

Bringing domestic abuse out in the open

Battered women's shelter going public in hopes of community support

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Waukesha — When a new shelter for battered women opens in Waukesha, it will give women and their children a place to heal, regroup and start over.

But not to hide.

In a move aimed at putting the issue of domestic violence squarely in the public eye, the Women's Center in Waukesha plans to open

southeastern Wisconsin's first public shelter.

No longer will the location be kept secret — not even from the perpetrators of violence.

Domestic violence shelters nationwide are stepping out of the shadows, shedding the privacy that had been closely guarded in most communities as a way of preventing more violence against women and children.

"There has been a real change in attitudes," said Juley Fulcher of the Denver-based National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. "There is something to be said for

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