



Coastal Location:  
4508 Mission Bay Drive  
San Diego, CA 92109  
(858) 272-5777

East County Location:  
7339 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. J  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
(619) 697-7477

North County Location:  
106 Grape Street  
Escondido, CA 92025  
(760) 747-6282

**www.ccssd.org**  
**24-Hour Toll Free**  
**Crisis Line:**  
**1-888-DVLINKS**  
**OR 1-888-272-1767**

Legal Clinic . . . . .858-272-1574  
Youth-To-Youth Helpline .866-222-1886  
Project Safehouse . . . . .619-267-8023  
Hidden Valley House . . . . 760-480-0055

**CCS would like to recognize the following individuals and/or businesses who have made a contribution of \$100 or more over the past quarter.**

Judi Adams  
Adams & Adams  
Grace Ferrero  
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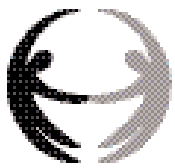
***How Can You Help?***

If you are interested in learning more about how you can help CCS come in for a tour and we can discuss the various ways you can get involved. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact the Director of Resource Development, Erin Miserlis at (858)272-5777 or emiserlis@ccssd.org



**Center for  
Community Solutions**  
*Healing and Preventing Sexual Assault  
and Relationship Violence*  
4508 Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109

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# CCS Connection

Center for Community Solutions  
HEALING AND PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

Volume 2, Issue 2  
January, 2004

## CCS AWARDED COUNTYWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE CONTRACT

■ National statistics show that *less than 2%* of sexual assault allegations are unfounded false accusations.

■ Due to the shame, embarrassment, & victim blaming behaviors associated with this crime, *less than 39%* of Sexual Assaults are ever reported to law enforcement.

### Newsletter Highlights:

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There is a new service available to survivors of domestic violence. This past August, CCS was awarded the contract to run the San Diego County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline.

CCS has over 18 years experience with running crisis intervention hotlines and this new program will be a welcome addition to the current services provided to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. We are extremely honored and pleased to have been awarded this contract and are looking forward to increasing the amount of support made available to the community.

The new Hotline has been up and running since October 1. It is staffed 24 hours a day with bilingual (English/Spanish) crisis counselors. Crisis counselors may be reached toll free at 1-888-DVLINKS.

All of the Hotline Crisis Counselors receive 56 hours of training developed by OCJP for Certified Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Crisis Counselors. The role of the cri-



Hotline Coordinator, Aneesha Bharwani and Crisis Counselor, Antara Kobayashi.

sis counselor is to listen, provide emotional support, educate, and provide appropriate referrals to callers. Callers will be able to receive information on how to obtain a temporary restraining order against an abuser, where to find emergency shelter, where to find counseling services for themselves and their families, and where to find support groups.

Crisis Counselors may also be providing callers with information on what their options are if they are sexually assaulted, what the process is for a forensic medical examination, and who is available to help them.

One of the key services this hotline will offer is immediate information on the availability of safe shelter. Using a com-

puter system that automatically provides information on up to the minute bed availability in the 6 regional domestic violence shelters, crisis counselors will be able to direct survivors, law enforcement agencies, and domestic violence service providers to the most appropriate shelter option. This is crucial in providing services to victims and their children in life threatening services.

The Hotline is a collaborative project of Center for Community Solutions and the County of San Diego. For more information, or to volunteer with the Hotline, please contact Hotline Coordinator, Aneesha Bharwani at (858) 490-4470.



Hotline Staff Member Working on a Call.

### SUCCESS STORY - "A Survivor's Message"

Imagine a young mother of two finding her way into the foothills of this country's border with only one thought in mind, "a better life for her and her children." This was her wish, unfortunately her wish became a women's undoubtedly worst nightmare. This survivor's courage and strength allowed her to fight her attacker off, after he binded, beat, and raped her. Her friend, who had promised her a better life, a life that she could be proud of, a life that would offer her children the world, took it all away in that moment of horror. Despite this torturous violation of her mind, body, and soul, she survived and was determined in regaining control and holding him accountable for betraying and taking away all that was sacred to her.

Her pain and courage became apparent to everyone as she relived her nightmare in the courtroom. For two straight days she was questioned as if she were the criminal. It was her courage and the courage of the jury that held this man accountable for the next 15 years of his life.

Her journey seemed to have a just ending, though her struggle to make it in this country and offer her children a better life, seemed no longer possible. However, it was through Casa Cornelia Law Center and their perseverance to obtain a U-Visa that allowed her to be in this country and seek the better life for her children.

She is in all sense of the word a survivor, and a warrior. She is tackling life as it comes. Her smile and new sense of normal transcends to those who come her way. Her life is our message. For more information on U-Visas go to [www.CasaCornelia.org](http://www.CasaCornelia.org)

- The story above is from a former CCS Client.

# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

## CCS OFFERS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL!

To kick off the New Year, CCS is pleased to announce an introductory membership offer to the CCS Giving Community. Membership levels start at just \$50 and for the month of January, any \$50 membership will be recognized at the \$100 level. This means you will receive the additional benefits reserved for the \$100 patron level.

In addition to partnering with one of San Diego's premier Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence prevention and intervention agencies, your membership contribution will make a significant impact on the lives of individuals affected by violence throughout San Diego County.

Benefits of membership include advance notification of all events and activities, firsthand knowledge about the latest techniques in violence prevention, and much, much more. In addition, all members will have priority seating at any CCS event or activity. This coming May, CCS will be welcoming author and survivor, Tricia Meili as the guest speaker for our annual Tea by the Sea. Ms Meili is more commonly known as the "Central Park Jogger" and her presence at our event is sure to be unforgettable and inspiring. We anticipate a sell out crowd this year due to Ms. Meili's presence so don't miss out on this amazing opportunity and join today.

To help celebrate a special occasion or honor someone you love, gift memberships are also available. For more information, or to request a membership packet, contact the Director of Resource Development, Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777 or [emiserlis@ccssd.org](mailto:emiserlis@ccssd.org)

## FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

■ Thanks to an amazing group of volunteers from **NCR Teradata**, our Transitional Housing complex has a new look. Staff Members including: **Christine Percopo, Catherine Robinson, Chang Shin, James Sanders, Jackie Arao, Denny Ngo, Margie Insko, Lynn Nicols, Bill and Andi Stout, & Carol Walter** from NCR Teradata took part in the annual Hands on San Diego volunteer day and spent the afternoon painting, patching and fixing up two of our vacant apartments. A huge thank you to for helping make our transitional housing program shine!



NCR Teradata Staff Members

■ CCS has had a special volunteer over the past few weeks. **Christy Schumacher** has volunteered her time to do relief work at the front desk. Christy has been wonderful at answering phone calls and providing support to our staff.  
■ A big thank you to **Monica Stein** and members of the **Soroptimist International** of San Diego for providing the food for a Thanksgiving dinner at our emergency shelter, Project Safehouse.

■ Thanks to **Brett Hogan** from **Safeco Insurance** for donating a room full of beautiful plants for our offices. The plants are sure to liven up our facility and make our clients feel at home.

■ Members of the **Project Safehouse Auxiliary** are spreading some Holiday spirit by organizing a party for our shelter clients and their children. Group members **Monica Stein, Donna Alaoen, Mary Willmont & Kim Melchior** provided food, activities, and a great time for the clients. Gifts were made possible by the staff members at **Croce's** and the **Pacific Beach Branch of the San Diego County Credit Union**.

■ Members of the **La Jolla Soroptimist** club have been great supporters this past month, donating sweat suits & underwear for SART victims, food for the shelters and \$125.00 gift cards from Vons for victims. Thank you Soroptimists!

■ Thanks to the kindness of **Andi Stout** and members of the **San Diego Teddy Bear Artists & Collectors Club** each child who enters our shelter will be given a soft and cuddly teddy bear to welcome them to their new home. The bears will bring a smile and a sense of comfort to each child.

■ A big thank you to **Kelly Gilmore** for volunteering his time to help out with the technical and computer needs at our North County office.

■ **Rancho Escondido Mobile Home Park** has been a long time supporter of CCS and they are busy this Holiday Season spreading some cheer by selecting toys for the kids in our programs.

## CCS UPDATES AND EVENTS

### Men's Leadership Forum 2004

The Men's Leadership Forum educates men on domestic violence and sexual assault prevention. This year marks the Fourth Annual Event and over 400 male leaders from throughout the county are expected. \$25 in advance and \$35 after January 30th 2004. For more information, contact Steve Allen at (858) 272-5777 or [sallen@ccssd.org](mailto:sallen@ccssd.org)

### 5th Annual Tea by the Sea Speaker Selected, Save the Date!

On Thursday, May 20th CCS will be celebrating their 5th Annual Tea by the Sea, honoring the tremendous contributions of the many volunteers, businesses and community members who have helped to make CCS a success over the past year. KUSI news anchor, **Kimberly Hunt**, will act as the event emcee, and **Tricia Meili** has been secured as our guest speaker. Ms. Meili is more commonly known as "**The Central Park Jogger**", and recently wrote a book about her harrowing ordeal. Ms. Meili will be sharing her amazing story of hope and survival with our guests at this year's event. We are anticipating a sold out crowd and very strong media interest due to Ms. Meili's involvement. For more information or to reserve tickets, contact Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777 or [emiserlis@ccssd.org](mailto:emiserlis@ccssd.org)

### Interested in Becoming a Crisis Counselor?

Spaces are now available for the February Crisis Intervention Training Course. The training is intended for those interested in volunteering for CCS. The class is 56 hours and you will learn basic crisis intervention skills. Training's are available in both our Coastal and North

County locations. For more information contact Alison Admire in the Coastal office at (858)272-5777 or Maylin Chavez in the North County office at (760)747-6282

### Date Scheduled for Liberty Walk 2004

On Sunday, April 4th 2004 CCS will be one of 5 agencies participating in the 2004 Liberty Run/Walk, Freedom from Domestic Violence. This one of a kind event raises funds and awareness for the various domestic violence service providers in San Diego County. The route includes a 4-mile run or walk over the Coronado Bridge. Individual and Corporate walk teams needed! For sponsorship information or to register, contact Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777 or [emiserlis@ccssd.org](mailto:emiserlis@ccssd.org)

## CCS STAR EMPLOYEE LUPE CALZADA

Congratulations Lupe Calzada, recipient of the "Response with a Heart" Award and January's Star Employee. The



since August 2002, while previously working as an advocate for the EYE Crisis & Counseling Services.

Response with a Heart award was presented by the Sexual Assault Response Team of San Diego County. The award represents Lupe's extreme dedication and service to survivors of sexual assault. Lupe goes above and beyond to assist these survivors and demonstrates passion and commitment to the issue. She is a true asset to CCS and is a very valuable team member within the Rape Crisis Center.

Lupe has been employed by the Center for Community Solutions-North County as a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate

Lupe provides crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, referrals and follow-up services to sexual assault survivors. In addition, she is an excellent trainer to the professional community including law enforcement, district attorneys, medical and community service agencies. She also provides valuable self defense training to various community groups. She is very active in the community and her bilingual skills are also an incredible asset.

Congratulations Lupe, we are all so proud of you!

## CCS WISH LIST

*For information on donating an item from the wish list, please contact Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777 or [emiserlis@ccssd.org](mailto:emiserlis@ccssd.org)*

- Picnic bench and chairs
- Electric typewriter
- DVD Player
- VCR
- Digital Camera
- Non-perishable food items
- Administrative Volunteers
- Volunteers for Project Safehouse Client Support Group
- Volunteers to answer calls on the Hotline
- Flip Flops for rape survivors (all sizes)
- Bottled water
- Tissues (mini Kleenex packs for survivors)