

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE COMMUNITY



FISCAL YEAR
2018/2019



*Proudly Providing a Full
Continuum of Care for
Survivors of Domestic Violence*

DEAR / FRIENDS,

On behalf of SafeHouse Denver's Board of Directors and Staff, we're pleased to present our FY 2018-2019 Report to the Community. During another successful year marked by an unwavering commitment to the highest quality domestic violence prevention and intervention services, we're especially proud to have opened our Extended Stay Program (ESP), the final program in our full continuum of care for survivors of domestic violence and their children.

As the facility officially opened in July 2018, six, two-bedroom apartments stood ready to welcome former Emergency Shelter residents who were out of acute crisis but in need of additional time to access more permanent housing and other stability-building resources. Comfortably and fully furnished, each apartment provides individuals and families with the opportunity to live independently as they work toward reaching their self-identified goals for the future. Utilizing the best practice Trauma Informed Care (TIC) service delivery model, our ESP Case Manager works with survivors, offering support and access to a wide range of community resources. ESP residents can also access services through our non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center (CAC). To date, 17 adults and 26 children have been part of the program and all have moved on to safe, longer-term housing. In addition, our ability to move qualified shelter residents to ESP allows us to serve 60-80 more survivors in crisis each year.

While ESP was the centerpiece of our efforts in 2018, we continued to evaluate and strengthen each of our other core programs. Our 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line handled more than 14,000 calls from survivors and those helping them. The fact that nearly a third of these callers were referred to other resources because our shelter was full, speaks to the growing need for domestic violence services in our community. In keeping with our commitment to "dignity of space," our Emergency Shelter underwent significant improvements, including all new windows, as well as some new flooring, drywall and fresh paint. The nearly 300 adults and children who resided in our shelter at some point in 2018 received safe housing and basic necessities while working with our skilled advocates to develop safety plans, access community resources and increase their self-confidence and decision-making skills through individual counseling and support groups.

Our non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center provided advocacy-based individual counseling, group support, and teen dating violence prevention programming to more than 900



SafeHouse Denver CEO, Victoria McVicker (L), with FY 2018-19 Board Chair, Laura Keasling.

individuals, including 20 male survivors, onsite at the CAC, as well as through our partner agencies. Community Outreach and Education remained a priority as we collaborated with agencies serving those at high risk for domestic violence and provided off-site services that offered survivors easier access to help. Our Community Education programs were robust as well, reaching nearly 4,000 individuals directly and countless others through print, broadcast and social media.

We hope that you'll enjoy reading about our accomplishments in 2018, knowing that YOU, our generous donors, funders, volunteers, staff and other supporters make our work possible. Domestic violence continues to be a difficult cause for many people to understand, and your willingness to support us with your time, talent and resources keeps our mission alive in the community. Hundreds of survivors are living healthy, abuse-free lives because you do understand and you truly care.

Perhaps this comment, shared by a survivor as she left our shelter, best describes the importance of our shared commitment. ***"Thank you for being an open-minded environment where we are safe to be ourselves, fulfill our needs and be who we are. Many of us come from controlling environments and you give us a sense of freedom. You have inspired me to live for myself, celebrate who I am, and mold my life to who I want to be."***

We sincerely appreciate your investment in our lifesaving work and look forward to your continued involvement.

With Warmest Regards,

Victoria McVicker, CEO

Laura Keasling, Chair, Board of Directors, FY 2018-19

The mission of SafeHouse Denver is to assist adults, children, and youth in reclaiming their right to a life free from domestic violence.

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PAULINA'S / STORY

A Path to An Abuse-Free Life

Paulina endured her husband's ongoing emotional and financial abuse throughout their 11-year marriage. After the birth of their last child, the abuse escalated to physical violence. A concerned friend shared a Facebook post with SafeHouse Denver's Crisis & Information Line number and encouraged Paulina to call. Discussing her situation with a safe person, someone who did not criticize or judge her past choices, helped Paulina see the danger her husband posed to her and their children, and gave her the courage to seek help to change her life. The first step was meeting with an Advocate at SafeHouse Denver's Counseling & Advocacy Center to plan a safe exit.

Some survivors had just relocated from SafeHouse Denver's Emergency Shelter to its Extended Stay Program (ESP), so the Advocates at Shelter were able to quickly turn around rooms and offer safe space to Paulina and her children. When her husband stopped helping financially with the children, Paulina was faced with supporting them on her own. With the guidance of her Advocate, she worked diligently to identify and access community resources that met the needs of her family. She attended job fairs and groups offered through organizations like the Rose Amond Center, Denver Human Services, Bayaud Enterprises, and the Women's Workforce Center to gain the job skills needed to provide a stable income as her family's sole provider.

Another goal of Paulina's was to help her children heal from the trauma of living in a home where they had witnessed domestic violence. Through the support of the Denver Children's Advocacy Center, she and her children were able to process what they had experienced in a healthy way and move forward.

Once Paulina found employment and her children were healing, she felt ready to address her housing goals. Not yet financially ready to secure her own apartment, Paulina applied for Safehouse Denver's Extended Stay Program. Knowing that accessing transitional housing could be a challenging and



lengthy process, Paulina applied to other housing providers as backup options. Several weeks passed, then finally the wait was over—Paulina's application to ESP was approved. Her family would move into their own apartment the next week!

While at ESP, Paulina worked with her Case Manager to continue identifying community resources that would help her achieve her goals, including long-term housing. Paulina attended many group sessions at ESP. Topics included: coping skills; setting boundaries; budgeting; and housing basics, which covers tenant rights, understanding a lease, and how to prepare for a housing interview, intake and walk-through. Through these experiences, Paulina felt her self-confidence grow.

As housing and all services are provided completely free of charge to ESP residents, Paulina was able to focus on the financial aspects of transitioning to her own home. Through community resources like The Gathering Place, Denver Rescue Mission, Denver Housing Authority and the Department of Human Services, Paulina and her children were ultimately able to move into a rental unit, where they continue to work on building the abuse-free lives that they deserve.

SafeHouse Denver supported Paulina on every step of her journey—from her phone call to the Crisis Line, to her visit with an Advocate at the Counseling & Advocacy Center, to safe space at the Emergency Shelter, to stable short-term housing at ESP. Through providing our full continuum of care, SafeHouse Denver helped this motivated survivor achieve a better life for herself and her family.



Our Full Continuum of Care for Survivors of Domestic Violence

2018 / HIGHLIGHTS

24-HOUR CRISIS AND INFORMATION LINE

- 14,139 calls from survivors and those helping them
- Advocates and volunteers offered safety planning, support and informed resource referral
- 5,555 callers referred to other resources because the shelter was full
- 14 dedicated volunteers contributed 350 hours of service

EMERGENCY SHELTER

- 189 adults, including one male survivor, and 101 children served
- An Urban Servant Corps Volunteer, serving as a Domestic Violence Advocate, reduced caseloads and enhanced resident services
- A part-time evening DV Advocate provided consistent support for residents, while an Operations Manager helped meet facility needs
- The Survivor Alumni Program supported current residents through a new art group
- 17 volunteers engaged in 63 children's groups through the Family Program
- Seven community groups completed projects and hosted resident events, providing 1,400 hours of service

COUNSELING AND ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC)

- 361 adults received ongoing individual domestic violence services, including crisis intervention, safety planning, emotional support, trauma counseling, and systems advocacy
- 48 monolingual Spanish speakers, 20 male survivors and three transgender individuals were among these survivors
- 24 women engaged in on-site support groups focused on advanced yoga; support for monolingual Spanish speakers; "Art as a Coping Strategy" and other topic-specific sessions
- 100 adults participated in off-site groups, including healthy relationship education at the Center for Work Education & Employment and Warren Village, and a domestic violence support group for women with disabilities at Ruth Goebel House
- 47 adolescent girls received teen dating violence prevention programming through Denver Safe Cities Juvenile Diversion program and the REST Court

- 25 young women in the highest risk age group of 16-24 accessed individual counseling services
- CAC Advocates connected with 213 survivors through the Rose Andom Center and provided individual advocacy-based domestic violence counseling to 82 of these survivors
- Through the Denver Triage Project, Advocates made 612 outreach calls to survivors immediately post-assault, and provided ongoing, individual, advocacy-based counseling to 40 of those contacted

EXTENDED STAY PROGRAM (ESP)

- Between July and December, the ESP provided safe, temporary housing, counseling and advocacy to 12 women who were the head of their household and 16 children under 18
- 100% exited the program after securing stable, independent housing in a market-rate apartment, Section 8 housing, or with stable family members
- Our ESP Case Manager strengthened relationships with referral sources, streamlining the process for survivors to access services in the community

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

- Community collaborations, a cornerstone of our work, included 21 formal Memorandums of Understanding and nearly 100 informal partnerships
- The Rose Andom Center, the Denver Forensic Collaborative for At-Risk Adults, Denver Anti-Trafficking Alliance, Victim Services Network, StandUp Colorado, Metro Denver Fatality Review Committee, and Denver Collaborative Partnership remained key community partners
- The CAC Director presented at the Colorado Collaborative Justice Conference, the International Association of Chiefs of Police Mexican Delegation Study Tour and the Annual Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Conference
- The Women's Network of Wells Fargo, Maria Droste Counseling Services, Women of Wireless, Denver Police Department's Victim Assistance Unit, The Center, Victim Services Network through the DA's Office and domestic violence psychoeducation for female inmates at Denver Women's Correctional Facility—just a few of our community presentations
- Staff and volunteers led 40 community presentations, directly raising awareness of our mission among more than 3,500 community members

FINANCIALS

Audited financial statements for the 12 month period ended March 31, 2019

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,013,531
Accounts receivable	\$ 131,306
Contributions receivable	\$ 30,000
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$ 25,616
Investments	\$ 852,718
Beneficial interest in Community First Foundation	\$ 60,360
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$786,945	\$ 1,429,175
Total assets	\$ 3,542,706

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred revenue	\$ 140,960
Total liabilities	\$ 140,960

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:	
Property and equipment, net of related debt	\$ 1,429,175
Board designated assets	\$ 562,656
Undesignated	\$ 1,116,398
Total unrestricted net assets	\$ 3,108,229
With donor restrictions	\$ 293,517
Total net assets	\$ 3,401,746
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 3,542,706

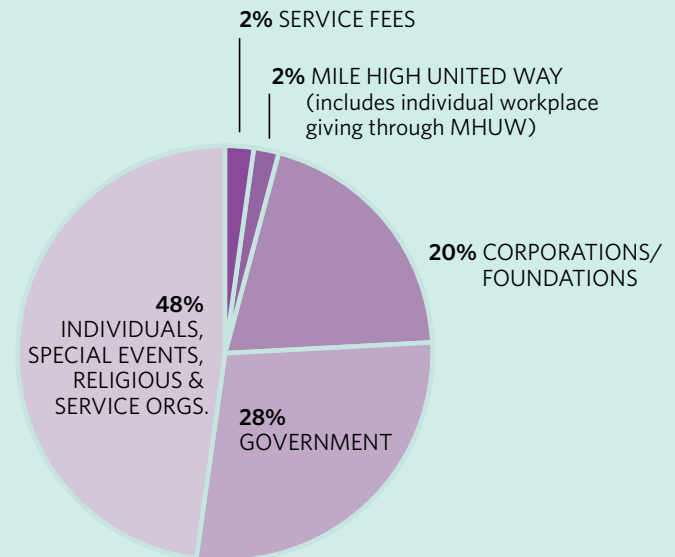
OPERATING REVENUE

Mile High United Way (includes individual workplace giving through MHUW)	\$ 51,780
Government	\$ 587,677
Corporations/Foundation	\$ 433,804
Individuals, Special Events, Religious & Service Orgs.	\$ 1,031,753
Service Fees	\$ 30,420
Operating Revenue	\$ 2,135,434

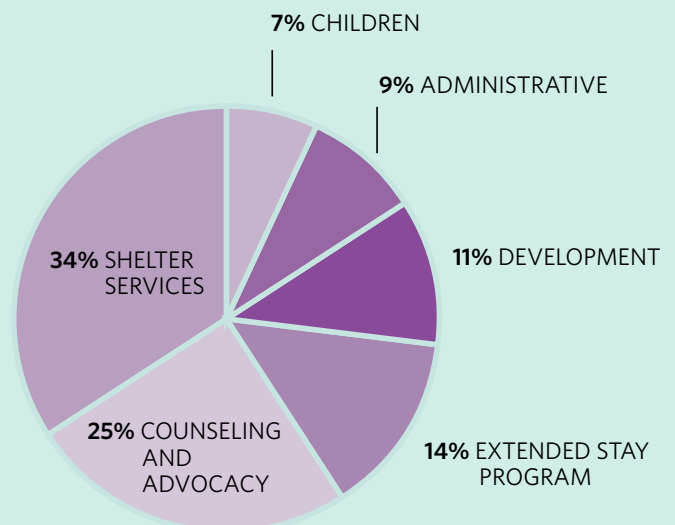
OPERATING EXPENSES

Shelter Services	\$ 648,343
Counseling and Advocacy	\$ 462,666
Children	\$ 133,474
Extended Stay Program	\$ 254,696
Development	\$ 217,064
Administrative	\$ 163,735
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,879,978

OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENSES



SafeHouse Denver proudly ended FY 2018/2019 in a strong financial position. The revenue surplus of approximately \$255.5k was the combined result of several factors. These included: \$135K in one-time foundation funding; approximately \$56k more than anticipated in government grants, almost \$39k in gains on our investments and a combination of fundraising efforts which resulted in exceeding revenue goals by almost \$132k. Although operating expenses were under budget by \$63.5k, total expenses were over budget by approximately \$107k primarily due to \$53k for renovations and furnishings for the new extended stay facility, shelter repairs and maintenance of \$25.5k, and a computer upgrade of \$20k. Operating expenses for Emergency Housing, formerly shown as a separate program, are now included in Shelter Services.

DONORS

Thank you to the following donors who generously contributed to SafeHouse Denver between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019.

While space limitations allow us to publish only those donors who have contributed at the \$500 level and above, we sincerely appreciate all levels of support.

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Adult Care Food Program
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of Human Services -
Domestic Violence Program

***We have made every effort
to print an accurate list of
donors from April 1, 2018 to
March 31, 2019. We apologize
for any omissions or errors.
Please call 303-302-6122
with corrections.***

**Special thanks to our
top-level 2018 Hope
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THE SUPPORT OF A CARING COMMUNITY*

- A total of 545 donors collectively contributed nearly \$185,000 at year-end, a combination of support through *Colorado Gives Day* and our annual holiday appeal.
- The generosity of 84 donors who designated discretionary or workplace giving funds resulted in over \$106,000, nearly double the funds we anticipated.
- We were awarded 26 grants from private foundations, exceeding our anticipated goal of \$345,000 by nearly \$80,000. We proudly completed our second year as a Bank of America Neighborhood Builder and appreciated several foundations funding us at higher than expected levels.
- Our “reinvented” Hope Gala with its “*New Look, New Feel and New Attitude*” brought together 240 guests for a fun-filled and emotional, mission focused evening that raised nearly \$225,000. Sixty-four guests made their first gift to SafeHouse at the Gala with giving at sponsor tables averaging \$5,000.
- Individual giving at all levels was strong throughout the year with over \$18,000 donated by 94 mid-level donors and over \$206,000 by 34 major donors, those contributing more than \$1,000 directly to our mission.
- Our Sampling for Hope event to benefit the operation of the Extended Stay Program was a complete “sell-out” with 300 guests raising over \$41,000.
- Sustainers of Hope, our monthly giving program, boasted a record 66 donors at some point during the fiscal year, generating \$39,000 in dependable funding for our mission.
- Third Party Events and Initiatives, thoughtfully sponsored by individuals, companies and community organizations, ended the year at \$108,000, nearly 60% more than expected. While raising essential funds, these events also raised awareness of our mission.
- A long time SafeHouse Denver partner, Mile High United Way demonstrated its confidence in the work we do, awarding us a 25% increase in grant funding.
- Dedicated direct service and committee volunteers, as well as Board Members, collectively contributed a total of 5,765 hours.
- In-Kind donations, given through our holiday *In the Spirit* and *Adopt a Family* Programs, our event auctions and regularly throughout the year, were valued at \$130,000.

* ***This list represents only a portion of our many fundraising initiatives. We're very grateful to everyone who supports survivors of domestic violence in any way.***

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

SafeHouse Denver offers comprehensive services, in English and Spanish, at our Emergency Shelter, non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center, and Extended Stay Program.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line: 303-318-9989
- Secure Emergency Housing
- Extended Stay Housing
- Counseling and Advocacy Services
- Support Groups
- Referrals to Community Resources
- Safety planning
- Teen Dating Violence Intervention & Prevention Services
- Family Services
- Community Education & Outreach

24-HOUR CRISIS AND INFORMATION LINE:

303-318-9989

ADMINISTRATION:

303-318-9959

COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM:

303-302-6125

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

303-302-6126

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

303-302-6128

Fax: 303-318-9979

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