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## From your Friendly Neighborhood CEO

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I love my son more than anything in the world.

Since embracing motherhood, however, I've discovered a deeper need for solitude than I ever imagined. Yet, amidst this longing for moments alone, my son remains my purpose and my greatest joy.

He is my most cherished accomplishment, the reason I wake up every morning. Even as I steal away into the woods, I carry his laughter and warmth with me, nurturing my soul with the strength of our bond. It's strange, isn't it? To love someone so much that occasional respites are essential to continue loving them with the intensity of a thousand suns—though even that comparison falls short.

I never envisioned myself as a mother in my youth, nor did I plan for it when I said "I do." Yet, destiny had its own plans. And when I held my son for the first time, nursing him with a mixture of apprehension and tenderness, something shifted within me. In those initial weeks, as I navigated the uncertainties of motherhood, love gradually enveloped me, growing deeper with each passing day.

Now, as a mother to a wonderful boy, I find myself immersed in the journey. Despite my earlier apprehensions, I've embraced the role of a "boy mom". Every conversation, every shared moment, reaffirms the beauty of our connection. And as he confides in me about crushes and ventures into the complexities of dating, I am filled with gratitude for the privilege of guiding him.

Yet, amidst the celebrations of Mother's Day, my heart yearns for the simple solace of a solo hike, a moment of peace amidst life's hustle and bustle. I recognize the rarity of such moments for many mothers, and I'm reminded of the profound gift it would be to offer them such respite. Perhaps, in honoring a mother's journey with a gesture of solitude, we honor the very essence of motherhood itself—the love that rises above all else.

As we observe Mental Health Awareness Month this May, let's help all mothers take time for moments to recharge and address their needs and goals.

In peace,

Jennifer

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## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

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Anew offers free counseling services to survivors of domestic violence. It doesn't matter if your abuse happened 10 or 20 years ago, you can still come to our agency for counseling.

Our comprehensive counseling programs are designed to address the survivor and their children with therapists that can service the adults,

children and family system as needed. Our trauma-informed approach helps survivors begin the process of dealing with their trauma as well as addressing their physical safety planning.

Our advocates create an environment that allows survivors to be empowered to become self-reliant and live violence-free. Additionally, Anew is a Safe from the Start agency which is funded by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) dedicated to addressing and reducing trauma of exposure to violence in children from birth to five years.

Anew provides counseling services free of charge and available in English and Spanish. If you or someone you know is a survivor and in need of services, please call our counseling office at (708) 798-7737.



## Upcoming Events

### The Color Purple Movie Fundraiser

Tickets still Available!

The Fundraiser Hosted by the WOW Ministry is this Saturday, May 18th. Tickets are still available, and don't forget-- wear your purple!

[Buy Now](#)

**Movie Fundraiser**  
May 18, 2024  
12:00pm - 3:00pm  
Imagine Frankfort  
19965 South La Grange Road,  
Frankfort, IL 60423  
100% Proceeds Benefit  
Anew building beyond violence & abuse  
Hosted by The WOW Ministry  
Door prizes, treats, and goodie bags for attendees.  
Purchase tickets by scanning the QR Code today. Tickets are limited!

\$35 Movie, Popcorn and Soda  
\$25 Movie Only

### Dancing Away Domestic Violence 2024

Line Dancing, Zumba, Cardio Drumming and introducing... Country Line Dancing!

**New Location\*:**  
FCC Community House  
847 Hutchison Rd  
Flossmoor, IL 60422

**Date:**  
Saturday, June 1st  
3pm-6pm

\* Cited-free, indoor location, with A/C!

**Prices**  
13+ Ticket Only: \$20  
12 & Under: \$10  
T-Shirt Option  
Additional \$10  
Sizes range from Youth XS to Adult 5X

**Programming by:**  
Ginny Coppess Line Dance Instructor  
Lemonade Nutrition  
Schelle  
Dance Beyond Violence

Music Provided by DJ Love

All event printing donated by Andrews Printing in Harvey, IL.

All proceeds support the programs and services of Anew, and our mission to end the cycle of domestic abuse in our shared communities.

### Dancing Away Domestic Violence

Let's Dance!

June 1st is around the corner. Let's meet up and dance!

[Buy Now](#)

### Thank you to our DADV Sponsors!



**Dancing Away Domestic Violence**  
Saturday, June 1st, 2024, 3pm-6pm  
FCC Community House in Flossmoor, IL

Grab your Tickets and/or T-Shirts\* Today!



## Job Postings at Anew

Compensation and Benefits are listed clearly at the bottom of each job description. Take the guess out of applying-- Our salaries, wages, and benefits are transparent and up front! Please share with you network.

Positions Updated 5/15/24

- ★ [Bilingual Crisis Intervention Advocate - Part Time](#)
- ★ [Partner Abuse Intervention Co-Facilitator - Part Time](#)
- ★ [Court Program Assistant](#)
- ★ [Children's Counselor](#)
- ★ [Community Education Advocate](#)
- ★ [Childcare Provider](#)
- ★ [Children's Advocate](#)

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](mailto:careers@anewdv.org).

Interested in donating or becoming a monthly donor?  
Click the button below to experience our new donation page!

[Donate Now](#)



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