# STORIES OF COMMUNITY

2018 Annual Report



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## **FY 18 Advisory Council**

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Dr. Darlene Ruscitti, Regional Supt. Of Schools, DuPage County

Eileen Sachanda, Sr. Vice President, Northern Trust Nan Silva, Program Officer, Community Memorial Foundation

Maureen Sullivan Taylor, Partner, Sullivan Taylor & Gumina, P.C.

Martin Tully, Mayor, Village of Downers Grove Steve Webster, Vice President, DS&P Insurance Hon. John Zaruba, Sheriff, DuPage County

## FY 18 Young Professional Board

Amanda Graf, Henry Shein One Cody Fuerst, Waubonsee Community College Maeve McMahon Hines, CVS Pharmacy Angela Mennecke, College of DuPage Allie Schultz. Literacy DuPage Kristine Strouse, Baird & Warner
Nicole Zienty, Chicago Zoological Society
Crystal Wohead, Ulta Beauty
Esther White, Greater Illinois Title Company

# A Note from the President of the Board and the Executive Director

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

Margaret J. Wheatley

## **Dear Family Shelter Service Friends,**

Every day we hear stories from our clients about the isolation they experienced at the hands of their abuser. They were kept from family and friends and had little to no support network. Often, the people they did see, like a co-worker, didn't believe their story. Their only lifeline was Family Shelter Service.

For the past 42 years, Family Shelter Service has answered the call in our community to help victims of domestic violence escape abuse and rebuild their lives. Over our long history we have seen the need continue to grow.

At Family Shelter Service, we work to eliminate barriers, provide faster, greater and more equal access to services in an environment where survivors can feel supported and empowered to disentangle from their situation. More than ever before, our clients are feeling embraced, not only from Family Shelter Service staff and volunteers, but from the entire community.

Individuals, families, other partner agencies, corporations, volunteers, service clubs, schools and faith communities continue to raise the bar when it comes to supporting the community of survivors in DuPage County. All have played a vital role in helping the survivors of domestic violence thrive, not just survive. The isolation has eroded and survivors feel embraced.

Together, we are building community and providing lifesaving services and critical programs to serve our clients as they restore their self-worth and their lives. A glimpse into a few of the dedicated communities that support this worthy cause are highlighted in this annual report. And, this just scratches the surface. Family Shelter Service is grateful to have the support of over 80 local partner organizations, 670 volunteers and 2,000 donors. On behalf of the nearly 20,000 survivors of domestic violence we assisted last year, we say thank you! Survivors thrive when we partner together!

## Best regards,



Judie Caribeaux
Executive Director



Christy Harris Board President

## Longtime Volunteer

#### **Family Shelter Service**

Being a volunteer with Family Shelter Service for the past four years has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Having just moved to Wheaton, I was looking for a place to volunteer a few hours every week while my children were in elementary school. I became involved in the hotline, and then a year later, began volunteering at the courthouse. Looking back, I had no idea at the time how my involvement with FSS would indelibly change me and my outlook on the world. Being a volunteer has always felt, to me, a bit like stepping into the wardrobe in C.S. Lewis' book, "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe". Every week I have the



honor of joining the Advocates and "stepping" into an entirely different world, one where good and evil are very clearly marked. To be affiliated with FSS and stand on the side that is actively and fiercely fighting for good, for healing and for justice is an experience to which nothing else compares. I have the opportunity to talk to people who are experiencing abuse, to hear their stories and to see their unparalleled courage in the face of what they have had to endure. Every story is unique, often complicated and always valuable. I am inspired and amazed watching the Advocates as they approach each person who needs help with such respect, kindness, empathy and direction. They walk beside each person, figuratively and literally, encouraging them and emboldening them to seek justice. My time at FSS has changed how I look at the world as a whole. People are hurting from domestic abuse every day, no place is exempt, and often it's where you might least expect it. However, in the midst of this reality, there is an organization that mightily fights against this abuse, and stands for healing, help and hope. Family Shelter Service genuinely embodies the quote: "Be the change you wish to see in the world". I am truly honored to be part of this organization.

## Christa Kemmetmueller

Christa Kemmetmueller, Court and Victim Advocacy

## Local Service Provider

## **Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage County**

Family Shelter Service (FSS) and Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage (MFS) have long collaborated in terms of our missions, program philosophies, complimentary services, and strong dedication to serving survivors of domestic violence.

FSS is the only organization in DuPage County that provides comprehensive domestic violence services and MFS is the largest provider of community services in DuPage County, with programs ranging from behavioral health to early childhood services to legal aid. The partnership between our organizations offers a continuum of vital services, which increases our ability to



reach more survivors of domestic violence. The partnership has also created a seamless continuum of services which increases our ability to reach more area survivors of domestic violence. We depend on the expertise of Family Shelter Service counselors to equip our Behavioral Health and Early Childhood Program teams to identify the complex signs of trauma and abuse. It's a symbiotic relationship which allows us to be able to offer extended services to our clients through our joint collaboration further allowing us to respond to the increasing demand for domestic violence services in DuPage County.

Family Shelter Service and Metropolitan Family Services DuPage continue to see increasing intersections between domestic violence and other social issues; issues that include- mental illness, addiction, access to education. Tackling these issues requires a coordinated response from our partnership.

## Rita Lopez Brosnan

Rita Lopez Brosnan, LCPC Executive Director, Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage

## CORPORATE SPONSOR

#### **Ulta Beauty**

Ulta Beauty is committed to bringing the possibilities to life for our local communities, and we're proud of our longstanding partnership with Family Shelter Service. Having started the relationship in 2015 in support of our former interim CIO Steve Junk, the Ulta Beauty Charitable Foundation (UBCF) is honored to carry on his legacy year after year by investing in the well-being of women and children. Whether it's volunteering and sponsoring events or collecting items and providing cash donations, UBCF is proud to make a difference for survivors of domestic violence and their children, and hopes to continue to for years to come.

## Kristin McManus-Killian

Kristin McManus-Killian, Executive Communications Manager, Ulta Beauty



## Local Service Club



## The Rotary Club of Naperville

The Rotary Club of Naperville selected Family Shelter Service as a beneficiary of funds from "Festiville", (the club's local annual fundraiser), based upon the alignment of both organizations' initiatives to support vulnerable women, children, and families locally. Both financial support as well as Rotarians' manpower was provided over the last two years by helping fill participants' bags for their 10K/5K Run.

An important element in choosing a beneficiary partner by The Rotary Club of Naperville is the ability to engage Rotarian members and deepen

the relationship with the partner organization in meaningful ways, as well as the communication and education about both organizations for greater community awareness- and therefore, member engagement- for both.

FSS was chosen as an organization that represented the community need for protecting mothers and children and breaking the cycle of domestic violence. Based upon their proposal to Rotary that demonstrated commitment to the mutual sharing of information about their mission to our members and constituents, this gave the Rotary Club the ability to deepen the connection and strengthen the members' engagement within our organization.

Through FSS staff making Rotary meeting visits to present updates to the club on their work, facility tours and education to our members about the unique focus on providing safety to victims and breaking the cycle of domestic violence, Rotarians have seen firsthand how FSS makes use of the funds to transform lives.

According to Rotary Club of Naperville Community Service Director Brian O'Malley, "The partnership with Family Shelter Service and our club has been powerful and meaningful. We've supported them with Community Service Grants as well as funding from our annual fundraiser and manpower. Not only is their mission clearly aligned with ours - saving women and children locally- but they demonstrate that they truly understand the strength of a mutually supportive relationship. It is a pleasure to work with such a well-run organization."

Alma Jones

Alma Jones, Programs Chair, The Rotary Club of Naperville

## FAITH BASED COMMUNITY



## **Trinity Lutheran Church**

This September, Lisle-based Trinity Lutheran Church had the honor of hosting its first ever Mega-Sale to directly benefit Family Shelter Service. The church volunteered to take overstock from the Naperville Second Chances resale location and host a yard-sale styled event over the weekend of September 21-23. The neighboring community was invited to shop for gently used clothing, housewares, electronics and other items at discounted prices. All items were priced to sell and 100% of the proceeds directly benefitted Family Shelter Service, totaling more than \$8,000 in cash proceeds. Over 150 volunteers participated, and overstock at the Naperville location was liquidated, allowing for newer items to go on sale at the Resale Shops. Trinity Lutheran Church worships in four Chicagoland sites (two in Lisle, one in the Galewood community on the west side of Chicago, and one in South Naperville). For Trinity Lutheran, the goal was to provide real value to Family Shelter Service's resale operation at its greatest point of need as the "hands and feet of Jesus" on an organizational level.

## Mike Curtis

Mike Curtis, On Site Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church Lisle

## EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

## Naperville CUSD 203

The Lincoln Junior High School F.L.A.R.E. Club (Friends Learning and Respecting Everyone) has partnered with Family Shelter Service to donate hand-tied fleece blankets for their annual Holiday Shoppe. During the 2018 holiday season, LJHS donated 54 blankets as a club and school service project. The goal of the F.L.A.R.E. Club is to empower 6-8th grade girls to understand themselves and how they can include others. The Club meets weekly during lunch period and works to promote positive relationships among girls. Topics of discussion may include how to make and keep friends, the ins and outs of middle school, how to develop positive self-image, team building and collaboration. During the presentation of the blankets, Family Shelter Service talked with the Club about healthy relationships and boundaries and a thoughtful discussion took place. Supporting an organization like Family Shelter Service is in line with the mission that the Club promotes, as well as Naperville 203.

## Sinikka Mondini

Sinikka Mondini, Executive Director of Communications, Naperville CUSD 203



## HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY

## **North Central College**

This Fall North Central College took its Community Engaged Learning philosophy to a new level by partnering with Family Shelter Service. According to faculty member, Dr. Jennifer Keys, the key goals of Community Engaged Learning (CEL) "are to deepen student learning and foster positive social change in neighboring communities". So when Dr. Keys sought out a community partner to help with the design and instruction of a CEL course titled Power Based Personal Violence. a collaboration with Family Shelter Service seemed to be the perfect fit. This innovative partnership taught students about the dynamics of domestic violence, how to identify



unhealthy patterns of behavior in relationships, how to support victims, and where to go in the community for help.

By participating in this class one young woman was able to identify the abusive dynamics of her own relationship. She reached out to the Family Shelter Service staff member that taught in her classroom and was able to get support around her situation. She soon decided to end this relationship. Knowing that she would need emotional support to navigate the breakup, the young woman reached out to a friend and fellow class participant who, armed with the tools supplied in class, provided knowledgeable support. While struggling with a lot of doubt over the relationship, after the breakup, the young woman reached out to the FSS 24-hour hotline where she received further support. Reflecting on her overall experience the young woman stated, "Please do share my story. I agree that my situation demonstrated the value of these [community education] efforts and why they should continue...and I hope my story will help others".

# Kedri Ladewig

Kedri Ladewig, Co-Instructor Power Based Personal Violence, Education Community Coordinator, Family Shelter Service

## FINANCIAL DETAILS

FY 18: Revenue

Revenue	Amount	
Annual Fund	\$	1,512,908
Government	\$	1,362,321
Other/Misc.	\$	430,361
Resale	\$	228,278
United Way	\$	71,500
Grand Total	\$	3,605,368



FY 18: Expenses

Expenses	Amount	
Administration	\$	455,942
Adult Services	\$	378,639
Advancement	\$	249,334
Children Services	\$	142,015
Court & Victim Advocacy	\$	350,448
Emergency Shelter	\$	658,592
Outreach & 24/7 Hotline	\$	617,205
Grand Total	\$	2,852,175



Family Shelter Service offers our most sincere thanks to all of the members of the community who have embraced our clients over the last year. Your generosity has enabled us to provide 10,809 nights in Shelter, answer 4,147 Hotline calls, assist with 1,644 Orders of Protection, and educate 8,500 area students about healthy boundaries and healthy relationships. Victims of domestic violence survive and thrive when we partner together.

