

## To Our **FEARLESS!** Community,

To say that 2020 has been a challenging time period would be an understatement. It has been over 20 weeks since our communities, as we knew them, forever changed. This global health crisis has taken lives, changed lives, and forever altered our wellness plans moving forward. Access to services, support, and the ability for victims to make informed choices around safety, risk, and danger have been greatly impacted by the necessary restrictions put in place to help reduce the spread. Victims were forced to shelter in place with abusers who continued to terrorize their families, and there was very limited, if any, relief available. While criminal and civil justice systems often are a very small part of a victim's needs, the inability to fully access these systems over the last several months will have a long-lasting impact on the lives of adult and children survivors.

We often learn a lot about one another in some of our most challenging times. As an organization, we needed to address the new barriers. While working remotely presented additional challenges, it also required us to move quickly on technology platforms we had never explored previously. Fearless! created a webchat service, developed online support groups, and telehealth appointments for our therapeutic counseling program. The education team developed and implemented online teaching lessons, curricula, and ways to connect like never before. Solutions must be found for victims to connect no matter what, because intimate partner violence and human trafficking do not stop, even when there is a global health crisis. As a community partner, it was essential to ensure our relationships and programs were not interrupted. The support from the County Executive and all of our collaborative partners never wavered. In many ways, it strengthened and again showed the importance of working together across disciplines to ensure our community's wellness and safety.

The inequities in this country around race, class, and gender took center stage as a result of the health crisis. Over the last several months, we all witnessed the murders of Ahmaud Abernathy, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. There is no place for hate and racism, and the only option right now is to demand change. Lives have been stolen, mothers are without their sons and daughters, and Black communities live in fear. Systemic racism is multi-dimensional and adaptable, and therefore requires a multi-level response that looks at the impact individually, systemically, and globally. It runs deep and must be dug out at its root.

History cannot be changed, it has already happened, BUT we have the ability to work in the present and never repeat the harm, violence, and dehumanization of marginalized people and communities in the future. White supremacy and its culture must be eradicated.

The protests that we are all bearing witness to are a necessary response as the murders have not stopped, change has not happened. Names continue to be added to a long list of Black individuals killed. Pain, anger, and outrage must happen as silence will only continue to rot humanity. We collectively stand with those using their voices, and taking to the streets to demand change happen. It will take all of us to dismantle systemic racism, and in this very moment around the world, a seismic shift is taking place.

We must unite all communities, acknowledge the historic harm that has been done, and find a way to do things differently moving forward. Police brutality, inequities in the criminal justice system, unconscious bias, and mass incarceration must be addressed, and sweeping comprehensive reform is required.

Addressing COVID-19 and systemic and structural racism is a multi-crisis for our country right now. We must commit to doing the work and moving through this together. This will take all of us. It will challenge us, it will not be easy, and our humanity is resting on it. What we do right now will determine our history for future generations. Let's build together, for everyone, with everyone.

### FOLLOW US



[fearlesshv.org](http://fearlesshv.org)

**24-Hour Hotline**  
845-562-5340

**Business Office**  
845-562-5365

*In Solidarity*  
*Kellyann*

Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier,  
Fearless! Executive Director

# FEARLESS!

## COVID-19 Update

*get help*  
**WITHOUT  
SAYING  
A WORD**

WEB CHAT NOW AVAILABLE  
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8AM - 8PM

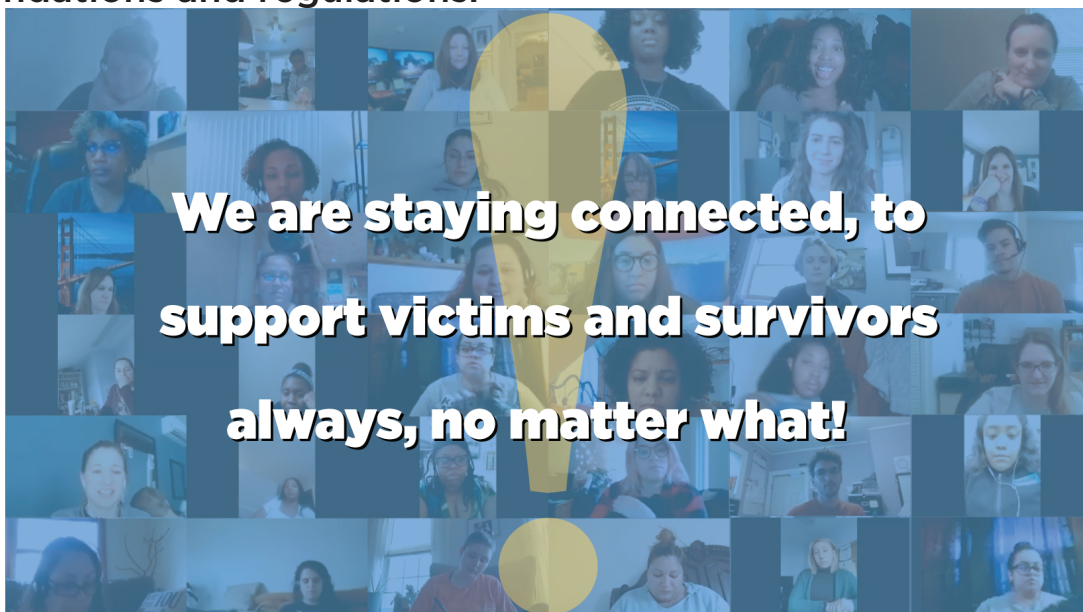
We are happy to announce that we are seeing clients in person again in Newburgh and Monticello Newburgh by appointment only Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. As well as seeing clients through community and home visits with collaborative partners. We ask that clients call the hotline to make an appointment. Clients will be asked to sign consent forms for COVID-19 contact tracing. Masks must be worn and temperatures will be taken before entering the office.

Fearless! will still be offering services virtually, over the hotline, and by webchat. Clients do not need an appointment for pantry items but will need to call the hotline to tell an advocate what they would like from the pantry, and those items will be brought downstairs to the client. We can also deliver items, curbside delivery, if possible.

All Fearless! advocates co-located within Criminal and Civil Justice systems (police departments, child welfare, social services) continue to work with our partners remotely and in-person to ensure victims have the support they need as they navigate these systems during this global pandemic. All court appearances are being supported and our partnership with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley is operational; more information and referrals can be provided by calling our hotline.

Our Education and Prevention Team is working throughout Orange and Sullivan County offering online workshops, presentations, consultations, and more. For more information, please contact [Zoë Mahan, Education Manager](mailto:zmahan@fearlesshv.org) at [zmahan@fearlesshv.org](mailto:zmahan@fearlesshv.org) or [845-562-5365](tel:845-562-5365), extension 131.

We are all in this together and want to play our part in keeping everyone in our community as safe as we can, and will continue to monitor all recommendations and regulations.



# IMPACT AT A GLANCE

March - June 2020

---

**7,376**  
Advocacy Services

**2,180**  
Hotline Calls

**840**  
Nights of Safety

**1,072**  
Adults & Children  
Serviced

**1,550**  
Safety Plans

**309**  
Therapeutic  
Counseling  
Sessions



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!



Fearless! is incredibly grateful to Carrol and Beverly for the impact they have had on survivors lives over the last several years while volunteering at the agency. They care deeply about the issues Fearless! works to address, and about social change. Every single day they arrived at the agency it was clear they actively enjoyed the work they were doing.

Every task they completed had lasting effect within the agency. Whether they were ensuring our food pantry was organized, delivering donations, folding brochures, or supporting advocates, they always brought such positivity and care into the work space. Carrol and Beverly have become family, part of the fabric of our organization, and we are going to miss them very much.

We would never be able to do the work we do here at Fearless! without volunteers, and Carrol and Beverly made such a huge impact in such a short amount of time. Words cannot express how thankful we are that they chose us.

*Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*



# Be a Light Campaign

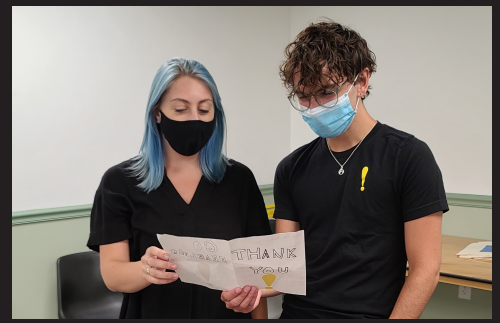
---

In April, we created the "Be a Light" video campaign to help bring positivity to our COVID-19 impacted world. Fearless! advocates and board members created a 3-minute video filled with words and images of inspiration, to serve as a reminder that even during these unprecedented times, we are not alone. Along with the video, limited edition shirts and sweatshirts were created and sold.

"Be a Light" was co-written by Thomas Rhett, Josh Miller, Josh Thompson, and Matt Dragstrem and performed by Thomas Rhett, Reba McEntire, Hillary Scott, Chris Tomlin, and Keith Urban. We thank these artists for their uplifting words and urging us to seek out hope and positivity with their inspirational lyrics. Let this serve as a reminder that we are all in this together and that **you are not alone**.



# SUMMER *Youth* LEADERSHIP! ACADEMY!



## Teens Tackle Racism, Domestic Violence

By Olivia Leach

July 21, 2020 • SPECTRUM NEWS



**FUNDING PROVIDED BY:**  
Orange County Youth Bureau

As the nation grapples with tough conversations on race and equality a group of teens in the Fearless! Summer Youth Leadership Academy are taking on those tough questions to build a healthier society.

Teen dating violence, human trafficking, racism, and oppression are just some of the topics these teens will tackle over the four-week academy taking place both virtually and in socially distanced classrooms this year because of COVID-19.

"I think it's really easy to have the conversations about the topics but what's difficult is okay now what do I do about it; I'm seeing these problems in my community now what?" said Zoë Mahan the education manager for Fearless! Hudson Valley.

Teens from across the Hudson Valley meet with educators twice a week on Zoom and once a week in person to discuss the issues with their peers and engage in projects that help them learn how to tackle issues like race and equality in their communities.

"A lot of my friends are of color so it made me realize the injustice that's going on even if I don't experience it myself so I want to be able to use my privilege to help them and everybody else in my community," said Ryann Chatfield a junior at Cornwall Central High School

Each student must design a community action project by the end of the program, aimed at creating change in their community. Dahlia Jones wants to bring Fearless HV educators into her high school this year to help teach more teens about domestic abuse and oppression.

"We kind of talk about ways to help the black lives matter movement and how to help any people who are being oppressed nowadays so we talk about how to be an LGBTQ ally, how to be a feminist," said Dahlia Jones a junior at Cornwall Central High School.

Jones hopes to take these lessons with her as she pursues her dream job.

"I really want to become either a writer or a journalist so I'm hoping every step I take whether it's this leadership program or having them come to my school is helping me get there and be a leader and kind of write the things that need to be heard," said Jones.

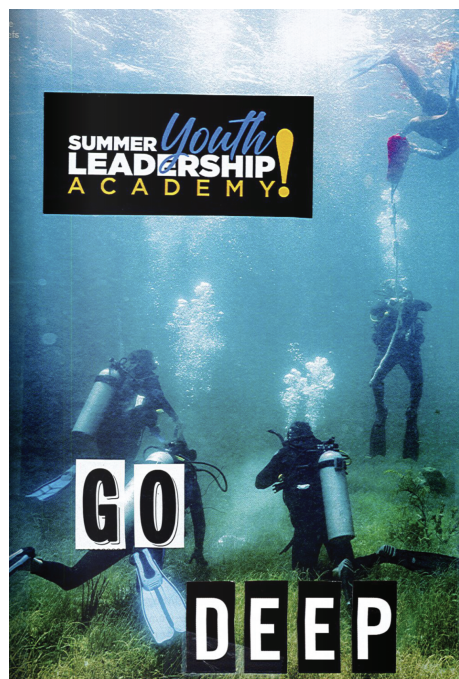
**To see the article and watch the video click here.**

Our 9th annual Summer Youth Leadership Academy undoubtedly looked a lot different than previous years due to COVID-19. After careful consideration and deliberation, Fearless! decided to host our Summer Youth Leadership Academy (SYLA) differently than we ever have before. Our students' health and safety are our top priority, and our education team has designed this 'new' academy to inspire and empower students remotely and in-person.

Previously SYLA took place over one week; our 'new' virtual SYLA spanned over four weeks. Two days a week, students joined Zoom for live workshops with our educators, and small group discussions and activities. Students also joined Fearless! educators in person during office hours for more in-depth conversation, team building, and hands-on activities, once per week.

Throughout the academy, students had the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations, learn, and develop a plan to create change in their communities. Our educators worked tirelessly to curate exciting and new materials to keep our students engaged and help them transform from a bystander to an upstander.

Each year students from the academy make a self-published mini-magazine (also called a zine, pronounced "zeen"). This project is a reflection of what students learned and experienced throughout the academy. The Zine created by SYLA Class of 2020 is now live on our Website, check it out!



**ABUSE CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE. WE ARE *here* TO HELP.**

**FEARLESS!**  
RECLAIMING OUR SAFETY.

@fearlesshv  

**CHECK OUT  
OUR NEW  
BROCHURE  
ONLINE!**

# WE CAN BE HEROES

# 5K GOES VIRTUAL

5K + 10K Run/Walk • 10mi + 20mi Bike Ride  
**October 10th - 18th, 2020**

**Be a hero for victims and survivors of abuse, by raising funds and bringing awareness to your community.**

- RAISE \$\$\$
- WIN PRIZES
- SCORE OFFICIAL FEARLESS! GEAR
- HELP SURVIVORS

Tag Your Photos  
**#FearlessHeroes**

  @fearlessHV



Every step, mile, and dollar makes an impact.



**Virtual Run/Walk/Ride - \$25**  
**Kids Virtual 1 Mile - Free**

[runsignup.com/fearlesshv](https://runsignup.com/fearlesshv)



**FEARLESS!**  
RECLAIMING OUR SAFETY

OUR SPONSORS:

 **Crystal Run**<sup>®</sup>  
Healthcare

  
ORANGE COUNTY  
IRONWORKS, LLC

 **Habitat**  
for Humanity<sup>®</sup>  
of Greater Newburgh