

**Assisting adults,
children and youth
in reclaiming their
right to a life free
from domestic
violence since
1977**



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
Fiscal Year **2014/2015**

DEAR FRIENDS,

We're pleased to present our Annual Report to the Community for Fiscal Year 2014/2015. In program year 2014, with your generous support and involvement, we provided safe shelter and counseling services to over 1,400 adults, children and youth experiencing domestic violence.

Throughout the report, you'll find highlights and updates about our programs and services that reflect our impact and stability as an organization. We're pleased to share that due to the generous support of businesses, foundations, and individuals like you, and the strong commitment from our Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, we not only met, but exceeded our budgeted revenue goals for the fiscal year. Recognizing the deep need for our services, over 1,100 generous donors collectively made 3,227 contributions in support of our mission of **assisting adults, children and youth in reclaiming their right to a life free from domestic violence.**

Every day at SafeHouse Denver, we witness how devastating domestic violence is to victims as well as the broader community. In 2014, national media coverage of high profile domestic violence incidents spurred conversations about abuse, whom it impacts, and how a community can respond.



We were grateful for the opportunity to be included in much of that conversation locally.

◀ **Most noteworthy, was the distinct honor of hosting Vice President Joe Biden at our administrative offices for a roundtable discussion on domestic violence in September 2014.** The invitation to host was extended by Mayor Michael B. Hancock and the visit included Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey, representatives from local service providers and survivors of domestic violence. The Vice President's visit came on the heels of the 20th anniversary of the Violence Against Women

Act, legislation drafted by then Senator Biden, which has changed the way our country responds to domestic violence and sexual assault.

We're hopeful that in 2015 and beyond, domestic violence will receive the attention and thoughtful conversation it requires to support survivors, hold perpetrators accountable, and create lasting community change. With your involvement as donors and supporters, we strive to continue to be a leader in the field of domestic violence prevention and early intervention services here in the Metro Denver Area. We also pledge to continue to be good stewards of the time and funds you've so generously entrusted to us.

Thank you again for your continued support and involvement.

With Warm Regards and Appreciation,

Victoria A. McVicker
CEO

Carrie Wernecke-Swenson
2014/2015 Board Chair



▲ Carrie Wernecke-Swenson and Victoria McVicker at the 2014 Hope Gala

SAFEHOUSE DENVER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

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Community Volunteer

IN 2014

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

COUNSELING AND ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC)

"I like how the women who work at SafeHouse Denver treat me with respect, not like it's my fault for being here." –SHELTER RESIDENT

Emergency Shelter staff continued to implement **trauma-informed care** in all aspects of service delivery – from providing space for residents to make mistakes and define their own successes to maintaining a facility that is both physically safe and comfortable.



Shelter residents were provided with a **safe place to stay**, basic necessities, both individual and group counseling support, access to resources such as affordable housing and medical care, as well as the time to heal from the abuse they've experienced.

A number of **physical improvements** were completed at the shelter, including a new roof, mattresses and bed frames, residential-grade washers and dryers, and updates to paint and storage throughout the facility.

BY THE NUMBERS:

262: total number of women and children that called our emergency shelter facility home in 2014

27: the number of beds available at our shelter, plus room for cribs

90: the percent of residents who completed an exit survey and reported "I am more hopeful about my future" upon exiting shelter

CAC Advocates continued to provide non-residential **counseling and advocacy services**, emotional support, crisis intervention and safety planning to adult, child and youth survivors of domestic violence.

We continued our prevention and early-intervention work with **youth** through four off-site groups, including Florence Crittenton High School for pregnant and parenting teen moms; Denver Safe City Diversion and Positive Connections, both serving youth involved with the Denver Juvenile Court system; and Bannock Youth Services, a transitional housing program for emancipated youth.

Our **collaborations** strengthened and grew. We continued to provide off-site domestic violence education, support groups, and individual counseling services at organizations such as Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Center for Work Education and Employment, Head Start, and Irving Street Women's Residence, a program of Volunteers of America.

Through a **new collaboration** with Denver Human Services' Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Office and the Office of Economic Development, we now have a CAC Advocate on-site at Denver Department of Human Services' Castro Building to provide direct support to TANF recipients experiencing domestic violence. In 2014, we served 67 adults on-site at DHS.

BY THE NUMBERS:

1,212: total number of adult, child and youth survivors of domestic violence that received non-residential counseling and advocacy services

127: the number of youth who received teen dating violence prevention and early-intervention support services

ANN'S STORY

Ann drove for three straight days from her home town to get to our Emergency Shelter facility. She had left her boyfriend of several years after he threatened to kill her. Ann drove to find safety. She drove to find help.

When Ann arrived at Shelter, she shared her history of emotional and financial abuse at the hands of her partner. She was determined to leave him and make it on her own. From the beginning, Ann was hard at work to find a job. As she had a good work history and all of her identifying information, she was able to find a full-time position just a few days after arriving at shelter.

Ann worked diligently throughout her two-month stay at shelter. She met with her advocate weekly and set a clear goal to find an apartment. Like many of our shelter residents, she was confronted with the reality of high rental rates and a housing shortage in Denver. Despite the setbacks, Ann never wavered in pursuing her goal. After a long wait and many ups and downs, Ann finally found an affordable place to live. Through a resource introduced to her by her advocate, she was able to secure rental assistance for her security deposit.

After leaving our shelter, Ann expressed interest in participating in our Advisory Group, a group of former residents that we consult with about guidelines and other processes at Shelter. Ann's input and feedback through this unique group will help other survivors on their journey to a life free from abuse.



24-HOUR CRISIS AND INFORMATION LINE

Our crisis and information line is available **24-Hours a day, 365 days a year**. Callers receive help with safety planning, access to safe shelter and counseling services, referrals to other community resources, and tips on how to support someone experiencing abuse.

BY THE NUMBERS:

14,152: total number of calls received via our 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line

39: average number of crisis calls answered each day

FINANCIALS

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING
MARCH 31, 2015

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 621,940
Accounts receivable	\$ 74,175
Contributions receivable	\$ 961
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$ 37,650
Investments	\$ 632,339
Beneficial interest in Community First Foundation	\$ 51,698
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$579,774	\$ 478,563

Total assets **\$1,897,326**

Liabilities

Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred revenue	\$ 155,595
Total liabilities	\$ 155,595

Net Assets

Unrestricted:	
Property and equipment, net of related debt	\$ 478,563
Board Designated Assets	\$ 524,524
Undesignated	\$ 665,789
Total unrestricted net assets	\$ 1,668,876
Temporarily restricted	\$ 21,157
Permanently restricted	\$ 51,698

Total net assets **\$1,741,731**

Total liabilities and net assets **\$1,897,326**

OPERATING REVENUE

Mile High United Way (includes individual workplace giving through MHUW)	\$ 70,489
Government	\$ 376,324
Corporations/Foundation	\$ 289,885
Individuals, Special Events, Religious & Service Orgs.	\$ 752,785
Service Fees	\$ 31,229

Operating Revenue **\$1,520,712**

OPERATING EXPENSES

Family	\$ 414,639
Counseling and Advocacy	\$ 421,895
Children	\$ 154,008
Community Education	\$ 66,065
Emergency Housing	\$ 186,712
Development	\$ 144,372
Administrative	\$ 118,768

Operating Expenses **\$1,506,459**

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

330 guests attended the **Hope Gala**, our annual signature fundraising event. Through the generous support of our sponsors, attendees, and auction donors, the event exceeded its revenue goals. We'd like to recognize and thank our 2014 Gold Sponsors, The Mueller Foundation and Carol and Paul Rose, for their generous support of this event.

With support from Community First Foundation, we created the **Legacy of Hope Society** to recognize the extraordinary commitment of people who include SafeHouse Denver in their estate plans. Upon its inception, we've welcomed eight supporters to the Legacy of Hope Society and remembered two generous donors whose estate gifts came to us posthumously.

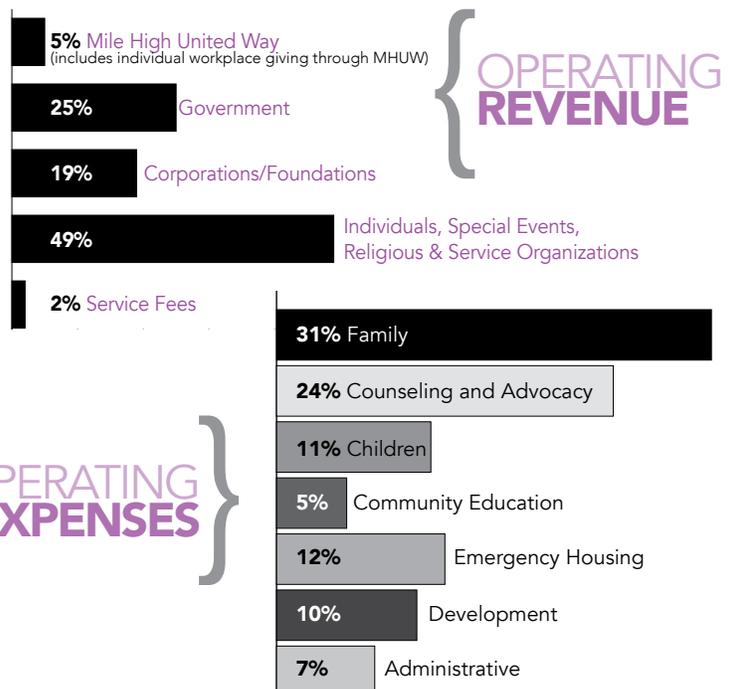
In 2014, we received over 570 **in-kind donations**, valued at over \$152,000. Gifts included auction items for our fundraising events and donations for our shelter residents and CAC clients, including clothing, toys, and toiletries. In-kind contributions also included valuable professional services such as graphic design, website support, legal services and maintenance and repairs to our shelter facilities.

BY THE NUMBERS:

100: percentage of Board of Directors who made one or more financial contributions in 2014

229: number of donors who contributed on Colorado Gives Day

293,000: Gross revenue generated through the 2014 Hope Gala



DONORS

Thank you to the following donors who generously contributed to SafeHouse Denver between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015. 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 to \$99,999

Anonymous
The Anschutz Foundation

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\$1,000 to \$2,499

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Denver Victim Assistance
Law Enforcement Funds
Metro Denver Emergency
Food and Shelter Program
Office of Economic Development
- Temporary Assistance to
Needy Families (TANF)
Office on Violence Against
Women - Justice Project
for Older Adults
State of Colorado -
Department of Human
Services- Domestic Violence
Program
State of Colorado Department
of Public Health &
Environment - Child and
Adult Care Food Program
Victim Compensation Fund
Victim of Crime Act Funds/
Violence Against Women
Act Funds

safehouse-denver.org

VOLUNTEERS

35 highly-trained program **volunteers and interns** contributed over 2,300 hours through our 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line and the Children's Program at our Emergency Shelter. In addition, 56 committee members contributed 650 hours assisting with projects related to special events, fund development, donor stewardship and capacity building.

Our committed **Board of Directors** donated more than 516 hours of their time to board-related activities.

BY THE NUMBERS:

\$91,267: value of total volunteer time
donated to SafeHouse Denver in 2014

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Staff and trained volunteers provided **educational presentations** to school groups, partner agencies, faith communities, health professionals and businesses throughout the Metro Denver Area.

BY THE NUMBERS:

40: number of community education presentations provided in the community

979: total number of individuals reached directly through our education efforts

SAFEHOUSE DENVER'S 2015 STAFF

Shannon Boltz,
Annual Giving and Events Manager

Judy Carrier,
Director of Counseling and Advocacy Services

Valerie Chilewski,
Chief Development Officer

Abby Eschler,
Domestic Violence Advocate

Kayla Frawley,
Bilingual Family Advocate

Bertha Garza,
Bilingual Domestic Violence Advocate

Ashley Golder,
Director of Communications

Natalie Hicks,
Director of Shelter Services

Kelly Holland,
Volunteer and Project Manager

Rebecca Knight,
Bilingual Women's Advocate

Nadine Leonard,
Domestic Violence Advocate

Victoria A. McVicker,
Chief Executive Officer

Ashlee Morris Hobbs,
Domestic Violence Advocate

Jeanne Newland,
Women's Advocate

Sue Pilcher,
Chief Financial Officer

Megan Pratt,
Domestic Violence Advocate

Brandy Walega,
Domestic Violence Advocate

Jessica Wall Schmidt,
Grants Manager

Jennifer Wernsing,
Women's Advocate

Rachael Williams,
Family Advocate

Ruth Williams,
Women's Advocate

Sabrina Wright-Hobart,
Development and Administrative Assistant

SHELTER RELIEF STAFF

Michelle Brister
Elaine Cho
Courtney Kuepper
Stephanie Sessarego
Katie Stubbs
Lynne Watson
Cecily Williams
Veronika Walker
Chelsey Valeri

INTERNS (2014-2015 School Year)

Michelle Gagnon
Annie Garcia
Nathalie Hall
Chelsea Peck

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

ANNUAL REPORT CREDITS

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VALERIE CHILEWSKI, **ASSISTANT EDITOR**

GRAPHIC DESIGN SERVICES
GENEROUSLY DONATED BY

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