



Council on
Domestic Abuse

CODA News

Fall 2017

CODA Is Unmasked!

Each year in October, we observe **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** with a series of events to remember local residents who have lost their lives to domestic violence, and to recognize those in the community who support our work. We also hold our biggest fundraiser of the year, our **Monte Carlo Masquerade**, during this important month.

This year's Domestic Violence Awareness Month was even more significant for us than usual, however, as we chose October 1 as the day to announce the address of our emergency shelter to the public.

The new policy was made official with a ribbon cutting hosted by the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce and Mayor Duke Bennett on October 3.

Our vote to disclose the shelter's location, after years of keeping it a secret, was not taken lightly. The policy change was recommended by the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, but it was up to us to decide whether it was appropriate for our community.

Over a period of several months, we evaluated reports from other public shelters, talked to our staff and residents, and thoroughly evaluated our safety and security protocols. Among the factors we considered were these important points:

- Keeping a shelter location confidential is difficult in a time of rampant data sharing when abusers can easily install tracking apps on victims' phones.
- Having a public shelter location removes the stigma that victims have done something wrong and must "hide out."
- Shelter residents will now be able to arrange for transportation to pick them up and drop them off at the front door of the shelter, instead

of having to walk several blocks to avoid revealing the shelter's location.

- Having a public location increases the likelihood that victims will be aware of the shelter's location and will walk right up to the front door when they need help.
- Support group meetings can now welcome all domestic violence victims in the area, instead of just the shelter's residents.
- Fully disclosed shelters have seen no increase in abusers coming to the shelter.

As Sarah Campbell, our Executive Director, states: "Our goal is to prevent violence in the

Wabash Valley, while providing the best services possible for survivors. We strongly feel that our current residents will be more empowered, and we will all benefit from the increased awareness of our presence in the community."



*Our shelter is located at
26 South 17th Street in Terre Haute.*

A key element of this policy change is that, while the shelter location is no longer confidential, our services still are. We will **NEVER** reveal the identity of any client who stays at our shelter or who receives any of our services. And just because our address is now known to the public does not mean that any member of the public can simply walk right in to the building. Potential residents must complete our intake process, and nobody is allowed into the building who is not approved to be there.

It has now been almost two months since we joined over half of the state's domestic violence shelters in having a public location, and we are pleased with the results. There have been no instances of abusers showing up at the shelter, and the number of volunteers reaching out to help us has increased significantly.

Thank you for your continued support during this new era for CODA!

24-Hour
Crisis
Line

800-
566-
2632

To learn more about domestic violence and CODA's services,
visit www.codaterrehaute.org.

Funds Awarded to CODA

Recently we received word that we will be receiving three grants that will help us with a variety of important needs:

- The **Wabash Valley Community Foundation** awarded us \$18,000 for security improvements to our shelter.
- We were 1 of 3 domestic violence shelters in Indiana to receive a \$20,000 grant from the **Mary Kay Foundation**.
- The **Clara Fairbanks Foundation** granted us \$14,300 to replace old carpeting in our shelter with tile.
- **Guys who Give** chose CODA to receive their third-quarter grant of \$7,350.

We are truly grateful to these organizations for supporting our work.

Monte Carlo Masquerade

This year's **Monte Carlo Masquerade** fundraiser was our most successful event to date! Thanks to all who joined us at the Providence Center at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on October 14.

This fun-filled evening would not have been possible without the support of our major sponsors: **Terre Haute Regional Hospital**, **AmbuCare**, the **HSC Group at Morgan Stanley**, and **Terre Haute Savings Bank**. We are also grateful to all the businesses and individuals who purchased tables, who sponsored the gaming tables, and who donated services or auction items.

Our Masquerade Mask Contest, where several of our friends in the community designed masks and asked their friends to vote for their creation with a donation, brought in over \$5,000. Lindsay Cundiff won the contest for the second year in a row!

We'll be posting photos soon, and we hope you'll join us at next year's Monte Carlo Masquerade -- stay tuned for details!



Your Holiday Shopping Can Benefit CODA!

Did you know that you can help CODA earn money by shopping at Amazon or Kroger? It's easy! Check out codaterrehaute.org for details.



CODA Statistics

Take a look at the services you have helped us provide during the past quarter:

	# of shelter residents	Calls to our hotline	# of attendees at our educational programs	# of people served by our legal advocates	# of sexual assault victims visited by our advocate
August	31 adults; 28 children	84	121 adults; 267 youth	66	6
September	31 adults; 20 children	80	398 adults; 1,247 youth	66	5
October	29 adults; 22 children	48	233 adults; 53 youth	59	6

A Very Special Donation

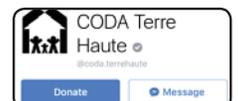
We are very grateful to everyone who dropped money into the purple donation jars we placed at all **Terre Haute Savings Bank** locations on October 11, but there is one special donor who truly warmed our hearts.

During a visit to Terre Town Elementary School by a THSB employee who visits weekly to accept deposits from children who have started savings accounts, a young man named P.J. pulled a \$1 bill out of his pocket and asked that the donation be placed in one of the purple jars at the bank. He had seen a story on the news about our donation drive, and he wanted to contribute!

As a thank-you to P.J. for his thoughtfulness, THSB invited P.J. and his family to be their guests at the November 4 Indiana State University football game. P.J., we love your spirit. Thank you for thinking of CODA!

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Each year at this time, we have two days for getting deals – Black Friday and Cyber Monday – but on **November 28**, we have a day for giving back. On **#GivingTuesday**, people around the world come together for one common purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving. If you would like to join this movement by supporting CODA, we encourage you to click the **Donate** button on our **Facebook** page ([facebook.com/coda.terrehaute](https://www.facebook.com/coda.terrehaute)). Starting at 8:00 am EST on November 28, donations made through Facebook will be matched by the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** up to \$50,000 per nonprofit. As an added bonus, Facebook will waive its usual processing fees on donations made that day between 12:00am EST and 11:59pm HST. You may also create and share your own fundraiser for CODA using the **Create Fundraiser** option!



If you prefer not to use Facebook, please consider clicking the **Donate** button at codaterrehaute.org, or mailing a donation to us at 4470 S. Houseman Street, Terre Haute, 47802. Thank you!