

"I never thought something like this would happen to me. If it wasn't for the Family Justice Center, I'm not sure where I would have turned. Thank you!"



**CRYSTAL JUDSON
Family Justice Center**
Offering hope and safety

718 Court E
Tacoma, Washington 98402
Phone: 253-798-4310
www.aplaceofhelp.org

CRYSTAL JUDSON Family Justice Center 2009 Annual Report



Letter From the Director and Board Chairs

Dear Friends of the Family Justice Center,

As we reflect on the fourth full year of operation of the CJFJC, we cannot help but feel honored and humbled by the number of victims and their children who have turned to us in their time of crisis. In 2009, there were 3,800 client visits to the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center. This is a 44 percent increase in client visits from 2008. We hosted more children than ever before, 1,084 to be exact. Finally, our Domestic Violence Helpline saw a 29 percent increase in calls over 2008, with more than 4,000 calls received. It sends a strong message that there still is a great deal of work to be done in our community to address this domestic violence epidemic.

While these sobering numbers are an important reflection of the work we are doing, it is equally important to recognize the uniqueness of every client who visits the Center. They come with different backgrounds, needs and hopes for the future. It is the job of the Center staff to provide the myriad of services clients need in a way that honors and respects each and every unique situation. This is no easy task, but one that takes place here many times a day.

Center staff, interns and volunteers participate in ongoing training and staff development on a weekly basis. We all consider ourselves to be life long learners, always seeking to expand our knowledge of resources and best practices to further enhance our capacity to deliver services.

Our intern and volunteer programs grew in 2009 to include partnerships with University of Washington Tacoma, Pacific Lutheran University, Highline Community College, and the Goodwill REACH program. With the significant increase in client numbers and no corresponding increase in paid staffing, our trained interns and volunteers have the opportunity to gain hands on experience providing direct services to our clients. We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated group so giving of their time and talents!

Client Testimonials

*“By coming to the Family Justice Center, **I feel like a weight has been lifted.** I now have support that is not going to judge me and will let me make my own decisions.”*

*“Thank you! Being a male victim, I have not received much assistance. Everything is focused on the mother. **It’s nice to know help is available for fathers.**”*

*“Thank you so much. I was amazed that I found just what I was looking for. **My kids will greatly benefit from mom not being so stressed.**”*

“I am very appreciative of the personal and non-institutional environment.”

*“Everyone has been warm, welcoming and supportive. **This is truly a safe place.**”*

*“Staff is extremely kind, knowledgeable, understanding and helpful. **I arrived very ashamed and scared but was put at ease.** Thank you!”*

Family Justice Center Events



2009 Barbeque



Emergency Management Donates a Freezer



Sheriff's Department Appreciation Day



Donor Appreciation Day

As we continue to deal with a depressed economy, the FJC Executive Board moved forward with plans to start a private fund raising mechanism to support some of the programs and services of the Center. The Family Justice Center Foundation Fund was established with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation in 2009. A Fund Development Committee comprised of more dedicated volunteers will be working together to raise awareness about the FJC and how those in our community can help ensure that clients have the services and support they need.

Our gratitude cannot be overstated to the people and agencies who have so generously given of their time, money and resources to support the Center this year. In particular, I want to thank the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management for their on-going support of the Center. Members of DEM regularly drop by the Center to bring food and other supplies for our clients. In December, they delivered a very special gift – a side by side freezer. This allows us to store bread and other perishable foods for clients. They are truly the guardian angels of the Center!

As you read through this report, I hope you will take time to reflect on Kathy's story. It is truly a story of triumph and sends the important message that it is never too late to reclaim your life, your spirit, yourself.

We are deeply grateful to the FJC staff, partners, volunteers and donors for their continued commitment and dedication to our clients. Thank you for another successful year.

Sincerely,

Susan Adams, Director

Barbara Gelman, 2009 Chair
FJC Executive Board

Marty Campbell, 2010 Chair
FJC Executive Board

Kathy's Story

Kathy had a life that, unfortunately, we see at the Family Justice Center on a regular basis. It provides us all with inspiration and a justification for the hard work that we do.

“The first time I came in I left feeling like there was hope. I walked in with a life of puzzle pieces and the Family Justice Center helped me put the puzzle together.”

Kathy was pregnant and married at the age of 17.

She then spent the next 39 years with a husband who both verbally and physically abused her.

In all, they had four children together.

By all outward appearances (publicly), Kathy's husband acted like a good man who provided financially for his family...

Client Services

Offering a quiet, safe location for victims of domestic violence and their children to go to receive a wide array of services, the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center is about wrapping clients in services to meet all of their needs to help them to heal and thrive. These services include:

- Safety planning
- Domestic violence education
- Civil legal services
- Victim support in criminal cases
- Protection orders
- Access to financial services from DSHS
- Spiritual support
- Parent/child support group
- Support groups and counseling
- Sexual assault information
- Emergency housing assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Assistance with child support through the Division of Child Support
- Interpretation/translation services

Clients served in 2009

- 3,834 client visits to the center
- 4,037 Helpline calls
- 1,084 children visited the FJC

Outreach Work

- 1123 Criminal Justice victims served by Prosecuting Attorney Advocates at the FJC
- 396 FJC outreach clients
- 103 High school and middle school classes received instruction from the teen outreach specialist.

2009 Revenue

Donations.....	\$ 9,740.00
Federal Funding.....	\$ 619,680.00
Local Funding.....	<u>\$ 774,122.00</u>
Total.....	\$1,403,542.00

Local Funders

- City of Tacoma
- Pierce County
- Tacoma/Pierce County Health Department

Volunteers

The FJC owes a special thank you to its wonderful volunteers, who offer a warm heart and a sympathetic ear to our clients.

In 2009:

- FJC Volunteers donated 870 hours.
- Volunteer Chaplains donated 1042 hours.
- Interns logged 1,867 hours.

Kathy's story continued

“The Family Justice Center offered me a place where I wasn’t judged. A place where I was heard and believed!”

After 39 years of abuse, Kathy came to the Family Justice Center. Kathy worked with an advocate and her family members, devising a safety plan.

For the first time in her adult life, her feelings of fear and isolation were being validated.

“I always knew what I needed to do, but the Family Justice Center gave me the encouragement and tools I needed to do it.”

Working with a legal advocate from the Family Justice Center, Kathy was able to file for a legal separation, obtain a restraining order and have her husband removed from the home. Kathy is finalizing her separation working with an attorney but says, “I thank God for my legal advocate.”

Kathy has continued working with the Family Justice Center. She has had her locks changed and continues to develop her safety plan as her situation evolves.

Kathy was connected to counseling services through one of the Family Justice Center Partner Agencies and is continuing to work with her advocate for support.

Executive Board Members



Barbara Gelman
Pierce County
Council Member
2005—Present



Tex Whitney
Executive Vice President,
Retired
Columbia Bank
2006-Present



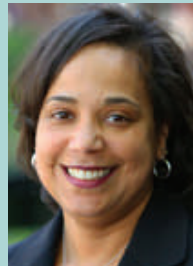
Rick Talbert
Tacoma Council
Member
2005—2009



Marty Campbell, Chair
Tacoma Council
Member
2010



Shawn Bunney
Pierce County
Council Member
2005—2009



Victoria Woodards
Tacoma Council
Member
2010



Connie Ladenburg Chair
Tacoma Council
Member
2005—2009



Joyce McDonald
Pierce County
Council Member
2010

Our Partner Agencies

- Associated Ministries
- Catherine Place
- City of Tacoma Human Rights & Human Services Department
- Day One Washington
- Department of Social & Health Services
- Ft Lewis Family Advocacy Program
- Good Samaritan Behavioral Health
- Highline Community College
- Korean Women's Association
- Our Sisters' House
- Pacific Lutheran University
- Pierce Youth Outreach
- Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Pierce County Sheriff's Department
- Pierce County Superior Court Clerk's Office
- Tacoma Community College
- Tacoma Police Department
- University of Washington/Tacoma
- Volunteer Legal Services

Thank You to Our Donors

John Abraham
Susan Adams
Robert Allen
Cindy Anderson
Anonymous
Mary Asplin
John Austin
NK Baskett
Penny Bergman
Laurie & David Bischof
Mitchell Brells
Shawn Bunney
Kimberly Burnett
Sheree Clark
Margaret Collins
Betty Coons
Anne Crowley
Kim Culbertson
Andrea Currin
Jamie Davis
Maria Delarosa
Vicki Diamond
Joan Douglass
Kala Dralle
Denise Dyer
Kimberly Fleshman
Shelley Foutz
Bryan & Cindy Frankell
Susan Frelove
Barbara Gelman
Nancy Grabinski-Young
Denise Greer
Teri Gutierrez
Dorothy Hansen
Santana Harris
Sue Hartman
Mollie Hetlage
Joan Jones
Frances Joyce
Lane & Patty Judson
Mary Kaeser
Prash Karnik
Joanne Kicken
Carron Klee
Marilyn Kulper
Kelly Kutzler
Susan Larson
Gary Lehde
Lloyd Lockbourn

Mark Maenhout
Nancy Maio
Ken Matthews
Abi McLane
Laurie Miller
Sarah Mitchell
Maryalice Moon
Sandra Moore
Suzanne Mullan
Carol Norman
Billie O'Brien
George & Liz Osborn
April Ost
Shirley Pajares
Carolyn Pendle
Donna Pethick
Janet Pierce
Diana Ranes
Craig Roberts
Sandi Roberts
Sandi Robinson
Catherine Sala
Michael San Soucie
Elizabeth Sawyers
Mary Schmidtke
Michael Schmitt
Wendy Seese
David & Trish Skillin
Kathy Sorgenfrei
Kirk Stenger
Valerie Stewart
Kaye Stone
Carolyn Stortini
Dawn Thomas
Deborah Turpin
Ramona Valdez
Terri VanAusdle
Elizabeth E. Verhey
Susan Wahlberg
Chris Watson-Foreman
Wayne Weinholz
Sheri Wells
Marilyn Wetch
Tex Whitney
Daucie Willson
Douglas Wilson
Victoria Woods
Tess Ylescupidz

ABW Ministries Farwest Area
American Inns of Court
American Sewing Guild
GFWC Womens Club of Tacoma
Girl Scout Troop 40111
Headliners Salon
Horse-N-Around 4H Club
March of Dimes
Mt Rainier Doll Club
Pierce Co District Court Probation
Pierce Co Emergency Management
Pierce Co IT Department
Pierce Co Prosecutor's Office
Pierce County Assessor's Office
Pierce County Auditor's Office
Pierce County Executive's Office
Pierce County Housing Programs
Pierce County Human Resources Dept
Pierce County Medical Society
Pierce County Risk Management Dept
Pierce County Superior Court
Seventh Day Adventist Quilt Makers Group
Sin by Silence
Soroptimist Int'l of Tacoma
Tacoma Fire Department
Tacoma Police Department
Tacoma Risk/HR Dept
Thunderbird Trading Post
U.S Attorney's Office
United Way
Valley 4-H
WA School Nutrition Association
Zonta