

Ending domestic and sexual violence for ALL

HAWC | Houston Area Women's Center



About Us

OUR VISION

We envision the day when domestic and sexual violence are history rather than a part of our daily reality.

OUR MISSION

The Houston Area Women's Center works to end domestic and sexual violence and supports all in building safe and healthy lives through advocacy, counseling, education, shelter and support services. Our services are free, confidential and available to everyone.

OUR BELIEFS

We embrace the belief that all individuals should have equal access to political, legal, economic, and social rights. We strive to create a community that embraces diversity, recognizes oppression, promotes empowerment and supports the right of all individuals to self-determination.



DEAR HAWC FRIENDS,

Turn on the news, and nearly every day, reports of domestic and sexual violence permeate the headlines. The level of violence is epidemic. It could be easy to conclude that no one can do much about it.

And yet, thousands of women, children and men we serve every year transform from victims of sex trafficking, sexual assault, and domestic abuse into survivors living self-determined lives. Because of their courage, we are not only convinced that this crisis *can* be stopped, but also that it *must*. Their journey reminds us of the resilience of the human spirit; violence need not have the last word.



Over 40 years ago, when a small number of volunteers with a few borrowed phones began fielding calls from women escaping abuse, who would have imagined the Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) as it is today? With a 120-bed shelter, 24/7 crisis response hotlines, counseling and year-round trauma-informed

education and prevention programs, HAWC's breadth of services offers hope and healing to tens of thousands.

Crisis Response. Survivor Empowerment. Culture Change and Violence Prevention are how we work to end domestic and sexual violence. This ensures our message to survivors is clear:

**It is not your fault.
You are not alone.
Help is available.**

No agency does this alone. HAWC is part of a collaborative community consisting of law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, donors, and volunteers. Creating a future without violence takes everyone working together to recognize and interrupt the dynamics that lead to interpersonal violence. We want to say thank you for believing we can end domestic and sexual violence once and for all.

Until it stops,

Cindy Deere
Chair, Board of Directors

Emilee Dawn Whitehurst
President & Chief Executive Officer

FROM OUR LEADERS



“At HAWC, the counselors made me feel believed. They showed me there was assistance and made me realize I was not alone.”

Lucina Reyes, *Client*



“When I arrived to HAWC, someone finally listened to me.”

Atika Khadija Owolabi, *Client*

WHAT WE DO:

CRISIS RESPONSE



From the first moment in which a survivor needs help until they gain a sense of stability, our crisis response team is there every step of the way. Clients access **crisis support** the moment they walk through our doors, call our **24/7 hotlines** or go to the hospital. Highly trained advocates provide survivors with information and resources to assess their danger, make a safety plan, find safe harbor and link them to resources. Survivors fleeing violence and trafficking can find safety at **HAWC’s 120-bed residential facility**, the only one of its kind within the Houston Metropolitan Area.

SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT



At HAWC, we believe survivors are the champions of their story and experience. We know violence impacts every aspect of a survivor’s life, which is why our services are comprehensive, client-centered and trauma-informed. Our services provide survivors of all ages with the tools they need to regain their confidence, develop financial independence, navigate the court system if they choose, and rebuild their lives. In addition to life-changing **counseling**, this means providing **legal advocacy** programs, **case management**, **children’s services**, **career development**, and **housing support**. Our services are **free**, **confidential** and **available** to everybody.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION & CULTURE CHANGE



Ultimately – HAWC educators and trainers provide youth and community members with age-appropriate information on how domestic and sexual violence impact our society and how they can **break the cycle and support survivors**. Our experts also collaborate with community partners in law enforcement, civic and social justice organizations to educate service providers throughout the city on how to provide trauma-informed care to survivors.

Ending domestic and sexual violence means **shifting our culture** in our communities and shaping the policies that impact survivors. HAWC's staff experts play vital roles in developing public awareness campaigns, serving on coalitions for change, and speaking with policymakers on the city and state level, thus ensuring survivors' needs are met and positive social change is achieved.

HOTLINE NUMBERS



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

713-528-2121

TDD Line: 713-528-3625

24/7 Toll Free: 1-800-256-0551

SEXUAL ASSAULT

713-528-7273

TDD Line: 713-528-3691

24/7 Toll Free: 1-800-256-0661

DEFINITIONS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship used by one partner to gain control over another person through fear and intimidation.

SEXUAL ASSAULT:

Any unwanted, non-consensual sexual contact against any individual by another using manipulation, pressure, tricks, coercion or physical force.

SEX TRAFFICKING:

The trade in people involving the use of force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.

How to Get Involved:

WE BELIEVE ALL WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN DESERVE TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT, AND NO ONE DESERVES TO SUFFER AT THE HANDS OF ANOTHER. JOIN US TO CREATE A COMMUNITY FREE FROM VIOLENCE.



VOLUNTEER:

HAWC began as a volunteer run organization, and today over 1,000 volunteers annually help the agency fulfill its mission. Join our team of HAWC volunteers and watch our combined impact grow over time.



DONATE:

The generosity of community members like you helps ensure survivors never have to pay for life-changing support. Your donations help us expand and build new programs, so that we can reach more people in need of our critical services.



HOST AN EVENT:

Throughout the year, local restaurants, clothing boutiques, rock bands and art galleries hold special events to raise awareness of the Houston Area Women's Center and raise funds that allow us to continue our services. You can too!



JOIN OUR TEAM:

Consider becoming a member of a dynamic and diverse team of people dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence and seeing victims transform into survivors living self-determined lives.



TO LEARN MORE VISIT:
www.hawc.org

GET INVOLVED

73,936

SURVIVORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED



CRISIS RESPONSE

Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking have immediate access to safety, medical attention and trauma informed needs assessment when they first reach out for help.

39,615 Calls answered in our hotlines

1,186 Hospital accompaniment for survivors, friends and family

936 Survivors safely housed at our residential campus



SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT

Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking are economically independent and live self-determined lives.

4,352 Women, men and children participated in individual and group counseling sessions

1,893 Clients in our Children's Court Services

954 Clients received legal advocacy

563 Survivors provided care management and advocacy support

116 Adults and children safely housed

345 Sex trafficking clients served



VIOLENCE PREVENTION

To break the cycle of violence we must understand its root causes and adopt positive behaviors.

25,922 Community members educated

1,834 Professionals trained

2,895 Youth educated



CULTURE CHANGE

Systems and institutions collectively invest in efforts to reduce interpersonal violence, support survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

2,115 Volunteers engaged

120 Young leaders engaged

90 Strategic partnerships

6 Research projects to improve systems and identify best practices

4 Public awareness campaigns

123K+ WEBSITE HITS

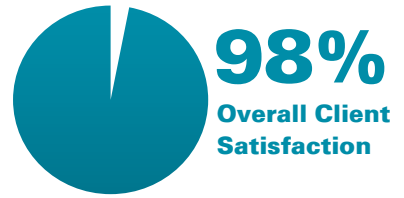
19K+ SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

HOW DO OUR CLIENTS FEEL ABOUT OUR SERVICES?

96% of HAWC clients were able to **identify resources** to meet their needs through our services

97% of our clients could **identify strategies** to enhance their safety after working with HAWC advocates

97% of our clients **felt less isolated** after receiving services

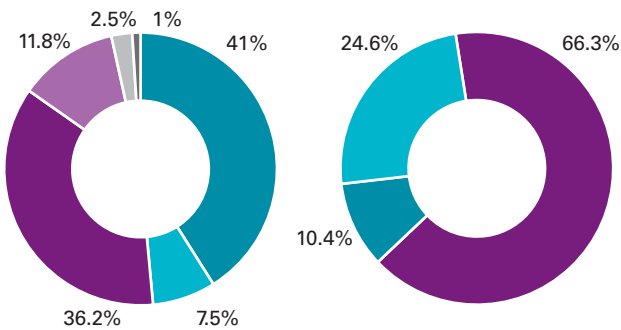


2019 Financials*

FUNDING SOURCES

● Government Grants	\$	3,253,932
● United Way		595,000
● Contributions		2,870,628
● Special Events		937,127
● Investment Allocation		195,995
● Other Income		77,605

Total Funding Sources **\$ 7,930,287**



FUNDING SOURCES

OPERATING EXPENSES

OPERATING EXPENSES

● Direct Services	\$	5,322,358
● Fundraising		833,663
● Management and General		1,978,344

Total Operating Expenses **\$ 8,033,132**

***Unaudited financials as of 1/2020**

2019 HAWC BOARD MEMBERS

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BELIEVE SURVIVORS STOP SEXUAL VIOLENCE
HOUSTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER COUNSELING
EDUCATION CHILDREN'S OUTREACH
ADVOCACY BELIEVE SHELTER
AWARENESS
STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT SURVIVORS
HOTLINES END SEXUAL VIOLENCE EMPOWERMENT



United Way of Greater Houston

HARRIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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