



SAFER PATH FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2023

Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.



Safer Path
FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER

Thank you for supporting Safer Path Family Violence Shelter last year.

As we close 2023 and look forward to 2024, I hope you see the impact your giving has on our organization.

We've been a small and scrappy organization for 30+ years. We have grown tremendously over the last 5 years because of your generosity and support.

We strive for the highest standard of transparency. Through this report, we want to show you that we are doing what we say we are doing. Our work matters. We are serving families who need us.

We focus on the things that matter.

Our Strategic Goals for 2024 are about increasing our capacity and building community. We seek to increase our capacity. This includes finding space for more shelter bedrooms. We also want to invest in our staff to build new skills and abilities. This will help us do this work long-term. We seek to build community with survivors through enhanced programming. We seek to build community with our staff through better training and documentation of processes and procedures. Additionally, we aim to build community with our community. We will do this through training, enhanced outreach, and new engagement opportunities.

Your financial support is what propels our mission and strategic priorities forward. One survivor, one hotline call, one training, one team-member at a time.



THANK YOU!

Rhonda Williamson, Executive Director

OUR MISSION

To build awareness of family violence and sexual assault by empowering victims, supporting survivors healing and creating safe and abuse free communities.



CLIENT-CENTERED



We believe our clients. We do not judge blame, or question their choices. We are compassionate, patient, flexible, present, and empathetic. We understand the importance of confidentiality. Clients are not overlooked, made to feel incapable, or talked down to. We are someone's support system, we are advocates, and we do not drop the ball.

EMPOWERING TEAMWORK



We respect and own our personal experiences. Our foundation is dependable, supportive, strong, humorous, creative, dedicated and persistent. We work together to build relationships with trust, understanding, and valuing each other's differences, despite the hardships.

LEADERSHIP



We respect and own our personal experiences. Our foundation is dependable, supportive, strong, humorous, creative, dedicated and persistent. We work together to build relationships with trust, understanding, and valuing each other's differences, despite the hardships.

SECURITY



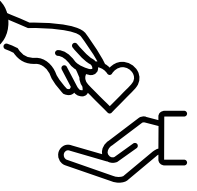
We are vigilant with the safety of our staff and clients because lives depend on it. It is our duty to provide a safe place to prepare a framework for a secure future.

HOPE

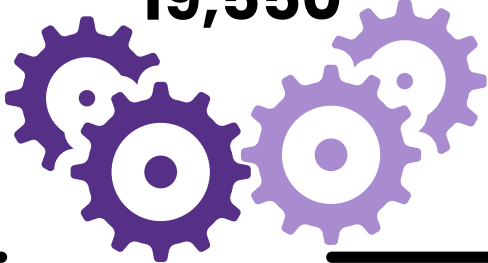


We provide education, prevention, and change to move families from victims to survivors; thereby creating hope for the future.

YOUR DONATION PROVIDED



Total Services
19,550



Shelter
9,117



Non-Residential
10,433

Number of Clients
1,096



Hotline
Calls
2,903



4,948



Nights of
Shelter



Number of Community
Members Educated

4,520



A.D.V.A.N.C.E



R.I.S.E



B.I.P.P



Safe Dates

Rachel with University Hospital called the hotline on behalf of a mother with three children. The mother had told Rachel that they stayed at Safer Path a month ago. During the call, staff discovered that the victim was Maria. She had returned home because her kids missed their dad. Nothing had changed. He continued to abuse Maria but this time she sustained severe injuries. One day, her oldest son, Jesus, asked to sit with me while I worked because he was bored. He sat in the corner, and he talked about school and sports. The conversation went a little all over the place and he continued to say did I feel weird or outnumbered being the only man to work in the building I told him not at all and that I enjoyed being with every single one of the women here. He paused for a bit and said "Did your dad beat you too? Is that why you choose this job?" I turned to him, and he gave me a half smirk as if he knew the answer without me saying a word. I smiled and told him I did not have the friendliest childhood, but I chose this job because my heart tells me how important it is to be here for kids like him and all the people that need help in these situations. "I'm going to work with you one day sir" he said. I told him that I would be here waiting for him.

Twenty Safer Path families were adopted by our community and received gifts through our client gift giving program. The wrapped gifts are placed in Santa bags to be picked up by clients the week before Christmas. When Laura arrived at the Admin Building to pick up her and her children's gifts, she immediately started crying as I showed her a full Santa bag. Amanda came around behind me and pulled up another Santa bag that belonged to them and said "Wait, there is more". She burst into more tears and said "I would have been happy with one bag, but to have two! You don't know how much this means to me and my kids. I wasn't ready for Christmas this year, but now I can say that I am. Thank you."

"Bella" is a client who had stayed with her children in shelter twice before. Originally referred from a concerned loved one in 2020, Bella completed her case management to obtain housing, parenting classes, and a lifetime protective order. Several staff members showed their support in attending trial against her offender, where he was sentenced for his crimes against her. Bella's involvement with Safer Path today consists of regular attendance for the Support Group for Survivors of Sexual Assault, where she shows other clients what the progression of healing looks like over the years. The day after the trial, Bella showed up with a smile for support group and reported that she was feeling confident for the first time since the crimes had occurred.

Ophelia has been in shelter for a couple of weeks now and has made friends with some of the residents staying at shelter. Ophelia and Martha started to put together a puzzle. Martha mentioned to Ophelia that there were missing pieces to their puzzle and Ophelia could tell Martha was disappointed. Marthe proceeds to tell Ophelia "No there are no missing pieces to our puzzle, we are those 8 pieces that make the puzzle come together!" "There are 8 families here in shelter and we completed that puzzle!"

One afternoon, Dora called the hotline seeking help to get back home to her family. She had only been in Texas for three weeks. She hesitated to share any information because she was still home with her abuser. Staff safety planned with Dora and arrangements were made with Jourdanton Police to assist. Dora and her baby were transported by local police to the shelter. Safer path was able to provide a few nights of emergency shelter as she worked alongside her advocate to get her back home to her family in Louisiana. Once Dora made it home, her family called the hotline to appreciate everything Safer Path did to help his daughter and granddaughter.

Matt is a BIPP participant who attends the weekly group sessions for about a month. Matt was unable to be in the group this past week due to a flat tire on his truck. When he tried to change the tire, he realized the spare was also flat. His partner had used the spare a few months prior but did not tell him about this. Matt called the office to let us know he would not be in attendance that night and explained the situation. He wanted us to also know that because of the group discussions we had been having, he was able to stay calm and respond nonviolently to his partner. He recognized that a few months ago he would have had an extreme reaction to this situation and would have likely used violence or other controlling behaviors. He voiced how appreciative he is of BIPP staff and the discussions that are had during group. He feels he is able to trust the facilitators and reflect on his behavior in a safe space.

These are real client stories with the names changed for protection.

GROWING SAFER FAMILIES PROGRAMS

Prevention & Education



A.D.V.A.N.C.E.

(Acknowledging Domestic Violence & Navigating Child Protection Efficiently)

A seven-week psycho-educational group. Created for CPS-involved clients to address issues faced by domestic violence victims and impacts on children.



R.I.S.E.

(Resources & Information for Survivor Empowerment)

A one-time, two-hour class to help the victim gain support and learn skills for navigating a relationship they want to stay in, but one where the violence stops.



B.I.P.P.

(Batterer's Intervention Prevention Program)

Twenty four week discussion-based group focused on personal change to end abusive behavior. BIPP groups give tools to end abuse, whether it's physical, verbal, emotional. This type of intervention can help them break the cycle of abuse.



SAFE DATES

Junior High and High School Curriculum

A ten-session dating abuse prevention program for middle/high school students. Program provides students with the skills to prevent dating violence by changing dating violence norms and gender stereotyping, improving conflict-management skills, help-seeking behavior, and other cognitive factors associated with help-seeking.

ADVOCACY

Support Groups & Task Forces



Domestic Violence Support Group

A Support Group for domestic violence survivors that provides a safe and empathetic space where individuals can come together to share their feelings, experiences, and coping strategies.



Sexual Assault Support Group

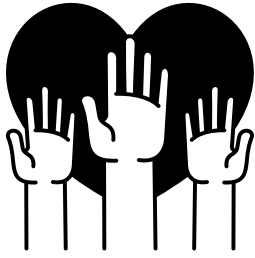
A support group every other Wednesday for sexual assault survivors that provides a safe and empathetic space where individuals can come together to share their feelings, experiences, and coping strategies.



Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT)

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

CCRT & SART bring together key players in community systems, usually on a county-wide basis, to develop strategies and procedures aimed at strengthening our community's and systems' response to domestic violence and sexual assault.



Count Me In Volunteer Program

Shelters function because of the work of volunteers. We need the time, talent, and compassionate care of dedicated volunteers to end domestic violence. We gladly welcome groups, organizations, or individuals who are interested in serving with us.

HOTLINE



Help us meet the increased volume of calls to our 24-hour hotline. Must complete 20 hrs of training and a background check to serve.

CHILD CARE



Help support a client as she gets back on her feet by providing on-call child care support. Must complete background check to serve.

BEGIN AGAIN THRIFT STORE



Our store saw extreme increases in donations in 2022 thanks to the amazing community who continues to support Safer Path. Help us continue to thrive by processing, sorting, and tagging donations. Flexible hrs. no training!

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Help support Safer Path by volunteering to do what you do best. Love to garden, build, cook meals for lots of people, paint, or something else? Let's talk about how you and your group can help bring some light to our clients while they are rebuilding their lives.

BECOME A DONOR THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

\$25

ID DOCUMENTS
FOR A PERSON

\$50

MEALS FOR
A FAMILY

\$100

1 NIGHT
OF SHELTER

\$500

1 MONTH OF
SERVICES FOR A
FAMILY

\$1,000

24-HOUR EMERGENCY
HOTLINE COVERAGE

\$2,000

EVENT
SPONSOR

LEAVE A LEGACY

Our Annual Report showcases the profound impact supporters like you have on our organization. Your contribution can help leave a lasting legacy of positive change in our community. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those affected by family violence.



DONATE TODAY!

Remember: ALL donations to
SPFVS are tax-deductible!



REVENUE

RESTRICTED GRANTS.....	\$926,581.48
INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS.....	\$240,782.40
THRIFT STORE INCOME.....	\$288,757.69
FOUNDATION DONATIONS.....	\$73,500.00
CORP/CHURCH DONATIONS.....	\$19,317.70
PROGRAM FEES.....	\$6,155.73
LOCAL GOVT DONATIONS.....	\$127,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE.....	\$1,682,595.20

EXPENSES

SALARY & BENEFITS.....	\$1,064,375.52
DIRECT CLIENT ASSISTANCE.....	\$122,246.03
OCCUPANCY.....	\$131,618.97
FUNDRAISING.....	\$46,104.96
EQUIP & SUPPLIES.....	\$51,030.97
THRIFT STORE.....	\$34,421.85
PROF. LIABILITY INSURANCE.....	\$31,760.05
AUTO/TRANSPORTATION.....	\$12,671.93
MARKETING.....	\$7,143.26
PROFESSIONAL FEES.....	\$26,045.50
TRAVEL & TRAINING.....	\$20,556.11
DUES, FEES, & OTHER.....	\$60,086.04
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$1,608,064.19

OVERVIEW

In 2023 the need for Safer Path only grew. Though we are small we are mighty. We take on every challenge with a we can figure this out approach. One obstacle we keep coming across is that we are consistently FULL at shelter. This means we have to turn away people in need. In 2023 we had some of the highest numbers of services seen since COVID year. We aren't sure what the change in numbers can be attributed to this year but we know that with these numbers comes the real conclusion that we need to expand to accommodate for the increase of need for shelter. What does this look like? This looks like raising more money to either find a space big enough to move advocates into a bigger admin in order to make more space at shelter for residents OR build a location that will fit our current needs and sustain us through continued increase in services needed.

As the need for Safer Path in the community grows we will continue to grow and evolve as well.



BEGIN AGAIN THRIFT STORE

Begin Again Thrift Store is Safer Path's retail operation and donation center offering quality clothing, home decor and books at affordable prices. Not only does our store provide the community an eco-friendly solution for recycling items, it also provides these items at no cost to families we serve through our voucher system. The vouchers allow clients and the clients of our partners in the community, and to find items they want and need with the dignity of choice in a retail environment that aids in rebuilding their lives.

In 2023 we experienced an increase in donations, so much so that some days we needed to close the store to go through inventory. We are so incredibly grateful for how this community has rallied behind us and continues to go above and beyond.

GUIDING LIGHT - \$25,000+

Valero Energy Foundation

GUARDIANS - \$10,000+

James & Lori Donnell Jr.
John G. & Karen B. Northcut
Philip & Jessica Tom
The Carroll & Marguerite Wheeler Foundation

HEROES - \$5,000+

Amador Garza
HB Family Foundation
Joel & Debbie McDaniel
John H & Judy Northcut
Nancy Tom
Roxana Tom
Tilden Baptist Church
The Tom Family Fund

PROTECTORS - \$2,000+

CGB Gym
Charles and Gina Langley
City of Jourdanton
Cummins Welding LLC
David & Deborah Longan
EnerCorp
First Commercial Bank
Gaydos Construction LLC
Genny Rakowitz
Glyn Spence Stultz
Hayden Interests, LLC
Innospec Limited
James Johnson
J.J. & Candace Trevino
Kendra Scott
Lacie Young
McDaniel Family Limited Partnership
Merry Solis
Pleasanton Country Club
Rhino Operating Company LLC
Safe Haven at Whispering Oaks
Sherry Gaydos
The Happy Dudes
Tim & Shirley Jambers
Timothy Wilhelm
Woman's Club of Pleasanton



ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

506 W. Adams St.
Pleasanton, TX 78064
(830)-569-2001
www.saferpathfvs.org

ADVOCATES - \$1,000+

Al & Deana Steinle
Bryson & Tiffany Elliott
Children's Alliance of South Texas
Eleanor Burrous
H-E-B
Janet Kippenberger
Jessica Putz
Joaquin & Sally Ramirez
John & Pamela Hughes
Joseph W. Freeland Interests, LLC
J.W. Hughes Excavation, INC
Katherine Bratten
Kevin & Sarah Aniol
Law Office of Jaime J. Trevino Jr
PLLC
Mary Steele

SUSTAINERS - \$500+

Alonzo Garza
Amber Marcil
Atascosa Bank
Atascosa Counseling Services
Audrey Brister
Barbara Peeler
Bryan Lankford
Carolyn Denise Lowe
Christal Martinez
Coastal Bend College
Conway and Associates
Cynthia Veselka
David & Sarah Mills
Dollface Den
F M Roberson
Frank & Nancy Turner
Impact Holdings LLC dba Land
N Texas
Joe Stockhorst
John Brymer

Melissa Dupee
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Pleasanton Finance Company
Rideout Barrett & Co.
Sharanda Johnson
Sierra Services
South Texas Automotive Repair
South Texas Electric Cooperative, INC.
Susan Whitlow
The Gil & Dody Weaver Foundation
The Olive Branch Flowers & Gifts, LLC
Tournament Targets, Inc
Wayne & Sherrill Swaim
William & Ida Kaiser
5-L Liquor LLC Poteet Store

John & Elizabeth Netardus
Kara Jackson
Larry Jones
Lewis Cantu
Maria Vera
Mary Cardenas
Murray & Sallie Swaim
Poteet Auxiliary VFW Post 6970
Priscilla and Orlando Garza Jr.
Quilted Hearts Charity Sew Group
Quirt McClendon
Rakowitz Engineering
Rhonda Wilson Williamson
Richard Lilly
Roxanne Below
Ruth Henry
Samantha Fitzsimmon
Shane Schychart
St. John Lutheran Church of Jourdanton
Tina Lankford



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 688
Pleasanton, TX 78064



BEGIN AGAIN THRIFT STORE

201 N. Main St.
Pleasanton, TX 78064
(830)399-0693

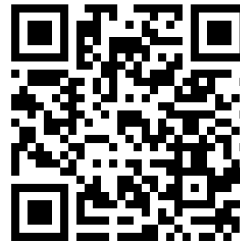


Safer Path
FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

SWING INTO ACTION GOLF TOURNAMENT

Play 18 holes at the beautiful Pleasanton Country Club in a two-man scramble. Get with your friends, family or co-workers and form a team for a fun day of golf. Golfers of all ages and abilities are invited. Sponsorships are available, dinner is provided. Wear your best and brightest purple golf attire to show your support of our mission.



Sign-up &
Sponsor Here

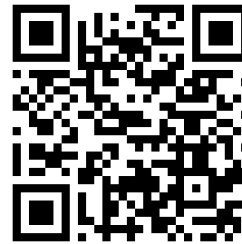


GOLF TOURNAMENT

April 20th, 2024

BAGS & BLING BINGO

This all-in-good-fun event combines ladies' night out and the chance to take home a beautiful new handbag or shiny new piece of jewelry, all while raising money for a good cause. This event has sold out for the last three years and our sponsors have been treated to all kinds of perks. Make plans early to join us because tables go FAST.



Sign-up &
Sponsor Here



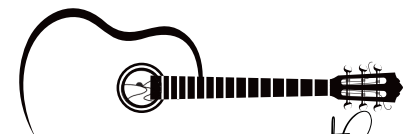
July 11th, 2024

A NIGHT OUT WITH SAFER PATH

An exclusive night crafted for an evening of FUNdraising. Join us for a delightful steak dinner, complemented by the ambiance of live entertainment. It will be more than just a night out; it will be an opportunity to dine with purpose.



Sign-up &
Sponsor Here



**A NIGHT OUT with
SAFER PATH**

October 26th, 2024



@SaferPathFamilyViolenceShelter

www.saferpathfvs.org

@saferpathfvs