

WOMENSAFE, INC.

the 
**Green
House**

Annual Report

Give Help...



Get Help...



**State Fiscal Year 2013
July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013**

Providing Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh.
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Lessons Learned In Life

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Next survey date:
Summer 2015

Volunteers Continue to Amaze Me...

Last year, we were establishing plans for our agency to move forward with our initiative to engage men in our community to speak out against domestic violence. We decided to start by asking some of our male stakeholders to join with us to begin to develop a plan. We weren't even sure who would show up...if anyone...and who would champion this action in our community?

At our very first meeting, there were twenty-five gentlemen in the room waiting to see how they could help. Educators, governmental representatives, lay community members, and law enforcement members agreed to offer their time and talent to assist in setting the goals and developing a plan on how to accomplish these goals.

Out of this meeting, three focus areas emerged. They agreed to explore how first responders handle domestic violence calls, how the media addresses domestic violence situations, and the messages that our youth receive in the local community. The "Coaching Boys Into Men" project became an integral piece of the plan to educate our young men about domestic violence. The members of the group realized that many young adults needed to hear from their coaching role models that it is their responsibility to treat everyone with respect. Men in the room volunteered their time to contact other men and share the curriculum in the hopes they would use it with the young men they influence. The Engaging Men initiative continues to move forward in helping stop domestic violence in our community.

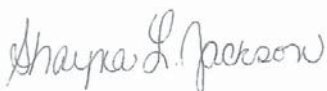
I also saw the first fully completed year of the WomenSafe Resale Shoppe. This endeavor would have never been made possible if it weren't for the volunteers who have offered their time, attention, and detail to the Shoppe. I am always amazed when I walk into the Resale Shoppe and I see a store full of customers being assisted by our dedicated crew of men and women. The volunteers give an average of 100 hours per week. These are truly remarkable people. I would encourage you to stop into our Shoppe in Chesterland or like the FaceBook page. The Shoppe generates supplemental revenue that has supported the increase in client and shelter needs. This revenue allowed WomenSafe to meet the over 60% increase in provided shelter days this year to adults and children, who were fleeing violent homes. Stay tuned for expanded changes to the Resale Shoppe in 2014!

These are only a few of all of the individuals willing to "Give Help" to WomenSafe this fiscal year. There are so many more that also deserve our gratitude. Each person, corporation, and company that assists us in our mission is truly an unsung hero. They are what makes our agency a success.

WomenSafe has just concluded its 34th year providing the critical support and resources to adults and children whose daily lives are filled with fear. With increasing clarity, we are learning that domestic abuse is NOT a women's issue, but a societal issue that demands all of our attention and commitment.

Just don't give up...

Most Sincerely,



Shayna L. Jackson, MSSA, LISW-S
Executive Director

The mission of WomenSafe is to provide emergency shelter and support services to survivors of domestic violence throughout northeast Ohio.

The following programs are offered free of charge to anyone needing assistance:

Emergency Shelter – A safe shelter is provided for adults and children fleeing violence in their homes and offers a comforting environment where they can begin to heal. All basic necessities are provided to residents. In FY 2013:

- More than 5,200 emergency shelter days were provided to individuals fleeing from domestic violence.
- 54% of the total bed days were children residing in shelter.
- 98% of individuals stated that they are using the information they received to improve their situation. (Agency Goal: 90%)



COPEline (888-285-5665) – 24-hour support and crisis management is readily accessible for survivors, as well as, family and friends to receive support, information, and immediate access to shelter and programming. In FY 2013:

- More than 3,300 calls were handled by trained advocates and volunteers.
- WomenSafe staff were on-site 24-hours a day to provide immediate support and assistance for callers, as well as to individuals entering into the emergency shelter.
- 98% of clients were more aware of their safety options. (Agency Goal: 90%)

Clinical Programming – Domestic violence professionals complete assessments and assist clients with developing and accomplishing personal goals and life skills. Counseling and additional supports are available to all regardless of whether shelter services have been utilized. In FY 2013:

- As a result of increasing demand for clinical services, WomenSafe continues to hire an additional licensed clinical staff to assure immediate access to a counselor.
- WomenSafe opened its first satellite office in Mentor to better accommodate the needs of survivors, who were unable to travel to the main campus.
- 97% of survivors stated they have a better understanding of how domestic violence has affected their lives. (Agency Goal: 80%)
- 92% of clients surveyed reported that their understanding of the dynamics of abusive relationships increased and that the counseling they received improved their functioning. (Agency Goal: 80%)

Art Therapy – Art Therapy allows survivors to express a range of emotions through creative self-expression. The Art Therapist offers this service to adults and children ages five and older. In FY 2013:

- 83% of clients stated that Art Therapy assisted them in the healing process. (Agency Goal: 80%)

Advocacy Services – Through collaborations with attorneys, advocates, police departments, local hospitals, and trained volunteers, WomenSafe supports survivors during the difficult hours following an altercation. Court Advocates accompany survivors of domestic violence through the court process, explaining legal entitlements and implications of legal proceedings. Resident Care Workers are on call 24 hours a day to provide immediate support and crisis management to victims who present at local medical facilities. In FY 2013:

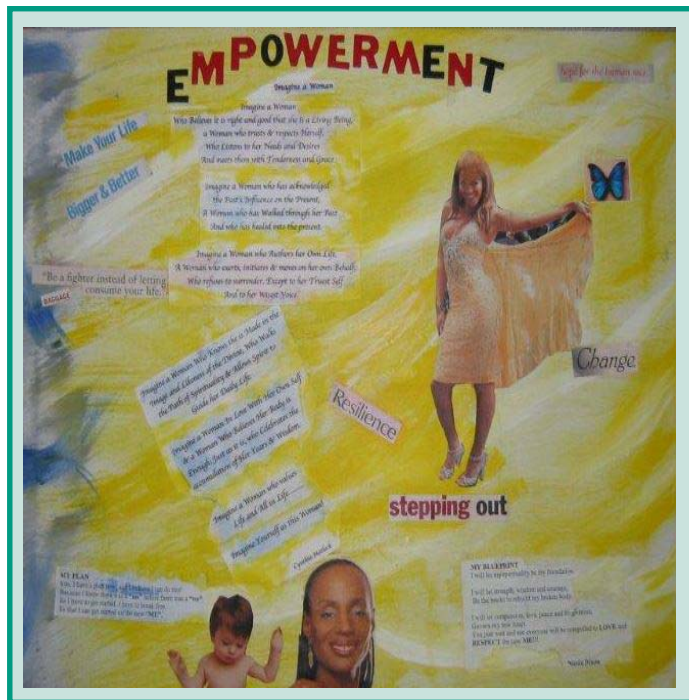
- 96% of clients stated they had a better understanding of their rights as a victim of crime since working with WomenSafe. (Agency Goal: 90%)
- 100% of clients who requested protection orders were able to obtain them. (Agency Goal: 85%)

Aftercare Services – WomenSafe continues to provide clients with long-term support for up to two years after their shelter stay. In FY 2013:

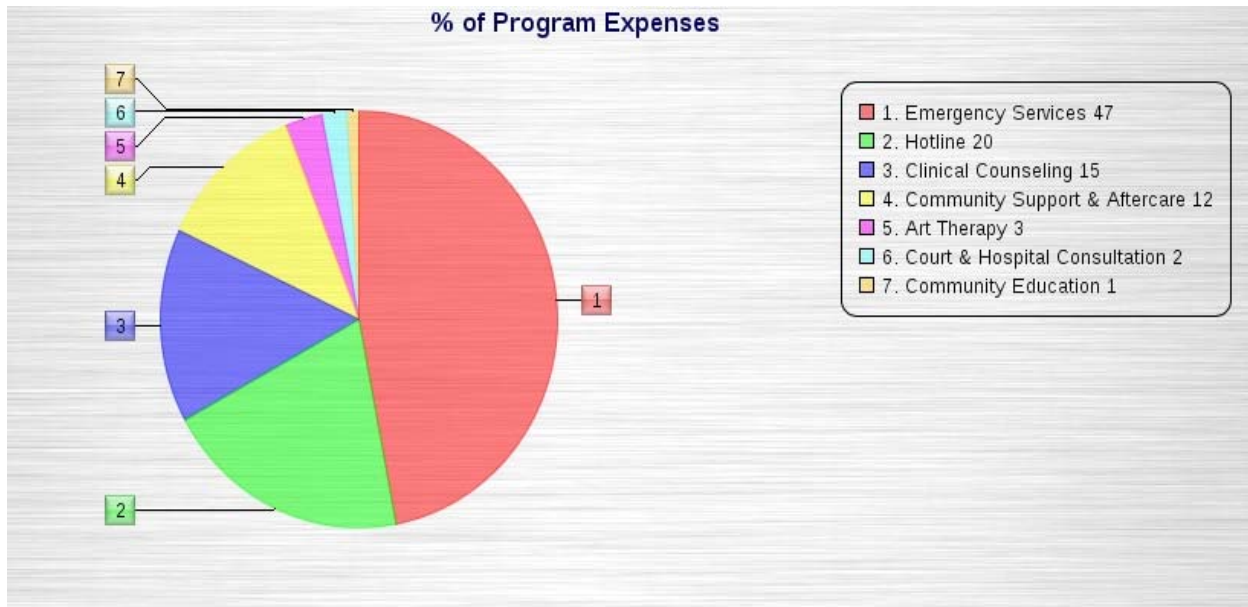
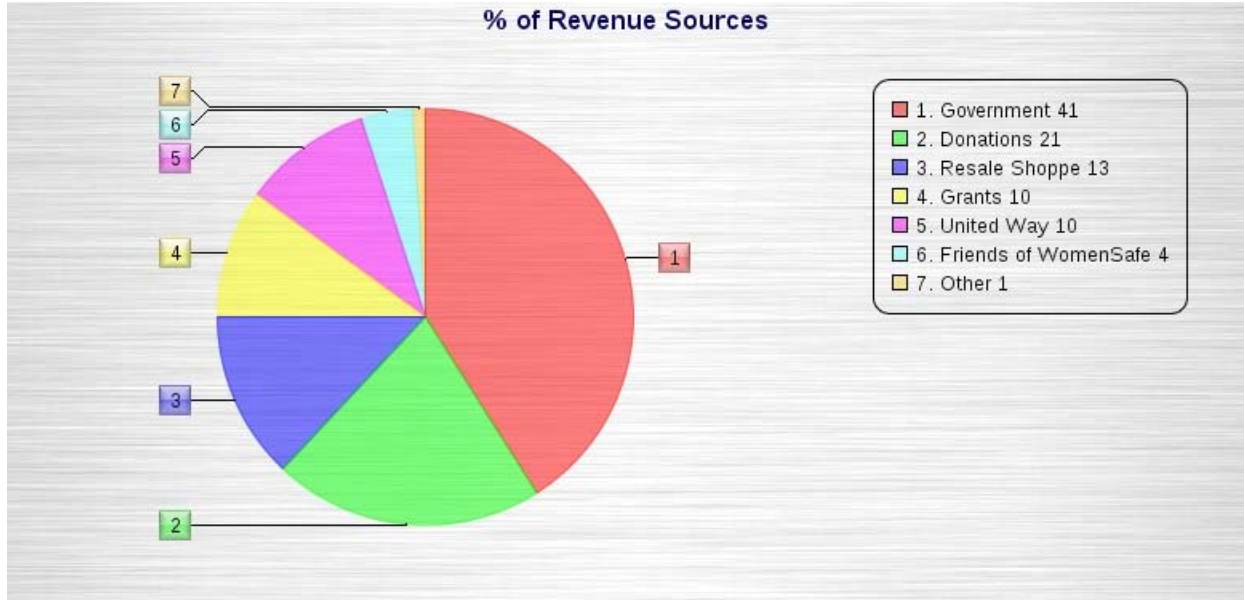
- Donations offered by community supporters make this program thrive. This includes donations of furniture, household goods, clothing, school supplies, food, and toiletries. Many of these items are used by our families in their new homes. An Aftercare Worker makes home visits to clients to assist families in any way needed in their journey of living lives free from violence.
- A partnership with the Resale Shoppe allows clients to shop on a budget with vouchers for needed items either for their new home or for items they may need while in shelter.
- 95% of Aftercare clients stated that the follow up telephone calls and visits were helpful in relieving ongoing and new issues. (Agency Goal: 80%)
- 92% of individuals stated they were able to meet their goals. (Agency Goal: 85%)

Community Education – To build community awareness, WomenSafe offers presentations to the general public, schools, businesses, agencies, churches, and senior and youth organizations. In FY 2013:

- Outreach to schools increased and is anticipated to grow in the future.
- More than 1,500 students in Geauga County schools received domestic violence education.
- 93% of participants self-reported that they gained information from the presentation about domestic violence and the services available in Geauga County that they would not otherwise have learned without an on-site visit. (Agency Goal: 90%)



REVENUE SOURCES AND PROGRAM EXPENSES



\$1,020,364 BUDGET IN SFY 2013

Unaudited results

Thank You Supporters

WomenSafe, Inc., the Green House would like to thank our Fiscal Year 2013 donors
(July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013).

We value all gifts, in-kind and monetary.

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Special thanks to our friends at Mar-Bal for organizing a Day of Caring and providing assistance with landscaping needs at the Green House.

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Molly Lavigna
Sherry Lavin



For several years, the Notre Dame High School Cheerleaders have shared the holiday spirit by collecting items to give to WomenSafe families.

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Dianne Mikes
Michael & Natalie Mikes
Jenny Millard



**Our friends at Home Savings Bank,
Chardon held their second annual school
supply drive for the children using
WomenSafe services. This included
goodies for the lunchbox!**

Karen L. Miller
Loretta Miller
Lori Miller
Megan Miller
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Mallory Babika, her father Ron, and many other family members and friends united for the second year in Downtown Willoughby to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. This event proved to be another successful fundraiser to benefit WomenSafe and generate awareness.

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**All bold names are
WomenSafe volunteers.
In addition to monetary and
in-kind contributions, these
individuals give the
gift of their time.**

**Our sincere apologies for
any omissions or errors. If
your name was inadvertently
omitted or spelled
incorrectly, please contact
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