

## About us

McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence is a 501(c)3 private, nonprofit organization that serves all victims of domestic violence.

As a community advocacy program, we provide free and confidential help to individuals who are being battered. To help, we assist clients with obtaining orders for protection, making a safety plan, finding resources and providing support.

## WHAT IS BATTERING?

Battering, or the use of physical force, is part of a system of behaviors used to establish and maintain power and control over another person. Battering

- Is **Not** losing one's temper.
- Is a learned behavior.



*I only ask to be free. The butterflies are free.*

**Charles Dickens**

## Why volunteer?

*"To give courage and strength to someone to seek a way out. You give hope to someone who has lost faith in their fellow human being."*

**Rolly and RoseMarie**, Alliance volunteers

*"Being a volunteer has given me a place to serve in my community for a worthy cause. It is a rewarding experience."*

**Cheri**, Alliance volunteer

## SHOULD I VOLUNTEER?

Some questions to consider before becoming a volunteer:

- ◆ Do you want to make a difference in your community?
- ◆ Do you have a desire to help people?
- ◆ Do you have skills that you don't use but wish you knew where to put them to good use?
- ◆ Could volunteering be a better use of your time than what you do in your free time now?
- ◆ Do you want to feel like your volunteer efforts are appreciated?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, then you may have a place as a McLeod Alliance volunteer!

## MCLEOD ALLIANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

P.O. Box 393

305 Main St. S. Suite 103

Hutchinson, MN 55350

www.mcleodalliance.org

Phone: (320) 234-7933

Toll Free: (800)934-0851

Fax: (320) 234-6317

Web site: www.mcleodalliance.org

**For more volunteer information:**

Jill Barrall, Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail: [besafe@hutchtel.net](mailto:besafe@hutchtel.net)

# How You CAN HELP

Information on volunteer opportunities for



## OUR MISSION:

*To support and promote the elimination of relationship violence through education, empowerment, advocacy and protection.*

# Volunteers matter

Without volunteers, a nonprofit organization would never survive, let alone thrive. Volunteers are the backbone of our agency. The McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence opened its doors in 1993. It would never have been possible without the vision and dedication of people in the community who saw a need in the human services field and moved to fill it. They were our first volunteers.



*We are all like  
one-winged angels.  
It is only when we  
help each other  
that we can fly.*  
**Luciano  
de Crescenzo**

Since that time, McLeod Alliance has always maintained a strong force of volunteers who give freely of their time. Our volunteers consistently log more than 1,000 hours annually. They make a difference every day.

We believe that volunteering should be enjoyable, so we encourage volunteers to get to know our agency, closely examine our mission and decide what volunteer activities they wish to do.

To become a McLeod Alliance volunteer, all you need to have is a heart, a little time and a willingness to give. You need not be personally affected by domestic violence to volunteer, although we ask that if you are a former client that you haven't used our services for at least one full year.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As a McLeod Alliance volunteer, you can help in a variety of ways. Volunteering can include:

- ◆ Providing transportation
- ◆ Volunteer advocacy
- ◆ Clerical work
- ◆ Child care for support groups
- ◆ On-call advocacy
- ◆ Fundraising
- ◆ Serve on the Board of Directors

## GETTING STARTED

To become a volunteer, all you need to do is apply. Application forms are available at the McLeod Alliance office upon request.

All applicants must be willing to undergo local and state criminal background checks. The forms are also available at the office and the cost for the screening is covered by the agency.

Successful applicants will be interviewed by the volunteer coordinator. The interview helps the coordinator, with the applicant's assistance, determine what volunteer duties may be right for the applicant.

References will be checked following the interview before applicants are notified of

*It is one of the beautiful compensations  
of life, that no man can  
sincerely help another without  
helping himself.*



**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

acceptance to the McLeod Alliance volunteer team.

Once approved for volunteer services, new volunteers complete a 3-hour training. Through the training, applicants will better understand McLeod Alliance, its mission, its services and its policies.



*Why the butterfly? The  
Alliance chose the butterfly as  
its symbol because it embodies  
change, freedom and empower-  
ment—something our clients  
often experience.*

## ABOUT BOARD SERVICE

The McLeod Alliance Board of Directors is a group of volunteers that help govern the agency. Board membership is a privilege, and service requires an increased level of dedication.

Board members

- ◆ are responsible for assuring there is adequate funding resources so McLeod Alliance staff can provide appropriate services to clients.
- ◆ meet regularly to review the McLeod Alliance mission and assess that the programs in place are meeting clients needs in a way that supports that mission.
- ◆ serve a three-year term.

If you are interested in learning more about serving on the McLeod Alliance Board, please call Executive Director Jo Piehl at the office for the name of the current board chairperson.