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CornerHouse™



## Around the Corner Volume 7, Issue 4

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### Get to Know CornerHouse



**Molly Kennefick,**  
Program  
Assistant/  
Intake:

Molly Kennefick has been at CornerHouse for two years. As Program Assistant/Intake, her primary responsibility is intake calls and a multitude of other tasks. Molly started the Masters of Social Work program at the University of Minnesota this fall as a Child Welfare Scholar. She also works part time at the American Red Cross as a CPR/First Aid instructor and volunteers as a disaster team responder for clients at local disasters. In her free time she enjoys various hobbies including jewelry making and cake decorating!



**Sara**

**November/2007**

**Dear Krista,**

Happy Fall everyone! CornerHouse has had a busy past couple of months so read on to catch up on all the latest news and events!

### CornerHouse Gala

**By Tom Frost**

CornerHouse held its First Annual Gala at the Golden Wings Museum, in Blaine, Minnesota, on Saturday October 13, 2007. The museum contains over twenty-five historic airplanes from the Golden Age and was the perfect place to host the aviation themed event.

The Gala celebrated CornerHouse's presentation of its "Sweetheart for Kids" Award to Dr. Alan Goldbloom, CEO of Children's Hospital and Clinics. This award is given by the CornerHouse Board of Directors to recognize dedication, service and vision on behalf of children. Larry Pobuda, CornerHouse Board Chair, presented the "Sweetheart" award highlighting Dr. Goldbloom's career as a pediatrician and hospital administrator. He especially noted Dr. Goldbloom's vision of advocacy for children as part of the mission of Children's.



The unique day began in the afternoon with guided tours of the museum, open cockpit biplane rides, and helicopter rides.



**Blahauvietz,  
Forensic Interviewer/  
Trainer:**

Sara Blahauvietz has been at CornerHouse for over four years. As a Forensic Interviewer and Trainer, Sara enjoys interacting with children and families that CornerHouse serves as well as training other professionals who do similar work. Sara is currently engaged to her fiancé Tony and eagerly awaits a New Year's Eve wedding.



**Sandy**

**Heitkamp, Program  
Assistant/ Training:**

Sandy joined the CornerHouse staff in March of 2004. As Program Assistant/Training, her primary responsibility is to coordinate trainings that occur at CornerHouse and throughout the United States. As part of the CornerHouse Support Team her other responsibilities include video taping, assisting with medical exams, and working with the children, families and professionals who are clients at CornerHouse. Sandy graduated from University of Minnesota - Waseca with an associate's degree in Services for the Rural Elderly and Persons with Disabilities. In her free time Sandy loves to spend time with her husband Matt and their 8 month old daughter Sally.

**Wish List**



Greg Herrick, owner of the museum, welcomed the guests. In his description of the museum he talked about the museum's Ford Tri-motor airplane. It was in this plane, now restored, that Charles Lindbergh's mother flew to meet him in Mexico at Christmas time in 1927. Later, during the holidays, he piloted the plane with the U.S. Ambassador's daughter, Anne Morrow, aboard. It was the first time they flew together.

Victor Vieth, Director of the National District Attorneys Association and the National Child Protection Training Center, gave the keynote speech "Shadow Children - The Child Protection System Through the Eyes of the Children."

Music was provided by singer Mia Dorr and later in the evening there was dancing to "Dave Andrew's Big Band."



**Availability in 2008 Training Courses**

**By Jennifer Anderson**

Since 1990, CornerHouse has taught other professionals how to use the RATAAC® forensic interview protocol to elicit statements from children in a way that is developmentally appropriate, non-leading, and ensures the rights of the accused. To date, CornerHouse has trained over 17,000 individuals who have come from 48 states as well as American Samoa, Canada, Columbia, Jamaica, Japan, Kosovo, The Netherlands, and Uruguay seeking forensically sound methods of interviewing children. Trainees report that CornerHouse training is, "...by far the best training [they] have ever attended..."

**CornerHouse has openings in the following upcoming training courses:**

**Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Interview Training**

- February 11-15, 2008
- March 10-14, 2008
- May 5-9, 2008

**Advanced Forensic Interview Training**

- February 18-22, 2008

Please contact Sandy Heitkamp at 612-813-8310 or [sandy.heitkamp@childrensmn.org](mailto:sandy.heitkamp@childrensmn.org) for more information or to register.

**CornerHouse Renovation**

**By Tom Frost**

On Tuesday October 16, 2007, CornerHouse held an Open House to celebrate the successful completion of a major renovation project. The project involved replacing carpet

- Food/Snacks for Trainees:  
subway sandwiches, pizza,  
chips, etc...
- Paper, Envelopes, Business  
Cards
- Gift Certificates for  
Volunteers
- Candy Land Game
- Carpet Cleaning:  
6,143 sq. ft. needs quarterly  
cleaning
- Color Copier
- Aquarium Maintenance
- Magazine Subscriptions
- Washable Markers

### Remodel Photos



Family Reception area before.



Family Reception area after.



Training Lobby before.



Training Lobby after.

throughout the entire building - over 8000 square feet. Additionally, doors, walls, plumbing and electrical outlets were moved. Earlier this spring insulation and ventilation were added to the attic to reduce heat loss and ice dams.

Sadly, of course, child abuse did not slow down during the period of renovation and CornerHouse needed to continue to conduct forensic interviews during the project. This was made possible by the generous donation of office space by Children's Hospitals and Clinics in the Medical Office Building in the 2500 block of Chicago Ave., Minneapolis. During August, CornerHouse staff moved videotaping equipment and furniture to the Children's suite of offices and conducted forensic interviews at this location. When the project was complete, staff returned the equipment and furniture to CornerHouse. In addition to the renovated space, CornerHouse was the recipient of a generous donation of framed artwork and newly painted office and common area walls.

The completion of the project culminated upgrades begun last year with the purchase of completely new training room furniture.

At the Open House, Executive Director Tom Frost thanked Lana Weber, project team leader, and others, including staff, for the vision, energy and commitment that made the project possible. In total CornerHouse received over \$75,000 in donated labor and materials. The following companies' donated to the renovation:

- A & M Business Interior Services (an Omni Workspace company)
- Art Holdings
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics
- Harris Companies
- Hirshfield's
- Interior Construction Services (an Omni Workspace company)
- Kraus-Anderson Construction Company
- Northeast Insulation
- P&D Mechanical
- Parsons Electric
- Richfield/Bloomington Eagles #3208
- Sherwin Williams
- Tandus
- Target Commercial Interiors

### For Professionals

**Please use the links below to access articles authored by CornerHouse staff:**

Forensic Interviews of Children Who Have Developmental Disabilities Part 1 of 2  
[www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_vol\\_19\\_number\\_1\\_2006.pdf](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_vol_19_number_1_2006.pdf)

Forensic Interviews of Children Who Have Developmental Disabilities Part 2 of 2  
[www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_vol\\_19\\_number\\_2\\_2006.pdf](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_vol_19_number_2_2006.pdf)

Indicators of a Healthy Multidisciplinary Team  
[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/han\\_newsletter\\_winter\\_2005.pdf](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/han_newsletter_winter_2005.pdf)

Key Factors in Forensic Interviews with Native

American Children

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_vol\\_18\\_number\\_6\\_2005.pdf](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_vol_18_number_6_2005.pdf)

Forensic Interview Room Set-up

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/han\\_newsletter\\_fall\\_2004.pdf](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/han_newsletter_fall_2004.pdf)

Drawings in Forensic Interviews of Children

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_volume\\_16\\_number\\_3\\_2003.html](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_volume_16_number_3_2003.html)

Using Interpreters in Forensic Interviews

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_volume\\_15\\_number\\_12\\_2002.html](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_volume_15_number_12_2002.html)

The Use of Anatomical Diagrams in Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviews

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_volume\\_15\\_number\\_5\\_2002.html](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_volume_15_number_5_2002.html)

Using Anatomical Dolls In Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviews

[http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update\\_volume\\_13\\_number\\_8\\_2000.html](http://www.ndaa-apri.org/publications/newsletters/update_volume_13_number_8_2000.html)

**Also see the recent article written by former CornerHouse Executive Director, Amy Russell in the Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy:**  
Russell, A. (2006). Best practices in child forensic interviews: Interview instructions and truth-lie discussions. *Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy*, 28(1), 99-130.

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**Sincerely,**

CornerHouse Staff

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