

Building communities free of domestic violence and sexual assault



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**THANK YOU** for supporting survivors

# SUPPORTING SURVIVORS FOR OVER 45 YEARS

**Joyce Hunter** is the President and CEO of the African American Cultural & Historical Museum of Washtenaw County and the former Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education with the Ann Arbor Public Schools



Joyce Hunter SafeHouse Center Board President

Dear Supporters,

As the incoming SafeHouse Center Board President, I wanted to personally thank you for your continued support. The work of providing free and confidential services and programs to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence is always a challenge but the ongoing pandemic has added more stress upon this mission.

Over the last 17 months, the entire world learned that personal interactions could take on levels of risk that we have not seen before. Social distancing regulations meant survivors had to spend more time in their homes with their abusers, decreasing the opportunity for them to call SafeHouse Center safely.

Many reports, including the United Nations Populations Fund, estimates a 20% increase in intimate partner violence due to quarantines and lock-downs. We know that stressors such as isolation, unemployment, and housing instability exacerbates opportunities for conflict in the home. We are seeing the ramifications of this with a dramatic increase in calls to our 24-hour Helpline and also requests for sheltering here at SafeHouse Center.

Short staffing has become one of the most difficult obstacles facing day-to-day operations for countless companies and organizations, and that has been no different at SafeHouse Center. We continue to try to hire and train as quickly as we can while also working on updating an aging building. These are unprecedented times.

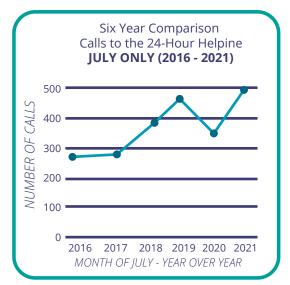
I share this because as an organization SafeHouse Center is going through a time of reflection and change while preparing to meet the future challenges with a renewed focus on our important role to survivors in this community.

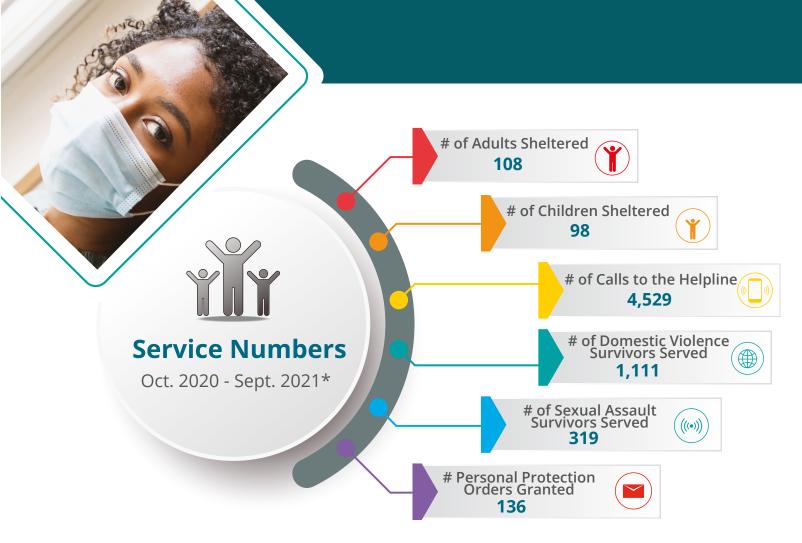
As we move forward, our commitment remains grounded to our mission to provide safety, support, advocacy, and resources for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, and support for their children. We have done so proudly for over 45 years and we will relentlessly continue to remove barriers for all survivors until we witness systems and attitudes change, and see abuse end.

With grace, we ask you to please continue your support of SafeHouse Center and the countless number of survivors that need support every year in our community.

Gratefully, size M. Hunter

Joyce M. Hunter





\*SafeHouse Center Fiscal Year is October 1 through September 30

### Too Good to Be True

Ashley met the man of her dreams. He was attentive, dependable and caring. Shortly after they married things began to change. Does this sound familiar to you?

Ashley stayed married to her partner for 10 years and they had three children together. During that time she was mentally and physically abused, but did her best to hide things from the couple's kids. Each time something would happen her husband promised it would never happen again and manipulated Ashley by saying the children needed a father and they had to stay married.

Eventually as events escalated the police were called not once but multiple times. Sadly, Ashley never made it to the court hearings because she was threatened by her abuser and he promised to kill her and the children if she went through with any attempt to leave him.

On a particular violent encounter, one of the children witnessed Ashley being choked. When she woke up she made the decision she must leave. She filed a police report, her husband was arrested and she was able to gather some of the families belongings and temporarily stay with a family member. Ashley called SafeHouse Center (SHC) for help and was connected to one of our legal advocates. She explained that she wanted to hold her abuser accountable for his actions and remove her children from that environment permanently. With a SHC legal advocate by her side for support, Ashley attended court and provided testimony that led the judge to find her husband guilty on all charges.

SHC also helped Ashley connect to the Family Law Practice where she was able to file for divorce and custody. She was also able to find housing and with support, she was quickly back on her feet.

Ashley shared that throughout the whole process, she just kept reminding herself that she could do it and all she needed to do was to just take that first step and ask for help.

Asking for help is often not easy. The important thing is that when a survivor is ready SHC is there to offer free and confidential support. It is only because of the generosity of our donors, volunteers, and community sponsors that we are able to offer this hope.



## 2020/21 **Board Members**

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# Financials FY 2019/2020

| Operating Revenue  | Αι               | idited 2020                     | ŀ            | Audited 2019 |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Contributions  | \$               | 1,376,194.00                    | \$           | 1,002,368.00 |
| In-kind  | \$               | 258,275.00                      | \$           | 168,531.00   |
| Grants   | \$               | 1,619,648.00                    | \$           | 1,325,330.00 |
| Other Revenues   | \$               | 162,964.00                      | \$           | 93,918.000   |
| Restricted contributions whose restrictions were met                                       | \$               | 183,714.00                      | \$           | 146,732.00   |
| Total Operating Revenue  | \$               | 3,600,795.00                    | \$           | 2,736,879.00 |
| Operating Expenses   | Audited 2020     |                                 | Audited 2019 |              |
| Program Expense  | \$               | 2,638,747.00                    | \$           | 2,225,546.00 |
| Management & General   | \$               | 286,812.00                      | \$           | 232,010.00   |
| Fundraising  | \$               | 272,645.00                      | \$           | 291,630.00   |
| Total Operating Expenses   | \$               | 3,198,204.00                    | \$           | 2,749,186.00 |
| Increase/Decrease in Net Assets  | \$               | 402,591.00                      | \$           | (12,307.00)  |
| 2020 Revenue<br>Other Revenues<br>5%<br>Contrib<br>Whose<br>Restrict<br>Restrict<br>Were M |                  | 2(<br>Fundraising<br>9%         | 020 Exp      | benses       |
| 38   | ntributions<br>% | Management<br>and General<br>9% |              |              |
| Grants<br>45%<br>In-Kinc<br>7%   |                  | Program ——<br>Expenses<br>82%   |              |              |



www.safehousecenter.org

