



Dear Friends and Family,

When former Mayor Bob Kiss expressed his wish a few years back that Laura's March become a Burlington tradition, we felt encouraged to become a force for change within the community. We decided one way to do that would be by making Laura's March an educational forum as well as a fundraiser; so we invited other organizations with missions consistent with ours to Laura's March to let people know about their programs and the resources they offer. Joining us on September 15 were representatives of **KidSafe**, **SafeSpace**, **Vermont Works for Women**, **HOPE Works** (Burlington's rape crisis center), and **Vermont Business and Professional Women**. We hope they—and others—will come to future Marches, for through education and collaboration we can prevent and end sexual assault.

Recently, the two primary Laura's March beneficiaries, **Women Helping Battered Women** and the **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program** at Fletcher Allen Health Care, gave us feedback about how the funds raised at Laura's March were used thus far. Jane Van Buren, Executive Director of WHBW, informed us that one client was given a 10-ride bus pass to take her child to the doctor and that another client's gas bill was paid so she could have heat and hot water. Jane reminds us that "It is this type of one-time emergency assistance that can make a huge difference in the lives of our service users and stop the devastating spiral into despair and even homelessness."

Joan Carson, RN, CEN of SANE-A and SANE-P, reported that the 2 nurses we sponsored to attend the International Association of Forensic Nurses conference joined 600 others from around the U.S. for lectures, workshops, and discussion groups covering topics such as overcoming obstacles to patient care, successful treatment strategies, and current research. Joan says that "... what's always great about these conferences is the excitement and renewed energy that I see in the nurses." She adds that even after the workshops and lectures end, the conversation among the nurses continues about "... how to improve our domestic violence screening at Triage in the ER, or the study on bruise identification and difficulty in visualizing bruises on different skin colors, or the role play we did for testifying in court."

It was a privilege for the LKW Fund to have partnered with WHBW and SANE, two organizations deeply committed to the welfare of the clients they serve.

The first Laura's March took place on September 13, 2007. We feel fortunate that after 6 years, it continues to attract many new participants, enthusiastically joining our loyal supporters who attend year after year. We are very grateful to the many people who contribute in diverse ways to its success. (For details, please visit the November News page of our website, [www.lkwfund.org](http://www.lkwfund.org).)

We hope to see you at the 7th Laura's March on September 14, 2013. Until then, we wish you a season of tranquility and good will.

—JoAnn Winterbottom, **LKW Fund President**

## Laura's March '12 Photos



"The funds raised from this event are essential to WHBW's ability to provide emergency services to survivors of domestic abuse. We can continue in this work because of the tremendous support from the Chittenden County Community and the generosity of individuals such as those participating in Laura's March."

—Emily DeWitt, **WHBW**

## Where We Donate

The success of Laura's March on September 15 has enabled the LKW Fund to also make year-end donations to the following organizations:

- BCA Art from the Heart
- Children's Advocacy Center at CUSI
- Children's Literacy Foundation
- ECHO family memberships
- Green Mountain Animal Defenders
- HomeShare Vermont
- KidSafe
- Lucy's House for the Prevention of Homeless Pets
- Clarina Howard Nichols Center
- Lund Family Center
- Parallel Justice
- SafeArt
- SafeSpace
- Save our Strays
- Sexual Assault Crisis Team
- Vermont Works for Women
- Women Helping Battered Women Holiday Program
- WomenSafe
- Outreach for Earth Stewardship

For more details, please visit the News & Donations Fall 2012 page of our website.

## Donate to the LKW Fund

We hope that you will consider using the enclosed envelope to add a donation to the LKW Fund to your holiday gift list and help us make an even greater contribution to organizations and programs which support our mission to end sexual violence and help survivors. Some are also organizations for which Laura herself volunteered, such as KidSafe, HomeShare VT, and Art from the Heart, which brings art to children in the hospital; and others, like GMAD, Lucy's House, OES, and Save Our Strays, represent one of Laura's passions—animal welfare. We very much appreciate all the support the LKW Fund has gotten in remembering Laura and carrying on such important work in her name.