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40 years of hope - #hope4forty

The Crisis Center for South Suburbia was incorporated in 1979 and we are celebrating our 40th anniversary in 2019



It all started with a small group of caring women who had a goal of providing a safe place for women in abusive situations. Forty years later, the Crisis Center for South Suburbia continues to provide safe shelter, counseling and an array of services for those in need, free of charge.

Dianne Masters and a small group of women established a 'hotline' in a kitchen in the late 1970's and the Crisis Center for South Suburbia was incorporated on April 6th, 1979. In 1980, a farmhouse capable of sheltering 19 women and children was secured by the agency and in 1989, the board of directors initiated a capital campaign to construct a new

shelter. \$1.3 million was raised for a 35-bed shelter facility that serves as home to victims of domestic violence today.



Farmhouse used to assist victims in 1980

Last year, the Crisis Center **assisted over 12,000 people and provided 35,741 service hours** and the need continues to grow.

Throughout 2019, we will be featuring people who were key contributors to the growth and success of the organization. Each month we will highlight a key contributor in our e-newsletter.

Please use and share the hashtag #hope4forty throughout the year when posting on social media and we hope you enjoy the trips down memory lane throughout 2019!

memory lane

Maureen first became involved with the organization in 1989 when she assisted in the capital campaign and secured a gift of \$10,000 from her employer at the time, Com-Ed.

Maureen says her favorite memory is when she attended a Christmas party at a local church in the early 90's. She said it was very emotional to see hundreds of children and mothers enjoying a party together. The attendees were a diverse group from different socioeconomic backgrounds, but they all faced the same challenge - *surviving a violent situation at their homes.*



**CCSS board member
Maureen Niswonger**

Maureen says she also fondly remembers the feeling of shock that she experienced after learning that the Crisis Center would be receiving a \$530,000 grant that was secured by then State Representative, and now retired judge, John Doody. Those funds planted a seed to expand many of the crucial services that we provide today, including legal advocacy and transitional housing.

Maureen says the unwavering commitment of our volunteers always impresses her and she said the majority of people who become involved with the agency never want to leave. We are so grateful that Maureen never left us!

Her commitment to the mission of the Crisis Center has been instrumental to our success and we thank Maureen for over thirty years of hard work and dedication!

Get Your Passports Ready... Your Journey Begins Here!



Join us for our annual gala

An evening in Greece

benefiting victims of domestic
violence and the Crisis Center
for South Suburbia

presented by



Exelon Deloitte.

March 2 • 2019

Double Tree by Hilton Chicago-Alsip
5000 West 127th Street, Alsip

Sophisticated evening attire

6:30 pm Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction

7:30 pm Dinner

9:00pm Live Entertainment & Dancing
from "MIDNIGHT"



For tickets, sponsorship packages
and auction items please visit
crisisctr.org/gala19

*If you need assistance or further information please contact
Jessica Brooks 708.429.7255 ext. 136 or jbrooks@crisisctr.org

2019 Annual Gala - An Evening in Greece
Purchase tickets and get more info at: crisisctr.org/gala19



Thanks to Molly Maid and the Ms. Molly Foundation!

Thanks to Molly Maid of Southwest Cook County and the Ms. Molly Foundation for their continued support! In November, a large group of employees dropped off items that were collected throughout October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Last week, Jim Long and Debbie Harmon of Molly Maid in Tinley Park, presented a check in the amount of \$2,657 from the Ms. Molly Foundation to Pam Kostecki, Executive Director of Crisis Center for South Suburbia (also in photo, far left - Laura Parker, Grants Coordinator for Crisis Center for South Suburbia)

Thanks to Molly Maid and the Ms. Molly Foundation for continued support!



Thanks to the Orland Park Rotary Club and Miller's Ale House!

Thanks to the Orland Park Rotary Club for organizing an event on January 17th at Miller's Ale House to benefit the Crisis Center. The event raised over \$400 for victims of domestic violence! Thanks to all who attended the event and to those who helped to spread the word!

Are you up for the challenge?

Bike. Swim. Run. Break a sweat and support the Crisis Center at the the annual indoor triathlon! The registration fee is \$35 and proceeds support the Crisis Center and victims of domestic violence.

The event takes place on Sunday, March 10th from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lincoln-Way West High School. [For more information and to register click HERE](#)

Special thanks to State Farm Insurance agent Mark Moylan for coordinating the event and for his continued support! If you have any questions please contact Mark at (708) 429-MARK (6275) or e-mail mark.moylan.mkag@statefarm.com.

INDOOR TRIATHLON



to benefit the

Crisis Center for South Suburbia

Sunday, March 10, 2019
7am to 2pm
Lincoln-Way West High School
21701 S. Gougar Rd., New Lenox

\$35 Registration Fee
All Proceeds Benefit the Crisis Center

It's a Birthday Bash - in a box!

Who doesn't love a good birthday party? Throughout the year, we choose one day of every month and celebrate the birthdays of children and adults living in the shelter who were born in that month. We need your help to make it special.



We are looking for individuals or groups to assemble and donate a birthday box in an assigned month and deliver it to the shelter just in time for the party.



What's in the birthday box?

- A cake or cupcakes (enough to feed 30)
- A disposable birthday tablecloth
- Paper plates, napkins and cups (for 30)
- Party decorations (balloons, streamers, signs, etc.)

Interested in donating a birthday box? Contact Deonne Mendyk at 708-429-7255, ext. 143 or dmendyk@crisisctr.org to sign up for a specific month.



If you are able to contribute to our 'wishes corner', please contact Janice Barry at jbarry@crisisctr.org or call 708-429-7255 x. 134

For your convenience, collection boxes are located at both Neat Repeat store locations. We have some items listed below that we are currently in need of in our emergency shelter:

- Children's medicine(pain relief, cold and stomach upset)
- Umbrellas
- Wal-Mart, Uber, gas and grocery gift cards
- Regular(NOT disposable) cups, coffee cups and bowls
- Cleaning supplies
- Bath towels
- Extra long twin sheets
- Women's shower shoes or flip flops - sizes M, L, XL



Join the Safety Circle

Supporters of the Crisis Center can now choose to make their donation a monthly one by checking a box on the donation page of our [updated website](#).

Monthly giving is a selfless commitment to our mission to support survivors of domestic abuse.

Start with Amazon Smile and choose the Crisis Center as a beneficiary!

amazonsmile

Already love Amazon? How about using **AmazonSmile!** The same great Amazon you love but with .05% of the profits being automatically donated to us!

STAY CONNECTED

