

**July 2008**

## **Domestic Violence Should Not Be Part of Our Culture**

Domestic violence is the biggest cause, for many women and their children, to be neglected, homeless, or in refuge around the world.

The data, as well as our society, are recognizing that men are the majority of the abusers. Therefore we need to change attitudes and behaviors in order to achieve real change.

When we refer to an abuser, “we are not talking about strangers; we are talking about our fathers, our sons, our uncles, our brothers, or our husbands,” says the National Latina Alliance (Alianza Latina Nacional, 2008). Domestic violence does not occur only in other families, in other communities, or in other states. It is occurring in our own family and in our own community.

Each year in the United States, almost 5.3 million women above the age of 18 are victimized, according to figures from the National Headquarters for Disease Control. Domestic violence is the principal cause for women to be taken to the emergency room and it is among the main causes of neglect among families.

Around 94% of men incarcerated due to domestic violence grew up as victims of domestic violence themselves or witnessed this violence at home. 67% of youths between 12 and 18 years of age incarcerated for murder were there to have killed the abuser of their mother.

We must have unity in the community in order to end this problem of violence in the home and to help the victims of this crime—victims who are not only women but are children as well.

Many even excuse domestic violence as part of “our culture”. We already know that this is not the truth; one must carry on with awareness. Therefore there are groups in the community that are working against domestic throughout the world--for safe homes for all.

## **Luis and Juan want to answer your questions**

Do you have a question about workplace safety and health?

Juan and Luis have answers!

Juan and Luis are compliance officers who work for OSHA, the agency that oversees workplace safety and health. If you think you have been exposed to conditions on the job that could injure you or make you sick, but aren't sure, contact them to discuss the situation.

They are interested in speaking to any worker who needs help with an unsafe workplace. You do not have to give your name or place of employment to speak with them. They can tell you about your workplace rights according to OSHA.

Outside of the Milwaukee area and in southern Wisconsin, call the Madison OSHA office and ask for Juan: 608-441-5388.

In the Milwaukee area, call and ask for Luis: 414-297-3315.

If neither Juan nor Luis are available, the offices have telephone interpretation services. Any of OSHA's compliance officers can address your concerns. Or call our toll-free number and ask to speak to a Spanish operator: 1-800-321-6742 (OSHA).

Curious about OSHA and what the agency is all about? Visit our web page for Latinos: <http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/spanish/index.html>.

[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

### **BadgerCare Plus: Health Insurance for Children and Families**

Since February 1, 2008, Wisconsin families can apply for BadgerCare Plus to get the health care they need at a price they can afford. BadgerCare Plus provides children in Wisconsin with access to affordable, comprehensive health care coverage, regardless of their income. In addition, BadgerCare Plus also offers coverage to more pregnant women, self-employed parents and farmers, and youth aging out of foster care.

BadgerCare Plus is for families who don't have access to affordable health insurance.

Applicants must live in Wisconsin and be US citizens or qualified immigrants (with certain exceptions, such as pregnant women or for emergency health care).

Low income families can enroll their children into BadgerCare Plus at no charge. Co-payments for health care services range from \$.50 to \$3 for families with lower incomes.

Families with higher incomes are required to pay reasonable monthly premiums and co-payments for certain services. Co-payments for health care services range from \$5 for prescription drugs and \$100 for a hospital stay.

Under both plans, there are no co-payments for well child checkups and other preventive services.

It is easy to apply for BadgerCare Plus. Simply go to [www.badgercareplus.org](http://www.badgercareplus.org) and fill out the online application for this program and other health and nutrition programs. The online application is a convenient way for families to access the health and nutrition benefits they need. For more information about BadgerCare Plus call 1-800-362-3002.

## **Preventing Home Foreclosures**

For the majority of families, a home isn't just an important financial investment, but also a source of pride. The loss of a home due to unpreventable circumstances can have devastating personal as well as financial aspects.

For this reason, in December 2007 the US Treasury Department and HOPE NOW Alliance announced a plan to help homeowners with bad loans to avoid losing their homes when payments reach unattainable levels.

HBC Services provides the tools necessary to promote long-term stability for homeowners and home buyers. Reasons that can cause a home foreclosure are listed along with ways to avoid foreclosure. For more information call HBC or HOPE hotline numbers listed.

## **Catch the Reading Bug at Hedburg Public Library**

A list of many of the activities related to the summer reading program is provided along with family-friendly events sponsored by the library. Call the Library for more information.

What Should I do to be ready for the Transition to DTV?

This article explains about the transition to Digital TV that will be required after February of 2009. It suggests three options. One is to connect your analog TV to an adapter box that will convert to the digital signal. Another is to buy a digital TV. The third is to subscribe to a cable or satellite service. The FCC phone number is listed for more information.

## **Fort HealthCare FREE Mammogram Campaign**

Due to the generosity of the Fort Memorial Hospital Foundation, Fort HealthCare is able to offer free mammogram screenings to women aged 40 and over who have limited or no insurance coverage.

Women who meet these requirements can obtain a voucher for a complimentary mammogram from doctors and staff at the Rock River Free Clinic and the Jefferson County Health and Human Services Department. Physicians may also refer patients who meet the qualifications.