



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Middle Way House Wrapped in Love Public Art Display October 2021 – March 2022**

*Event to raise funds for Middle Way House, educate the community about Middle Way House Services, & provide outreach to domestic violence, sexual assault, & human trafficking survivors in need.*

**(Bloomington, Indiana) September 14th, 2021** – This October, we will be continuing our annual tradition of adorning trees throughout downtown Bloomington with tree sweaters crafted by local fabric artists.

Just as Middle Way House wraps survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in warmth and support, fabric artists lovingly created tree sweaters for dozens of downtown Bloomington trees. The tree sweaters will be prominently hung throughout numerous locations in the heart of Bloomington and feature our help & crisis line phone number in hopes of raising awareness about domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. The public art display will span nearly six months, coinciding with the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness month in October and end March 1st, 2022.

Each beautiful tree sweater is sponsored by a business, person, or organization committed to helping us provide meaningful alternatives to living with violence. Each tree sweater will have a sponsorship patch containing sponsor names and our 24/7 help & crisis line phone number to be seen by tens of thousands of residents and many of the nearly 2 million annual visitors to Bloomington. It is imperative that we include our crisis number on the sponsorship patch because last year, our help & crisis line answered over 5,000 calls, and we provided nearly 7,000 nights of emergency shelter to survivors of domestic violence.

We are hoping to elevate the event this year as we celebrate 50 years in the community and have gathered a tremendous group of volunteers to craft and maintain the tree sweaters throughout the year.

We would like to thank our Volunteer Chair, Erin Hollinden, the fabric artists, and our current top sponsors for all their support!

### *Fabric Artists:*

Mia Altholz  
Sandi Taylor  
Linda Handelsman  
Tara Babcock  
Erin Hollinden  
Christopher DeYoung (Development Chair)

-more-

### **Providing meaningful alternatives to living with violence**

Serving Monroe, Martin, Owen,  
Lawrence, Johnson & Greene  
Counties

Emergency Shelter  
Transitional Housing  
Prevention & Education  
Legal Advocacy  
Sexual Assault Support  
Human Trafficking Support  
Childcare & Youth Programs

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 95  
Bloomington, IN 47402

Administrative Line:  
812.333.7404

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

Debra Morrow  
Executive Director

### **24-hour Help & Crisis Line:**

**812.336-0846**



Danielle Bruce  
The Knit Wits  
Joan Hongen  
Mary Lostutter  
Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity  
Jackie Vest  
Vicky Haralovich  
Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority, Inc.  
Alyssa Marie McPherson  
Peg Smith  
Cathy Lipscomb  
Orchard Enthusiasts  
North Staff and Families (North high school knitting group)  
Ana Lim  
Holly Bui

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*Gold Leaf Sponsors (\$2,500+):*

*Anna Strout in honor of Toby Strout, Martha Voyles, Ekah Yoga, and the People's Market*

"I am honored to carry on Toby's vision of wrapping survivors in love, shining a light on how we can care for each other through an intentional weaving of art, activism, and community engagement." – Anna Strout

Bob Arnove

"*Wrapped-in-Love* perfectly summarizes what Middle Way House has meant to the tens of thousands who have benefitted from its many programs and services." – Bob Arnove

Ivy Tech – Bloomington, Indiana

"With our shared mission to build community, Ivy Tech Bloomington is proud to sponsor the Middle Way House *Wrapped in Love* public art display," said Chancellor Jennie Vaughan. "Ivy Tech is making college more accessible for those who otherwise would not have had the opportunity, and we're fortunate to work alongside Middle Way House on doing important work in the community." – Jennie Vaughan, Chancellor

DeAngelo's Restaurant

"DeAngelo's is proud to continue our relationship with the Middle Way House, especially during these pandemic years where their work with domestic violence is unfortunately needed at an all-time high. We are honored to help bring awareness to and support their cause that has helped so many people, and so positively impacted our community." – Mark Miller, Owner

*Silver Spruce Sponsors (\$1,000+):*

Plant Brothers Excavating  
Cook Medical  
ISU the May Agency  
Vibrant Life  
WFHB

-more-



If you are interested in becoming a Wrapped in Love sponsor, please contact Maddie at [development@middlewayhouse.org](mailto:development@middlewayhouse.org) for more information. Thank you in advance for your love and support!

If you are in need of help, please call our confidential 24/7 Help & Crisis Line at (812) 336-0846.

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**About Middle Way House**

Since 1971, [Middle Way House](http://www.middlewayhouse.org) has been providing services to people in crisis. Today, Middle Way House provides emergency shelter, a 24/7 help & crisis line, on-scene advocacy, support services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking, transitional and permanent housing solutions for survivors and their families, legal advocacy, and education and prevention programs. Middle Way House serves six counties in southern Indiana (Monroe, Greene, Lawrence, Owen, Morgan, and Martin) and relies on a staff of 70 and a committed volunteer force to provide around-the-clock response and services to those experiencing abuse and assault. It is not necessary that an individual reside in our emergency shelter or transitional housing program to access most of our services. We believe, support, and affirm the identities of ALL survivors. For more information, please visit [www.middlewayhouse.org](http://www.middlewayhouse.org).

Contact: Rachel Veronesi, Communications & Outreach Coordinator  
Tel.: (812) 333-7404  
[communications@middlewayhouse.org](mailto:communications@middlewayhouse.org)