Always Watching

Tamika was an energetic young teacher when she met the man who would forever change her life. Young and idealistic, she fell hard and fast for the charismatic young man that everyone loved. After time, he began to say things and do things that made her uncomfortable, but would always say how sorry he was and she'd forgive him. This went on for years, into their marriage and through the births of children.

He then became unemployed and the abuse intensified. For Tamika, the fear that her abuser instilled in her and the control he held over her was often worse than the fists that so often crashed into her body. He would take Tamika to school in the mornings and some days he’d then sit in the parking lot, where he could see her room and the hallway to her classroom. If he was there, she was required to eat lunch with him, or there would be consequences. Tamika had to account for any time she wasn’t spending in her classroom and provide an explanation as to where she was. He would take her home at the end of the day. She wasn’t allowed to drive, had no keys to the car and her paycheck was direct deposited to an account that only he had access to.

Out of fear, a few of her co-workers reached out to House of Ruth Maryland for help. “This story isn’t unique and we often work with co-workers who fear for the safety of their colleague, but aren’t sure what to do,” said Lisa Nitsch, Director of Education and Training at House of Ruth Maryland. One of the most important things a co-worker or bystander can do is continue to be supportive of the victim. “Research shows that the average victim will leave 5-7 times before she leaves for good, which means that by the time she’s ready to start over, there may be no one left that’s willing to help her,” said Nitsch. Continued on page 2
Letter from Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We need your story!

We know that House of Ruth Maryland has been important to you, just as you have been important to House of Ruth. In that spirit, we invite you to join us as we celebrate our 40th year by gathering, preserving, and writing the history of this courageous organization.

In 1978, things were bleak for victims of domestic violence. The issue was seen as a personal, private matter and stayed firmly behind closed doors. There were no laws to protect victims, or services to provide help. Since then, thanks to people like you, House of Ruth Maryland has helped thousands of women to safety, enabling them to rebuild their lives without fear. Alongside of that, we have made immeasurable progress in changing the attitudes, systems and behaviors that perpetuate violence against women and children. Still, there is much work to be done, and we continue to move it forward.

We are seeking the story of your connection to House of Ruth, and your memories of your work with us. You may have been a client, a donor, a volunteer, a community advocate, a staff member, an intern - or had another connection. We’d love to see any documents, pictures, or other items that you have that will help us tell our story.

If you would like to share your story, visit our 40th anniversary website at www.hruth.org/HRMis40. On the website, you’ll find a link to an online questionnaire that you can complete, or you can download a copy of the questionnaire, complete it and send it back to us by scanning and emailing it to HRMis40@hruthmd.org, or send by US mail to HRM is 40, 2201 Argonne Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218.

Thank you for your friendship with House of Ruth, for your commitment to the women and children we serve, and for your contributions to the arc of our history, leading away from violence and towards a safe and peaceful future.

Sincerely,

Sandi Timmins
Executive Director

*To protect the victim, her name has been changed*

To learn more about Intimate Partner Violence in the Workplace and training available from House of Ruth Maryland, please contact Lisa Nitsch at lisanitsch@hruthmd.org or visit our website at www.hruth.org.
Special Thanks:

- To **WGTS 91.9** for selecting House of Ruth Maryland as a beneficiary of their baby wipes and diapers donation drive at their summer concert at Tyson’s Corner.

- To **Jessica Blackwell-Parks and the team at Creative Alliance** for hosting a World Refugee Day event and offering wonderful exposure to House of Ruth Maryland.

- To **Liz Vayda and her team at B. Willow** for hosting House of Ruth Maryland at the first annual and highly successful RemFest as well as contributing beautiful flower arrangements to our Crabaret event!

- To **Gina Mattera and Hysteria Brewing** for hosting a fundraiser on behalf of House of Ruth Maryland on Mother’s Day weekend.

- To **Eric Hochstetter and his team at Banana Republic of Towson** for volunteering their time to support our donations team for a widely productive session!

- To **Sandel Center for Facial Plastic Surgery** for the donation of makeup to our clients.

- To **Benefit Cosmetics staff** for hosting a pamper morning for our clients at shelter as well as a reusable bag drive.

- To **Carefirst Audit & Advisory Services** for their donation drive of various baby items for our clients.

- To **Ellen Subock** for donating countless watch batteries over the last few years and installing them in donated watches for sale in Ruth’s Closet.

- To **GenenTech Pharmaceuticals** for hosting a cupcake decorating and craft party at shelter.

- To **Molly Farwell** for offering soothing massages at our pamper night for our ladies in extended stay.

- To **KCW Engineering** for hosting yet another in-kind donation drive for our clients, we greatly appreciate their continued support!

- To **Emily Lewis** for featuring “A Day in the Life of B-More Bags” post highlighting our B-More Bags sewing group on her blog “Emily Lewis Creative”.

- To **Cynthia Brinkley-Scott** for hosting a “Shop for Moms” night at our Highlandtown location, it was an evening enjoyed by all!

- Special thanks to **Crown City Pictures** for coordinating donations from set décor of *Wonder Woman 1984*; to **Crown City Pictures** for donating display racks, toiletries and toiletry bags; to **Gap and Esprit** for donating hundreds of clothing items; to **Keds and Feiyue** for donating athletic shoes.

In Memory Of:

Each year, House of Ruth Maryland is fortunate to receive gifts made in memory of individuals who are no longer with us. These gifts are a tribute to the person who has passed and they honor the memory of those we love and the things that were most important to them. We would like to recognize the following individuals who have been honored with a memorial tribute between February 1, 2018 and July 31, 2018. We thank the generous donors who make it possible for us to recognize their loved ones.

Elizabeth Schad Abplanalp
Joan Anderson
Earlene Berry
Jamie Bessling
Dr. Annie Bestebreurtje
Donna Jean Brown
Claire Burns
Ruth Ann Cannella
Aylene Cox
Kathleen Cutsail
Sis Decker
Carmen Deyesu
Dorothy Dixon
Irwin Epstein
Timothy “T.J.” Evans
Marlene Fertsch
Dr. Robert Grenell
Lillian Sue Groat
Rosalie Hilton
Heather Holmes
Sharon Hopkins
Jessica Meredith Jacobsen
Richard Jones, Jr.
Amy Kiser
Amy Lenore Kiser
Ruth Klein
Margaret McLaughlin
Zora McVay
Crystal Morton
Gregory Nikolaiev
Rebecca Snyder
Rukmani Willis
Dr. Stanley N. Yaffe
Sandra Yuffee
Mary & Kenny
The Future is Bright!

House of Ruth Maryland would like to highlight a few groups of young citizens who are stepping up the plate as good Samaritans and becoming informed about intimate partner violence and changing their communities! Not only did the Makerettes of the Digital Harbor Foundation recently raise over $1,000 through the production of wooden, intricately carved, and paintable lanterns, but they also hosted an awareness event to educate their community about intimate partner violence. Further, we recently received a large donation of craft supplies for our childcare services from Girl Scout Troop 10313. Allowing for our moms and kids to worry about one less thing when creating a sense of normalcy. Lastly, the One Love group at Hereford High School has been involved year round in supporting HRM; from participating in Adopt A Family, to hosting a “Healthy Teen Relationships” training last fall, to planning a fabulous crafting event for kids to create Mother’s Day cards.

We stand in awe of their passion for creating positive social change in their community! To learn more about donating your time, treasures or talents in support of House of Ruth Maryland, contact volunteers@hruthmd.org or visit www.hruth.org/ways-to-give to find ways you can get involved.

IPV in Workplace Training

Are you a small business owner or human resources manager at a small business watching the Urban Meyer story and wondering what would happen to your business if something like that happened? Do you have a plan in place? Maybe you’re a nonprofit leader with minimal resources but maximum need to get a policy in place?

If so, Intimate Partner Violence in the Workplace Training, presented by House of Ruth Maryland will get you on track! The training is a 4-hour workshop that will be held at 2521 North Charles Street on October 22.

Registration is $80 per person and is open now. Spots are limited, so please make sure to reserve your seat today.

For more information, contact Ron Greene, rgreene@hruthmd.org or visit www.hruth.org/training.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 22
Jessica Meredith Jacobsen Memorial 5K

October 2018
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 14
40th Anniversary Event

October 17
Fill The House

October 22
IPV in the Workplace Training for Small Businesses and Nonprofits

October 22
Adopt A Family registration begins

December 1
B-More Bags Trunk Show and Sale

April 2019
Spring Luncheon

July 11, 2019
Crabaret

To learn more about upcoming events at House of Ruth Maryland, visit www.hruth.org/fundraising-events.
Crabaret!

The heat broke and the skies were blue for Crabaret 2018! It was a perfect evening for all who attended and thanks to our sponsors, guests and supporters, over $142,000 was raised at the event!

“The work that our committee put into this event was evident by the flawless evening,” said Julie Hopkins, Crabaret Co-Chair and Principle at Hopkins IP. “And knowing that the committee’s efforts support House of Ruth Maryland and the victims of intimate partner violence, makes it all worthwhile!”

With crabby concoctions created by John Shields of Gertrudes, drink samples from One Eight Distillery, Monument City Brewing Company and Blue Dyer distilling, live music from the Swingin’ Swamis, guests enjoyed the grounds of the Sculpture Garden at the Baltimore Museum of Art. There was even a special guest performance by Gigi Allen!

House of Ruth Maryland thanks the Crabaret Committee, our sponsors, guests, supporters and volunteers for making Crabaret 2018 the best yet! Save the Date for Crabaret 2019 – July 11, 2019!

Creating a Brighter Tomorrow: BB&T’s Lighthouse Project

House of Ruth Maryland is grateful for the continued support we receive from the community! BB&T, inspired by BB&T employee Toni Davis-Spivey, recently went above and beyond in their support of House of Ruth Maryland. Once a year BB&T awards a nonprofit a $1,000 grant in tandem with a day of service offered to their employees to give back to their community. The timing was perfect for our childcare department at House of Ruth Maryland’s Emergency Shelter! Through Toni’s persistence and a visit to the childcare facility to see how much was needed, BB&T was gracious enough to increase our grant to $1,500. Through this grant, we purchased a floor-buffer to provide some much-needed cleaning to our decades old floor at our shelter, a leaf blower to regularly clear out the playground at our shelter, and a brand new rocking chair for our dozens of infants who stay in our facility every year. But that wasn’t all - BB&T committed to two tremendous volunteer sessions -putting a fresh coat of paint in our after-school care room and hosted a craft and pizza party for our kids in childcare.

Thank you to the BB&T team!
Join House of Ruth Maryland and WMAR-TV ABC2 and Fill The House!

WMAR-TV will be broadcasting live between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at White Marsh Mall on OCTOBER 17, 2018 as we collect donations to Fill the House. Von Paris is providing moving trucks to bring all your donations to House of Ruth Maryland!

We’ll be filling the House with diapers, wipes, new twin-size comforters, sheets & pillows and new women & children’s underwear.

Special thanks to this year’s Fill The House Sponsors: GBMC, People’s Bank, and ManorCare

Please visit www.hruth.org to learn more about Fill The House!