

# HOPE Works!

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2

~ A publication of Steps to HOPE ~

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## IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Domestic Violence and Child Abuse</i>	2
<i>Parenting Support Group Added</i>	3
<i>Welcome New Staff</i>	4
<i>Remembering Bill Jones</i>	5
<i>Rachel Reflects</i>	5
<i>Golf Tournament</i>	6
<i>Shelter Wish List</i>	6
<i>Wright Receives Certification</i>	7
<i>Second Chance Staff Awarded</i>	7
<i>Runway For HOPE</i>	7

## CALENDAR

- August 26—Second Chance Thrift Store BAG SALE
- August 27 - Sept. 1—Thrift Store closed for seasonal change-over
- September 2—Thrift Store reopens with all new Fall Line
- October—Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- November 7—Annual Golf Tournament



Ward Street P.O. Box 518  
Columbus, NC 28722  
828-894-2340  
www.stepstohope.org

## HOW 'BOUT A LITTLE "PICK YOU UP"?

Dressers and stoves and TVs—OH MY! With racks and shelves of affordable clothing, shoes, jewelry and housewares, everyone's favorite thrift store—**Second Chance**—clearly has it *all!*

Second Chance provides outreach for victims of domestic abuse and offers an affordable shopping option to our community. The store is responsible for roughly 49% of Steps to HOPE's operating income.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

There are many ways of supporting Steps to HOPE. Donations of money are always welcome and greatly appreciated, but we understand that some may prefer to contribute in other ways.

### DONATE!

As we adjust to budget cuts, we rely upon Second Chance more and more heavily every day. **We need your donations!** Gently used clothing, accessories, household items, furniture, books—just call **894-2373** for a pick-up of your unwanted items and Second Chance will be happy to help you thin out! Donations are also received

at the store, or at Steps to HOPE after store hours.

### SHOP!

If you haven't shopped at Second Chance, you're missing out! STH's thrift store offers quality, affordable merchandise for the entire family! Men's, women's, and children's "like new" clothing, as well as books, furniture, house-

hold goods, appliances, tools, electronics... the list goes on! Stop in to see what the buzz is all about!

### VOLUNTEER!

Second Chance Thrift Store is always looking for volunteers to join their team. Volunteers saved us roughly \$115,906 last year alone! WHAT A GIFT! !

Out with the old,  
in with the  
**NEW!**

Why hang on to  
long-forgotten  
treasures?

**Donate**  
your unused items to  
**Second Chance  
Thrift Store**  
and help  
**Steps to HOPE**  
break the cycle of  
domestic violence.

**Second Chance Thrift Store**  
You can make a difference.

232 E. Mills St. Columbus, NC

M, W, F: 10-4; T, Th: 10-5  
Sat: 10-3. Pick-up available. **828-894-2373**

Call for a pick-up.  
**828-894-2373**

There is hope. Call 894-2340.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE



**"Child abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime."**  
Herbert Walker

more frequent over time, resulting in an increased likelihood that the children eventually become victims.

Child abuse has become a national epidemic. More than one million children are confirmed each year as victims of child abuse and neglect by state departments of child protective services.

And every day a **minimum of three children die as a result.** Violence in the home has been listed as a major factor contributing to the growth of reports of child abuse and neglect.

Researchers have long been aware of the link between domestic violence and child abuse. Even if children are witnesses to acts of violence and not the intended targets, they can be affected in the same way as children who are physically and sexually abused. Since domestic violence is a pattern of behavior, not a single event, episodes may become more severe and

Domestic abuse often includes child abuse. Children may be victimized and threatened as a way of punishing and controlling the adult victim of

domestic violence. Or they may be unintentionally injured when acts of violence occur in their presence. Often episodes of domestic violence expand to include attacks on children. However, even when children are not directly attacked, they can experience serious emotional damage as a result of living in a violent household. Children living in this environment come to believe that this behavior is acceptable.

When you donate to Steps to HOPE, whether monetarily or by donating goods to the Thrift Store, you are helping break the cycle of domestic abuse in our community.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE PROLIFERATE IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ACCEPTS THE LESSER STATUS OF WOMEN.**



**PROMOTE AWARENESS**

*by wearing purple domestic violence ribbons and teal sexual assault ribbons.*

# CHILD ABUSE

Women want their children to live in a safe, nurturing environment, which is not possible when there is domestic violence in the home.

Physical violence against women affects their children as well. Between 3.3 and 10 million children in the U.S. witness domestic violence each year - children who are commonly victims themselves. Repeated exposure to abuse yields lifelong cognitive, emotional, and behavioral consequences for both women and their children.



**PLEASE DONATE TO STEPS TO HOPE**

*Help us help women raise their children in safety. Your donation to Steps to HOPE will ensure a continuation of programs for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in our community.*

**Thank you!**





## PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP ADDED

By working with male and female abusers in the Domestic Abuse Intervention Program (DAIP), with parents in the Parenting Education and Support Programs, and with adolescents and teens in schools and in the “ASK” Youth Program at our facility, Steps to HOPE works toward preventing and breaking the generational cycle of abuse.

The goal of the 26-week **DAIP** is to educate abusers on healthy family relationships—to create healthier, happier families through feedback, participation, education and shared experiences.

Participants in the 12-week **Parenting Education** program become more effective parents through learning about children’s needs and development;



developing routines; domestic violence; and safe environments. The next program will begin in the Fall.

To meet the expressed needs of Parenting Education Program participants, our **Parenting Support Group** has been rekindled. Ruth Richardson facilitates the group which meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6-7 PM.

Topics of the ongoing **ASK** youth programs, which meet Tuesdays and Wednesdays, include:

- Resolving conflict in an appropriate manner;
- Developing life skills;
- Self esteem;
- Getting along with family and teachers;
- Taking responsibility for your own actions.

For program information call Ruth Richardson at 894-2340.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS



STH’s Board of Directors welcomes **Carole Bartol**. Carole is a former member and past president of Steps to HOPE’s Board of Directors; past president of the Tryon Concert

and Hunting Country Associations; current member and past president of the Rotary Club of Tryon; charter member and past president of The Community Chorus; and current member of the Foothills Music Club and Congregational Church of Tryon.

Carole graduated from Salem College with a double major in piano and English, and earned a M. Ed. from Converse College in the areas of history and political science.

She taught history at Isothermal Community College and became Director of the Polk Campus in 1989, retiring in 2006. A native of North Carolina, she now lives near the NC state line with her husband Chris and their cat, Woody.

Outgoing member **David Satterfield** was presented with an award for his 8 years of service on the Board. David was always eager to help. Thank you, David!

## Steps to HOPE

### Office Staff

Rachel Ramsey, Executive Director  
 Ruth Richardson, Family Outreach Educator  
 Cherie Wright, Victim Services Director/Case Manager  
 Connie Orr, Office Manager  
 Debra Backus, Publicity/Public Relations  
 Jessica Powell, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

### Shelter Staff

Lisa Greene  
 Stacey Moore  
 Cherie Rogers  
 Cindy Thacker

### Second Chance Thrift Store Staff

Edith Lance, Manager  
 Randy Conklin, Retail Assistant/Driver  
 Joyce Neely, Cashier/Retail Assistant  
 Alan Pritchard, Warehouse Assistant  
 Douglas Wofford, Warehouse Assistant

### Board of Directors

2014-2015

Paul Sutherland, President  
 Sally McPherson, V. President  
 Heidi Mendez, Secretary  
 Larry Wassong, Treasurer  
 Carole Bartol  
 Elaine Belk  
 Michael Bowers  
 Helen Gilbert  
 Donald Hill  
 Lynn Kirkwood  
 Sally McPherson  
 Pat Sutphin  
 Julie Threlfall

**STEPS TO HOPE  
STATISTICS**

2013-2014 Fiscal Year  
(July 1, '13—December 31, '13)

Steps to HOPE provided support to 1,357 callers on crisis line calls.

Safe shelter was provided to 14 women and 7 children.

341 additional client services were provided, to include court accompaniment, advocacy, crisis counseling, transportation, information and referral.

There were 119 educational presentations.

4,345.5 volunteer hours were worked in the agency and thrift store.

**POWELL & GREENE JOIN STH STAFF**



*Jessica Powell*

**Jessica Powell** graduated from North Greenville University in May 2013 with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with Business Administration and Psychology. From Landrum, SC, she joined the Steps to HOPE family in August 2013 as a Shelter Aide and in early May 2014 was

promoted to Receptionist/Administrative Assistant. Jessica is excited to be a part of the Steps to HOPE organization full-time and looks forward to helping make a difference in the lives of clients. In her spare time, Jessica enjoys being surrounded by friends and family as well as reading and traveling.

We are pleased to have **Lisa Greene** join the Shelter Staff who work after business hours with clients who are staying in the shelter.

When Lisa's two daughters graduated from college earlier this year, she decided it was her turn to return to school and broaden her horizons.

She will attend BRCC in the fall, taking classes in Office Administration/Virtual Assistant.

"I am glad to work at Steps to HOPE, which allows me to work in the community. My knowledge of domestic violence is expanding, giving me opportunity to grow personally and professionally."



*Lisa Greene*

**SUMMER INTERN BUCHANNAN HOPES TO CHANGE THE WORLD, ONE SMILE AT A TIME.**

Thanks to a grant from the Polk County Community Foundation, we were thrilled to be able to offer **Adam Buchannan** the position of Summer Intern this year. A rising Senior at Polk County Early College, Adam enjoys Math; his penchant for finding patterns in equations and formulas allows him "to skip steps and take shortcuts".

Because of Adam's diligence, he has several college credits under his belt and will have not only his high school diploma but an Associates

Degree in Arts just three semesters from now.

Adam lives in Mill Spring with his mother Shannon Greene, step-father Carroll Greene and half-brother Alex. He enjoys fooling around with computers, video production, and playing tennis with friends.

"I like to keep people happy and make them smile. My job at Steps to HOPE makes me feel like I'm helping change people's lives for the better. The more lives we change, the more smiles there will

be in the world."

Through video production, Adam hopes to one day "entertain thousands of people while personally enjoying it every step of the way".



*Adam Buchannan*

## IN MEMORY



Steps to HOPE lost a dear member of our team last month. William F. (Bill) Jones not only served on the Board of Directors, Finance Committee, Strategic Planning Committee and was Chairman of the Golf Tournament, but also volunteered at the reception desk one morning a week. He never

knew the word “no” when asked to help with anything we needed.

When he first volunteered in October of 2012, he said, “I can work the front desk. What could be so hard about answering the phones?” Once he learned the phone system and the daily office routine, he

realized that he would also be responding to crisis calls from victims. He took all this in stride and went to work. He was very professional, so caring and compassionate. Bill soon became one of the staff on Thursday mornings, starting his day with a stop in the workroom to get a cup of coffee in his special “Worlds’ Best Secretary” cup, a gift from the staff.

We looked forward to our Thursdays with Bill—loved the stories from his world travels and interesting life. We miss him terribly and are so thankful for the time he gave to us. He was a good friend with a huge heart.

We love you, Bill!

## RACHEL REFLECTS

Moments become hours, hours become days and days become years.....decades.

Soon, in 2015, Steps to HOPE will celebrate three decades...thirty years....of helping victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. It was a proud moment in April 1985 when we received our Charter from the NC Secretary of State. It was a proud moment when we opened our doors to welcome victims into the shelter, and it was a very proud day in 2005 when we cut the ribbon to our new facility.

The strides and accom-

plishments we have made and the challenges we have overcome since that moment in April 1985, are simply phenomenal. I did not realize how quickly thirty years could go by.

Even though my passion for this work is as strong as the day I became the Executive Director all those years ago...decades ago (decades??), this year will be my last year at Steps to HOPE. I am retiring June 30, 2015.

To make this transition successful, we will have a well-trained Associate Director on staff ready to move into the Executive

Director position July 1, 2015.

I am so proud that I have been allowed the opportunity to lead this wonderful organization. I lived Steps to HOPE’s past, and because of the exceptional Staff and Board of Directors, I know there are decades more of serving next-generation victims.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to everyone in this community and beyond who have given of their time and resources ensuring Steps to HOPE’s future.

Sincerely,

*Rachel*

## Second Chance Thrift Store

challenges you to...



Stop by

**232 E. Mills Street**

to see the myriad of options for buying nearly new— and saving a **bundle!** **Drop off** your unwanted treasures, or call 894-2373 to arrange a pick-up.

Join Second Chance’s

### EMAIL LIST

to receive notifications of Thrift Store sales and special events.

Send an email to [pr@stepstohope.org](mailto:pr@stepstohope.org) and put “Thrift Store email sign-up” in the subject line.



## GOLF TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER 7

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**



# Steps to HOPE's 11th Annual Charity GOLF TOURNAMENT

*\$400 4-person team includes  
breakfast, lunch, snacks, drinks.*

**Friday, November 7, 2014  
Red Fox Country Club**



*Limited to 27 teams so register early!*  
**Call Steps to HOPE at 894-2340.**

one prize on Red Fox Hole #10.

Tournament Committee Chairs Frank Ortiz, John Brodie and Colleen Abril have already started honing tournament details—which should mean even more great door prizes than last year!

Steps to HOPE is greatly appreciative of the overwhelming support shown by golfers, individuals and area businesses in past years, who not only offered financial support but made countless donations in the form of snacks and drinks, gifts for door prizes, breakfast biscuits, lunch

– and, of course, time – to help ensure the success of this annual charity event.

See you at Red Fox on the 7th!



***Save a tree!***

*If you would rather receive an electronic version of this newsletter, or read a copy online at [www.stepstohope.org/newsletterarchives.html](http://www.stepstohope.org/newsletterarchives.html), send an email (from your preferred email account) to [pr@stepstohope.org](mailto:pr@stepstohope.org). Please include your name and mailing address.*



Red Fox Country Club will host Steps to HOPE's 11th Annual Golf Tournament on November 7th this year. The tournament was a sellout

last year, with many new players and teams on a waiting list hoping for cancelations. Stott's Ford will again offer a new Ford Focus as a hole-in-

## SHELTER WISH LIST

- Gift cards—Ingles, BP gas, etc.
- Picnic table for play area
- Dust ruffles for 8 twin shelter beds
- Bottled juice
- Bottled water
- Breakfast cereals
- Trash bags—tall kitchen and 33 gallon
- Lysol Spray
- Pre-paid phone cards
- Canned milk
- Adult frozen dinners
- Quick-fix meals
- Fruit cups
- Pudding cups
- Ibuprofen—children's and adult
- Acetaminophen—children's and adult

For updates to this list, call Jessica at 894-2340.

***Thank you for your continued support of our shelter and programs to end the generational cycle of violence.***

## WRIGHT ACHIEVES NC VICTIMS SERVICES PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION

Cherie Wright, Steps to HOPE's Victim Services Director and Case Manager, attended a week-long training at the Campbell Law School Campus in Raleigh in early June, after which

she was certified as a Victims Services Practitioner by the NCVAN (NC Victim Assistance Network).

Congratulations, Cherie!



*Cherie Wright*

## SECOND CHANCE STAFF RECEIVES STAR PERFORMER AWARD



After Spring Change-over, the Board of Directors invited Second Chance staff to a luncheon at Larkin's, at which time Board President Paul Sutherland presented them with a Star Performer award.

Thrift Store sales are consistently greater with each seasonal change-over—not an easy accomplishment.

*From left: Alan Pritchard, Joyce Neely, Douglas Wofford, Edith Lance, and Randy Conklin.*

## LAURELHURST HOSTS RUNWAY FOR HOPE

On Saturday, June 21st, LaurelHurst hosted a fashion show—Runway For HOPE—to benefit Steps to HOPE. Fashions from Second Chance Thrift Store were modeled by LaurelHurst residents.

Author and comedienne Pam Stone, who emceed the show, brought out the best in models who appeared to be seasoned runway professionals as they flaunted Second Chance finery.

Representing Steps to HOPE at the fashion show

were Board of Directors Vice-President Sally McPherson, Second Chance Thrift Store Manager Edith Lance and Retail Assistant Randy Conklin.

Guests at the sold-out event enjoyed good food and great company as they bid on donated items and shopped at the Second Chance mini-boutique.



Many thanks to LaurelHurst Executive Director Nancy McKinstry and Activities Director Jennifer Thompson, Pam Stone, and the many donors who provided silent auction and food items to make this event so very special.

*Ruth Rose, one of LaurelHurst's resident runway divas!*

**We are forever searching for ways to cut operating costs. To that end, we hope to start sending some of our communications by email rather than through the Post Office—but in order to do that,**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Please help us update our database by providing your email address. We respect your privacy and assure you that your personal information will NEVER be shared and will be kept strictly confidential.

**PLEASE HELP US SAVE \$\$\$\$\$ BY SENDING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO:**

**pr@  
stepstohope.org**

**THANK YOU!**



## STEPS TO HOPE: SERVICES PROVIDED

- **24-Hour Hotline** – for crisis intervention and assistance.
- **Confidentiality** – all services are guaranteed confidential.
- **Shelter** – emergency safe shelter for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.
- **Counseling** – individual counseling with a licensed counselor.
- **Referrals** – hospital (staff will transport and assist); court (free legal aid may be provided through Pisgah Legal Services).
- **Court Advocacy** – trained volunteers accompany and support clients through the judicial process.
- **Case Management vs. Crisis Intervention** – holistic support of clients.
- **Youth Group** – character and skills building groups for adolescent girls and boys.
- **Support Groups and Education Programs** facilitated by trained professionals: women victims; male and female abuser; parenting education; and parenting support.
- **Family Mediation** facilitated by a trained professional.
- **Community Education** – through schools, organizations and civic groups.
- **Public Awareness** – presentations and workshops.
- **Resource Library** – videos, pamphlets and brochures are available.
- **Advocacy Center** – forensic interviewing of children.
- **Rape Prevention/Victim Services**
- **Second Chance Thrift Store** – outreach to victims; gently used, quality merchandise.

### Steps to HOPE, Inc.

Ward Street · P.O. Box 518

Columbus, NC 28722

828-894-2340 · 1-888-968-4283

[www.stepstohope.org](http://www.stepstohope.org)

E-mail: [steps@stepstohope.org](mailto:steps@stepstohope.org)



Visit us at  
[www.stepstohope.org](http://www.stepstohope.org)

### HOPE Works!

*A Semi-annual Newsletter of  
Steps to HOPE, Inc.  
Debra Backus, Editor*

Steps to HOPE, Inc. is Polk County's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Center. For all victims of domestic violence or sexual assault in this community, there is:

**Help  
Order  
Protection  
Encouragement**

*"The mission of Steps to HOPE is to create a community free from the violence of domestic and sexual abuse through education, advocacy and victim assistance."*



**BULK RATE  
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