Dear Friends,

All of us at Clackamas Women’s Services are profoundly grateful to our community of supporters who are working to break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence; it is inspiring to witness so much compassion. I am likewise in awe of the resilience of each and every survivor who seeks help from CWS. The strength and determination embodied by survivors and their children serves as a powerful reminder that no one should be defined by their experience of abuse. Survivors are whole and multifaceted individuals who deserve to be recognized as such.

We also recognize that hope and a sense of community are the building blocks of resiliency. When someone is isolated from their community, or if the abuse they experienced has required them to leave their previous lives behind, our job is to help them find a hopeful place to land by providing a new, supportive community. Not only is connection to community essential to one’s ability to heal from trauma, but it is also the vision of the Village, our innovative emergency shelter that helps survivors reconnect to a social fabric that supports them.

Ending domestic and sexual violence requires the engagement of the broader community, and that is no small part of the work we do. One strategy that CWS launched in 2017 was the Promotoras model, in which we work directly with members of the Latino community to connect survivors with the services CWS provides. The Promotoras model is a community outreach approach that trains members of the Latino community to promote essential domestic and sexual violence services among their family members, neighbors, and peers. The model brings safety resources one step closer to a community where language, cultural, and economic barriers as well as a growing reluctance to engage with government programs have traditionally made services inaccessible and domestic and sexual violence survivors vulnerable.

Violence prevention is also a foundational tenet of our mission, and we are the only agency specifically offering this programming to schools across Clackamas County. With the goal of addressing the root causes of gender-based violence, the CWS Violence Prevention Program is now partnering directly with 20 local middle schools and high schools — a number which has grown steadily since the program’s inception in 2010 — to provide violence prevention curriculum.

CWS’ Camp HOPE Oregon is a week-long summer camp and year-round mentoring program that supports children who have witnessed or experienced family violence. Launched in the summer of 2015, Camp HOPE Oregon created an extended community of campers and their families, camp counselors, staff and volunteers. Those crucial connections didn’t dissolve after camp. The Pathways program provided mentoring and social activities for campers and their families throughout the year. While these events are focused on having fun, their most important function was to provide opportunities for campers and their families to connect with one another through their shared experiences. The combination of the summer camp experience and the year-long activities have helped foster and strengthen community among the youth we serve. We are looking forward to welcoming our next group of campers in the summer of 2018.

Our work at CWS would not be possible without the dedication of the entire community – individual donors, businesses, corporations, foundations, civic and elected leaders and community partners. We are grateful for their continued support.

With Gratitude,

Melissa Erlbaum
Our Mission

The mission of Clackamas Women’s Services is to break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence.

Our vision is to live in a society that no longer tolerates domestic and sexual violence, but rather thrives on mutual respect.

About Clackamas Women’s Services

Incorporated in 1985, Clackamas Women’s Services (CWS) offers comprehensive, sensitive solutions for adults and children impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, sexual exploitation and trafficking, and elder abuse. CWS’ service delivery framework is built on trauma-informed best practices that promote safety and self-determination.

At our secure emergency shelter, our 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.

Our Programs and Services

Emergency Shelter and Housing Program
24-hour Crisis and Support Line
Community Based Services:
  Advocacy and Support Services
  DHS Co-located Advocacy
  Rural Outreach Program
  Legal Advocacy
  Campus Sexual Assault Advocacy
  Promotoras
Counseling and Support Groups
  Individual and Family Therapy
  Culturally and Linguistically Specific Therapy
  Evidence-Based Therapeutic Groups

Children and Youth Services:
  Art-based Therapy
  Parenting Support
  Teen Support Groups
  Camp HOPE America - Oregon

Violence Prevention & Community Education Program:
  School Based Services
  See It. End It. Curriculum
  Primary Prevention Activities
  Public Awareness
2017 Program Highlights

By The Numbers

- 1,086 adults and 132 children accessed services from CWS last year.
- 1,069 visits by children (under the age of 12) with adult survivors at A Safe Place.
- 386 protective orders were processed at A Safe Place, 94% of which were granted.
- 128 households (131 adults and 204 kids) accessed services within our housing programs.
- There were 5,126 visits to A Safe Place with an average of 21 visits per day.
- CWS employs 39 full time staff and 5 part-time staff.
- 1,900+ counseling sessions were conducted at A Safe Place and our rural office, with 34% to rural participants and 43% to participants who identified as Latino.
- The Violence Prevention Team provided 1,059 presentations to 5,888 students in 20 different middle and high schools.
- 115 adults, 22 kids, and 26 families were served by the CWS counseling team.
- Last summer, 57 children attended Camp HOPE Oregon.

The Village of Hope

Over the past several years, CWS’ confidential emergency shelter has developed an innovative model designed to break the isolation of domestic violence by creating a community of survivors from many different backgrounds with a shared experience. Inspired by age-old values of fellowship, the Village Model integrates shelter staff with individuals and families residing in the shelter community. All members of the community, staff and participants alike, support and communicate with one another in a way that gives survivors a different experience from the confusing and hurtful living situation experienced with their partners.

In the fall of 2016, CWS and the Homebuilders Foundation partnered to rebuild the Village. Since then, the home builder community and two jurisdictions have supported the project with nearly $1 million of in-kind support. Further, donors to CWS have also contributed $665,884 in a one-time special capital campaign.

The rebuild was completed and the shelter reopened in March 2018. Each room of the new shelter was designed specifically with trauma survivors in mind. Despite its size, the shelter feels like a cheery and welcoming home, with bright paint colors, hardwood floors and lots of natural light. The house is a mixture of private family rooms and communal kitchen and living room spaces designed to help build connection among survivors and break the isolation typically associated with domestic violence. It also incorporates an expanded play room for children and a new room for teens, a multipurpose meeting space for support groups, art therapy, or yoga, and a separate entrance for past shelter residents to return to the community they were part of after moving out to live on their own.
2017 Program Highlights

Prevention and Community Education

The CWS Violence Prevention Program works to build a community that stands against domestic and sexual violence by developing young role models who disrupt social and cultural norms that perpetuate violence against women. The goal is to reduce the rate of sexual and dating violence perpetration and victimization in our community before the violence occurs by addressing known risk factors, and promoting healthy relationships and behaviors among youth.

CWS offers a 10-session curriculum originally developed by the Sexual Assault Resource Center of Washington County and recognized as a model curriculum by the Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force. The curriculum was adapted by our Violence Prevention Team to incorporate relationship violence prevention and is developmentally appropriate for middle school and high school students. The 10-sessions include:

- Bystander Intervention
- Dynamics of Sexual Violence
- Dynamics of Dating Violence
- Oppression
- Gender Socialization & Identities
- Healthy Relationships
- Media Literacy
- Relationship between Pornography and Violence
- Victim Empathy
- Bystander Intervention Practical Application

Presentations are usually given during health classes in cooperation with teachers to meet state and national education standards. This year, the Violence Prevention Team provided 1,059 presentations to 5,888 students in 20 different middle and high schools.

Promotoras

Promotora is the Spanish term for community worker. Community workers can be migrant health aids, community educators & liaisons, domestic violence advocates, or AIDS & drug prevention workers. This past fall, CWS launched the Promotoras program. The Promotoras model focuses on training members of the Latino community to become semi-professionals within the community to increase access to domestic and sexual violence services.

The program training is 17 hours and currently 10 people have completed the training. Each Promotora commits to 6-months of community outreach. Promotoras attend monthly meetings, which include reporting, peer support, and professional development. As part of monthly meetings, Promotoras receive ongoing training on additional topics, such as support group facilitation, leadership preparedness, and legal advocacy.

Promotoras helps bridge the language and cultural gaps between service providers and survivors of domestic violence from the Latino community. Our intention is to support the communities within which we work to self-identify their needs and adjust existing programs to better serve Latino communities.
2017 Program Highlights

Camp HOPE America - Oregon

The Camp HOPE model, developed by the Alliance for HOPE International, is a values-based, “Challenge by Choice” camping model with a focus on praising children for observed and developing character traits through a six-day camping program and year-round mentoring activities. In 2015, CWS partnered with A Safe Place Family Justice Center for Clackamas County (ASP-FJC) to launch Camp HOPE Oregon as a three-year pilot project. In June and July of 2017, we served 57 children and youth during the two week-long camping sessions.

All of the children who attend Camp HOPE Oregon have received services at ASP-FJC and have experienced domestic or sexual violence. In July 2017, 31 children ages 7-11 attended the first week-long session of Camp HOPE Oregon, 14 of whom were female (48%) and 16 of whom were male (52%). In addition, 27 children ages 11-16 attended the second session, 14 of whom were female (52%) and 13 of whom were male (48%). Of the 57 total campers in 2017, 47% were white, 40% were Latino, 9% were Asian, 2% were African American, and 2% were Multi-Racial.

In 2017, CWS provided 240 training hours to 15 youth camp counselors, all of whom attended both sessions of camp. Over the course of the two-week camp, 15 volunteers provided over 315 hours of support, and six CWS staff and three Clackamas County Sheriff Office staff served there full time. Five nurses also donated their time to ensure that there was medical coverage 24/7 while at camp.

For children who have experienced trauma, Camp HOPE is the beginning of their path to hope and healing. The Pathways Program takes the efforts of Camp Hope through a year-long mentoring program where campers are able to foster the healthy relationships made at camp. A few of the highlights of the 2017 Pathways Program include: in August, 132 campers and family members attended the 30-day reunion BBQ and pool party; in October, we partnered with Clackamas County Community Corrections to organize a Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival event for 99 campers and family members, in which attendees picked out pumpkins, played games, had their face painted, and enjoyed snacks and cider; and in December, 108 campers attended the holiday event, which included gym games, gingerbread house making and cookie decorating, holiday card and ornament making, as well as a raffle for families.

Advocacy and Support Groups

This past year, CWS partnered with Clackamas Community College (CCC) to station a Campus Sexual Assault Advocate on its campus. This new position provides advocacy services to survivors of sexual violence, including safety planning, court accompaniment, assistance with Title IX and Law Enforcement reporting processes, and offering support groups to the entire CCC community. CCC is now the first community college in Oregon to offer on-site confidential sexual assault advocacy services for students via an agreement with a community partner. We are working with CCC to strengthen this partnership, expand and improve services for survivors, and, ultimately, to create a sexual violence advocacy model that can be replicated on other college campuses.

The community-based advocates also facilitated a weekly support group for domestic violence survivors, with an average of 8 people consistently participating in the group.

For the second year in a row, we partnered with Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation (NEDCO) to offer a savings program matched by NEDCO to participants. Participants in the program can save up to $150 over a 2-4 month period and receive a $450 match, for up to a total of $600. Participants choose a goal that they believe would benefit their financial situation. This could be car repair, clothing for job interviews, training or school costs, court/legal fees, or other needs. Classes are offered in English and Spanish. This year, we were offered ten openings by NEDCO, all of which we were able to fill.

In 2017, CWS continued to work to reduce the barriers that survivors from marginalized communities face on their pathways to safety and stability. This includes intentionally increasing representation of marginalized communities on our staff. For example, 71% of our shelter advocates are bilingual and 57% are bilingual & bicultural; 33% of our community-based advocates are bilingual and bicultural.
In 2017, CWS provided more services to more participants than in prior years. 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, with the compliance requirements for grant programs and established and maintained effective internal controls over compliance with grant programs. Total net assets were $832K and revenues and other support were $3,166K in 2017. Total expenses were $2,712K with a change in net assets of $454K for 2017. Included in the revenue and other support amounts is $439K of funds received for the shelter capital project. Such expenditures will be incurred in 2018.

**Major Funding Sources Include:**

- Ann and Bill Swindells Charitable Trust
- Benchmade Knife Company
- CareOregon
- Castparts Employees Federal Credit Union
- Cedars at the Mountain
- Clackamas County
- Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund
- Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
- Northwest Bank
- Northwest Primary Care
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Oregon Department of Justice
- PCC Structurals, Inc.
- Providence Health and Services
- Spirit Mountain Community Fund
- Suburban Door
- Sunset Forest Products
- The Bottinelli and Howe Household
- The Collins Foundation
- The Davis Household
- The Doctors Company
- The Killough Household
- The Ritz Household
- The Wells Household
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Housing and Urban Development
- United Way of the Columbia Willamette Valley
- Verizon
Get Involved!

**Monthly Sustainers**

You can arrange to make an automatic monthly donation to sustain CWS throughout the year. Just visit www.cwsor.org and click the “Donate” button. Check the box to make your donation recur. To pledge a monthly donation by phone, please contact a development staff member at 503-557-5830.

**Make CWS a Part of Your Legacy**

Long-term gifts support CWS’ mission to break the isolation of domestic and sexual violence. Discuss what you would like to accomplish through your legacy gift with our Development Director, John Aney at 503-557-5820 or at johna@cwsor.org.

**Stock Donations**

CWS happily accepts your gifts of stock. Our stock account is:
- Charles Schwab
- Account Number: 2340-5523
- DCT Number: 0164 Code 40

**Special Events**

CWS organizes two major events each year at which we raise 5 to 10 percent of our annual budget. There are many opportunities for your business or civic association to sponsor one of these key events. Visit www.cwsor.org to find out when the next event will be held.

**Volunteer**

CWS has many meaningful volunteer opportunities throughout the year, ranging from answering the crisis line to helping at a fundraising event. Please check our website for the current volunteer opportunities available and how to become a volunteer.