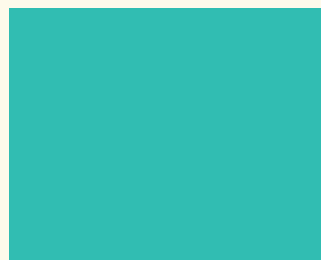




Clackamas Women's Services

2020

IMPACT REPORT



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Perspective has the ability to shape how we see ourselves, how we interact with others, and how others respond to us. It can be easily skewed during times of difficulty or hardship, and biased by a multitude of external factors. Maintaining perspective – or seeking a clearer one – is an ongoing personal pursuit for many of us, myself included.

Throughout the 25 years I have worked on behalf of those impacted by domestic and sexual violence, I've noticed a persistent tendency to treat the immediate crisis of violence as all-encompassing. When we characterize survivors by the harm others have done to them, it overshadows the richness of their existence. We inadvertently overlook the many important, successful, and joyful facets of their lives. We forget that each person, each situation, and each of the challenges at hand is part of a larger story.

This feels similar to our collective experience in 2020. It is inevitable that our perspective has been greatly influenced by circumstances far beyond our control and outcomes that have, at times, painted a murky forecast for the future. Fortunately, resilience can persist in tough times like these, bringing balance back to our perspective and allowing us to focus on the bigger picture of better days to come. In our daily work with survivors - as well as our interactions with staff, partners, supporters, and the community-at-large - we have witnessed incredible fortitude in the face of unprecedented adversity. We have found strength in the tenacity and perseverance of those around us. There have been profound moments of success and countless victories – large and small – worthy of recognition and celebration.

Our agency perspective of the past year has been positively framed by the strategies we have used to respond adeptly to 2020's seemingly endless challenges. By remaining proactive and thoughtful, collaborating with purpose and inclusivity, and approaching each new situation with flexibility and creativity, it has been possible to manage crisis and move through traumatic events from a more encompassing outlook of opportunity, and even hope.

Our Impact Report highlights some of the extraordinary moments we have witnessed, as well as many shared accomplishments which have allowed us to deliver on our mission with joy and gratitude:

- The strong infrastructure of our programs allowed us to be responsive to varying crises - from pandemic to wildfires to ice storms - while continuing to provide essential, often lifesaving, services for survivors;
- The shift to virtual services and new ways to interact - such as our [Confidential Text and Chat Line](#) - created deeper connections and greater accessibility for many individuals and communities;
- The launch of new initiatives to meet previously identified gaps in survivor support, including Safe Visitation and co-located advocacy focused on suicide prevention with Clackamas County Behavioral Health;
- Collaboration toward innovative and mutually beneficial outcomes like the [Hacienda CDC](#) partnership to provide meals for families safely sheltered in motels, or our teamwork with Public Health to distribute funding to help people quarantine who were exposed to COVID-19;
- A renewed sense of urgency for expanding the social safety net to meet the needs of vulnerable populations, which was galvanized by the [HereTogether](#) Campaign, the [Safe Kids Coalition](#), and through our heightened advocacy with local and state legislators and elected officials.

While we all look forward to the day when we can put the pandemic fully behind us, we have learned invaluable lessons about the strength within survivors, ourselves, and our community which will continue to shape our perspective and pave a path toward a more promising future. In no small measure the experiences of the past year have highlighted the need for us as individuals, and as an agency, to root out racism and systemic oppression. This must be our daily practice. On behalf of our Board of Directors, our staff, and the survivors we serve, I thank you for your continued support of our heart-centered work. You are a powerful force in breaking the isolation of domestic and sexual violence.

In gratitude,
Melissa Erlbaum

TESTIMONIAL

“Every single one of you have been so incredibly supportive, I could never thank you enough. I’ve never had anyone care so much. This is the hardest journey/change I’ve made in 28 years and I appreciate you guys for helping me along the way. It’s been such an emotional roller coaster and if it wasn’t for all the help I got here I’m not sure I would have been successful. Thank you guys for reminding me how strong I actually am and helping me put the pieces of my life back together. This is the first time in a long time, that I can actually see the real me. I have a lot of work to do still but you guys gave me hope when I didn’t have it. I could never thank you guys enough for what you did for me and my children. I am forever grateful and will never forget any of you. Thank you so so so much!”

1,926
survivors accessed
services during 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

The Village Emergency Shelter

370

adults and youth were provided with a safe place to stay at The Village emergency shelter.

LEAP Program

99

survivors received consultation regarding civil legal services such as protective orders, stalking, custody, parenting support, and housing.

Housing Program

297

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

Camp HOPE America - Oregon

38

youth attended virtual camp, and 155 adults and youth attended community-building Pathways Program events throughout the year.

Counseling Program

718

counseling sessions were provided to 68 survivors.

Community-Based Advocacy

1,538

adults and youth were provided with support, safety planning, and case management.

Community Education

2,980

elementary, middle, and high school students learned through 585 presentations. There were 30 community trainings provided to 313 adults.

Promotoras

10

Promotoras members shared information about COVID-19 and mental health resources to Latino communities throughout the year.

Support Groups

138

adults and youth attended support groups through our Children’s Program and Community-Based Program.

Crisis and Support Line

5,035

calls were made to our 24-hour Crisis and Support Line.

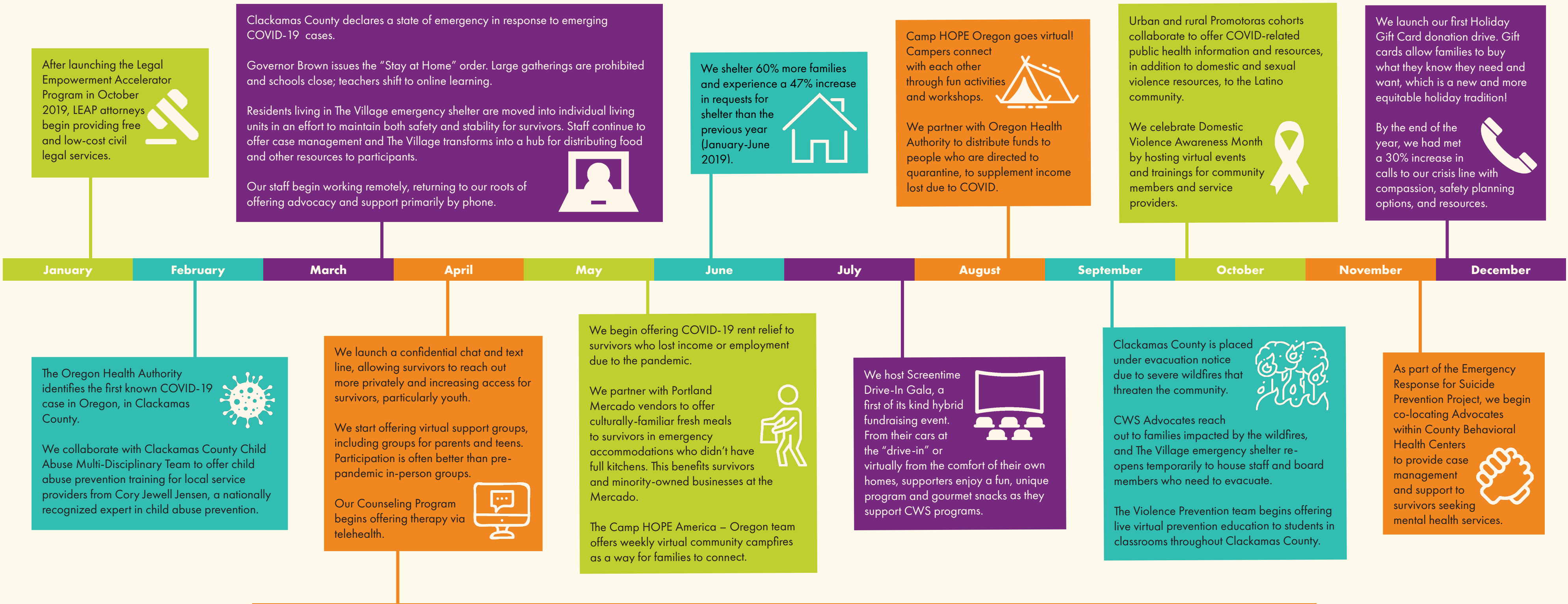


While 2020 brought unexpected challenges and hardship to many in our community, we are forever impressed by the resiliency we witnessed from individual survivors to broad community supports. We saw that the strategies we regularly use to respond to crisis and trauma really are best practices.

Time and time again, that connection, care, and showing up for each other despite ongoing uncertainty is incredibly powerful and ultimately healing.



2020 TIMELINE



The *Data Snapshot of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse in Clackamas County* reports CWS is "providing emergency shelter for 60% more families than the months prior to COVID-19. When comparing March 2019 to March 2020 the number of requests for shelter increased by 55% and there have been 37% more requests in the first two weeks of April than all of April 2019." Alarming, we respond to more referrals from the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) by the midpoint of April 2020 than the entire month of April 2019.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Alongside survivors, community partners, donors, students, volunteers, faith communities, and many others we're building a community that honors survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, elder abuse, and trafficking. All services CWS offers to the community are free of charge and confidential. We serve people of any gender, age, or immigration status to ensure anyone in our community who wants help escaping violence gets the help they deserve.



Our mission is to break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence.

Support for Survivors

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; and help filing for temporary restraining orders and stalking orders. Services are offered in the rural community, local DHS offices, and A Safe Place Family Justice Center.

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.

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.

Counseling and Support Groups

Counseling and support groups for survivors, including youth and family counseling, with a range of community support groups.

Children and Youth Services

Confidential advocacy, support groups, and family support for young people who've experienced family violence, sexual violence, or dating violence.

OUR GUIDING VALUES

Honor and Celebrate Survivors

We believe that all people have innate value, worth, and an important role to play in our community. We work to demonstrate this fact to those who have been convinced otherwise by people who have hurt them.

Establish Safety

We believe safety is the foundation upon which wellness is built and that it is a right every human deserves. Domestic and sexual violence shake one's sense of safety in the world. We seek to help program participants live and thrive in safety once again.

Build Community

We believe that isolation is one of the most harmful and long-lasting impacts of domestic and sexual violence. Isolation breeds a sense of otherness and shame and cuts survivors off from their resources, support, and communities. We seek to rebuild what that violence has destroyed.

Center Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

We recognize oppression as the primary cause of community violence and that lack of power in society leaves people vulnerable to abuse. The only way to prevent domestic and sexual violence is by addressing the root causes and rebalancing societal power.

Create Social Change

We understand that though violence against women has been timeless, that it is not an innate condition of our world. We believe the motivations and behaviors that lead to violence are learned and can be unlearned.

Practice Trauma-Informed Care

We recognize the vast long-reaching impacts trauma can have on individuals and communities. We work to be responsive to the individual needs of survivors as they cope with the trauma of interpersonal violence and provide information to the community to help build connection.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Core Operating Resources (Revenue)	2020	2019	Core Mission Support (Expenses)	2020	2019
Contributions	\$978,538	\$723,000	Programs & Services	\$3,217,541	\$2,821,828
Government Grants	\$3,381,220	\$2,726,071	Development	\$279,919	\$220,764
Donated Facilities	\$104,220	\$26,200	Management & General	\$576,155	\$535,732
Special Events	(\$1,831)	\$49,675	Total	\$4,073,615	\$2,909,306
Other Income	\$87,819	\$39,077			
Total	\$4,549,946	\$3,564,023			

GET INVOLVED

It takes the compassionate actions of our entire community to support survivors on their pathways to healing. We are truly grateful for the generous support which enables us to provide survivor-centered programs and services. Donations can be online [here](#), or mail checks payable to Clackamas Women's Services at 256 Warner Milne Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045. For questions, contact Brenda Kinoshita, Director of Development, at brendak@cwsor.org or (503) 557-5820



SPECIAL EVENTS & SPONSORSHIP

Businesses, faith communities, social and civic associations are leaders in preventing domestic and sexual violence. We are happy to build a partnership with your organization. Contact development@cwsor.org to learn more.



VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is a great way to become involved. Visit our [website](#) to learn about current opportunities.



DONATE ITEMS

You, your company, school, church, or community group can organize a donation drive to gather items for our programs. Visit our [website](#) [here](#) or contact the Development Team at development@cwsor.org to learn more.

Based at A Safe Place Family Justice Center: 256 Warner Milne Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045
Phone: (503) 655-8600 • Website: www.cwsor.org • Email: info@cwsor.org

24-hour Crisis & Support Line: (888) 654-2288
Confidential Chat: rc.chat/cws

KEEP IN TOUCH

