



YOUR NEWS FROM SHELTERING WINGS Fall 2021

# Shared Blessings

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. [Hebrews 10:24, NLT](#)

## Our Promise: Domestic abuse prevention is working

I especially love my job in October, when we highlight how everyone plays a role in preventing domestic violence. A part of me wishes I could fast-forward 20 years to see how well awareness and prevention has worked – because I know they do!

So many teens at schools take part in our Healthy Relationship seminars. We talk to so many church groups about recognizing domestic abuse. Business after business asks us to help them develop a domestic violence policy. So many kind people like you partner with us to plant the seeds of change in our community every day.

The coming month of awareness and prevention reminds us that domestic violence doesn't have to be part of life. Family members don't have to wonder how they can help, parents don't have to guess at how to help their kids navigate relationships, businesses don't have to be unprepared for domestic violence to enter the workplace. It doesn't have to be this way. Use our many resources, trainings and educational materials to prevent abuse from starting and happening again.



Visit [shelteringwings.org/dvap](https://shelteringwings.org/dvap)  
Because it's working.



*Melissa Echerd*

*Melissa Echerd*

Sheltering Wings Prevention  
and Education Officer

## Survivor says be prepared to help a friend

When Becca, 16, confided in her friends that her boyfriend had hit her, they were angry – at him for the violence, and at her for “letting it happen.”

**“I felt so ashamed, like they thought it was my fault,” she said. “So, I never told them anything after that.”**

“He wanted to be with me all the time, and we had long chats when we weren’t together. I thought it was love,” Becca said. “But then he started to get jealous every time he thought another guy even looked at me. He blamed me for flirting or trying to get other guys’ attention.”

She didn’t recognize the signs of domestic abuse, and neither did her friends.



That’s why your partnership is vital to preventing and ending domestic abuse. Visit [freedomideserve.com](https://freedomideserve.com) to learn how you can recognize domestic violence and be ready to help a friend in need.

*Names in survivor stories may be changed for their protection.*

## Spotlight

**MIKE AND MINDY CUNNINGHAM**



**Q:** You support so many wonderful causes. Why is domestic abuse among them?

**A:** Domestic abuse often makes people feel trapped. Sheltering Wings provides a viable option for escape.

**Q:** As owners of the Cunningham Restaurant Group, what have you learned during the last year?

**A:** Within days of being mandated to close our 32 restaurants in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky, we moved to carryout only, which

kept 300 team members working and gave food options to the communities we serve. Our challenges were many, but we celebrate our team members who rose to the occasion and our loyal guests who supported us.

**Q:** You’re hosting Dine Out Against Domestic Violence on October 28 at your Hendricks County restaurants. What motivates you to support us this way?

**A:** Service to our community is part of our business model, and supporting Sheltering Wings is a welcome opportunity. Our history here began 24 years ago. Today, we’re proud to serve Hendricks County with five locations and thankful for the overwhelming support our guests have shown us over the years.

**Join Sheltering Wings on October 28 for Dine Out Against Domestic Violence at Cunningham Restaurant locations in Hendricks County.**

# October is Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

## Are awareness and prevention efforts effective?

The awareness and prevention of domestic violence go hand in hand. We can't prevent what we aren't aware of, but awareness alone won't equip us to act (or react) properly.

That's why Sheltering Wings launched [freedomideserve.com](http://freedomideserve.com), an online source for awareness and prevention. Sheltering Wings also offers training sessions (virtual and in-person) for employers, schools, faith-based organizations and community groups.

**Raising awareness** about domestic violence includes educating people about how to recognize and act against abuse and making help accessible to survivors.

**Preventing abuse** includes eliminating factors that contribute to abuse, creating protective environments in schools, workplaces and communities, engaging men as allies and teaching parents, adults and young people the skills they need for healthy relationships.

## UPCOMING *Events*

**Sept 23: Understanding Domestic Violence at Sheltering Wings | 6:30-8 p.m.**  
Training to better understand and identify domestic violence.

**Sept 30: Night of Unity Against Domestic Abuse | 6570 E US Hwy 36, Avon, IN 46123 6:30-8 p.m.** Building unity within the community to honor survivors of domestic abuse.

**Oct 06: Men IN Action Breakfast at Washington Township Park Pavilion | 7:30-9 a.m.**  
Free breakfast, fellowship and a powerful story about how mentors can redirect lives.

**Oct 10: Purple in the Pews** Faith groups share a message of domestic violence awareness and

**In October, you can help raise awareness by:**

- Attending one of our training sessions or encouraging your church, workplace or school to host one.
- Sharing accurate information via our social media posts.
- Inviting us to have a booth at your event.

**Help prevent domestic abuse by:**

- Talking to young people about healthy relationships and referring them to resources on our website.
- Helping youth groups and young people build positive developmental assets.
- Attending our Men IN Action breakfast in October or joining the group.

**For training questions, contact Melissa Echerd, (317) 386-5061 or [mecherd@shelteringwings.org](mailto:mecherd@shelteringwings.org).**

**REMEMBER, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY ... BUT STOPPING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TAKES EACH ONE OF US TO CARE AND ACT.**

prevention and encourage members to wear purple to show their support and love of survivors.

### **Oct 21: National Purple Day**

Wear purple to show your support for survivors and say NO to domestic violence and YES to purple donuts and froyo! Be sure to check our website and social media pages for more information!

**Oct 28: Dine Out Against Domestic Violence at Cunningham Restaurant locations throughout Hendricks County** 20% of your bill comes back to Sheltering Wings!

Visit [shelteringwings.org/dvap](http://shelteringwings.org/dvap) for DVAP Month for additional details on all these events.





# Become a Partner

IN PREVENTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## King David made the first planned gift

I read something recently that changed the way I viewed the story of Solomon's Temple. Did you realize this was one of the first planned, or legacy, gifts?

God told King David to set aside riches, then pass them along to his son, Solomon, to build a temple.

David prayed, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? For everything comes from You, and from Your own hand we have given to You." (I Chron. 29:14, NIV)

These gifts are not only for the wealthy. In fact, the average size of a gift in a donor's will is around \$35,000.\* And it's a simple way to make sure your vision is realized in the future.

If your vision includes caring for survivors of abuse and you'd like to discuss making a gift from your will or another type planned gift, I'm here to talk – always without obligation.

**God Bless!**



*Paige Vanzo*  
**Development Director**

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*Paige Vanzo*

\* Blackbaud, the world's leading cloud computing provider serving the social good community.

# Healthy Me and Stronger Us

I want to make individuals, families and our community healthier and stronger by helping survivors of domestic violence build stable, independent lives.

Please contact me about making a *monthly* tax-deductible donation of:

- \$250
- \$100
- \$50
- \$25
- \$10
- \$\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a *one-time*, tax-deductible donation of:

- \$250
- \$100
- \$50
- \$25
- \$\_\_\_\_\_
- I've enclosed my check # \_\_\_\_\_
- Please charge my credit card  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Visa
- MC
- Discover
- Amex

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

Exp. Date (MM/YY):  /  CW

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

We never share your email address.

## Please Contact Me:

- I want to know more about remembering Sheltering Wings in my Will.
- I have made plans to remember Sheltering Wings in my Will or otherwise. Please contact me for details.
- My employer will match my donation.

SHELTERING WINGS



P.O. BOX 92 | DANVILLE, IN 46122

## We're Hiring!

If you or someone you know has a passion for helping survivors of domestic abuse and thrives in a supportive, Christ-centered environment, please consider exploring a career with Sheltering Wings. **Details at [shelteringwings.org/get-involved/careers](https://shelteringwings.org/get-involved/careers).**

## Together, we can raise awareness of and prevent domestic abuse:

**SHARE** our Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest and Instagram ([@ShelteringWings](https://www.instagram.com/ShelteringWings))

**SIGN UP** for our monthly Insider email and other news at [shelteringwings.org/news](https://shelteringwings.org/news)

Thank you!

A very special thanks to

pools of fun.™

our Christmas in July sponsor, and all who gave, gathered and shared to **raise more than \$25,000 and 500 much-needed items!**

**Healthy Me. Stronger Us.** Since January 2021, your support has allowed us to answer **736 HELPLINE CALLS**, welcome **167 NEW RESIDENTS** and help **56 RESIDENTS** move to safe housing. **THANK YOU!**