

RAVEN News

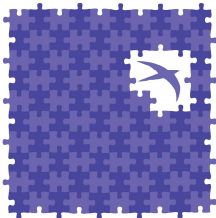


December 2008

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RAVEN Celebrates 30 Years!

When RAVEN was founded in 1978 by a group of concerned men, 2008 seemed far into the future. RAVEN is proud to be the 3rd oldest batterer intervention program in the country. In 2004, when we added the youth violence prevention program for at-risk youth, we continued to show our commitment to stopping the cycle of violence.



In June, we hosted a **30th Anniversary Kick-Off event at Sol Lounge** in the Central West End. This free event featured a special guest: Craig Norberg-Bohm, one of RAVEN's co-founders and current Advisory Board members.

In September, we hosted our **30th Anniversary Gala**, themed "**Be Part of the Solution**" at **Bevo Mill** in south St. Louis City. Our special guest, Rus Funk, is recognized nationally for his work to end men's violence against women.

We are also undertaking a project to better understand and document the history of RAVEN. Last summer, an intern began this process by conducting several interviews with people involved with RAVEN over the years.

If you are someone you know was involved with RAVEN at some point in the past thirty years, please contact our office to participate in this project!

\$30 from 1000

Do you want to be part of the solution?

Donate at least \$30 to RAVEN's 30th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign!

Your support will fund our work to stop the cycle of violence. Donors will receive a limited edition "**I Am Part of the Solution**" magnet and, unless you choose to remain anonymous, your name will be listed on a commemorative plaque in the RAVEN office.

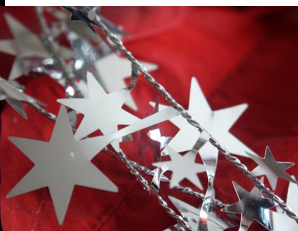
Go to www.ravenstl.org/donate for more information

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Holiday of Hope: Holiday Party to Help Domestic Violence



Every Step Counts will host the first annual **Holiday of Hope Red Party and Toy Drive** on **Thursday, December 18, 2008** from **7—9pm** at the **Regional Arts Commission**, 6128 Delmar Blvd. in University City.

Proceeds and toys collected at this event will benefit The Women's Safe House, Kathy J. Weinman Shelter for Battered Women and Children and RAVEN.

Admission for the Holiday of Hope Party is \$10.00 & a new toy or personal care item. Tickets are available for purchase at the door. "We want people to come out buy tickets, bring toys and celebrate the holiday with us," said Every Step Counts Founder and Executive Director Madeline Long-Gill. "We believe that every steps counts towards ending violent acts against women and children".

For more information call (314) 531-SHOE (7463).

Hellos and Goodbyes

We want to welcome the new interns: **Kaoru (SLU)**, **Patt (Eden)**, **Monica (WashU)**, **Krista (WashU)**, and **Karen (WashU)** as well as thank the departing interns **Jesse (SLU)** and **Michelle (Lindenwood)** for all their hard work.

Veterans, Trauma, and Domestic Violence

In collaboration with the **Missouri Institute of Mental Health**, the **Department of Veterans Affairs, St. Louis**, and the **George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University**, RAVEN participated in a workshop entitled "**Veterans, Trauma and Domestic Violence: What Every Professional Should Know**" on October 31, 2008.

Over 100 workshop participants learned about the dynamics of battering behavior, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and the necessary and important intervention options for veterans.



Presenters included (from L to R):
Jane Palmer, MSW; Monica Matthieu, PhD, LCSW, and Peter Hovmand, PhD

RAVEN has a NEW website!

RAVEN is proud to announce that our newly redesigned website is now up and running!

Visit us at www.ravenstl.org!

Please let us know your thoughts of the new design.

Message from Jane Palmer, Executive Director

Unlike Wall Street, non-profits are not in line to receive a bailout. Unfortunately, this has been a tough year for RAVEN. Due to limited funding on the federal level, RAVEN experienced two significant cuts in government funding in 2008.

In October, the Board of Directors made the difficult decision to lay-off one full-time and two part-time employees. RAVEN needs your support. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution by check or online. Contact our office for more information or go to www.ravenstl.org/donate.

Biennial Report

RAVEN's soon-to-be-released Biennial Report "**Our Part of the Solution**" covers 2006 and 2007. This report serves to share our financial and program statistics to the community. Highlights include:

- In 2007, RAVEN served 70% more youth than in 2006.
- In 2007, 75% of the men who completed the program exited with compliance.
- Over both years, 91% of youth who took pre and post tests increased their scores.
- Volunteers and student interns contributed 4505 hours in 2006-2007.
- On average, in 2006-2007, RAVEN staff and interns conducted 194 phone screens, 103 intake assessments, 72 crisis calls, and 165 individual therapy appointments.

When released, the report will be posted on our website at www.ravenstl.org/publications.

Thank You

Volunteer Corner

RAVEN prides itself in offering a top-notch volunteer opportunity. In 2008, we implemented a **formal certification process** for our volunteers. Under this new system, volunteers with RAVEN receive ongoing **professional development, monthly supervision, support, mentoring and quarterly social activities**. These requirements were implemented to increase our volunteers' knowledge and expertise in domestic violence, to create a support network within the RAVEN community, and to continue to improve our services.

Current volunteer opportunities at RAVEN include:

- Youth Group Facilitator
- Board Member
- Advisory Board Member
- Development Assistant
- Administrative/Clerical
- Communications and Marketing

Please call 314-289-8000 or visit www.ravenstl.org/join for more information.

RAVEN extends gratitude to the **Women Lawyer's Association**, the **Jewish Fund for Human Needs** for their financial support of RAVEN's programs this fall. Also, RAVEN thanks **Erin McGowan** for her amazing volunteer graphic design assistance for our fundraiser and annual report, **James Kinney** for his web design expertise and **Candice Oliver** for her volunteer grantwriting help!