



The next meeting of the Norwich Safety Net Team
will be held on:

TUESDAY, September 11, 2007
12:30 PM

DIME SAVINGS BANK
COMMUNITY ROOM
ROUTE 82
NORWICH

The featured speaker will be Claire Silva, Executive Director of Bethsaida Community, Inc. For over 20 years, Bethsaida has provided housing for women. Currently Bethsaida has 2 programs: Katie Blair House, which provides transitional housing for women for up to two years, and Flora O'Neil apartments which provides permanent supportive housing.

No woman chooses to be homeless. Most of the women who walk through Bethsaida Community's doors have experienced extreme trauma in their lives from domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. These women many times have tried to forget their past through drugs and alcohol and may have developed mental health issues. The support they receive through Bethsaida, gives them "a hope, a home, a family" and they are eventually able to live independently as productive citizens.

Claire is also the author of [A Child's Heart Speaks: Surviving Sexual Abuse](#) and has been a guest speaker on national radio and various communities. Through her family's story and national interviews with adult survivors, Claire wrote [A Child's Heart Speaks](#) to empower survivors, support parents, and assist professionals in understanding the complexities of sexual abuse.