



Once you bring
life into the world, you
must protect it. We must
protect it by changing the
world.

THERE'S NO EXCUSE
FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Give The Gift Of A New Life.

End
Domestic Violence

Newsletter December 2011

“I came across a support system with caring people with open hearts, meeting women who understood my path that I had just walked, a place I felt safe, a place of encouragement, a place where I was not judged by my past but was encouraged to live, to hold my head high, and to not be ashamed. That place was the House of Ruth.”

— *Ebony Strickland* —

Save The Date To Celebrate

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 5, 2012, for House of Ruth's Annual Gala Event.
More details coming soon.



House of Ruth

Celebrating 34 years of service to the community

Dear Devoted Donor,



As 2011 comes to an end, now is the time to reflect on the past year and give thanks for the gifts life has bestowed us. As the Executive Director of House of Ruth, I'm always delighted to hear the words of gratitude expressed by the women and children who find shelter within our walls — women like Ebony Strickland, who have suffered abuse firsthand from those closest to them yet still find the capacity for hope and the courage to begin again. They are thankful for the opportunity to start a new life, free of violence. Every one of them truly inspires me, as I hope they do you.

While we too have much to be thankful for, over the past year we have continued to face serious economic challenges. Now more than ever, House of Ruth relies on Dedicated Donors like you to support the life-changing work we do. You make it possible for these women to find shelter, find work, find freedom from fear, and find their self-worth. We ask you to keep giving, and keep making a difference.

In the spirit of holiday giving, please consider a year-end gift to House of Ruth that will help us continue to:

- Provide live-saving services to abused women and children
- Promote safe and healthy family units
- Connect victims of domestic violence to emergency shelters, case management services, counseling, employment services, housing support, and parenting classes

Today, Ebony is living a peaceful, full life with her two children, has a home and a career, and is pursuing her university degree in social work. She is not alone. Women come to the House of Ruth bruised, battered, and broken. But they emerge empowered, thanks to donors like you.

This holiday, give the most important gift of all, the gift of a new life. Every contribution, no matter the size, counts. Please join us.

One cause, one voice, one goal, end domestic violence

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Aebischer".

Sue Aebischer
Executive Director, House of Ruth

P.S. Give by December 31 and you may be eligible for a significant 2011 tax deduction.

Thank you for your generosity.

Create a Lasting Legacy

You can continue to support families affected by domestic violence beyond your lifetime by including House of Ruth in your trust or estate plans. There are many ways to make a gift to House of Ruth outright or through our partnership with the California Community Foundation. For further information, please contact Michele Broadnax at (909) 868-8007 or mbroadnax@houseofruthinc.org.

“I couldn't do this without the House of Ruth, and the House of Ruth can't do it without you. We are all singing in one voice, have one cause and one goal, and that is to end domestic violence.”

— *Ebony Strickland* —

House of Ruth Holiday Store — The Gift Of Joy

Help the House of Ruth Holiday Store make the holidays brighter for those who need it most. Every year, we collect donated toys, appliances, electronics, food items, supplies, cash donations, and other holiday gifts for battered women and their children. Last year, 452 mothers and children who couldn't afford to buy presents were able to exchange gifts thanks to your generous donations. For many families rebuilding violence-free lives, the House of Ruth Holiday Store may be their only source of gifts and food.

Donations can be delivered to:

HOUSE OF RUTH
599 N. Main Street
Pomona, CA
Attn: Melissa Pitts
(909) 623-4364 ext. 8021

Drop-off times: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Drop-off dates: Thursday, December 1
through Wednesday, December 21
Contact Melissa if you need to make other
arrangements for drop-offs.

Please donate only
**unwrapped new items and
non-violent toys.** Cash and
gift cards are also welcome. Go
to www.houseofruthinc.org
for a full list of gift ideas.

Candlelight Vigil Calls For End To Violence



House of Ruth staff doing a human video during the candlelight vigil program.

Hosted on Thursday, October 11, 2011, in conjunction with the Pomona Police Department, House of Ruth's sixth annual Candlelight Vigil brought together community leaders and members to recognize and raise awareness for the continued plight of domestic abuse victims across our community. City of Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Representative Erica Ambriz from assembly member Norma Torres' office addressed the gathering, while House of Ruth Executive Director Sue Aebischer introduced this year's Vigil theme and call to action:

One Cause, One Voice, One Goal, End Domestic Violence

Thank you to all who lit a candle for our cause.

Dining With Our Dedicated Donors

Each year in appreciation of our Dedicated Donors and in an effort to raise funds, House of Ruth hosts a Moveable Feast fundraising event. This year we hosted two Moveable Feasts. On October 15, more than 75 Dedicated Donors came together to show their support. This event was followed on October 29, by a smaller gathering hosted by Mikey Rhien and Jan Simon. Combined, this year's feasts raised more than \$11,000 to fund our life-changing programs.

For the first time, this year's Moveable Feasts welcomed House of Ruth client Ebony Strickland who shared her inspiring journey to a violence-free life with our donors. Ebony's story served as a

reminder that every dollar donated to the House of Ruth helps piece together the shattered lives of women and children living with abuse. Thank you to all who attended and continue to give.



From left to right: Mikey Rhien, Ebony Strickland, Jan Simon, and Sue Aebischer



House of Ruth, Inc.

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One cause, one voice, one goal, end domestic violence

Mission Statement

To advocate for and assist women and children victimized by domestic violence and children exposed to violence in transforming their lives by providing culturally competent shelter, programs, opportunities, and education; and to contribute to social change through intervention, education, prevention programs, and community awareness.

Government Support

Services at House of Ruth are made possible, in part, by funding through: Cal Ema: Child Abuse Treatment (CHAT); CalEma: DVAP, Los Angeles County CALWORKS; HUD Supportive Services – Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority; LA Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP); SB Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP); Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) – ARRA; Ontario Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG); Pomona Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG); Chino Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); Chino Hills Community Development Block Grant; Rancho Cucamonga Community Development Block Grant; Pomona Community Development Block Grant; Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Funds (Presley); San Bernardino County Domestic Violence Fund (Presley); Montclair City Fund; Healthy Marriages Initiative (subcontract); Child and Adult Care Food Program, Emergency Housing and Assistance Program.

House of Ruth complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a disability. Reasonable accommodations are made for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability unless an undue hardship, direct threat to health and safety or other job-related consideration exists.

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Please visit the House of Ruth website
at www.houseofruthinc.org

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