

SAAFE Center News

DECEMBER 2013

Guest Columnist: Kimber

The hardest part for me becoming an advocate was getting over being shy and also opening myself up to others. I can honestly say talking to people is my biggest fear. The SAAFE Center training definitely challenged and changed me for the better. Fighting through my biggest fears makes me feel invincible. I still have some improving to do, but being able to say I am an advocate makes me very proud.

The strongest person I have ever met and probably will ever meet is my mother.* I remember when I was a little girl she would dress me up for the holidays and would always make sure to tell me, "If a boy puts his hands on you, kick him in the face. If you are wearing heels, use them to your advantage." As a 6-year-old girl, I didn't understand why she was telling me this. As I grew older, she was able to tell me more about her past and some of the things she did as a mother started to make sense to me, especially when she would tell me her experiences in the Army. Tragically, she was sexually assaulted by members of her own troops while stationed in Korea and could not come home for Christmas due to her wounds from the attack being too severe. Even though this has changed her, she has carried herself with unbelievable strength. She always tells me that her strength comes from me and I feel as though we are each other's rock when faced with difficult times.

This is obviously why I decided to be an advocate. Watching my mom struggle with the challenges she faced in Korea made me feel hopeless as a daughter and I did not want another person to have to fight through something like this alone. Providing emotional support to a victim is what means the most to me as an advocate. Being able to give support to others and knowing that I helped at least one person through a traumatic event is a rewarding experience and feeling. I want to do what I can to make sure nobody goes through something like this alone, and the fact that the SAAFE Center can say it is available 24/7 is something to be proud of.

*Kimber received permission from her mother to share about her experience.

November Advocate of the Month: Lauren

Congratulations to Lauren for being chosen as the Advocate of the Month for her extraordinary work with clients. As a part-time staff member since Aug., Lauren has been given several difficult and time-consuming cases which have demanded her expertise in explaining the criminal, civil and Student Conduct Hearing systems to her clients and others. She has made herself available at many times of the day and night for these clients.

Even while being on-call during the majority of her staff hours at SAAFE, Lauren still takes her allotted number of volunteer after-hours shifts without any complaints. She is extremely organized and spends a lot of hours away from the office getting other volunteers signed up for on-call shifts. We are very fortunate to have Lauren as a SAAFE advocate!

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IMPORTANT DATES

- ◆ **4th:** Hump Day Revue at Stone's Throw (See details on next page)
- ◆ **8th:** Women in Comedy Show at The Wolfe Center (Marjorie E. Conrad Choral Room) (7:30pm)
- ◆ **12th:** R&R (7-8pm)
- ◆ **15th:** R&R (1-2pm) and (3-4pm)
- ◆ **24th:** Gary's Birthday
- ◆ **25th:** Ashley's Birthday
- ◆ **28th:** Patricia's Birthday

WELCOME TANEISHA

Taneisha is our Outreach Specialist and started part-time with SAAFE on Nov. 6. She reaches out to under-represented populations, in particular to women of color. She educates these populations about the services we provide. She became an advocate in Fall 2012, enjoys reading, and Disney movies. Welcome Taneisha, we are lucky to have you here at SAAFE!

MEET OUR NEW ADVOCATES

Abby

Abby grew up in Grosse Ile, Michigan. She is currently a senior at BGSU. She is double majoring in Psychology and Social Work, with a minor in Sociology. One of Abby's favorite past times is traveling. She has been to over 20 countries. She also enjoys reading, running, and being with family.

Danielle

Danielle grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. She is currently a full time student at BGSU. She is majoring in Psychology and plans to become a counselor for people with mood disorders, preferably adolescents. Some of her favorite movies are *A Beautiful Mind*, *Crash*, *Moulin Rouge*, and *Seven Pounds*.

Jessie

Jessie grew up in Sylvania, Ohio. She is currently a student at BGSU doubling majoring in Psychology and Women's Studies and Sexuality Studies. She said the best thing being a volunteer with SAAFE is "having the opportunity to help someone and having the tools to do so effectively."

Congratulations ladies, welcome to SAAFE! We now have 20 volunteer advocates!

Thank you to those of you who participated in the Chipotle fundraiser. We raised \$131.50 towards the Victims Emergency Fund.

DROP IN HOURS

- Advocates are available at these times and locations to talk to speak with victims face-to-face.

Psychology Building (Rm. 335)

Monday: 10am-11am Tuesday: 11am-12pm
Wednesday: 8am-9am Thursday: 1pm to 2pm
1:30pm– 2:30pm

Women's Center (Hanna Hall Rm. 107)

Wednesday: 4pm-5pm

SAVE THE DATES

Women in Comedy Fundraiser

For the second year; a Women in Comedy event is being put on to raise money for the SAAFE Center's Victims Emergency Fund. This fund is used in a variety of ways to help survivors when no other avenue exists. The Women in Comedy cast is made up of all women and they incorporate stand up, sketches, songs, and improv into their shows.

There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 (volunteers at the SAAFE Center will get in free with their name badges).

This event is being held on **Sunday December 8 at 7:30**, at **The BGSU Wolfe Center (Marjorie E. Conrad Choral Room)**.

There will be an all-male bake sale in addition to the show to raise money. A part of the Clothes-line Project, a service the SAAFE Center provides, will be displayed as well.

Contact Bethany with any questions:
bpeiff@bc.wcnet.org

Humpraiser Fundraiser

This fundraiser is called a "humpraiser" because it will be held during open mic night ("Hump Day Revue") at The Stone's Throw: Tavern and Grill. The proceeds will go toward the Victims Emergency Fund.

The Stone's Throw will be giving The SAAFE Center 20% of the proceeds from food purchases that night between 4 and 11pm. In order to get the 20% the customer must present The SAAFE Center flyer.

Raffle ticket sales will begin at 5pm. Music will begin around 7pm.

This event is being held on **Wednesday December 4 at the Stone's Throw: Tavern and Grill**. It is located at **176 East Wooster Street in Bowling Green**.

Contact Ashley with any questions:
afarin@bc.wcnet.org