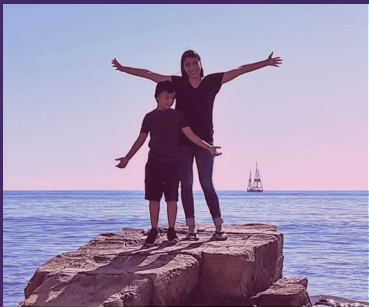




Annual Report

2020



Safety • Shelter • Support

A Message from: *Jan Campbell, Executive Director*

Dear Friends,

When Domestic Violence Solutions (then Shelter Services for Women) opened the first shelter in Santa Barbara County in 1977, domestic violence was considered a “private family matter.” Those who suffered abuse essentially had no rights, no recourse. Today, we continue to work on behalf of victims and survivors to give comfort and voice to those so desperately in need. As we have for **43** years, we remain fiercely committed to our mission of providing safety, shelter, and support to individuals and families affected by domestic violence.

During the past twelve months, we have responded to those who reach out for emergency help and information. As such, we answered **4,118** calls to our 24-hour crisis and information lines, provided **5,755** safe nights of shelter and responded to **517** domestic violence calls from law enforcement and hospitals.

Since March 2020, we have been challenged in ways we never dreamed of. While the impact of the global

pandemic has been especially harsh for the most vulnerable, DVS has been able to maintain services for those individuals and families fleeing abuse. Very quickly, we transitioned our case management and counseling services to remote platforms and continued to provide housing placement and financial assistance, as well as support for those seeking employment.

Together with all of our community partners, we hope for a brighter 2021 and we look forward to continuing to meet and exceed the needs of our clients and their families in the coming year. I want to thank our **donors, funders, volunteers, board of directors, and the amazing staff** of Domestic Violence Solutions for the support and commitment that make this work possible.



Jan Campbell
Executive Director



Executive Staff

Jan Campbell
Executive Director

Carolina Najera-Magana
Clinical Director

Norman Colavincenzo
Director of Finance

Susan Gonzalez
Director of Programs and Client Services

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About DVS

Domestic Violence Solutions (DVS) for Santa Barbara County's mission is to provide **safety, shelter and support** for individuals and families affected by domestic violence and collaborate with community partners to raise awareness regarding the cause, prevalence and impact.

DVS is Santa Barbara County's only full-service provider of **24-hour emergency shelter and services** for survivors of domestic violence.

24-HOUR CRISIS & INFORMATION LINES:

805.964.5245 – South County

805.925.2160 – North County

DVS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

411 E. Canon Perdido St. #12

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

805.963.4458

dvsolutions.org



Our Impact in 2020



Answered **4,118** calls to our 24-hour crisis and information lines



Sheltered **as many children** as adult survivors of domestic violence



Provided **5,755** safe nights of shelter to survivors of domestic violence



Responded to **517** calls from law enforcement and emergency rooms at the survivors' location



Provided **871** counseling sessions to survivors of domestic violence and their children



Participated in **hundreds** of educational and outreach events throughout the community

DVS Serves ALL SURVIVORS of Domestic Violence



For the past **43** years, DVS has been proudly serving Santa Barbara County.

DVS is a community leader in domestic violence issues, offering training to families, friends, community members, law enforcement, and medical, social service, and therapeutic personnel on how to break the cycle of violence.

DVS welcomes **all survivors** regardless of race, religion, gender-identity, sexual orientation, or citizenship status.



What We Do

CRISIS & INFORMATION LINES

Trained staff provide counseling, information, referrals, and access to **immediate shelter**.

*24 hours a day,
seven days a week*

DVS PROVIDES HOTLINES IN:

South County: **805.964.5245**

North County: **805.925.2160**



HOUSING ASSISTANCE

This year, DVS converted its Second Stage facility to **permanent project-based Section 8 housing** for 15 domestic violence survivors and their families.

Additionally, the **Domestic Violence Housing First** program offers temporary financial assistance, case management, career development, and financial literacy training, which prepares families to re-enter the housing market successfully.



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

DVS provides **community education and outreach activities** throughout the county. Together with a team of volunteers, DVS participates in community events, conducts the State of California 40-Hour Domestic Violence Training, and provides interactive teen education in schools and community organizations.

Outreach and education presentations are available upon request and can be presented in English and Spanish.



EMERGENCY SHELTER

Survivors and their children may stay in one of our two confidential emergency shelters for up to **60 days**.

While in our shelters, they receive emotional support, food, clothing, goal planning assistance, advocacy for medical, legal and financial resources, along with any other information and referrals they may need.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (DVERT)

DVS advocates respond with law enforcement to **domestic violence 911 calls** and provide survivors with support, advocacy, and access to safe, confidential shelter.

THERAPY & COUNSELING

DVS offers **individual, group, child, and family counseling** for emergency shelter and non-residential clients. In addition, community support groups are offered.

Virtual consultation services are available to the public, free of charge.



JOB & LIFE SKILLS

Our **Job & Life Skills Coordinator** helps with the following:

- Resume writing and interviewing
- Growing knowledge about financial safety and wellness
- Looking for work and new careers
- Planning financially in order to leave debt behind and planning for the future



Covid-19 Changes

Throughout the past nine months:



There has been a 25% increase in our ongoing work with **hospitals and law enforcement**, necessitating remote crisis intervention and case management.



We have transitioned our **one-on-one and group counseling sessions** to a HIPAA-compliant telehealth system, successfully leading to a 30% increase in the number of clients served. All sessions are free-of-charge and available to the public.



Our **emergency shelters have been at capacity** most of the last nine months – thus requiring us to house clients in local hotels. During the quarantine period, our advocates have safety planned with clients, set goals, and procured needed food, clothing, and other supplies.



Through our program **“Positively Packed,”** we raised funds for computer tablets and school supplies for each and every child to stay successful and motivated on their educational journey.



Due to the rise of technological abuse (a serious factor in domestic violence), we have obtained **non-contracted cell phones**, which cannot be traced and have been made available to our clients at no cost.



HOW TO HELP A FRIEND WHEN THINGS DON'T SEEM RIGHT

- * Believe your friend. Tell them it is not their fault, and nobody deserves to be abused (no matter what the partner says).
- * Don't try to force the person to break up. When the person is ready, they will leave.
- * Offer your support, and refer your friend to the resources we offer.
- * Educate yourself.

Financial Information

July 2019 – June 2020

TOTAL REVENUE: **\$ 2,975,538**

Total public support 85%

Investment and other income 10%

Client and program fees 5%

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$2,318,914**

Program services 65%

Management and general 28%

Fundraising 7%

We Thank Our Community

Domestic Violence Solutions would not be able to operate without support from our amazing local organizations and individuals.





How You Can Help

Survivors of domestic violence and their families rely on **people like you** to help them in their time of need.

Here are just a few of the ways to contribute:

- Cash donations
- Monthly giving
- Organize a fundraising event at your workplace
- Employee matching gifts
- Gifts of stock
- Memorial and honorary gifts
- Planned giving opportunities
- A gift to our endowment
- Shop on Amazon Smile
- Attend one of our upcoming events
- Volunteer
- Engage with us on social media



To learn more, contact **Jenni-Elise Ramirez, Development Officer:**
JenniEliseR@DVolutions.org • 805.963.4458 x1109 • dvsolutions.org

Get Involved!

OUTREACH AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Fundraisers



Every February, DVS hosts its **Annual Luncheon** fundraiser, bringing the community together while honoring brave and resilient survivors of intimate partner violence.

We are taking a break from the Luncheon in 2021. Please watch out for upcoming news on our new virtual event!

Upstanding Man

What is an Upstanding Man?

"A man who takes a stand against domestic violence... he does not stand by; he is part of the solution."



We are so grateful to all of the Upstanding Men who participated in our 2019 and 2020 campaigns.

Stay tuned for details on the 2021 Father's Day campaign and event!

Awareness Months



October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. This year, in lieu of in-person candlelight vigils throughout the county, DVS hosted five virtual meetups focusing on a different topic each week. Thank you to all who participated, shared, and learned!

February is **National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month (TDVAM)**. DVS reaches students in local schools, educating teens about relationships and warning signs.



40-Hour Training



DVS offers **Domestic Violence 40-Hour Trainings** throughout the county – now in a fully virtual format!

Upon completion, graduates will receive a certificate enabling them to pursue volunteer and employment opportunities.