

Embrace Quarterly E-Newsletter
June 2017



**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Providing
Inclusive
Services to
LGBTQ
Communities

25 free training seats are open to
Embrace's partnering agencies
RSVP at 715.532.6976 to reserve
your seat!

Wednesday, September 6th, 2017
8:30am - 4:30pm

Indianhead Community Action
Agency Cafeteria
Ladysmith, WI



This training will provide knowledge about LGBTQ victims, intersections of identity, and how intimate partner violence and sexual assault affects these populations. We will explore ways to enhance agencies' capacity to serve victims with a range of needs and how to improve experiences of those seeking services by offering trauma-sensitive services with cultural humility.

Trainers: Tanya Potter and Amanda Schumacher representing End Abuse and WCASA's Statewide LGBTQ Committee

Embrace understands successful anti-violence movements must be mindful of the larger structures of oppression that shape our world. Strategies designed to combat domestic and sexual violence must also be linked to other social justice movements that combat oppression—racism, homophobia, colonialism—against all human beings. Embrace has seen first-hand how these multiple oppressions interact in a survivor's life creating seemingly impossible barricades to healing, safety and escaping the cycle of violence. Embrace and local schools are noticing discrimination and bullying towards students who hold or are perceived to hold non-normative sexual and/or gender identities and how it puts them at an increased risk for interpersonal violence and adverse health outcomes.

To provide tailored services successfully reaching our community members who face these multiple oppressions and to support a wider understanding of the deep, entangled roots of gender violence, racism and colonialism, Embrace will be hosting "Providing Inclusive Services to LGBTQ Communities" for Embrace staff and partnering agencies. The training will take place Wednesday, September 6th in the cafeteria at Indianhead Community Action Agency from 8:30am to 4:30pm. The training will be led by Tanya Potter from Bolton Refugee House and Amanda Schumacher from the

Family Support Center who represent the [Statewide LGBTQ Committee](#) through Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) and End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin.

This training will provide knowledge about LGBTQ victims, intersections of identity and how intimate partner violence and sexual assault affects these populations. We will explore ways to enhance agencies' capacities to serve victims with a range of needs and how to improve experiences of those seeking services by offering trauma-sensitive services with cultural humility. Topics will include:

- Understanding gender identity, expression, and sexual and romantic orientation;
- Identifying stereotypes and generalizations that affect experiences of LGBTQ service-seekers;
- Navigating terminology and understanding how to approach people's terms in a way that strengthens advocacy relationships and safety;
- Intersectionality of violence and phobias;
- Intimate partner violence and sexual violence in LGBTQ relationships;
- An overview of unique barriers LGBTQ victims face in accessing services and how we can bridge the gaps.

25 free training seats are available to Embrace's partnering agencies. Call Embrace at [715.532.6976](tel:715.532.6976) to reserve your seat!

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Program Highlights



June Is Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Elder abuse is often a problem that goes unnoticed, yet it is a growing problem in the United States. There are nearly 6 million cases of elder abuse each year, however most of these cases go unreported. In 90% of the reported elder abuse cases, the abuser is a family member. It is important to be aware of... [Read More >>](#)



Embrace Washburn County Outreach Office Has Moved to Spooner!

The Embrace Washburn County Outreach Office has officially moved to Spooner, Wisconsin! As of June 1st, the office is now housed in an office building at 702 North Front Street. The new space is a welcome change by the advocates, community partners and survivors as Embrace continues to expand its services across the county. The prior office space in Shell Lake was often affectionately described as a very "cozy" one-room office, but the challenge with the space was that it was quickly outgrown. With the growing number of people Embrace is supporting from the Washburn County location, the office... [Read More >>](#)



Thank You, Eaux Claires Community!

Embrace is beyond grateful to have been a part of the **2 A Billion: Neaux Violence** partnership with the **Eaux Claires Music Festival, Family Support Center(FSC)**, and **USA Kubb**. Through the Neaux Violence platform, Embrace and FSC were able to reach and engage with thousands of festival-goers, artists and northwestern Wisconsin community members for a third year in a row. To our Eaux Claires Community and USA Kubb partners, thank you for all your time and energy rallying everyone around our mission to end violence! The love and generosity is overwhelming. This communal action and care for others that we witness at the Festival is so unique and exactly what this world needs to end violence and oppression. [Read More >>](#)

"I believe feminism is grounded in supporting the choices of women even if we wouldn't make certain choices for ourselves." – Roxane Gay





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Newsletter

June 2017 E-Newsletter

June Is Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Elder abuse is often a problem that goes unnoticed, yet it is a growing problem in the United States. There are nearly 6 million cases of elder abuse each year, however most of these cases go unreported. In 90% of the reported elder abuse cases, the abuser is a family member. It is important to be aware of the different types of elder abuse and ways to recognize if the abuse is occurring. According to the National Clearing House on Abuse in Later Life, elder abuse is generally defined as “any physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, neglect, abandonment, or financial exploitation of an older person either within a relationship where there is an expectation of trust or when a person is targeted based on age or disability.” Neglect, emotional abuse and financial abuse are the three most common types of abuse in later life. An elder who is experiencing neglect may exhibit fear towards their caregiver, appear detached or withdrawn, or engage in self harm. An elder who is being emotionally abused may be non-communicative or non-responsive, have unusual behavior such as sucking, biting or rocking, or appear emotionally upset or agitated. A few indicators to look for when determining if an elder is experiencing financial abuse are bank statements that no longer are sent to the elder’s home, the elder’s belongings going missing, or unexplained large sums of money being withdrawn from their account. Please note that these are only a few indicators of these specific types of abuse and that many other indicators are also likely.

Trusted friends can play a vital role in helping victims of elder abuse! If you suspect a friend might be in an abusive situation, offer your ongoing support. Encourage them to seek professional support from an advocate at your local domestic and sexual violence agency, encourage them to report the abuse to your county’s adult protective services agency and remind them to call 9-1-1 if they are in immediate danger. Lastly, you can raise awareness about this problem by talking to others in your community and letting others know what they can do to help. June is Elder Abuse Awareness month, with June 15th being the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), reach out to a friend who may be in need and let them know you are there to support them. For WEAAD 2017, Embrace visited meal centers in all three counties handing out materials on elder abuse along with cookies and juice. This allowed Embrace staff members to sit down with elders in our communities and talk to them about abuse in later life and informing them on what Embrace can do to support them or someone they may know that is experiencing abuse.

By Ashley Grant, Domestic Violence Advocate at Embrace

Sources: National Clearing House on Abuse in Later Life, National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse & National Council on Aging

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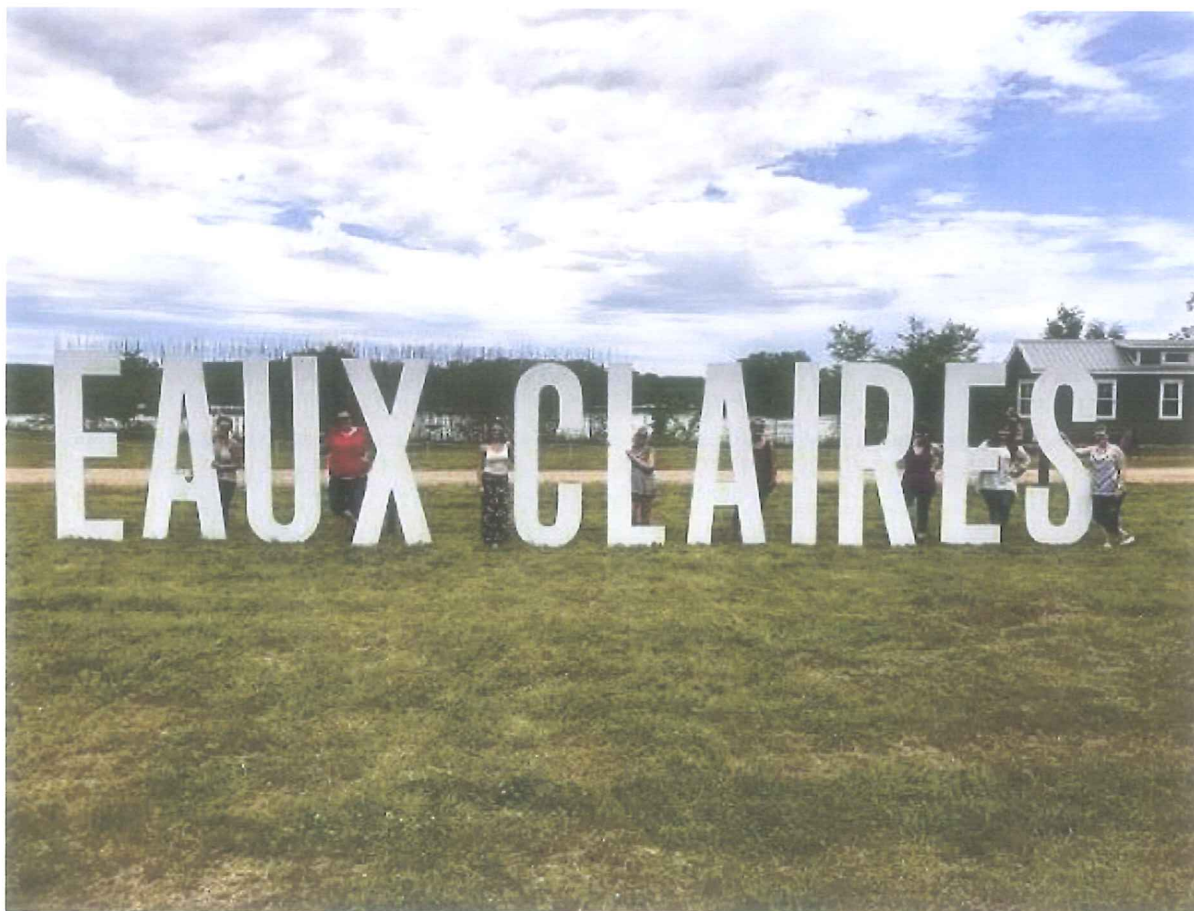
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Arriving at the new Embrace office, you will walk into a comfortable, child-friendly waiting area where folks entering the office are able to wait if the Embrace staff are busy with another person at that moment. The space branches off into two confidential offices. Survivors can now be assured they will be provided with a quiet and private space to meet in. Making these improvements comes at a particularly crucial time due to the 76% increase in services Embrace has experienced in the past year and will greatly aid in the staff’s ability to provide services in an effective and person-centered manner.

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For photos of Embrace and FSC’s collaborative outreach adventure at Eaux Claires, go to:
<https://www.instagram.com/neauxviolence/>



Pictured above from left to right are Embrace Staff Members Ashley Grant, Heidi Harland, Natalie LaPointe, Robyn Weimer, Angela Kleinhans, Cassandra Clark, Kendra Taber, and Brittney Olson poised to play kubb and engage and educate festival-goers at the 2 A Billion: Neaux Violence booth.

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