

# SAAFE CENTER NEWS

FEBRUARY  
2014

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## Important Dates:

- **4th: Kimber's Birthday**
- **14th: Valentine's Day**
- **15th: Jessie's Birthday**
- **16th: R&R  
1-2PM  
3-4PM**
- **17th: Presidents' Day**
- **20th: R&R  
7-8PM**

The Women in Comedy fundraiser, hosted by Theta Alpha Phi, was held on December 8. Through this fundraiser, they raised **\$206.80** towards the Victims Emergency Fund.

## Ask the Staff!

We thought it would be fun to ask questions of the part-time staff:

Taneisha: was a volunteer Nov. 2011-Nov. 2012; hired as staff Nov. 2013

**Bethany: became a volunteer advocate in April 2013, hired in Sept. 2013**

Lauren: became a volunteer advocate in April 2013, hired in Aug. 2013

**Ashley: became a volunteer advocate in April 2013, hired in Sept. 2013**

What intrigued you about the opportunity to become a part-time staff member with SAAFE?

Taneisha: I enjoyed being a volunteer advocate. This is a great opportunity to work with victims of rape.

**Bethany: Being in college still, figured having staff experience would set me apart from others when I do get my Bachelor's degree.**

Lauren: Wanted to get more involved with SAAFE, learn more, expand my experience with a professional job.

**Ashley: Wanted an opportunity to get more experience working in the field as my major is Social Work.**

What has been the biggest change between being a volunteer and a staff person?

Taneisha: Opportunity to spread information about our services and doing outreach to Women of Color. Getting to go to meetings and see how other agencies are doing the work and knowing you're not alone.

**Bethany: Time commitment. As a volunteer, you have a time commitment but it's manageable.**

Lauren: Time. A lot more time with SAAFE and learning a lot more. More client contact, more experience with Civil Protection Orders, more exposure to clients.

**Ashley: Coming into the office lets me do more stuff than I got to do as a volunteer, like fundraisers and speaking to classes. Feels like I have more responsibility as a staff member.**

What advice would you give other volunteers who might be thinking about applying for part-time staff positions in the future?

Taneisha: Recruit other volunteers to take your place—apply for staff positions.

**Bethany: Will push you out of your comfort zone and I've been pushed to do things that I haven't done before. Really good challenge.**

Lauren: Definitely step outside your comfort zone and apply. Beneficial to you. Julie is a mentor as well as a supervisor. *(I didn't tell her to say that, I swear.—Julie)*

**Ashley: To definitely do it. Worth it for the experience. But if they feel like they only want hours to work in the office, this might not be it. Some jobs you leave at work, but this isn't it.**

What benefit do you see in your professional growth by becoming a staff person that you wouldn't have gotten solely as a volunteer?

Taneisha: Professional side of things, going to trainings, getting to network with people.

**Bethany: This job is gonna help me a lot in finding a job. Didn't have professional experience before starting here. At other job, had responsibilities but not as much leadership.**

Lauren: More of a leader, being able to be more professional as well as assertive. Organizational skills

**Ashley: A lot more interaction with Julie that I've really grown through. Having an office job gives me real-life experience as a student that a lot of students don't get.**

## On Campus Office Hours

Our on campus office is located in room 355 of the *Psychology Building*. At these times each week, an advocate will be available to speak with individuals face to face.

Monday: 8-9AM

Tuesday: 1-2PM

Wednesday: 8-9AM

Thursday: 11AM-12PM

There is also an advocate available at the Women's Center (Ilanna Hall Rm. 107) on Wednesday from 4-5PM.

## MLK Day Helpers!

For the MLK Day of Service, we had a faculty member and 4 students who are fashion design majors help out the SAAFE Center. They spent 3 hours checking 579 shirts from the Wood Co. Clothesline Project against the inventory sheet and making sure each shirt was accounted for and properly cataloged. We appreciated their time! This is the 4<sup>th</sup> time that SAAFE has been involved in the MLK Day of Service and hosted volunteers to help us for one day in a variety of ways. Visit <http://www.victimsservices.org/about-us/programs-and-initiatives> for more information about our Clothesline Project.

# What is a bystander?

This semester, the SAAFE Center is focusing on providing numerous presentations on Bystander Intervention.

**Bystander:** someone who sees or hears a potentially harmful situation but might not know what to do; or thinks others will act; or is afraid to do something

**Engaged Bystander:** someone who intervenes in a positive way before, during, or after a situation or event in which they see or hear behaviors that promote sexual violence

This material was used, with permission, from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center's publication titled *Engaged Bystanders to Prevent Sexual Violence: A Guide for Preventionists*.

Do you think these presentations would be beneficial to your students, faculty, or organization? Have you ever been in a situation in which you were a bystander and found yourself not knowing what to do? If so, call the Link (419) 352-1545 and ask for SAAFE to schedule a presentation!

Our Spring training has started! A critical part of the training that trainees receive is through role plays. Current advocates in SAAFE are the individuals that lead this portion of the training. Six of our advocates took the Core Leader Enhancement training this January to be able to help with the Spring semester training class. Special thank you to Rob for coming in and teaching the class for us!

## January Advocate of the Month: *Brittany*

Written by: Julie

Brittany became a volunteer advocate in the summer of 2012. She will tell you that we struggled in getting her organized: getting to training class on time, being prepared, signing up for on-call shifts, attending Review and Renew Gatherings. Along the way, she got a full-time job in Toledo and I thought, that's it, she'll resign as a volunteer now that she has her job. But I was wrong and I'm glad I was! Brittany has continued on as an advocate, even while working a stressful day-time job that has its own crises and time management issues to deal with. During her time with SAAFE, Brittany has become a responsible and dedicated advocate and we honor her for this by naming her Advocate of the Month for January.

This newsletter was written by Bethany. If you have any suggestions or would like to see something special in the newsletter, email Bethany, [bpeiff@bc.wcnet.org](mailto:bpeiff@bc.wcnet.org).