



# 2017 annual report



# Individual Therapy and Support Groups 2017

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

We provided **5,547** individual weekly therapy sessions to **306** adult survivors of domestic or sexual violence.

**32** support groups empowered **249** adult survivors.

We provided **2,110** individual weekly therapy sessions for **193** unique teens.

**231** teens participated in **39** support groups.

***"I'm a lot stronger than I was when I walked into Safe Connections."***

*—Former Therapy Client*

***"Invaluable professional support gave me the strength to start a new chapter. I am forever grateful."***

*—Former Therapy Client*

***"Thank you Safe Connections! I have my GED. I go to college. You've helped me tremendously."***

*—Support Group Participant*



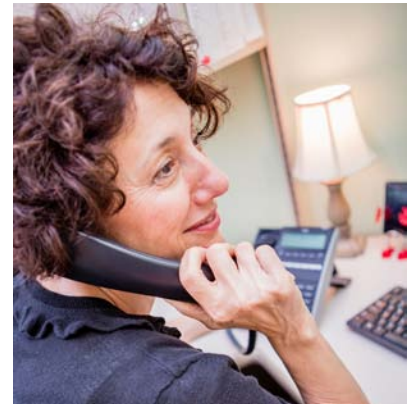
# Crisis Care and Youth Education 2017

## Crisis Care 2017

- In 2017, we answered more than **3,440** calls on our 24/7 **Crisis Helpline**. Expertly-trained staff and volunteers provided compassionate, voice-to-voice support to callers from all over the St. Louis region and beyond.

We provided **Emergency Transportation** for **208** adults and **147** children over the course of 2017 to get people out of danger and into safe places, including area shelters.

- Our **Crisis Support Program** provided immediate face-to-face intervention and safety planning to **38** individuals in need of stabilization while awaiting counseling services.



*"I was nervous about using [the crisis helpline] at first, but I'm so happy I did."*

—Crisis Helpline Caller

## Youth Education 2017

- **Project HART** teen dating violence prevention workshops were delivered to **13,137** middle and high school-age students at **101** schools and other youth-serving sites throughout the St. Louis area.
- **Guys Group** reached **367** young men, while **Girls Group** reached **68** young women. Participants learned about the importance of healthy relationships and became peer leaders against dating violence.
- **Safe Connections on Campus** reached **667** college students, faculty, and staff.



*"The most important thing I learned is who to call if I need help in a relationship."*

—Youth Education Participant

*"The discussions on healthy choices, especially concerning emotional abuse, helped. Before, I might not have recognized the small signs."*

—Youth Education Participant

# Volunteer and Outreach 2017

- **202 Community Volunteers** dedicated **4,525** hours to Safe Connections. These vital volunteers served as governing board members, crisis helpline advocates, agency interns, special event committee members, Green Goose Gifts program leaders, landscapers, and client gift bag makers. We are so grateful for the invaluable support volunteers provide!
- Safe Connections was out and about in the community in 2017. We staffed booths at annual events including **St. Louis PrideFest**, **St. Louis Black Pride** and the **St. Louis Business Journal Women's Conference**. We also delivered mission-related community education to **600** participants in the St. Louis region.
- The Safe Connections **Young Professionals** (YPs) presented their 9th annual trivia night, hosted several Dining2Donate events, supported our major fundraising efforts, and hosted a barbecue for landscaping volunteers.
- The **National Charity League** (NCL) has been volunteering with Safe Connections for a decade now! NCL has been an invaluable volunteer partner to us, consistently helping us at our annual brunch, maintaining our garden, and completing other special projects.



*“With sexual assault often being headline news, the topic comes up in conversation a lot. I love being able to say that I’m doing something to help—my contribution of a couple hours a month has had a measurable impact on the amount of help that survivors in Saint Louis will receive.”*

*—Young Professional Board Member*





# Highlights 2017



▲ The tenth annual **Together! Engaging Women/Empowering Girls** brunch was a record-breaking event, raising more than \$75,000 with 500+ women and girls in attendance—the most ever. To commemorate this milestone occasion, we recognized Dr. Jill Powell for chairing the event for all ten years, and Cheryl Kowalczyk of Ekon Benefits for underwriting each year. Now that deserves a round of applause!



▶ In 2017, Safe Connections was selected as a beneficiary for The Home Loan Expert Ryan Kelly's annual fundraiser, Climb for Kids. Karolina ran a marathon up and down Pike's Peak to raise funds for Safe Connections. This special effort raised more than \$2,000 for us!



◀ The Safe Connections Young Professionals presented their 9th annual trivia night, led by event chair, Kelli Best-Oliver. The event raised more than \$14,000. Tables got creative with the "Back to School" theme!

# Highlights 2017



◀ In 2017, we saw many exciting new trends, including Facebook fundraisers and donations. In 2017 alone, our Facebook friends raised more than \$4,200 for Safe Connections.



▲ The inaugural **Lotus Ball** was a smash success with our guests! The elegant event was led by Co-Chairs **Dannae Delano** and **Chanekha Buckingham**, along with the event steering committee. The event was underwritten by **The Marjorie and Marc Seldin Philanthropic Fund**, and sponsors included Midwest Elevator, SSM Health, Dentons, Lowenbaum Law, Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale P.C., Gershman Commercial Real Estate, and the St. Louis Cardinals. Former Cardinals great, **Rick Ankiel**, shared his story about overcoming the trauma of his abusive childhood and going on to be a successful MLB player.



▲ Our Executive Director, Susan Kidder, was honored by the **Missouri Women's Network** with an Equality Day Award for her role at Safe Connections and as a leader in the larger community standing for equality for women. Susan was one of just two women honored at the 30th annual awards luncheon.



## Source of Funds

Government Funding	\$ 1,595,054.00	62%
United Way	\$ 321,293.00	13%
Contributions	\$ 395,053.00	15%
Special Events	\$ 55,721.00	6%
Investment Gains	\$ 53,786.00	3%
In-Kind Donations	\$ 34,355.00	1%
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,541.00	<1%
Total .....	\$2,556,783.00	

## Use of Funds

Program Services	\$ 2,099,559.00	88%
Counseling	\$ 1,268,028.00	(61% of program)
Crisis Intervention	\$ 333,492.00	(16% of program)
Prevention Education	\$ 498,039.00	(24% of program)
Management	\$ 168,725.00	7%
Fundraising	\$ 123,100.00	6%
Total .....	\$2,391,384.00	
Operating Reserves .....	\$251,997.00	
Endowment .....	\$484,470.00	
Ending Net Assets .....	\$1,816,243.00	

\*As of December 31, 2017



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