

## **ANNUAL REPORT** 2022-2023

# Providing continued support for survivors.

### **MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP**

Dear partners and friends:

As fiscal year 2022-2023 comes to an end, we want to thank our donors, volunteers, partners and funders for your generous giving, support, resources, and volunteer hours, all of which enabled us to help so many individuals and families this year. You have contributed so much to our success and we want to share encouraging news about the work you made possible.

While this past year brought on a number of changes and challenges, we remained resilient and focused on our goal of helping survivors to safety. Because we seemed to have moved past the worst of the COVID pandemic, we began to bring clients back to the facility, while still housing some at a local motel. A flexible shelter stay has given survivors increased time to work on their goals and to secure safe housing. We incorporated services that would provide a more holistic approach to hope and healing by contracting with a Certified Trauma Therapist who provides one-on-one sessions as well as a bi-weekly support group for survivors. We also offered a monthly support group for children between the ages of 8 and 14 and ran a parent support group at the same time. We host a weekly Perry County support group. We are so grateful to everyone who participated in our Share-a-Meal Program, which allowed us to feed families before and after group. To work on improving outcomes for survivors, we incorporated a text line for those who are not comfortable initially calling. With input from our county Magisterial District Judges (MDJs), we created an emergency Protection From Abuse (PFA) Protocol so that victims would have easier access to us and the justice system when in danger. The staff is always working on new and innovative ways to ensure the safety and survival of our clients and their families.

The Board of Directors was extremely successful in their fundraising efforts this past year, especially with the Sunflower Gala. We raised \$48,000 in program partnerships. A big thank you goes to Skiles Excavating, our first ever Presenting Partner. Between the virtual and live auction, we raised \$18,500. The agency continues to remain financially strong and healthy.

While there is much to be thankful for, we know that this coming year will present more demands and more challenges. However, we are ready to take them on and with your help we will create a place of safety, hope and healing for every victim and survivor in need. We are grateful for you and the difference your help made in the lives of the individuals and families of DVSCP.

Matthew Sadler, Board President

Songe Prouse

Sonya Browne Executive Director

## **OUR 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 VISION**

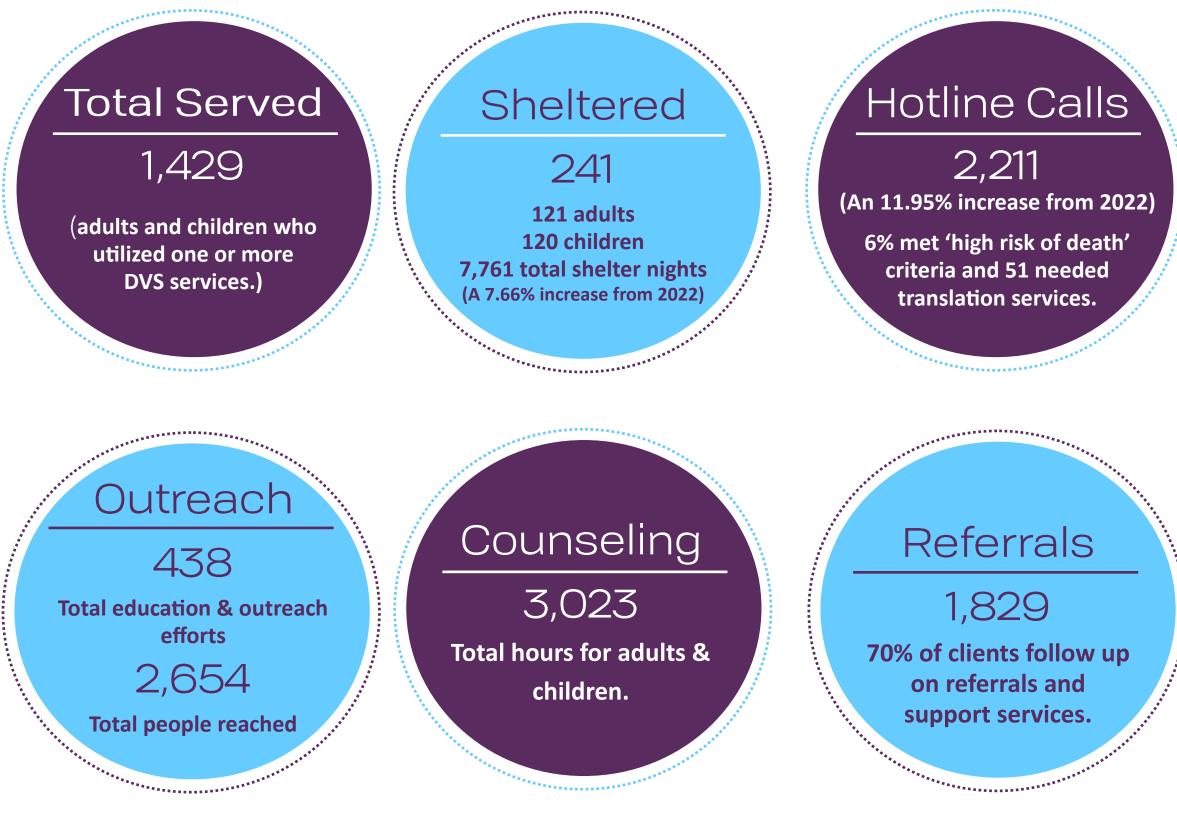
We envision DVSCP as a culturally responsive organization committed to the eradication of domestic violence for all individuals.

## **OUR VALUES**

Trauma-Informed Care, Competence, Integrity, Safety, and Cultural Responsiveness.

# **OUR IMPACT**

### Thanks to your support, we accomplished the following last year:







399 Cumberland County 85

**Perry County** 

### AMEND

128 Total Participants 91 in Cumberland County 37 in Franklin County



# A SURVIVOR'S STORY

### **Meet Cristin**

One of the lesser-known aspects of domestic violence is stalking. Most people believe stalking to be when one person follows another, possibly showing up at their home, their place of work, or when they are out running errands. However, other behaviors that are considered stalking include repeated phone calls or texts, often threatening in nature, entering someone's property without permission, or using technology to monitor, track, or spy on the victim. Meet Cristin.

During the spring of 2022, Cristin met a man online, as many meet their partners now-a-days. Because he lived two hours away, they had on and off contact. After a chance accident near his hometown, they began talking again more frequently and decided to meet in person.

He offered to travel to her for the first meeting and Cristin recalls the date as being very nice and him a gentleman. Quickly though, things took a turn. She followed all the precautionary steps when meeting someone you've only known virtually – they met in a public place and remained in public while together, she left after he did at the end of the date, and she told friends where she was going to be and with whom. They decided to set

> up a second date, but this time, "Something was different, and things were just off. I knew then it wasn't going to go any further," commented Cristin. She shared with him how she was feeling, and he became very upset and began to cry. He insisted they be friends and promised not to date anyone else. His continued advances and attempts to contact her forced Cristin to block him from her phone and social media. Assuming he would go away, she resumed her normal life.

> > A few weeks later, after she did not respond to any of his attempts, he left a threatening voicemail on her phone and sent several concerning text messages, one of which said, "I hope you die." Scared, she went to the police who charged this man with two misdemeanor harassment charges. After that, things escalated significantly. A car showed up outside of her place of employment and was driving erratically, before speeding off. During this same time, he broke into her Apple ID and gained access to all of her online accounts, forcing her to either

constantly change passwords and monitor the activity or close the account entirely. She replaced her cell phone three separate times to prevent his access to her information, including getting a Google number to protect her privacy. She also purchased a Security Key, an advanced protection system from targeted hackers, as well as Lifelock to add an additional layer of monitoring on her accounts.

Cristin was becoming increasingly afraid and attempted to obtain a Protection From Abuse order (PFA), but because stalking can be hard to prove and because their relationship had developed mostly over the phone, she had a hard time finding legal representation. During this same time, she came into contact with another woman who was previously stalked by the same man – he broke into her house, waited for her to come home and then attacked her and held her captive for several hours. After learning how far his stalking could escalate, Cristin decided to represent herself and fight for the PFA, which was ultimately granted.

While the PFA kept him from contacting her, she recalled weird cars showing up at her home and work and her accounts were still being regularly broken into. Cristin lives alone, and she noted several times when she came home and could tell someone had been in her house. The emotional distress with this constant invasion of privacy, within her home and within her accounts, disrupted her life immensely.

She worked with the Victim Services Division of Cumberland County to have a detective check her home and scan for any foreign electronic tracking devices. Her Victim Service Advocate has also been supporting her throughout the court process for the two harassment charges. Being stalked is frightening in that you never know if it's going to escalate to something more severe. Her stalker's failure to appear in court for both the PFA and now for the harassment charges is prolonging the process and preventing Cristin from being able to close this chapter of her life and move on.

She was struggling with these feelings, questioning everything that was happening in her life, and knew she needed additional support. "I felt desperate to have someone understand what I'm going through on a daily basis," she commented. She contacted the United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County who put her in touch with our agency.

Cristin began counseling sessions with our staff to work through her feelings of fear and unease. "This is such a mental process and a mental situation. Having people who might not have walked this path but have understood how other victims have dealt with these situations, it's been so great to have your services in my life. It's been a game changer for how I'm able to process the situation and my feelings about it." Our staff were able to listen to Cristin, validate her feelings, and provide hope and healing for her at a time when she needed it most.

While her story is far from over, Cristin feels like there is a purpose for her going through this situation. She is already looking to help others - she would love to start a support group for stalking survivors and is interested in advocating to our legislators for stronger laws around stalking.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

### **Q&A with Sonya Browne, Executive Director**

In September 2021, DVSCP welcomed Sonya Browne as its new Executive Director (ED. Formerly the agency's Shelter Supervisor, Sonya seamlessly transitioned to the new position. Below she shared her experiences and thoughts on her time with this agency.

#### Q: WHY DID YOU WANT TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF ED?

**A:**\*\**She laughs*\*\* At first, I didn't want to assume this role. Then I realized how hard I've worked to create networks and contacts throughout the community. As the Shelter Supervisor, I developed relationships with the staff and worked hard to figure out ways to move this agency forward, providing more access to services for our clients. So, I started to think it was a more natural fit than I originally thought. I realized what I could bring to the position.

#### **Q: WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST CHALLENGE SO FAR?**

**A:** Realizing that this job is so much bigger than I thought. Trying to learn everything, sometimes I need to slow myself down and recognize that there are experts all around me who have information that I need, and all I need to do is ask. I am thankful for those who are helping me get it figured out.

#### **Q: WHAT LESSONS HAVE YOU LEARNED IN YOUR TIME AT DVS?**

**A:** I can be a very black and white person, and I've learned that when you're dealing with people's lives, there is never a beginning and an end. I still have clients who came to me when I first became Shelter Supervisor who continue to contact me for help, so there is never a time when I can say this is done and final. I've also learned that I don't have to know everything, I just have to rely on those around me and when collaborating on a problem— two, three, four heads solving a problem is better than one.

#### Q: WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF SINCE MOVING INTO THE ED ROLE?

A: That I have focused on employee well-being. I came into the role not even knowing what self-care was – I was more of a, 'put your head down and do your job type.' With that said, I think I've really done some things to recognize and improve staff morale. Also, (\*\**she chuckles*\*\*) I can do finance now! I can read and understand the agency's financial paperwork and speak quite intelligently on it.

#### **Q:** HAS THERE BEEN A CLIENT THAT HAS STUCK WITH YOU AND WHY?

A: Yes, a few, but there is one that sticks out. A young woman worked our program and rebuilt an amazing life for herself, but awhile after leaving, she got into some trouble. She came to me and told me everything that happened. I would never make excuses for her, but when we were talking, I understood the fear that caused her actions. She asked for my help and I provided it. Eventually, she began counseling and started to

get additional help for herself. She is one of those people who's hard on the outside, but every once in awhile, we could touch that inside and she would speak from her heart. This client changed how I deal with people. I will not give up on them. I'm going to realize who they are, and I'm going to ask them to be honest and true to who they are, but I'm not going to give up on them.

#### **Q:** WHAT DO YOU THINK OTHER PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

A: That we have compassion for people, and we want clients to be successful and live violence free. The unfortunate thing is we don't have a lot of control over that, but we will support anyone who wants to get out of their situation. This isn't a job where you do your time and go home; it carries over into our lives. When someone finds out that we work for DVSCP, they want to tell us their story and we listen. Our staff are advocates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### Q: WHERE DO YOU SEE THE AGENCY GOING IN THE FUTURE?

A: I would like it to grow, and possibly move into a new, larger building. I'd like to grow the staff – right now we have a counseling team, a legal advocacy team, and a prevention/outreach team, but we could use more people in each of those areas. I'd like to see our services grow as the staff grows, allowing us to help more people.

#### Q: DEALING WITH THESE INTENSE SITUATIONS ON A DAILY BASIS, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN OR SELF-CARE?

**A:** When I was interviewing, they kept referencing self-care, and I explained that I didn't even know what selfcare was. Dorothy Andrews, a DVS founding mother and retired Volunteer Coordinator, asked how I prepare for the day. I said, I sit in a quiet corner of my house, I pray, and I read the Bible. Dorothy responded with, "That's self-care." For fun, I like to spend time with my grandchildren and my four daughters. They all live in Maryland, so it gets me out of town and allows me to spend time with family.

#### Q: WAS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED TO DO BEFORE GETTING INTO THIS LINE OF WORK?

**A:** No, I got into this line of work at an older age, and I realized that I wanted to help people. So, no, there wasn't anything else I wanted to do. It just took me a little longer to figure it out.

#### **Q: ANY CLOSING REMARKS?**

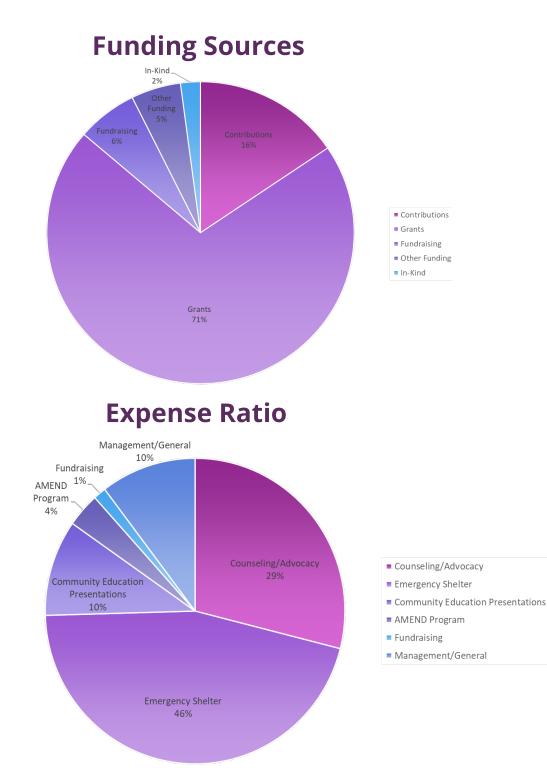
**A:** I feel very grateful to have been chosen for this position and I just hope that I am living up to the expectations of the board and the supporters of this agency. I see myself retiring from this agency, and possibly continuing to volunteer.

# FINANCIALS

scan me

For every \$100 donated to DVSCP, \$88 goes to our programs and services. According to Boyer & Ritter, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, human service nonprofits have an expense ratio of 65-70%; DVSCP's ratio is 88%.

A full financial report for fiscal year 2022/2023, provided by Boyer & Ritter, is available by scanning the QR code below or by visiting www.dvscp.org/audited-financial-statement/.



### **Key Program Funders**

DVSCP's Counselor/Advocate Sam Haskell-Evans undertook the task of making over our children's playroom to give the kids a fun and safe space to play, explore feelings, and learn skills and coping mechanisms for when those feelings are too big.

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased items from our Wish List or who donated money towards this effort!

	\$462,785
VOCA Grant	\$225,508
STOP Grant	\$25,000
	\$44,171
	\$22,697
	\$5 <i>,</i> 500
	\$30,000
	\$15,000
	\$13,000
	\$10,000
	\$9,000
	\$7 <i>,</i> 500
	\$6,000
	\$5 <i>,</i> 000
	\$2,000



## THANK YOU FY 22/23 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!

#### **CORPORATE SUPPORTERS**

Allen Distribution Alliance Financia AmeriChoice Federal Credit Union American Legion Failor-Wagner Post #421 Belco Community Credit Union Boyer & Ritter C-LUV Thrift, LLC **Capital Blue Cross** Capital One **Capitol Computer Systems** Carlisle Garden Club Carlisle Kiwanis Club Foundation Carlisle Regional Performing Arts Center Carlisle Young Professionals Century 21 Realty Services Classic Drycleaner and Laundromats Cornerstone Coffeehouse Corporate Standard Insurance Deibler Insurance Associates, Inc. DER Harrisburg Maennerchor **Diamond Automatic Sprinklers** Farnham Insurance Friends for S.R. Sheryl Delozier Frontstream H&R Block Highmark Blue Shield/Penn State Health Hooker & Habib, P.C. **IBM Employee Services Center** Kebco Enterprises Inc. Kirbtech, LLC L.B. Smith Ford Lincoln Laguna Beauty Lounge, LLC Laurel Life M&T Charitable Foundation Madden & Gilbert Physical Therapy McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

Mid Penn Bank Momentum, Inc. New York Life One13 Social Organic Remedies, Inc. Orrstown Bank Pennsylvania Retina Specialists, P.C. Salon Platinum Select Medical Corporation Skiles Excavating SPAtacular Escapes The Browne Team Of Caliber Home Loans. Inc. The GIANT Company The United Way of Southwestern PA Trisha A. Sadler Foundation Tuckey Restoration, Inc. United Way of Northeast Florida

#### **CHURCHES. CLUBS. &** FOUNDATIONS

UPMC Pinnacle

Beta Sigma Phi Beta Sigma Phi-Laureate Epsilon Rho **Big Spring Presbyterian Church** Camp Hill Lions Club Camp Hill Presbyterian Church Camp Hill Woman's Club Carlisle Garden Club Carlisle Rotary Club Foundation **Carlisle Young Professionals** Chalk Up for Charity Christian Life Assembly Dellville United Methodist Church Dickinson School of Law First United Church of Christ First United Methodist Church Junkyard Turkeys Moms Club of Carlisle PA New Cumberland Woman's Club Otterbein United Methodist Church Penn State Dickinson Law Women's Caucus

Presbyterian Women of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Women in the 2nd Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Women-2 Presbytery of Carlisle **Progressive Insurance Foundation Rahal Family Foundation** Raven's Claw Society-Dickinson College Rotary Club of Carlisle Royer Family Charitable Foundation Second Presbyterian Church Silver Spring Presbyterian Church St Luke's Episcopal Church St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church The Harrisburg Bridge Club The Women's Club of New Cumberland Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Upper Allen Woman's Club GFWC

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

#### INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Dennis and Marjorie Akin Tisha Albert Frederick Alcaro Carol Altman Bruce Alexis Anderson Rose and Paul Andersor Daniel Andrews Suzy Atkins William Aungst Kim Banister Heidi Barbour Nathan Benefield Marcia and Ken Berry Susan Bertolet Jodi and Bob Bezanilla Ioan Bond Jennifer and Patrick Boyle Joan Boytim Rita Breitenbach J.B. Britton Joyce A. Brown

Margaret Bushey Jason Bytof Kerry Campbell Madelyn Campbell Robert Carr Ethel Carryer Julie Carson Frank and Judy Castrina Judith Lynn Chronister Ruby Clements John and Joan Clifton Jennifer and Collier Cline Kathryn Conard Amanda and Matthew Conlin James and Patricia Coolsen **Deb Cornelius** Barbara and Mike Cross Carol Crossley Debra Crum Dorothy Culp Lori A. D'Agostino Lori Daniels Abigail Davis Cait Deane Linda DeAngelo Maria DeGaetano Denise Deimler Flaine Deimler Neal Delisanti David Dell Laurie and Rita Dellgado Jeanette Diamond Joan and Todd Dickinson Karen and Greg Dimit Pamela and Darrell Diodato Kevin Downs Margaret Duncan Eric Eckerd John and Cynthia Eckerd John and Cindy Eichhorn Virginia Eher Janet Ekerovich Lynn and Will Everhart

Sonya Browne

In January 2023, DVSCP started our 'Share a Meal at the Shelter' program and the response was incredible. Individuals and groups of volunteers stepped up to provide a lunch or dinner for our Tuesday support groups and the results were delicious and greatly appreciated!

Cynthia Findley Amanda Foster Bonnie Fowler Patricia Fox Tasha Frey **Richard Frieben** Susan Fulginiti Chelsea Garcia Wendy Gebb Barbara Geistwhite Brian and Marsha Gil Robin Gill **Timothy Golding** Terree and Phil Goldstein Melanie and Ron Greenway Nicole Griffie Gavle Gutshall James Hall Linda Hardy Maryellen Harner Charity Harp Robin Heberlig Sarah Heintzelmar Kvle Helder Lyn and Gerry Hempt Susan B. Hench Stephanie Louise Hockenberry Ruth Hodge Ann Hoffer Claire and George Hoffman David Hoffman, Jr. Adam and Lindsay Hough Amv Hunt Audra Hunte Alicia James Michele Kaczmarczyk Miller Joe and Beth Karmazin Diana Kerr Michael Klochak Lynn and Perry Knight Thomas Kohutiak Barbara Kohutiak Kathleen Kotula Ruth Kovacs Jane Krebs Gail Kreitzer Jean Kretzing Theodora and Edward Kreuser Glenn Kricher Neville Krueger Gloria Lennon Carol and Bert Lennon

Alison Lintal Karen Longenecker Harold and Pamela Lord Virginia Lucy Kevin and Cindy Lyttle Kelly Major Susanna Male John and Julie Manta Paul Marchetti Christopher and Diane Markle Carla Martin John and Darlene McCabe Ron McCall Lori McCarthy Pat McEvoy and Michael Pasquarett Dr. Katherine McFarland

Diane and Hugh McMillen Michael McNichols Margaret McVicker Jennifer and Terry Meek Jessica Mellott Jule Ann Metz Amy Middlehauff Leeann Milke Jessica Miller Tonya Miller Alana Moriarty Ranee Morrison Marije and Don Mowery Steven Mullen Amber Myers Phyllis Myers **Emily Nesbit** Teresa Novak Jane Ober Jennifer O'Donnell Frank Orlevitch Michael Oyler **Carol Palinkas** Cynthia Pasi Sherry Paylor Christylee Peck Jill Peterson Susan Pigott Marie Pinto Amanda Piper Dan and Michelle Piscioneri Thomas Pollard Jane Pomerantz Jacqueline and Robert Powel Reeves Power

Lewis Puller, Jr. Rob and Jill Rahal Jacobsen Raubenstine Johanna Reeder Angela Rider Mark Robinsor Dr. Gisela Roethke Flegea

Elizabeth Rushlong Sadler Family Michelle Sanchez Brian Schwang Wayne Schwartz Jill Seaman Carol Sharp Sue Sheffer Ray SHenk Fay Shiflett Richard I. Shultz, Ir. Beth Smith Lisa Snyder Matthew Spidle Spurgeon Tamar Stauffer Debra Steffey Mary Stout Ceceile Strand Patricia Strickler Kim and Paul Strizzi

Erin Sunday Pam Suter Eleanor Swank Andrew Tartaro Sharon Thomas **Roger Thomas** Cindy Thomas Amy Thomas Wendy Tibbitts Dianne Tiboni

Robert Rains and Andrea Christopher and Andrea Dieter Rollfinke and Sonia Robin Ronemus-Shuler Mark and Shirley Ruhl Garvin and Jill Rumberger Adam and Lauren Santucci Carole Scott DeWall Karen and Wil Shirey James and Patricia Simms G. David and Sandra Smith Stephanie and Andrew Col. Robert and Anne Stewart

John Tighe Marjorie Todd **Stephen Tompkins** leffrey and Lynne Trace **Buffy Tucker** Kenneth and Marsha Tuckey W.R. Unger Julie Vallati Patricia Vance Donna VandeMorte Michael Varano Robyn and David Wampler Linda and Charles Ward Amanda Wasko Mary Watson Carson Tanya Wehr

Helen Weigel Linda Weigel Matthew Wending Karen Westphal Jeffrey and Lynne Wible Mike Wildasin **Thomas Wilkins** Shareeka Williams Tracy Williams Lynette Williamson Joseph Witmer Marcy Wolf Robert and Mary Wolfe Joseph Wonders Jonathan Wonders **Robert Zeigler** 

### 2021/2022 Missed Donors

After last year's report was sent out, we learned that due to a reporting error some of our donors were not listed in the 2021/2022 Annual Report.

DVSCP relies heavily on individual donations to offer free programs and services for survivors, so we did not take this error lightly. We sincerely apologize to the following donors who were missing from last year's report:

**Kerin Anderson** Carol Bogar **Rachel Bverlv Deb Cornelius** Deb Gussler **Robin Heberlig** Susan Hubley Jennifer Hilt Ashley Hock Lisa Kemes Jennifer Lesher Tonya Miller Frank Orlevitch

Chris Raubenstine Elizabeth Rose Peter Scheer Mary Stout Kim Strizzi Karen Sutphen Sue Tatge Amanda Wasko Glenda Wilson **Carlisle Country** Club Trout, Ebersole Groff, CPA

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# WHAT'S NEXT?

#### **Virtual Auction**

Thursday, April 4—Saturday, April 6, 2024 www.32auctions.com/2024DVSCPAuction

**Annual Sunflower Gala** Saturday, April 27, 2024 West Shore Country Club

**Mother's Day Flowers** On sale starting April 1 Flowers delivered Thursday, May 09, 2024

### **Annual Meeting** Wednesday, June 2024 (Date TBD) West Shore Country Club

### **Candlelight Vigil**

Thursday, October 17, 2024 Camp Hill Borough Building



**US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM** 

FACEBOOOK: @DVSCP **INSTAGRAM:** @domesticviolenceservicescp





Jan Ekerovich President

Dr. Tonya Miller Vice President



Amanda Conlin

Jeanette Diamond



Adam Santucci

Christopher Raubenstine

Donna VandeMortel

## **CONTACT US**

24-Hour Crisis Hotline (Call or Text): 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



Amanda Wasko Secretary



Maryellen Harner



Matthew Sadler



Kim Strizzi Treasurer



Michael Klochak



**Dianne Tiboni** 



Shareeka Williams



Marcy Wolf





The official registration and financial information of Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

