

PEACE at HOME
FAMILY SHELTER

THE CHAMPION

The official newsletter for supporters of
Peace at Home Family Shelter

FALL 2026

Founding Mothers at the 2026 Courage Awards Luncheon

THE 2026 COURAGE AWARDS

On October 1st, we welcomed 340 members of our community to the 14th Annual Courage Awards Luncheon presented by C&C Services.

This year, Peace at Home had the distinct pleasure of recognizing the remarkable women who founded Peace at Home Family Shelter in 1977. Representing the founding mothers, we welcomed Dr. Barbara Taylor, Dr. Honore Hughes, and Suzanne Pharr to the stage for an inspiring panel discussion about launching the Project for Victims of Family Violence, the challenges they faced, and their hopes for the future of Peace at Home as we look toward celebrating 50 years in 2027.

Together, we raised over $56,000 to provide safe shelter and support to families fleeing abuse!

To everyone who was able to sponsor, attend, donate, or volunteer at this special event— thank you for making this possible!

Special thanks to Event Group Catering for the delicious meal and to Chris Lastra for photographing this event.

A FOUNDATION FOR CHANGE

"Fayetteville... was a wild and wonderful place, I thought. People acted with tremendous freedom with the anti-war movement and the women's movement. But if you would recall, there were collectives here... You could go to your co-op and see on the wall what was going to happen. So that kind of energy raised us up, you know? Gave us that energy to do our own. So when Barbara brought us together, we were ready to go. If you think about that now, we're not in that kind of energy. We need to build it in order to create what we need right now for the future"

Panel Quote from Suzanne Pharr.



L-R: Barbara Taylor, Honore Hughes, Julie Gram, & Frances Woods







Pictured (L-R): Theo (spokes-pet), a previous Candy Clark Pet Sanctuary Resident's paw print, Berlioz (spokes-pet).

OUR PETS ARE OUR FAMILY:

According to The Humane Society, 71% of pet owners entering domestic violence shelters report that their abuser had threatened, injured, or killed family pets. This nightmarish reality for survivors inspired Peace at Home to dream. In May of 2024, Peace at Home opened the Candy Clark Pet Sanctuary, alleviating a long-standing barrier to safety for Arkansas families and their pets escaping abuse.

When asked how the Pet Sanctuary impacted their journey, a previous client shared this with us: "When we were going through a hard time, the sanctuary gave us the safe space we needed. My cats were finally able to get healthy and get their personalities back, especially being able to spend time outside. The space allowed them to rehabilitate as well as me too. If I was down, my advocate was always one call away and I appreciate that. And she actually was, whether it was spending a few minutes with my boys or giving them some dinner while I was at work. It was the biggest blessing of all."

Every survivor's story is different from the next, but one fact remains true for families experiencing abuse: having a safe place to bring their four-legged family members is vital.

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their own home and that will always include the pets we call family.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Jessica, a Counselor at Peace at Home! As a Counselor, Jessica provides mental health services to both residential and outreach clients. She also leads group therapy for adults and occasionally provides therapy services to teenagers.

When asked what Peace at Home's mission means to her, Jessica had this to say: "Peace at Home's mission means supporting survivors of all types of intimate partner violence. I think it can be very difficult for survivors of non-physical violence to seek services due to stigma and doubts around the severity of their abuse. However, psychological, financial, spiritual, and emotional abuse can be the most difficult to identify and overcome. It also means helping clients uncover their own strengths and assisting as they use them to shift from surviving to living their lives again."



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