Annual Report 2015

Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

Serving individuals and communities affected by domestic abuse.

Thank you for everything you have done for my family.
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Lynn Russell, Victim’s Advocate
Holli Sutton, Shelter Weekend Relief
Tamora Tannehill, Shelter Relief
Patricia Thompson, Shelter Night Manager
Cristina Zerber, Bilingual Advocate

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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
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.
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.

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.
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.**
2015 Impact

**Emergency Housing**

4,843 nights in shelter for

126 adults  
80 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 Colorado counties  
13 other states

**27/4 Crisis Line**

5,494 calls answered

**Volunteer Contributions**

476 hours of service by volunteers  
1,151 hours of service by interns
“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.”

By the Numbers

### Counseling Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual sessions</td>
<td>1,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group sessions</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach advocates served</td>
<td>298 women, 84 children, 4 men</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Community Outreach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals attended events or presentations</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Legal Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received legal advocacy</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received attorneys</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teens Ending Relationship Abuse (TERA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours of service by peer educators</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school students reached</td>
<td>2,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom presentations</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Your Gift is the Seed of Hope

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 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.

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.

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.
2015 Financial Report

Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>$461,402</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>$187,160</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$73,631</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symposium</td>
<td>$24,104</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$17,607</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind</td>
<td>$9,487</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,416</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$734</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>$39,197.00</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Assets $756,178

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$656,754</td>
<td>79.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$67,362</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$45,704</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$53,765</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenses $823,585

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
Left Hand 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

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 Assissi Catholic Church
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church
UMW of Hygiene
Westview Presbyterian Church

Donor Advised Funds
Benedict Family Foundation
Braly Family Foundation
Bud & Ruth Johnson Family Fund
Eberspacher Family Fund
Erl 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

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

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

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

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 | info@safeshelterofstvrain.org