




RESTORING HOPE

2 0 1 6 A N N U A L R E P O R T





"We delight in the beauty of
the butterfly, but rarely admit the
changes it has gone through to
achieve that beauty" **Maya Angelou**

A LETTER FROM THE SAFE CENTER LI'S BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

2016 was a year of transformation, new beginnings, collaboration, and growth for The Safe Center.

Agency leadership and staff, providing direct services to victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sex and labor trafficking, rape and sexual assault, continue to assess and develop new programs to further meet the complex needs that are presented by victims of abuse. In conjunction, staff members of the Education Department remain dedicated to teaching individuals from all walks of life about the importance of recognizing, preventing and responding to all forms of abuse and sexual violence. Many of our clients have become empowered survivors and champions for transformative power, willing to share their stories, inspire, and provide hope to others in need of help.

In 2016, The Safe Center assisted more than 4400 survivors and families impacted by Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Trafficking and Child Abuse. We provided more than 54,000 vital services to these individuals and their families, including mental health services, group work, housing, court and criminal justice advocacy, and emergency assistance. Our trained Hotline staff responded to 7087 calls from survivors and community members seeking guidance and services, and the Child Advocacy Center responded to 823 allegations of child abuse.

Our impact last year was far reaching and the success of the important work being done with those that share in our mission is evident. Some of The Safe Center's 2016 Highlights include the following:

- We spearheaded a successful collaboration with the Nassau County Family Violence Task Force and LIU Post to present the Annual Many Faces of Family Violence Conference to over 400 attendees.
- The Safe Center received funding from the New York State Department of Health to implement a new public health initiative, Enough is Enough. This awareness program addresses rape and sexual assault prevention and is intended for students attending colleges and universities in Nassau County. The Safe Center is currently implementing this program at seven educational institutions across the county.
- A committee of our program staff has been formed to assess The Safe Center's inclusivity of the LGBTQ community and has been working to improve upon efforts to provide appropriate services and a safe, nonjudgmental, welcoming environment so that LGBTQ victims can feel safe from the first moment they reach out for help.
- We secured a generous private grant specifically for Leadership Training Workshops for Safe Center staff and Strategic Planning Sessions for our Board of Directors, enabling us to embark on a multi-faceted Leadership Development Program. Facilitated workshops and planning sessions are geared towards creating both short and long-term goals for the agency with a focus on sustainability and growth in response to the current nonprofit climate.

As you continue to read in this Annual Report about The Safe Center's programs and their life-changing impact on those we've served, please know that we could not have come this far without your continued support. It is with great pride that we present our 2016 Annual Report for The Safe Center LI.


Sincerely,



Stephen G. Bondi
President



Sandy Oliva
Executive Director



Cynthia Scott
Executive Director

PROGRAMS & SERVICES



CRISIS INTERVENTION

THROUGH THE HOTLINE

24 hours a day, seven days a week, the Safe Center hotline gives those in need of crisis intervention access to agency services with safety of the caller always being a primary concern. Crisis intervention counselors are prepared to assess each situation and offer emotional support and service assistance, whether the caller seeks information or expresses needs that must be addressed immediately.

In 2016, the Safe Center Hotline responded to 6,098 calls from victims of domestic violence, 953 calls from victims of rape/sexual assault and 38 calls from victims of human and labor trafficking.

IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM

Victims of domestic violence or sexual assault may also seek help from a trained Safe Center SAFER (Survivor Advocate for Emergency Response) Volunteer who is ready at any time to assist victims brought to hospitals in Nassau County.

SAFER volunteers provided support to 254 rape/sexual assault victims and 25 domestic violence victims in 2016.

WITH THE POLICE

Through the Police Project, victims of domestic violence are assisted in getting to the help they need. Police officers from county and local police departments responding to a domestic violence incident provide the victim with information about The Safe Center's services while also notifying agency staff who will then contact the victim to inform him/her of available help.

1,663 people were given access to the Safe Center's programs and services through its collaboration with Nassau County and local law enforcement on the Police Project.

*"I find lots of joy in my life now that he is no longer a part of it. I believe that life is a series of choices and he made his choice and now he must live with the consequences."
- V.J. 15 year old female*

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND RAPE/SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

ADULT VICTIM ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Safe Center advocates provide a wide range of services to adult victims of abuse including the elderly who can be mistreated physically and/or emotionally, or exploited financially. Services offered to all adult victims include intake and application assistance, telephone and face-to-face supportive counseling, follow-up contacts with victims and their non-offending family members, meetings, advocacy, information and referrals, emergency assistance, as well as accompaniment to forensic interviews, medical exams, Criminal Court and Family Court proceedings.

309 people received over 2,812 services from the Safe Center in 2016.

RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

When a survivor of rape or sexual assault connects with The Safe Center, the agency's crisis intervention staff are immediately there for them. Specialized techniques in working with trauma survivors, including recent victims and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, are utilized by specially trained counseling staff. One-on-one and group therapy sessions are available to sustain survivors in what may be an extended recovery period. Victims are also connected with legal services, as needed.

500 victims received counseling through the Rape & Sexual Assault Services Program in 2016. Counselors facilitated 71 support group sessions and 2,530 individual counseling sessions.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELING

Nearly every victim of partner violence has lived with fear, secrecy, isolation and shame. Overcoming these barriers to healing is essential if victims are to establish safe, independent, productive lives and healthy relationships in the future. Through one-on-one counseling, victims can build trusting, supportive relationships with trained counselors who specialize in trauma informed work. Group counseling offers the victim a chance to share feelings, problems and regain hope. Counselors draw on a variety of specialized approaches, including Psychodrama, EMDR, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy techniques.

483 domestic violence victims received counseling services in 2016. Counselors facilitated 232 group sessions and 2,365 individual counseling sessions.

The social worker who did my intake recognized that I had been a victim of domestic abuse. I began services at the Safe Center and now, I am happily married to a wonderful, caring man. It took work, but through my sessions with my therapist I was able to recognize that the anger and fear of giving my heart again was linked to past experiences. I have made tremendous progress in becoming able to open my heart and letting go of the anger from the past and I credit my therapist at the Safe Center for helping me to do this.

Domestic Violence Survivor

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION & SERVICES

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING DEPARTMENT

The Safe Center's Anti-Human Trafficking Department encompasses work with the Human Trafficking Intervention Court (HTIC), our adult anti-trafficking program, and the Nassau County Safe Harbour Program. The department serves female and male domestic and foreign born victims of sex and labor trafficking. Services include individual and group therapy provided by licensed clinicians, court advocacy, crisis counseling, community referrals, supportive services, and case management. Department staff members offer trainings and informative educational sessions regarding human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation to professionals and community members. Services are provided in English, Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese.

160 adult victims of human trafficking were served.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING INTERVENTION COURT

The Nassau County Human Trafficking Intervention Court (HTIC) was created with the goal of shifting the perception of individuals arrested for prostitution from a criminal-based perspective to a victim-centered approach, including the incorporation of trauma-informed individual and group counseling, case management and court advocacy in lieu of jail time. Through this initiative, there has been a significant shift in the way prostitution is viewed by the justice system and community, supporting individuals who have been systematically exploited by pimps, traffickers, johns, and buyers.

SAFE HARBOUR PROGRAM

In 2014, Nassau County was designated as one of the first counties in New York State to receive Safe Harbour funding from the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). Safe Harbour programs are collaborative initiatives to develop comprehensive networks of child welfare professionals, law enforcement, prosecution, medical personnel and service providers to identify and respond to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Nassau County's Department of Social Services designated The Safe Center as the primary referral source for child trafficking cases in the County. A Safe Harbour coordinator and advocate are available to provide direct service to youth in the Child Advocacy Center. This ensures that both youth and their families receive a trauma-informed, multi-disciplinary responses.

The Safe Harbour Program received more than 100 referrals in 2016.

SAFE HOME & SHORT-TERM HOUSING

SAFE EMERGENCY HOUSING AND SAFE HOME FOR ABUSED FAMILIES

Persons who are fleeing from their homes find safety and respite from desperate and often dangerous living situations at The Safe Center's Safe Home for Abused Families. This comfortable home, whose location is kept confidential, is Nassau County's only shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children. Services provided while at the Safe Home include case management, advocacy, legal services, individual and group counseling, assistance with transportation, and the provision of daily necessities such as food, clothing, bedding and toiletries. Under the guidance of experienced staff, survivors can begin the healing process and think about their future. We also utilize alternative safe housing options when necessary.

In 2016, a total 127 domestic violence victims and 109 children received safe emergency housing. Of those, 52 adults (51 women and 1 male) and 30 children were housed at the Safe Home for Abused Families. 105 adults and 105 children were found alternative or out of area safe housing.

HORIZONS HOUSING PROGRAM

This program is funded federally by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is considered a Rapid Rehousing program. Services provided include short term housing support for survivors of domestic violence that are considered homeless or fleeing a domestic violence situation and do not have other resources.

Eligible individuals and families who participate in this program receive assistance in identifying and securing housing. Once housed they receive continued case management and advocacy services, as well as a monthly rental subsidy from the program based on each participant's income.

The goal of the program is to rapidly house people, provide them with supports and connect them with resources that will help them to sustain permanent housing once they have moved on from the program.

35 adults and 45 of their children were enrolled in The Safe Center's Housing Programs in 2016.



"The Wings of Transformation
are born of
patience and Struggle."

Janet S. Dickens

LEGAL SERVICES

LEGAL SERVICE AND COURT ADVOCACY

The Safe Center is the only agency in Nassau County that provides advocacy on a daily basis in the Nassau County Family Court, and as needed in the dedicated Domestic Violence Court (Misdemeanor and Felony parts) and Integrated Domestic Violence Court. Victims of domestic and dating violence, rape/sexual assault, and elder abuse may consult with an agency attorney about their legal options and explore with them how to access legal services. Staff attorneys and Pro Bono attorneys are assigned to clients for family offenses, custody/visitation, child/spousal support, divorces, immigration, and other issues arising out of the abuse. The attorneys may also advocate with the criminal justice and law enforcement systems. Special emphasis is given to the under-served and un-served populations of the county including the Latino and Muslim communities, and monolingual or limited English proficient victims. The Legal Department also provides intern and extern opportunities to law students seeking experience.

In 2016, 839 people received 7,099 legal services. Attorneys worked with 520 people and Court Advocates assisted 260 people.

PRO BONO PROJECT

The Safe Center Pro Bono Project supplements the availability of legal services provided by the agency and recruits attorneys for pro bono representation to under-served clients. The agency also offers an established Mentor/Mentee program which pairs inexperienced attorneys with seasoned matrimonial attorneys. Training offered through the Pro Bono Project include the "Impact of DV in your Legal Practice" and the "Effect of DV in Matrimonial Proceedings".

In 2016, pro bono lawyers accepted 66 new cases and closed 5 cases. The Pro Bono Project recruited 21 new attorneys and 3 new mentors.

**My unspoken cries for help have been heard
and I have been set free.**

Finally I was given the chance to see myself for the loving, caring, hardworking, kind-hearted, fun individual that I am. Justice has been done which is all I ever wanted. Now I stand before you no longer a broken, distraught person but I have been born again with loving family and friends that are always there for me. Now that justice has been done, I would like to tell you that I am no longer carrying the anger, pain, hate and that I forgive him. In forgiving him, I will never have to waste another moment of my new found life on him ever again."

S.J. 19 year old female

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

The Nassau County Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is the only CAC in Nassau County and one of the finest CACs in the state. In 2016 the CAC underwent its accreditation process and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Site Reviewers from the National Children's Alliance commented on the high-quality response available through the coordinated multidisciplinary team and the comprehensive services available through The Safe Center.

Housed at The Safe Center's Bethpage facility, the CAC offers a child-friendly setting where children can feel safe to talk to specially-trained investigators about the abuse allegations, and where service providers can help children and their family members recover in the aftermath of abuse. The co-located Multidisciplinary Team is comprised of the following Nassau County partners:

- The Safe Center's Child Victim Advocate and Children's Mental Health Programs
- Nassau County Police Department's Special Victims Squad
- Nassau County Child Protective Services Sex Abuse and Severe Physical Abuse Units
- District Attorney's Office
- County Attorney's Office
- Nassau University Medical Center's SCAN (Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect) and SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) programs

In 2016, the Nassau County Department of Probation was added to the Multidisciplinary Team. Multidisciplinary Team members receive specialized training to enable them to respond to allegations of child sexual abuse.

In 2016, the Child Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team responded to 823 allegations of child abuse.

CHILD VICTIM ADVOCATE PROGRAM

For over 20 years, the Child Victim Advocate Program has been an integral component of the Child Advocacy Center's Multidisciplinary Team. The Advocate Program assists families in addressing concrete needs (i.e., transportation, housing referrals, etc.) as well as providing information and support for families involved with the Child Advocacy Center. Advocates are available to accompany families to medical appointments, meetings with the District Attorney and any court appointments including Grand Jury, trial proceedings and sentencing. Referrals for community services are provided and ongoing follow-up contact is maintained as needed throughout the life of the case.

The Safe Center's Sex Abuse Case Coordinator facilitates information-sharing between Nassau County's Department of Social Services and community treatment providers to ensure child victims receive appropriate, trauma-informed services.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

The Safe Center's Substance Abuse Specialist conducts substance abuse assessments pursuant to Nassau County Child Protective Services involvement. The goal of these assessments is to link caregivers with substance abuse services, supporting their ability to parent their child effectively.

In 2016, the Substance Abuse Specialist conducted 386 tests on behalf of the Department of Social Services.



Annual Girls Retreat 2016

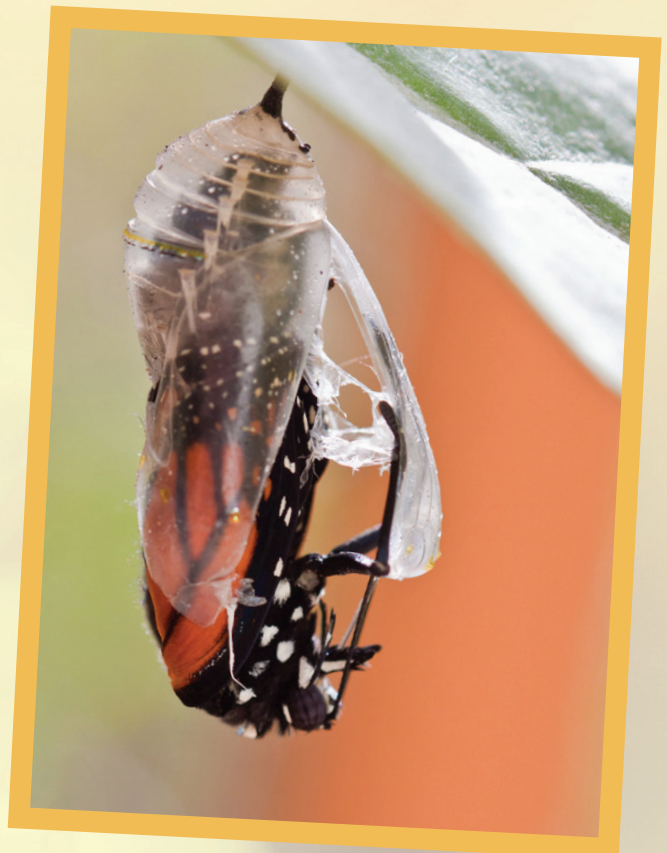
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Our Children's Mental Health Services are trauma-informed and available for children impacted by domestic violence, sexual abuse, teen dating violence, and commercial sexual exploitation/ trafficking, as well as young children with problem sexual behaviors. The purpose of the program is to mitigate the effects of abuse, help children heal from trauma, reduce the risk for re-victimization, and prevent the intergenerational transmission of abuse. Services are tailored to meet the individual needs of each child and family and may include individual, family, or group therapy. Non-offending parents/caregivers are actively engaged in their child's treatment process; they may receive parent guidance and support, participate in family therapy, or join a parenting group. Support groups include: Project Kidz Talk®, a group work program for child victims of sexual abuse and their non-offending family members; Healthy Relationships Group, for teen dating violence victims; support groups for children impacted by domestic violence; Caregiver Resource Group, for parents/caregivers of children who have been sexually abused; Parenting to Break the

The Annual Girl's Retreat for child victims of abuse was held in August 2016. Children were provided with a full-day of activities directed towards building self-esteem, empowerment and positive coping skills, and preventing re-victimization. 1-800-Flowers brought in chocolate fountains and gift bags for the girls. The group read an inspirational poem together and discussed the theme of the day and positive affirmations. Those in attendance commented that the retreat taught them how to be strong, communicate with others, gain social skills, have fun with exercise, and find inner peace.

Cycle, a parenting support group for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors; and Active Parenting, an evidenced-based parenting skills group. Our Child Counselors have received specialized training in a wide array of trauma treatment interventions including trauma-focused play therapy, Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention, Child-Parent Psychotherapy, and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR). In 2016, they developed and provided a training to counseling staff outside the department entitled, "Helping Caregivers Help Children Impacted by Abuse," in an effort to support them in their work with caregivers.

143 children received mental health services at The Safe Center in 2016. Counselors facilitated 65 group sessions and 1,823 individual and family sessions. The Safe Center Project Kidz Talk® program provided services to 31 children and their non-offending family members.



PROFESSIONAL, CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The Safe Center's Education Department is dedicated to reaching as many people as possible throughout Nassau County in all walks of life to educate and inform them on the importance of recognizing, preventing and responding to all forms of abuse and sexual violence. The department develops and delivers training programs to corporations about domestic violence in the work place; professionals in fields such as education, medicine, mental health, legal, law enforcement, social services and child care. Programs promote proper screening and identification of victims, understanding the dynamics of abuse, knowledge about services available and mechanisms to increase the effectiveness and responsiveness of services to victims. We also provide general community trainings for adults to increase awareness about family violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking. Our school-based prevention programs are offered to middle schools, high schools, colleges and universities, and focus on sexual assault prevention and healthy relationships, as well as how to get help when needed.

The Safe Center is recognized by New York State Education Department State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers and is a certified provider of the Mandated Reporter Training for Child Abuse. Continuing education workshops are available to professionals with all trainings being based on the latest research in the areas of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and the effects of trauma on individuals and families.

In 2016, Safe Center educational staff facilitated 324 trainings for 9,927 attendees.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

The Safe Center's Enough is Enough Initiative is funded by NYS through the Department of Health to do work with colleges and universities in Nassau County. It gives us the opportunity to reach students in their daily lives in both large and small arenas to spread the word that rape and sexual assault can be prevented. It allows us to engage students and bring this important issue to the forefront of college life. The Safe Center is currently working with New York Institute of Technology, Adelphi University, Hofstra University, Molloy College, LIU Post, Nassau County Community College and SUNY Old Westbury, as well as with the Merchant Marine Academy.

The Safe Center facilitated 47 Enough is Enough trainings in 2016 and reached 1,904 attendees, both staff and students.

ENOUGH ABUSE CAMPAIGN

The Safe Center was selected in 2015 by the New York Partnership for Child Sexual Abuse Prevention to mobilize communities within Nassau County around the Enough Abuse Campaign, geared towards educating families, groups and organizations about how to reduce child sexual abuse at the community level. Our 15 partners include corporations, associations, religious organizations, professionals, educators and legislators.

In 2016, Enough Abuse was introduced to over 300 guests at our Every Home A Safe Home Gala. 15 new facilitators, mostly volunteers, became trained in the Enough Abuse curriculum, bringing us to a total of 46 facilitators who are now available to go out to the community and train parents, professionals and community members on how to keep kids safe from sexual abuse. In 2016, a total of 657 people were trained at 39 different Enough Abuse trainings.

SUPPORTING THE SAFE CENTER

Although The Safe Center is largely supported through government contracts and grants, 16% of annual revenue for 2016 was raised through individual support, foundation grants, and special events and campaign fundraisers which included Taste That Jazz Food and Beverage Tasting, Swing for Hope Golf Outing, Walk In Her Shoes Fashion Show, Every Home A Safe Home Gala and 2016 Season of Giving. Both monetary and in-kind donation support were also received via third-party fundraisers from associations, advocacy groups, local businesses, corporations, colleges and university clubs and local legislators who selected The Safe Center to be the recipient of their efforts as their "charity of choice."

Supporters of the Safe Center also generously contributed to both the 2016 School Supply and Holiday Gift Card Drives, which directly benefited our client families.

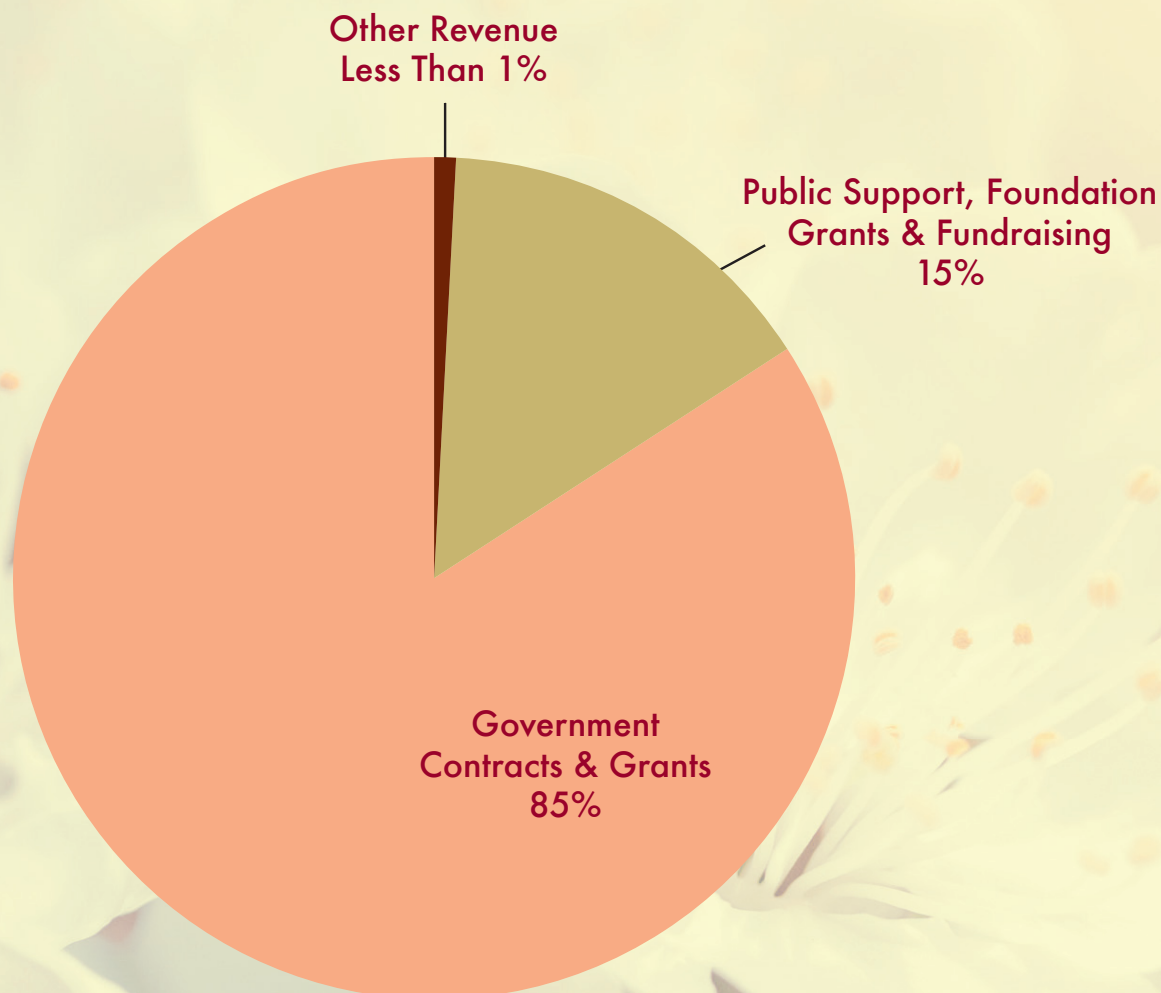
In 2016, 290 children from families receiving services from The Safe Center received gift cards to purchase school supplies, and 114 families with a total of over 433 children received holiday gift cards to purchase gifts and other necessities during the holiday season.



REVENUE BROKEN DOWN BY SOURCES OF FUNDING

INCOME

January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

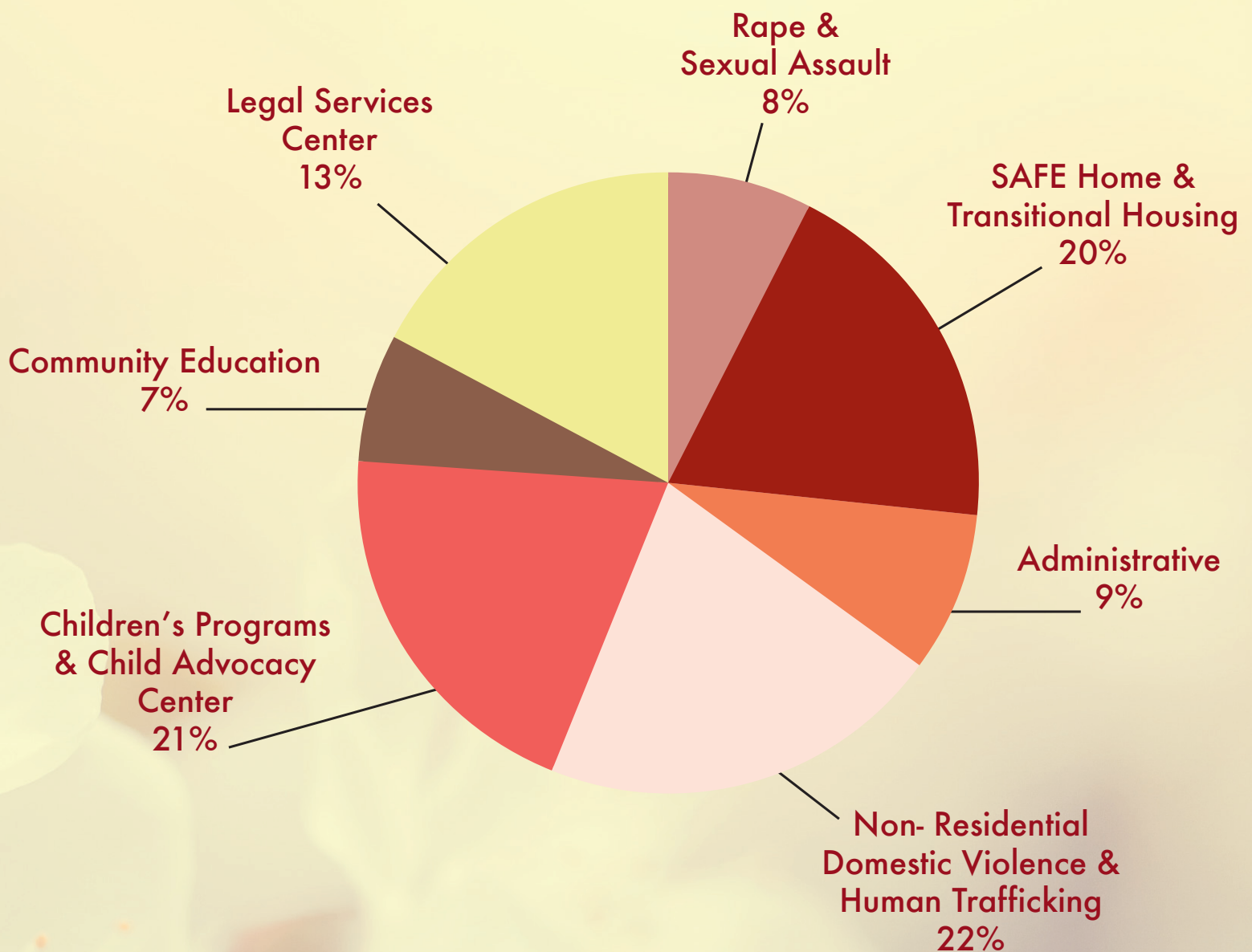


For a copy of The Safe Center's most recent
Audited 990, please visit www.tscli.org.

EXPENSES BROKEN DOWN BY PROGRAM AREA

EXPENSES

January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016



SUPPORTERS

January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

ASSOCIATIONS

100 WHO CARE • ADELPHI UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTING SOCIETY • ADELPHI UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK • ADELPHI UNIVERSITY MOSAIC DIVERSITY CLUB • BETHPAGE CENTRAL PARK KIWANIS CLUB • BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION • CENTRAL NASSAU COUNTY ROTARY FOUNDATION, INC. • COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EAST WILLISTON WORLD SERVICE • THE NASSAU COUNTY DETECTIVES ASSOCIATION, INC. • FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • FIVE TOWNS SENIOR CENTER • GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL • GLEN OAKS CLUB PHILANTHROPIC FUND • HEMPSTEAD SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH • HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT • INSURANCE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LONG ISLAND, INC. • ISLAND HARVEST-WAKEFERN GRANT • JEWISH COMMUNAL RELATIONS COUNCIL • LOCAL 338 CHARITIES INC. • LONG ISLAND ELITE • LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION • MANHASSET COMMUNITY COALITION AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE • MASSAPEQUA REFORMED CHURCH • NASSAU COUNTY DETECTIVE CHARITABLE FUND • NASSAU COUNTY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION • NATIONAL CENTER FOR SUBURBAN STUDIES AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY • NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN • NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • NEW YORK STATE CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE • PLANDOME COUNTRY CLUB, INC. LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION • ROTARY E-CLUB OF DISTRICT 7255 • ROTARY CLUB OF NASSAU COUNTY • RUTH CIRCLE CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR • ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL • SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION • TEMPLE SINAI OF ROSLYN • TRANSITION NETWORK GO GETTERS PEER GROUP • UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HEMPSTEAD • UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK • UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND

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GOVERNMENT

LEGISLATIVE GRANTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY WHO REPRESENT NASSAU COUNTY • NASSAU COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE • NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING • NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH • NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES • NASSAU COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT • NASSAU COUNTY YOUTH BOARD • NEW YORK STATE COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT • NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH • NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE • NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES • NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES • NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION • NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF FEDERAL HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE • VILLAGE OF FREEPORT

INDIVIDUALS

In addition to generous donations received through organizations that participate in employee giving and matching gift campaigns, we acknowledge our many individual supporters, too numerous to list, for their incredibly generous support, longtime faith in our work, and helping us to fulfill our mission each and every day.

The Safe Center works very hard to present a complete list of its supporters and apologize if we inadvertently missed acknowledging your organization's support on the above Association, Business & Corporate,

THE SAFE CENTER TEAM

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President

Esther Fortunoff-Greene
Vice President

Eric W. Penzer, Esq.
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George Medlin
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OUR STAFF LEADERSHIP

Sandy Oliva
Executive Director

Cindy Scott
Executive Director

OUR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Employees and volunteers of The Safe Center work tirelessly to ensure that adult and child victims of abuse and their non-offending family members are safe, receive the necessary services to heal from abuse without shame, and restore hope for a better future. Staff members of The Safe Center include attorneys, individual and group counselors, social workers, crisis center advocates, educators, program interns, and administrative personnel, including bilingual service providers. The Safe Center requires all new staff to attend educational trainings that provide an overview of the types of abuses addressed by the agency including child abuse, domestic violence, rape and sexual assault, and human trafficking. Our volunteers are compassionate individuals from all walks of life who are trained to provide assistance and support to those that are in need, and to aid in the work of the agency.



OUR MISSION

To protect, assist and empower victims of family violence and sexual assault while challenging and changing social systems that tolerate and perpetuate abuse.

OUR VISION

We are working together with one goal and one dream...
TO RESTORE HOPE FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE

OUR APPROACH

Due to the visionary leadership of Sandy Oliva, Cindy Scott, and our Board of Directors, The Safe Center has become a beacon of hope within Nassau County and surrounding communities that provides a fast and easy path to resources that assist in saving and changing lives of women, men, children and elderly victims of family violence and sexual abuse. The Safe Center's holistic approach addresses the impact of abuse on the victim as well as the family so that cycles of abuse can end. Services are bilingual and confidential.

OUR NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY


Services provided by The Safe Center are available for all persons regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, marital status, disability, or age. We welcome everyone and work to overcome each victim's unique barriers to safety.


"Thank you for supporting me when I needed help and giving me the strength to stand up for myself and not be victimized by domestic violence anymore. Your organization helped to empower me to be a stronger and more confident role model for my children."
-Adult DV Survivor




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