

# News & Updates



## April is Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Each year the Women's Center increases its efforts to bring awareness and insight to the issues facing victims of child abuse and sexual assault during the month of April.

This year we will be raising awareness and funds to help support our local Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). SART is comprised of local agencies involved in assisting adult and child victims through the legal process after reporting sexual abuse or assault. The team consist of members from South Lake Tahoe Women's Center, El Dorado County District Attorney's Office, South Lake Tahoe Police Department, El Dorado County Sheriff and Barton Community Hospital. The team is badly in need of nurses to conduct evidentiary exams on adult and child victims of sexual assault. Without this valuable resource victims of sexual violence have to travel over two hours out of the basin in order to be seen by a trained sexual assault nurse examiner. Evidence collection is a very important part of the legal process to help hold sexual assault offenders accountable for their crime. It is the goal of the SART program to eliminate further victimization to survivors of sexual assault by the legal and medical process. In an effort to raise funds to train local nurses to conduct evidence exams locally, South Lake Tahoe Women's Center will be accepting donations in a variety of ways: you can log on to our website and support this cause by clicking our PayPal link to make a secure donation, place your loose change in the donation boxes located at the checkout stands in the Grocery Outlet or drop by the Women's Center.

Check out the other ways the Women's Center will be raising awareness during April: bowls of awareness ribbons will be available at local businesses, wear a ribbon during April to show that you care about the adult and child victims of abuse served by the Women's Center; listen for community outreach on television and radio stations throughout April that will educate locals about the issues of sexual assault and child abuse in our community; attend self-defense presentations and other events to show your support. For more information on events planned during April or to find out how you can help, contact Lili at [lsanchez@sltwc.org](mailto:lsanchez@sltwc.org) or give us a call at (530) 544-2118.

## Skin and Hair Show Their Support for the 7th Year!

Skin and Hair Wellness Center and Spa is asking the Tahoe community to help support the Women's Center by bringing in your new and like new skin care, body care and hair care products to their shop. Start your Spring Cleaning for 2010! For every 3 or more products you bring in you will receive 20% OFF any retail products you purchase that day. The Spring Cleaning special starts March 1st and ends May 1st. All donations will be presented to the Women's Center in May. For more information contact Valerie Conners at (530)-544-8545. Skin & Hair is located at 1017 Carson Ave. #6, open Mon-Sat at 10 am.



## Soroptimist International of South Lake Tahoe Foundation Grants SLTWC \$4,000

South Lake Tahoe Women's Center was among 21 agencies and organizations who received part of \$26,800 raised by Soroptimist International of South Lake Tahoe Foundation to support basic safety needs in our community. SLTWC will use the \$4,000 we received to provide food, transportation and more to clients in our Domestic Violence Shelter Program.

## Interested in Volunteering?

The Women's Center is in need of volunteers! The following are a few ways you can volunteer your time: **Work with adult and child survivors of violence:** Sign up for COU 111 at LTCC and receive training preparing you to answer our 24-hour hotline to offer, advocacy, options and hope for adult and child victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

**Outreach and education support:** Assist with presentations to children, hang flyers, stuff packets, or drop off materials around town.

**Fundraising:** Assist with special events to help raise funds to support programs and services.

**Become a Board Member:** Assist with development and support of the organization.

For more information on how you can provide your support, please contact Tito at [talamillo@sltwc.org](mailto:talamillo@sltwc.org) or call (530) 544-2118.