



BlackburnCenter
Standing together to end violence.

Spring 2019

STANDINGSTRONG

Blackburn Center News



CALLING **ALL** COURAGEOUS MEN OF
WESTMORELAND COUNTY TO

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®

The 9th Annual Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

St. Clair Park in Greensburg

Registration 9-10am • Walk begins 10am

Registration is \$5 for each participant. Men, women and children are welcome! Includes free event t-shirt (while supplies last).
Pets on a leash are welcome to the Walk.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.blackburncenter.org or call 724-837-9540 x144

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

www.eventbrite.com/e/blackburn-center-walk-a-mile-in-her-shoes-2019-tickets-54530063889

Teams are encouraged!

Form groups at work or school and walk as a team.

You may carry an identifying banner, but the banner must be pre-approved by Blackburn Center prior to the Walk.

In Westmoreland County, a project of



BlackburnCenter

Standing together to end violence.

Underwriting Sponsor

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HONORARY CHAIRS:

Commissioner Charles Anderson
Commissioner Ted Kopas
Commissioner Gina Cerilli

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 affected by any type of violence or 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



TWO IMPORTANT COMMUNITY TRAININGS

CREATING SAFE AND THRIVING WORKPLACES

A Comprehensive Approach to Preventing Harassment

What is sexual harassment? Sexual harassment is bullying or coercion of a sexual nature, or the unwelcome or inappropriate promise of rewards in exchange for sexual favors. It can include unwanted sexual statements (such as dirty jokes), unwanted personal attention (such as telephone calls or pressure for dates), and unwanted physical or sexual advances (such as hugging, kissing or fondling). Importantly, sexual harassment isn't limited by gender, or by sexual identity or gender identity; anyone can experience sexual harassment.

The traditional approach to preventing workplace harassment, which consists largely of stand-alone trainings or online courses, does not have a lasting impact on attitudes and behaviors. Research shows that these traditional trainings have had little effect on reducing harassment, as they focus on legal definitions and avoiding liability. In fact, traditional trainings may have increased sexual harassment in some circumstances. As an alternative to this approach, Blackburn Center offers a holistic training that differs from traditional models by working to change the organizational culture. Our training is both collaborative and customizable. We help businesses and community groups to assess, strengthen and build a thriving work environment by enhancing the knowledge and skills of participants.

Blackburn Center's comprehensive training includes:

- Workplace climate assessment
- Company policy and practice consultation
- Employee training: in-person and online
- Management team training
- Follow-up resources

The training curriculum is based on a model developed by the PA Coalition Against Rape.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

A Community Model for Interrupting and Preventing Violence

Bystander Intervention is identifying a potentially harmful situation and choosing to respond in a way that could have a positive outcome.

At Blackburn Center, we are often asked about what someone could – or should – have done when they witness an incident of domestic, sexual or other type of interpersonal violence. These can be volatile situations, and dangerous for those directly and indirectly involved. Blackburn Center has developed a Bystander Intervention training for community groups who are interested in learning more about what they can safely do to respond in these situations.

A bystander is a person who is present as a passive witness to an event. Bystander intervention training focuses on supporting the bystander to become active in the situation by intervening in some way to interrupt or prevent violence and impact the outcome positively. For the broader community, the concept of bystander intervention not only supports individual actions; it also serves as a call to action for us all to work towards communities free from violence.

Imagine the power of a community populated by involved bystanders! By engaging the community in these actions, we are building a catalyst for behavior and attitude changes. Through this transformative work, we hope to see a significant reduction in gender-based violence.

To schedule either of these trainings, please contact Kristin at 724-837-9540, X114, or at kristinm@blackburncenter.org.

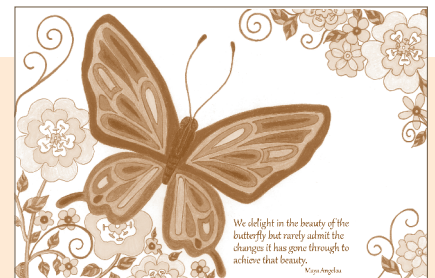
The Special Occasion Card: A Greeting with a Purpose

For 20 years, Blackburn Center has offered a meaningful way for you to mark important occasions and celebrate special people in your life through our Special Occasion Card. This year's beautiful card, designed by a friend of Blackburn Center, features this verse:

We delight in the beauty of the butterfly but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. – Maya Angelou

For each \$25 gift to Blackburn Center, we will send a card to the person you specify and will include your personal message inside the card. For any level of giving, your name and the name of the person or occasion you honor will be included in the fall edition of our newsletter, and your name will appear in Blackburn Center's Annual Report. (If you prefer, we will list you as "anonymous.") We have enclosed a remittance envelope in this newsletter for your convenience. Please consider this way to touch the lives of thousands of people in our community as you touch the lives of those you honor.

On behalf of those we serve, thank you for sharing in our mission.



BLACKBURN CENTER NEEDS LIST

A donation of items from the needs list helps Blackburn Center sustain the shelter program, and helps to maintain the support groups the agency provides for women and children. In addition, 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 that are in **bold** at the top of your shopping list, and help Blackburn Center manage donations by bringing 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.

We are unable to accept donations of clothing unless they are purchased through our Amazon.com wishlist.

KITCHEN

Coffee creamer

Dish sets (plates & bowls, service of 4)

Drinking glasses & cups

Food items: any canned food, other non-perishables, etc.*

Glass baking dishes

Kitchen utensils

Paper towel holders

Plastic pitchers

Pots & pans

Silverware: service of 4

Skillets

Small appliances: electric can openers, coffee makers, toasters, mixers, etc.

Zip-lock bags: 2 gallon, 2.5 gallon, & quart-size

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

BATHROOM

Children's toothpaste

Hair brushes

Hair care products for women of color

Paper products: toilet paper

Shower curtains & liners

Toddler training toothpaste

Not needed at this time: travel-size toiletries & adult toothpaste.

BEDROOM

Air mattresses (any size)

Baby monitors

Bed-in-a-bag sets (twin & full)

Comforters (twin & full)

Underwear: women's sizes 9-12

MISCELLANEOUS

Adult coloring books

Duffel bags

Extension cords

Flashlights

Gasoline cards (GetGo & Sheetz)

Gift cards (Giant Eagle, Walmart, Shop 'N Save & Target)

Long distance calling cards

Mops

Mr. Clean Magic Erasers

Square Sterilite laundry baskets

Sweat suits – sizes S, M, 1X, 2X, 3X

Tool kits

TracFones & cards

For more information about donation opportunities, contact:

Blackburn Center - P.O. Box 398, Greensburg, PA 15601

724.837.9540

www.blackburncenter.org

For Blackburn Center's services, call the 24/7 Hotline: 724.836.1122 or 1.888.832.2272

REMINDERS

United Way Campaign

All Southwestern PA United Way agencies need your help, now more than ever. The stronger they are, the stronger we are. Please consider directing your contribution to the Community Impact Fund or to Blackburn Center. Blackburn Center's donor designation number is 382.



**United Way of
Southwestern Pennsylvania**

2017-18 Annual Report

To reduce costs and environmental impact, we will be posting Blackburn Center's Annual Report on our website: **www.blackburncenter.org**.

The 2017-18 report is now available for your review. Please let us know if you'd like a hard copy sent to you; call 724.837.9540.



BlackburnCenter

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PO Box 398
Greensburg, PA 15601-0398

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Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Greensburg, PA

Blackburn Center Vision, Mission and Values Statements

VISION

Blackburn Center envisions a world free from domestic and sexual violence and other forms of violence.

MISSION

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.

VALUES

1. Commit to outstanding services.
(Client-driven services; continuous improvement through evaluation; competency focus; commitment to diversity)
2. Maximize resources through ethical stewardship.
(Funds, staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, community relationships, goodwill, courage of spirit, reputation, opportunities, knowledge base/expertise, survivors' experiences)
3. Challenge the social norms that perpetuate gender-based violence.
(Purposeful view of all aspects of the agency's work through a social transformation perspective)



Blackburn Center

is a private, not-for-profit organization that provides 24-hour hotline services, counseling, advocacy and support groups to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, incest, child sexual abuse, sexual harassment and all other crimes; emergency shelter is available to survivors of domestic violence and their dependent children. Blackburn Center also provides community education, school student awareness programs, and in-service professional trainings throughout Westmoreland County.

Blackburn Center is funded in part by United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania, PA Department of Public Welfare funds, including Title XX and Act 44 funds, foundations and local contributions. A copy of official registration and financial information for Blackburn Center may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling within Pennsylvania 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.