

# Annual Report 2015

Thank you  
for everything  
you have  
done ~~for~~ for  
my family



**Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley**

Serving individuals and communities affected by domestic abuse.





## Board of Directors

Chris McVay, <b>President</b>	David Bitler	Debbie Delk
Meighan Kerr, <b>Treasurer</b>	JP Bulter	Tiffany Kolander
Ellen Ross, <b>Secretary</b>	Sandra Campanella	Deanna Riley
	Donnie DeCamp	Kathy Robertson

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## Safe Shelter Staff

Jackie List <b>Executive Director</b>	Mary Doubek <b>Shelter Weekend Manager</b>	Madeline Ramsey <b>Shelter Weekend Manager</b>
JoAnn Grossweiler <b>Shelter Program Director</b>	Andrea Faudel <b>Shelter Weekend Manager</b>	Aria Rattan <b>Shelter Bilingual Advocate</b>
Jane Klostreich <b>Business Manager</b>	Linda Gunderson <b>Shelter Facilities Manager</b>	Lynn Russell <b>Victim's Advocate</b>
JP Butler <b>Outreach Coordinator</b>	Naomi Harris <b>Development Director</b>	Holli Sutton <b>Shelter Weekend Relief</b>
Nick Butler <b>Director of Legal Advocacy</b>	Juliet Lundy <b>Shelter Weekend Manager</b>	Tamora Tannehill <b>Shelter Relief</b>
Rhonda Crane <b>Shelter Night Manager</b>	Wendy Merriam <b>Child &amp; Youth Advocate</b>	Patricia Thompson <b>Shelter Night Manager</b>
Tiffany Cooley <b>Shelter Weekend Relief</b>	Chase Mosqueda <b>Legal Advocate</b>	Cristina Zerber <b>Bilingual Advocate</b>
Jenn Doe <b>Outreach Coordinator</b>	Bryn Murphy <b>Child &amp; Youth Advocate</b>	

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## Contents

2015 Spotlight **05**

Ways to help **10**

Client story **06**

Financials **11**

By the numbers **08**

Major Contributors **12**



## Miracles Happen Here

Dear Friends & Allies,

Hundreds of adults and their children seek safety and support with Safe Shelter each year. Survivors flee intimidation, exploitation, abuse, and violence perpetrated by the

very people who claim to love them. In 2015 Safe Shelter provided direct services to 600 survivors of domestic violence, who received compassion, understanding, and **hope** from our staff and volunteers. They were welcomed at a time when many of them believed hope was lost. **Hope** for Beatriz meant escaping the abuse of a husband who brought her to this country as a new bride and then kept her a prisoner in the home they shared. **Hope** for Cal meant releasing the embarrassment, shame and guilt he felt as a man being abused by his partner. Kendra found **hope** when she reached out through our 24/7 TERA text line after her boyfriend sexually assaulted her on Prom night. Hope in the face of adversity—Miracles Happen Here.

In 2015 we expanded our outreach to build awareness, provide education, and galvanize our community's resolve to enhance the safety and wellbeing of survivors and to hold abusers accountable. Safe Shelter's *Stay Safe, Stay Healthy* initiative reminds us that **domestic violence is a serious public health issue**. In only its second year, Safe Shelter's *5K Race Against Domestic Violence* tripled in size, attracting 220 racers. The 2015 *Safe Shelter Symposium on Domestic Violence: Understanding and Addressing its Impact on Children* brought experts from across the nation to bring awareness of the impact of DV on children

and educated a broad spectrum of interdisciplinary professionals on the most promising practices for bringing young people through crisis into healthy places in order to grow and thrive.

As we celebrate our present, we honor our past and strive to build a strong future. Our past is honored each year with a legacy event. The 2015 *Legacy Luncheon* reminded us of the courage and resolve of the Longmont women who set into motion a grassroots response to DV that continues and grows to save lives and ensure futures nearly 40 years later—a miraculous legacy.

Moving forward we'll continue to build and expand our core services with the help of our community partners and allies. Our focus will be on an ambitious initiative to impact the culture of violence against women. Our strategies will engage more boys and men as allies in our work. In this endeavor, we plan to be piloting *Coaching Boys into Men* in St. Vrain Valley High Schools, participating in a state-wide media public awareness campaign and calling on male allies to become actively engaged with our *White Ribbon Campaign*. I ask that you join us in this, the largest international movement to end violence against women and girls and as a partners in realizing our mission.

Freedom from abuse, peace at home . . . those are the miracles that happen here.

Yours in Peace & Justice,

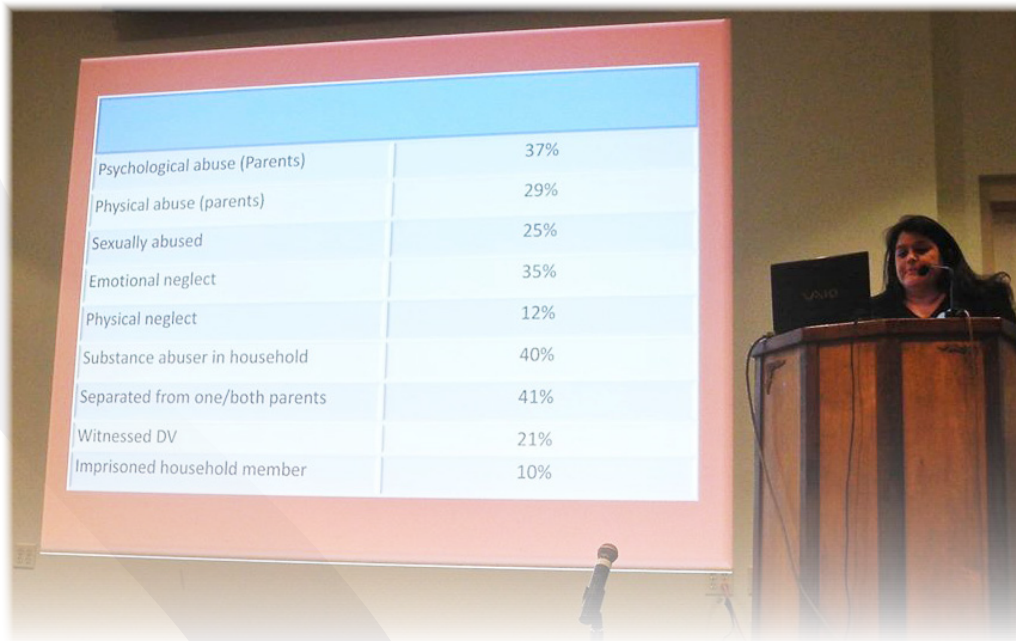
Jackie List, Executive Director



# 2015 Spotlight

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## Safe Shelter Symposium



Psychological abuse (Parents)	37%
Physical abuse (parents)	29%
Sexually abused	25%
Emotional neglect	35%
Physical neglect	12%
Substance abuser in household	40%
Separated from one/both parents	41%
Witnessed DV	21%
Imprisoned household member	10%

The most repeated comment was music to our ears: “There are so many sessions I want to attend that I can’t decide which ones to pick!” On April 22 & 23, Safe Shelter hosted a two-day symposium entitled **2015 Safe Shelter Symposium on Domestic Violence: Understanding and Addressing its Impact on Children**. With its focus on children, the 2-day event explored impact (Day 1) and interventions (Day 2). The event offered 28 workshops and three plenaries provided by over 30 specialists in the fields of education, child protection, therapy, research, cultural perspectives, law, law enforcement and program design and development.

The 100 attendees represented agencies throughout the metro Denver area (Broomfield, Denver, Adams Counties), as well as locations throughout the Front Range, including Pueblo, Craig, Fort Collins, Dillon, Estes Park, Colorado Springs and Garfield County.

*95% of attendees stated that the workshops they attended will be applied to enhance their work.*

# Domestic Violence Awareness Month



In only its second year, **Safe Shelters' s 5K Race Against Domestic Violence** tripled in size, attracting 220 racers from under three years old to over 70. The sporting event took place during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and included a diverse array of singles, pairs and intergenerational family participants. In the coming year, we will begin active outreach to men, boys and those who raise and influence them to join the movement to end DV. This annual race will serve as one of many means to attract willing allies.

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**Safe Shelter's Legacy Luncheon** was created to honor our past and support our future. In October of 2015 we once again hosted the courageous founding women, who had the foresight and perseverance to establish Longmont Coalition for Women in Crisis. Going through the archives of our founding and reading about the milestones we have experienced over the years reminds us that our name may have changed (2003), but we walk in the footsteps of these change makers.



# Beyond Crisis Intervention:

## a Story of Transformation

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When Mona moved from Connecticut to Colorado to start a new life with her boyfriend, John, her life began to spiral downward and out of control. With a specialized college degree and high hopes she landed a job and apartment. It didn't take long for John to begin controlling her life and reveal his addiction to alcohol and drugs. His habit ate up their income, forcing them to leave their home and begin life on the streets. Although Mona stayed with John in hopes that she could help him, his abusive behavior became dangerous. With no home, no job and in trauma from her constant abuse, Mona fled the city and was referred by a partner agency our Emergency Shelter Program.

In Shelter, she participated in group and individual counseling. Case management at the non-residential Outreach facility helped her to move forward and secure housing through Boulder County's Housing Stabilization Program, which assisted with her rent. Although she began to pick up the pieces of her life, blame, a sense of failure, and ghosts from her past abuse surfaced. Mona began to experience unexplainable seizures. Convinced that her disabling seizures had deep roots, a Safe Shelter Advocate sought out expert neurologists for assessments, driving Mona to numerous appointments and speaking on her behalf when necessary in an effort to find out what was causing her disorder.





Thanks to extended assessments provided by multiple doctors, she was finally diagnosed with a rare condition of Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizure Disorder in addition to additional medical conditions. Her history of being raised in a battering home, years of enduring partner abuse and her personal losses had brought on her condition.

After two years receiving extensive guidance, reading about her condition, engaging in treatments and receiving appropriate medical interventions, Mona has taken back control of her life. In 2015, she moved to a new location, actively volunteers at a local library and has applied for a Victim Advocate position at the local DV agency.

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*Safe Shelter meets our clients at any point along their path as they strive toward a life of independence and dignity. Crisis intervention is only the first step along that path. In many cases, their physical and emotional trauma and enforced dependency on their abuser has left victims without simple lifeskills and the confidence to self-advocate. But survivors are strong. Given time, their determination and our support systems, we have witnessed how lives can be transformed.*

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# 2015 Impact

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## Emergency Housing

**4,843**

nights in shelter for

**126 | 80**

adults | children

the average shelter stay was

**24 days**

*"I couldn't have been given this place to heal and collect myself and my thoughts without you all being here.*

*I wouldn't have really made it without this place and all of your sincere care and support. It truly is an amazing place and you all are beyond amazing for being here day in and day out. Grateful doesn't begin to express what I am and feel toward this real chance."*

## Transitional Housing

**5,835**

nights of housing for

**47**

adults and families

## Geographical Reach

**12 | 13**

Colorado  
counties

other  
states

## 27/4 Crisis Line

**5,494**

calls answered

## Volunteer Contributions

**476 | 1,151**

hours of service  
by volunteers

hours of service  
by interns



# By the Numbers

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*"I have learned the  
"normal" way people  
are entitled to live  
without being abused.  
I also learned how  
to recognize abusive  
behaviors and now  
have the opportunity  
to be independent and  
live free of violence."*

## Counseling Services

**1,635**

individual sessions

**625**

group sessions

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outreach advocates served

**298 | 84 | 4**

women

children

men

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## Community Outreach

**2,500**

individuals attended  
events or presentations

## Legal Services

**159 | 6**

received legal  
advocacy

received  
attorneys

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## Teens Ending Relationship Abuse (TERA)

**309 | 2,104 | 79**

hours of service  
by peer educators

high school  
students reached

classroom  
presentations

*"What I liked best about the presentation was the stories  
you shared because all of them happen;  
it helps me notice abusive relationships easier."*

# Your Gift is the Seed of Hope

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## The Gift of Stability

Become a sustaining donor of Safe Shelter by breaking up a larger donation into affordable increments of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more a month. Monthly income offers us a reliable source of revenue and helps individuals and families in crisis stabilize their lives and move toward self-sufficiency.

## The Gift of Business

If you own a business, Safe Shelter will work with you to find the right partnership for your philanthropic goals. If you work for a business, find out if you can increase the impact of your gift through a matching program.

## The Gift of a Legacy

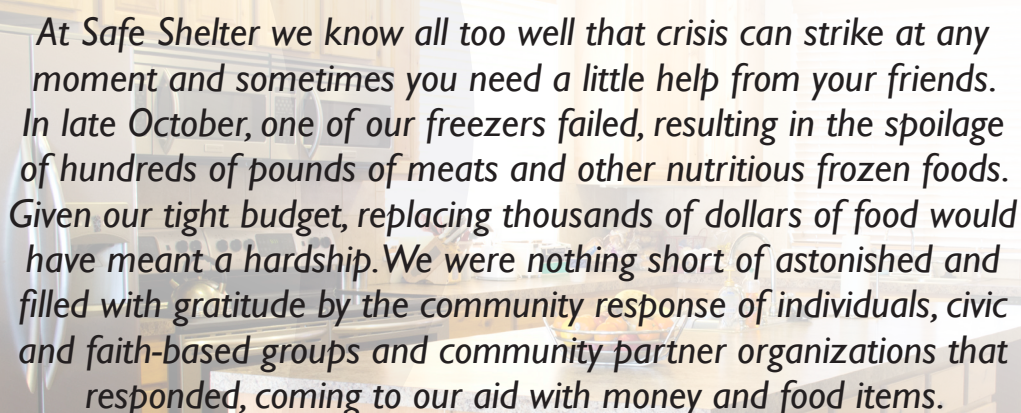
Whether you are creating a will, making changes to an existing will, or planning a long term gift, consider talking to your attorney about charitable estate planning techniques. Remember the lives you will be touching by making Safe Shelter a part of your plans.

## In-kind Gifts

Visit the Safe Shelter website to view our Wish List items.

## Secure Online Giving

The Safe Shelter website offers various options for donating.

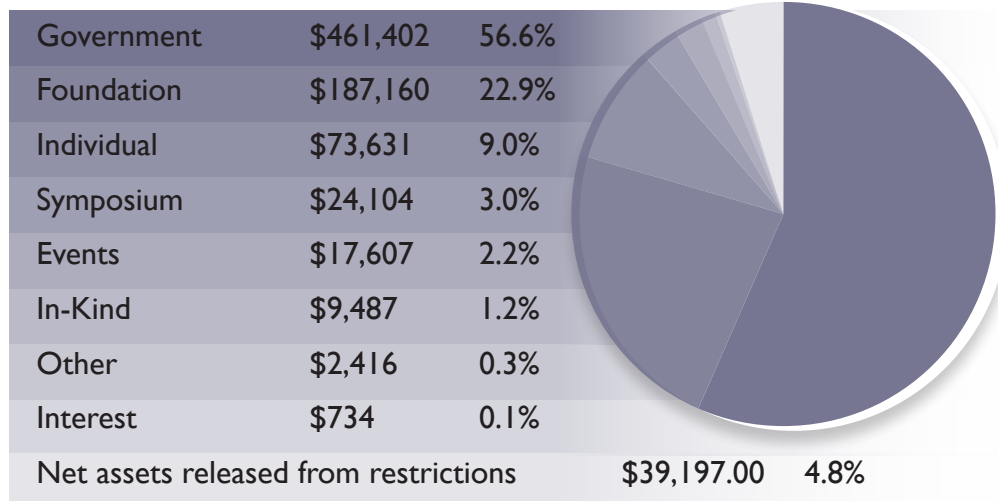


*At Safe Shelter we know all too well that crisis can strike at any moment and sometimes you need a little help from your friends. In late October, one of our freezers failed, resulting in the spoilage of hundreds of pounds of meats and other nutritious frozen foods. Given our tight budget, replacing thousands of dollars of food would have meant a hardship. We were nothing short of astonished and filled with gratitude by the community response of individuals, civic and faith-based groups and community partner organizations that responded, coming to our aid with money and food items.*

# 2015 Financial Report

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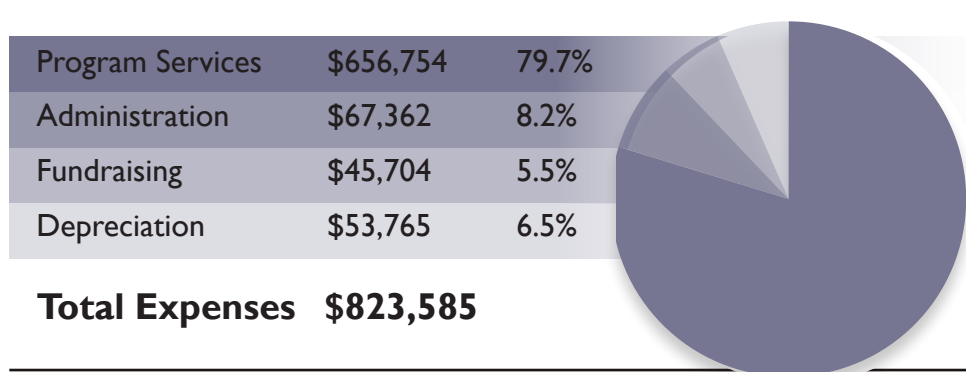
## Revenues



**Total Assests \$756,178**

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## Expenses



**Total Expenses \$823,585**

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## Change in Assets

Beginning of Year, Net Assets	\$1,771,365
End of Year, Net Assets	\$1,743,518
Change in Assets	\$27,847



# Major Contributors

## Businesses/Corporations

300 Suns Brewing  
Ahlberg Funeral Chapel, Inc.  
Colorado Materials, Inc.  
La Momo Maes Bakery  
Lefthand Brewing Foundation  
Longmont Dairy  
Longmont Yarn Shoppe, LLC  
Lucky's Market Chairitable Foundation  
Nutek Americas, Inc.  
Primrose School of Longmont  
Richey Realty, LLC  
Stone Creek Roofing & Exteriors  
Otter Cares Foundation

## Civic Groups

Crazy Old Bat Lady Society  
Delta Kappa Gamma  
Interfaith Quilters  
Longmont Rotary Club  
Rocky Mountain Sisters on the Fly  
Skyline Longmont Kiwanis Foundation  
Zonta Club of Boulder County

## Donor Advised Funds

Benedict Family Foundation  
Braly Family Foundation  
Bud & Ruth Johnson Family Fund  
Eberspacher Family Fund  
Ertl Family Fund  
Leo F. and Ina M. Wellborn Family Fund  
McCarty Charitable Fund  
The H. M. Family Fund  
Thomas P. and Betty Lou Brock Fund  
Wiser Family Fund

## Faith Communities

First Baptist Church  
First Congregational - UUCC  
First United Methodist Church  
Longs Peak United Methodist Women  
Messiah Lutheran Church and School  
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
UMW of Hygiene  
Westview Presbyterian Church

## Individual Contributors (over \$400)

Billow Family  
Bruce and Wendy Gronbeck  
Christopher C. Jeffers  
Christy Griffith  
Deanna Riley  
Ellen Ross  
Gary and Kathy Morris  
Hal Morrison  
Jack and Evelyn Kelly  
John & Barbara Wolfe  
June and Dale Runnion  
Kenneth Brown  
Mary Kopman  
Mary Lou Beddo  
Meighan Kerr  
Priscilla Lukon  
Ralph Stilson Jr.  
Robert Conner  
Samuel Cardonsky  
Shawn Lewis  
Susan Morrison  
Tim Formosa

## Foundations

A.V. Hunter Trust, Inc.  
American Assoc. of University Women  
Anschutz Family Foundation  
B&E Collins Foundation  
Boulder County Bar Foundation  
Collins Foundation  
Colorado Bar Foundation  
Daniels Fund  
El Pomar Foundation  
Emerson Chairitable Trust/  
Micromotion, Inc.  
Entrepreneurs Foundation of Colorado  
Foothills United Way  
Helen K. & Aurther Johnson Foundation  
Jeff Sands Memorial Blue Skies Fund  
Longmont Legacy Fund  
Lynn & Helen Clark Fund  
Open Door Fund  
Social Venture Partners Boulder  
The April Fund  
The Community Foundation serving  
The Denver Foundation  
Longmont Community Fund  
The TJX Foundation  
Verizon HopeLine  
Virginia W. Hill Foundation  
Wells Fargo Foundation

## Event Sponsors

9 Round  
Abby's Voice  
Boulder County DA's Office  
Boulder County HHS  
City of Longmont Dept. of Public Safety  
Colorado Materials, Inc.

Dairy Queen (DQ)  
High Plains Bank  
Laurel Sells  
Longmont Community Foundation  
Longmont Rotary Club  
Longmont United Hospital

Loveland Laser Tag Fun Center  
Lucky's Market  
Shoes & Brews  
Sticker Giant  
Sugarbeet  
The Pearl Group

**P.O. Box 231 | Longmont, CO 80502 | Office: (303) 772-0432**  
**24/7 Crisis line: (303) 772-4422 | TERA textline: (720) 340-8372**  
**[www.safeshelterofstvrain.org](http://www.safeshelterofstvrain.org) | [info@safeshelterofstvrain.org](mailto:info@safeshelterofstvrain.org)**

The logo for Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley features a stylized graphic of two figures, one appearing to support the other, above the text "Safe Shelter" in a serif font, with "of St. Vrain Valley" in a smaller script font below it.

**Safe Shelter**  
*of St. Vrain Valley*