2019 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

Working together for a Hudson Valley free of violence in all its forms.





24-HOUR HOTLINE 845-562-5340

fearlesshv.org

Today we become **FEARLESS** RECLAIMING OUR SAFETY

Today Safe Homes of Orange County becomes **Fearless**!

Our new name reflects our growth as an agency that started as a hotline and shelter to one determined to play our part in confronting inequality and shaping a just community, while helping victims and survivors of intersecting forms of violence and abuse heal.

Our unchanging vision is of a Hudson Valley free of violence in all its forms.

MISSION

The mission of Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc. (formerly known as Safe Homes of Orange County) is to build an informed, just, and accountable society so all people can experience supportive and safe relationships free from abuse, exploitation, and oppression.

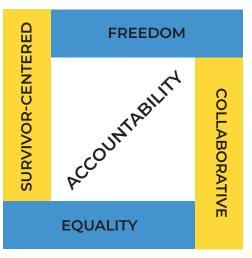
We do this by education, prevention, advocacy, and providing comprehensive services, including shelter to victims and survivors of interpersonal violence, human trafficking, sexual violence, and other types of crime victimization.

VISION

Fearless! envisions being the leading authority on interpersonal abuse and violence, collaborating with other agents of change in dismantling inter-sectional individual and systemic oppression.

VALUES

FREEDOM safety, dignity, respect **SURVIVOR-CENTERED** autonomy, agency, confidentiality, compassion **EQUALITY** anti-oppressive, intersectional, equity **COLLABORATIVE** education, prevention **ACCOUNTABILITY** commitment to all



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Each year we hope that the toll of intimate partner violence will lessen and the need for our services will decline. Each year we hope there will not be another woman murdered, yet in 2019, the lives of three women were stolen by current or former intimate partners: Jasminn Emmanuel, Amanda Pumillo, and Deborah Waldinger.

Each October at our Annual Celebration of Hope Gala, we honor the lives of the women murdered in our community since 2004 by reading aloud their names and lighting candles in remembrance. As The Clothesline Project travels throughout the region during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, white shirts bearing the names of those who have been murdered are hung on the line front and center. We will not allow their names to be forgotten and we will not stop working towards the social change required to prevent adding new names to the list.

While we have no control over the abusive individuals who harm and sometimes kill their intimate partners, we do have control over how our community chooses to address these issues. We will always support and honor victims and survivors; moving forward, we will also rise up to assume a role of leadership in confronting the attitudes, apathy, and invisible chains of oppression that allow space to exist for all forms of violence.

This past year our organization engaged in a formal strategic repositioning to set a path for moving forward in this role. We announced for the first time at our Celebration of Hope Gala that Safe Homes of Orange County had become **Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc**.

This is not just a shiny new coat of paint: it is a pledge to our founders, our partners, our supporters, and most importantly to the survivors and victims we serve that Fearless! will center our work from a place that requires everyone to play an active role in ending domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking in our community. **Fearless!** will be the voice when others are silenced. We will speak up, take action, and demand change every single day. We will require this of ourselves first, working to understand how to achieve these goals and endeavor to grow fully into the name given to us. Simultaneously we will look to our partners, supporters, and community to grow with us and **work together for a Hudson Valley free from violence in all its forms.**

Survivors and victims have extraordinary courage and strength. They face scrutiny and a society that shifts responsibility and often accountability onto their shoulders. The impossible choices they face too often have no desirable outcome. They survive warzones of perpetual fear that rage behind closed doors. They navigate systems that were not designed for them, often leading to re-victimization. If they access safety, they are expected to simply move on, co-parent effectively with coercive and abusive ex-partners, and quickly establish economic self-sufficiency. If they have not yet been able to safely exit the abusive relationship, they will face a barrage of myths and misconceptions around why don't they just leave ("It's not that they don't leave; it's that we don't know what leaving looks like", writes Rachel Louise Snyder, author of the 2019 book No Visible Bruises. Leaving is a process, not an event.). If survivors and victims access safety at the cost of having to choose between wanting to live and knowing death is imminent, they face a justice system that does not understand the environment created by everyday terrorism. If they are murdered, their identity will be lost in the narrative created about the abuser, and even in death, victims will be shouldered with what they could or should have done. These false narratives **must stop** so that survivors and victims are not further silenced.

Fearless! is not a polite charitable organization—it is a social justice movement with lives to save, attitudes to challenge, systems to shake up, and old ideas to reject. This call to action is for us as an organization as well as for those around us to operate in solidarity with a commitment to educate ourselves and openness to change. Regardless of our name, survivors and victims will always find programs such as ours through word of mouth referrals, or in these modern times, a quick internet search. We are excited and ready for what this new positioning will mean for our organization and know we can count on each and every one of you to join us.

A future free from all forms of violence and abuse depends on us.

In Solidarity Kellyan

PREVENTION, EDUCATION, AND AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

Fearless! offers free education in both English and Spanish on issues surrounding teen dating violence, violence prevention, human trafficking, and healthy relationships to community groups, schools, workplaces, law enforcement agencies, healthcare, government, and human service organizations. Trained educators design presentations or workshops according to the needs and characteristics of each group or audience.















On **February 9, 2019,** we announced the winner of our 5th Annual **"Safe Love is..." Art Contest. 30 students** from grades 6-12 across Orange County submitted artwork expressing their vision and voice in ending teen-dating violence.

On March 21, 2019, Fearless! hosted the 6th Annual "Love Shouldn't Hurt" Youth Summit at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh. Over 90 student participants from six schools came together to achieve the knowledge and skills needed to advocate for equality and healthy relationships, as well as the tools to combat gender violence in their home communities.

In July and August, Fearless! Youth Educators led the 8th Annual Summer Youth Leadership Academy for students ages 14-17.

With support from the Orange County Youth Bureau and the Sullivan County Youth Bureau, Fearless! offered three separate week-long academies in Newburgh, Port Jervis, and Monticello, with a total of 32 youth participating. Youth exercised and enhanced their leadership skills while gaining knowledge and participating in conversations on teen dating violence, equality, safety, respect, healthy boundaries, consent, messages from the media, systems of privilege and oppression, bystander empowerment, effective communication, what makes a true leader, and how to make a difference in their own community. Youth were challenged to think outside the box, to challenge themselves, and to challenge others.

In November, our 2nd Annual **"I Can Make** Change" Teen Essay Contest was held with the theme, **"Exploring and Altering Perspectives."** Alex McDermott, a Junior at NFA Main, won first place.

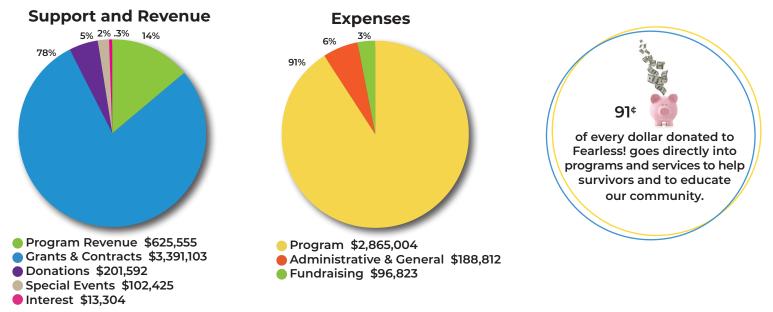
In January of 2019, with additional funding from the Orange County Youth Bureau and in partnership with the Merakey Center for Hope and HONOR's "A Friend's House" Youth Shelter, Fearless! launched an Anti-Human Trafficking program for youth. The Fearless! Anti-Trafficking Project Coordinator and Anti-Trafficking Advocate are trained to facilitate the Lovel46 Not a #Number educational program, an interactive, five-module curriculum designed to teach youth how to protect themselves from human trafficking and exploitation through information, critical thinking and skill development. The curriculum is presented in a manner that inspires youth to make safe choices and utilize the healthy support systems in the community by not focusing on one particular aspect of the issue, but instead focusing on respect, empathy, individual strengths and the relationship between personal and societal pressures that create or increase vulnerability. Lovel46 is designed to impact youth regardless of where they are on the risk spectrum. It considers all youth inherently vulnerable but also bearers of great potential and resilience.

I Am Little Red is a short film used to inform youth around the impact of human trafficking. Follow up activities, and interactive discussion support the film being a introductory program to anti-trafficking awareness. The Fearless! Anti-Trafficking Project Coordinator and Anti-Trafficking Advocate have utilized the film and program in schools with students and educators and also for community events partnering with the Junior League of Orange County and Merakey's Center for Hope.

On April 30, 2019, Fearless! along with SUNY Orange Cultural Affairs and the Orange County Human Rights Commission presented I Am Jane Doe: A Conference on Sex Trafficking at the SUNY Orange Newburgh campus. The day began with a screening of the documentary I Am Jane Doe, which follows the journey of several sex trafficking victims and their mothers. Special guests Nacole Svendgard and her daughter, whose family's story is one of several told in the film, spoke about their experiences since the film's release and the progress they've made through their activist work against the systems perpetuating sex trafficking. Nacole and her daughter joined an afternoon panel discussion of local and state representatives who shared around the anti-trafficking work being done at local, state, and national levels. Detective Trevor Lord of the City of Newburgh PD, and Fearless! RRRP Coordinator Joanna Janik. led the final panel of the day: a case study of recent sex trafficking in Orange County.

2019 FINANCIALS

TOTAL AGENCY BUDGET \$3,115,412



In 2017, Fearless! was awarded \$3.85 million dollars under the HHAP to build a new 20 bed facility for victims and their children. Oversight of the new project is being done by OTDA. In 2019, Fearless! was able to begin receiving funds from the contract and our 2019 financial report reflects this increased revenue. The cost of construction is capitalized and not included in expenses.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Fearless! comprehensive support services and outreach programs are sustained by the dedication of our volunteers, the solidarity of our community, and the vision of our funders and government leaders. All gifts, big and small, move our work forward. The following list represents gifts of \$50 or more received during 2019. Please contact us if you feel your name was inadvertently left out.

VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNSHIPS

In 2019, Fearless! Volunteers and Interns contributed a total of **2,150** hours of service.

VOLUNTEERS

INTERNS

Stephanie Berra Carrol Coleman Beverly Czumak Jessica Dolata Stacy Johnson Saishree "Kiki" Rao Brittany Raphael Alexa Bryden Victoria Catalano Hasion Gaston Kelsey Millan Troiasha Nyce Colleen O'Dowd Jackie Waters



GOVERNMENT

NYS Department of Health

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence NYS Office of Children and Family Services NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance NYS Office of Victim Services NYS Assemblyperson Jonathan G. Jacobson NYS Senator Jennifer Metzger Orange County Department of Social Services Orange County District Attorney's Office Orange County Youth Bureau Police Chiefs' Association Of Orange County Sullivan County Department of Family Services Sullivan County Youth Bureau

















FOUNDATIONS

ILT Louis Allen Scholarship & Community Foundation AmazonSmile Foundation America Online Giving Foundation Community Foundation of Orange & Sullivan Dyson Foundation M&T Charitable Foundation Michael & Erin Martucci Family Foundation National Network to End DV Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Warwick Savings Foundation

COMMUNITY

1199 SEIU - NYS Political Action Fund Action Plus Project Management AFLAC AJW Architectural Products Alma Yoga Anchor Equipment Rentals Anew Dawn Hair Studio Apple2Orange Realty Armstead Mechanical, Inc. Ball Corp Be Bhakti, LLC Beacon Rising Women's Choir **Bellvale** Community Better Homes & Gardens - Rand Realty Billco The Blarney Station bruyn designed, LLC Calmoseptine, Inc. Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, Ulster Catholic Daughters of the Americas Central Hudson Church of St. Stephen, Warwick Clear Key II, LLC Comb Salon Studio Crossfit Remade **Crossroads Billing Services** Crunch Fitness Middletown Crystal Run Healthcare Crystal Run Transformation Services Crystal Run Village, Inc. Curves Monroe & UFit **EILEEN FISHER** English Rose Day School Etched In Time Engraving, Inc. First Presbyterian Church Campbell Hall First Reformed Church of Walden Francis J. Feely Charitable Fund Girl Scout Troop 563, Monroe Girl Scout Troop 599, Chester Girls on the Run Hudson Valley Glojé Salon and Spa Golden Financial Services Debt Settlement Gold's Gym of Newburgh & Middletown Goshen United Methodist Church Granite Barbell

Greater Cornwall Chamber of Commerce Gurda & Brady, PLLC Hamptonburgh Seniors Harriet Earnest, CPA Highland Mills United Methodist Church Home Depot Montgomery Distribution Center Home Inspections - For a Cause Horizon Family Medical Group Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation Hudson Valley Credit Union Hudson Valley Ghostbusters Huron Consulting Group, Inc. **IBM** Employees Increase Your Visibility, LLC Independent Insurance Agents Association of Orange County Indigo Beauty Lounge Jacklyn Rose Skin Care, LLC Jacobowitz & Gubits, LLP J-Hop Foods Corp. J.O. Realty Group, Inc. Johnson Foley & Cirigliano, P.C. JP Packaging, LLC Katmarie Salon KVI Uniforms & Equipment Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., Division 5 OC Mary of the Gael Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. Division 6 Saint ITA Laerdal Larkin, Ingrassia & Tepermayster, LLP Law Offices of Albert P. Pacione, Jr., PLLC Learning Land Daycare Legal Services of the Hudson Valley Liberty Rotary Club Lions Club of Warwick, Inc. LoBiondo Law Offices M&T Bank Main Street Cutters Maltk Enterprises, LLC Meadow Hill Reformed Church Mediacom Middletown Chemists, Inc. Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union Monroe-Woodbury Rotary Club Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital Monticello Fire Dept Moxie Sol Boutique & Studio Nea Naturals Newburgh City Court Employees Nugent & Haeussler, P.C. NYTW Beauty Bar O'Keefe & McCann, LLP Orange & Rockland Orange Bank & Trust Co. Orange County Government Employees Orange County Partnership Orange Regional Medical Center Otisville Lions Club Painters Tavern, LTD Pentagon Federal Credit Union Perfect Comfort, Inc. Production Resource Group Red Door Thrift Shop



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