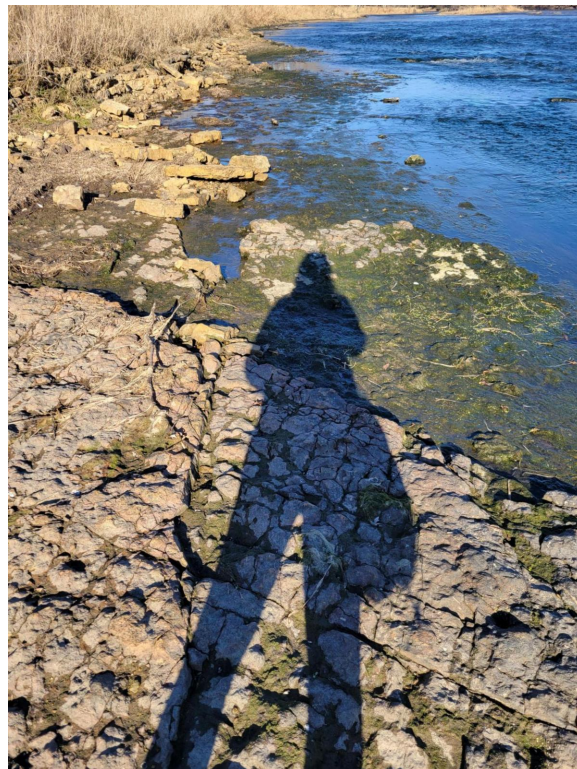


You are receiving this email because you have previously supported South Suburban Family Shelter and our work to end domestic violence. If you would like to unsubscribe you may do so at the bottom. We hope you stay and stand with us to see a world free from violence.



From the Desk of your Friendly Neighborhood CEO



Sometimes you need to let go to move forward. It is easy to be comfortable and hold on to all the things we know and love. We tend to like easy. However, easy and comfortable isn't always fun, and rarely ever helps us get to the next stage in our lives.

About a month ago, I took an uncomfortable step and attended a forest therapy session by myself. It was uncomfortable because I knew I wouldn't know anyone, and also because I hadn't done it before. If you follow this blog it might make sense to you why I was interested in this concept. I have been wanting to learn more about it, and the only way I could do that was to try it. During the session, as we walked, acorns were falling all around us from the surrounding oaks. One fell right near my head and landed

in a loud THUMP. It startled me! I picked it up and carried it with me the rest of the way. I mean, it really wanted to be near me after all.

I ended up bringing it home with me and I hold it sometimes. The texture is soothing and it reminds of the calm time I had that day. This week I have been holding it as I have been doing some of my own letting go. It helps me reflect on this process. The acorn must let go. It has no choice. In order to continue the line of Oaks, it must fall. Sometimes very far to the ground. Only in this letting go can new life begin. Only in this letting go can the acorn put down roots and grow into the magnificence it is meant for.



Take a deep breath, exhale slowly...and let go.

In Peace,

Jennifer

Thank you!

The Holidays brought great meetings and interactions for Anew! Thank you to everyone who thought of us this holiday season. Your help truly inspires our staff to be the best we can, and our clients to know that there are people in the community that care for them.



Love on a Leash stopped by to provide doggy cuddles to the staff and stuffed animals to

the children in our services.



If you stopped by our offices during the busy holiday season, you would have seen the donation hoard in our office-- there was rarely a time it didn't look like this! Your donations for Adopt A Family, the Coat Giving Tree, and the general needs of our agency packed us to the brim, and for that we are so grateful!



Chief McGrath from the Homewood Police Department recommended our agency to receive a large number of turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thank you so much for thinking of us!



Flossmoor Community Church provided some wonderful toys and gift cards for our clients! It was such a special treat!



South Oak Dodge provided \$1,000 in gift cards for our clients. This will certainly help our clients get the items they need to create a safe home!

Thank you to everyone who donated in 2022. Your belief and solidarity in our mission to end domestic violence in our shared communities does not go unnoticed. We cannot wait to see what 2023 has to offer!

Save the Date for our 2023 Events!



Dancing Away Domestic Violence

A Line Dancing, Zumba, and Cardio Drumming Program for the Whole Family!

When?

Saturday, June 10, 2023

3:00-6:00pm

Where?

18020 Martin Ave

Martin Square, Homewood

KEEPING DREAMS ALIVE



Anew is hosting their second annual Keeping Dreams Alive Sneaker Ball! Come dressed as formal as you'd like, and pair your outfit with your favorite pair of sneakers!

Save the Date: **October 6, 2023**

6:00p-10:00p

Olympia Fields Country Club

2800 Country Club Drive

Olympia Fields, IL 60461

A New Start at Anew in 2023? - Join our team!

ARE YOU AWESOME?

WE'RE HIRING

Anew is searching for the best and MOST AWESOME people to join our team and grow with our agency! We have a total of 7 full-time positions available:

- ★ **Bilingual Children's Counselor**
- ★ **Community Education Program Manager**
- ★ **Court Advocate**
- ★ **Government Grants Manager**
- ★ **Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP) Assistant**
- ★ **Safe From the Start (SFS) Project Coordinator**
- ★ **Staff Accountant**

All positions have been newly updated, so if you checked them before, make sure to check them again!

Anew offers full time benefits including 14 paid holidays; 20 days of Paid Time Off (PTO) annually; medical, dental, vision and life insurance; short-term and long-term disability; and the ability to contribute to our 403(b) plan with 3% company matching. This position is also eligible for Aflac benefits.

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, please email your cover letter and resume to careers@anewdv.org.

**Start the year off with a donation to Anew
by clicking the button below.**

Donate Now



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Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse | PO Box 937, Homewood, IL 60430

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