



“Fostering safety, hope, and healing through advocacy, intervention, and education.”

In this edition:



Looking back...
Reader's Choice



Looking forward...
Get Raffle Tickets!



Spotlight on Staff
Kari Wendt



Check out our website:
www.lakescrisis.com



Looking back...

with gratitude and pride.

As we look back over recent events and the past couple years with the pandemic, our hearts are filled with **gratitude** and **pride**. We are enormously **grateful** for the support of our mission to help many impacted by violence and trauma; support exemplified through awards for our Kinship program named as the 2020 Leighton Broadcasting GRATITUDE ON REPEAT winner and the 2021 Best of the Lakes Area Readers' Choice award for BEST NONPROFIT SERVICE, both of which were voted on by members of our community. Thank you!



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Now, we look forward with...
awareness, excitement, and optimism.



April brings forth **awareness** of sexual assault and child abuse along with recognizing volunteerism. **Sexual assault awareness** helps the public understand the complexity and violence of sexual assault and ways to help prevent it. Last fiscal year, LCRC advocates helped over 200 victims of sexual assault.

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Looking Back...



We are so **thankful** to our supporters for affording us very successful fundraisers—our Festival of Trees Tour and the recent Giving Hearts Day online giving event. We were quite heartened by the community engagement of the **FoT Tour** which culminated in making tree deliveries by staff DelRae & Richard and volunteer, Matt Nelson, providing holiday joy to Tom & Lori McCauley (receiving Essentia Health St. Mary's tree donation); and awarding the People's Choice award to Mainstream Boutique for their lovely tree donation. Barb Zahasky and Belinda Freeman are pictured with the 2021 award.

We are ecstatic that we surpassed our **Giving Hearts Day** goal of **\$40,000**, made possible with a single \$20,000 match donation. Thank you to all!

We are extremely **proud** that we were able to stay open and continue to serve many throughout the pandemic. And we are proud that our community recognizes the need for our services and continues to provide the contributions so that we can help others.

And we are very proud of our many LCRC staff members including, Kari Wendt, Children's Advocate. Each trimester we highlight an LCRC Staff Member. This trimester, we get to know Kari.

I've been at LCRC since August 2021. I am the Children's Advocate, which means I have the privilege of working with the women and children in Shelter. This involves providing resources for childcare, getting the kids in school, and facilitating access to medical, dental, and mental health care. I also serve as a case manager for PSOP (Parent Support Outreach Program) clients. The most challenging part of my job is seeing the incredible need for trauma-based care. This is balanced by the rewards of helping women and children find their power and strength. I've been a licensed daycare provider for nineteen years, but now I am in school for social work.

My mom is the most influential person in my life. She is my greatest supporter and role model. Also, my kids amaze me at what great people they are becoming. Growing up on Cotton Lake has given me my fondest childhood memory. My dream vacation would be anywhere warm when we are in the grips of MN winter. I love sushi and enjoy the Harry Potter and James Bond movies.



Kari with daughters Rylie, Taryn, and Kayla

Looking Forward...

Child abuse prevention is also highlighted in April. Not all signs of child abuse are obvious. For more information on these two issues, please call the advocates at LCRC. They are here to help 1-877-754-9683 or 218-847-7446.



WE THINK OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE KIND OF A

BIG DEAL!

April is our month to say "Thank you"!

While April is designated to recognize the value of **volunteers**, we are forever indebted to those who tirelessly give their time and talents to help us, help others. Thank you to our volunteers!

We are very **excited** to announce that we will be having a **RAFFLE** this spring/early summer! This will be in lieu of our annual banquet. We already have two fantastic, donated prizes!

- A condo stay at the Jasper, Historical District in Charleston, SC
Thanks Terry Kalil!



- A stay at Cabo Villas Beach Resort & Spa, Cabo Bay on Medano Beach, Cabo San Lucas
Thanks Amy and Jed Erickson!



WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR RAFFLE UPDATES!



We continue to be driven with **optimism** through the relationships within our Kinship program. We believe that the kids [in Kinship] discover what an encouraging relationship with an adult feels like, thus increasing the likelihood that those kids grow into steady, confident adults. If you want to have a positive impact on a young person, visit www.lakescrisis.com/kinship or contact Stephanie Baker at 847-8572 or stephanieb@lakescrisis.com for more information.

