

2016-17

Report to the Community

The Willow
Domestic
Violence
Center



The Willow
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
CENTER

SHELTER. HELP. HOPE.

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42 years ago,

The Willow (then known as Women's Transitional Care Services) established one of the first safe shelters for survivors of domestic abuse in the Midwest. Run initially by volunteers, The Willow was dedicated to safety, support, and shelter of survivors of domestic violence in Lawrence, Kansas, through empowerment-based advocacy. Since that time, there have been changes to the name, changes to policy, inclusion of Franklin and Jefferson counties, and a broadening of the scope of assistance to include human trafficking. Despite the growth, our core values remain the same. The Willow still maintains the community-driven ethos of empowering survivors, regardless of gender, to break the cycle of violence and ensure shelter, safety, and hope to survivors and their families at times of great crisis and vulnerability.

This year has been a change and transition for The Willow. We were excited to present our first ever public fundraising event Mic Drop: Lip Sync Competition. This fantastic fundraiser, performed at Liberty Hall, saw ten acts compete for local celebrity judges Ric Averill, Deja Brooks, and Lawrence Mayor

Leslie Soden. This was an excellent opportunity to bring The Willow's goals and mission to the community, while at the same time raising awareness of our programs and supporting our services. We could not do what we do without the support of our donors and our community.



24-Hour Crisis Assistance

The Willow hotline is always available for questions, crisis, shelter, and information. This year we received 3,817 calls and spent over 500 hours assisting survivors with safety planning, information, arranging shelter, working towards transitional housing, food and clothing assistance and other benefits. These vital services offer our survivors and their families a fresh start.

"The Willow has shown me that domestic violence doesn't just happen between the hours of 9-5, Monday through Friday. It can happen at all times of the day or night, but it has also shown me that survivors can find their courage around the clock as well. And we will always be there for them."

Gabby Munoz
Overnight Shelter Advocate



252 crisis
intervention calls

856 hotline
counseling

101 safety planning

76 individual counseling

1,033 follow-up calls



Shelter

"I am not alone, we will get through this."

"I can go forward even if it is hard."

"I deserve better."

The Willow's 30-bed shelter operates year-round, with a full-time staff of Willow advocates and volunteers. We offer shelter to all survivors, regardless of gender identity, in Douglas, Jefferson, and Franklin county.

Seeking shelter this year:

- 149 women
- 5 men
- 89 children

Human trafficking survivors served:

- 40 women
- 2 men



What do you like most about working at The Willow?

"The beautiful minds and hearts of survivors, advocates, and community supporters. I'm inspired every single day."

Kelsey McClasky
Director of Survivor Services

4,523 students received Willow Presentations

*SAFE program, health relationships,
dating violence, bullying*

1,308 professionals received Willow Training

*Doctors, nurses, law enforcement,
victim advocates*

2,575 survivors and families participated in
Willow Support Groups

*Parenting support, survivor support,
financial planning*

Outreach

The Willow's HOPEworks and outreach programs provide presentations, trainings, and support groups to survivors. These trainings focus on the reasons for, and types of, domestic violence and human trafficking, seek to break the cycle of violence, power, and control in abusive relationships, and provide our community with tools to effectively recognize and assist survivors they may serve in their workplace.



Children's Services

We provide a range of services — in shelter, home, and the community — ranging from art and music programming to healthy parenting classes.

Court Advocacy

For many survivors, the court system is the first time they will face their abusers since seeking shelter. Willow advocates helped survivors in 213 court cases and helped with 135 protection orders this year.

Volunteers

Volunteers commit to comprehensive training in order to work hand-in-hand with survivors, help empower and enrich lives, and bring hope and support to those moving forward.

- 80 Volunteers
- 8,863 Hours of Service
- Total Value to Our Mission \$146,239.50

"I can credit the Willow with saving my life. It's been extremely healing for me to work with these amazing survivors and to be a part of their journey."
Willow Volunteer



Financials

Income

Federal and State Grants	\$806,725.47
Local Grants	\$208,962.79
Contributions and Fundraising	\$165,843.06
Total Income	\$1,181,531.32

Expenses

Staff	\$942,825.38
Fundraising Events	\$10,823.68
General Operating	\$201,422.97
Total Expenses	\$1,155,072.03

A continual increased income from both grants and donors allows us not only to provide more services, but also to focus on trainings and presentation to increase knowledge of domestic violence and how to help stop it throughout the community.



What do you enjoy most about working at The Willow?



"Seeing a survivor gain that power and control back in their lives and believing in themselves is everything in this work."

Cassie Thompson-Myers
Franklin County Program Coordinator



"As Survivor Access Advocate, my goal is to empower and advocate for people who are under represented. I love the opportunity to be innovative in this role and help fill the gaps where needed."

Sarah J Saunders
Survivor Access Advocate



"While working with people who have experienced trauma can be an intimidating/overwhelming job, it is also a very rewarding one. The Willow promotes a supportive culture that understands this is hard but necessary work."

Felix Rodriguez
Director of Survivor Services

"Working at the Willow is such a rewarding experience that has taught me about the resiliency of the human spirit. It is incredibly uplifting to watch someone come from the worst place possible and emerge a whole and happy person."

Hanna Hawley, CAP Program Coordinator

Since becoming the Willow in 2010, the range of services and number of staff have grown significantly. We currently have 28 employees serving the Douglas, Franklin, and Jefferson county areas. This year saw the addition of a Director of Development to further expand our ability to provide services, as well as providing more support for our Rural Outreach programs focusing on smaller communities within our service area.

Staff

Management Team



Joan Schultz
Executive Director



Will Averill
Director of
Community
Engagement



Felix Rodriguez
Director of
Survivor Access



Kelsey McClasky
Director of
Survivor Services



Megan Stuke
Director of
Development



Alicia Cusano-Weissenbach
Director of
Volunteer Services



Nikki Petrozz
Director of
HOPEworks



*Volunteer Advocate Training,
December 2016*

The Willow could not do what it does without the support of the community. These local supporters contributed to the Willow in 2016-2017. Individual, family, and some organizations are not listed out of respect for confidentiality. We make every effort to ensure each gift is recorded, however, if you feel your group is listed incorrectly or omitted, please advise Will Averill at 785-331-2034 x105, or waverill@willowdvcntr.org

100 Women
Advanced Center PA
Advantage Heating & A/C
Aestheticare
Amazing Skin & Makeup
Ameriprise Financial
Aimee's Cafe
Applebee's Restaurant
Arizona Trading Company
BC&R Storage
Biemer's, LLC
Bishop Seabury Academy
Black Law Students Association
C. Enterprises, Inc Db/a/Perferred Law
Called to Greatness Ministries
Cans for the Community
Centenary Methodist Church
Central Bank
Central Methodist Church
Central Methodist Women
Chico's
Commerce Bank
Computerized Assessments
Dash Salon & Spa
Dermatology of Lawrence
Diane's Gallery, Inc
Dillons Grocery Stores
Douglas County Bank
Douglas County Community Foundation
Downtown Lawrence, Inc

Eagles' Rest
Eleven Productions
Envy
First Baptist Church
First Methodist Church
First State Bank & Trust
Free State Brewing Company
Fuzzy's Taco Shop
Genesis Clubs of Lawrence North
Girl Scout Troops #672 & #4912
Golf Course Superintendents Assoc. of America
Greenroom Salon
Haase and Long, Inc
Hair Experts Salon & Spa, Inc
Harris Repair
Hartzler Enterprises
Home Enterprises, Inc
Hoss & Brown Engineers, Inc
HyVee
Immanuel Church
Hobbs
Integrity Insurance, LLC
Intrust Bank
Jayhawk Rotary Club
Jefferson's
Jim Bost Plumbing
Kaw Valley Kickball, Inc
Kids Action Club
Kohart Accounting
KU Women in Law

KU School of Business
La Vita Hair Studio
Ladybird Diner
Landmark Bank
Lawrence Christian Church
Lawrence Managers Association
Lawrence Network
Lawrence Rotary Club
Lawrence Free State High School
LHCC Women's Ministry
Lone Church of Brethren
Lonnie's, Inc
Luckyberry
McDaniel Financial Partners
Minervran
Minsky's Pizza
Morningstar Foundation, Inc
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NB Remodeling, LLC
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P1, Inc
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Peoples Bank
Pinnacle Institute
Pioneer Health Care
Plymouth Church
Raise Your Voice LFK

Redeemer Church
Rodrock Chiropractic
Schneider Fitness
Scott Office Works
Simply Wireless
Stephens Real Estate, Inc
Ten Villages
The Christian Church
The Presbyterian Church
Trinity Lutheran Church
Trinity Women of the ELCA
US Bank
Unitarian Church of Lawrence
Unity Church of Lawrence
University Bank
University of Kansas
University of Kansas Shared Service Centers
Usbank
Vangent, Inc
VFW 852 Ladies Auxiliary
Wave the Wheat Pizza
West Presbyterian Church
Westside 66
Winter University Campus Ministries
Worden United Women

Thank You



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24-hour hotline 785-843-3333

www.willowdvcenter.org
The Willow Domestic Violence Center
PO Box 633, Lawrence, KS 66044



facebook.com/willowdvcenter
Twitter and Instagram: @WillowDVCenter



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