



# PAR VOICES

November 2008

Committed to Helping ~ Committed to Healing

## November

- Melonea Locklair's Thank you letter
- Volunteer Spotlight
- Upcoming Events
- PAR's 34th Anniversary
- New Support Group
- PAR's on FACEBOOK!



[www.peopleagainstrape.org](http://www.peopleagainstrape.org)



Even though we're all in an economic slump right now and things can seem so gloomy day after day, I recently realized I still have many things to be thankful for. I am thankful for my wonderful staff who works tirelessly to advocate for our clients. I'm thankful for Torie who works after hours to make sure those needing support groups have a safe comfortable place to share their stories and hopefully relieve some of their burdens. Torie also keeps our Website updated and we have received numerous compliments about the content and information she provides via the website. I am thankful for Tiffany who recruits, trains and oversees our fabulous group of volunteers. We cannot do all that we do without the help of our volunteers and we wouldn't have such an outstanding pool of volunteers if not for the hard work and coordination of Tiffany. I am thankful for our Child Advocate, Christen, who travels between PAR, Dee Norton Lowcountry Children's Center (DNLCC) and the Dorchester Children's Center (DCC) to offer advocacy services for children. I know I can always count on Christen to make sure both Child Advocacy Centers are covered and in addition, she donates her mileage back to PAR. I am thankful for Katie, our other Child Advocate, who devotes her time and expertise to advocate for the children at DNLCC. Katie is always willing to help out her co-workers and she is a welcome addition to our PAR family. I am thankful for Minna, our Education Coordinator, who works with schools and colleges to spread awareness of PAR services and prevention information. Minna is also bilingual and has helped many of our clients break through the communication barrier for services. I am thankful for Jodie, one of our Outreach Advocates, who spends many of her weekends at community events to spread awareness of PAR services. Jodie, like all of our other advocates, also carries a case load of clients and makes sure that they receive the advocacy services they need. I am thankful for Brittany, our other Outreach Advocate, because of her enthusiasm for her job. She is equally enthusiastic about the services she provides to her clients. Brittany is always coming up with new ideas to share PAR information with the community. Between the two Outreach Advocates we have had our second successful year of "Sweat Suit Sunday" (pg. 3) I am thankful for Joy, our Office/Finance Manager. Joy came to us from Florida with a host of qualifications and she has proven to be an exceptional Office Manager. In addition to her office duties, she has also become my right hand and is always available when I need her to keep me from totally spinning out of control! Her calmness under pressure is only one of her many assets! I am thankful for our Board of Directors and our newly formed Friends of PAR. I am thankful to our paid staff back ups Sandra, Becky and Debra who allow the full-time staff relief after hours. I am thankful for Isobel Goldsmith, Jen Crane and Kels Herbert for their hard work on the 2009 Gala. I am thankful for my friend and Mentor, Elmiere Raven of My Sister's House, for her guidance and support. And finally, I am thankful for the privilege of working with sexual assault victims and survivors who astound me every day with their courage and bravery.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Melonea Locklair  
Executive Director

facebook®

Check out  
People Against Rape's new  
Facebook page

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

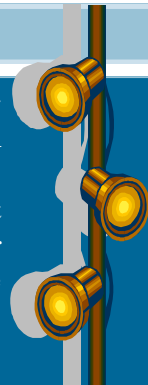
And become a member of  
PAR's group!

Volunteer Spotlight, Jenny McDonagh

Jenny McDonagh has been one of the most dedicated and inspiring volunteers that PAR has had in the past couple of years. Jenny joined PAR in 2006 and since then she has become part of the PAR family. Jenny is a LTJG in the US Navy and works as a nuclear instructor at the Navy's Nuclear Power School; not only is Jenny a volunteer advocate at PAR but she also volunteers her time as a SAVI at the Naval Weapons Station.

On April 20th PAR honored Jenny at our 23rd Annual Take Back The Night as the *Volunteer of the Year*. In 2007, Jenny was on call for 360 hours and in 2008 she has volunteered over 504 hours and provided 24.5 direct service hours to victims of sexual assault. In 2008, Jenny not only answered our 24-hour Crisis Hotline but she also helped out with PAR's 1st Annual Charleston Riverdogs Silent Auction, to help raise money for our victims.

PAR is sad to say goodbye to Jenny but wishes her all the best in her move.



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Saying Goodbye

Dear PAR,

It was a really rewarding experience working with PAR. You guys are all amazing and never cease to amaze me. The amount of patience, and caring you show to the victims, volunteers, family members etc. is truly an inspiration. I am happy to have been a part of PAR while I lived in Charleston. I do not think you guys get nearly enough gratitude for what you do, so let me tell you "Thank you so much" for all that you are doing to help women in the Lowcountry. You work very hard, for very little in return.

I will miss being a part of PAR. Good luck!

Jenny



Jenny McDonagh and Amanda Hedrick at SCCADVSA Volunteer Brunch, 2007.

## Sweat Suit Sunday, PAR Outreach Department

November 2008



### Volunteer Training January 2009

PAR volunteers offer support, crisis intervention, and advocacy services to sexual assault victims through our 24-hour crisis hotline.

#### Qualifications:

- Attend 25 hour PAR advocate training course.
- Ability to work effectively with victims, police, and medical personnel.
- Reliability and ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Ability to work well with all people and adapt to changes.

Apply Online  
[www.peopleagainstrape.org](http://www.peopleagainstrape.org)



Brittany Goldsmith and Jodie Rosenblum sorting through donated clothing.

Rape victims often must give up their clothing as evidence during a Forensic Exam. For a long time PAR has been providing a change of clothing for the victim to wear home from the exam, but because of high numbers of victims receiving rape exams, we are running low on clothing. This winter, PAR is asking local churches to donate some comfortable clothing that PAR could provide for the victims at the Women's Health Clinic.

If you or your church is interested in participating in Sweat Suit Sunday please contact PAR's Outreach Department.



### Thank you for your Donations

St. Paul Episcopal Church of Summerville

St. Paul Parish, Hollywood

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

## PAR Holiday Fundraiser

During November and December PAR Volunteers and Staff members will be wrapping books and gifts at Barnes and Noble for donations. Every year, Barnes and Noble invites Non-Profit organizations and schools to set up a table at their various stores and wrap gifts that customers buy during the Holidays. This is PAR's second year participating in this fundraiser! If you are interested in wrapping books or donating to PAR please contact the Outreach Department at PAR.

**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BOOKSELLERS



#### West Ashley

November 30th @ 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

December 18th @ 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

#### Mount Pleasant

December 6th and 7th @ 9:00am to 4:00 pm

PAR 34th Anniversary Party



Minna Hosseini (Education Coordinator) and Crystal Jones (past PAR employee) at PAR's 34th Birthday Party.



Linda Toporek, past PAR employee.



Jodie Rosenblum (Outreach Advocate), Melonea Locklair (Executive Director) and Christen Richbourg (child Victim Advocate) at PAR's Party.



Karen Harrington and Elizabeth Martin, People Against Rape's Board Members.

People Against Rape is proud to announce it's 34th Anniversary on September 19, 2008 PAR was first established in 1974 as a grassroots organization to support and assist adults victims of sexual assault crimes in the Tri-County area. PAR is the oldest sexual assault agency in S.C.

PAR looks forward to another 34 years of serving our community!



PAR's 34th Anniversary Party



Elizabeth Martin (Board Treasurer) and Von Bakanic (Board Secretary), PAR Board Members.



Elmire Raven (Executive Director of My Sister's House), Rosetta Givens Mitchell (TTC Victim Advocate) and Jane Pavoni (Mt. Pleasant P.D. Victim Advocate).

**Mt. Pleasant Support Group**

PAR is teaming up with the Mt. Pleasant Police Department's Victim Services to bring a new support group to the Mt. Pleasant area.

Meetings for the Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault support group are every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00. Meetings will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Police Department's Victim Services Building at 309 Bank St. in Mt. Pleasant.



Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault Support Group

For more information and the schedule for this group, and for all the groups at PAR, please visit the PAR website at [www.peopleagainstrape.org](http://www.peopleagainstrape.org),

Support Group Coordinator, Torie Roberts  
[torie@peopleagainstrape.org](mailto:torie@peopleagainstrape.org)

843-745-0144

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Email: [www.peopleagainstrape.org](http://www.peopleagainstrape.org)

PAR is a member of the South Carolina  
Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault .

donation

How many gift cards did you receive during the holidays last year? How many did you give? Wouldn't it be more meaningful to give a donation to a charitable cause in your family or friends name rather than continue to pass gift cards back and forth? We have a great solution! Why not send your tax deductible contribution to PAR so we can help sexual assault victims in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties by providing advocacy services. In return, you will receive a receipt for your donation and we will also send an acknowledgement to the person or persons you are honoring. Your generous gift will allow PAR to continue providing free services to those children, women and men who seek help from our organization.

