

# Jenesse Center, Inc.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

## 2011 YEAR IN REVIEW

*Program Highlights, Achievements and Special Events*



**JENESSE CENTER, INC.**, one of the world's most respected domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, was founded more than 30 years ago with the goal of ensuring that families in crisis have options available to escape violence and create lives full of hope and possibility.

Jenesse's mission is to provide victims of domestic violence with a comprehensive, centralized base of support to assist them in addressing their immediate crisis and towards changing the patterns of abuse in their lives.

Founded by five African-American women who were survivors of domestic violence, Jenesse began with a unique purpose to serve families of color, a population that was traditionally underserved or unserved. Over the years of service to the community, Jenesse has provided help, healing and hope to women, children, men and families of all nationalities, ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds and ages.

The organization has housed more than 15,000 victims and survivors of domestic violence in its emergency shelters and transitional housing apartment facilities. Through the **Jenesse Domestic Violence Legal Clinic** and outreach and educational programs, Jenesse has educated more than 100,000 women, children, young adults and men about the issue of domestic violence. Through media outreach, including its website, [www.jenesse.org](http://www.jenesse.org), Jenesse has reached more than eight million people locally, domestically and globally on the issue of domestic violence.

In 2011, Jenesse experienced monumental results with its outreach, education and service objectives.

## JENESSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

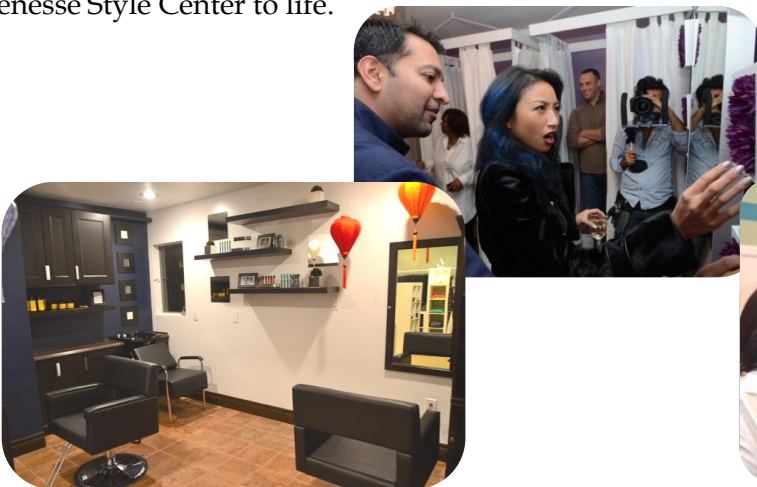
### *JENESSE CAREER TRANSITIONS PROGRAM - MENTORSHIP WORKSHOPS*

Jenesse continues to expand its Career Transitions Center by implementing innovative techniques in helping clients obtain careers that ensure their long-term self-sufficiency. The Center's Career Mentoring Program brings together accomplished women and men from different fields who provide a circle of support and help clients successfully navigate work politics and stress.

### *THE JENESSE STYLE CENTER*

The latest addition to Jenesse's Vocational Education Program is an interactive experience. **The Jenesse Style Center** consists of a salon for beauty/hair and a wardrobe closet where women can select garments, shoes and accessories that express who they are and where they are going on their journey. Part emporium and part beauty haven, the Center offers women an opportunity to learn how to develop a personal style through a variety of educational videos, motivational/empowerment presentations and direct sessions with experts.

Jenesse celebrates the idea that people can use their gifts and passion, including their love of fashion and style, to offer real hope and facilitate real change in the lives of those in crisis. **Riaz Patel, Mikki Taylor, Aimee Carpenter, Leslee Feldman** and **Tamara Houston** were honored at the 2011 Celebrity Fashion Show for their role in bringing the amazing vision of the Jenesse Style Center to life.





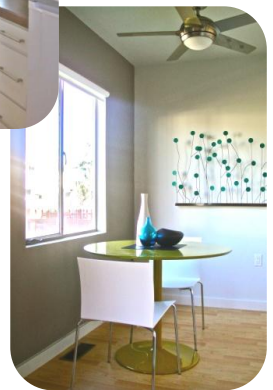
## THE WHAT A LITTLE LOVE CAN DO PROJECT

Halle Berry's "What A Little Love Can Do" Project team successfully reached their goal to completely remodel one of Jenesse Center's transitional housing shelters. Every apartment was designed with love and attention to detail, reflective of modern day living. They are all beautiful spaces, giving the feeling warmth the moment you enter. The **What A Little Love Can Do Project** is an extension of the unique challenge Jenesse Center gave itself years ago --- to re-imagine shelters as a place of rebirth that that offers families everything they needed to break the cycle of abuse and to become self-sufficient.

The brainchild of **Halle Berry**, the project was initiated to enhance the living and educational facilities for women, children and men needing to escape the dangers of domestic violence. A major much-needed renovation project of shelter apartment spaces, Berry completed the project with the devoted help of three top designers -**Patrick Delanty**, **David Brian Sanders** and **Lindsay Jackson**. The apartment spaces are named after noted women of strength including Lena Horne, Eartha Kitt, Josephine Baker and many others who history celebrates as great achievers and overcomers of adversity and their ability to elevate and excel beyond life's challenges and circumstances.

Jenesse Center's Transitional Housing Shelters are a place where women, men and children can live independently in a safe, warm and beautiful space free of the horrors of the past. The apartments were designed with Jenesse Center's mental health model in mind. Jenesse's years of work with families in crisis have taught us that when you show people what is possible; they begin to embrace a new reality where they begin to live their dreams.

The **What A Little Love Can Do Project** has helped Jenesse Center re-imagine shelter living by creating modern apartments that anyone would want to live in. The project also focuses on ensuring that families get the mental health and other programs and services that they need to be successful during their stay at the facility.



Nestlé Learning Center

## JENESSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEGAL CLINIC

For more than 20 years, Jenesse Center has provided specialized legal services. It was one of the first shelters to develop its own Legal Department in order to service the unique needs of its residents and its advocacy has resulted in the provision of federal funding to support legal services for victims. **Jenesse Center's Inglewood Superior Courthouse Domestic Violence Clinic was established in 2001.** It was the desire of former Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne Burke to establish a Domestic Violence Clinic at the Courthouse so domestic violence victims would not have travel to either Torrance Court or to downtown Los Angeles Superior Court for assistance with restraining orders. The Jenesse Center Domestic Violence Legal Clinic now assists an average of 1500 clients annually in obtaining domestic violence restraining orders and legal inquires, and is a critical point of contact for victims to access services.

Understanding this critical mass of service delivery needed to assist a population with needs that far outweighed resources; Jenesse Center assembled a **Legal Advisory Board** made up of attorney's from some of the top law firms in the state of California. This team of esteemed individuals assists and/or advises Jenesse Center staff with legal matters regarding a myriad of legal matters regarding client cases. Astonishingly, the breath of services has expanded to full comprehensive services to include restraining orders; VAWV Immigration; landlord tenant disputes; court accompaniment; and legal education.

# YOUTH PROJECTS

## BeSo You!

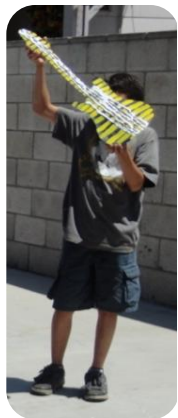
Jenesse has found that even though teens and young adults despise the violent behavior they grew up seeing, if they are not counseled and taught how to respond in a conflict situation, they will also turn to domestic violence because they have not been deprogrammed of the inappropriate behavior. They need to be taught healthy coping mechanisms and strategies for appropriate conflict resolution. Jenesse Center's **BeSo You! Program** works to educate and engage residential youth and teen volunteers in ways to have healthy relationships through activities, workshops and youth summits.

## CAMP JENESSE

This year, the Center hosted its third annual **Camp Jenesse**, a summer enrichment program for kids ages 6-13 who reside at the shelter. Camp Jenesse provides residential children with an opportunity to be like any other kid on summer vacation. The camp allows kids to form healthy relationships with each other and participate in a variety of fun activities so they don't feel as if they are missing out on anything.

Camp was jam packed this year as our facilitators happily taught yoga, drama classes, etiquette, music and dance, arts and crafts, and healthy cooking to Camp Jenesse kids. In addition to education and enrichment games, there were field trips to the movies, the **Los Angeles Zoo**, the **California Science Center**, the **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles**, the **Los Angeles Police Department**, and the **Santa Monica Pier**.

The community came together to make the camp a success. **Ingrid Roberts** and **First Picks Management** donated the lunches from Panera Bread for the field trips. **Cooking with Gabby** hosted healthy cooking sessions with the kids. The **Honorable Herb Wesson** provided a bus for our trip to the zoo. **Sonya Makunga**, **Sandra Hopson Castine**, **Monique Hudson**, **Jeanine Taylor** and others sponsored field trips and allowed the kids to experience the city and have a magical time.



CAMP JENESSE



*"What I liked most about the camp was the day-to-day events and the interaction my kids had. Each residential client, their children and staff came together wonderfully. No matter the status of the client or staff we all sat, ate, and laughed as one. I joined the outing to the zoo and found myself in a place of peace. I could see the dramatic change in the hearts of the other moms who participated and the comfort level that lies within our children. My son would come home and talk of the different activities they were involve in such as cooking, creating artwork, playing basketball, the many field trips and the wonderful time he had with the other children. Jenesse hopefully will continue this as a legacy for children to come. Providing free summer camp for children is the best thing about Jenesse Children's Program."*

- Carla, Jenesse Mom

## THE CHANGE HOSTS THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER FOR JENESSE FAMILIES

THE CHANGE, an organization founded by Jenesse Youth Leader **Bryson Rouzan-Thomas**, hosted its annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner and Program for the families who reside at Jenesse. Under the leadership of current The Change President **Jordan Ferguson**, about 25 youth and their parents participated in the Holiday event, serving homemade Thanksgiving staples as they hosted games, read-alongs and karaoke for the moms and their children.



New Jenesse Teen Angels **Paris Jackson** and **Prince Jackson** were in attendance.



## YOUTH CONVERSATIONS

Jenesse believes that in order to put an end to domestic and relationship violence, the next generation must be engaged in ways that address their unique needs. Jenesse brings the subject and the conversation to the light in all of its programs, events and platforms. We open the door for the people we serve and the community at large to learn what is ok and what is not ok in relationship behavior. We talk about it and talk about it and talk about it, especially with our young people.

Jenesse's **Youth Conversations** are frank and relevant and offer participants real life advice and scenarios for getting out of unhealthy situations. Part of the prevention model that works to end domestic violence in this generation, the Jenesse **Youth Conversations** work to break unhealthy relationship patterns now, so that young people never get to the point where they need shelter, because they learned early on how not to fall prey to the cycle of abuse and violence.

In August, Jenesse Teen Angel group, THE CHANGE, hosted the second annual **Youth Conversations Luncheon** at **NBC Universal Studios**. More than 100 teens attended a screening of "**Telling Amy's Story**," a documentary highlighted by Jenesse sponsor by Verizon, and participated in a panel discussion.



## NATIONAL YOUTH CONVERSATION

About 200 young men and women packed The Cosby Auditorium on the campus of **Spelman College** in Atlanta, Georgia for Jenesse Center's first **National Youth Conversation** this past November. Lead by Jenesse Youth Leader and **Morehouse** student **Aaron Francis** and in conjunction with **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity** and **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority**, The Conversations was an extension of the Los-Angeles based Youth Conversations that were created as forums for youth to discuss ways to end

The forum is part of Jenesse's youth-based initiative, **Abuse ≠ Love** which seeks to educate youth on healthy relationships and respect. Topic ranged from the responsibility of men and women when in relationships, the culture of violence in communities, what to you are in an unhealthy relationship and ways to educate friends who are abusive relationships. The panel was made up of student leaders who attended both Spelman and Morehouse Colleges as well as Jenesse Youth Coordinators **Jerry Jackson** and **Angela Parker**.



@JenesseATL

Project of BeSo You! Nation

# Abuse ≠ Love

(Abuse is NOT Love)





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## BLOOMINGDALE'S SHOPPING WORKS WONDERS FASHION EVENT

Building on a 3 year relationship, this year **Bloomingtondale's Century City** hosted a highly successful **Shopping Works Wonders Fashion Event** to Benefit Jenesse Center. The event was designed to uplift, empower, educate and teach women how to embrace their worth, including the awareness that they are beautiful. A special ceremony was held to honor Jenesse Angels, **Riaz Patel, Mikki Taylor, Aimee Carpenter, Leslee Feldman and Tamara Houston** for their exemplary work to expand the Jenesse Vocational Education Program and the development of the Style Center. The event featured a VIP Reception, Actress **Kimberly Elise** hosted the Celebrity Fashion Show and Style Guru Mikki Taylor did an autograph session for her new book "**Commander In Chic**".



The fashion show event was produced by Bloomingtondale's fashion expert **Tod Hallman** with celebrity models and L.A. Models, who are donating their time to support the cause. Other major supporters include M.A.C. Cosmetics, First Picks Management and La Porte Rouge Salon. Karen Earl, Jenesse Executive Director said, "Jenesse Center is thankful for Bloomingtondale's embracing our cause in this way. This event shined a light on some very important people in the fashion world and other industries who have worked in the trenches with Jenesse to develop a first ever Style Center at Jenesse, which will offer a boutique, hair salon, and other services for women to restore self esteem and provide assistance in helping them to build confidence in their employment pursuits.

## DANCE 4 HOPE DANCE-A-THON LAUNCHES THE HOPE ANGELS MONTHLY GIVING CAMPAIGN

**Laurieann Gibson** joined Jenesse to host the first annual **Dance 4 Hope Dance-a-thon**. The inaugural **Dance 4 Hope (D4H)** was a fun-filled, community event to launch the new Hope Angels Campaign - an initiative to raise ongoing support for the center through automatic monthly donations.



**Dance 4 Hope** participants raised money by obtaining sponsors who signed up as **Hope Angels** or gave one-time donations. Dancers were provided with beginners through advanced dance lessons throughout the day on various dance styles including Chicago Steppin, Salsa, Zumba and Line Dancing. Participants experienced a once in a lifetime treat to learn a full piece of choreography by Laurieann Gibson herself!

*"My heart is with all of the families that have been affected by domestic violence. No one should have to endure such circumstances but if they have, the Jenesse Center provides the life skills to transform victims into survivors. This is why I am so excited and honored to a part of this wonderful event in support of the great work being done by this organization. Victory is to be lived by us all!"*

**- Laurieann Gibson, Emmy nominated Director and Choreographer to the Stars**

**www.BoomKack.com & @BoomKack**



## PRESENTATION OF "TELLING AMY'S STORY" SPONSORED BY VERIZON

*Telling Amy's Story* is a short documentary that follows the timeline of a domestic violence homicide. While the ending to Amy's story will never change, the hope is that by telling her story, it can change outcomes for the millions of victims, survivors, and loved ones affected by domestic violence every day.

On April 30, 2011, Jenesse Center partnered with Verizon and the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence to present a private screening of "Telling Amy's Story" and panel discussion. The event, held at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, CA, was attended by 168 guests that included 30 adolescents (14-16 years old). Distinguished guest speakers and panelists included, **Eugene Eng, Mrs. Avis Ridley-Thomas and Mrs. Fabian Wesson, Adai Lamar, Dr. Kikanza Nuri, Victoria Lewis Adams, De'Wanna Hubbard, Dr. Rhonda Brinkley-Kennedy, Traci and Daniel Griffin.**



## SILVER ROSE WEEKEND

Jenesse Center created *Hope for a Perfect World* with its 2011 Silver Rose Weekend. The impact went around the world with media coverage from Los Angeles to Australia. Avis Frazier-Thomas, Jenesse Board President said, "We chose the theme 'Hope for a Perfect World' because ultimately a world without domestic violence is our greatest hope. It is what we aspire to in all our efforts; and we believe we are closer to that ideal today, than we were yesterday."

Chaired by Academy Award winning actress **Halle Berry**, the 31st Annual **Silver Rose Awards Gala & Auction**, was packed with magical moments. The gala entertainment lineup deserved Broadway acclaim, including the masterful triple threat mega-talent **Jamie Foxx** as Emcee and the soulful **Robin Thicke** who performed a mini-concert that drove the audience to near frenzy. Other amazing moments included the culturally rich and artistically poignant live performances of actresses **Salli Richardson-Whitfield** as Lena Horne, **Taraji Henson** as Eartha Kitt and **Wendy Raquel Robinson** as Josephine Baker in tribute to the *What A Little Love Can Do Project*.



The 2011 Silver Rose event honored **Halle Berry, Patrick Delanty, David Brian Sanders** and **Lindsay Jackson** for their work under the "What A Little Love Can Do Project" which enhanced the living and educational spaces by renovating the apartments and programmatic areas at one of Jenesse's transitional facilities.

**Bryson Rouzan-Thomas** was presented with the *Trailblazer of Hope Award*. Although only 17, Bryson Rouzan-Thomas is a longtime volunteer for Jenesse and has made it his mission to educate youth about relationship violence.

The Silver Rose Weekend continued the next day with the **3rd Annual Halle Berry Golf Classic** at the Wilshire Country Club on Monday, April 18th. Hosted by **Halle Berry**, participants included golf legend **Renee Powell, Kevin Farley, Dennis Haysbert, Christina Milian, Glynn Turman, Mike Phillips, Flex Alexander, John Salley** and many more. **Terri Seymour** of EXTRA hosted the Golf Awards Dinner with some help from **Flex Alexander** on the auction.

Jenesse Silver Rose Golf Chair, **Dr. Othella Owens**, said, "Thank you to all the participants, sponsors and supporters who came out to enjoy a good game of golf and raise funds for the important work Jenesse Center does to save families in our community and around the world. Together we extend a rope to those who are drowning in violent circumstances and need hope and help."

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE - ONE LIFE AT A TIME

"Since I've been here at Jenesse I have finally accomplished the things I never thought I could. In the beginning it was very hard for me, but the staff would always comfort me when things got tough. Everyone encouraged me to really reach for my goals. So I did it! I went back to school! I took the State Board exam, passed it, and got my manicurist license! Now I have my own clients and make my own schedule.

I have learned a lot of things here from understanding domestic violence and anger, to how to be a better parent, how to get a job, take care of my finances and a lot of fun stuff like sewing and knitting. I have grown so much and I am very grateful for everything and all the opportunities Jenesse has given me and my children. Thank you Jenesse!

Eternally grateful,  
\*Kristin, John & Zoe"



Nancy\*  
(age 7)

\*Names and identifying characteristics have been changed/removed from letters and children's artwork to maintain confidentiality.

## YEAR AT A GLANCE

Person by person, child by child, family by family, with your help, Jenesse is changing lives. The numbers below reflect the people who are hopeful, healing, alive and thriving because of Jenesse's sponsors, donors, supporters, volunteers, staff and community support.

### **SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

Total Participants Receiving Domestic Violence Supportive Services: 2500

### **HOUSING**

Emergency Shelter Families: 300

Transitional Housing Families: 90

### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Approximate Number of Participants Receiving Mental Health Services: 2500

### **LEGAL SERVICES**

Approximate Program Participants receiving Legal Services: 2500

Approximate Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO): 1500

Approximate Number of Immigration Issues, Child Custody, Divorce and Landlord Tenant Issues: 885

### **CASE MANAGEMENT**

Approximate Number of Program Participants receiving Case Management Services: 2500

### **VOCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Approximate Number of Program Participants Receiving Vocational Education: 2500

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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