



SPRING 2019 The Newsletter for Friends of Turning Point



APRIL IS NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Turning Point is actively involved in increasing our community's understanding about sexual violence. Sexual Assault is a life-changing experience rooted in power and control. Sexual Assault negatively influences our society, it is the ultimate violation and degradation, and it affects a person's emotional, physical, social, economic, and spiritual well-being. It is a life-altering experience that negatively affects the survivor as well as their family and friends. Due to the #MeToo movement, the severe and broad impact of sexual harassment and abuse has become more visible. The pervasiveness of this victimization is a clear indicator that there needs to be a serious dialogue that addresses how our society can come together to change the culture and take action to prevent sexual violence.

For a cultural shift to occur, individuals must first recognize and understand the prevalence of sexual violence and accept that many behaviors besides rape, represent sexual assault. Some actions are not illegal but are still offensive, threatening and demeaning. These behaviors include, but are not limited to sexual jokes, inappropriate sexual comments, innuendos, or vulgar gestures. These types of behaviors support and promote sexual violence!

The recognition that acceptance of these behaviors helps support and sustain a culture that tolerates rape and sexual violence will help us identify the actions necessary to create change.

It will help us stand together as a society and together say, "enough" And help us use our collective voice to speak out against these behaviors

and clearly indicate that we will not tolerate such behaviors.

Efforts to create a society that is safe for everyone must start by expressing the belief and support of survivors. What can you do to help?

- Thank survivors for sharing their stories.
- Let others know that victim blaming; rape jokes or other inappropriate comments are not acceptable.
- Take a stand and refocus the responsibility and accountability on the individual(s) who committed sexual abuse.
- Being a passive bystander or complicit witness does not help survivors or our community.
- Accept that preventing sexual harassment and sexual assault is everybody's responsibility.
- Take a stand!

TURNING POINT IS HONORED TO DISPLAY SURVIVOR QUILTS

These quilts are a vivid reflection of those affected by sexual violence. Each year Turning Point hosts events to raise awareness and provide safe places for survivors to speak out. The tradition of the quilts began in the mid-nineties when a dedicated group of women created Jane Doe.

Jane Doe is a figure of a woman dressed in white who symbolizes all the survivors who are not with us; some may not have survived sexual violence, while others live in silence isolated from support. Swatches provide people attending the events

an opportunity to have a voice; writing whatever sentiments they choose to share, then attaching them to Jane Doe. The swatches are then used to create a quilt which captures a history of those who have chosen to speak out.

To view all the quilts during April, visit our website for locations at turningpointmacomb.org or visit them at the Anton Art Center from 8/24-10/10/19. www.theartcenter.org

Swatch color meanings:

- Yellow** – Survivor of sexual violence
- Red** – Survivor of child sexual violence
- Purple** – Survivor sexually assaulted as a hate crime
- Blue** – Survivor's Significant other





SURVIVOR CORNER

A close-up portrait of Stephanie Harris, a woman with blonde hair and glasses, smiling. The photo is framed with a purple border.

“I am a strong woman with a voice, a voice intended to be heard. My passion, my purpose is to help people, especially women in transition.”

~ *Stephanie Harris*

When I began working with my advocate at Turning Point, my ultimate goal was to heal and leave my abusive relationship as well as realize not all men are abusers. Through my journey of growth and healing I made a personal commitment to give back to the community by using my new found voice and sharing my story unapologetically to help others, or as I like to say, to educate and advocate. Turning Point's Survivor Speaker's Bureau (SSB) allows me a platform to accomplish this goal.

Over the years, partnering with
Turning Point has been very

memorable for me as well as allowing me to continue to flourish and grow. Overtime I have learned that when I am guided to speak my truth and tell my story, I do, without hesitation. Once shared, I learn there was a reason ... someone else needed to hear it right then and there. Never fails.

My passion and my purpose is to coach other women through transition, whether it's divorce, abuse or sexual assault...as an additional support system during their healing or most importantly as a partner by their side as they transition from working with a social worker into the "what's next stage" or their new life. My counselor and the various coaches I have had along my journey truly allowed me to grow in ways I never imagined were possible. If interested in having a survivor speak to your group, please contact Sara at Sdobbyn@turningpointmacomb.org.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

CRAFTIVISM

April 9
Grace Episcopal Church
Mount Clemens
6-8pm

**CALIFORNIA PIZZA
KITCHEN** (All Day)
ALEX & ANI (6-8pm)

April 11
Partridge Creek
Portion of Sales to Turning Point

DENIM DAY

April 24
Wear Jeans in Solidarity with
Survivors of Sexual Assault

*For more information on any of
these events please visit our website
www.turningpointmacomb.org
or find us on –*



Instagram@TurningPointInc



Find us on Facebook!
Turning Point, Inc.



LEGACY GIFTS

Remembering Turning Point in your will can help you reduce estate taxes and ensure the life changing work you care about will always continue.

Second Hand
 **ROSE**
Resale Shop

SERVICES TO END DOMESTIC
AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

158 S. Main Street • Mt. Clemens

DONATE • SHOP • VOLUNTEER

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month

Presenting The Fourth

Stepping Out

with the Stars

A fundraising event to benefit Turning Point, Inc.

Katherine Beech
Hollywood Reporter
Country Music Hall of Fame

Friday, April 26, 2019
6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
at Wyndham Garden
3491 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights

Dr. Nick Colipin
MD Medical Officer
Executive Center Health

Michelle Borsini
TV Host
Michigan's Best Restaurant

\$100 per person
Includes Dance Competition,
Dinner, Dancing, D.J.,
Entertainment & Open Premium Bar
Advance Ticket Purchase Required
Call: (586) 467-5679
or visit: turningpointmacomb.org

Brenda Ohl
Woman's Resource Council

Jeff Behm
Chatterbox TV, co-host
of the 4th Annual Stepping Out

✓ **Raffle**

✓ **Silent Auction**

Deborah Kaur Singh, DMD
Aurora Healthcare System
Chief of Cosmetic Dentistry

Emcee: Ryan Adams
Emcee: Kim Williams
VJ Promos
Advertising Producer

Marilyn Arisumi
Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland
Contractor, LL

Cathy Warwick
Nursing Director
Accommodations Division
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Subrina Azilli
Nurse Practitioner
Respiratory Therapy
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Ted Wahby
Senior VP Community Lending
Senior Vice President
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Fern Almagro
Partner UHY LLP
Accounting Firm
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Danya Linder
The Rick Linder Law Firm
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Rick Linder
The Rick Linder Law Firm
2015 SOWS Co-Chairman

Turning Point, Inc.
www.TurningPointMacomb.org
For a future without sexual or domestic violence.

SPONSOR US ON FACEBOOK
Find Out More about the Stars

Arthur Murray®
35353 Van Dyke Ave., Sterling Heights
www.arthurmurraysterling.com
(586) 877-2912

FOR A FUTURE WITHOUT DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE