

# The Horizon

Summer 2013

## PCAR hosts 7th Annual Vision of Hope Gala



*Former Pennsylvania First Lady Michele Ridge (left) and Dr. Wanda Filer at the 7th Annual Vision of Hope Gala and Auction in the lobby of the Hershey Lodge. (Photo Credit: Adam Kulikowski)*

On Saturday, May 4, 2013, 280 guests joined PCAR in the Chocolate Ballroom at the Hershey Lodge to invest in the prevention of child sexual abuse and support and celebrate the hope and healing that is offered to survivors through victim service agencies. We were honored to include among our guests Governor Tom Corbett, and Penn State Nittany Lions Coach Bill O'Brien and his wife Colleen. Lori Burkholder, co-anchor of WGAL's "News 8 Today" once again served as our Emcee, and her colleagues Matt Barcaro and Pete Muntean were also in attendance.

Guests enjoyed the evening with a lively reception while they perused the silent auction items and joined PCAR in wishing the Honorable Judge Jack Panella a happy birthday during the opening comments. Judge Panella surprised everyone by providing a champagne toast, delivered by PCAR Board President Dr. Ralph Rivello.

Our guest speakers, Joel and Nina Hoffman, shared their personal story of how the sexual abuse inflicted on Joel when

he was a child nearly destroyed their marriage, but how their determination and love for each other helped them heal and grow. Their experience inspired them to collect and publish firsthand accounts of the impact of child sexual abuse from survivors and their loved ones from across the country. The result is *The Survivor's Project: Telling the Truth about Life after Sexual Abuse*, published by the Philadelphia Weekly and available for purchase from Amazon.com.

The Hershey Lodge served a wonderful meal of filet mignon accompanied by a delicious crab cake, and the volume in the room picked up again during dinner. Our auctioneer Ron Gilligan once again led the live auction bidding, and in the end the Vision of Hope Gala raised over \$92,300 for PCAR to invest in child sexual abuse prevention through the Vision of Hope Fund. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for helping to protect children by supporting prevention efforts and attending this year's gala. We could not realize our vision of hope without your generous support.

# 2013 Vision of Hope Fund Grant

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape's Vision of Hope Fund has granted the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, and University of Massachusetts Boston professor Anne Douglas \$50,000 to develop The Start Young project.

The project will educate, train, engage and mobilize adults and Early Childhood Center staffs to effectively intervene and prevent child sexual abuse while promoting healthy development.

PAAR and BARCC will combine staff training curriculum and the policy consultation approach for child care centers used by BARCC with PAAR's work with parents of young children to create one replicable program.

Efforts will focus on elevating the knowledge and behavior of staff at child care centers and adapting policies at child care centers to promote the development of healthy sexuality and

prevent child sexual abuse.

PARR and BARCC believe early childhood educators are in a unique position to promote the healthy sexual development of young children and prevent sexual abuse.

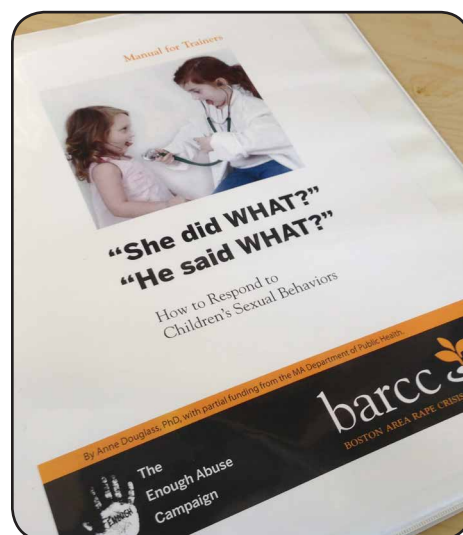
Studies have shown that appropriate responses to children's sexual behaviors can be a preventive action when they are based on knowledge of developmentally appropriate sexual behaviors.

Parents of young children will receive training through multi-session workshops to build skills about respectful relationships, age-appropriate sexual development, sexual abuse prevention and healthy sexuality through education, discussion and role plays.

By focusing on both parents and early childhood educators simultaneously, The Start Young project will enhance the role parents and child-related organizations play in the promotion

of healthy sexual development.

The Vision of Hope Fund grants up to \$50,000 each year to support effective prevention projects in Pennsylvania and throughout the country to help teach adults how to create safer environments for our children.



*The Enough Abuse Campaign: How to Respond to Children's Sexual Behaviors, Boston Area Rape Crister Center.*

## Project Update: Situational Prevention Approach

The Vision of Hope Grant provides funding opportunities to enhance best practices in the field and promote the prevention of sexual violence. In the case of our Situational Prevention Approach project, it offered a critical opportunity to explore the fit, utility and effectiveness of the approach for use with youth-serving organizations.

The intent of this project is to foster safety among our children by demonstrating the approach's effectiveness and value and then expanding its use with other community-based organizations.

The Vision of Hope Grant allowed us to examine this approach as a consultation model that could support

the work of rape crisis centers with community organizations. The Vision of Hope Grant is one of only a handful of flexible funding opportunities that allows for the development of cutting edge, new directions. While the project is still in progress, it has already received a great deal of very positive attention from other youth serving organizations, professionals and leaders in the field.

We are indebted to PCAR and the Vision of Hope Fund for their support of our efforts and for encouraging the development of innovative prevention programming to address sexual violence.



*Keith Kaufman, Ph.D, Portland State University, 2011 & 2012 Vision of Hope Fun Grant recipient.*

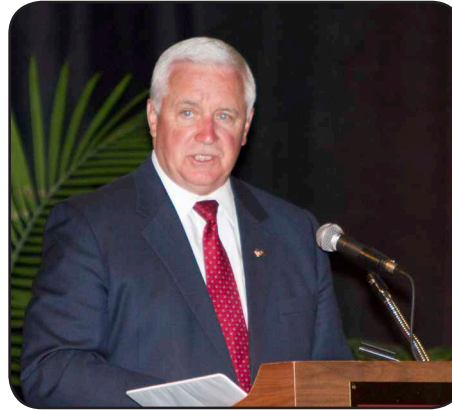


# In Case You Missed It...!

Joel Hoffman (right), co-author of The Survivor's Project: Telling the Truth about Life after Sexual Abuse. (Photo Credit: Adam Kulikowski)



Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett. (left). (Photo Credit: Adam Kulikowski)



ABC 27 Reporter Alexandria Hoff (left) and WGAL News 8 Reporter Pete Muntean. (Photo Credit: Adam Kulikowski)



(left to right) PCAR CEO Delilah Rumburg, Penn State Football Coach Bill O'Brien and Colleen O'Brien. (Photo Credit: Adam Kulikowski)

## 2013 Vision of Hope Award Winner

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape proudly presented the Erie County Child Abuse Task Force the 2013 Vision of Hope Award.

The task force, created June 2011, includes more than 20 key agencies in Erie County and focuses on reducing child sexual abuse, creating safer environments for children and providing support to at-risk families in Erie County.

The task force formed after former Pennsylvania First Lady Michele Ridge, Dr. Wanda Filer and PCAR CEO Delilah Rumburg challenged the county at Gannon University to increase education and outreach efforts relating to child sexual abuse. Dr.Carolynn Masters,

Dean of the College of Health Professions and Sciences, created a plan to bring together all of the key agencies involved in the care of children in Erie County.

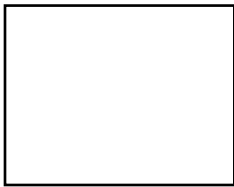
The team developed a marketing plan involving awareness and educational opportunities including a magnet giveaway at the Erie Zoo Boo, participating in the Millcreek Fourth of July parade and staffing resource tables at multiple events. Dr. Richard Kaplan, a renowned child abuse expert conducted a full-day training for task force members.

The Vision of Hope Award is presented annually to recognize those who show a commitment to protecting children through violence prevention and

intervention work and ensure the safety of children by increasing awareness, promoting policies and awareness campaigns that promote healthy families and communities.



Delilah Rumburg (left) and Paul Lukach, executive director of Crime Victims Center of Erie County, in the Chocolate Ballroom of the Hershey Lodge. (Photo Credit: Nobuko Oyabu)



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Save the date: Join us **Saturday, March 29** for the **Vision of Hope Gala!**