

Men IN Action

Men IN Action Breakfast

You're invited to join us for our 7th annual Men IN Action Breakfast!

Men, mark your calendars for October 5th! We invite you to gather with other community-minded men as we explore ways to be positive role models in our communities! Enjoy a delicious breakfast and hear from our guest speaker, Mark Fairchild, as he shares his experience growing up as an "at-risk" child.

When: October 5, 2023
Where: MADE @ Plainfield

Scan the QR code to register and learn more!



Planned Gifts Are For Everyone

You might be surprised to hear that "Planned Giving" is a phrase I don't love. It's just that I wish it had a better name. The name makes this act, which is so **transformational and loving**, feel out of reach because it sounds like extra work and implies wealth. Neither has to be true. **Planned gifts—a gift in your Will, life insurance, or other financial aspect—are for everyone.**

If you'd like to know more about how a planned gift of any size can help survivors of abuse, or would like to know how to join the 2002 Society, please contact me—always without obligation.



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SHELTERING WINGS

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And more of your amazing work this year.

SHELTERING WINGS

We Are Hiring

Do you have a passion for helping others, making a difference, and ending domestic violence?

Join our team at Sheltering Wings! We have an open position that would be perfect for you! **Learn more and apply at ShelteringWings.org/Careers**

Stay Connected

What can you do to help prevent domestic violence? Keep up by:

- Engaging with us on social media ([@ShelteringWings](https://twitter.com/ShelteringWings))
- Finding valuable information on our website (ShelteringWings.org)
- Signing up for our monthly **INSIDER** and other newsletters of interest at shelteringwings.org/news

Do you or a loved one need help? We're here 24/7 to answer your call: (317) 745-1496.



Shared Blessings

YOUR NEWS FROM SHELTERING WINGS Summer 2023

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. **2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

Your help lifts survivors up, and they become a blessing to others.

Lindsay, our Children's Program Coordinator went from survivor to empowerer. Lindsay shared her story with us:

"I'm able to provide the resources that I longed for."

I married my college sweetheart right after graduation. I soon found myself a mother of two girls and stuck in a relationship that I knew wasn't healthy. I often ended up in tears, feeling alone, isolated, and worthless.

After our divorce, I found myself in yet another abusive relationship, only worse. He would push me, hit me, threaten me, and scare me and my girls. I distinctly remember a time when he threatened to light my dog on fire. He locked me, himself, and my dog, Bubby, in a room and held a flame just mere inches from Bubby's fur. I was terrified.

Through an intense and terrifying series of events, my young daughters and I were able to flee to my mother's house. I'm so thankful that I was able to escape.

I wish I had known about Sheltering Wings earlier. I wish someone had told me that there was a safe place I could escape to and get help and resources.

Fast-forward a few years, and I'm now serving as the Children's Program Coordinator at Sheltering Wings. I'm able to provide the resources that I so desperately longed for during my abuse.

That's why this community of caring people is so important. The money and materials that you donate during July are the supports that I so desperately needed. And those are the resources that I'm now able to offer to the survivors at Sheltering Wings.

When I'm able to give a child a new toy that was donated through Christmas in July, or put new sidewalk chalk outside for the kids to play with, or when I have the funds to spend on the programs that provide hope to children and their parents, it's so joyful! Thank you for being a part of the work we do at Sheltering Wings. Thank you for providing the resources that I desperately longed for.

You are building a community of strong families who will thrive with help, love and support.



Names in survivor stories may be changed for their protection.

Your Prayers Are Needed & Your Prayers Matter

Your prayers save lives and provide encouragement, hope, and peace.

When you pray for Sheltering Wings, you are interceding for survivors of abuse. You are standing in the gap for those who have lost hope or don't have the strength to pray. You are calling on the name of Jesus to wrap his loving arms of protection around our families.

1 Timothy 2:1 reads, "I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them."

We echo Paul's plea: please pray for the survivors at Sheltering Wings. Ask God to help them. Please intercede on their behalf and give thanks for their safety and bravery.

Thank you for lifting up Sheltering Wings in prayer.

We invite you to join us in the following prayer:

"Heavenly Father, you know the individual needs of each client and person who needs the help of Sheltering Wings.

We pray that you open doors for those who need help overcoming barriers that feel impossible. We know through you all things are possible.

Please open the minds and hearts of those who receive education through Sheltering Wings, so that your light will show through, and they will become a beacon of and a place of safety for their loved ones.

Guide those who victims confide in and help them to respond with love, dignity and respect, and when needed to call on Sheltering Wings for help and guidance.

Please comfort the children and families who have had to leave their homes for safety. Wrap your arms around them as they break the cycle of abuse in their lives.

Dear Lord, we pray these things in Christ's name.

Amen.

You can end domestic violence in your community!

Our community is made up of the best resource to end domestic violence:

People!

All too often, things that are accepted as "normal" in our daily lives can actually be harmful. And it's not on purpose. We just never think about it because, well, that's just the way it's always been done.



But when we take a closer look, and challenge some of these "normal" things, we can create real change. Behaviors like making demeaning jokes, valuing power over others, and rewarding aggressive behaviors are common ways we promote and enable abuse without realizing it.

Breaking the cycle of abuse can be done and it takes a community who wants to stop violence and start taking action.

Here are some useful tips:

STOP	START
Stop making demeaning and sexist jokes.	Start engaging in conversations that build others up.
Stop tolerating and rewarding aggressive and violent behaviors.	Start promoting healthy conflict resolution and communication.
Stop accepting harmful and rigid gender roles.	Start nurturing gender equality.
Stop valuing power over others.	Start sharing power with others.

Change often begins with individual actions by one person. Let that person be you. Together, our community's actions are what transform society.

Contact Melissa Echerd to learn more (317) 386-5061 | mecherd@shelteringwings.org

Will You Help This Christmas in July?

- Shampoo, conditioner, and oil for ethnic hair
- Paper towels
- Men's body wash
- Baby wipes
- Individual packets of infant Tylenol
- Individual packets of cough and cold medications
- Meat for our freezer
- Laundry pods
- Disposable forks & spoons
- Postage stamps



Find more items here:



Christmas in July

Yes! I will give to protect the families this Christmas in July!

To donate online, visit [ShelteringWings.org/ChristmasInJuly](https://shelteringwings.org/ChristmasInJuly).

Please use my credit card to make a monthly gift of: \$ _____

I want to make a one-time donation with my credit card of: \$ _____

I've enclosed check # _____ for \$ _____

My employer will match my donation.

Please charge my: VISA MC DISC AMEX

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV: _____

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Contact me about _____

Here's Why We Need Christmas in July

We provide basic needs at Sheltering Wings almost entirely through donations. Residents can find allergy medicine, clean towels, baby bottles, shaving cream, paper goods, and other essentials. **By July, though, our shelves are getting empty again.**

So, we celebrate Christmas in July to fill our shelves through the second half of the year. Will you be part of Christmas in July at Sheltering Wings?

Here's how you can help: **Give. Gather. Share.**

Give: Make a gift! Or inspire others by becoming a matching gift sponsor.

Gather: Hold an Amazon Wish List drive with your church, business or group.

Share: Spread the word to your friends and community about helping survivors - and to people who need our services.

Whether you give, gather, or share, you are key to our residents' ability to build stable, independent lives.

Visit [ShelteringWings.org/ChristmasInJuly](https://shelteringwings.org/ChristmasInJuly) or call Paige Vanzo at (317) 386-5049.



CUT HERE