



2016 annual report



Therapeutic Counseling and Support Groups 2016

Our individual therapy sessions and support groups are led by compassionate, trauma-specialized therapists and social workers.

We provided **4,682** individual weekly therapy sessions to **264** adult survivors of domestic or sexual violence.

235 support group gatherings empowered **122** unique adult survivors.

We provided **1,037** individual weekly therapy sessions for **159** unique teens.

230 unique teens participated in **309** support group sessions.

Thanks to a generous anonymous donor, we began using a new cloud-based client records management system which has created greater capability and efficiency in serving clients.

“When I began this road to recovery and healing I had no idea the profound effect this journey would have on my emotional and psychological wellbeing! Indeed it has! Thank you!”

—Former Therapy Client

“Because of Safe Connections, I have regained a positive sense of self I lost a long time ago. You all SAVED me and I am forever grateful.”

—Therapy Client

“I learned how to respect myself more. I learned how to care for myself and set limits. I’ve learned to love myself and that I deserve happiness and a great life.”

—Support Group Participant



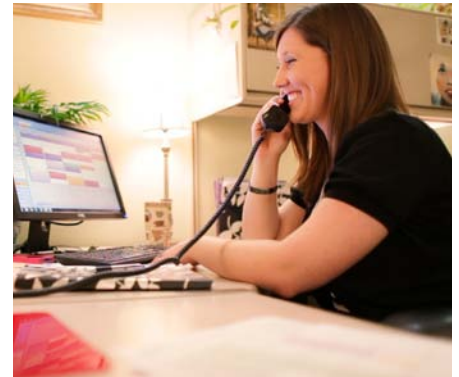
Crisis Care and Youth Education 2016

Crisis Care 2016

- Staff and trained volunteers answered more than **4,000** calls with compassion and expertise on our 24/7 **Crisis Helpline**. We provided voice-to-voice support to callers from all over the St. Louis region.

We provided **Emergency Transportation** for **209** adults and **145** children over the course of 2016 to get people out of danger and into safe places, including area shelters.

- Our Crisis Support Program provided face-to-face intervention and safety planning to **69** individuals in need of immediate stabilization while awaiting counseling services.



"I learned that you should never be afraid to speak up to your partner or someone you trust about problems within your relationship."

—Project HART participant

"I now know how to help people and support them when they need someone."

—Girls Group participant

"I will try and help people I see that are in distress and try to guide them to a better path as best I can."

—Guys Group participant

Youth Education 2016

- **Project HART** teen dating violence prevention workshops were delivered to nearly **13,000** middle and high school-age students at schools and other youth-serving sites throughout the St. Louis area.
- Nearly **440** young men accessed our **Guys Group** while **Girls Group** reached **131** young women. Participants learned about the importance of healthy relationships and became peer leaders against dating violence.



Volunteer and Outreach 2016

- More than **149 Community Volunteers** dedicated nearly **4,700** hours to Safe Connections. They served on boards, answered crisis calls, interned, planned special events, landscaped our garden, managed our **Green Goose Gifts** project and so much more.
- Safe Connections maintained a strong community presence by staffing booths at wide-reaching annual events including **St. Louis PrideFest, SistaStrut, and the St. Louis Business Journal Women's Conference.**
- The Safe Connections **Young Professionals** (YPs) were busy in 2016. They hosted their annual trivia night, launched a crowd-funding campaign, hosted several Dining2Donate events as well as represented Safe Connections at leading YP regional events.
- **The National Charity League** and our high school Youth Ambassadors provided so much support this year including for our annual Holiday Haven for clients. Thanks to the many friends who made the holidays brighter for our counseling clients and their families.

More than **149**
Community Volunteers
dedicated nearly **4,700**
hours to Safe
Connections.

"Now, more than ever, the impact of Safe Connection's mission is forefront in our society. Donating my time, efforts, and resources is the least I could do for such an amazing cause and organization."

—Community volunteer



Highlights 2016



▲ The 9th annual **Together! Engaging Women/Empowering Girls** brunch in April at the Ritz Carlton netted more than \$63,000—a record-setting number—with more than 400 women ages 10 to 110 in the room! Survivor of domestic abuse and Region President of iHeartMedia Beth Davis inspired us as our featured speaker. Thanks to Vicki Dolan and Dr. Jill Powell for Co-chairing!



◀ In 2016, Safe Connections celebrated 40 years of changing and saving lives. To help celebrate and raise awareness of our services, we partnered with **iHeartMedia**, who broadcasted PSAs daily about our anniversary and Crisis Helpline on all six of their radio stations. This generous partnership began in April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and ended in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Thank you iHeartMedia!

▶ To honor our 40th year, the Safe Connections Young Professionals presented their first solo crowd-funding campaign, **Light Up the Lotus**. They exceeded their goal to raise \$4,000 in 40 days. The YPs followed that success with their annual **Trivia Night** in August which sold out at 42 tables and netted \$15,320.



Highlights 2016



◀ Thanks to the wonderful guidance of one of Safe Connections' founders, Roz Sherman Voellinger, the **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers** donated \$7,000 to us and allowed us to speak at their national convention here in front of 500 union members.



◀ Held at The Four Seasons, our **"Night to Remember" 40th Anniversary Gala** in November honored our founders and our most loyal friends who have stayed with us through the decades. The elegant evening of nostalgia, awards and dancing was led by Honorary Chair **Ellen Sherberg**

and a highly engaged Steering Committee led by Chair **Dannae Delano**. We were thrilled to honor several of our founders who flew in for the event, as well as our founding executive director who spoke to us from the West Coast via video. Lead sponsors were **Renaissance Financial** and **The Marjorie and Marc Seldin Philanthropic Fund**. Our featured speaker was former client turned advocate and author **Lindsay Fischer**. We netted more than \$101,000 for our services with 330 guests in attendance. It truly was a night to remember.



▲ **The Green Goose**—our leading business partner for more than eight years— opened their new, larger location in Webster Groves and chose us as the beneficiary of their grand opening shopping event and generously included us in every aspect of their promotions and celebration. We love The Green Goose!



Source of Funds

Government Funding	\$ 1,344,221.00	58%
United Way	\$ 321,293.00	14%
Contributions	\$ 364,165.00	16%
Special Events	\$ 178,403.00	8%
Investment Gains	\$ 25,946.00	1%
In-Kind Donations	\$ 81,521.00	3%
Miscellaneous	\$ 6,853.00	<1%
Total	\$2,322,402.00	

Use of Funds

Program Services	\$ 2,090,528.00	92%
Counseling	\$ 888,708.00	(43% of program)
Crisis Intervention	\$ 345,207.00	(17% of program)
Prevention Education	\$ 856,613.00	(41% of program)
Management	\$ 102,127.00	5%
Fundraising	\$ 66,960.00	3%
Total	\$2,259,615.00	
Operating Reserves	\$251,997.00	
Endowment	\$431,182.00	
Ending Net Assets	\$1,650,844.00	

*As of December 31, 2016

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