



# 2021 Annual Report

# A letter from the Executive Director

## Dear Friends,

In today's world, we have so many opportunities to share... on social media, phone calls, emails, and texts. So often, we are inundated with messages of despair, fear, and sadness. But Pope Francis encourages us to "spread a contagion of hope." We—you and I—can spread hope just as easily as we can spread fear.

When we click share on a message of unity, we are sharing hope. When we tweet words of kindness instead of despair, we are allowing hope to grow. Smiling at strangers, even while wearing a mask, spreads hope. And like fear, hope takes root and grows.

Every woman and child who walks through our doors has some level of both hope and fear. You can see it etched on their faces. Both are powerful motivators. Fear of an abuser might be the reason a person first comes to Saint Martha's Hall, but hope is what keeps them there. Our job as advocates is to help that hope take root.

This past year it would have been easy to feel hopeless and let fear take over. To feel like the trauma of our work, and the impact of COVID, was simply too much. But we chose hope, and just like Pope Francis said, it is contagious. We found hope in the encouragement that staff get from each other every day. We found hope seeing a woman overcome abuse and take control of her life with our support. We found hope in the generous support we received from generous donors and allies like you. Most recently, we have found hope in our new collaboration with Assumption-Mattese parish, the home of our new drop-in center, to expand outreach to victims seeking non-residential support. Not a day goes by when we do not feel hope because of the courage and strength we see in each and every woman and child we serve.

Thank YOU for giving us hope.

I wish you a happy, healthy, hope-filled holiday season,

Jessica

Jessica Woolbright

Jessica Woolbright Executive Director

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

House Bill 432 Sections of this bill provide unpaid employment leave for a victim of domestic or sexual violence if their employer has at least 20 employees. The leave could be used to get health care, recover from injury, obtain victim services/ counseling/legal services, and to participate in safety planning. The unpaid leave sections also include family or household members of victims as eligible for the unpaid leave.

#### House Bill 430 This

bill expands the current domestic violence shelter tax credit program by increasing the credit to 70% and providing unlimited tax credits, effective July 1, 2022.

Senate Bill 71 This bill combines three protection order priority bills and allows judges to award possession of pets in Orders of Protection hearings and to issue protection orders two to 10 years, and up to a lifetime order against a respondent. It also updates the requirements for law enforcement entry of protection order data into both state and federal databases.

## MISSION

Guided by the social justice teachings of Jesus Christ, Saint Martha's Hall serves women and children impacted by domestic violence by providing shelter and resources.

# VISION

Saint Martha's Hall envisions a future where domestic violence is no longer a threat to women and their children.

## VALUES

DignityWe treat women and children with dignity.SafetyWe promise a safe place.AdvocacyWe advocate at every level.StabilityWe bring tranquility through stability and structure.HealingWe understand healing is a journey.

## **DROP-IN CENTER**

Over the last two years, the need to expand services outside of the shelter has become imperative. Many women in crisis are not seeking immediate shelter but are looking for information and referrals, understanding, and nonjudgmental support. A woman who is experiencing abuse is often isolated or left feeling very alone. Providing a support system that also enhances their knowledge of safety planning and community resources leads to increased safety and wellbeing over time.

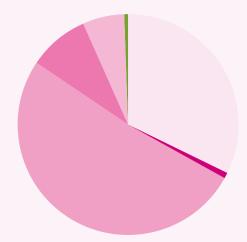
Saint Martha's Hall is excited to announce the opening of its new drop-in center located on the campus of Assumption – Mattese Catholic Church at 4733 Mattis Road in South County. Beginning January 3rd, 2022 advocates will be available Monday through Friday 10am – 4pm to provide safety and support to all individuals impacted by domestic violence. At the drop-in center there are no waitlists, no capacity limits, no requirements for services, and no other additional barriers to safety and independence for victims.

Services provided at the center will include crisis intervention and ongoing support services, remote access to apply for orders of protection, legal advocacy, housing assistance, and an extension of the Saint Martha's Hall Children's Program. The center will also be available to family and friends who want to have a better understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and find safe ways to support to a loved one experiencing abuse.

This new program has truly been a community effort. We have been humbled by the outpouring of support by not only the Saint Martha's Hall committed donors and volunteers but by our new partnership with Assumption-Mattese Catholic Church and members of their parish. Everyone at Saint Martha's Hall is excited to bring new services to the region as we continue to work towards ending violence against women.

# **Revenue & Expenses**

REVENUES	Amount	% OF REVENUE
Private Contributions	\$643,266	32.39%
Investment Income	\$84,520	4.26%
Government Grants/Contracts	\$963,601	48.52%
<ul> <li>United Way</li> </ul>	\$146,616	7.38%
Other Grants	\$144,458	7.27%
<ul> <li>Other</li> </ul>	\$3,699	0.19%
Total	\$1,986,160	100%



EXPENSES	Amount	% OF EXPENSES	
<ul> <li>Fundraising</li> </ul>	\$119,701	8.04%	
Administration	\$211,360	14.19%	
Programs	\$1,158,223	77.77%	
Total	\$1,4 89,284	100%	

#### NET UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS \$496,876

Total Year End Net Assets \$2,666,055

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% of the amount of a donation. Saint Martha's Hall offers this tax credit to any cash donation of \$250 or more over and above the value of goods and services received. 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, 2020 – June 30, 2021 fiscal year. We have tried to make this list accurate but we do make mistakes. If your name has been omitted, misspelled or incorrectly listed please notify Cassie Esswein at 314-533-1313 or cassiee@saintmarthas.org.

# In 2020-2021, Saint Martha's Hall staff provided the following services:



Support and information to **1,618** callers through the 24-hour crisis and support hotline.

Peace, safety, and hope for **2,706** days and nights.

#### Support and healing through

**32** support groups

**25** parenting support groups for women

**82** support groups for children.

Resources to build for the future through **482** referrals to other services for our residents.

Continued support and resources through follow-up services to **15** women.

Assistance for **23** women establishing a goal plan for their lives **freed from abuse**.



Emergency shelter for **37** women and **43** children who were forced to flee their homes to escape abuse.



Community education to increase public awareness and understanding of domestic violence to **38** community groups. Support, information and

accompaniment for **7** women

going through the judicial system.

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 Saint 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? **100%** of the women responding said they know more ways to plan for their safety and **75%** said they knew more about community resources. **100%** of the women stated that they feel more hopeful about the future as a result of their stay. **86%** of mothers completing a survey regarding their children stated that they can identify, manage, and appropriately express their emotions and behaviors as a result of their stay.

# Memorials

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

In memory of: Barbara Stewart Heater Arden Weis Rhonda McMahan Carol O'Leary William Muich Jim Becker Tony Daus

Joseph and Elaine Daus

In memory of: Minnie L. Todd Anne Clift Julie and Glenn Powers In memory of Susan Cudihee Meg and James Huber Barry Cahill T.W. and Anne Grant

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In memory of William E Manz Randi Helgeson

In memory of Sister Jeanne Meurer FSM Mary Burns In memory of Lois Petruso Lenore Petruso

In memory of Tracy Mary Griser

# Honors

## "Honor one, help many."

In honor of Cathy Brown Main Street Junk

In honor of Dennis and Susan Cuddihee and family Cynthia Barkowski

In honor of Robyn Zellmer, Julie Kaiping, and Lindsay Owens Daniel and Kathleen Crain

In honor of Nancy Kelley Patricia Daus

In honor of Dr. John Kelly David and Cristina Walden

In honor of Bob and Tracy Tom and Jan Madden Philip Manz In honor of Thelma Mamah Meredith Malone and Scott Baier

In honor of Rob McCarthy Piyush Chaudhari

In honor of Liz Moore Jan Goodman

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mullins Katherine Claggett

In honor of Beth Pelch Sue McLaughlin

In honor of Allie and Clayton Quickie Emma Kenyon **In honor of Kathy Rehmer** Bryan Tramont Kate and Mark Stroble

In honor of Michelle Schiller-Baker Linda O'Neill Riffle and Harry Riffle Mary Burns

In honor of Maria Shields Marguerite Shields

In honor of Saint Martha Anonymous

In honor of Lisa Stevick Kathryn Stough

In honor of Lara Vitiello Michael Moore

# **Mother's Day Tributes**

# "God could not be everywhere so he created mothers." -Jewish proverb

Lisa Arends **Beth Boll** Pam Brown Sue Brown Joyce DiStefano **Ashley Ferguson** Kathy Ferguson Tiffany Hoeckelman Michelle Hollman Mary Jaeger Kaitlin Judd Kim King Linda Koester Jane Maher Ann Perry Missy Ryan **Debbie Scales Jessica Scales** Krista Soucy Kelly Stepanek Angie Suellentrop Kelly Suellentrop Jean Szerzinski Kari Till **Julie Till** Joanne and Pat Ferguson

Bonnie Devoti Gayle Russo Matt and Lauren Devoti

Lauren Devoti Matt Devoti

Brenda Dempsey Sue Lehmuth Maureen Alfermann Molly and Chris Dempsey

Lexi Wahl Aubrey Crane Dot Kleffner Donna Haller Debbie Zintel Donna Rebmann Terri Rehmer Kate Stroble Joanne Ferguson Carol Klipsch Joan O'Neal Janet Rainford Amy Freeman Kelly Boss Kathy and David Rehmer Annie Erker-Diehr Mary Pat Gallagher Pat Gallagher Allison Diehr Ann Boyce Mary Ann and George Diehr

Amanda Kheyfets Margie Siegel Ali Siegel and David Kerins

Candi Willis Laura Halfmann-Morris Carla Maley

Carlene Rothrock Chris Woolbright Megan Dolton Jessica and Brian Woolbright

Residents of Saint Martha's Hall Sandra Naeger

Eleatha Surratt Kathy Surratt-States Sonette Magnus Eleatha Surratt

Joanne Weiler Janine Weiler

Judith Feig Austin Feig

Karen Naeger Lisa and Jim Shea

Katy Keller Martha and Thomas Roulston

Kelly Esswein Cassie and Rachel Esswein

Kitty Noland Theresa Kenyon

Lana Hagan Kathy and Brad Sampathkumaran

Lauren Alvino Michelle Schiller-Baker Martha Roulston Katy and David Keller Lisa Kimminau Jim Kimminau

Michelle Schiller-Baker Maura Baker and Carroll Lehnhoff-Bell

Cecelia Jarboe Maura Baker and Matt Jarboe

Claudine Huether Janice Huether Julie Till Mary Pat Weiss Megan Huether Sue Weiss Tim and Carolynne Huether

Rose Neher Susan Montebello

Staff of Saint Martha's Hall Dennis Cuddihee

Susie Lane Pat Lane

Suzanne Rhode Priscilla Swatosh Michelle Rhode

Judy Lincoff Marissa Strathearn

# **In-Kind Donations**



125 cleaning supplies



Over 1,000 rolls of paper towels



125 boxes of cereal





Almost 2,000 pieces of Personal Protective Equipment

140 rolls of toilet paper

### 24 First Night bags

# Donors

Maureen Achebe Ernest and Barbara Adelman Dana Aldenderfer Terry and Anne Altepeter Altrusa Club of St. Louis Erol and Sally Amon Kathy and John Anderson Nicholas and Linda Angeli Maureen Arends Cindy and David Asinger Assumption Parish Assistance League of St. Louis Richard Bachmann Maura Baker Debbie Barbeau Cynthia Barkowski Lisa Barnes Ted and Katie Bartelstone Ann Bauer Marian Bauer Bill and Teresa Bayer Tracy and Scott Bazoian Catherine and Eugene Beal Pat Bean and Bean Family Living Trust Sheila Bebb Charley and Elizabeth Beck

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# Mr. Halbert Sullivan & Mr. Lawrence Simmons

For almost 20 years, Saint Martha's Hall has partnered with Fathers & Families Support Center (formerly Fathers' Support Center) to offer training to their staff and facilitate discussions about the impact of violence against women with members of the Family Formation program. This year we were deeply saddened by the loss of two true gentlemen – Mr. Halbert Sullivan and Mr. Lawrence Simmons. Both made an impact that will continue for generations, and we were lucky to call them friends.



Mr. Halbert Sullivan was the founder and CEO of Fathers & Families Support Center (formerly Fathers' Support Center). Sullivan founded FFSC in 1997 with a mission to provide uninvolved, noncustodial fathers

the support they need to get back into the lives of their children as positive, productive parents.

Sullivan's work was supported by research showing that children who grow up with involved fathers in the home are much more likely to avoid risky behaviors, finish school and go on to enjoy happier, healthier futures.

Sullivan got in trouble as a youth, spent time in prison and struggled with substance abuse before turning his own life around — so he was a credible mentor to the men in his program struggling with these same issues.

Prior to starting FFSC, Sullivan was a St. Louis Public Schools social worker, where he saw the harmful effects absentee fathers could have on their children. He held a M.S.W. from Washington University's Brown School of Social Work, which honored him as a 2014 Distinguished Alumni. Sullivan was a frequent speaker at national fatherhood conferences, where FFSC is increasingly called a national model for fatherhood programs.



#### Mr. Lawrence Simmons

spent much of his young adult life behind bars, during which he found himself reflecting on what it meant to be a father. Seeing so many young people coming in and out of prison spurred

a realization that shaped the rest of his life: guidance matters.

"[If] all of those guys only had a little more guidance, structure, discipline, they probably wouldn't have made some of the decisions that they made," said Lawrence.

While in a halfway house, Lawrence came across Fathers and Families Support Center and soon fell in love with its mission. He stayed as a volunteer after graduating from FFSC's Family Formation program.

Lawrence served as a Supervisor of Facilitators at FFSC and taught evening GED classes. He learned that all actions have consequences and impact the trajectory of others' lives.

As Lawrence explained, accepting responsibility is a vital step in reestablishing a normal life: "Living that life of making poor choices and thinking about what it cost me in the past has allowed me to stay focused on what I'm doing today."

Mr. Lawrence was a true testament to the power of responsibility as a father, facilitator, and agent of change.



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#### DONATIONS ONLY:

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# OPENING JANUARY 3, 2022

# St. Martha's Drop-In Center



4733 Mattis Road, St. Louis MO 63128 North side of Assumption Catholic Church campus

(314) 487-2062 Drop-in center (314) 533-1313 Shelter

## Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

\*No appointment necessary. All services free of charge. Children's Program offered Tuesdays/Thursdays. Advocates are available during the drop-in hours to provide services and support to anyone impacted by domestic violence, seeking resources and information, or wanting to learn more about healthy relationships. The Children's Program will be offered 2 days a week to provide resources for kids who attend the Drop-In Center with their mothers.

#### Women's Program Includes:

- Crisis intervention & support services
  Remote access to apply for orders of protection
  Safety planning
  Referrals to community agencies (housing assistance, shelter, legal, etc.)
- ·Information and support for family & friends

## **Children's Program Includes:**

- Learning center
  Daily living skills
  Safety planning
  Emotional regulation skills
  Parenting support
- ·Community resources

## Guided by the social justice teachings of Jesus Christ, St. Martha's Hall serves women and children impacted by domestic violence by providing shelter and resources.

St. Martha's, a shelter for women and children, has a history of providing unconditional advocacy services in a safe, compassionate, supportive, and residential environment. St. Martha's is excited to expand its services and community outreach through a drop-in center.

Services are provided regardless of religion, disability, race, marital status, gender identity, color, or residency.

St. Martha's envisions a future where domestic violence is no longer a threat to women and their children. Until that day arrives, we will continue in our efforts to provide a safe refuge and resources. The staff, board and volunteers are dedicated to empowering women and children to start new lives free of violence.

Values:

Dignity We treat women and children with dignity. Safety We promise a safe place. Advocacy We advocate at every level. Stability We bring tranquility through stability and structure. Healing We understand healing is a journey.

