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THANK YOU TO THE 2017 DONORS CONTRIBUTING \$500 OR MORE TO SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS.

INDIVIDUALS:

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SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS & CHURCHES:

Bunco Gals of Rifle Defiance Church First United Methodist Church Glenwood Springs Garden Club PEO – Chapter AO St Mary's of the Crown St Vincent's Church Xi Gamma Tau

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Garfield County Glenwood Springs Victim Assistance & Law Enforcement Fund (VALE) 9th Judicial District Victim Assistance & Law Enforcement Fund (VALE) Town of Carbondale Town of Parachute

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:

Domestic Violence Program (DVP) Emergency Food & Shelter National Program (EFSP) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

IN-KIND: 19th Street Diner

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CELEBRATING **30 YEARS**











2017 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

ADVOCATE SAFEHOUSE PROJECT'S MISSION IS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS FREE FROM VIOLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, EMPOWERMENT, AND SAFEHOUSING.

SERVICES

• 24-HOUR HELP LINE

Received 238 calls from the 24-hour Help Line during 2017. In addition, ASP handled more than 2,600 calls with a total of 423 clients. (382 domestic violence survivors and 41 sexual assault survivors)

• HELP LINE (VOLUNTEER) ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Normally two 30-hour Help Line Advocate Trainings are held each year. Due to the Grand Avenue Bridge Closure in the fall only one 30-hour Advocate Training was completed in April 2017. Seventeen different volunteer advocates were active. These volunteer advocates provided a total of 5,686 hours of service to ASP. In total, all ASP's volunteers gave the agency 6,290 service hours.

SAFEHOUSE PROGRAM

Provided 44 survivors (24 families with 20 children) over 2,292 nights of emergency safehousing

COUNSELING PROGRAM

Offered two women's support groups in Gartield County for 26 women for a total of 104 session contacts. Additionally, 134 survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence received individual counseling for a total of 887 sessions.

• LATINA OUTREACH PROGRAM

Reached 88 Latina survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence with services. Twenty-six identified themselves as immigrants.

EDUCATIONAL PREVENTION PROGRAM

Conducted 112 educational presentations for 1,524 individuals in Garfield County, and 29 community awareness activities such as local media interviews and health fairs with the focus on developing "healthy relationships".

• OUTREACH PROGRAM

Offered 238 outreach (non-residential) clients (women, men and children) individual and group counseling, advocacy, information and referrals

CLIENT LETTER

This letter was written from a woman who resided in our Safehouse Program. The note is written verbatim except for her name.

Dear Safehouse Angels

I don't even know how to thank you or where to begin. Your love & kindness amazes me – I've not felt so safe & blessed X-mas in years & years. I've not had a

Your genuine care & kindness will NEVER EVER go forgotten. When I have my life back, I will give back sooooo much to your life-saving cause.

May God Bless every step you take into our New Year & beyond.

With so much love,

Natalie

HIGHLIGHTS

2017 MARKED ASP'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

ASP celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2017 by hosting a celebration at Two Rivers Park, a local park in Glenwood Springs, on July 21, 2017. Over 150 people attended the celebration honoring ASP and 25 of ASP's long-time volunteers and staff members for their five to 30 years of service to ASP. For the past 30 years, ASP:

- Provided a safe shelter for 1.029 families totaling 33.647 nights;
- Conducted 1918 educational programs; and
- Trained 495 Help Line (Volunteer) Advocates



As the evening was ending a rain storm with lots of wind came through Glenwood Springs, but it did not darken the moods of the celebrants. There was tasty food & drinks, music, games and a photo booth for everyone to enjoy as the celebration winded-down.

GARFIELD COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITION (GCDVC)

In 2017 Rifle Police Department piloted the "Domestic Violence Supplement" (DVS) adapted by the Garfield County Domestic Violence Coalition (GCDVC). The DVS's goal is to determine future risk and lethality towards the victim/survivor in domestic violence cases by the offender. Sarah Buckley, GCDVC Facilitator, met with Jeff Cheney, 9th Judicial District Attorney, and Chief Tommy Klein, Rifle Police Department, to review the DVS after six-months of use. Because its use was seen as a successful tool in prosecuting domestic violence cases, Jeff Cheney is requesting other law enforcement agencies in 9th Judicial District to use the DVS with all DV arrests.



DVAM CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) and in 2017 Advocate Safehouse Project commemorated it on October 17th with a Candlelight Vigil held at Metro Park in Rifle to honor all victims and survivors of domestic violence.

MOUNTAIN WEST SANE ALLIANCE UPDATE

During 2016 and 2017, ASP partnered with at least 10 other local stakeholders to collaborate with the re-emergence of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program (SANE) through the Mountain West SANE Alliance. The original SANE Program was discontinued in Glenwood Springs in 2012 and it took four years of collaboration to move the program forward to provide forensic exams to sexual assault victims in the 9th Judicial District in particular Garfield County. The new locations of the Mountain West SANE Alliance are at the Garfield County Public Health Offices in Rifle and will be at River Bridge Regional Center in Glenwood Springs in 2019. Mountain West SANE Alliance and ASP continue to collaborate after the implementation of the SANE Program by having a community-based advocacy response to SANE exams in Garfield County.

ADVOCATE INITIATED RESPONSE (AIR) UPDATE

Advocate Initiated Response (AIR) was a collaboration with ASP and the Garfield County Sheriff's Victim Response Team (VRT) that began in December 2015. AIR is an evidence-based service where community-based victim advocates such as ASP reach out to domestic violence victims quickly after a domestic violence arrest. Normally, the VRT has first contact with domestic violence victims at the crime scene. At the onset of AIR, it was an "opt out" program where victims had to "opt out" of being contacted by ASP. However, in January 2017 ASP was informed that VRT had changed its policy to be an "opt in" program due to VRT's interpretation of a Colorado statute. They stated that they could not release a victim's name to ASP via AIR without the victim's consent due to confidentiality.

In February 2017 ASP's Executive Director reached out to the State of Colorado's Victim Rights Amendment (VRA) Specialist to assist in resolving this situation. The VRA Specialist indicated that other law enforcement victim response teams all over Colorado were following this same protocol. After much local discussion it was determined the best way for ASP to be able to reach these victims was to have ASP attend daily advisements in Garfield County Court (Glenwood Springs) when there were domestic violence arrests the previous day. This began in April 2017. Interpretation of statutes can vary and together ASP, VRT and the DA's Office found a reasonable solution to reach domestic violence victims as quickly as possible.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

