

## Gryphon Place Mission

*Gryphon Place connects people to information, resources and support systems to assist them in resolving crises and meeting life challenges.*

- **2-1-1/HELP-Line:** 24-hour crisis and referral services.  
*"The 24-Hour human connection"*
- **Suicide and Violence Prevention:** Designed to reduce the incidence of suicide and violence.
- **Critical Incident Stress Management:** Crisis response teams respond to community groups affected by sudden, traumatic events.
- **Dispute Resolution Services:** Helps to reduce and resolve conflicts in the community through mediation, education, and information.
- **Education and Training Services:** Community training to lay persons and professional groups.

## Gryphon Place website:

[www.gryphon.org](http://www.gryphon.org)

Click on

**Local Resources**

for access to our searchable online database of community agencies and services.

## Gryphon Place Has Moved

After 41 years of providing services at the old fire station on South Westnedge, Gryphon Place has moved to a new facility. The reasons and the case for this move are made on pages two and three of this Newsletter. As the Executive Director for 26 of those years, I want to share what this move means to the staff and volunteers and our ability to maintain excellence in our services in the future.



William Pell, MA, LMSW  
Executive Director

Over those years at the old location, we provided more than 800,000 services to people in need ... in crisis or in need of community resources. We talked with more than 45,000 people who felt that suicide was the only solution to their problems. More than 1,600 times we sent a 9-1-1 rescue because a person was already engaged in a life threatening behavior. We help people using a deep level of listening and acceptance. We convey warmth, empathy, and a positive regard to our callers. Research in recent years has shown that the ability to use these elements leads to very positive outcomes. Our outcome data supports this as well. What we believed to be true all of these years is now evidence based with replicated studies. Listening is profoundly powerful in helping people and we have done this 24/7 for more than 41 years.

Our reasons to move are about continuing this service long into the future and to further enhance our ability to provide this heartfelt response to an ever growing number of people in need. The work environment is a major part of keeping our staff and volunteers fresh and in touch with their hearts as well as their skills. We see that this is already working. Some comments from staff and volunteers demonstrate this:

- *"We are just as busy as ever, but somehow it feels calmer and more manageable here."*
- *"I feel proud now when I drive in to the new Gryphon."*
- *"It feels so much safer."*
- *"I like having managers close by."*
- *"It's warm and comfortable."*
- *"Mediations are private now and parties have spaces to meet."*
- *"I can better focus on my work and am more productive."*
- *"When I supervise in the phone room I can now hear all of the interactions. This makes my job of coaching so much easier and I can better help with difficult calls."*
- *"Communication with staff is so much easier."*

The move was about assuring the future of Gryphon Place services over the long-term and supporting the heart of what we do. When you consider contributing to our Capital Campaign, this is the essence of what you will be supporting.

***Thank you for supporting Gryphon Place!***

## THE TRANSITION & THE NEED

Gryphon Place operated for more than 41 years at 1104 South Westnedge Avenue. Unfortunately, the 100-year-old historic firehouse did not allow for desperately needed program expansion. After careful consideration, the Board of Directors selected the facility at 3245 South 8th Street to take Gryphon Place into the future. This move not only allows for program growth, but will provide accommodations that Gryphon Place has lacked for a long time - additional meeting and training space, accessibility and security. The Westnedge facility was leased from the City of Kalamazoo and the actual move to 8th Street took place on November 15th. Gryphon Place has literally changed the lives of thousands of people throughout the area over the past 40 years. We are now asking the community to support our effort to raise \$1.9 million for the new facility. We encourage everyone to come by and see how the new facility is accommodating Gryphon Place's long-term needs.

### EVIDENCE OF NEED:

- The old facility was not accessible to all people, thereby preventing those with disabilities from attending meetings or training functions. This inaccessibility was a barrier for many who would otherwise have volunteered at Gryphon Place. The old wooden step stairway to the second floor contained two 90° turns and was the only access to the training room upstairs.
- There was a lack of privacy. The facility was old and someone outside the facility could be heard inside. There was a lack of total privacy in many areas. This was vital to the mediation process of the Dispute Resolution Program.
- Lighting was inadequate.
- Security and personal safety were issues because of the location. Shift workers arrive and depart throughout the night.
- There was no parking lot and parking was extremely limited on the side street.
- Staff functions were compromised by overcrowding.



### BENEFITS OF MOVING:

- Expansion of programs within increased working space.
- Realignment of offices to increase efficiency.
- Increased security as a 24/7 operation.
- Addition of a parking area.
- Availability of private, confidential rooms for mediation and help-line operations.
- Increase in the endowment fund for long-range stability of the agency.



We need the support of the community in the form of a pledge to help us reach the Capital Campaign goal of \$1.9 million. Please take a moment and send in your pledge!

Thank you.

## The Campaign Budget

To pay for the purchase and renovation, and to endow the facility at 3245 South 8th Street.



<b>FACILITY COSTS:</b>	
Purchase Price	\$ 630,000
Closing & Contingencies	91,806
Renovation	50,000
Furnishings & Technology	160,000
Relocation	45,000
Annual Campaign Shortfall	30,000
Contingency & Bad Debt	50,340
<b>SUBTOTAL OF FACILITY COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,057,146</b>

Gryphon Place has grown in programs to meet the expanding needs of people in our community and the State of Michigan. However, we greatly surpassed the capacity of the Westnedge facility and had no effective means of adding services to address the ever-expanding needs of our community. The move to South 8th Street will enable Gryphon Place to be in a newer, more accommodating facility.

<b>ENDOWMENT:</b>	
Building Care & Maintenance/ Technology	760,000
<b>SUBTOTAL ENDOWMENT</b>	<b>\$ 760,000</b>

We need the support of the community. Please take a moment and make your pledge using the enclosed pledge card. Payment can be made "one-time" or over a period of up to three years. The Board of Directors is asking you to help make an investment in the new facility and in the creation of an endowment for continued maintenance, operation and program needs.

<b>CAMPAIGN EXPENSES:</b>	
Clerical (\$11hr, 20 hrs/wk, 78 wks)	19,700
Supplies	3,500
Postage	4,500
Promotion, Printing & Letterhead	30,000
Events	7,500
Recognition	15,000
Equipment (furniture, Computer)	3,500
<b>SUBTOTAL CAMPAIGN EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 83,700</b>



The new Gryphon Place:

3245 South 8th Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
Administrative Office: 381-1510

**TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL \$1,900,846**

## 2011 BOWL-A-THON WAS A SUCCESS! THANK YOU!!

We want to thank everyone who made our 2011 Bowl-A-Thon a success! Young and old, in all kinds of costumes, the event focused on two things - having fun and raising money for Gryphon Place! We want to express our deepest appreciation to the workers, the staff, the bowlers, and contributors. We could not have done it without you!

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3245 S. 8th Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

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**Executive Director**

William Pell, MA, LMSW



***Mark your calendar!  
October 20, 2012  
The 2012 Bowl-A-Thon***