2019 CLACKAMAS WOMEN’S SERVICES IMPACT REPORT
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Clackamas Women’s Services (CWS) has been the primary resource for survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Clackamas County for over three decades. With the opening of our emergency shelter in 1985, we began a journey that has resulted in a coordinated countywide effort to address interpersonal violence from every angle. Intervention is now balanced by strategies aimed at prevention and recovery. Singular efforts have evolved into collaborative partnerships and a co-located service delivery model. Our advocacy for survivors has expanded beyond domestic and sexual violence to include those impacted by child abuse, elder abuse, stalking, and human trafficking. The growth of culturally specific programming and partnerships reflects our commitment to serving all Clackamas County survivors with respect and dignity.

In this report, you will see all that has been accomplished in 2019 as well as the impact of your support. Through multi-sector engagement, inclusive innovation, and sound investment of public and private resources, CWS has:

• Expanded partnerships at A Safe Place Family Justice Center (ASP-FJC) to include more organizations serving marginalized populations;
• Added Abuse in Later Life, a program that specifically addresses elder abuse and connects older adults to vital resources which support safety and independence;
• Launched our Legal Empowerment Accelerator Program (LEAP) to increase access to civil legal services for survivors as well as support attorneys in building modest means practices;
• Expanded prevention programming in schools throughout Clackamas County and added a Mobile Youth Advocate to serve as a safe disclosure resource for youth who have experienced or witnessed violence;
• Collaborated to support the development of the Clackamas County Safe Visitation and Exchange Program, which will enhance the safety of adult survivors and their children by providing supervised parenting time and a safe exchange model;
• Improved culturally-responsive services by securing a collaborative federal grant for improving language access throughout ASP-FJC;
• Spearheaded a process that will, when completed, leverage technology to better track activities and outcomes which inform program planning, increase effectiveness in advocating for policies, and demonstrate value that motivates community investment; and
• Launched Communities for Safe Kids, a school-based program for K-6th graders designed to prevent childhood sexual abuse.

CWS is honored to lead efforts for systemic and social change, not only in Clackamas County, but at a statewide level. By elevating the voices of survivors - whether at a community event, in the classroom, or in a policy discussion - we are determined to make the root causes and true impacts of violence and abuse understood so that long-term, sustainable solutions become a reality.

We have come so far since our founding, yet we know that much more must be done to ensure that every individual in Clackamas County is able to pursue a life that is healthy and free from violence and oppression. On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, thank you for sharing this journey with us. Your generosity and advocacy fuels our work each and every day and we are grateful for your enduring commitment to our mission. Together, we can – and will – break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence and build a strong and inclusive Clackamas County.

With gratitude,

Melissa Erlbaum
Executive Director

Our mission is breaking the isolation of domestic and sexual violence.
Clackamas Women’s Services (CWS) began in 1985 when community members saw women and children in their community impacted by domestic violence and banded together to create a solution. CWS grew out of neighbors opening their homes and sharing what they had in hopes of building a safer community for families. Since then, CWS has grown beyond shelter to offer a wide range of services for anyone experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, sexual exploitation and trafficking, and elder abuse from initial crisis to long-term healing. At our emergency shelter, rural outreach offices, Clackamas Community College, DHS, Camp HOPE America - Oregon, and A Safe Place Family Justice Center, CWS coordinates services with other public and private agencies in order to best serve survivors seeking help.

**Programs and Services**

**Advocacy**
Individualized advocacy and support, including:
- Emotional support and safety planning;
- Help accessing community resources and navigating systems (courts, DHS Self Sufficiency and Child Welfare, law enforcement, Title IX process, Adult Protective Services, healthcare, and civil/legal services);
- Assistance with household resource management;
- Help filing for temporary restraining orders and stalking orders.

Services are offered in the rural community, local DHS offices, Clackamas Community College, and A Safe Place Family Justice Center. Advocates can also meet survivors in public locations they identify as safe and accessible for them (such as schools, retirement homes, coffee shops, or libraries).

**Latina Services**
Programming designed to increase the quality and accessibility of services for the Latina community. The Promotoras program engages Latina community leaders to provide domestic violence and sexual assault support and outreach within their communities.

**Community Education and Prevention**
Training for organizations, service providers, and community groups on domestic violence, sexual violence, elder abuse, and related topics. Violence prevention classroom presentations on healthy relationships, dating/domestic violence, sexual violence, and child sexual abuse for K-12 students.

**24-hour Crisis and Support Line**
Information, referrals, and support for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, the sex industry, and elder abuse. Consultation and support is also available for family members and other service providers.

**Shelter and Transitional Housing Services**
Confidential emergency shelter for survivors with or without children. Help accessing community housing resources. Rapid rehousing, transitional, and permanent housing assistance.

**Counseling and Support Groups**
Counseling in English and Spanish for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, including youth and family counseling, and a range of community support groups.

**Children and Youth Services**
Services specifically for youth impacted by trauma including confidential advocacy, support groups, and community-building activities, as well as family and caregiver support.
Support Groups
100 adults and youth attend support groups through our Children’s Program and Community-Based Program.

Counseling Program
995 counseling sessions were provided to more than 118 adults and youth.

Housing Program
179 adults and youth were served with homelessness diversion and prevention, transitional housing, or permanent housing support.

The Village Emergency Shelter
247 adults and children were provided with a safe place to stay.

Holiday Store
120 families and 297 children received holiday gifts through our Holiday Program.

Promotoras
200 hours of tabling, outreach, referrals, and presentations provided to Latina communities in Clackamas County.

Community-Based Advocacy
1,368 survivors were served through community-based services.

Community Education
6,793 elementary, middle and high school students learned through 1,319 school based-presentations. There were also 34 community trainings provided.

Camp HOPE America - Oregon
74 youth attended camp and participated in the year-round Pathways programming.

New Services
3 new services were launched to increase accessibility to services: Legal Empowerment Accelerator Program (LEAP), Communities for Safe Kids, and Abuse in Later Life Program.
CCSO Deputy Brett Ethington teaches campers outdoor survival and safety skills education at Camp HOPE America - Oregon 2019.
The Village Emergency Shelter

The Village Emergency Shelter continued to nurture a rich and diverse community where survivors rediscovered their strength, resilience, and connectedness. From celebration events to self-care groups, The Village cultivated community for 107 adults and 140 youth in 2019.

The isolation of domestic and sexual violence may impact survivors beyond the time they are in the relationship with their abusers. Relationships take time to rebuild after an abuser interferes or isolates survivors from their family or friends, because survivors may be unsure who they can trust. When we rebuilt our Village shelter, we dreamed of building a home not only for those staying there briefly, but also a community for survivors for years to come. In our new community space, former shelter residents were invited to visit The Village for support through weekly support groups and celebration events. Survivors and their children returned to a place where they created many memories to connect again with trusted community and support new shelter residents along the way.

Because a strong support system is essential for safety and stability, we also welcomed survivors’ safe family members for visits. For those with family living nearby, the ability to spend time together helps the shelter to feel like a home and reduces the isolation for the family. Sharing movie nights, meals, and just hanging out with each other helps to further break the cycle of isolation.

In 2019, The Village participants enjoyed the following activities:

- 10 field trips to places like OMSI, the Oregon Zoo, a train park, and a pumpkin patch;
- 8 celebration events for Mother’s Day, an autumn pie making party, 4th of July BBQ, and more;
- 52 Saturday morning pancake breakfasts;
- 52 self-care activities including yoga, meditation, and painting and coloring.

Transitional Housing Program

Our Transitional Housing Program continued to provide safe and accessible transitional housing for survivors. This year, we supported 74 adults and 105 youth. This included direct rental assistance and comprehensive case management, which helped participants afford the costs of living while building the skills needed to navigate housing barriers. The program offered four types of housing assistance to survivors:

1. Prevention and rapid rehousing funds – short-term assistance provided funding for people to either stay stably housed or return to safe and stable housing;
2. Transitional housing funds – medium assistance provided three to six-month subsidies to already housed survivors in order for them to secure employment benefits and other community resources;
3. Permanent supportive housing funds – long-term assistance provided for as long as needed assistance. This funding allowed us to support survivors who have disabilities or high barriers to housing;
4. Latina transitional housing programs – funding specifically built to prioritize this historically under-resourced community.

Community-Based Advocacy

Some 1,368 survivors received services through Community-Based Advocacy in 2019. CWS staff supported survivors at A Safe Place Family Justice Center, Clackamas Community College, DHS, and in the community.

We increased support for survivors first accessing services through DHS branches in Clackamas County by increasing the number of DHS co-located advocates, adding a coordinator position. This resulted in an increase of participants referred from DHS and contributed to an overall increase in referrals for community-based services. We continued to provide quarterly trainings for DHS staff on domestic violence and trauma.

Clackamas County funded a new CWS vouchering program, which provided two weeks of motel accommodations to 85 high-
risk households. We worked with participants in this program to find stable housing while also providing advocacy and case management, resource referrals, systems navigation assistance, and safety planning. This program launched in September 2019 and served 34 families in 2019.

We re-launched the Abuse in Later Life program in partnership with DHS Adult Protective Services, the District Attorney’s Office, and Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office. This collaboration addressed violence against individuals who are 50 years and older. The team attended trainings to recognize signs of abuse in older individuals including physical, sexual, neglect, and financial exploitation, and learn how law enforcement can assist with investigations. With the support of The National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life we held a kickoff event in September, attended by over 30 people.

Demographics of Survivors Served

Counseling Program

The Counseling Program provided 995 counseling support sessions to 118 survivor adults, children, and families. We continued to prioritize the values of equity and inclusion for underserved populations. We have a full time Latina counselor who provides culturally specific counseling services to survivors who are often uninsured, and face language and cultural barriers. The Counseling Program offered services at our office in Sandy, increasing accessibility for survivors who live in rural areas of the county. Nearly 40% of survivors who accessed counseling services identified as Latina and 24% lived in rural parts of Clackamas County.

By having counseling services onsite at The Village, counselors helped survivors in shelter receive immediate support to better navigate access to mental health services.

CWS counselors continued to advance the fields of both domestic violence services and mental health by providing internship opportunities for emerging professionals. We partnered with Portland State University’s Master of Social Work Program to supervise interns to assist with counseling sessions. In addition, the Counseling Program provided various community trainings and technical assistance to others in the field.

Children’s Program

We implemented a new Mobile Youth Advocate position this year, allowing us to connect with youth directly in elementary, middle, and high schools, while increasing our capacity to offer additional youth support groups during the year.
Camp HOPE America – Oregon completed its sixth year of camp, with 74 youth participating in the program. Notable changes from prior years included more older campers (ages 11-16) than younger campers (ages 7-11) attending; increased number of Camp Counselors onsite with three Camp Counselors who were former campers; and over 1,140 volunteer and staff hours provided by the Camp HOPE community.

Additionally, the Pathways Program (our year-long mentoring program for youth) established a three-year plan to engage more families and create additional opportunities for youth, centered around post-graduation opportunities and affinity groups. To learn more about Camp HOPE and the Pathways Program, you can find the full 2019 Camp HOPE America – Oregon Annual Report here.

Children’s Program staff participated in This is All of Us, a community initiative to end child abuse by 2050. Our Children’s Program Manager spent 18 months working on a community collaborative to create an accelerator event designed to engage the whole community in the conversation to end child abuse and create a community that enables everyone to thrive.

### Violence Prevention Program

The Violence Prevention Program hired two new facilitators to launch Communities for Safe Kids, a school-based program for K-6th graders designed to prevent childhood sexual abuse. The program helped meet statewide requirements for schools to cover the types of violence children may experience including sexual abuse, domestic violence, and teen dating violence. Lessons provided are trauma-informed and culturally-specific, utilizing puppets in an “edu-tainment” format to teach in a fun and lively way. This program was provided in the Canby School District; students were enthusiastic about the puppet shows and looked forward to the workshops.

We continued to provide violence prevention lessons throughout Clackamas County, providing a total of 1,319 lessons and reaching 6,793 elementary, middle, and high school students.

We provided 34 trainings to other organizations and service providers both locally and across the country, many of which advance the needs of survivors as they access different systems. Training topics included Trauma and Trauma-informed Care, Supporting Latina Mental Health, Supporting Survivors on Suicide Prevention Hotlines, Violence Prevention, Building Resiliency, The Village Model, and the Promotoras Model.

CWS has made a significant investment in preventing violence in our community but recognizes that many smaller agencies are unable to do so, and that domestic and sexual violence funding is mostly restricted to intervention services. This often leaves smaller programs unable to sustain prevention efforts and requires communities across the state to maintain costly intervention and treatment to survivors, instead of preventing violence before it takes place. During the 2019 legislative session, the Violence Prevention team advocated for funding for violence prevention programs across the state.

### Legal Empowerment Accelerator Program (LEAP)

We launched the Legal Empowerment Accelerator Program (LEAP), and hired a LEAP Managing Attorney in July 2019 to manage the program. Additionally, we hired two attorneys to participate in the first cohort.
Without legal assistance, survivors face profound barriers on their pathways to safety, justice, and healing. High-priority areas include protective orders, child support, custody, divorce, immigration status, wrongful termination, landlord-tenant matters, and bankruptcy. While access to legal assistance is key to achieving safety and self-sufficiency—national studies show that access to an attorney can increase survivors’ likelihood of obtaining a civil restraining order from 32% to 86%—this need remains unmet for the majority of survivors and their children.

LEAP will help launch the solo practice careers of new attorneys, as well as those returning to the practice after an extended absence. Attorneys participating in LEAP agree to represent CWS referred participants with 15 hours of pro-bono and 35 hours of sliding scale legal services monthly. In exchange, these new solo practitioners will gain invaluable professional experience while learning in a collaborative, supportive environment.

Promotoras and Latina Services

The Promotoras program trains members of the Latina community to become paraprofessionals, called Promotoras, to increase the accessibility of domestic and sexual violence services to the Latina community in Clackamas County.

Promotoras help bridge the cultural, language, and economic barriers between service providers and survivors in the Latina community. Our intention is to work within the Latina community to identify their needs, and adjust programming to better support. The Promotoras model raises the voices of Latina women within the community, as well as in the systems where their voices have not often enough been included.

We now have two cohorts of Promotoras, who volunteered over 200 hours of community support, outreach, and referrals in 2019. Notable collaborations included events with Bridging Cultures, Todos Juntos, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Hispanic Interagency Networking Team, and El Program Hispano. Promotoras participated in the Wounded Heart & Resilience project for Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. In May, two Promotoras attended the Arte Sana Conference, a national bilingual conference, and presented on the Promotoras Model to over 42 attendees from across the country. Program participants also hosted and presented to the Mexican Consulate in July for National Violence Against Women Awareness Day. In November, Promotoras hosted an immigration forum in Molalla, where they talked about immigration rights and safety planning if threatened by ICE.
FINANCIAL REPORT

Clackamas Women’s Services (CWS) conducts an annual audit in accordance with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audit of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. CWS complied, in all material respects, a with the compliance requirements for grant programs and established and maintained effective internal controls over compliance with grant programs. Total net assets were $1.41 million and revenues and other support were $3.56 million in 2019. Total expenses were $3.68 million with a negative change in net assets of $118,139 for 2019.

**REVENUE**

- Government Grants = $2,726,071
- Private Fundraising = $371,293
- Foundation Grants = $341,690
- Special Events = $49,675
- In-Kind Contributions = $26,200
- Miscellaneous Revenue = $39,077
- Shelter Project = $10,017

**TOTAL REVENUE & OTHER SUPPORT = $3,564,023**

**EXPENSES**

- Program Services = $2,821,828
- Development = $298,498
- Management & General = $561,836

**TOTAL EXPENSES = $3,682,162**

### Revenues

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### Expenses

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COMMUNITY SPONSORS

Castparts Employees Federal Credit Union
Clackamas Federal Credit Union
First American Title
Law Office of Michael Wu
Mike and Kay Wells
Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
Northwest Bank
PCC Structurals
Providence Health & Services
Réviance Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Center
R&H Construction
The Doctors Company
Walsh Construction

GET INVOLVED

Invite a Speaker
CWS provides community education presentations for adults and age-appropriate workshops for children on topics such as dynamics of abuse, healthy relationships, bullying and prevention. For more information on how to arrange for a speaker for your school, business, community center, or church, contact info@cwsor.org.

Volunteer
Volunteering with CWS is a great way to get to know us while supporting the people we serve, and we have meaningful opportunities throughout the year. From cheering on campers at Camp HOPE America - Oregon to assembling mailing materials to sorting toy donations for our Holiday Store, there are many ways for you to get involved. Occasionally, we work with groups to help with major projects at our emergency shelter and A Safe Place Family Justice Center. Please visit our website, www.cwsor.org, to learn about our volunteer opportunities.

Donate
Whether it’s a monetary gift or needed items from our wish list, your gift is the ultimate community action, allowing CWS to advocate and support survivors. Contact development@cwsor.org or visit our website to donate.

Special Events and Sponsorship
Every year, CWS organizes a Pathways Gala & Auction where we raise 5% to 10% of our annual budget which supports our programs and services. There are opportunities for your business or civic association to sponsor our events. By partnering with CWS, your organization takes a public stand against interpersonal violence. This show of support helps to identify the champions in our community and rally others to show support for survivors who turn to CWS for help. Contact development@cwsor.org to learn about sponsorship opportunities.

Legacy Gifts
Legacy gifts support our mission to break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence by providing essential and innovative services to the community. To discuss what you would like to accomplish through your legacy gift, contact CWS Director of Development Brenda Kinoshita at brendak@cwsor.org or (503) 557-5820.

Stock Donations
If you wish to donate a gift of stock, CWS has two stock accounts (Charles Schwab & Vanguard). Please contact the development team at development@cwsor.org if you would like more information about donating stock.