



centerpoint

Fall 2016

The Women's Center's mission is to provide safety, shelter and support to women and their families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault and abuse and to facilitate their development.



Pictured above: The Women's Center's Peace Garden.

The Women's Center's free programs and services include:

- Emergency Shelter
 - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Counseling and Support Groups
 - Transitional Living
 - Employment and Life Skills
 - Legal Advocacy
 - Community Education
 - Children's Programming
 - 24-Hour Hotline
- Free onsite childcare is available during support groups, classes, and counseling appointments.

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Thank you, Roundy's!

Staff Spotlight

Help Us Break The Cycle

Domestic Violence Homicides Rise in 2016

This has been a particularly tragic year in Wisconsin: the number of domestic violence homicides increased by 70%. End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, a statewide advocacy group, reports that 39 domestic violence homicides occurred in the first six months of the year, which is 1/3 more than the previous high in 2009.

This must serve as a wake-up call. We know that domestic violence, sexual assault and sexual abuse occur in every county, every community and every zip code in Wisconsin, to women, children, and men of all ages, cultural backgrounds, and socio-economic levels. In order for us to reach those who are suffering at the hands of a loved one, we ask the community to become informed and involved.

We are the only agency in Waukesha County dedicated to meeting the needs of those experiencing domestic and sexual violence, and we cannot fulfill our mission without your support.

Visit us online at twcwaukesha.org to learn the warning signs of abuse, as well as strategies for helping a friend if you suspect abuse.

A crucial step in reducing an individual's risk for homicide is for victims to connect with domestic violence service providers like The Women's Center. We provide life-saving services through our Hotline and emergency shelter, and life-changing services through counseling, legal advocacy, and life-skills programming. Our advocates work with clients to develop safety plans and help survivors heal from trauma.

Call our 24 Hour Hotline at 262-542-3828 with any questions about our services.

You can help now. Funding our mission is the best way to ensure that we can touch more lives. Learn more or donate online at twcwaukesha.org.

{wish list}

The following items are currently most needed by our clients.

- Baby monitors (new or gently used)
- Women's underwear (sizes 5-11)
- Sport top water bottles
- Headphones/earbuds
- Kid-friendly cereal
- Coffee
- Condiments
- Cleaning supplies
- Spray bottles for cleaning solutions
- Small tote bags
- Electronic stylus
- Swimsuits of various sizes

All items must be new and unused.

Thank you for helping us meet the needs of our clients!

{lend a hand}

Become a volunteer! Make a difference in the lives of survivors and their children.

Opportunities include:

- On-Call Advocate
- Childcare
- Receptionist
- Gentle Men
- Donation Sorting
- Gardening
- Maintenance

Volunteers are requested to attend Advocate Training, a four part series that provides education on the realities of domestic and sexual violence.

Next sessions:

- Fri. Sept. 9 from 6pm – 9pm
- Sat. Sept. 10 from 9am – 4pm
- Fri. Sept. 16 from 6pm – 9pm
- Sat. Sept. 17 from 9am – 4pm

All four sessions are required.

To learn more about Advocate Training or volunteer opportunities, call 262-547-4600. We hope you'll join us!

Client Success: Building a safer future for her family

We love hearing from former clients with updates on how they are doing. We received this letter from a client who utilized our shelter, supportive services, and participated in our Transitional Living program.

"When my son and I first came to The Women's Center, we were homeless. We were exhausted, afraid, and struggled to trust or even interact with people. We also had no clear idea of how to navigate our future."

This is where the difficult work begins for many of our clients. While in the shelter she met with our staff who helped her plan for her safety. Then she and her son worked with counselors to begin processing the trauma of the abuse. The legal advocates helped her with her decision to legally divorce her abusive husband. From the shelter she moved into the transitional living program, where she accessed safe, affordable housing while participating in our ongoing programming.

"Two years later, I am over halfway through school, and have successfully navigated divorce and custody proceedings. My son is an extremely happy and secure little boy with no anxiety or fear. Most importantly, we have been filled with hope and a sense of purpose.

"None of this would have been possible without the support, guidance, and kindness we received at The Women's Center. In addition to safe and affordable housing, we have been helped in so many ways.

"Besides the counseling, information, and help, the greatest gift has been the kindness shown to us on a daily basis. From the phenomenal attention and care given to my son, to the friendly smiles and inquiries about how things were going, this sense of community and being surrounded by people who care about us has gotten me through the hardest times in the last two years. It's hard to put into words, but thank you all so much, so very much."

Like all of our success stories, this would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters. We're so thankful to you for becoming involved with our mission. Together with your support, we can change lives.

Leave A Legacy

You can have a lasting impact on The Women's Center and future generations of women and families by making a planned gift or including The Women's Center in your will or estate plan.

To learn more about Planned Giving, contact Ann Marie Moss at 262-522-3812 or annmariem@twcwaukesha.org.

2015 Annual Report

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Dear friends,

Looking back at 2015, we are proud of the successes achieved by our clients. Our staff continue to offer incredible support and advocacy, and the resilience and grace demonstrated by the survivors they serve is truly humbling. Here are a few of the noteworthy outcomes reported by our clients through anonymous surveys:

- 85% of all adults that participated in our services and programs developed a safety plan.
- 79% of all program participants successfully connected with community resources.
- 73% of adult domestic or sexual violence survivors could identify different forms of power and control.

We are grateful for your support of The Women's Center, which enables us to continue offering quality, free programs and services to every client that seeks our services. We hope you enjoy this snapshot of 2015, and as we move into the last months of 2016, we thank you for recognizing the importance of our mission and being involved.

Peacefully,



Angela Mancuso
Executive Director



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Programs and Services

In 2015, we provided direct services to 1,472 unduplicated individuals. Total involvement was 19,430, which indicates the full scope of our work as clients use either one or multiple services. Below shares the impact of our reach and some outcomes from our clients.

Emergency Shelter: 8,650 nights of care and 25,950 healthy meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) to 290 women and their children.

- 85% of all adults that participated in our services and programs developed a safety plan.

24-Hour Hotline: 5,232 calls seeking referrals and information; requesting emergency shelter and crisis counseling; or from area police departments to report domestic violence incidents.

Domestic Violence Counseling: 882 adults and children participated.

- 75% felt educated about the different forms of abuse after counseling.

Sexual Assault and Abuse Counseling: 289 adults and children participated.

- 85% of adults reported that they learned healthy coping skills.
- 73% of youth developed a safety plan and identified protective behaviors.
- 71% of child survivors learned that the abuse was not their fault.

Employment and Life Skills: 156 individuals participated.

- 99% developed a job search plan after two counseling sessions, and 62% obtained employment.

Legal Advocacy: supported 240 individuals.

With the support of our community, we can provide round-the-clock services to those seeking a better life for themselves and their families. With your partnership, we can save lives.

Help us meet the need. Consider a gift to The Women's Center today.

Thank You to All Our Generous Donors!

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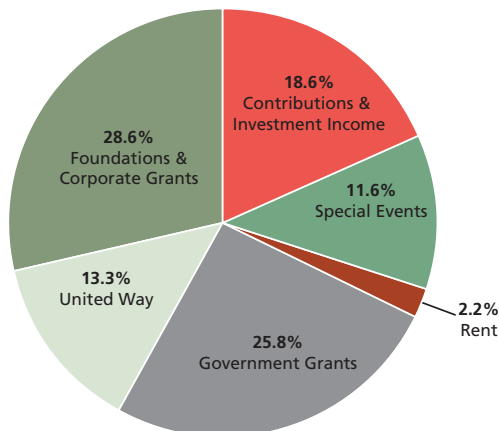
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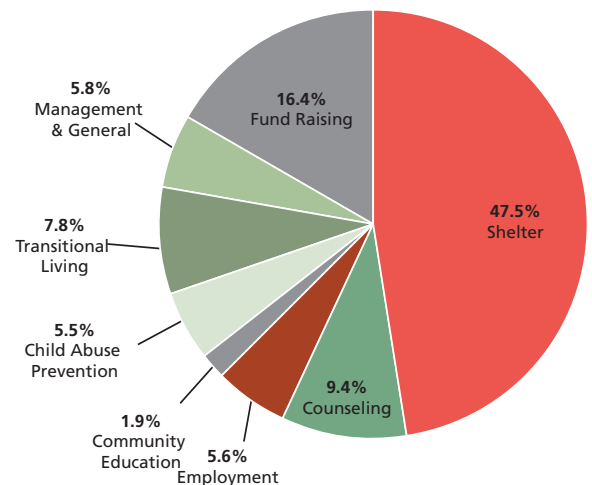
Public Support and Revenues for Year Ending December 31, 2015

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Contributions & Investment Income | |
| Contributions | \$375,017 |
| Gifts In Kind | \$32,618 |
| Miscellaneous | \$1,535 |
| Investment Income | -\$16,856 |
| Special Events | \$245,354 |
| Rent | \$45,926 |
| Government Grants | \$544,150 |
| United Way | \$279,972 |
| Foundations & Corporate Grants | \$602,906 |
| Total Public Support and Revenue | \$2,110,622 |



Operating and Program Expenses for Year Ending December 31, 2015

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Shelter | \$1,065,029 |
| Counseling | \$210,572 |
| Employment | \$126,063 |
| Community Education | \$43,252 |
| Child Abuse Prevention | \$122,489 |
| Transitional Living | \$175,466 |
| Management & General | \$129,691 |
| Fund Raising | \$368,300 |
| Total Operating Expense | \$2,240,862 |





{upcoming}

September:

Advocate Training

to be held Sept. 9, 10, 16, 17.

October:

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month,

a time to commemorate lives lost, honor survivors, and recommit ourselves to the crucial work of breaking the cycle of violence.

Futures Free From Violence: Team Trivia Night

to be held Oct. 13 from 5:30-8:00pm at the Milwaukee Public Market.

Tickets are \$25 in advance with team sponsorship and underwriting opportunities available. To learn more call Dana at 262-522-3805.

November:

A Noteworthy Evening

to be held Nov. 12 from 6:00-10:30pm at the Legend at Brandybrook.

See page 12 for more details.

2017:

2017 marks The Women's Center's 40th Anniversary.

Watch for details on our special programming and events as we celebrate 40 years of providing safety, shelter, and support!



Pictured: Angela Mancuso, The Women's Center Executive Director, with Connie Jones, Roundy's Foundation Administrator.

Thank you, Roundy's Foundation!

We recently received a generous \$20,000 grant in support of our emergency shelter from the Roundy's Foundation, the charitable arm of Pick 'n Save, Copps, and Metro Market stores. The Roundy's Foundation has supported The Women's Center for more than 30 years, beginning in 1986 through their We Care program and providing their first formal grant in 2003. In the past five years, they have provided \$100,000 to support our emergency shelter with their total giving exceeding \$219,000. The support of Roundy's and friends like you enable The Women's Center to reach more victims of domestic and sexual violence each year – thank you!

We are grateful to all of our foundation partners for their significant support of our mission, including:

- Windhover Foundation
- Union Pacific Foundation
- The Catholic Community Foundation
- Volunteer Service Club of Pewaukee

{Staff Spotlight: Ann Marie Moss}

We welcome our new Director of Development & Communications, Ann Marie Moss, who started with The Women's Center on July 11. Ann Marie was most recently the Director of Development for Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, where she led the development and implementation of a major gifts program and oversaw the annual fundraising of \$3 million with her team of four.



County. Her work there focused on strategic markets, engaging individuals through affinity groups and leadership giving to increase their involvement and support of United Way.

Ann Marie moved to Milwaukee in 2009 after spending five years in Philadelphia, PA, following her graduation from college. She was a

Ronald W. Reagan Leadership Fellow at Eureka College in Eureka, IL, where she received a BA in Romance Languages & Cultures with a minor in Studio Art.

Prior to Feeding America, Ann Marie spent four years at United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha

Fall 2016

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Join us for our exciting new event, **A Noteworthy Evening**, chaired by **Alison Holub and Nancy Lindenberg!**

This event features an interactive, request-driven dueling pianos show provided by Lucille's Piano Bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and an exciting live auction.

Tickets are \$150. Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities are available. To learn more visit twcwaukesha.org or call Dana at 262-522-3805.

All proceeds benefit The Women's Center's free programs and services that help women and children heal and break the cycle of violence.