



40th Anniversary
SOJOURNER
FAMILY PEACE CENTER

Committed to
transforming lives
impacted by
domestic violence.

Peace Talk

FALL 2015

We are moving!

Sojourner Family Peace Center
is moving to a new facility at
619 W. Walnut Street, Milwaukee!



WHO WAS SOJOURNER TRUTH?

Our crisis housing facility for women and children, Sojourner Truth House, is a tribute to "Belle," a woman born into slavery in 1797. In 1843 she walked onto the pages of history when she became Sojourner - God's pilgrim. A second name - Truth - came to her "in a voice as true as God's is." Sojourner Truth traveled widely, speaking about slavery and women's rights and the dignity of all people.



A united family.

A quick look at what will be happening in the new Family Peace Center.



Carmen Pitre
Executive Director



We need your help to sustain our essential programming.

Please make your gift today. Your contribution ensures that valuable programming continues through the end of the year.

Please make checks payable to:

Sojourner Foundation
PO Box 080319,
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Donate online at:

www.familypeacecenter.org.

We are grateful for our generous donors whose support, dedication and commitment to our work has helped us achieve this dream. Your partnership helps thousands of women, children and men create more peaceful lives. We are grateful for you and for your investment in our mission.

With your help, our mission to transform lives impacted by domestic violence continues, and our commitment to creating a peaceful community remains paramount. We provide domestic violence prevention and intervention services for individuals and families throughout Milwaukee and the surrounding communities. The new Family Peace Center allows us to expand our programming and services so we can serve more families and provide more comprehensive, holistic services for women, children and men. By co-locating key services including Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Police Department, the District Attorney's Office, Milwaukee Public Schools, Jewish Family Services, Wraparound Milwaukee and others into one facility, we are able to more effectively utilize community resources and prevent the duplication of services.

While we have co-located many services in the new facility, the need to remain embedded with partners in the community continues.

These services include the following:

1 Sojourner advocates continue to be housed within each of the six Milwaukee Police districts where they provide vital neighborhood based services to victims in our community.

2 Our advocates continue to assist Milwaukee County residents as they apply for restraining orders in the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

3 Our Beyond Abuse Program continues to provide intervention services for people who use violence in their relationships.

Peace is Possible

Violence in Milwaukee is at record levels with nearly 130 homicides before November 1, 2015 which compares to 103 in total, during 2014. Sometimes, intimate partner violence escalates and the result is a homicide. These situations often can be traced to a childhood riddled with broken relationships, violence and trauma.

Research shows that violence is a learned behavior. Kent Lovern, Chief Deputy District Attorney for the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, says, "We spend an extraordinary amount of money on corrections in the State of Wisconsin, with annual expenditures approximating \$1 billion. Of that, \$200 million is spent on people living in two aldermanic districts in Milwaukee. Studies show that 80% of those who are incarcerated have either witnessed or experienced violence as a child. This underscores the need to create a better response to family violence."

As a leader in helping families impacted by family violence, Sojourner launched a Peace Campaign to promote a greater focus on peace making. This effort is designed to promote peace, nurture self-respect, and expand the understanding of individual power to make decisions in the moment that create peace.

Our vision is that Milwaukee is a peaceful community. We believe a peace movement is founded in individual decision-making in the moment of choice. Each time someone is confronted with conflict, a decision is made. The actions that follow determine what is next in the conflict, either a peaceful resolution or escalation. By elevating the conversation around individual choice, we provide framework for individuals to function from a new set point, a place where they can choose to be peaceful.

Through this campaign we are committed to focusing on peace and hope to shine the spotlight on peaceful behaviors. The Sojourner Peace Campaign asks people to choose peace, pledge peace, and promote peace. This multi-faceted campaign had a soft launch with the distribution of thousands of brochures during dozens of National Night Out events in August of 2015. These events were held in Milwaukee as well as many of our suburbs like Cudahy, Oak Creek, Wauwatosa, and West Allis.



Captain Obregon colors with a child. Nearby, an artist also painted children's faces with brightly colored designs.



Sojourner staff welcome guests as they arrive.

Transform this Holiday Season for a Sojourner Family

Your support allows us to remain committed to providing basic needs of families who are experiencing violence in their homes. Every year you graciously donate holiday gifts such as toys, clothing, housewares and books for families in need. Together, we give these supplies to families who seek Sojourner services and cannot afford to purchase these items on their own.

Today, we invite you to renew your partnership with Sojourner by participating in one of our holiday giving programs. You make the holiday season brighter by providing survivors and their children with holiday gifts and other necessities.

We have two holiday giving options

Adopt-a-Family Program provides holiday gifts to a family in need according to a 'wish list' they provide. You are matched with one or more families and are provided with their wish list. You are encouraged to use the wish list as a guide and may add or delete at your discretion and as your budget allows. Gifts should be new, wrapped and tagged with each family member's name.

If you are interested in adopting a family, please call 414-276-1911.

Holiday Gift Drive provides women, children and families with holiday gifts as well. You can purchase items that will be matched with each family's needs and interests. We can supply you with a list of items our families have enjoyed. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. Mothers will be wrapping them for their children.



Carmen Pitre, Sojourner; Thelma Sias, We Energies; Bob Duncan, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

Welcome to the neighborhood!

On Saturday September 26, 2015 Sojourner and our partners at 619 W. Walnut Street held a neighborhood Meet and Greet. Together with our partners we celebrated with our neighbors and shared information about the programs and services to be provided in the new Family Peace Center. The turnout from the community was even better than the weather!

We remain grateful for the support, patience and energy you offered throughout this journey. We are proud to stand on the shoulders of those who came before us and committed to proving an even higher quality and more expansive continuum of service. We are more than excited to be part of this neighborhood and look forward to partnering with all our neighbors to create a peaceful community.

Thank you!

Special thanks

Our good friends Thelma Sias and Steve Adams for hosting.

Sojourner Board Member, Tom Gale, for being our DJ.

Event sponsors:

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Feeding America, Mortenson Construction and We Energies.

Wish list

Women

- Gift cards for Target, Kohl's, Walmart and Pick 'n Save
- Gift certificates for activities (movies, bowling)
- Restaurant gift certificates (Subway, McDonald's, Cousins Subs, Applebee's, Burger King, Chipotle)
- Bus tickets (adults or M-Cards, if possible)
- Gift sets: makeup sets, stationary sets
- Sleepwear: bath robes (size M – 3XL), pajamas (size M – 3XL) and non-skid slippers (size M – XL)
- White socks (sizes 8, 9 and 10)
- Underwear (sizes 6, 7, 8 and 9)
- Personal care items and toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, deodorant)
- Hair care products for women of color
- Bed pillows and twin-size blankets
- Umbrellas
- Holiday gift wrap, ribbons and tape

Infants and toddlers

- Toddler toys: busy boxes, push toys, building blocks
- Baby lotion and shampoo
- Infant formula
- Bottles and sippy cups

Children and Young Adults

- Sports equipment
- Dolls and Barbie dolls of color
- Model and craft kits
- Play sets: kitchen sets, doctor sets
- Board games: Mancala, Yahtzee, Memory, etc. Personal music devices and handheld video games
- Purses and wallets
- School supplies
- Personal care items: shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash, body spray (AXE, Old Spice) and deodorant
- Sleepwear and non-skid slippers
- Headphones and earbuds
- Gift certificates for clothing stores: Forever 21, Charlotte Russe, Discovery, American Eagle, DSW, Old Navy, Burlington Coat Factory, Kohl's, TJ Maxx, Target, Walmart
- Pull-ups, disposable diapers (sizes 3, 4 and 5) and wipes
- Sleepwear

Both options are also great for groups. Please let us know how we can assist you in organizing a holiday giving program within your family, at your workplace or your place of worship. Thank you for your generosity and your willingness to make the holiday season a little brighter for the families we serve. Last year, over 130 families benefited from your generosity.

Please call 414-276-1911 in advance to schedule your holiday gift drop off.

You are welcome to drop off your Holiday Gifts at the following times and locations:

Weekdays: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm
**November 16 – 25, and
 November 30 – December 23, 2015**

Saturdays: 10am – 5pm
December 12 and Saturday 19, 2015

Evenings: 5pm – 8pm
**Monday, December 14 and
 Wednesday, December 16, 2015**

619 W. Walnut Street, Milwaukee, WI

Please use the parking lot entrance on 7th Street. Park along the building, use the door in the middle of the building.

Order your holiday gifts on Amazon.com. It's now easier than ever to support our Holiday Gift Drive with our Amazon.com wish list. Simply enter our name, Sojourner Family Peace Center, into Amazon.com's wish list search engine, select the items you would like to donate and add them to your cart. Once you have purchased the items, Amazon will ship them directly to our facility! Our wish list includes our most up-to-date needs, from gifts to diapers to school supplies. Please include your name and address in the notes sections so we can be sure to properly thank you.

2015



Hank, the Brewer's ballpark pup, starred at the event. Attendees lined up to have their photo taken with the beloved canine celeb.

Sojourner Tailgate for Peace 2015

Thank you to the sponsors, attendees, auction and raffle donors, volunteers and committee members who celebrated the 26th anniversary of the Sojourner Tailgate for Peace. Held on June 16, 2015 at Miller Park's Gehl Club, the event featured a gourmet buffet, silent auction, raffle, diamond dig and more.

Your support and attendance at our Tailgate truly transformed lives. Your purchase of raffle tickets and silent auction items

ensures that women throughout Greater Milwaukee who seek safety and shelter at Sojourner Truth House are welcomed with open arms. Revenue generated from your ticket purchases helps women continue their education, find jobs and become more economically independent. Your company's sponsorship of the event provides prevention education for more than 250 at-risk youth in our community each year. We are grateful for your continued support of this event and commitment to our work.

Special thanks to our generous sponsors!

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April 7th 2016



Connie and Omar Shaikh

Get Ready For Milwaukee's Premier Fashion Event Glamour, Celebrities, Cocktails, Fashion!

Join Connie and Omar Shaikh as they host Milwaukee's premier fashion event on April 7, 2016 at the Harley-Davidson Museum®. Mix and mingle with some of Milwaukee's most notable business executives and community leaders and get a sneak peek of this spring's trendiest fashions. Guests

enjoy hors d'oeuvres, a cocktail reception including a signature drink, wine pull, diamond dig, silent and live auctions before a runway fashion show featuring local personalities and Milwaukee's most chic retailers. More details are available at www.familypeacecenter.org.

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Visit us at www.familypeacecenter.org

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**You
are not
alone.**

If you are in
an abusive
relationship
and need help,
call Sojourner
Family Peace
Center's
24-Hour
Hotline at
414-933-2722.



Download
our app –
available
on iPhone
and Android
phones.

**Administration/
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Beyond Abuse
Family Advocacy &
Support Services**
P: 414-276-1911
F: 414-276-5001

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