

## 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT



### MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

#### Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This year has continued to be a challenging one for us due to ongoing COVID-related issues. However, we're very happy to report that the agency has remained steady and stable throughout the pandemic. DVSCP continues to follow the guidelines for social distancing to ensure client and staff safety. Because of your continued and generous support, we have been able to provide services to our clients while keeping safe and healthy.

This was the year we returned to in-person events. After missing a year, we held the Annual Candlelight Vigil at the Camp Hill Borough Hall Building. Diane Sadler touched our hearts as she shared her impact statement about her daughter Trisha's murder in a domestic violence incident. In April, we honored volunteer Jean Smith at the Victims' Rights Rally for her tireless efforts in helping with the hotline and shelter duties. For the first time in two years, we celebrated the Sunflower Gala at the West Shore Country Club again, and what a night we had! It was filled with good food, great company and wonderful conversation. A fun time was had by all! We ran the Gala's silent auction online and this year added a live auction to our in-person event. Because of your generosity, between the two auctions and the Gala, we raised close to \$40,000. DVSCP's Annual Meeting was also held in-person this year. At that meeting we posthumously presented Wendy Pignatella the 'Karen Shirey Award for Exceptional Volunteer Service.' In 2011, Wendy biked across the USA to raise money and awareness for the agency. Unfortunately, Wendy passed away last year, but her family was there to accept the award in her honor, and everyone was moved by hearing from her daughter about Wendy's big heart.

After five years of exceptional service, Executive Director Barbara Kohutiak officially retired. Following a vigorous process, Sonya Browne was unanimously voted Executive Director by the Board of Directors. To honor Barb's dedication and commitment to DVSCP, the Board of Directors created an award in her name, the Barbara Kohutiak Community Leader Award. The award will recognize a community leader who is dedicated to fostering change within the community and has worked with DVSCP to advance its mission to eradicate domestic violence. It was presented to Barbara at the Sunflower Gala.

DVSCP remains strong and healthy financially. We received an unqualified opinion on our financial statements again this year. Under the leadership of Vice President Dr. Tonya Miller, the Board of Directors has completed a new strategic plan which will guide us toward continued success for the next three years.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and families of DVSCP, we want you to know that we are extremely grateful for your support and generosity this past year. YOU are part of the driving force behind this agency. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to make a difference.

Jan Ekerovich, Board President

Jan Ekworich

Sonya Browne Executive Director

Songe Prouse

### DVSCP WELCOMES NEW ED

DVSCP welcomed Sonya Browne as the new Executive Director in September 2021. Serving four years as the agency's Shelter Supervisor made her an ideal candidate for this position. Prior to joining DVSCP, Sonya served as Mission Impact Director at YWCA Carlisle, focusing on racial justice and the empowerment of women and girls. Before that, she was Assistant Property Manager for the Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Cumberland County. Her knowledge and experience ensure our clients receive the best services and resources available.

Sonya has also served as President of the Board of Directors of two nonprofits in Carlisle, Hope Station and Carlisle Victory Circle. She is Secretary of the Board of Directors of Carlisle Opportunity Homes, Inc., a program that provides subsidized housing to those in need.

In 2017, she was awarded the YWCA Carlisle's Annual Racial Justice Award, followed by the Jim Washington Station of Hope Award in 2020. In her career, she has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those impacted by violence, poverty, and racism. She looks forward to continuing the work in her new position.

## **MISSION**

DVSCP supports the empowerment of those who are experiencing domestic violence through the provision of **equitable** and **inclusive** direct services and the promotion of nonviolence through social and systems change.



# OUR IMPACT

Thanks to you, we were able to accomplish the following from July 1, 2021—June 30, 2022.

TOTAL SERVED

1,422



### **SHELTER**

222

**Total sheltered** 

113
Total adults

109

Total children

7,313
Total shelter nights

COUNSELING

2,520

Total hours for adults & children

PFAs

442

**Total PFAs** 

357

**Cumberland County** 

85

**Perry County** 

**AMEND** 

100

**Total Participants** 

71

**Cumberland County** 

29

**Franklin County** 

### **HOTLINE**

1,975

**Total hotline calls** 

11% of hotline calls met LAP criteria for high risk of death.

**VOLUNTEERS** 

**71** 

REFERRALS

1,792

**Total client referrals** 



**OUTREACH** 

322

**Total education & outreach efforts** 

1,685

**Total people reached** 



# A SURVIVOR'S STORY

#### **Meet Ashley and Grace**

Ashley came to America from another country with the hopes of employment and independence. She met her daughter Grace's father in 2011 and spent the next 6 years cycling through the phases of an abusive relationship. Ashley relied on her abuser for everything – from normal things like love and companionship to basic necessities, such as money, shelter, and transportation. She was uniquely dependent on him because she was also not yet a U.S. citizen, which presented its own challenges.

He didn't just have financial control over her, he was emotionally, psychologically, and occasionally physically abusive as well. Ashley felt leaving was nearly impossible. Where would she go, where would she work, what would she do with Grace if she could find a job?

Ashley did attempt to leave several times, but his apologies and promises to change always brought her back. After a frightening night where the abuse hit an all-time high, Ashley knew she had to leave for good. He had trapped her and Grace inside a nearby store where the employees were their only protection. Locking the doors and refusing to let him in, they called the police and arranged for Ashely and Grace to relocate to a local shelter for safety.

Ashley was forced to cut all communication with her local friends to avoid her abuse. She closed her social media accounts and changed her email address, but those precautions still weren't enough. A few days after entering the shelter, the staff told her the abuser called looking for her and she needed to relocate immediately. Giving her \$5.00 and a bus ticket to our shelter, they left her on the corner of a busy city street to wait for a bus. Ashley looked at all her belongings and knew she wouldn't be able to get it all on the bus, along with young Grace. Cold and in tears, a kind couple passing by offered to drive them to DVSCP.

That was when we first met Ashley and Grace. They arrived with no money, no transportation, and no nearby family or friends; our agency's free and confidential services were crucial for them to stay safe and rebuild their life.

After doing the initial intake and explaining the guidelines of our program, the shelter staff showed Ashley and Grace their new private room. "It was everything for me; my own bed," remembers Ashley tearfully. She had been sleeping on the floor at her abuser's house and while in the previous shelter.

The next day, Ashley got to work. She checked in with our shelter supervisor daily with her list of goals. First on the list, find a job and a home. While working on her goals, she utilized the agency's empowerment counseling and support group. Shelter staff provided external resources to help Ashley obtain diapers, clothes, and other necessities for her and Grace.

Ashley worked with the Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (PIRC) to obtain a work permit and quickly found employment cleaning houses. Simultaneously, she was working with the Cumberland County

Housing Authority to find a place to live. She applied several times, but every time she thought she found a home she was rejected because of her citizenship status. After nine months in our shelter, a caseworker with the Housing Authority was finally able to find Ashley and Grace a home. On moving day, DVSCP provided housing supplies to get them started and covered their first electric bill. The agency also helped Ashley with transportation for court appointments and gave her a reference to get a bicycle from New Life Community Church to make getting around town easier.

In 2019, Ashley became a legal U.S. citizen. Today, she has her own home, her own car, and a wonderful job where she helps underserved children every day. The family of two likes to spend time watching movies, going to new restaurants and events, and, according to Ashley, "doing whatever Grace wants to do."

Our agency gave her the resources and time to rebuild her life, but Ashley put in the work to make it all happen. When asked how she felt about the services she received from DVS: "They were my family when I didn't have friends and family here – they were there for me. They walked with me, they cried with me, and they were my booster to keep going."

Her advice for others who are in a similar situation: "I was there, I know how hard it can be to leave, but there are ways to get out – talk to someone you trust. Have the courage to get out for your safety and for the safety of your children."

\*Names have been changed to protect the identify of the survivor.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

#### A Year of Kindness!

DVSCP wouldn't be able to provide our unduplicated services to survivors in Cumberland and Perry Counties without help. Below are just a few of the many thoughtful donations and volunteer efforts that were done to help our agency last year. Thank you to everyone who supported this agency in a multitude of ways. Your kindness kept those experiencing violence safe and comfortable while they rebuilt their lives.



In June 2022, People's Provisions out of Elliottsburg began donating fresh vegetables, fruits, and cheeses so our shelter clients could have healthy, fresh food options while in the hotel.

The Rotary Club of Carlisle provided ready-made meals and snacks for our hotel residents.

They were one of many community service organizations and individuals who made food and snack donations throughout the year.

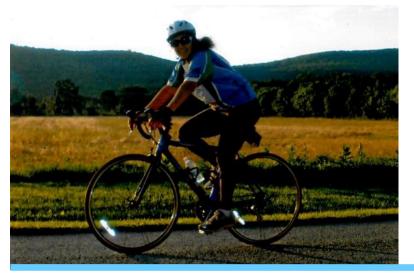




The wonderful staff from Momentum Consulting Management joined forces to put together over 100 craft kits for our shelter kiddos!

Employees from Deloitte spent their IMPACT Day at the Shelter cleaning the basement, organizing donations, pulling weeds in the yard, and vacuuming and dusting the child care and resident rooms!





"My mom loved hearing people's stories and always helped them in any way she could, not for the recognition, just because she truly cared."

~ Wendy's daughter, Tiffany Novak

### **Remembering Wendy**

At this year's Annual Meeting, DVSCP chose Wendy Pignatella as the second recipient of the 'Karen Shirey Award for Exceptional Volunteer Service.' A long-time supporter of the agency, Wendy sponsored the Annual Sunflower Gala, donated silent auction items, and most notably, raised funds through her "Wendy's Ride USA' fundraiser.

In 2011, she began her two-month long journey across the US on her bike. Starting in San Francisco, CA, and ending in Ocean City, MD, Wendy used her platform and many connections to raise more than \$10,000 for the agency through this ride.

Wendy passed away last fall after a courageous battle with cancer. The award was accepted on her behalf by her daughter Tiffany Novak.

"My mom loved hearing people's stories and always helped them in any way she could, not for the recognition, just because she truly cared," recalls Tiffany.

Wendy also helped with the American Cancer Society's 'Look Good Feel Better' program, where she spent her Monday's off providing wigs and doing makeup for women and children who lost their hair from cancer treatments.

Wendy lived life to its fullest, packing laughter, love, and adventure into every aspect of her life. Those at DVS who knew her remember her fondly – she was an amazing woman with a huge heart who was kind enough to share with our agency and those we serve.



# FINANCIALS

#### **Revenue and Gains**

Contributions	
General contributions	\$270,512
Foundations	\$22,000
United Way	\$109,180
Contributed goods and services	\$15,531
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence	
Title XX/ACT 44	\$420,009
Act 222	\$8,785
TANF (Relocation)	\$13,980
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency	\$225,508
Cumberland Co. Stop and Emergency Shelter Grants	\$34,689
AMEND income	\$47,908
Fundraising events	\$68,046
Less direct donor benefit	(\$4,773)
Other Income – COVID	\$81,965
Interest income	\$8,259
Investment income (loss-net)	\$945
Gain on sale of investment	\$800
Net assets released from restrictions	
Satisfaction of program restrictions	_
Expiration of time restrictions	_
Total revenue and gains	\$1,323,344
Expenses	
Management and general	\$139,902
Fundraising	\$10,081
Program direct expenses	\$873,746
Total functional expenses	\$1,023,729
Changes in net assets	\$299,615
Net Assets:	

Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties engages Boyer & Ritter, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, to perform an audit of the financial statements at the end of each fiscal year.

A full financial report is available upon request.

#### **Key Program Funders**

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$442,774
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency VOCA Grant	\$225,508
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency STOP Grant	\$26,250
United Way of the Capital Region	\$44,905
United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County	\$28,677
United Way of the Shippensburg Area	\$6,000
The Stabler Foundation	\$25,000
Lawrence & Julia Hoverter Foundation	\$7,000
Leo & Betty Balzereit Foundation	\$9,000
Exchange Club of Carlisle	\$10,000
The Kids Trust	\$5,727
Church of Latter Day Saints	\$5,000
Emergency Shelter Grant	\$4,920
Emergency Food & Shelter Grant	\$4,000

In June, DVSCP Public Education Coordinator Emily Ott graduated from Leadership Cumberland's 2022 Fellows' Program.

The 10-month class works to develop, promote, and inspire community leadership skills and encourage a deeper understanding and appreciation of Cumberland County.



## THANK YOU FY 21/22 SUPPORTERS

DVSCP is immensely grateful for the donations of time and effort, goods and services, and monetary gifts that are bestowed upon the agency all year long!

**Emily Ott** 

McEvov

Susan Pigott

Marie Pinto

John Quist

Frank Revesz

Angela Rider

Elyse Rogers

Mark Ruhl

Jill Seaman

Ernie Shank

Carol Sharp

Carrie Shaw

Fay Shiflett

Karen & Wil Shirey

James & Patricia Simms

Richard & Bonnie Stevenson

June Shomaker

Richard Shultz

G. David Smith

Beth Smith

Lisa Snyder

Terri Soifer

Debra Steffey

Kevin Stoner

Jon & Jennifer Still

Dr. Margaret Stolar

Ceceile & David Strand

#### **CORPORATE SUPPORTERS**

Alliance Financia Amazon-PHI 5 AmeriChoice Federal Credit Union Boyer & Ritter, LLC Belco Community Credit Union **Capital Blue Cross** Capitol Computer Systems Century 21 Realty Services Classic Drycleaners and Laundromats CommunityAid Foundation Cornerstone Coffeehouse **Cumberland County Bar Association Deibler Insurance Associates** Diamond Automatic Sprinklers Farnham Insurance Agency Feathers in the Nest Folium, Inc H&R Block Hellenic Kouzina KirbTech, LLc Lisa O'Brien Interior Designs Lovedraft's Brewing Company M&T Rank

Orrstown Bank PA Retina Specialists, PC Salon on the 8th Salon Platinum LLC Select Medical Skiles Excavating, Inc. SPAtacular Escapes Representative Greg Rothman

Mid Penn Bank

Momentum Inc

McNees, Wallace & Nurick

Organic Remedies, Inc.

Representative Sheryl Delozier **Telephone Pioneers** 

The Grappling Crab Shack The Trisha A. Sadler Foundation

Tuckey Companies

UPMC

VFW Post #477—Carlisle VFW Post #7463—New Bloomfield Wealth Management, LLC

West Shore Elks

**CHURCHES & CLUBS** Beta Sigma Phi Big Spring Presbyterian Church Camp Hill Lions Club Camp Hill Presbyterian Church Camp Hill Women's Club Carlisle First Church of God Carlisle Rotary Club Foundation Christian Life Assembly CommunityAid Dellville UMC Dickinson College Raven's Claw Society Dickinson College Ultimate Frisbee Dickinson Presbyterian Church Exchange Club of Carlisle First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Carlisle First United Church of Christ First United Methodist Church Fraternal Order of Eagles Carlisle Aerie No. 1299 **GFWC Mechanicsburg** Harrisburg Bridge Club Junkyard Turkeys Ultimate Frisbee Meeting House Volunteer Fellowship Sunday School New Cumberland Women's Club Presbyterian Women of the Second Presbyterian Second Presbyterian Church Shepherdstown UMC Silver Spring Presbyterian Church St Luke's Episcopal Church St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church The Mechanicsburg Club The Metzler Family Foundation

The Rahal Family Foundation

Upper Allen Women's Club

Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey

Camp Hill

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church—

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church—

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The CommunityAid Foundation awarded DVSCP with a \$25,000 grant to support the agency in providing shelter and rental assistance for survivors of domestic violence.

Along with the grant, the Christian-based nonprofit also chose DVSCP as their first quarter 'RoundUp' partner, raising an extra \$6,300 for the agency!



# WHAT'S NEXT?

Virtual Auction
Thursday, March 30—Saturday, April 1, 2023
www.32auctions.com/2023DVSCPAuction

Annual Sunflower Gala Saturday, April 22, 2023 West Shore Country Club

Mother's Day Flowers
On sale starting April 1
Flowers delivered Thursday, May 11

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, June 2023 (Date TBD)
West Shore Country Club



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Jan Ekerovich President



Dr. Tonya Miller Vice President



Amanda Wasko Secretary



Trisha Koch-Allen Treasurer



Amanda Conlin



**Barbara Cross** 



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**Adam Santucci** 



**Matthew Sadler** 



Kim Strizzi



**Dianne Tiboni** 



Donna VandeMortel

## **CONTACT US**

**24 Hour Hotline:** 1-800-852-2102 or (717) 258-4249

Main Office: (717) 258-4806 Camp Hill Office: (717) 761-5599 Perry County Office: (717) 582-8900

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

Mailing Address: PO Box 1039, Carlisle, PA 17013

Website: www.dvscp.org Email: info@dvscp.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/DVSCP

**Instagram:** www.instagram/domesticviolenceservicescp





