Annual Report 2022

January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

the network
reaching out for a violence free society

Dear Friends of The Network,

2022 had some ups and downs for The Network. The staff continued to follow what is now being referred to as the "new normal". Staff is still following protocols issued by the CDC but can now safely house individuals and families at Julie's Safe House at full capacity. Groups for the residents are up and running as are activities for the children.

The safe house received a face lift during the summer. We added a new roof, windows and updated the deck. There is also a new playscape at the house for children. Unfortunately, we had a kitchen fire at the safe house in July. Fortunately, no clients or staff were hurt. But because of the significant amount of damage, clients were displaced for a longer period of time than anticipated and were housed in hotels while the safe house was being restored.

Because The Network is a non-profit agency, the CEO, Karen Foley-O'Connor continually searches for new grant opportunities. She collaborates with sister agencies and the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV). She also works closely with CCADV regarding their legislative agenda. In January, Karen represented all Connecticut domestic violence agencies at a press conference with LT. Governor Susan Bysiewicz. In the spring of 2022, Karen also did a podcast on the CT Paid Leave Act and resources available to domestic violence victims.

Throughout 2022, board members and the CEO focused on the goals outlined in the 2020-2022 strategic plan. The Network held presentations at senior centers, churches and libraries and participated in many events to educate community members about the free services we provide. Staff also attended several training sessions to better understand domestic violence and its impact on the LGBTQ+ community to ensure our advocates serve everyone. In June, The Network was represented at Pride and Juneteenth events to raise awareness of the free services we provide to all survivors of domestic abuse.

Members of the Board of Directors participated in 2 leadership seminars sponsored by The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and held a board retreat in October to share and incorporate those leadership and engagement skills learned with the full board. Our 2023-2025 strategic plan will continue to focus on preventing family violence by providing services to victims of domestic abuse and promoting healthy relationships through education, with an expressed commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Network held two annual fundraisers, The Purple Event and The Network 29th Annual Golf Tournament. Both events were very successful, thanks to the continued support from our funders, sponsors, donors, and volunteers.

Because of you, The Network continues to be able to provide free and safe services to victims of domestic violence. Thank you. We wish you a healthy and safe 2023.

Maureen Sampl
Board President

Karen Foley O'Connor
CEO

Board of Directors

President

Maureen Sampl

Vice President

Donna Jones-Searle

Secretary

Yogini Majmudar

Treasurer

Steve Mercik

Jeff Beiler

Iris De Oleo-Edwin

Katherine Galle

Isalena Gilzene

Eileen Hargreaves

Jaime Macsata

Jeannie Newman

Patti Patton

Mary Tiroletto

James Tower

Emeritus Board Member

Jack Clarkin

We are truly humbled by the outpouring of generosity throughout the past year from our donors, sponsors, advocates and committee members. It is because of our loyal supporters that we are able to continue to provide free services to survivors of domestic violence and their children right here in our own community. Your contributions whether in goods, services, time or money means so much to the individuals we serve. We look forward to your continued support.

the network
reaching out for a violence free society

139 Hazard Ave., Bldg. 3-9
Enfield, CT 06082
(860)763-7430
(860)763-7436 (fax)

24/7 HOTLINE
(860)763-4542

The Network Staff

Executive Director & CEO
Karen Foley O'Connor
Administrative Office Manager
Luci Lawson
Community Youth Educator
Brianna Montoya
Strategic Community Outreach
Riley Mulligan
Adult & Family Advocate
Roxanne Buckle
Family Violence Victim Advocates
Taylor Demerski
Jervimi Scott
Safe House Manager
Jaime Ingaran
Senior Safe House Advocate
Tracey Champagne
Rapid Re-housing Advocate
Amy Marvin
Child Advocate
Cynthia Craft
Safe House Staff
Valerie Barrett
Tisha Carey
Nicole Felician
Kelly Gomez
Rhonda Little
Jaime Savage

Our Services

We operate a 15 bed confidential safe home for women and children who are fleeing domestic violence as well as provide sheltering services for male survivors.

We offer free counseling services to domestic violence survivors and their children.

We provide free court advocacy services to victims of family violence.

We educate communities, children and teens about healthy relationships.

We offer free training on the dynamics of domestic abuse to healthcare and professional groups.

Mission

The Network is north central Connecticut's leader in preventing family violence by providing services to victims of domestic abuse and promoting healthy relationships through education with an expressed commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Our Impact on the Community

The Network is a non-profit organization which provides free counseling services to domestic abuse victims and their children; free court advocacy services to victims of domestic violence; operates a 15-bed confidential safe home and provides sheltering services for survivors and their children who are victims of domestic violence; as well as provide training on the dynamics of domestic abuse to healthcare and professional groups.

Our services are available without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, physical ability, gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.

Towns served by The Network are East Windsor, Enfield, Somers, Stafford, Suffield, and Windsor Locks. In addition, The Network provides support services to the other domestic violence agencies within Connecticut and surrounding regions of Massachusetts.

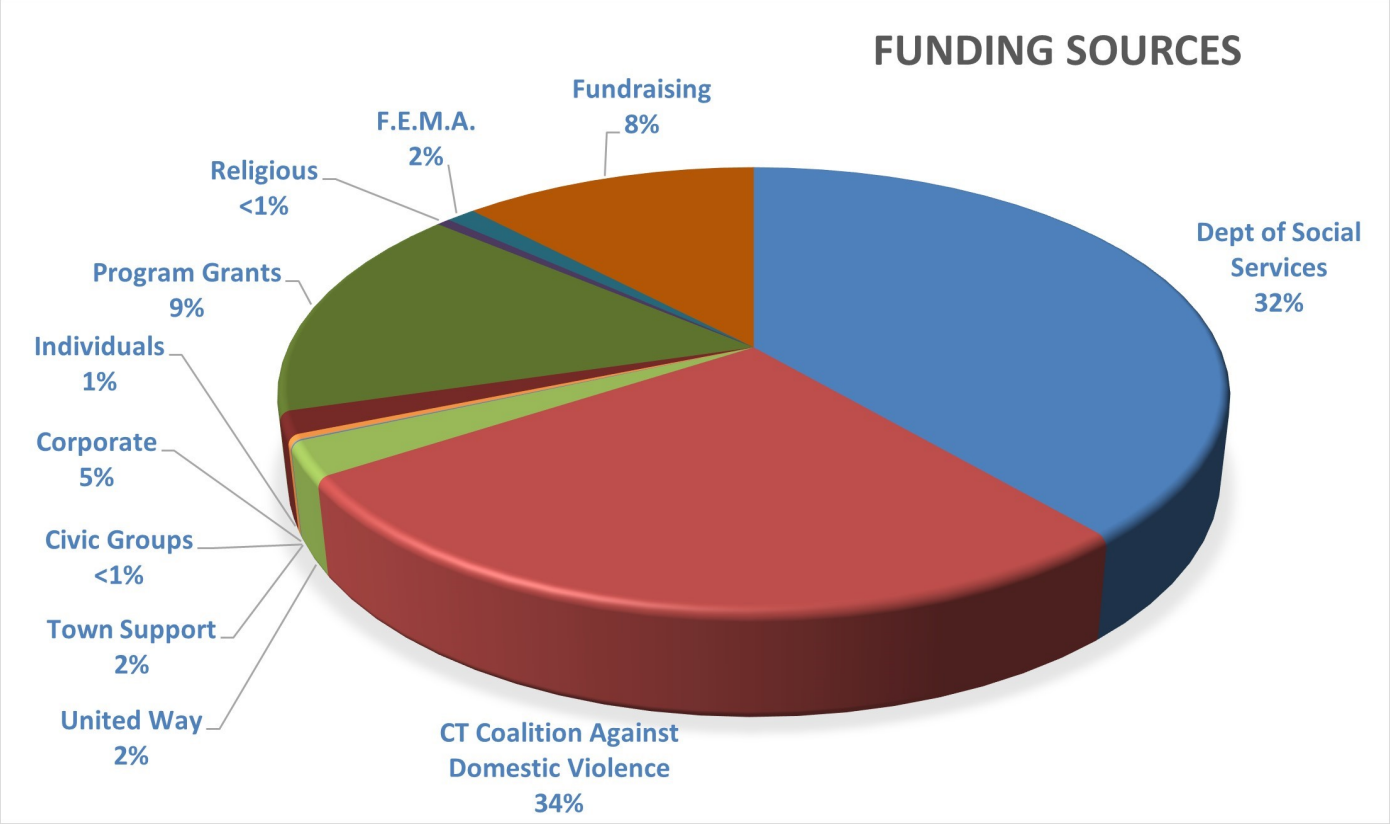
The Network provided the following free services:

- We sheltered individuals and their children in a confidential location for a total of 4,258 bed nights
- 5,539 individuals received prevention education in schools and the community
- 358 women, 33 men and 27 children received counseling one on one or in a group
- 500 hotline calls were received
- 990 individuals received court advocacy services in Hartford Court
- 668 individuals received court advocacy services in Rockville Court
- 222 individuals received civil advocacy support from assistance filing a restraining order, legal referrals to providing transportation to court, just to name a few
- Provided information to 645 members of the community through Strategic Outreach efforts to promote awareness of our services for underserved populations
- 3 individuals and 9 families including 19 children were successfully placed in housing
- 96 individuals received assistance through the Home Safe Home Initiative
- Backpacks and clothing were provided for 41 children through the Back to School program
- Holiday program provided gifts to 122 children, 58 moms and 1 dad

Click on the image below to visit our website

the network
reaching out for a violence free society

Program Member of: Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence



2022 Top Supporters

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence	403,341
Department of Social Services	372,206
Kohl's Cares - A Community With Heart Program	45,000
United Way	31,998
Town of Enfield	20,000
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; Anonymous Fund #46 & Basic Human Needs Fund	20,000
J. Walton Bissell Foundation	10,000
Rockville Bank Community Foundation	10,000
TJX Foundation	10,000
Virtus Investment Partners	10,000
Amiel P. Zak Public Service Fund	10,000
Petit Family Foundation	7,500
J. Gladwin Cannon Trust	5,500
Charter Oak Foundation	5,000
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut	5,000
NewAlliance Foundation	5,000
Olga Sipolin Children's Fund	5,000