



ANNUAL REPORT



2023

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SAFE Project

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Mission Statement

Our mission is to advocate for and empower survivors of stalking, intimate partner, family and sexual violence. Our education and awareness efforts are focused on prevention and improved community response.

Dear Friends,

One of the joys of preparing an annual report is that it gives us a chance to look back and be thankful for all that has been accomplished. The past year was filled with both opportunities and challenges. Some highlights were as follows:

- ★ In the first half of 2023, we repaired and renovated two of our three shelter units with new flooring, paint, solid doors, kitchen appliances, countertops, and cordless blinds. The repairs and upgrades were done to ensure the safety of our shelter residents and to make the spaces more durable to last for many more years. The renovation was completed in June 2023, and the shelter is now in better condition and a much safer and more comfortable environment. Although two of our units were closed for half of the year, we were still able to provide safety for our clients who were fleeing DV, SA, or stalking throughout 2023. We provided shelter to 40 adult females, 8 adult males, 17 minor children staying with a parent, and 13 pets.



- ★ In 2023 and early 2024, SAFE and all the agencies in Albany County's Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) completed their goal of updating individual

protocols as well as overall protocols for the team to help provide survivors with better experiences and wrap-around services. SAFE Project has had a key role in SART since its inception for multidisciplinary collaboration among social services programs, healthcare professionals, emergency responders, law enforcement, and members of the legal system. SART was initially founded to better serve victims of sexual assault then expanded to also include victims of domestic, family, and relationship violence. The team reviews cases for effectiveness of services and what may be replicated, improved, or changed to help serve future survivors.

- ★ SAFE Project partnered with the counseling department at the University of Wyoming and hosted a counseling student for an internship for fall semester 2023 through spring semester 2024. This partnership has made a huge impact on our program as it made it possible to offer free counseling to our clients. Having a counseling option at our main office has helped eliminate the amount of our clients who have to wait for mental health services and is conveniently one stop for both counseling and SAFE services. On the last Community Needs Assessment, affordable mental health services for adults was the #1 need, and that's even more true for many of SAFE's clients. We will continue our partnership with UW in future semesters to continue providing this essential service for free to our clients.

We're so thankful for the community support that helped to make these accomplishments possible!

Core Programs

Crisis Services/ Advocacy

Free and confidential services for crisis, safety, and support including our 24-hour hotline, safety planning, resources, referrals, hospital response, help with protection orders for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, court accompaniment, advocating for and supporting clients in their next steps, and working with them on safety, budgeting, life skills, and sustainability by helping them find and secure new or better employment and affordable housing. Campus service/advocacy also includes help navigating Title IX, misconduct hearings, and specific resources available to students.

Shelter

Emergency shelter for adults and their children and pets who are fleeing violence who would otherwise be homeless and/or unsafe. The shelter is three separate units with a security system and keypad locks for bedrooms and front doors. Some rooms have access to pet doors and fenced pet runs. There is also a kids' playground on site. All units are furnished and stocked. Groceries, toiletries, and other needs are provided to each person during their stay. Pet vaccinations and food are supplied for all pets who stay in the shelter.

Financial Aid

Financial abuse occurs in 99% of domestic violence cases, and many of our clients are starting over when they arrive at SAFE Project. A deposit and rent reduces some of the financial burden and allows the client to save some income to become more sustainable, gas and car repairs help with transportation to get to and from work, court, and/or appointments, and cell phone service can help for finding housing and employment. Other financial aid includes utilities, groceries, household items, clothing, lock changes, attorney fees, child care, medical costs, counseling, and bus tickets for relocation.

Prevention and Outreach

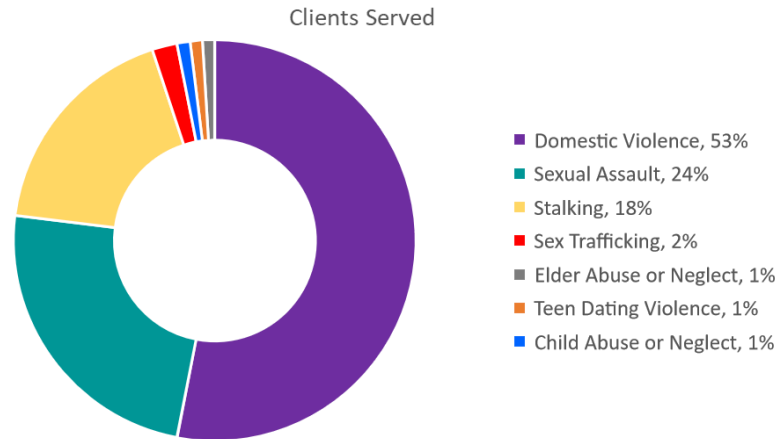
Prevention education in local schools to reach youth ages 2-19 and young adults about consent, safe relationships, teen dating violence, and more to promote respect and non-violence. Outreach and awareness through community presentations, booths and tabling, awareness events and campaigns, and participation in collaborative community meetings to evaluate, inform, and improve services.

Financial Overview

The following is an overview of SAFE Project's income and expenses for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023:

Revenues	
Federal grants	\$297,010
State DV/SA grant	\$130,080
City and County grants	\$24,334
United Way (including special purpose)	\$51,483
Foundations and local organizations	\$33,188
Fundraising	\$42,482
Donations	\$29,686
Total revenues and support	\$608,263
Expenses	
Crisis services / advocacy program	\$265,606
Shelter program	\$64,530
Financial aid	\$102,688
Prevention and outreach	\$44,322
Total program service expenses	\$477,146
Administrative and general expenses	\$122,257
Fundraising expenses	\$8,860
Total expenses	\$608,263
Net assets at end of year (accumulated)	\$0

2023 Community Impact



429 Clients served by staff and volunteers in 2023.

107 Students served at our office on the University of Wyoming campus.

5.4% Increase in the number of clients served since 2022.

\$102,688 Financial aid provided to clients for rent, groceries, gas, etc.

65 Individuals who stayed in our emergency shelter.

3,190 Bednights spent in shelter.

49 Average number of days per shelter stay.

730 Kids in local schools and daycares who received prevention education.

4,228 Volunteer on-call hours on the 24-hour crisis hotline.

28 Trained volunteers providing client services.

Volunteers

- ★ **Our Volunteer of the Year was Julio Brionez!** Julio has volunteered with SAFE Project since 2019 and completed our one-year SAFE Men training in 2021. He takes hotline shifts every month and has supported our clients in court. He also teaches about culture and gender-based violence at our volunteer training three times per year. We recognized Julio at our volunteer appreciation dinner in April and presented him with his award at our Brunch & Bubbly event in August.
- ★ **Robin Chestek** was nominated by us and chosen as one of the Good Samaritan nonprofit volunteers of the month for June. Robin has volunteered at SAFE Project since 2015 and was our Volunteer of the Year in 2017. She picks up groceries every week for our clients in shelter and helps out every month as a regular hotline volunteer. Robin was also recognized at the Good Samaritan awards in October.

Looking Ahead

- ★ We are excited to share with you that we are partnering with the Equestrian Center at Ark Regional Services for a “Pony Prevention Program” starting in May 2024. This program gives boys ages 10-15 a fun and innovative way to learn about prevention through workshops with horses alongside trained professionals. There will be four stations: (1) consent, (2) healthy boundaries, (3) red and green flags, and (4) healthy vs. unhealthy relationships.
- ★ On September 15, 2024, we will be hosting our signature annual fundraising event, Brunch & Bubbly, at the Alice Hardie Stevens Center.



Board of Directors

Name	Title	Occupation
Dilnoza Khasilova	President	Assessment/SoTL Specialist
Jessi Colehour	Vice President	Mental Health Therapist, PCSW
Nichol Bondurant	Secretary	English Teacher
Martha Reisch	Treasurer	Project Specialist
Jeanne Core	Board Member	Attorney
Max Prevost	Board Member	Resource Center Coordinator
Tara Righetti	Board Member	Professor of Law

Staff

Amy Haefner	Executive Director
Genevieve Reilly	Assistant Director
Angel Mora	Campus Services Coordinator
Allison Wagg	Prevention & Outreach Coordinator
Mateya Mobley	Shelter & Housing Coordinator
Carson Constantine	Volunteer Coordinator

Sponsoring Partner

SAFE Project is sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General, Division of Victim Services.

*SAFE Project is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

