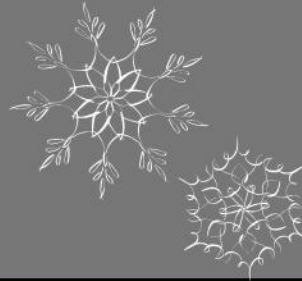




Amani Center

Columbia County Child Abuse Assessment & Treatment Program



Giving child victims in Columbia County a voice and helping them to heal...

Winter 2011 ~ Wishing you peace and love this holiday season.

Amani Center

PO Box 1001
St. Helens, OR 97051
(503)366-4005
amanicenter@comcast.net

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Our Mission

The Columbia County Child Abuse Assessment Center strives to minimize trauma to child abuse victims through professional medical diagnosis and treatment in a secure and child-friendly environment with the goal of preventing child abuse in all forms.

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Upcoming Events

December 2011

- **Holiday Greeting Card Sales ~**
(created by local young artists - available at Houlton Bakery, Bemis Printing & Bella Maison)

February 2012

- **Mock Ball Fundraiser**
(look for your "invitation" in the mail)

April 2012

- **April is Child Abuse Awareness Month!**

May 2012

- **Race Against Child Abuse**

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 5th @ 9:00am

Downtown St. Helens in front of the Old Courthouse

** For more information about all of our events, please visit our website at www.amanicenter.org*



FROM THE DIRECTOR

I would like to send warm holiday greetings to you from the all the Amani Center staff, volunteers and Board of Directors.

The Amani Center provided evaluation/treatment services to 112 children/teens in 2011. Additionally, support/referral services were provided to over 500 clients during that same time period. In 2010 the incident of child abuse in Columbia County was 87% worse than the year prior and 105% worse the rest of the state.

The holidays are the perfect time for us as a society to reflect upon our lives and share with those who are in need. Anyone can be a shining star and support the evaluation and treatment of child abuse victims in Columbia County through a donation to the Amani Center. We could not help children/teens start their road to safety and healing without the generous support of donors like you. Thank you for making the difference in the life of an abused child.

~ Lisa Galovich



LUAU HIGHLIGHTS

9-10-11 marked the date of the 9th Annual Amani Center Luau & Auction Fundraiser. With some fresh ideas, this Luau was bigger and better than before.

The evening began with a twist as the Amani Center hosted its first cocktail hour social prior to opening the doors for the main event. Presenting and Corporate sponsors mingled with community leaders and local celebrities, including State Senator Betsy Johnson and 105.1 The Buzz Radio Personality, Sheryl Stewart. A special drink menu and appetizers catered by Blackbird Catering, the evening was off to a delicious start.

A live Hawaiian Band played as guests enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by Hawaiian Island Café and Catering that included all of our tropical favorites. Polynesian dancers transported everyone to the islands through their beautifully told stories of Hawaiian culture. Of course, the night would not be complete without the dramatic and breathtaking performance of the fire dancer and his artistic whirling flames.

"Bigger and better" truly applied to the auction items available for bidding. A fundraising committee consisting of twenty dedicated community members spent many hours procuring a multitude of creative and amazing donations for Luau guests to bid on. Items included dozens of gift certificates, autographed sports memorabilia, a Disneyland trip, golf at Pumpkin Ridge, sight seeing airplane rides, and a week stay at a beautiful and spacious condo in sunny Mexico! There was certainly something for everyone.



With numerous volunteers and over 300 guests, the Amani Center was able to raise over \$50,000 to provide much needed services to child abuse victims in Columbia County. This was a record amount for this event and considering the very difficult economic times we are in, this is truly inspirational.

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered and attended the 2011 Luau. Your support means more than you know.

**** See more photos of the 2011 Luau at www.amanicenter.org**

CREATIVE WAYS OF GIVING

We seem to count our blessings a little more this time of year and imagine ways of giving back. When times are tough we find it more difficult to donate to the causes closest to our heart. Sometimes it just takes a little creative thinking. Here are some amazing people who have given support to the Amani Center this year in some unique ways.

- ▶ Angie Oelhart hosted a Pampered Chef party. Proceeds from the party totaling over \$143 went directly to Amani Center.
- ▶ Members of Christ Episcopal Church donated new sheets, pillowcases and other supplies (nearly \$1000 value)!
- ▶ The Amani Center has received more than 90 children's quilts & blankets in 2011; most of these are hand made. Every child seen at the Center gets to choose a blanket or stuffed animal to take home with them when they leave.
- ▶ Amani Center friend, Jude Dennis, won a \$200 visa card from the South County Spotlight. She generously donated the gift card to the Amani Center. Thank you!
- ▶ First Lutheran's WELCA group recently supported the Amani Center with a \$500 check! Thanks, ladies!
- ▶ Armstrong - St Helens Plant donated \$250 to support Amani Center efforts in our community.
- ▶ Ask your employer about Employee Giving Campaign opportunities. Our Thanks to current participants!
- ▶ Donate through the United Way ~ Write in Amani Center as your chosen recipient.
- ▶ The Amani Center is honored to receive a grant this year from The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation in the amount of \$2,000.

▶ Right~ St Helens High School FBLA & Leadership held a toy drive & donated dozens of toys to the Amani Center.

~pictured left to right: Kelsie Evans, Alexis Minyard, Melanie Maillon, Advisor Joe Osorio, Haley Alden, Sara Saatvedt, Samantha Garza & Advisor Shannon McIntyre.



▶ Right~ Fibers & Stitches donated all proceeds from their fabric sale fundraiser to the Amani Center ~ **WOW! \$705.96**



▶ Left ~ Michael & Aden Oelhart (with help from their mom, Angie), handed out flyers in their neighborhood asking for donations from the Amani Center's "wish list". Great work!

▶ Right ~ St Helens Federal Credit Union presented a \$600 check from their CU 4 A Cause Campaign. They have selected the Amani Center as one of their charities to support. See SHCF-CU for details about CU 4 A



BE A CHILD'S SHINING STAR

Child abuse is now at epidemic levels:

- Studies show that every 36 seconds one child in the United States is neglected/abused.
- 1 in every 4 girls and 1 in every 6 boys will be sexually abused by the time they are 18 years of age.
- A sex offender will have on average 119 offenses prior to being caught.

The demand for the Amani Center's services is staggering. In 2011 we provided medical & forensic assessment to over 112 child abuse victims. Many more children were not able to be seen at the Amani Center due to our current level of funding.

The Amani Center is looking for *Shining Stars* to *Light The Night For Victims of Child Abuse*. This holiday season, you can help an abused child. Your donation will ensure that alleged child abuse victims in Columbia County are provided with *Quality & Comprehensive* medical and forensic assessment/treatment services by specially trained child abuse professionals while in a secure and child-friendly environment.

During the holiday season, the Amani Center will post all our donors on *Shining Stars* in the Center's front windows. All donations made now through January 31st will be listed as a *Shining Star!* Please ensure that you note how you would like the name to be listed on your star or if you would like the donation to be anonymous. Donations can be made on our website or mailed to our center in the envelope provided.

Your generous donation is greatly appreciated by the abused children of Columbia County! Together we will *Light The Night for Victims of Child Abuse!*



Amani Center

A 501 (c)(3)
nonprofit agency

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St. Helens, OR 97501

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www.amanicenter.org

EMPLOYEES

Lisa Galovich
Executive Director

Darcy Thomas
Administrative Assistant

Cassy Miller
Intake Coordinator &
Family Support Services Specialist

Amanda Kauffman
Child Forensic Interviewer &
Family Support Services Specialist

Lesley White
Child Forensic Interviewer

Marie Scott Brown
Medical Examiner

Linda Eddy
Medical Examiner

Tammy Winchell
Medical Examiner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dawn Hunt - Chair
Tami McDonald - Vice Chair
Andrew Bliss - Treasurer
Stacia Tyacke



HOLIDAY ART CONTEST WINNERS

These local children entered some amazing artwork in the Amani Center Holiday Art Contest. Each of them will have their beautiful creations featured on holiday greeting cards sold locally to raise money for the Amani Center.

THANK YOU ~ Madison Brant, Colton Freeman, Dominic Galovich, Kaitlyn Johnson, Amanda Oliver, Alec Thomas, Taylor Thomas, Oliver White, & Sophia White.

Cydney Brant & Ava Freeman also submitted some incredible artwork which was selected for our non-seasonal Thank You cards which are used throughout the year! Great job everyone!

AMANI CENTER'S HOLIDAY WISH LIST

- Office Supplies:
 - * Paper (white and color) for laser printer
 - * Pens, Sticky Notes, paper clips, etc.
 - * Brother Toner TN-580 (cheapest at Costco online)
 - * HP ink # 22, 21, 74 & 75
 - * DVR + R Blank disks
 - * CD-R Blank Disks
 - * CD/DVD paper sleeves
 - * Paper towels
 - * Cleaning supplies
 - * Avery Labels 5160 & 5366
 - * Postage Stamps



- 100% Juice Boxes
- Subscriptions to Nickelodeon Magazine, Parenting Magazines, People, American Girl
- NEW ONLY child & teen quilts & fleece blankets
- Gift Cards for: Wal-Mart, Fred Meyer, Office Depot, Safeway
- **An end to child abuse...**

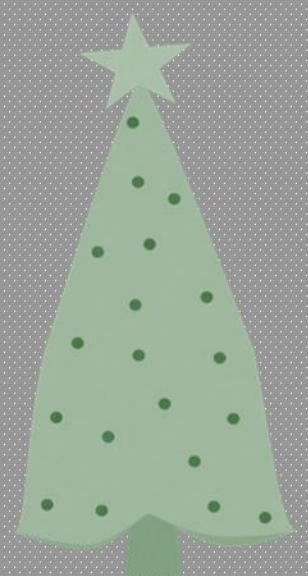
Please no used toys, stuffed animals or quilts.. Thank you!

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday Season ~ Amani Center Staff

The Amani Center
PO Box 1001
St. Helens, Oregon 97051



PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ST. HELENS, OR



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