Recently, there has been a great deal of attention focused on the issue of human trafficking. Many people understand that this happens in other parts of the world, and even other parts of this country, but do not realize that human trafficking happens here in Westmoreland County. Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Conservative estimates state that human trafficking enslaves an average of 21 million people each year worldwide. The exploitation of people for both sex and labor is prevalent throughout Western Pennsylvania, and can affect anyone.

Blackburn Center, as the lead agency for the Westmoreland County Human Trafficking Task Force, identified the Red Sand Project in 2017 as a perfect opportunity to inform the community about the issue of human trafficking. The Red Sand Project is an art installation, created by artist Molly Gochman, which seeks to raise awareness about human trafficking by asking volunteers across the world to place red sand in the cracks of sidewalks. The grains of sand represent the millions of victims of human trafficking who slip through the “cracks” of our society and go unnoticed.

During the month of September, the Red Sand Project was displayed at the Westmoreland County Courthouse, Twin Lakes Park Extension, and Westmoreland, Latrobe and Frick Hospitals. In addition to the annual sidewalk installation, Seton Hill University partners with Blackburn Center to display mason jars filled with red sand on their campus to educate students and bring awareness about human trafficking.

Victims of human trafficking fall through the cracks of the system when service providers and the justice system do not recognize the experiences of these victims. Many victims of human trafficking end up jailed or returning to their traffickers. The Red Sand Project provides an opportunity for county residents to stand together and shine a light on this hidden crime.

This is the third year Westmoreland County exhibited the Red Sand Project, and it was a huge success! Over one hundred individuals, families, community leaders, professionals, survivors, students and residents from across Westmoreland County volunteered to show support for this cause. The growth of this project, with more agencies and community members participating each year, brings us closer to achieving the mission of the Red Sand Project.

If you are interested in raising awareness or learning more about how you can lend a hand in the anti-trafficking movement, give us a call at 724-837-9540, X 103.
The attorneys of QuatriniRafferty recognize that it is a privilege to practice law. Our obligation transcends the immediate legal need we are handling for the client. We know that our clients are juggling many stressors that come with having a life turned upside down, suddenly, by injury and disability – loss of income, loss of self-esteem, missing out on family events, continuous medical appointments, and tremendous strain on a spouse or significant other. Consequently, our attorneys and staff focus on ways to ease these stressors by involving our clients in community events and service organizations, and we commit to supporting the services that provide the safety net that our clients need. Our attorneys sit on numerous charitable boards and the firm contributes to many community organizations. This devotion to community goes back more than 40 years, with the firm acting as a founding supporter of Blackburn Center. QuatriniRafferty attorney Joyce Novotny-Prettman currently serves as pro-bono legal counsel for the agency. Vince Quatrini served as a member of the agency’s Board of Directors for many years, and was part of charting the course for the agency. We participate in the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event, and we frequently contribute items to Blackburn Center’s shelter. The attorneys of QuatriniRafferty are proud to have been on the entire 43-year journey with this first-class organization.

Blackburn Center gives thanks to QuatriniRafferty for their 43 years of support... and so we asked them what that meant to them!

2019 ALL OCCASION CARD
For 20 years, Blackburn Center has offered a meaningful way to mark important occasions and celebrate special people in your life through our Special Occasion Card.
For each $25 gift to Blackburn Center, a card was sent to the person specified with a personal message. Please consider this way to touch the lives of thousands of people in our community as you touch the lives of those you honor.
FEARLESS ADVOCACY FOR MEN’S ENGAGEMENT (FAME)

Men who are willing to be involved in attempting to end gender-based violence in Westmoreland County – we would love to have you join the FAME group! This group is committed to the four phases of being an advocate: awareness, education, skill building, and action. If you would like to learn more about what these phases of advocacy look like and are interested in getting involved, please contact Cassie at 724-837-9540, X137 or cassiee@blackburncenter.org.

“Being a member of FAME means having a voice in the conversation about gender-based violence that many men shy away from. Gender-based violence is not simply a women’s issue but is often easily dismissed by men. Men are most often the perpetrators of that violence, and men need to have a voice in prevention and intervention efforts to end it.”

– Tim H., member of FAME

### Look at our List, and Check it Twice...
As the holiday season approaches, please make our needs list part of your holiday gift giving. Making a gift of items from the needs list, or donating the financial resources to purchase those items, helps us provide for the basic needs of individuals and families staying at our shelter. It is also a unique and wonderful way to honor someone special on your holiday list. Once you make your donation, we’ll be happy to send a card acknowledging your gift on their behalf. Donating items helps to sustain the shelter program, and maintain the support groups the agency provides for women and children. Some of these items are made available to women and their children who are establishing their own homes and need support with basic household items.

Please put the items in BOLD at the top of your shopping list, and help Blackburn Center manage donations by bringing only new items. If you have used items to donate, the agency can provide a list of thrift shops in the area that make items available to Blackburn Center shelter residents at no cost to them.

For more information about donation opportunities, contact:
Blackburn Center
PO Box 398, Greensburg, PA 15601
724.837.9540
www.blackburncenter.org

### BLACKBURN CENTER NEEDS LIST
Items needed throughout the year for Blackburn Center’s clients/shelter residents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KITCHEN</th>
<th>BATHROOM</th>
<th>BABY &amp; CHILD ITEMS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coffee creamer</td>
<td>Deodorant</td>
<td>Bottles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dish drying racks</td>
<td>Facial tissues</td>
<td>Children’s haircare products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dish sets - plates &amp; bowls</td>
<td>Hair brushes</td>
<td>Diapers – size 4 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(service of 4)</td>
<td>Hair care products for women of color, esp. serums</td>
<td>Infant formula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinking glasses &amp; cups</td>
<td>Hair dryers</td>
<td>Pajamas: children’s – all sizes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food items: any canned food, other non-perishables, etc.*</td>
<td>Nail clippers</td>
<td>Sippy cups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glass baking dishes</td>
<td>Shower caddies</td>
<td>Teething rings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kitchen utensils</td>
<td>Shower curtains &amp; liners</td>
<td>Umbrella strollers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oils – coconut and olive</td>
<td>Toilet paper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper towels</td>
<td>Towels – bath &amp; hand</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper towel holders</td>
<td>Tweezers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plastic pitchers</td>
<td>Not needed at this time: travel-size toiletries &amp; adult toothpaste.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pots &amp; saucepans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silverware (service of 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skillets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small appliances: electric can openers, coffee makers, toasters, mixers, blenders, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zip-lock bags - 2 gallon, 2.5 gallon &amp; quart-size</td>
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</table>

* Food items we especially need include: all kinds of soups, jelly, salad dressing, mayonnaise, ketchup, canned or bottled juices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISCELLANEOUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult coloring books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooms &amp; Dust Pans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duffel bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extension cords</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flashlights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gasoline cards (Sunoco)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift cards (Giant Eagle, Walmart, Shop ‘N Save &amp; Target)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long distance calling cards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Clean Magic Erasers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Square Sterilite laundry baskets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool kits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TracFones &amp; Cards</td>
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</tbody>
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PO Box 398 | Greensburg PA 15601-0398 | Office 724.837.9540 | Fax 724.837.3676 | blackburncenter.org
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR APRIL 18, 2020

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®
The 10th Annual Men’s March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence

Westmoreland County’s WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES® event, sponsored annually by Blackburn Center, has become a signature opportunity for this community to raise our voices and challenge the culture of violence that fuels the incidence of domestic and sexual abuse.

Tell your friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors about this important – and FUN – event at St. Clair Park, Greensburg. For individual and team registration information, and details about sponsorship opportunities, call 724-837-9540 x114, or visit our website to learn more: www.blackburncenter.org. And please thank our 2019 Walk sponsors listed in the inserted page!

REMINDERS...
Volunteer Opportunities
Blackburn Center has volunteer positions available. To learn about these opportunities, call our office: 724-837-9540, x114.

Trainings Available for the Community
- Creating Safe and Thriving Workplaces: A Comprehensive Approach to Preventing Harassment
- Bystander Intervention: A Community Model for Interrupting and Preventing Violence

To schedule either of these trainings, please contact Kristin at 724-837-9540, x114 or kristinm@blackburncenter.org.

MISSION STATEMENT
Blackburn Center advocates for the rights of all individuals to live free from domestic and sexual violence and other forms of violence by eliminating root causes and providing for the well-being and safety of survivors/victims.
Struggling with emotions, anxiety or stress? Have questions about your legal rights? We can help.

We’re here to listen.
Reach out to us 24/7.
No fees. No judgment.
Just help.

We provide services for anyone whose life has been violated crime.
• 24-hour hotline, providing support, options and community resources
• Counseling and therapy
• Accompaniment at hearings and trials
• Accompaniment at emergency rooms (for victims of domestic and sexual violence)
• Shelter (for victims of domestic violence and their children)

All services are confidential, can be anonymous and are available to women, children and men.

24-hour hotline
724.836.1122 or 1.888.832.2272,
Deaf and hard-of-hearing may use VRS to call hotline

The 10th Annual Men’s March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence

Standing Blackburn Center News Spring 2019

Underwriting Sponsor
$10,000
W.N. Tuscano Agency Inc.

Finish Line Sponsors
$7,500
103.1 KVE and 103.9 KHB

Big Stride Sponsors
$5,000
Anonymous
Sendell Subaru

The Extra Mile Sponsors
$2,500
Blue Sky Sign Co.
Elegant Tents and Catering
Janice O. Garlock
Remembering the True Victims – Warren & Pat Lupson
Toyota of Greensburg
UPS

Go the Distance Sponsors
$1,000+
Anonymous
Blackburn Center Board of Directors
Carpenter Latrobe Specialty Metals
Employees of Commercial Bank & Trust of PA
First Commonwealth Bank
Mary Ann Gawelek & Frank Kleshinski
Jim and Beth Hergenroeder Family Legacy
Carolyn & Monte Holland
Seton Hill University
Westmoreland Hospital - Excela Health
The Wexford Health EEC - Joe Ebbitt

Pace Setter Sponsors
$500
Amcom Office Supplies
Commercial Bank & Trust of PA
Dunkin’ Donuts
Elliott Group
Ann & Ernie Emmerling
Ensoe Long Insurance Group
First National Bank of PA
First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg
Keppele-Graft Funeral Home
Sean Kertes for County Commissioner
Maher Duesell CPA’s
Passaro Family
Catherine Raphael
Sam’s Club Greensburg
Schaab Memorial Tournament
Somerset Trust Company
Three Rivers Orthopaedic & Spine Products, Inc
Uncle Charley’s Sausage
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Academic Village
Senate & La Femme
Westmoreland Cultural Trust

Stepping Up Sponsors
$250
The Ankrum Family
Arts for Community Change Class - Seton Hill University
Beeghly & Company Jewelers
Jim & Kathy Bendel
Big Ed’s Jerky
Judy & Len Caric
City of Greensburg
Conte Design

Marilyn Davis, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services
The DeMezza Family
Dr. Terrance E. DePasquale
Doug and Lauren Farrell
Barbara Ferrier
Greater Latrobe-Laurel Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce
Kattan-Ferretti Insurance
Larry’s DJ Service
Jean McKenna
Mental Health America of SW PA
Naser Foods
Eric Nelson
Norman Alan Company, LLC
Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products
Standard Bank PaSB
Stellar Precision Components
Stewart, Mc Ardle, Sorice, Whalen, Farrell, Finoli, & Cavanaugh LLC
STOREExpress
Lori Stripay
Susanna and Bussy Bowman
Charitable Fund
George & Michelle Toohey
TJS Insurance Group, An Assured Partners Co.
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ligonier Valley
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg - Criminal Justice Club
Westmoreland Case Management and Supports, Inc.
Westmoreland LGBT Community: PFLAG Greensburg and the Westmoreland Interfaith Network
Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce
1st Summit Bank

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®