



Building communities
free of domestic violence
and sexual assault

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



About SafeHouse

SafeHouse Center's Mission

SafeHouse Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide safety, support, advocacy, and resources for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence and their children, and to work relentlessly to change the systems and attitudes that allow this abuse to continue.

Core Values

- SafeHouse Center is the center for providing leadership, support and advocacy for this work in Washtenaw County.
- We know that we cannot do this alone. We will provide the leadership to build effective community partnerships and drive the systems changes required to end assaults on women.
- We are committed to the empowerment of all women and believe that all people should be valued without bias and should be treated with dignity and respect. This feminist philosophy guides our actions and service delivery. We believe in liberty and justice for all – no exceptions.
- Sexual assault and domestic violence are never the fault of the survivor.
- We will promote safety, justice and autonomy for survivors and their children.
- We will provide an environment of support and hope for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence.
- We believe that the prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence must continue to move from the private sphere into the arena of public policy and community responsibility.
- We believe that every person is affected by oppression and that it is impossible to end violence against women and children without working toward the end of all forms of oppression.
- We will not remain silent in the face of discrimination and oppression because complacency and silence perpetuate inequality and violence.
- We are committed to operate with integrity and high ethical standards in all that we do.

Letter from the Board Chair



Gregory Dill
Board Chair &
Washtenaw County
Administrator

Greetings,

Since assuming the role of Board President in 2022, I am pleased to have had the opportunity to serve the Board, staff, community, and most importantly, SURVIVORS, as we advance the values and mission of this organization. I thank you for your ongoing support and advocacy on behalf of survivors and this community.

My on-going goals are to promote a culture of strong communication, to ensure the long-term fiscal health and to maintain the programmatic sustainability of SafeHouse Center in our community. There have absolutely been challenges to achieving these goals. As our county continues to recover from a global pandemic, there have been difficulties related to staffing and capacity. Still, we are more committed than ever and remain focused on providing the safety and support, advocacy and resources needed by survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence and for their children.

We have worked to acclimate our new executive director, Christine Watson, and her leadership team. They work daily to ensure the continuity of service as we rise to meet the needs of survivors.

We have over 45 years of committed service behind us. It is my honor to lead our Board as we envision what the next 45 years may look like. As we move forward, we remain grateful for your tireless support.

Best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Gregory Dill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of SafeHouse,

2022 was a year of reflection and transition for SafeHouse Center and I want to thank you for your support as we navigated organizational changes and the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

My name is Christine Watson, I am the Executive Director at SafeHouse Center. If we have yet to meet, I look forward to making your acquaintance!

I became involved with SafeHouse Center in 2006 as a volunteer and it quickly led to a permanent career, I'm so grateful for. I have witnessed the trauma of Domestic and Sexual Violence, I have seen the long-term impact it can have on survivors and their families and have felt the loss

when the violence escalates. I have also experienced the resilience and strength of hundreds, if not thousands, of survivors who every day remind us why we do this work! I am honored to be leading SafeHouse Center in its next chapter as we continue to do what we do best; providing support, resources, advocacy and hope to survivors in our community.

SafeHouse Center continues to experience an increase in requests for services in both our residential and non-residential programs. A lot of focus remains on our shelter, but I am pleased to share that through our strong partnership with Washtenaw County and other federal and local grants, we have recently completed a building refresh which included residential areas such as the kitchen, dining and living rooms. Having the ability to offer emergency and temporary shelter to survivors fleeing a harmful situation is crucial. However, we also work diligently through our non-residential programs to allow survivors to remain safe in their own homes and not suffer displacement by engaging in safety planning, Personal Protection Order applications and general advocacy. Survivors sometimes have unique challenges, and we continue to provide the best support that we can with the resources we have available to us.

As we look towards the future, we have also been resuming our activity in the community by seeking to reconnect and/or foster new and intentional community relationships with service partners and members. Please know that I am available to listen because there is power in unity, and I believe it important to be seen as a productive and collaborative community partner. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



SafeHouse Center's Programs & Services

All SHC services are free, confidential and promote empowerment, autonomy and safety.

Crisis Support

SafeHouse Center offers individual, short-term, crisis support to any survivor of domestic violence or sexual assault. Crisis support sessions provide survivors with a supportive environment to process their experience, engage in safety planning and explore resources.

Emergency Temporary Shelter

Our emergency temporary shelter is available to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault who are fleeing a harmful situation. Our shelter is a safe and welcoming home where survivors can take steps towards reclaiming their independence and also access all other SHC services including general advocacy and resource sharing.

Legal Advocacy Services

SafeHouse's Legal Advocates provide informational and emotional support to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault as they engage with the criminal or civil legal system.

Legal Advocates do not act as attorneys for survivors and are not able to provide legal advice or representation. However, they are available to survivors to discuss their legal rights, the legal process, possible outcomes and to provide information that will help survivors make informed decisions about whether and how to engage in the judicial process. Legal Advocates also provide assistance with the filing of Personal Protection Orders and may also be available for court accompaniment to all court hearings within Washtenaw County.

2022 Shelter Updates



Meeting Room



Kitchen & Dining Room



Laundry Room



Bedrooms



Living Room



Through our strong partnership with Washtenaw County and funding provided by other federal and local grants, we were able to do a building refresh



Bathroom

SafeHouse Center's Programs & Services (cont.)

The Response Team

Established in 1987, The Response Team (RT) at SafeHouse Center provides 24 hours a day, 365 days a year immediate response to survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

All Washtenaw County law enforcement agencies contact RT after receiving a report of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Local area hospitals also contact RT when a patient discloses that they have experienced domestic violence and/or sexual assault. SafeHouse staff or volunteers then make contact with the survivor either in person or by phone to offer support and information and to help plan for their safety.

The RT contact is often the first time that a survivor learns of SafeHouse, our services and the resources that are available to help and support them. This is also often the first time that the survivor may have been able to talk with someone about their situation without being blamed for the abuse and/or assault or judged for staying with their partner.

Support Groups

Survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault often feel alone and isolated as they cope with the impact of their crisis or assault. Many survivors find it helpful to talk with others who have had similar experiences. We offer a variety of weekly support groups for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Helpline

Survivors of domestic abuse or sexual assault, their friends, family and other concerned people can call our 24-hour Helpline to talk, get information and resources, or learn more about our services.

Service Numbers 2022



Total Calls

Helpline Calls - 5170

Shelter Calls - 2027

Response Team Calls - 2189



Shelter

Total Adults in Shelter - 114

Total children in Shelter - 107

**Shelter stays range anywhere from 48 hours to 6 months*



Personal Protection Orders (PPO)

Submitted - 177

Granted - 145



Crisis Support

Domestic Violence

Sessions - 644

Total Hours - 501

Sexual Assault

Sessions - 177

Total Hours - 149



Support Groups

Survivors who attended support groups - 126



Criminal Cases

Total number of DV/SA cases monitored/followed - 966



Total number of Family Law Project Referrals - 162

**Custody, divorce, & other civil legal advice or representation*

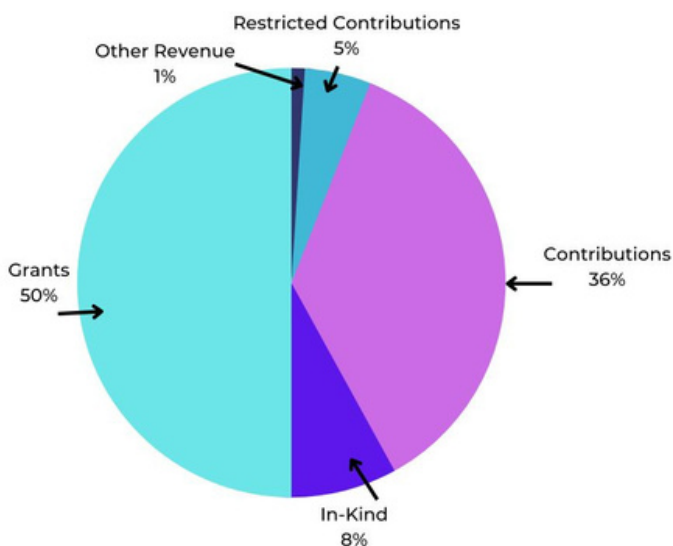
2022 Financials

FY 22 (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022)

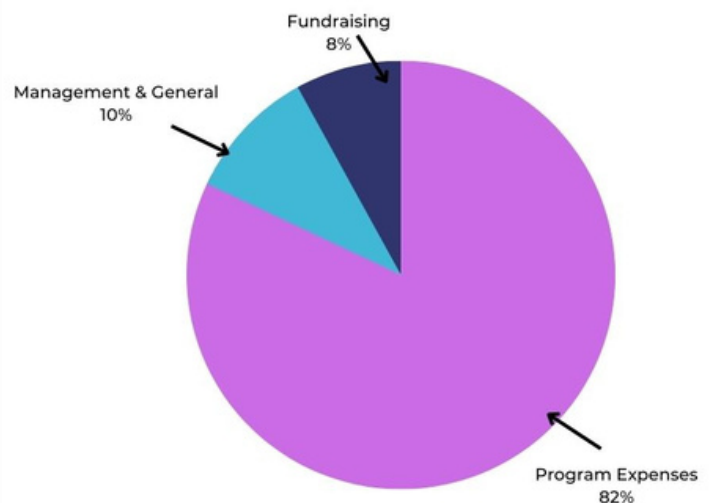
Operating Revenue	Audited 2022	Audited 2021
Contributions	\$1,171,517	\$1,123,612
In-Kind	\$271,654	\$226,081
Grants	\$1,613,537	\$1,658,130
Other Revenues	\$46,012	\$399,828
Restricted contributions whose restrictions were met	\$154,482	\$125,528
Total Operating Revenue	\$3,257,202	\$3,533,179

Operating Expenses		
Program Expenses	\$2,725,321	\$2,716,873
Management & General	\$347,071	\$287,676
Fundraising	\$257,844	\$302,368
Total Operating Expenses	\$3,330,236	\$3,306,917
Increase/Decrease in Net Assets	\$(73,034)	\$226,262

2022 Revenue



2022 Expenses



Your Support Matters

SafeHouse has been a lifeline for me, as a survivor of domestic violence. When I found myself trapped in an abusive relationship, I felt hopeless and isolated. But SafeHouse offered me a safe space, both physically and emotionally, where I could rebuild my life. The dedicated staff at SafeHouse provided me with compassionate support, crisis support, and legal advocacy, giving me the strength and resources to break free from the cycle of abuse. They empowered me to reclaim my voice, regain my self-worth, and envision a future free from violence. SafeHouse not only provided me with essential services but also created a community of survivors where I felt understood and supported. Thanks to their unwavering commitment, I am now on a path to healing and rebuilding, forever grateful for the crucial role SafeHouse played in my journey to freedom.

Thank you to all who support SafeHouse Center.

-DV Survivor

SafeHouse has been my beacon of hope as a survivor of sexual assault. After experiencing such a traumatic event, I felt shattered and overwhelmed. SafeHouse provided me with a refuge where I could begin my healing journey. The compassionate and knowledgeable staff at SafeHouse offered me a safe and non-judgmental space to share my story and express my emotions. Through their support, I was able to work through my trauma and regain a sense of control over my life. I participated in their support groups, where I found solace and understanding among fellow survivors. My advocate supported me through the complex legal processes, providing me with the necessary resources and advocating for my rights. Because of their unwavering support, I am on the path to reclaiming my life and embracing a future of resilience and empowerment. SafeHouse has been my backbone of strength throughout this difficult journey, and I will be forever grateful.

Thank you SafeHouse Center!

-SA Survivor

Domestic violence can be so easy for people to ignore, as it often happens without any witnesses, and it is sometimes easier not to get involved. Yet, by publicly speaking out against domestic violence, together we can challenge attitudes towards violence in the home and show that domestic violence is a crime and not merely unacceptable.

-Honor Blackman (actress)

To all of the volunteers who dedicate their time and energy, we thank you for your partnership.

To all who generously support SafeHouse Center, we thank you for your donation and investment.

To all of our staff who show up every day to serve and empower survivors, we thank you for your commitment to our mission.

All contributions are important and are pillars of our ability to support survivors. Together we not only transform lives, but we also work towards creating a safer and more compassionate community. Thank you for being part of this important work!

-SafeHouse Center

2022 Board Members

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Washtenaw County

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Attorney, Vice President of Legal and
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NSK Americas, Inc.

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4100 Clark Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105

OFFICE: (734) 973-0242

24-Hour Helpline (734) 995-5444

www.safehousecenter.org



To donate online,
scan here

