



SAFE Project Annual Report 2025

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2025, I am incredibly proud of the growth, collaboration, and commitment that defined the year for SAFE Project. Every accomplishment was made possible by the dedication of our staff, the generosity of our partners, and the continued support of the Albany County community.

Throughout the year, our staff had valuable opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills through professional development and national training opportunities. Team members attended training with nationally recognized domestic violence expert Mark Wynn, and conferences through End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI), National Sexual Assault Conference (NSAC), and Associated Fundraising Professionals (AFP) ICON. These experiences allowed our staff to bring new ideas, best practices, and resources back to our organization and the individuals we serve.

SAFE Project was also proud to bring an important professional development opportunity directly to Albany County. We hosted a training for local first responders led by Jim Schmidt, Gabby Petito's stepfather and one of the founders of the Gabby Petito Foundation. This training provided an opportunity to strengthen collaboration, increase awareness, and continue improving community response to domestic violence and interpersonal violence.

One of the most meaningful moments of the year came through an incredible partnership with Kendall Rae and the Higher Hope Foundation, along with the Gabby Petito Foundation. Their generosity brought them to Laramie and provided funding for the installation of a much-needed security gate at SAFE Project. This contribution has helped us take an important step toward improving safety and security for our clients, staff, and facility.

We were also honored to win the Best of the Best Nonprofit in 2025. This recognition meant so much to our team because it reflected the support and trust of the community we serve.

Prevention continued to be an important focus for the year. Our team began training to implement the Safe Dates curriculum for teens throughout Albany County. By providing young people with education about healthy relationships, communication, boundaries, and dating violence prevention, we hope to help create lasting change before violence begins.

Looking back on the year, I am reminded that SAFE Project's work extends far beyond any one program or accomplishment. It is about creating safety, providing hope, strengthening partnerships, educating our community, and ensuring survivors know they are not alone.

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting survivors, strengthening prevention efforts, and building a safer community for everyone in Albany County.

Amy Haefner

OUR MISSION & VISION

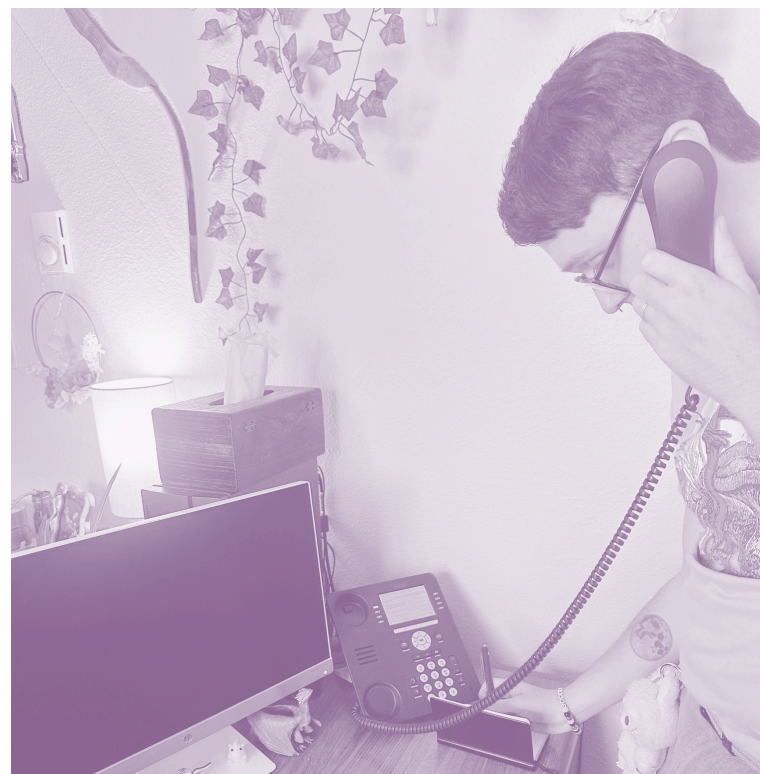


Mission Statement

SAFE Project's mission is to empower and advocate for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking while promoting sustainable practices that support long-term healing. Our education and awareness efforts focus on prevention, improved community response, and outcomes in Albany County.

Vision

Our vision is a community where people connect without violence, coercion, or fear.



COMMUNITY IMPACT



310	Clients served by staff and volunteers
2,589	Advocacy, crisis, and safety services to clients
80	People who stayed in our emergency shelter (42 adults, 38 children)
45%	Increase of people staying in our shelter
3,407	Bednights provided in shelter
17	Pets who stayed in shelter with their families
100	Hours of free counseling for clients and kids
\$77.5K	Financial aid provided to clients for rent, utilities, groceries, gas, etc.

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, and working with them to find and secure new or better employment and affordable housing. Services for students include helping them navigate Title IX and connect with specific resources such as campus housing and academic support.

Shelter



Emergency shelter for adults and their children and pets who are fleeing violence who would otherwise be homeless and/or unsafe. The shelter has three separate units with two that are pet-friendly with access to 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 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. Financial assistance reduces some of the financial burden and allows clients to save some income to become more sustainable, including rent for safe, affordable housing, gas to get to and from work, court, and/or appointments, and cell phone service. Other financial aid includes utilities, groceries, household items, clothing, attorney fees, child care, medical costs, counseling, and bus tickets for relocation.

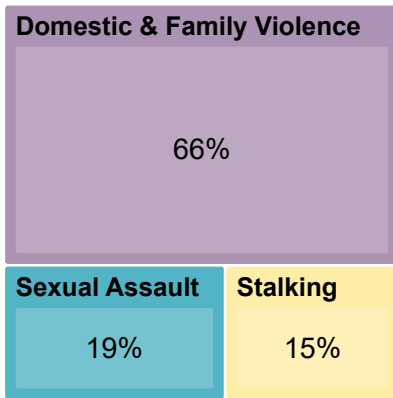
Prevention & Outreach



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.



Who we served in 2025



IMPACT STORIES

"Working with SAFE was the best thing I could do for me and my children."



"The support I received went far beyond anything I could have imagined. In a very real sense, they became like family to me and especially to my kids. I truly don't know where we would be today without their help. "

"Not once has anyone ever wavered or hesitated to help me in any possible way. It saves your life."



BRUNCH & BUBBLY

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- Sponsors and supporters joined us September 14 at Alice Hardie Stevens Center for drinks, a silent auction, catered brunch, award ceremony, keynote speakers, and more. This year, the dessert auction was live, and our guests had so much fun bidding!
- It was another sold-out success! We raised **\$31,192** thanks to the following:
 - 25 sponsors
 - 30+ auction donors
 - 206 guests
- Detective Sergeant McKinney from the Albany County Sheriff's Office received our Jane Warren community partner award to recognize his commitment to protecting and supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
- Our keynote speakers from the Gabby Petito Foundation were Gabby's family members Nichole and Jim Schmidt and Tara Petito, who shared Gabby's story and discussed the importance of community and first responders for prevention of domestic violence.



Drinks in the garden



Silent auction items



Ready for brunch



Community partner award



Keynote speakers

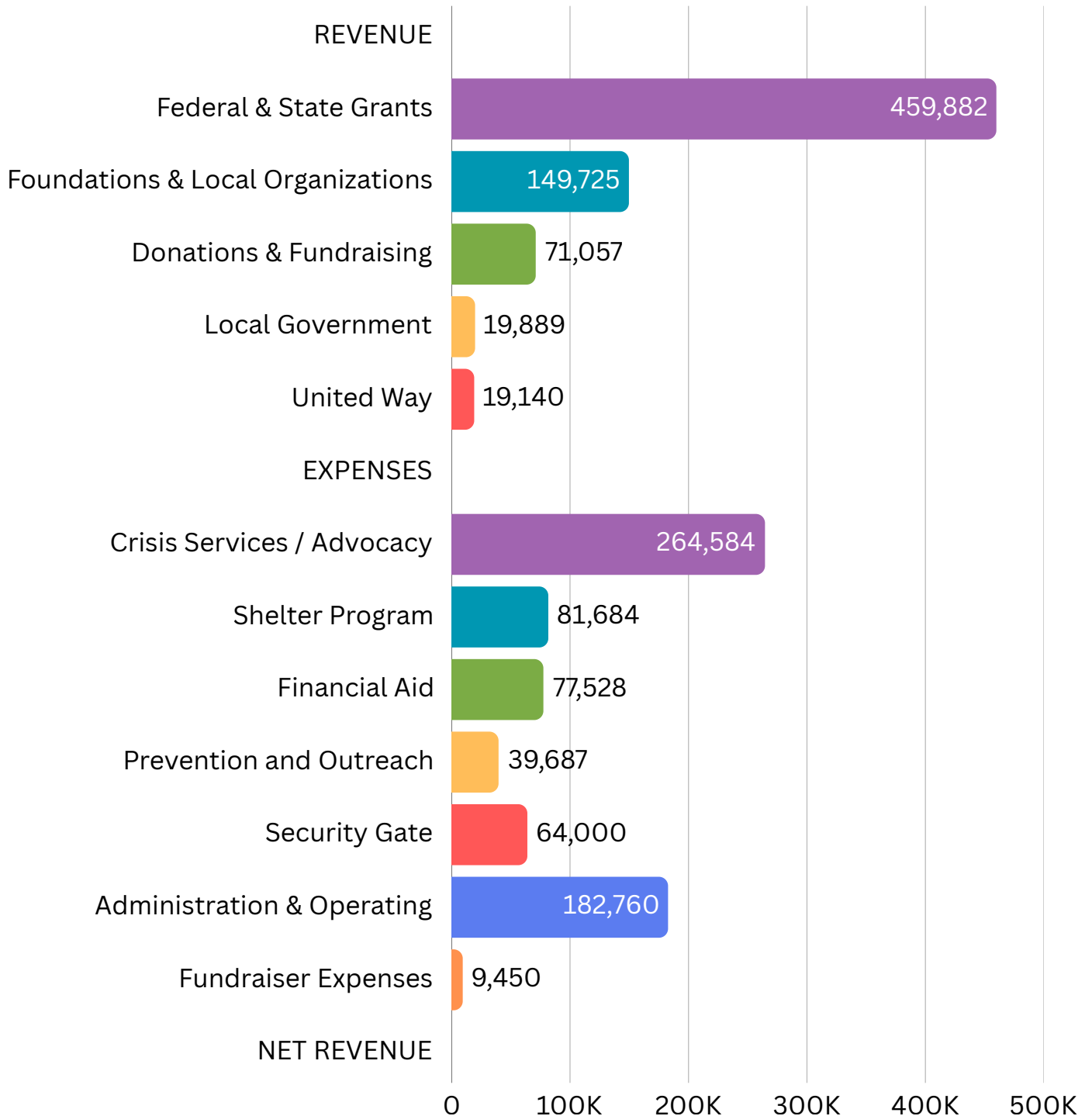


Cookies for the dessert auction





FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Title	Occupation
Angie Fessler	President	Activities Coordinator
Jennie Hedrick	Vice President	Manager, Student Services
Martha Reisch	Secretary	Project Specialist
Koby Selfridge	Treasurer	Senior Internal Auditor
Keira Petersen	Board Member	Paraprofessional / Case Manager
Dakota Metzger	Board Member	Care & Outreach Coordinator
Alicia Selfridge	Board Member	Licensed Clinical Social Worker

STAFF

Name	Title
Amy Haefner	Executive Director
Genevieve Reilly	Assistant Director
Aline Garcia-Lopez	Campus Services Coordinator
Allison Wagg	Prevention & Outreach Coordinator
Abbey Mortenson	Shelter & Housing Coordinator
Carson Constantine	Volunteer Coordinator
Fatima Valdivia	Survivor Services Advocate
Cassie Dow	Advocate
Lily Kelly	Advocate

Sponsoring Partner

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

