



**TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE AND THOSE WHO JOIN US IN SERVING:**

In Ashe County, when an abused woman asks, “*Will someone help?*” or “*Does anyone care?*” **we answer.** As we have for more than a decade.

Who are we? We are **A Safe Home for Everyone**, or A.S.H.E., the domestic violence program of the Ashe County Partnership for Children (ACPC). Recently, as you may be aware, our commitment has been questioned and we don’t take that lightly. That’s why we are sharing our story with you.

ACPC started with the efforts of a committed group of citizens. Since then, the Partnership—its board, staff, and volunteers—have been passionately committed to working with families and children, providing the support and encouragement they need to be healthy, educated, and self-reliant. Within this framework, the ACPC board took on the issue of domestic violence 14 years ago, working with people across the community and the region to create *A Safe Home for Everyone*. Our goal was simple: to provide services to the victims of domestic violence and their children in Ashe County.

Since then, A.S.H.E. has assisted hundreds of people from all walks of life who were in dangerous and threatening situations.

*... a young mother who left an abusive spouse when he threatened her children,  
... an abused older woman who reluctantly found refuge in Monica’s Haven, our domestic violence shelter,  
... the teenaged daughter in an abusive family who continued her education with the support of program staff,  
... and many more.*

Under the leadership of Sarah Wolf, ACPC executive director, a talented and inordinately dedicated staff continues to quietly make a difference for their clients and for all of us. They are doing no less than changing the face of Ashe County’s future.

**It should come as no surprise we are concerned about the implications of the Tuesday, February 2, 2010, Jefferson Post article titled “Feud Develops Over Shelter.”**

That’s why the ACPC Board of Directors wanted to write to reassure you and others in the community of our ongoing commitment to addressing this oft-times hidden problem and to clear up any misunderstanding the article may have caused.

The Ashe Partnership for Children and its A.S.H.E. program staff are committed to assisting the people—our families, our friends, our neighbors—who find themselves in domestic violence situations. **Our operations continue today as they were yesterday**, if anything, with a renewed focus on ensuring that *everyone* has a safe place to call home. We remain committed to operating a professional organization, one that provides safety for everyone—our staff, volunteers, and, of course, our clients.

Moreover, **we remain committed to eliminating domestic violence in Ashe County.** It won’t happen today. It may not happen tomorrow, next week, or next year. But, until it does, we will continue to provide a *safe home for everyone* who needs us.

**The Board of Directors  
Ashe County Partnership for Children**

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*The expense of placing this ad was paid for personally by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Ashe County Partnership for Children.*

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**www.ashechildren.org**