

# **Margarette Truschel, Founding Member /Executive Director of Oasis Women's Center, Named Alton Halloween Parade Marshal**

by Dan Brannan, Content Director  
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ALTON – Alton Halloween Parade officials announced Monday that Margarette Truschel, founding member and executive director of the Oasis Women's Center, is this year's Halloween Parade Marshal. The parade is set for 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 31, in Downtown Alton.

Margarette Trushel is a founding member of the Oasis Women's Center. She was a volunteer for three years and has been the Executive Director of the agency for the past 40 years. She has been a member of many organizations through those years and is currently a Board member of a federal project-the Intimate Partner Violence Intervention Project, a member of the Operations Committee for the statewide Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Chair of the Eva A. McDonald Women's History Coalition here in Madison County, and is a member of Zonta, an international women's organization.

She has received many awards including the Jefferson National Award for Public Service, the Human Dignity Award from the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Peacemaking Award from the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy, and the Liberty Bell Award from the Madison County Bar Association.

She will be escorted in the parade by Reverend George Humbert Jr. who is a Pastor Emeritus of College Avenue Presbyterian Church and a member of the Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery. He has been a supporter of Oasis Women's Center since its inception and currently serves as Board President.

"While I was growing up, my family always attended the Halloween parade," Margarette said. "My Dad wasn't crazy about getting us through the traffic, but we were always so excited to see the parade; my Mom and he always made sure we got there. This is a fun way to continue that family tradition and I am grateful for the honor."

## **MARGARETTE TRUSHEL BIO**

**B.A. HUMAN SERVICES**

**B.S. SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**M.S. COUNSELING/HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

**TWO WORKSHOPS AT HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL ON VICTIMIZATION AND ABUSE**

**CERTIFIED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROFESSIONAL**

**43 YEARS WITH OASIS WOMEN'S CENTER IN ALTON:**

**3 YEARS AS A VOLUNTEER / FOUNDING MEMBER**

**39 YEARS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

42 YEARS PARTICIPATION IN THE ILLINOIS COALITION AGAINST  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

MEMBER OF THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
STATEWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5 YEARS AS THE ILLINOIS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL  
COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HAS PRESENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS AND  
PROVIDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL  
LEVELS FOR OVER 35 YEARS

CO-FOUNDING MEMBER AND CHAIR OF CHAIRS OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION COUNCIL; CHAIR OF THE  
INTERVENTION, PREVENTION, AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE  
COUNCIL

CURRENT BOARD MEMBER OF THE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
INTERVENTION PROJECT

**RECIPIENT OF THESE AWARDS:**

ALICE PAUL AWARD FROM METRO-EAST NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF  
WOMEN

YWCA WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARD

HUMAN DIGNITY AWARD FROM ILLINOIS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE

LIBERTY BELL AWARD FROM MADISON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

GOLDEN BOOK OF DEEDS AWARD FROM ALTON EXCHANGE CLUB

JEFFERSON NATIONAL AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

ILLINOIS TREASURER JUDY BAAR TOPINKA'S 2006 WOMAN TO WOMAN  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD

2013 PEACEMAKING AWARD FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF GIDDINGS-  
LOVEJOY

50TH ANNIVERSARY ZONTA SPIRIT / SERVICE AWARD 2015

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD FROM CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

**ACTIVE MEMBER OF NUMEROUS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:**

CHAIR OF THE EVA A. MCDONALD WOMEN'S HISTORY COALITION

PAST EVANGELICAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ALTON AREA CHURCH  
WOMEN UNITED

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ELDER / STEPHEN MINISTER