The many faces of survival, strength, success and empowerment.

2015 Annual Report
From Our Leaders

As we are every year, we are once again pleased to share with you our 2015 annual report highlighting our work over the past year. This year, we are especially excited to tell the story of what we have accomplished through the personal lens of those whose achievements are our very reason for being – survivors of domestic and sexual violence. They are the ones who engage in the difficult work of moving their lives forward. When they succeed in building their lives free from violence, we succeed.

Along with the powerful voices of survival, we are also proud to showcase our successes in preventing violence. We continue to invest more and more resources in our prevention programs to stop violence before it starts. In classrooms and community centers across our city, our prevention specialists work with students to challenge and transform the underlying attitudes and beliefs that foster violent behavior. These students’ successes in creating healthy relationships and violence-free social environments are also our successes.

In the interests of being good stewards of the resources invested by our donors and supporters, this annual report will also offer the usual fare of financial results and program statistics. We believe those numbers represent a different kind of strength and success – the success that comes from a generous community that shares our strong commitment to end domestic and sexual violence. We are grateful to benefit from your strength of conviction, and we are proud to share with you the success stories of strength and survival you make possible.

Sincerely,

Rebecca White     Carrie Potter
President and Chief Executive Officer   Chair of the Board of Directors

Our Mission

The Houston Area Women’s Center helps individuals affected by domestic and sexual violence in their efforts to move their lives forward. We provide shelter, counseling and advocacy to support them in building lives free from the effects of violence. We seek social change to end domestic and sexual violence through community awareness and education. Our services are confidential and available to everyone.
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline Calls: 39,794
Adults Sheltered: 1,148
Children Sheltered: 756
Adult Counseling/Advocacy: 7,744
Children’s Counseling/Advocacy: 2,768
Supportive Housing Services: 1,045
Children’s Court Services: 2,668
Community Presentations: 25,503

More than 81,000 people in our community benefitted from the Houston Area Women’s Center’s services in 2015.

Survival

“When I called the hotline, I honestly thought it was too late. Little did I know that 15 years could have passed, it didn’t matter. There was no time limit on when I could get help.”
Emily, sexual assault survivor

24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in over 150 languages, our Hotline Services provide the gateway to hope and healing for survivors. For Emily, calling our hotline was her lifeline. Our advocate listened, offered assistance, and eventually directed her to our Counseling and Advocacy Services to help Emily overcome trauma resulting from sexual assault. Her counselor gave her tools to cope and a sense of safety she had not known.
When Connie and her two young children entered our secure and safe 120-bed shelter, she shared this with our advocate: “My first night at the shelter was the first time in over six months I was able to lay my head down and close my eyes.” While there, Connie’s road to healing began with individual and group counseling, and she took parenting and life skill classes while her children were cared for at our Early Childhood Learning Center. These classes helped her launch her new life free from violence while rebuilding her self-confidence. After 90 days at the shelter, our Supportive Housing program advocates helped Connie obtain housing, something she says she could not have managed on her own at first. Today, Connie has a good job, safe housing and goals and ambitions she never thought possible.

“Houston Area Women’s Center staff and services brought back the peace, stability and happiness in my family. I am in a better situation with my children and the whole credit goes to the Women’s Center.”

Connie, mother of two

Our Children’s Court Services program ensures that children called upon to testify in criminal cases have a friend alongside them. That’s what our advocates do. That’s what they did for Mary’s daughter and nephew, who had to testify against their father and uncle, a man they once loved and trusted, but were now fearful after witnessing him shoot their aunt and mother. After the trial was over, Mary sent a letter to Children’s Court Services about the profound difference their advocate made in their lives during their ordeal.

“Amy came into our lives and totally put the kids and me at ease. To gain an entire family’s trust after such a traumatic betrayal is truly a gift. Amy gave us courage, hope and someone we could trust and depend on.”

Mary, mother and aunt of children testifying in court against their father and uncle

Our Violence Prevention Educators get to the root causes of violence through our Violence Prevention and Community Education Program. We work in all areas of outreach and targeted trainings, from underserved communities, to educating professionals and youth. For Andrea, it was the first time she was learning about violence prevention at her school. She and her classmates were not sure what to expect, until our Violence Prevention Educator turned the learning into something interesting. Andrea and her class learned where violence comes from and how to stop it. At the end of the program, all of the students, including Andrea, wrote thank you cards and letters to their educator, Michael. Michael keeps all of his students’ notes as a reminder of the importance of his work in violence prevention and education.

“Thank you for coming to school and making class fun and guiding me to awareness. I appreciate everything you taught us.”

Andrea, 9th grade student
2015 Financial Highlights

Statement of Activities for the year ended December 31, 2015

OPERATING REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$2,975,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>698,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Funding</td>
<td>3,424,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>170,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,267,391</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OPERATING EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Direct client services</td>
<td>$5,250,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Education and outreach</td>
<td>618,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total – Program Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,868,643</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>789,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>620,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,278,781</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Operating Surplus/(Loss)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment Return/(Loss)</td>
<td>-59,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>435,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>(388,040)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Net Assets, End of Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15,377,513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2016 Board of Directors

Sandra Ramirez Aultman
2015 Board Chair

Carrie G. Potter
2016 Board Chair

Krista Bourne*
Genora Kendrick Boykins
Tiffany Dávila-Dunne*
Cindy Deere
Michael A. Ordon
Beth Ann Dranguet
Arvis Few
Tom Fitzpatrick
Lesa Nickelson French*
Kenyatta B. Gibbs*
Ed Gonzalez
Melanie Gray
Amy Grinstein
Frances Powell-Hawes
Diana M. Hudson**
Careessa Hughes
Christina Ibrahim
Kimberly Johnston
Quasi Mahesri+
Krisst Midgatt
Tara Pool
Kelly B. Rose
Debra Runge
Susan Sanchez
Mark C. Schroeder
Jeanne "J.J." Spaldale
Richard T. "Tom" Stilwell*
Karyl Van Tassel
Hoang Van Vu
Malcolm Waddell
Kathy Young+

* Service concluded in 2015
** Past Chair
+ Join in 2016

2015/2016 Executive Committees

Sandra Ramirez Aultman**
Tom Fitzpatrick
Frances Powell Hawes
Diana M. Hudson**
Kimberly Johnston+
Carrie G. Potter
Kelly B. Rose*
Mark C. Schroeder

* Service concluded in 2015
** Past Chair
+ Join in 2016

2015/2016 Executive Leadership Team

Rebecca White
President and Chief Executive Officer

Tara Black
Chief Development Officer

Sonia Corrales
Chief Program Officer

Tawana Greene
Chief Financial Officer

Pam Huewitt
Chief of Human Resource Officer

Chau Nguyen
Chief Marketing Officer

Cassandra Thomas
Chief Compliance Officer
Community Support

$100,000+
Anonymous
Houston Endowment Inc.
Houston Methodist
United Way of Greater Houston
Women Of Wine Charities, Inc.

$50,000-$99,999
Harris County Hospital District Foundation
The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Wayne D. Dillard Foundation
John P. McIngvale Foundation
Texas for Greg Abbott
Verizon

$20,000-$49,999
AIG
The Allstate Foundation
Avon Foundation for Women
City of Houston c/o Battaglia Fund
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies
The Ellwood Foundation
The Faint Foundation
Halliburton
Houston Area Women's Center
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
Su Hsuan Hsiao & Joseph Ngo
The Simmons Foundation
Reliant, an NRG Company
Night Court
MD Anderson Foundation
Su Hsuan Hsiao & Joseph Ngo
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

$10,000-$19,999
John R. Wright & Eloise Mountain
Wells Fargo
Texas Children's Hospital
The Fant Foundation
The Ellwood Foundation
City of Houston c/o Battaglia Fund
The Allstate Foundation
Spindletop Charities, Inc.
Carrie Potter/The Carrie Potter Foundation
Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation
Charlotte B. Proehl Foundation
The Brown Foundation, Inc.

$5,000-$9,999
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Andrews Kurth LLP
Anadiol Bryant Construction Ltd.
Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston Inc.
The Gordon A. Cain Foundation
Ben E. Keith Company
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP
The Butcher Fund
Chevron
Dania & Paul Gill
Danica & Mark Wawro
Dana & Paul Gill

$1,000–$2,499
Robin & Mike Bullington
Businesswomen in Petroleum - Houston

$100,000+
Anonymous
Houston Endowment Inc.
Houston Methodist
United Way of Greater Houston
Women Of Wine Charities, Inc.

$50,000-$99,999
Harris County Hospital District Foundation
The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Wayne D. Dillard Foundation
John P. McIngvale Foundation
Texas for Greg Abbott
Verizon

$20,000-$49,999
AIG
The Allstate Foundation
Avon Foundation for Women
City of Houston c/o Battaglia Fund
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies
The Ellwood Foundation
The Faint Foundation
Halliburton
Houston Area Women's Center
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
Su Hsuan Hsiao & Joseph Ngo
The Simmons Foundation
Reliant, an NRG Company
Night Court
MD Anderson Foundation
Su Hsuan Hsiao & Joseph Ngo
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

$10,000-$19,999
John R. Wright & Eloise Mountain
Wells Fargo
Texas Children's Hospital
The Fant Foundation
The Ellwood Foundation
City of Houston c/o Battaglia Fund
The Allstate Foundation
Spindletop Charities, Inc.
Carrie Potter/The Carrie Potter Foundation
Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation
Charlotte B. Proehl Foundation
The Brown Foundation, Inc.

$5,000-$9,999
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Andrews Kurth LLP
Anadiol Bryant Construction Ltd.
Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston Inc.
The Gordon A. Cain Foundation
Ben E. Keith Company
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP
The Butcher Fund
Chevron
Dania & Paul Gill
Danica & Mark Wawro
Dana & Paul Gill

$1,000–$2,499
Robin & Mike Bullington
Businesswomen in Petroleum - Houston
**Community Support**

- Patricia & Ken Jeffers
- Mary H. Jenkins
- Doug & Tricia Jefferson
- Robert V. Jewell
- Pat & Mike Journay
- Jyorgan Chase & Co.
- Employee Giving Campaign
- Tracy & Brian Kapiloff
- Shelley & Alex Kaplan
- Lu Ann & Morton Katz
- Peter M. Kelly
- Sandra & John Kaville
- David Kirkland
- Susan & Warren Kolaj
- KPMG
- Christie B. & Craig LaFollette
- Marlan Lanza
- Christine B. & Craig LaFollette
- KPMG
- David Kirkland
- Sandra & John Keville
- Peter M. Kelly
- Lu Ann & Morton Katz
- Tracy & Brian Kapiloff
- Diana & John Lohren
- John L. Zipprich
- Robin Russell
- Matthew H. Zweifel
- Patricia Marie Pata
- Darlin O. Johnson
- Tom & Beth Ackerman
- J. Wesley Ackerman
- Mary Ackerman
- Robert Ackerman
- John Ackerman
We hope these amazing stories of **survival, strength, success and empowerment** inspire you, just as much as they do us. From Emily and Connie, to Mary and Andrea, their narratives are at the heart of the work we do. From lives of despair to ones of hope, it is our privilege to be a part of a survivor’s journey. And while we honor those whose lives we have touched, we are deeply grateful for the supporters, volunteers and employees who are changing lives and making our community a safer place.

“**Courage is the most important of all the virtues.**”

Maya Angelou

Our message to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault:

You are not alone.