Dear editor:

As our nation debates what is needed to circumvent the tragedies of violence, one proven strategy is to offer care and support to the victims. By advocating and sheltering the victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, our communities provide an avenue to heal and rebuild from devastation. When our communities support the Crisis Center we all empower those victimized and deny sanction to the offenders.

The outpouring of support and care demonstrated through gifts and donations to the Crisis Center client-families through this past holiday season was so generous that, as the board of directors for this agency, we are truly humbled. Many Santas walked through our door laden with toys, food, clothes, beautiful quilts and blankets. Payless Shoes, the staffs of the Veterans' Hospital and Victoria's Secret, shoppers at Conestoga Mall and Viaero Wireless, the Abate motorcycle organization and sponsors, and the St. Stephens Episcopal Church parishioners willing gave gifts from their hearts to families they may never know.

Alan Usher donated the use of B.I.G. Premiere Limousines and a significant amount of advertising through GI Family Radio stations for our first-ever Lights and Limos fundraiser. In the same spirit, numerous ticket buyers overpaid for their seats and corporate sponsors made donations to defray supplemental costs connected to this event and downtown eateries provided bighearted discounts to participants. To you all, we are grateful.

Donations to the Crisis Center validate the importance of our work and inspire us to continue our mission. However, your gifts send an even greater statement of care and devotion to our clients and the communities we serve.

Crisis Center, Inc.
Jordan Allen, chairman
on behalf of Board of Directors