



SAINT MARTHA'S HALL

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Annual Report

July 2013 - June 2014

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporters,

This letter is being written in the midst of much violence and unrest in our community and at the beginning of what so many of us call the Season of Peace. So we are hopeful and believe in the “better angels of our nature” and anticipate that love will prevail, peace will be with us and that all will be well.

By virtue of the fact that you have received this annual report you are part of the anticipation that love will prevail, peace will be with us and that all will be well. You are among those people who walk the earth and think of others. You put yourselves in someone’s shoes whose journey has been troublesome and void of peace and you reach out and support us. Sometimes we humans forget just how good we are and can be and that those who do for others, who operate from a base of love far outnumber those who don’t.

What else can I say but thank you and peace be with you always.

With profound gratitude for your kindness to St. Martha’s,



Michelle Schiller-Baker, Executive Director

MISSION

Motivated by Christ’s imperative to love neighbor as self, we dedicate ourselves to improving the dignity of family life and of the persons involved by meeting the challenge and resisting the evil of all forms of abuse: physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual.

Our mission is to help abused women and their children break the cycle of violence in their lives. St. Martha’s Hall is guided by the social justice teachings of Jesus Christ. We attempt to accomplish this by providing safe shelter and supportive services that empower women to rebuild their lives.

WHO WE ARE

Since 1983 St. Martha’s Hall has been providing confidential emergency shelter and support services to abused women and their children.

We provide a supportive environment with a strong emphasis on peer support; implement a self-help philosophy to enhance self-esteem and decision-making skills; provide accurate information and referrals to abused women and their children and when appropriate to their abusers; provide advocacy services; provide individual crisis, group and family counseling; and offer community education to increase public awareness and understanding of domestic violence.

The program tries to ensure community effort, cooperation, independence and support of the women and their children that reside here. The staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors of St. Martha’s Hall are dedicated to empowering women to live violence-free lives.

ETHICS AND VALUES

Our primary value is for human dignity and life. Ethics are our code of conduct.

Dignity is the sacred respect for others and self. Ethics are the actions we implement in our work to help assure the dignity of our clients, co-workers, community representatives and volunteers. Our specific values and ethics focus on violence against women and how oppression is played out and implemented through well-defined and systemic use of power and control.

NAME AND LOGO

St. Martha lived in the time of Jesus. She was recognized for her nurturing and caring ways as well as her courage and outspokenness. She was highly respected for her service to others and recognized for such by the Catholic Church. Our logo, a cross, which also resembles a windowpane, gives a sense of place - representing a window of opportunity and a balance of power.



ENVISIONED FUTURE

Peace and safety for all women and their children.

2013-2014 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

Shelter Program

Fathers' Support Center

We continue our partnership with the Father Support Center, a nonprofit organization that provides services to parents, with a particular focus on fathers. The Center's program, Pathways to Responsible Fatherhood Family Formation Project, seeks to strengthen the role of fatherhood in the family. St. Martha's Hall provides on-going domestic violence orientation to Father Support Center staff. We also work directly with the fathers providing education about the effects of domestic violence on children. We feel privileged and honored to continue this partnership.

Safe Connections and YWCA Sexual Assault Center

In the fall of 2013 we began answering the hotline of Safe Connections and the YWCA Sexual Assault Center, sister agencies whose missions are also to end domestic and sexual violence, from 11:00pm to 7:30am, 7 nights a week. Safe Connections approached us with the idea because we have staff awake and working and they needed a reliable agency that could provide this service for them. Because Safe Connections answered the YWCA Sexual Assault Center's phone on the overnight shift we also agreed to take those calls. We were not sure that we could handle the volume and still provide services to our residents and hotline callers but we were willing to give it a try and to do it for free. After working out a few kinks the collaboration has been working just fine. We are grateful we are able to help our sister agencies and in doing so freeing up their resources to help survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Legal Services of Eastern Missouri –LSEM

LSEM received a grant from U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, to address the holistic legal needs of victims and to expand collaboration with partner victim agencies. We were so very pleased that LSEM asked us to be a partner agency. We have worked informally with LSEM for over thirty-one years referring women in need of domestic, immigration, housing or other legal services. This collaboration helps provide our residents priority intake services at LSEM and LSEM then provides expanded and enhanced services to our residents. As always we are grateful to work with LSEM.

Writing Shelter with the Campus Y at Washington University

The Writing Shelter with Washington University is a mentoring program designed to build self-confidence and create outlets for self-expression through the written word. Students from Washington University volunteer through the Campus Y to go to domestic violence shelters and work with the women through journaling, poetry and prose.

The Writing Shelter project helps create a safe place for exploration, where mentors and survivors of domestic violence can engage in creative writing

The goal is to empower these women who had been silenced by their intimate partners and larger systems — women who felt that if they spoke no one would hear them. The volunteers assist in helping the women find their voices and let them know what they have to say is important.

Court Watch Project – St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network

St. Martha's Hall is a member agency of the St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network -SLEVAWN. SLEVAWN is a network of organizations and individuals who serve in the interest of victims of domestic and sexual violence. Its mission is to end this violence.

In the fall of 2103 St. Martha's, as a member of SLEVAWN, became the lead agency in reigniting what is known as the Court Watch Project. The Court Watch Project is a volunteer staffed project under the auspices of the St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network, in which court proceedings in the St. Louis Circuit Courts are monitored. That information is made available to the court, the Bar and the public to ensure transparency and to give victims a greater voice in how the court processes domestic violence cases. Volunteers attend court on specific days to observe Civil Protection Order cases and record case outcomes on a form. We are in a research partnership with St. Louis University's School of Sociology on this project. They compile all of the forms that the trained court monitors fill out during their court room observations. A report is then sent to the judge whose courtroom proceedings were monitored and a meeting with the members of the Court Watch Project discuss the findings with the judge(s).

We have seen some positive results from this project which include better courtroom safety and timely dockets. We had close to 50 volunteers trained to participate and will continue the project into 2015.

Community Support

Board of Directors

- **Technology and Safety**

Part of the Board's strategic plan is to evaluate the agency's use of social media. A Technology subcommittee was formed of board and staff members to look at how we advance our mission through technology and in so doing how we maintain safety and security of the women and children we serve as well as staff, volunteers and board members.

Over the past year and a half the committee has looked at how we use our website, Facebook, cell phones, laptops and computers. The committee met and consulted with an expert on technology and safety with AT&T's own security division; spoke with multiple other local and national organizations regarding their security systems; and researched much information online. This process resulted in an updated website and Facebook page with enhanced security measures and a new Social Media and Technology Security Policy. Both staff and board members are following the use of the new policies. A few examples are the board meetings are no longer held at the shelter because GPS devices on their phones and laptops can pinpoint our location; staff members must disable all tracking devices on their phones before entering our boundary areas; and residents phones are placed in a signal-blocking bag upon pick-up and she may be offered a Verizon Hopeline Phone while in shelter in order to not be tracked.

- **Computers, Telephones and Database Program**

While going through this process the decision was also made to update our phone and computer system Our phones were over 20 years old and were in some spots being held together with duct tape. We now have a completely functioning phone system, updated computers and are finishing work on a new database program. We entered this brave new world with trepidation but confidence that we could embrace our new "geekiness." Gratitude to the board of directors for their guidance and financial support.

- **Children’s Support Group and Play Rooms**

After thirty-one years of hard but loving use our Children’s Support Group and Play rooms are getting a much needed overhaul.

The Board of Directors approved the rehabilitation and helped to raise the funds. Private donations, a successful fundraiser in February 2014 featuring local artist Mary Engelbreit, several small grants and money from our reserves made the project possible. The renovations should be complete by the end of 2014. We are thrilled in having our children enjoy and feel comfortable in their new spaces!

- **Showers**

Last year our board had two “showers” for the shelter, one in the Fall and one in the Spring. These two “showers” provided the shelter with thousands of dollars’ worth of supplies and gift cards. We are most grateful to Meg Brown, Michelle Dean, Courtney Plunkett and Wendy Cornett-Marquitz for hosting these showers and making the shelter more comfortable for our residents.

- **LEAF Board**

The LEAF Board, formerly known as the Junior Board, reorganized itself and established a new structure including officers, terms of office, committees and a new name-LEAF Board. LEAF stands for Leadership, Education, Awareness and Fundraising which describes their vision and concrete objectives. They wish to be an organization that promotes leadership training opportunities for its members; educate themselves on the issue of violence against women; promote awareness of the issue; and raise money for the shelter.

Volunteers

Volunteers contributed 1,528 hours of service. This doesn’t include the countless hours that are contributed by our dedicated board of directors. Our volunteers provided childcare, tutoring, mentoring, picked up and sorted donations, cleaned and organized parts of the shelter, facilitated arts and crafts groups, brought therapy dogs to the shelter to work with the children, helped with resumes, cleaned our fish tank, packed snack boxes, organized fundraising events and many other jobs.

We would like to take this opportunity to spotlight our high school volunteers from **Barat Academy**.

Periodically we have area high school seniors or juniors do their community service hours with us. From September 2013 through May of 2014 we had three outstanding young women from Barat Academy doing their community service with us: Taylor Hanson, Taylor Arnold and Jennifer Fabian. These students provided childcare, cleaned rooms, ran errands and anything else they were asked to do. Additionally they organized and orchestrated a full-fledged fundraiser for the shelter- **Mpower Charity Fashion Show** raising over \$2,400 for the shelter. This is the second time that Barat Academy senior girls put on this fashion show for us. They put in hundreds of hours and the show was extremely well done. We are grateful to them for sharing so much of their lives with us. We know these women will make the world a better place for all humankind.



- **In-Kind Donations**

Also many generous and loyal groups have been providing special in-kind gifts to our shelter for a number of years and did so once again this past year. This list includes organizations that have donated to us for more than two years.

A special note of sincere gratitude to:

<i>Altrusa</i>	<i>Lutheran South High School-Future Business Leaders of America</i>
<i>Assistance League of St. Louis- Project Rose</i>	<i>Major Brands</i>
<i>Bonhomme Presbyterian Church</i>	<i>Marine Corp League South St. Louis Detachment Ladies Auxiliary</i>
<i>Bath and Body Works, Chesterfield Valley</i>	<i>Miriam School Room 5B</i>
<i>Bath and Body Works, West County</i>	<i>NA'AMAT USA-St. Louis Council-Project Backpack</i>
<i>Bath and Body Works, MidRivers</i>	<i>Protective</i>
<i>Bouffant Daddy</i>	<i>Sheila's Shawls & Paul's Scarves</i>
<i>Boy Scout Pack 778 Stanton Elementary</i>	<i>Soma Intimates- Frontenac</i>
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<i>CDG Engineers</i>	<i>St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish</i>
<i>Custom Crystal and Glass</i>	<i>St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish</i>
<i>Girl Scout Troop 1867- Muffins for Martha</i>	<i>Traditional Congregation</i>
<i>Gray Design Group</i>	<i>Victoria's Secret-West County</i>
<i>Holy Infant Church</i>	<i>Wise F & I</i>
<i>Holy Infant Church Men's Faith in Action</i>	<i>Women of St. Roch</i>
<i>JD Streett and Company</i>	<i>Wydown Middle School</i>
<i>Jewish Women International</i>	
<i>Life Church</i>	

We Had to Say Earthly Goodbyes to One of Our Sisters

Jacqueline Courtois Tapper Feldewerth, our co-worker, friend and sister advocate passed away on Sunday August 17, 2014 after a long illness. Jacqueline had faced and conquered the fear of cancer; sadly her body could not.

Jacqueline worked at St. Martha's Hall for thirteen years as an advocate. She was passionate about her work at the shelter and in ending violence against women. Jac's passion continued to infuse her spirit even after she stopped working. Days before she passed away we were able to visit with her in hospice and she told each one of us to carry on the mission.

We miss Jac every day yet feel her spirit with us always. We are especially grateful to Jac's husband Don, Mom Joyce, Dad Joe, son Tony, and sister Tina for sharing her with St. Martha's. Jac's memory will always be a blessing to us.

FINANCIALS

JULY 2013 - JUNE 2014

REVENUES	% OF REVENUE	
Private Contributions	\$307,283	26%
Investment Income	\$52,017	4.5%
Government Grants/Contracts	\$550,891	47%
United Way	\$134,668	12%
Other Grants	\$90,388	8%
Special Events	\$23,466	2%
Other	\$3,780	.5%

Total	\$1,162,492	100%
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EXPENSES	% OF EXPENSES	
Fundraising	\$44,371	4%
Administration	\$127,376	13%
Programs	\$838,574	83%
Total	\$1,010,321	100%

Net Unrestricted Surplus \$152,171

Total Year End Net Assets = \$1,367,297.94

*Saint Martha's Hall is a registered 501(c) 3 non-profit agency.
All donations to Saint Martha's Hall are tax-deductible.*

The Missouri Department of Social Services offers a special Domestic Violence Shelter Tax Credit equal to 50 percent of the amount of a donation. St. Martha's Hall has a *limited* number of these tax credits each year, and may be able to offer this tax credit for any cash donation of \$250 or more, over and above the value of goods and services received. **Please call 314-533-1313** if you are considering giving for tax credits to ensure that we have them available. All donations to St. Martha's Hall are still 100% tax deductible. The amount of the credit cannot exceed your state tax liability for the taxable year, but if it does, it can be carried over for four successive years.

This report honors donors who have made contributions during the July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 fiscal year and organizations who have supported us with in-kind donations for at least the last two years. These women, men and organizations represent a deep commitment to ending violence against women and children. As such we have tried to make this list accurate but we do make mistakes. If your name or organization has been omitted, misspelled or incorrectly listed please notify Katy Keller at 314-533-1313 or katyk@saintmarthas.org.

SERVICES PROVIDED

In 2013-2014, St. Martha's Hall staff provided the following services:

- ❖ Support and information to 2,416 callers through the 24-hour crisis and support hotline.
- ❖ Emergency shelter for 107 women and 112 children who were forced to flee their homes to escape abuse.
- ❖ Peace, safety and hope for 7,041 days and nights.
- ❖ Support and healing through 47 support groups and 48 parenting groups for women and 79 support groups for children.
- ❖ Resources to build for the future through 1,489 referrals to other services for our residents.
- ❖ Continued support and resources through follow-up services to 102 women.
- ❖ Assistance for 75 women establishing a goal plan for their lives freed from abuse.
- ❖ Support, information and accompaniment for 24 women going through the judicial system.
- ❖ Community education to increase public awareness and understanding of domestic violence to 85 community groups.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, which is part of larger federal legislation, provided funding to develop nationally standardized surveys to help document the work of domestic violence organizations. The two key survey questions that are used at St. Martha's Hall ask: As a result of staying in our shelter do you know more ways to plan for your safety and do you know more about community resources. 96% of the women responding said they know more ways to plan for their safety and 81% said they knew more about community resources.



WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR SUPPORTERS



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Julie Zentz
David and Carolyn Zwart



Loving Memorials



May their memories be a blessing.

In Memory of Jacquelyn Adams
St. Louis Gym Centre

In Memory of Robert Bradshaw Sr.
Rachel Goltzman

In Memory of Henry Calbreath
Joseph and Elaine Daus

In Memory of Lucille Dunn
Mary Barnard

In Memory of Jacqueline Feldewerth
Ambassador Floor Company
Charlotte Behle
Don Feldewerth
Misty Hause
Catherine Kluge
Elena Switzer

In Memory of Herb Greenberg
Maria and Jay Shields

In Memory of Celestine Kirrane
Marilyn Geiger

In Memory of Jamie Ruth Kyriakos
Dawn and Steve Alley
Surgical Pathology Residents, Barnes-Jewish
Hospital Department of Surgical Pathology
Sally and Mike Clime
Code 3 Public Safety Equipment
John and Marion Commerford
Mary and Craig Donis
Nancy and Richard Dunne
Carolyn and Dale English
Kate and Derek English
Keith Fulling
Sue and Richard George
Debbie and Louis Gilula
John Goebel
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Mike and Julie Holley
Huntleigh Hills Homeowners Association
Michael Kyriakos
Cathy Lickenbrock
Musculoskeletal Radiology Section,
Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology
Theresa and David Niemeyer
Ottawa High School
Gregory and Jan Scott
Rick and Barbara Sneddon
Earleen Stockwell
Marie and Harold Theerman
Dale Tompkins
WCP Pathology, P.C.

In Memory of Marlene Mestres
Joseph and Elaine Daus

In Memory of Bill Northern
Joseph and Elaine Daus

In Loving Memory of David Overkamp
Claude and Kay Martin

In Memory of Lois Petruso
Lenore Petruso

In Memory of Rosemary Petruso
Lenore Petruso

In Memory of Daphne "Bambi" Runge
Elena Switzer

In Memory of Bette Jane Schreiber
Ann and Stephen Cortinovic

In Memory of Marjorie Steinmetz
Mark Bauer
DWD-B Fund Members
Julie Gibson and Bill Shoehigh

In Memory of Andrew Torosian
Joseph and Elaine Daus

In Memory of Vladimir Tustanowsky
Joseph and Elaine Daus

In Memory of Walter Voyles
Joseph and Elaine Daus

Pillars of St. Martha's Hall

A pledge of \$1000 a year for three years and a pledge to pray for the safety and well-being of the women, children, staff and volunteers once a month for three years

Jim and Trary Barnes
Joan Doyle
William Kumke
Tony Patti and Cathy Koch Patti
Michelle Schiller-Baker and Alan Baker
Scott and Teresa Turner
Lucy and Roger Willis

Matching Gift Companies

Boeing Company
Bank of America
Code 3 Public Safety Equipment
Energizer Corporate Human
Resources Department
Nieman-Marcus
Tracy Family Foundation



Mother's Day Tributes



Mother, the ribbons of your love are woven around my heart.

In Tribute to Maria Altrudo
Joseph and Bonnie Devoti

In Tribute to Caron Benoist
Maureen and Steve Hanno

In Tribute to Maria Childress
Katy and David Keller

In Tribute to Emily Cuddihee Wagner
Dennis and Susan Cuddihee

In Tribute to Sarah Cuddihee
Dennis and Susan Cuddihee

In Tribute to Susan Cuddihee
Katy and Mike Kapilla and Dennis Cuddihee

In Tribute to Stephanie Devoti
Joseph and Bonnie Devoti

In Tribute to Susan Howk
Katy and David Keller

In Tribute to Margaret Ingrum
Patty Kernell

In Tribute to Dee Kapilla
Katy and Mike Kapilla

In Tribute to Katy Cuddihee Kapilla
Dennis and Susan Cuddihee

In Tribute to Barbara Kernell
Patty Kernell

In Tribute to Colleen Kessler
Joseph and Bonnie Devoti

In Tribute to Debby Levens
Maureen and Steve Hannon

In Tribute to Michelle Reed
Patty Kernell

In Tribute to Suzanne Rhode
John Rhode

In Tribute to Jen Roulston
Katy and David Keller

In Tribute to Ana Santiago
Teresa and Scott Turner

In Tribute to Tammy Shocker
Maureen and Steve Hannon

In Tribute to Pat Short
Patty Kernell

In Tribute to Judy Smith
Joseph and Bonnie Devoti

In Tribute to Amber Sumrall
Maureen and Steve Hannon

In Tribute to Marilyn Vollet
Maureen and Steve Hannon

In Tribute to Dina Walsh
Katy and David Keller

In Tribute to Lynette Wilks
Patty Kernell

In Tribute to Doris Wintrode
Maureen and Steve Hannon

In Tribute to Dianne Wintrode
Maureen and Steve Hannon

★ Honors ★ *What you did touched my life.*

In Honor of Alan Baker
Brad and Jan Scherzer

In Honor of Judge Mike Burton
Sheila Burton

In Honor of Janine DiMarco
Marian and Christopher Ahlering

Happy Chanukkah to Joe and Joan Goltzman
Rachel Goltzman

In Honor of Meg and Jim Huber
Jim and Trary Barnes

In Honor of Jim Huber
Anders, Minkler, Huber, & Helm LLP

In Honor of the Birth of Amos Benjamin Keller
Donny and Lissa Anthon

In Honor of Jack Kelly
David and Cristina Walden

In Honor of Jack and Amy Kelly
Jim and Trary Barnes

In Honor of Trudy Marshall
Linda Blosser

In Honor of Julia Pereira
David Landau and Marybeth Pereira

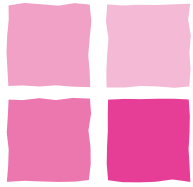
In Honor of Megan Daly Rebores for her Continued
Commitment to Saint Martha's Hall
Bill and Carey Keller

In Honor of Kathy Rehmer
Jan Rogers and Bryan Tramont

In Honor of Michelle Schiller-Baker
Mary Burns

In Honor of Michelle Schiller-Baker
Ann Frawley

In Honor of Steven Thomas for Christmas
Claudia and Lawrence Ennis



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