



THE WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE

2013

ANNUAL REPORT

For The

COMMUNITY

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

The faces of domestic violence may be more familiar than you think. Personally, you may enjoy the benefits of a healthy, holistic relationship. You and your intimate partner may dwell harmoniously in a peaceful, supportive environment. Perhaps, your financial status enables you and your partner to raise a hand of support to others instead of such status becoming the determining factor of how many times a hand may be raised against you in rage and frustration. But while enjoying the safety and security within your four walls, have you ever stopped to consider the intimate relationships and environments of your neighbor, co-worker, community leader, or even your family member who has been "*missing in action*"? Domestic Violence does not discriminate against race. It does not ring the doorbells of certain homes in particular zip codes. In fact, it is such a common issue, that it affects one in three women across the globe every nine seconds.

On our continued surge to combat this global crisis among our local field, The Women's Safe House has devoted much of its efforts in 2013 to improve the core components of our agency's mission—safety, shelter, and support. For 37 years, women—mothers and children, have considered The Women's Safe House as their lifeline to safety and empowerment. In 2013, The Women's Safe House served 491 individuals and families—242 women and 249 children, providing a total of 16,371 bednights.

With financial dependence as one of the main reasons women remain in such violent environments, it is important to note that thanks to funding organizations and donors alike, our programs and services are offered free of charge. Considering that more than 97% of the women served in 2013 reported an annual income of less than \$10,000, The Women's Safe House strives to remain good stewards of funds, with 81 cents of every dollar distributed directly to the stability of ongoing case management, crisis intervention, counseling, legal advocacy and a vast range of other instrumental programs and services.

It is also important to note that the services received by residents do not end upon the completion of our program. Through our AfterCare Program, women and families are supported for twelve months through continued case management, group therapy, emergency financial assistance, and access to community resources. In 2013, 66 women and 68 children participated in the AfterCare Program—reporting success that continues to last long after they leave the anonymous doorstep of what was once their safe haven and a stepping stone to new beginnings.

On behalf of the women and children served in years past and those we have yet to embrace within the months, hours, and even minutes ahead, we extend a heartfelt thanks to donors, volunteers, and staff whose contributions provide a voice and a choice for those—who for many years, felt to be without.

Deeply Grateful,

Board of Directors

The mission of The Women's Safe House is to provide safe shelter and support services to battered women and their dependent children and to empower women to make informed choices about their futures.

THE WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE

2013 ANNUAL PROFILE—PROGRAMS & SERVICES

HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION

Founded in 1977, The Women's Safe House, formerly St. Louis Abused Woman Support Project, was the first domestic violence shelter in St. Louis; operating solely with volunteer support. Originally, the shelter was located in a turn-of-the-century Victorian style house in the City of St. Louis. The original facility, rented from the Sisters of Loretto for just \$1 per year, could accommodate up to 26 women and children.

In 1995, with no option to either secure a long-term lease or purchase the property, coupled with the growing need for additional space to accommodate the high volume of women and children escaping violence, the Board of Directors embarked on a formal process to relocate the shelter. A capital campaign was initiated and more than \$1 million were raised to apply towards the purchase of a new building.

By 1999, The House moved to its current location that offered space for 35 women and children, a commercial kitchen/dining room, children's play area, space for group sessions, storage, staff offices, and a conference room. Phase II of the renovation was completed in late 2003, enabling The House to offer emergency shelter to a total of 50 women and children.

The Women's Safe House is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization open 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, serving approximately 400–600 women and children annually. The Women's Safe House is one of the few residential programs that accept male children 12-18 years of age, and remains the only shelter in the state of Missouri to offer a twelve-month AfterCare program. Programs and services include:

CRISIS HOTLINE

Trained employees and volunteers answer our crisis hotline around the clock with compassion and care, assessing a woman's safety, needs, and providing community referrals as necessary. Once it has been established that a woman is ready to leave and our confidential location can ensure the highest level of safety, our team will work with her to identify an exit strategy to get her to our confidential location.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Once a woman or family is admitted into the program, The Women's Safe House provides meals, clothing, and personal care items to make them feel at home. The individuals attend group and individual counseling sessions, and have access to case management, medical assessment and treatment provided by our on-site nurse, health screenings and education, children's programming, legal advocacy, financial literacy workshops, transportation assistance, job placement guidance, support in finding new safe housing, and a wide variety of referrals and linkages to community and social services resources.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Children's Program provides a nurturing environment where children can play or take part in a variety of structured activities. Since children are secondary victims of domestic violence, our staff work diligently to assess each child, especially children who display a level of aggressive behavior, and help each child reach his or her potential by building their self-esteem, developing character, and encouraging respect of themselves and others.

AFTERCARE PROGRAM

The AfterCare Program provides women who have completed the terms of the Residential Program with continued advocacy, emotional support, case management, employment placement, education, home visits, access to home furnishings, transportation assistance, and emergency financial assistance. This twelve-month service is offered to residents to help prevent homelessness and eliminate the woman's return to the abuser while in the process of rebuilding her life and attaining an accomplishable level of security and independence.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Volunteer Program aims to support the mission of The Women's Safe House through community involvement and increased awareness of domestic abuse. Volunteers are an integral part of the culture at The House—our founding mothers operated the shelter for many years as volunteers until a professional staff was hired. Volunteers support all areas of the agency, performing direct and indirect volunteer tasks. One of the major components of the Volunteer Program is community education. Through community education, our staff strive to educate women, men, and children about the dynamics of domestic violence in hopes of changing the community norms that allow violence to occur. Our presentations reach faith groups, businesses, law enforcement agencies, schools, and healthcare providers.

The Women's Safe House Volunteer Program is certified by the United Way of Greater St. Louis.

THE WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE 2013 ANNUAL PROFILE—RESIDENTIAL

RACE (New Residents Only)	# SERVED	%
Black/African American	411	83.70%
White	62	12.63%
Asian	0	0.00%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0.00%
Other, Including Multi-Racial	11	2.24%
Unknown	0	0.00%
Hispanic/Latino	7	1.43%
TOTAL	491	100.00%

AGE	MALES	(52%)	FEMALES	(48%)
	#	%	#	%
0-2	45	34.88%	36	30.00%
3-5	35	27.13%	22	18.33%
6-9	23	17.83%	34	28.33%
10-13	16	12.40%	20	16.67%
14-17	10	7.75%	8	6.67%
Unknown	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
TOTAL	129	100.00%	120	100.00%
18-24			62	25.62%
25-35			101	41.74%
36-45			43	17.77%
46-59			35	14.46%
60+			1	0.41%
TOTAL			242	100.00%

INCOME	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	%
0-\$9,999	236	97.52%
\$10,000-14,999	5	2.07%
\$15,000-19,999	0	0.00%
\$20,000-29,999	1	0.41%
\$30,000-39,999	0	0.00%
\$50,000+	0	0.00%

ALL (New Only)	WOMEN	CHILDREN	TOTAL	%
St. Louis City	105	117	222	45.21%
St. Louis County	93	97	190	38.70%
Other	44	35	79	16.09%

Hotline Calls Taken: 2,755	Turned Away; Full*: 1,120
Bednights: 16,371	Daily Average: 45

Vacancy Rate: 10%	Housing Placements: 108
Occupancy Rate: 90%	

NEW RESIDENTS		
WOMEN	CHILDREN	TOTAL
242	249	491

SINGLE PERSONS	FAMILIES
105	137

MARRIED	SINGLE
18	224

TOTAL MEALS AND SNACKS SERVED:	24,094
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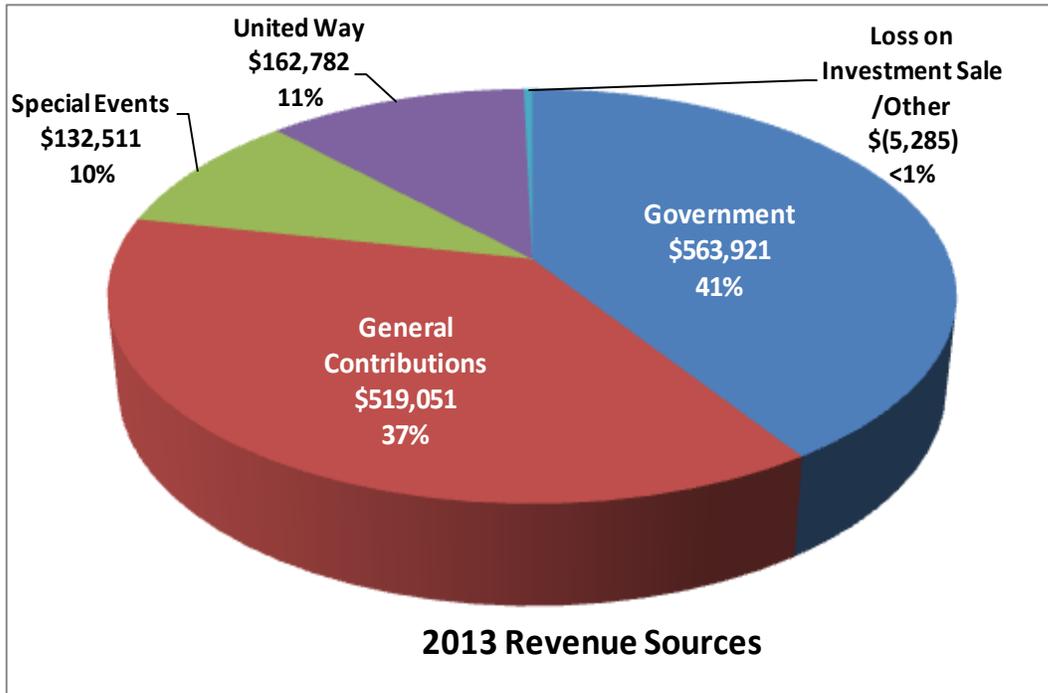
AFTERCARE RESIDENTS		
WOMEN	CHILDREN	TOTAL
66	68	134

TOTAL MEALS SERVED:	16,014
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VOLUNTEER PROGRAM	
Community Presentations	87
Event Attendees	2,480
Volunteer Hours	7,144
Volunteers Per Month	123 Average
TOTAL OF VOLUNTEERS INDIVIDUALS + GROUPS (Duplicated)	1,471

THE WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE 2013 ANNUAL PROFILE—FINANCIAL STATEMENT

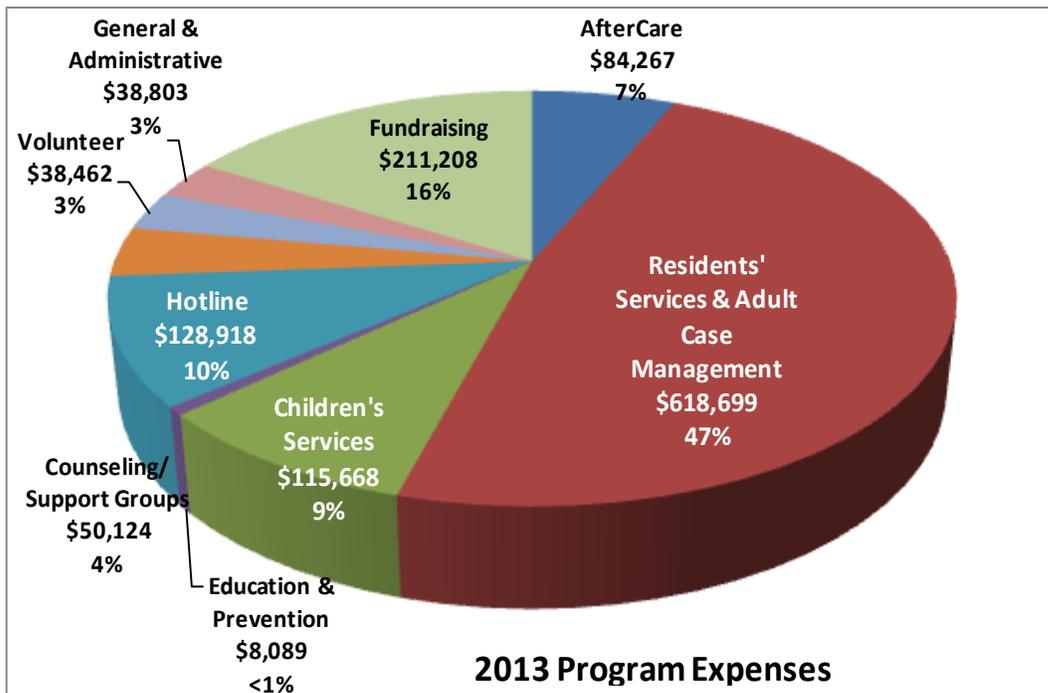
2013 REVENUE SOURCES



FINANCIALS: AT-A-GLANCE	
Revenue	\$1,372,980
Expenses	\$1,294,237
Increase in Net Assets	\$78,743
Total Ending Net Assets	\$1,181,871

REVENUE SOURCES		
Government	\$563,921	41.07%
General Contributions	\$519,051	37.80%
Special Events	\$132,511	9.65%
United Way	\$162,782	11.86%
Interest/Loss on Sale of Investments/ Other	\$(5,285)	(0.38%)
Total Revenue	\$1,372,980	100.00%

2013 PROGRAM EXPENSES



PROGRAM EXPENSES		
AfterCare	\$84,267	6.51%
Residents' Services (incl CM)	\$618,698	47.80%
Children's Services	\$115,668	8.94%
Community Education & Prevention	\$8,089	0.63%
Hotline	\$128,918	9.96%
Individual Counseling & Support Groups	\$50,124	3.87%
Volunteer Program	\$38,462	2.97%
General & Administrative	\$38,803	3.00%
Fundraising	\$211,208	16.32%
Total Expense	\$1,294,237	100.00%

