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Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.
We Are Trailblazers

I’ve had the sincere privilege of being the CEO of Rose Brooks Center for 20 years. During this time, we have encountered many obstacles that have been overcome. At Rose Brooks Center, we have a healthy disrespect for the impossible.

Daily, our staff face challenges with a perspective of “this is needed, let’s make it happen.” Our staff are extremely creative, flexible, and think of every possible option for bringing needed supports for survivors. We are trailblazers. We figure out what works and then take our program designs globally to share with others how they too can overcome barriers and empower survivors.

Why do I work for Rose Brooks Center? I work for Rose Brooks Center because I believe we can break the cycle of domestic violence. I have witnessed and seen the impact we make every day in the lives of those we serve. I have heard the stories of the incredibly courageous women who come to us, what they have endured.

Everyone has a right to be safe in their own home. It is up to us, each of us, to help make this happen. As a community, we can provide safety and hope through our compassion, our advocacy, and our services. We can provide a safe future for all.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Miller, CEO

P.S. Our 24/7 Crisis Line is 816.861.6100. We are here to listen.

Hank - Still Saving Lives

You may remember Hank as the inspiration for Rose Brooks Center to add a Pet Shelter. You may also remember Hank as the heroic Great Dane who saved his mother’s life by throwing his body on top of hers while she was being attacked by her abuser.

Well, the Humane Society’s 2012 Valor Dog of the Year is still saving lives.

This year, at our 1st Annual Brunch & Art event (see page 3), Hank paid a visit with his mom, McKenzie. They shared their progress and how Rose Brooks Center accepted their battered bodies with audacious love, providing them with a safe place to stay and a tomorrow of hope and strength.

Hank is a little more gray in the face now, but he is still a source of support for McKenzie. Ever loyal, Hank provides for McKenzie what many take for granted - comfort and a reminder of how blessed they are to have a tomorrow.

Today they live in peace while still working to rebuild their lives from the devastation of abuse. They thank Rose Brooks Center for stretching its limits to house them when they needed safety. We thank them for inspiring us to open Paws Place.
Recently, Rose Brooks Center staff took the time to recognize Susan Miller for her outstanding achievement of leading the efforts of Rose Brooks Center for the past 20 years. It was inspiring to hear each program director speak about the growth and reach of Rose Brooks Center and how we’ve achieved our “trailblazing” status locally and nationally.

We’d like to share some of our “That was Then, This is Now” comparisons. We hope you are also inspired.

**Shelter Then...**
One advocate to serve a 50 bed shelter.
Average of 290 hotline calls a month.

**Shelter Now...**
26 full time staff to serve a 100 bed shelter.
Average 722 calls a month, 7,837 calls a year.

**Project SAFE® Then...**
Three Prevention Specialists for 17 schools.

**Project SAFE® Now...**
10 Specialists & Therapists serving 37 schools and thousands of students a year.

**Equal Access Then...**

**Equal Access Now...**
13 bi-lingual staff. 24/7 on-call interpreters. A language line with access to over 130 languages.

**Children’s Program Then...**
One small room for children’s programming.

**Children’s Program Now...**
A children’s building and shelter equipped for a Kid Zone safe space, sand tray and play therapy rooms, and a shelter play room.

**What has stayed the same:**
The leadership and vision of Susan Miller and the hope Rose Brooks Center staff has had for adult survivors, children, and their family pets.
**Sports Radio With Heart**

In May, the hosts of 610 Sports’ The Drive, Danny Parkins and Carrington Harrison, launched a GoFundMe page benefiting Rose Brooks Center. The campaign, which raised over $15,000 for the families and pets of Rose Brooks Center, did much more than save lives. The campaign introduced us to Danny and Carrington who wanted to make a difference in the lives of those trying to escape domestic violence.

Danny and Carrington continue to stay engaged with Rose Brooks Center and recently organized a volunteer day for the employees of 610 Sports. They spent the day working in the kitchen and painting one of the main living areas for our women and children. 610 Sports later posted to their Facebook page, “Thanks to Rose Brooks Center for giving us the opportunity to volunteer. It was an incredible experience and we’d welcome our listeners to reach out, spend some time there and learn about them.”

We also thank 610 Sports and their generous listeners for all they have done to help us end the cycle of domestic violence, and we welcome our readers to tune in to 610 Sports and get to know these amazing individuals.

**The Need for Paws Place**

Research shows that an abusive household often contains more than one victim. In many situations, an abuser is likely to harm both their intimate partner as well as the family pet, increasing the likelihood that a victim will not leave their beloved pet behind when escaping abuse. Bayer Animal Health, Rose Brooks Center’s Champions for Pets, understands this reality.

Since 2012, Bayer Animal Health has been a proud supporting partner of Rose Brooks Center’s pet shelter, Paws Place. Bayer continues to support our on-site pet shelter because they recognize how important it is to invest in a service that allows pets to be safe, alongside their owners.

**In 2015, Rose Brooks Center’s pet shelter provided 4,086 Safe Nights for pets.** Healthy beginnings at Rose Brooks Center start with having a place for families to heal - and we are happy to include pets as part of that family too.

Learn More: www.RoseBrooks.org/services/pet-shelter

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**Let the Good Times Roll**

Tickets start at $125! Sponsorship packages are available.

**Welcome to Fabulous Rose Brooks Casino**

Eat, drink, & enjoy casino-style gaming while bidding for over 100 extraordinary auction items.

**Saturday, October 15th**

Sheraton Overland Park

www.RoseBrooks.org/casino

For tickets or more info contact Sarah Crowell

816.605.7112 or sarahc@rosebrooks.org