



# ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2016/2017

*Celebrating  
40 Years of Service  
to the Community*



**SAFEHOUSE**  
D E N V E R

# DEAR FRIENDS,

We're pleased to present SafeHouse Denver's Annual Report to the community for Fiscal Year 2016/2017. In calendar year 2016, through the caring generosity of over 1,400 donors, funders and other supporters, we served 1,164 survivors – providing them with access to safe emergency housing, as well as non-residential counseling and advocacy services.

At the time of this publication, we will have crossed the mid-point of 2017, which marks our 40th Anniversary. During this milestone year, we're reflecting on our founding and robust history as an organization, as well as our plans for the future.

As you may know, SafeHouse Denver was founded in 1977 by five courageous women who recognized the desperate need for safe shelter for survivors of domestic violence. These founding mothers took the first step in our long history of standing alongside survivors by opening our original emergency shelter facility. Since our founding, we estimate that we've served over 41,000 survivors of domestic violence. Today, SafeHouse Denver is the only agency in the City and County of Denver that provides both emergency shelter, as well as non-residential counseling and advocacy services exclusively to survivors of domestic violence and their children.


Our longevity and stability over the past forty years has only been possible because of the generous trust and investment from our donors, volunteers, community partners and staff who believe in our mission. For many, this trust and investment also extends to our plans to serve even more survivors in the future.

This year we've continued to work diligently to make our longtime strategic vision of opening an Extended Stay Program (ESP) a reality. We're pleased to report that, at the time of this publication, over 40 generous donors have contributed just under \$600,000 toward our goal of \$1M to start this new program. Our ESP will be a six-to-eight unit apartment building for shelter residents who are out of crisis, but require additional time to pursue affordable housing, employment, child care and other resources essential to achieving self-sufficiency. ESP will be the final step in our continuum of care for survivors of domestic violence here in the Metro Denver Area and we are so pleased to be on the cusp of it coming to fruition.

On behalf of all of us at SafeHouse Denver, thank you for your part in our past, your investment in our present, and your trust in our future. With your support, we'll continue to strive to remain a leader in the field of domestic violence prevention and early intervention services in the Metro Denver Area. We also pledge to continue to be good stewards of the time, talents and treasure you've so generously entrusted to us.

We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress and developments with ESP. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy reading about the impact your support made to so many last year.

With deepest gratitude,



Victoria A. McVicker, CEO



Joy Woller, 2016/2017 Board Chair



SafeHouse Denver CEO, Victoria McVicker, (R) with 2016 Board Chair, Joy Woller.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

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SafeHouse Denver

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**Dayle Cedars**, 7News

**Susan Noble**, Coldwell Banker Devonshire

**Carol and Paul Rose**,  
Community Volunteers

**Karen Wolfe**, Community Volunteer

# IN 2016

## EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

Emergency Shelter staff continued to implement **trauma-informed care** in all aspects of service delivery. This best-practice model empowers survivors of domestic violence to guide their own healing process by offering services in a way that helps individuals build on their strengths and prevents re-traumatization.

176 women and 100 children were provided with **a safe place to stay**, basic necessities, both individual and group counseling support, as well as access to resources such as affordable housing and medical care.

The **Alumni Group** provided options for former shelter residents to be involved in a variety of ways, including sharing their stories during shelter support groups, as well as community education and fundraising events.

**The need for safe shelter** for survivors of domestic violence continued to be pressing. We referred 4,997 requests for safe shelter to other resources because our shelter facility was completely full. With the recent loss of some area shelter space at other agencies, our shelter facility now accounts for 32% of the 82 domestic violence-specific beds in the in the five-county area we primarily serve.

93% of emergency shelter residents who voluntarily completed surveys reported they “know more ways to plan for my safety” and “felt more hopeful about my life and my future.” 90% reported “I received support to make changes I want in my life.”

**“The first time I entered this awesome shelter, I realized I made the best decision of my life. I feel more confident in my skills and capabilities to be a great mother and employee. I am way happier here than anywhere else that I have been before.”**

– FORMER EMERGENCY SHELTER RESIDENT



## COUNSELING AND ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC)

CAC Advocates continued to provide **non-residential counseling and advocacy services**, including emotional support, crisis intervention and safety planning to 888 survivors of domestic violence, including 20 males and 75 children.

CAC Advocates continued their **early-intervention and prevention work** with youth, reaching 77 adolescent girls through teen dating violence prevention programming at Florence Crittenton High School and Safe Cities Juvenile Diversion program.

SafeHouse Denver was closely involved in the creation of the **Rose Andom Center**, Colorado’s first family justice center to serve survivors of domestic violence, which opened in June 2016. Our leadership serves on both the Board of Directors and Program Committees and we now have an Advocate on-site full-time Monday through Friday to assist survivors seeking our counseling and shelter services.

CAC staff continued their **outreach and collaboration with community partners**, including Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH), by providing weekly counseling sessions at Stout Street Clinic, a weekly support group at Ruth Goebel House, as well as individual counseling at the CAC and short-term support groups at various CCH properties. CAC Advocates also provided a bi-monthly consultation group for CCH staff.

SafeHouse Denver began a five-year partnership with the University of Denver and Denver Health Medical Center’s *MotherWise* project, aimed at providing **additional resources and support to survivors of domestic violence during pregnancy**, a particularly dangerous time for women in abusive relationships.

**“Thank you for your support, concern and help during the worst time of my life. I will forever be grateful to you.”**

– CAC CLIENT TO HER ADVOCATE

# BETHANY'S STORY

When Bethany first called SafeHouse Denver, she had just lost her job. A job that she loved at a place where she felt valued. Bethany's husband had been regularly showing up unannounced to check in on her. He also regularly forced her to stay home from work to be with him and so he could keep an eye on her. When the last-minute absences piled up, Bethany's employer was forced to let her go.

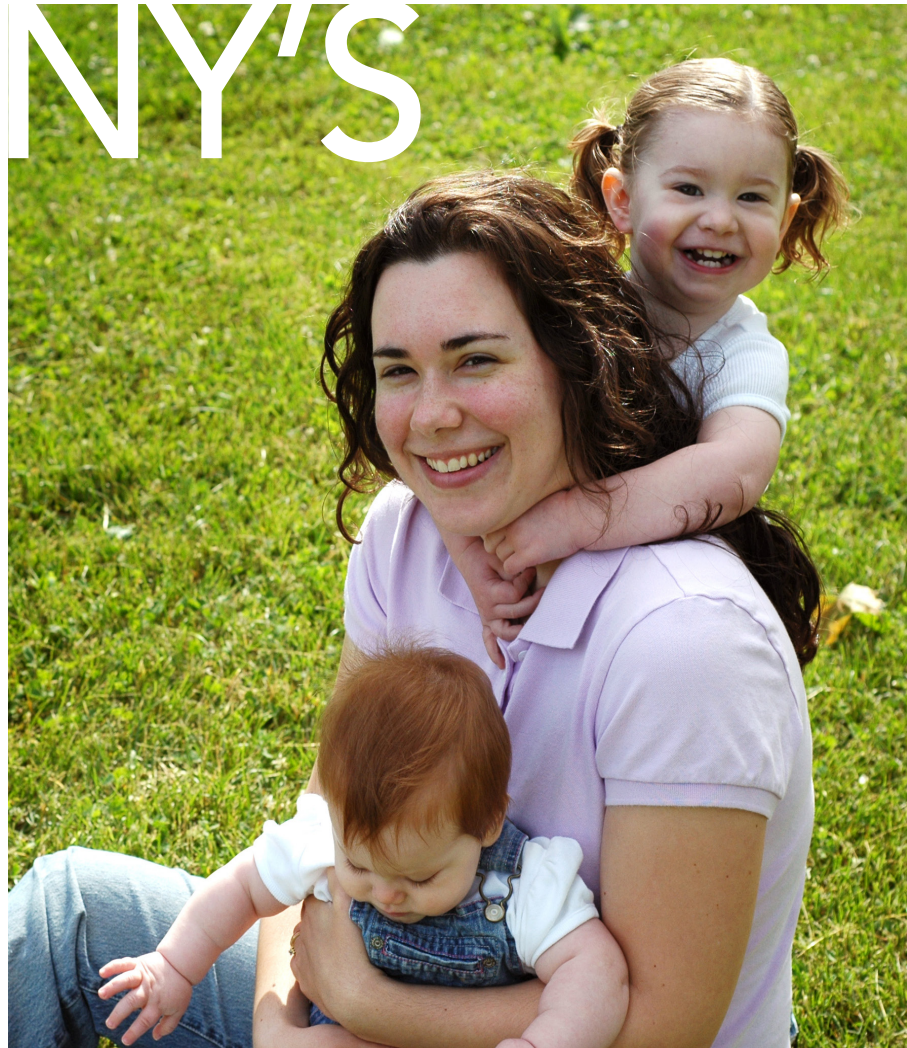
Bethany had been with her husband for three and a half years when she decided that she wanted, and was ready, to leave the relationship. He was physically and sexually abusive to her from the beginning and, now, she had two small children to care for and no income. A quick internet search led her to SafeHouse Denver. She called to speak with an Advocate and determined that there was space for her and her children if they were ready to come.

With the help of two caring family members, Bethany and her children packed up a few personal belongings and made their way to SafeHouse Denver's emergency shelter. While at the shelter, Bethany was able to find another full-time job and worked long hours to get back on her feet. While she worked, her children stayed with those two supportive family members who were determined to stand by the young mom in her journey to stay safe and out of the relationship.

When she wasn't working, Bethany was meeting with her SafeHouse Denver Advocate to access resources that would help her build a stable future. Bethany's abuser was granted partial custody of the children but referrals to Project Safeguard and the Denver Police Department helped her safety-plan around child visitation so Bethany wouldn't have to see him in person.

After two months in shelter, Bethany was very fortunate to find a safe, affordable place to live. Through SafeHouse, she was able to connect with various resources to help with a deposit and initial rental fees to get the family established.

SafeHouse Denver provided Bethany and her children the opportunity to not only stay in a safe location, but to work with an Advocate on steps to a violence-free future. Today, Bethany and her children are settled in their new home. She continues to receive support from her family to create a loving, stable environment for her children. She also knows that SafeHouse Denver will continue to be a resource and support system should she need more help in the future.



## 24-HOUR CRISIS & INFORMATION LINE

SAFEHOUSE DENVER ADVOCATES AND TRAINED VOLUNTEERS ANSWERED 14,600 CRISIS AND INFORMATION CALLS. CALLERS WERE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ON, AND ACCESS TO, OUR SERVICES, EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, REFERRALS TO OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND TIPS ON HOW TO SUPPORT SOMEONE EXPERIENCING ABUSE.

# FINANCIALS

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2017

## ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 723,551
Accounts receivable	\$ 80,985
Contributions receivable	\$ 2,790
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$ 44,206
Investments	\$ 799,571
Beneficial interest in Community First Foundation	\$ 54,651
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$666,887	\$ 413,307

**Total assets** **\$2,119,061**

## Liabilities

Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred revenue	\$ 147,812
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**Total liabilities** **\$ 147,812**

## Net Assets

Unrestricted:	
Property and equipment, net of related debt	\$ 413,307
Board Designated Assets	\$ 549,353
Undesignated	\$ 816,139
Total unrestricted net assets	\$ 1,778,799
Temporarily restricted	\$ 137,799
Permanently restricted	\$ 54,651

**Total net assets** **\$1,971,249**

**Total liabilities and net assets** **\$2,119,061**

## OPERATING REVENUE

Mile High United Way (includes individual workplace giving through MHUW)	\$ 55,492
Government	\$ 422,464
Corporations/Foundation	\$ 383,548
Individuals, Special Events, Religious & Service Orgs.	\$ 878,219
Service Fees	\$ 31,035

**Operating Revenue** **\$1,770,758**

## OPERATING EXPENSES

Family	\$ 428,581
Counseling and Advocacy	\$ 431,098
Children	\$ 143,517
Community Education	\$ 48,530
Emergency Housing	\$ 199,780
Development	\$ 154,309
Administrative	\$ 110,891

**Operating Expenses** **\$1,516,706**

SafeHouse Denver proudly ended FY 2016/2017 in a strong financial position. The revenue surplus of just over \$254k was the combined result of several factors. These include: capital fundraising efforts totaling over \$125k to purchase a building for our future Extended Stay Program; a generous, unexpected \$75k grant; and over \$67k in total gains on our investments.

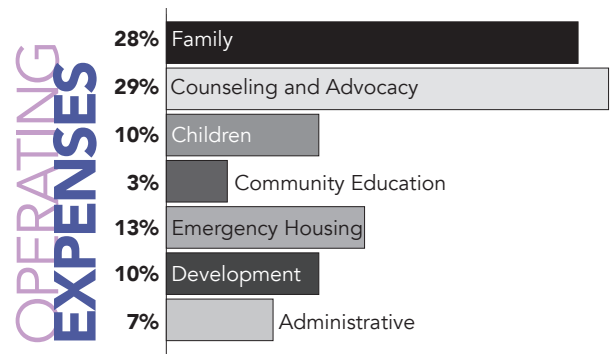
# FUND DEVELOPMENT AND EVENTS

The annual SafeHouse Denver **Hope Gala** raised more than \$262,000, the result of the collective generosity of our sponsors, auction donors, attendees and other event supporters. 330 guests enjoyed an elegant dinner, fabulous live and silent auctions, and presentation of three community awards. Five brave survivors also shared their personal experience with domestic violence and how they found safety and hope at SafeHouse Denver.

Our second annual **Sampling for Hope** event, featuring small plates and samples from some of Denver's best chefs and caterers, was a great success. Through the generous support of attendees and our sponsors, \$31,000 was raised and is earmarked for operating our future Extended Stay Program.

**1,427 generous donors**, including individuals, businesses, service organizations and private and government funders made 3,012 monetary contributions to SafeHouse Denver in 2016.

We received **676 in-kind contributions**, valued at over \$193,000, including goods such as clothing, toiletries and toys for our shelter residents and counseling center clients. In-kind contributions also included donations of auction items for our fundraising events and pro-bono professional support such as website maintenance, graphic design, legal services and maintenance and repairs to our emergency shelter facility.



# VOLUNTEERS

19 highly trained **program volunteers and interns** contributed 2,248 hours of service by answering our 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line and assisting with our Children's Program. **Committee members** provided 1,032 hours of service on projects related to capacity building, special events, fund development and donor stewardship.

The 2016 **Board of Directors** contributed more than 530 hours of time on board-related activities.

**Total volunteer time** for the calendar year was valued at more than \$123,494 (based on the estimated value of volunteer time from Independent Sector.)

# DONORS

Thank you to the following donors who generously contributed to SafeHouse Denver between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017. 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.

\* indicates Sustainers of Hope monthly giving program member;  
+ indicates Legacy of Hope planned giving program member

## \$50,000 and Above

Anonymous  
The Anschutz Foundation  
Daniels Fund  
Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson  
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## \$20,000 to \$49,999

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## \$5,000 to \$9,999

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Homes Foundation  
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## \$1,000 to \$2,499

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Cars Helping Charities  
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Foundation  
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Emico Media, Inc.  
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Reichert Foundation  
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Schlessman Family  
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Whiting Oil & Gas Corp.  
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Joy & Jim Woller\*  
Patty & Tom Wrenholt  
Zonta Club of Denver II

### **\$500 to \$999**

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Anonymous (18)  
Anonymous\*  
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Zaheera Belly Dance

### **Government Funders**

Denver Department of Human  
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Denver Victim Assistance Law  
Enforcement Funds  
Metro Denver Emergency Food  
& Shelter Program  
Office of Economic Development  
- Temporary Assistance to  
Needy Families (TANF)  
Office on Violence Against  
Women to Denver District  
Attorney's Office for  
Rose Amond Center/Triage  
Intervention Project  
State of Colorado - Child and  
Adult Food Care Program  
State of Colorado - Domestic  
Violence Program  
Victim Compensation Funds  
Victim of Crime Act Funds

## **THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS INVESTMENT IN OUR EXTENDED STAY PROGRAM THROUGH JUNE 2017.**

**Leadership Gifts:  
\$100,000 and Above**  
The Anschutz Foundation

**ESP Partners:  
\$50,000 to \$74,999**  
Diane Fox

**Circle of Hope:  
\$25,000 to \$49,999**  
Anonymous  
Gates Family Foundation

**Unit Sponsors:  
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Bellco Credit Union  
Bohland Family Charitable Trust -  
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Jerome A. Bohland  
CRL Associates, Inc.  
Katie & Alan Fox  
Fox Family Foundation  
Carol and Paul Rose  
Karen & Ian Wolfe

**Friends of ESP:  
\$5,000 to \$9,999**  
Anonymous (2)  
Coughlin & Company  
Jan & Jerry Hanson  
Glenn McCartney -  
in remembrance  
Karen Toth & Alexander Speros  
United Advertising Corporation

**'Buy a Brick': \$1,000**  
Nathaniel Barker &  
Rebecca Czarnacki  
Christine & John Browner  
Sharla Carlson  
Kiwi Club of Denver  
Matthew Rezek  
SafeHouse Denver Board  
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Roger Sherman  
Pam & Bob Stearman  
Nancy & Frederick Wolfe

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William & Marion Baker  
Joan & Scott Barker  
Susan Daniels  
Delta Dental of Colorado  
Jack Fox  
Harmes C. Fishback  
Foundation Trust  
Trupti Suthar &  
Chris MacDermaid

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

1,359 people were reached through 33 educational presentations, providing life-saving education on domestic violence prevention and intervention and educating the public on services available to the community.

## SAFEHOUSE DENVER'S 2017 STAFF

**Luciana Alves,**  
Bilingual Family Advocate

**Maleshah Bender,**  
Donations Coordinator

**Shannon Boltz,**  
Director of Annual Giving  
and Events

**June Branon,**  
Family Advocate

**Valerie Chilewski,**  
Chief Development Officer

**Elaine Cho,**  
Overnight Advocate  
& Relief Staff Supervisor

**Tamara Fox,**  
Grants Manager

**Michelle Gagnon,**  
Domestic Violence Advocate

**Denise Gallegos,**  
Bilingual Women's Advocate

**Bertha Garza,**  
Bilingual Domestic Violence Advocate

**Mikkee Hall,**  
Communications Coordinator

**Abby Hansen,**  
Director of Counseling  
and Advocacy Services

**Victoria McVicker,**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Yimalisse Nazario,**  
Bilingual Domestic Violence Advocate

**Chelsea Peck,**  
Domestic Violence Advocate

**Susan Pilcher,**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Laurel Tawresey,**  
Director of Shelter Services

**Brandy Walega,**  
Domestic Violence Advocate

**Cymone' Williams,**  
Women's Advocate

**Ruth Williams,**  
Overnight Advocate

**Sabrina Wright-Hobart,w**  
Development Coordinator

## SHELTER RELIEF STAFF

**Michelle Brister**  
**Casey Ballinger**  
**Michelle Fegan**  
**Natalie Hicks**  
**Rachel Kerstien**  
**Sarah Nacthman**  
**Nicole Penner**  
**Kayla Reed**  
**Rachel Rodriguez**  
**Jennifer Wernsing**

## INTERNS (2016-2017 School Year)

**Michelle Fagan**  
**Jana Hoffman**  
**Katie Linn**  
**Yimalisse Nazario**

## SAFEHOUSE DENVER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

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

### SERVICES INCLUDE:

- 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line  
303-318-9989
- Secure Emergency Housing
- Individual Counseling and Advocacy
- Support Groups
- Safety Planning
- Referrals to Community Resources
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention  
Services
- Children and Youth Services
- Community Education and 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

303-830-1276 x16

### FAX

303-318-9979

[safehouse-denver.org](http://safehouse-denver.org)

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