

2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



Creating Safety, Reclaiming Equality, Pursuing Justice.

24-Hour-Hotline: 845.562.5340

Toll-Free: 1.888.503.HOPE (4673)

A Message From Our Executive Director



On behalf of Safe Homes of Orange County, I am pleased to present our 2015 Annual Impact Report. The Annual Impact Report takes a look at the services we provided, our fiscal health, and acknowledges the amazing donors and funders who supported us throughout the year.

In 2016, Safe Homes will continue to offer all the highlighted services and seek opportunities to enhance them for the safety of our clients and the advancement of our mission. The past year has been extremely busy and exciting. While the need for services has not decreased and the impact of domestic violence, teen dating violence, and human trafficking is felt far beyond the county lines, we have been very fortunate to receive funding to expand our services to sexually exploited youth. In late fall, the Orange County Department of Social Services received funding to address commercially and sexually exploited youth in Orange County. Safe Homes was originally able to support a part-time position with this funding, however as we move into 2016 we are fortunate and grateful to be expanding the position to full-time. This position will be co-located in the Department of Social Services and will work collaboratively with many agencies within the county to identify, intervene, and support vulnerable youth in our community. In addition to providing direct support to victims, this position will chair the Safe Harbor Task Force and provide training throughout the County. Stay on the lookout for upcoming trainings and awareness building campaigns throughout the year.

In October Safe Homes received funding to expand our therapeutic counseling services from one full-time therapist to two full-time therapists. This could not have come at a better time. This service is relatively new to our agency and the program grew quickly. The additional funding from the Office for Victims of Services (OVS) and Senator Bonacic allowed Safe Homes to expand the project, and increase the number of clients that could benefit from this service.

Safe Homes is excited to report that we are closer than ever to moving forward with a new shelter in Orange County. As we mentioned in last year's annual report, this will add 20 additional beds to our current 17. As our capability increases, so will our operating costs and our need for additional, steady financial support. We are going to need your support now more than ever. We are going to need the creative thinking, giving hearts and hands, and voice of the community to bring this all together. We cannot do this work alone and rely deeply on the unwavering support of so many within the community.

It's hard to believe that we will be honoring 30 years of service this October. In so many ways we have come so far from our beginning at the kitchen table of a private home. Yet, the concerns and strategies remain the same: How do we continue to address the growing need for our services? How do we find sustainable, on-going support? What are the most pressing needs of victims? The discussions have evolved over the years and yet there is always one constant that remains the same: no matter what we do--or how we do it--it **must always** be client-centered. It must always represent the voice of the victims and survivors among us. We must always continue to work every day in hopes that one day we will no longer be needed.

I would like to personally thank each and every one of you that supported Safe Homes of Orange County in any way this past year. We know how valuable time is and the financial constraints on so many. Thank you for making Safe Homes and the work that we do your priority. My hope is that this report contributes to a better understanding of the work we do every day and may inspire others to get involved. For now, we walk forward one foot in front of the other, together with each of you, arm in arm. We build our network, we grow our circle.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kellyann".

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Surviving domestic violence can be a daunting, unrelenting journey. We are humbled and honored to serve those who turn to Safe Homes as their passage to safety and a life free from violence and abuse. Here we sample the impact of our work throughout 2015, made possible by our funders and supporters. Safe Homes services are accessible through a variety of **Non-Residential** and **Residential Programs**, which include crisis intervention, risk assessment and safety planning, advocacy, case management, counseling support groups, and much more.

During 2015, **Safe Homes Advocates** provided services to **730** adult clients and **580** children through **Non-Residential Programs**, and **55** adults and **50** children through our **Residential Program** for a total of **4,689** nights of safety in our **17-bed Emergency Shelter**.

Advocacy & Support Services



Thank you for all the help you provided during my stay. I am grateful for everything and can't thank you enough for teaching me how to be a stronger person.

Client exiting Safe Homes shelter

3,070 Hotline Calls offered safety planning and access to support services and resources.

5,507 Supportive Counseling services were provided to victims/survivors, creating **3,165** individualized **Safety Plans**.

15,700 Advocacy Services encompassed the areas of court accompaniment, legal support, law enforcement, medical, mental health, social services, housing, employment, immigration, economic empowerment, and education.

2,259 Emergency Services addressed immediate needs of children and basic needs as food, clothing, personal care, and critical household items.

132 referrals for our **Therapeutic Counseling Program** provided counseling to

92 individuals with **567** sessions being provided.

141 Support Groups were facilitated and offered in English and Spanish.

Community Collaborations

Worked collaboratively with **Child Protective Services** caseworkers on **500** cases involving indicators of domestic violence, reported child abuse and participated in **78** joint home visits.

Partnered with the **District Attorney's Office** to provide assistance on **98** Grand Jury cases, advocated for survivors with Assistant District Attorneys (ADA's) on **302** occasions, and received **36** referrals from ADA's for Safe Homes services.

As part of the **Orange County Safe Harbor Initiative**, in collaboration with the **Department of Social Services** received **58** referrals for youth identified as being at risk or experiencing trafficking (September to December).

Within the **Department of Social Services (DSS)**, the **Domestic Violence Liaison** conducted **267** domestic violence and waiver assessments for applicants of DSS assistance and provided **323** waivers to enable survivors to safely comply with DSS requirements throughout the application process.

In partnership with **Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, Safe Homes Family Justice Center** housed a full-time attorney and paralegal who handled **143 cases**, assisting clients with orders of protection, custody, visitation, divorce, and child and spousal support.

Safe Homes Volunteers contributed a total of **708** hours of service.



Safe Homes is grateful for the commitment we have from the Federal, State, County, and local officials. The above speakers pictured are from our open house and press conference kicking off Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October 2, 2015.

Top left to right: Senator John Bonacic, Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther, and spokesperson Brian Maher with Senator William Larkin

Middle left to right: District Attorney David Hoovler, County Executive Steve Neuhaus, and Assemblyman James Skoufis

Bottom left to right: OC DSS Commissioner Darcie Miller, Mayor Judy Kennedy, and City of Newburgh Police Department Sgt. Rich Carrion

2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

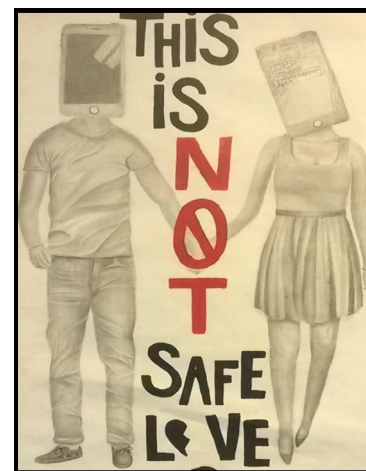
Outreach & Education

Safe Homes offers free education on issues surrounding teen-dating violence, violence prevention, 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, in English and in Spanish.

137 presentations reached **3,373** adults raising awareness on topics such as the dynamics of domestic violence, stalking, technology safety, human trafficking, the impact of domestic violence on children, and domestic violence in the workplace.

Safe Homes **Teen Dating Violence Prevention Program** held **318** age-appropriate presentations reaching **5,128** adolescents and teens. Topics included abusive versus healthy relationships, physical and online bullying, the impact of stereotypes, sexism, bystander intervention, and other cultural-competency themes.

Safe Homes Youth Educators led the 4th annual **Youth Leadership Academy** over two weeks in July for students ages 14-17. With support from the **Orange County Youth Bureau**, Safe Homes offered two academies, one in Newburgh and one in Port Jervis, with a total of **30** Orange County youth participating. During this training 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, communicating effectively, 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.



- Sophia Sburlati

Winner of the 2015 "Safe Love Is ..." Teen Art Show

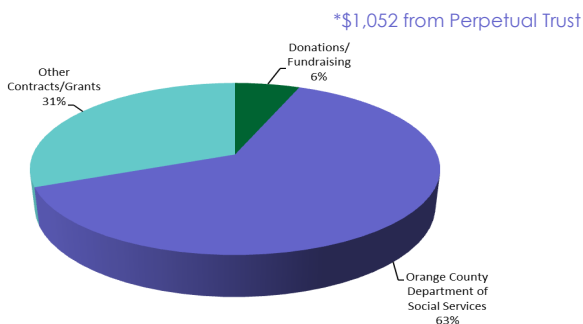
On February 7, 2015 we announced the winner (pictured right) of our 1st annual **Safe Love is ... Art Show and Scholarship Contest**. With the sponsorship of **The Law Office of Benjamin Greenwald**, **39** students from across Orange County (grades 9-12) submitted artwork expressing their vision and voice in ending teen-dating violence for a chance to win the \$500.00 scholarship.

The person on the right side of the image above has a cell phone with a cracked screen and text message from her partner that says, "I'm sorry. I love you. It won't happen again." That seemingly loving apology is often used by an abusive partner to manipulate and control.

Financial Statement

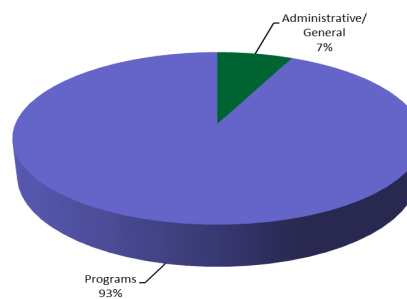
SUPPORT & REVENUE: \$1,738,417

- Program Revenue\$551,505
- Grants & Contracts..... \$1,089,173
- Donations\$60,081
- Special Events.....\$36,557
- Interest*\$1,101



EXPENSES: \$1,653,346

- Program\$1,543,193
- Administrative & General\$98,558
- Fundraising\$11,595



Total Agency Budget: \$1,653,346

93 cents of every dollar donated to Safe Homes goes directly into programs.



Thank you ...

VOLUNTEERS, FUNDERS, DONORS, FRIENDS, & NEIGHBORS

Safe Homes 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.

We gratefully acknowledge all forms of support for the Safe Homes mission and for the individuals and families we serve. All gifts, big and small, move our work forward. The following names represent organizations, groups, and individuals who made monetary or in-kind gifts valued at \$50 or more, during 2015. Please contact us if you feel your name was inadvertently left out. **Thank you.**

VOLUNTEERS

Suzanne Beloise
Antonella Benedict
Tanya Bray
Judith Cady
Alicia D'Amico
Carol Flaitz
Angelyn Galati
Cristal Kadet
Elizabeth Merritt
Mickey Morgano
Mary Randall
Saishree (Kiki) Rao
Michelle Roach
Anne Thoet

CORPORATE

A.C. Israel Enterprises, Inc.
Ball Corporation
Bass/AM Retail Group. Woodbury Commons
Bon Secours Charity Health Systems
COTY Inc. New York
Crystal Run Healthcare
Eileen Fischer, Inc./Retail Division
Fidelity Brokerage Services
Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union
IBM Employee Services Center
M&T Bank
Macy's
Mary K
Mediacom
Mid-Hudson Federal Credit Union
Nationwide Equities Corp.
Orange & Rockland Utilities
Orange Regional Medical Center
Seely & Durland, Inc.
Victoria's Secret
Walmart

GOVERNMENT

Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
County of Orange
NYS Office of Children and Family Services
NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
NYS Office of Victim Services (NYSOVS)
Orange County Department of Social Services
Orange County District Attorney's Office
Orange County Youth Bureau
Police Chiefs' Association of Orange County
Senator John J. Bonacic, NYSDCJS
United Way of Dutchess - Orange Region
United Way of Western CT

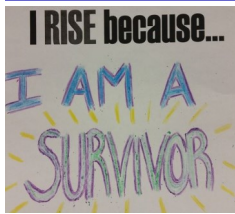
FOUNDATIONS

1st Lt. Louis Allen Foundation
Avon Foundation
Community Foundation of Orange & Sullivan
Dyson Foundation
Verizon Foundation
Warwick Savings Foundation
Yoko Ono Foundation

COMMUNITY

AARP Greater Middletown Chapter
AMVETS Post 2015
Bishop Dunn Memorial School
Bloomingdeals Resale Store
CDA Ct. St. Ann, Mother of Mary #2419
Central High School Key Club
Community Garden of Pine Bush
Creative Children Christian Preschool
CSEA Local 1000
Delancey's
Dr. Michelle Winchester-Vega & Associates
English Rose Day School
Essential Power Systems
FAANNY Organization

First Class Daycare & Learning
Friends of Newburgh Crew, Inc.
Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson
Goshen Acupuncture
Grace United Methodist Church
Hamptonburgh Seniors
Harriet Earnest, CPA
Healthy Transitions 4U
Highland Mills United Methodist Church
Hudson Valley Region MARC, Inc.
Kiwanis Club Chester
Lions Club of Warwick
Lobiondo Law Office
Manju's Beauty Palace
Mima's of Warwick
Montgomery Montessori
Most Holy Trinity Catholic Chapel
Mountainville Methodist Church
NY Association of Nurses Zone 5
OCNY Moms
Otisville Correctional Facility
Otisville Grange #1020
Otisville Lions Club
Painter's Cornwall-on-Hudson
Roe's Orchards
Rotary Club of Port Jervis
Saint Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos Society
St. Anne's Episcopal Church
St. James Episcopal Church
St. Johns Lutheran Church, Middletown
Staff at American Shoring
Staff at Ball Corporation
Staff at Depew Oil
Staff at Global Foundries
Staff at Home Depot
Staff at Mediacom
Staff at Middletown District Attorney
Staff at Orange Ulster/BOCES



Staff at Time Warner Cable
 Staff at Wells Fargo
 Student Association Women's Rugby
 Tedd Cycle
 The Journey Church of Hudson Valley
 The Model "A" Restorers Club
 Tourocom Gender in Medicine Interest Group
 United Presbyterian Church of Middletown
 Vail's Gate United Methodist Church
 Valley Christian Church
 Walden Savings Bank
 Warwick Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Warwick Valley Humane Society & Animal Shelter
 Warwick Valley Rotary Club
 West Point Association of Graduates
 Wild Soul Yoga
 Winona Lake Ladies Auxiliary

Maureen Browning
 Michael Buckley
 Wanda Cabrera
 Marie Cantu
 Debra Carmody
 Katherine Chauncey
 Helen Courtney
 John G. Courtsunis
 Barbara Davis
 Rozelisa Defabiis-Marsh
 Laura Dowling
 Laura Dubatowka
 Betsy Dunlevy
 Mamie Elliott
 Nicholas Esposito
 Tyler Etzel
 Florence Evina-Ze
 Lisa Finkelstein
 Brian & Christine Fitzgerald
 Kathleen Fogarty
 Lorraine Gamma
 Anna Gibbs
 Janet D. Gill
 David Goggins
 Lori Gold
 Carla Gomez
 Edward Greene
 Patricia Greenspun
 Martin Harnick
 Anne Harris
 Jeanette Haug

Sharon Lee Henderson
 Priscilla Holden
 Jordan Jankun
 Veronica Kaleta
 Joanne Kelly
 Klejbuk Family
 Jim Kirk & Manja Virka
 Barbara Komondorea
 Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier
 Michon Lanaro
 Mary Latino & John Yates
 Kim Leake & Family
 Christine Lindland
 Judy Lombardi
 Christine Sadowski Love
 Susan Maloney
 Robert Markell
 Diane Marsin-Furst
 Marcel Martino
 Maureen McFarlane
 Anita Meissner
 Sandra Mennerich
 Linda Mulligan
 Jacki & Terry Murry
 Sheila Nugent
 Peter Ochsner
 Jeanne O'Connell
 Liz O'Halloran
 Meri Ann O'Hara
 Monica Olivier
 Jennifer Orr

Christine Pagliaro
 Monica Patrick
 Celeste Pellecier
 Pelosi Family
 Stacie Pester
 Christine Petricek
 Julie Ploski
 Valerie Polk
 Saishree (Kiki) Rao
 Ann Rettus
 Judith Richards
 Melanie Richards
 Jennifer Rivera
 Carol Roe
 Mary Ruckdeschel
 Barbara L. Runyan
 Martha Schuck
 Ellen Schwildwachter
 Stephanie Siegel
 Sher Singh
 Suzan Sussman
 Beatrice Sustack
 Anders & Todd van Minter
 Marie Vega-Byrne
 Christine Vogg
 Fran Warren
 Faye Williamson
 Rev. Lise Worthington
 Linda & Paul Zalanowski

INDIVIDUALS

Delores Arkel
 Dana Asher
 Helen Barden
 Suzanne Beloise
 Carol Bennett
 Bento Family
 Marlyn Bohannon
 Loretta Breedveld
 Karen Brisman
 Maria Britton
 Steven Brockett
 Barry J. Brossarth

In 2016, we call on our donors to join our **Sustainers Circle** and make a difference **every day** of the year with a recurring, **monthly gift**. Sustaining donors provide a consistent base of support and help us plan for the future. To enter the **Sustainers Circle** go to safehomesorangecounty.org and find our "DONATE" button. Thank you!

Mission

Safe Homes of Orange County is a private non-profit agency dedicated to providing confidential assistance to victims of domestic violence and their children. Our mission is to work to eliminate all forms of domestic violence through education, outreach, and provision of services to individuals and families affected by domestic abuse. Safe Homes is client-centered. We educate and empower people to make informed choices. We serve with compassion and dignity.

Board of Directors

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