Norfolk Women’s Club  
Our Savior Women of ELCA—Plainview  
Peace United Church of Christ Women’s Fellowship—Tilden  
Renewed Hope Christian Community—Norfolk  
Riverview Livestock 4H—Spencer  
Salem Shell Creek & Zion Sunday School Class—Newman Grove  
St. Francis Rosary Sodality—Neligh  
St. John’s Lutheran Church—Atkinson  
St. Joseph’s Altar Society—Atkinson  
St. Michaels Episcopal Church—O’Neill  
St. Paul’s Lutheran School—Norfolk  
Target—Norfolk  
Thabor Lutheran Church—Wausa  
Trinity Lutheran United Methodist Church & Mission Team—Madison  
Verdigre Methodist Women  
Wellcare—Norfolk

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

- 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

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

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

Ask Us About Becoming a Volunteer!

Bright Horizons Services
•24 Hour Crisis Line
•Criminal Justice & Legal Advocacy
•Community Education
•Emergency Shelter
•Individual Advocacy
•Support Group

24 Hour Crisis Line 1-877-379-3798

Upcoming Events:

Project Homeless Connect - June 28th
Jennifer Sorrell’s Memorial Walk—July 13th
Bright Horizons Annual Garage Sale—July 25th

Don’t forget to sign up to get the newsletter electronically by emailing emily@brighthorizonsne.org!
Also find us online and on Facebook!