

UASA News

Breaking the Silence

Volume 16, Spring 2008

OUR MISSION

We, the women and men of United Against Sexual Assault, working in partnership with the community, strive to eliminate all forms of violence, with a special focus on sexual assault and abuse. Sexual assault is an unacceptable and unconscionable form of oppression, which is destructive to the lives of survivors, their families, and friends. UASA facilitates healing and promotes the prevention of violence by providing counseling, advocacy, intervention, and education, in our communities.

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Interested in serving on UASA's Board of Directors? Call Linda 707-545-7270 extension 11

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SARA LANG

UASA welcomes submissions and reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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A message from UASA's new Executive Director

Dear Community of UASA Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

To those who have welcomed me and to those who have yet to meet me; thank you and hello. I am both honored and excited to be the new Executive Director for UASA. What a fantastic team of staff, volunteers, and community supporters we have, working so willingly and diligently on behalf of our clients!

What an exciting time for UASA, as we move into April and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. **SAAM** provides an opportunity to celebrate survivors and honor the many individuals and organizations that are the mainstay of UASA's work and mission.

Over the coming year, UASA's Prevention Department continues on multiple pathways of education with upcoming community forums which will provide an opportunity to learn more about sexual assault issues. A campaign encouraging survivors to use their strength on behalf of all those who have gone through this life changing experience is also planned. UASA continues to provide a place where people feel safe to report the traumatic events that have occurred in their lives, and where they are encouraged to speak out to break the silence and end the violence.

UASA is here for our community. We are now in our 34th year, and as we look ahead, knowing there is a great deal more work to be done, we feel confident in the knowledge that our community supports our work and mission.

As you know, UASA, like many non-profits, depends upon the generosity of people like you to continue to provide our no-cost services. We ask that you use the donation envelope included with this newsletter to show your support and to help UASA in our mission to facilitate healing and promote the prevention of violence.

Thank you for joining us on our journey. We look forward to your ongoing support and hope to see you at many of the April events scheduled for SAAM.

Most sincerely, Christine Castillo, Executive Director

SAAM...Celebrate Sexual Assault Awareness Month

SAAM Kick-Off Reception:

Please join us for food and festivities as we honor the courageous survivors of sexual assault and launch **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM)**.

DATE: *Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

TIME: *5 pm to 7 pm*

PLACE: *United Against Sexual Assault, 835 Piner Road, Suite D, Santa Rosa*

RSVP: *707-545-7270*

We'd like to see our old friends...we'd like to meet some new. We hope you will stop by to say hello and to help kick-off this month of commemorative events.

This event is generously underwritten by St. Joseph's Healthcare System.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT APRIL 24 AT SONOMA STATE

England: 1877- the first Take Back the Night (TBTN) event was a women-only protest against the violence and fear women encountered walking the streets at night. Reyna Seminara, UASA's Clinical Supervisor, was a key organizer for the first "Take Back the Night" march in San Francisco in 1978. Since the 1970's, TBTN marches have been organized across the United States and around the world. (See **Night** on Page 2)



SAAM...Celebrate Sexual Assault Awareness Month Activities:

Cyber Predators...April 8 and April 10

United Against Sexual Assault of Sonoma County partnered with the District Attorney's office, the Petaluma Police Department and the Santa Rosa Police Department to produce an informative, interactive forum on Cyber Predators.

The hookup to cyberspace will be live and real sites will be accessed. Attendees can come away with tools that can help them know what to do, how to monitor kids' internet computer use and how to better communicate with their children about the dangers.



Presentations are planned for Santa Rosa and Petaluma, providing two convenient locations, and are **free**. Due to the serious nature of the material, *under 13*

will not be admitted. Call UASA for details: 545-7270.

Tuesday, April 8 at the Redwood Credit Union, 3033 Cleveland Ave., Santa Rosa and

Thursday, April 10 at the Lucchesi Center in Petaluma. Both are 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Both are free.

Benefit Film Night at the Rialto, April 23

Join United Against Sexual Assault of Sonoma County at the Rialto for a special viewing of the film *The Color Purple*. An emotional depiction of a novel by Alice Walker, this film (directed by Steven Spielberg) shows some of the problems faced by African American women – including sex discrimination – and how the character is transformed as she finds her self-worth through the help of two strong female companions.

Special thanks to the Rialto Theater for their generous support and assistance. Tickets can be purchased in advance from Rialto Cinema, 551 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa. Call: 525-4840.

Benefit Screening: Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 pm.
Adults: \$9.50, Seniors/Students: \$6.50
(Rated PG, under 13 not admitted)

Proceeds will benefit United Against Sexual Assault of Sonoma County. We hope you will join us.

Break the Silence. End the Violence.

Denim Day: recognized as a time to protest against the myths surrounding sexual assault. Join in supporting the end of sexual violence: wear jeans on April 23.



Note: Many city councils are presenting **Proclamations** designating April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. UASA would appreciate your support in your home town. Call our office for details (707-545-7270) or visit the website (www.uasa.org) for a full calendar.

Thank you, **Cloverdale** and **Sebastopol**, for Proclamations already issued!

("Night" - Continued from page 1)

"Night" in TBTN has become a metaphor for the fear, coercion, and cruelty all women experience in a rape culture. TBTN offers an opportunity to take what might otherwise be private experiences of injustice and *break the silence* by publicly naming these wrongs. We invite you to participate in this symbolic reclamation of our bodies, our homes, our workplaces, our streets and our lives. Call 545-7270 ext. 16 for details on SSU's TBTN, **April 24**.



Victims' Rights Week was first celebrated in 1981 when President Reagan declared, "it is time all of us paid greater heed to the plight of victims." **Candlelight Vigils** to commemorate Victims' Rights Week, April 13—19, are planned for Petaluma, Sonoma, and Santa Rosa. Call for information. For a moving experience, try to attend one of these events.



Calling for Donations!

Attention! How many of you have old cell phones gathering dust in the bottom of a drawer? Want to do something good with them? Donate your old cell phones to UASA.

Everyone wins here. You rid yourself of out-dated equipment **and** get a tax deduction. The environment gets a reprieve of further landfill contamination by cell phones. UASA receives a check to assist in providing services to the community.

Share this opportunity with your company, friends and family. Do you have, or know of, a business that would be willing to be a Collection-Site for us? **Please call!**

Phones and batteries can be dropped off at our office (mail slot for after-hours) or you can mail them to us. If you have questions, feel free to call or email.

Phone: 707-545-7270 e-mail: info@uasasonoma.org

Thank you for supporting UASA!



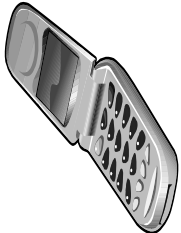










Coming in May - Help UASA Raise Money - Join the Human Race!



Find out how you can have fun and raise \$\$, at the same time.

Call Linda: 545-7270 ext. 11.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Donate your old Cell Phones to UASA. Drop them by our offices or call 707-545-7270 M-F . 9-5 PM</p>	<p>1 SAAM Proclamation: Sonoma Co. Board of Supervisors - 8:30 AM</p> 	<p>2 UASA's Reception* & Open House 5 - 7 PM</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4 United Against Sexual Assault 835 Piner Road, Suite D Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (707) 545-7270</p>	<p>5</p> 	
<p>6</p>	<p>7 SAAM Proclamation: Petaluma City Council 7 PM</p> 	<p>8 Free to public** Cyber Predators on the Internet Forum 7-9 pm, Redwood Credit Union, SR</p> <p>SAAM Proclamation: Rohnert Park City Council 6 PM</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Free to public** Cyber Predators on the Internet Forum 7-9 PM Petaluma Lucchesi Center</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 13 - 19</p>	<p>14 Victims' Rights Week: Candlelight Vigil Sonoma Plaza, Sonoma</p> 	<p>15 Victims' Rights Week: Candlelight Vigil Railroad Square, Santa Rosa</p> 	<p>16 Victim's Rights Awards Lunch 11:30 - 2 Clothesline Project SSU</p> 	<p>17 Victims' Rights Week: Candlelight Vigil Walnut Park, Petaluma</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> 	<p>23 DENIM DAY Benefit Film Night at the Rialto 7-9 pm, Showing The Color Purple</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>Take Back The Night - SSU</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Join us as we march in the Apple Blossom Parade, Sebastopol</p> 
<p>27</p>	<p>APRIL is also Child Abuse Prevention Month</p> <p>For more information contact California Parenting (CPI) (707) 585-6108</p>		<p>*Reception underwritten courtesy of St. Joseph Healthcare System</p>	<p>**Under 13 not admitted</p>	<p>May 17, 2008 UASA to march in the Rose Parade, Santa Rosa</p>	

Sexual Assault Awareness Month - SAAM - April 2008

United Against Sexual Assault of Sonoma County

835 Piner Road, Suite D
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone: 707-545-7270
FAX: 707-545-8136



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Volunteer News

We are pleased to welcome all our new volunteers to the 24/7 Crisis Line. Sincere thanks for all your hard work and your commitment to providing both compassion and accurate information to sexual assault survivors.

No experience necessary, just the desire to help sexual assault survivors and to give something back to the community. Call now, the next crisis line training is April 1, 2008.

Volunteers are the backbone of our agency.

For more Information: Call (707) 545-7270 ext. 19.

24/7 Crisis Line: 707-545-7273

Bilingual Internship candidate sought at UASA.

Part-time bilingual (Spanish/English) Counseling Internship available. The intern will provide individual and group counseling services to survivors of sexual assault and their significant others. The intern will receive training as well as individual and group supervision by Clinical Supervisor. Stipend available. For more Information: Call (707) 545-7270 ext. 14.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.UASA.ORG

Now entirely translated into Spanish.

Check out our teen site - honest, authentic, important.

"Our job is to widen the circle of our compassion so we feel connected with all people and situations."

- Albert Einstein

UASA Services & Programs

24/7 Crisis Hotline — 707-545-7273

Crisis intervention, counseling, referrals and advocacy. Accompaniment to medical examinations, interviews with law enforcement, and courtroom advocacy.

Community Education

- **Customized workshops** on sexual assault topics including (but not limited to) sexual harassment, child abuse, and sexual assault within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Questioning communities; available to professionals & community groups.
- **Self-defense** classes for women, girls, the disabled community.

Child Abuse (CAPP) and Teen Assault Prevention (TAPP)

Workshops for children and teens with the goal of reducing their vulnerability to sexual, physical, and emotional assault and neglect. Workshops also available for school staff and parents.

Diversity Teen Assault Prevention (DTAPP)

LGBTQ workshops, MyStrength groups, Healthy Relationship series, peer education, and a four-session student workshop covering multiple diversity topics including stereotypes, hate crimes and discrimination.

Call for Bilingual Volunteers

UASA's Intervention Dept. invites bilingual Spanish-speaking volunteers to become State Certified Crisis Line Counselors. 545-7270 x 19

Support Groups

For adult and teen survivors of sexual assault:

- **DROP-IN ENGLISH:** Mondays 6:00 - 7:00 pm.
- **DROP-IN SPANISH:** Fridays; call ext. 31 for details.
- **SKILL BUILDING:** 8-week session. Call ext. 14 for dates/times.

For family or friends of sexual assault survivors:

- **DROP-IN:** Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

For girls 15 - 18:

- **Girls Support Group:** Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:30 pm.

Counseling

In-person crisis and on-going counseling for survivors and their families; for current and past issues.

Individual, couple and family sessions available. Ages 6 and up. Available weekdays & evenings, by appointment.

For information, call Robyn at 707-545-7270 Ext. 14.

Crisis Line Counselor Training

For information, call Bobbi Turner at 707-545-7270 Ext. 19.

Prevention Educator Training

For information, call Alexis Marbach at 707-545-7270 Ext. 16.

For More INFO on any of these services:

Visit our website www.uasa.org or call 707-545-7270

ALL SERVICES PROVIDED AT NO COST.