



Serving More, Serving Better

Synergy's domestic violence center (DVC) provides emergency shelter for hundreds of victims and their children who are escaping violence each year, while many more utilize our crisis hotline, counseling and support groups, and legal advocacy services. Yet for all the people we are able to help, we must turn hundreds more away because we do not have the space to serve them.



Earlier this year, we began a renovation of the DVC that will enable us to both increase the number of families we can serve and improve the way we provide services. This month, as we join advocates around the country to observe National Domestic Violence Awareness Month—to honor victims and celebrate survivors—we are excited to open the first newly renovated wing of the DVC, including four bedrooms and three bathrooms.

The renovation is being completed in phases since shutting down operations at the center was not a viable option. When finished, the DVC will have a new roof and new windows, new paint and flooring (there are currently 32 different kinds of flooring throughout the center!), and a reconfiguration of the space that allows for more families to be sheltered and more effective service delivery.

"The families staying with us have endured unimaginable hardship," said Sara Brammer, Synergy's director of domestic violence services. "We want everything about their stay with us to feel not only safe, but also welcoming and comfortable to help facilitate recovery."

Join us in the excitement of all that is happening at Synergy to support these brave families on their path to recovery. There's never been a better time to show these survivors that a caring community is behind them. **Your gift** provides the hope and healing services that build safe todays and strong tomorrows for generations to come.



We're Here for You

One in three women will be abused in her lifetime. If you or someone you know is unsafe at home, please reach out! We are here for you. **Contact our crisis hotline: (816) 321-7050.** Life can get better. Every day we help survivors take the first step toward a new beginning.

Survivors like Lucy.

After 10 years of horrible abuse and threats to her life, Lucy escaped in the middle of the night with her three small children and her purse. They had no shoes and were wearing only pajamas. She drove her car—which was missing the driver's side window since her abuser broke it out the day before—nearly 100 miles before she stopped in Kansas City and called Synergy.

[Read Lucy's story here...](#)

News & Events



Where a Kid can be a Kid

The kids who stay at our Children's Center have often missed out on a lot of the fun of being a kid. That's why we are so grateful to the members of our Junior Board—young professionals with a passion for helping others and the know-how to make a difference—for bringing some Fall fun to them! Pumpkin painting and fall celebrating gave the kids a lot to smile about!



Last Chance

Just a few tables left for Stand up for Synergy! Don't miss this stand-out event with headliner **Norm Macdonald** at Argosy Casino Hotel & Spa. Cocktail reception, delicious dinner, **live auction**, hilarious comedy and an after party...it's a memorable night that makes a huge difference for the people we serve. **Reserve your spot today!**



Fashion Statement

We were proud to join advocates around the nation on Thursday, October 18th, in wearing purple to honor victims and support survivors of domestic violence. We know abuse thrives in silence. During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month we make a special effort to unite, to remind ourselves and our community that together our voices are powerful; together we can demand change.

Fall Fun

Our thanks to the Assisteens from **Assistance League of Kansas City** who helped create beautiful fall decorations at our Domestic Violence Center earlier this month, and to the volunteers from **Citi** who hosted a Fall Festival full of fun for the women and children staying at the DVC. Bringing the beauty and fun of fall to these survivors who have endured so much is a great way to give them a break from their circumstances and help them feel loved and valued.



Can Technology Reduce Trauma?

Local law enforcement is investigating the possibility of equipping officers with body camera that could, among other benefits, help reduce trauma for domestic violence victims. Synergy's director of domestic violence services, Sara Brammer, shares how in [this story that aired earlier this month on Fox 4 News](#).



Speaking of Technology...

Our new Web site launched this month! We're excited to leverage the power of technology to quickly connect clients with the help they need while providing the community with information & opportunities to get involved. Check us out at synergyservices.org...and while you're there please consider making a donation in honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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