

Upcoming Events

40 Hour Training

Santa Barbara, CA

December 7, 8, 12, 14, & 15

Contact eloisap@dvsolutions.org
for more information

National Teen Dating Abuse Awareness Month

February 2018

10th Annual Luncheon

Rising from the Ashes,
to Live & Fly Again

February 25, 2018

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Four Seasons Biltmore



PO Box 1536, Santa Barbara, CA 93102

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Annual Report

2016-2017



safety shelter support



Domestic Violence Solutions (DVS) for Santa Barbara County's mission is to work to end the intergenerational cycle of domestic violence by providing prevention and intervention services and by challenging society's attitudes, beliefs and behaviors to effect social change.

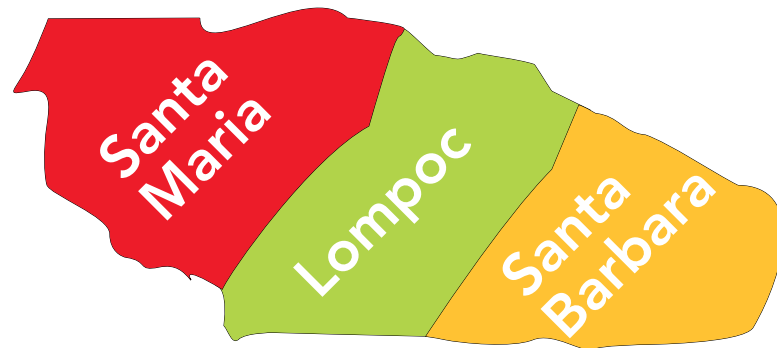
DVS is Santa Barbara County's only full service provider of 24-hour emergency shelter and services for victims of domestic violence.

Santa Barbara
805-964-5245

Lompoc
805-736-0965

Santa Maria
805-925-2160

Santa Ynez Valley
805-686-4390



DVS Administrative Offices
805-963-4458
P.O. Box 1536
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
www.dvsolutions.org

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You Can Help!

Victims 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 few ways you can help:

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

"Thank you for your generous donations which have provided me the opportunity to regain my life and concentrate on what is important for my future success!" – Former DVS Client

Please contact our Development Director Laurie Barene for more information on any of the ways you can help at laurieb@dvsolutions.org or 805-963-4458 – or visit www.dvsolution.org/donate to make a donation today!

THANK YOU

A Community of *Support*

DVS would not be able to operate without support from local organizations and individuals. Thank you so much!



DVS Executive Director Charles Anderson, Yvonne Williams, and DVS Board President Maura Mitchell



Alpha Chi Omega participating in October's #BreakTheSilence Campaign



Congregation B'nai B'rith and Habitat for Humanity built a purple playhouse for DVS Transitional Housing residents



Members of the Junior League of Santa Barbara

A Message from: Board President Maura Mitchell & Executive Director Charles Anderson

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
– Margaret Mead



In 2017, Domestic Violence Solutions of Santa Barbara County continued to make significant progress towards our mission of ending the intergenerational cycle of domestic violence.

Our exceptional staff and dedicated board of directors focused their efforts on increasing the agency's impact across Santa Barbara County. Our key accomplishments this year include:

- Expanding our Santa Maria shelter capacity from 28 to 60 clients at a time, in response to increased demand. We are now able to serve women, children, men, large families and members of the LGBTQ community. The expanded shelter includes two apartments named in honor of Elyse Erwin, the tragic victim of a domestic violence related homicide in Orcutt.
- Transforming DVS's Second Stage apartments in Santa Barbara by completely redecorating them with new paint, furniture and housewares, making them more welcoming and homey.
- Completing all deferred maintenance plus performing building and site improvements at all our facilities. Our shelters and second stage housing now meet our strategic planning goal of being places we would be happy to have our loved ones stay.
- Answering over 4,900 calls to our 24-hour crisis and information lines, providing approximately 4,680 nights of shelter, responding to over 470 domestic violence calls from law enforcement and hospitals, delivering hundreds of counseling sessions and performing many other services to support our clients.
- Introducing a new logo that communicates that DVS's door is open to provide safety, shelter and support to all victims of domestic violence.



Candlelight Vigils & Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, DVS participates in candlelight vigils in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Lompoc.



Silhouettes at Santa Barbara's Vigil in the Paseo Nuevo Mall tell the stories of the women who've lost their lives to domestic violence



Sigma Alpha Zeta ladies at the Santa Barbara Vigil



Friends and family remember Elyse Erwin at the Santa Maria Vigil



Susie Rojo, Betina Monterrosa, Yuridiana Morales, Maria Santos, and Maria Jimenez lead the memorial walk at the Santa Maria Vigil

Connect with DVS on Facebook, Instagram @dvs.sb, and AmazonSmile



Maura

Maura Mitchell
Board President

Charles Anderson

Charles Anderson
Executive Director

Staff and Board of DVS

Our staff and board work tirelessly to provide programming, funding and support in any way possible to ensure that DVS continues to provide the best services possible to those who need it most in our community.

Executive Staff

Charles Anderson
Executive Director

Laurie Barene
Development Director

Richard Hibbs
Controller

Carolina Najero-Magana
Clinical Director

Sandy Delos
Director of Grants & Evaluation

Eloisa Patterson
*Outreach Coordinator /
Program Development Coordinator*



Lynn Brown, Briana Gray, Maura Mitchell

Board of Directors 2017.2018

Maura Mitchell
President

Virginia Wigle
Vice President

Ruben Lopez
Treasurer

Jackie Hall
Secretary

Lynn C. Brown
Julie Capritto
Cynthia Garner
Kiersten Hess
Mark Juretic, M.D.
Sofie Langhorne
Jennifer Lofthus
Stan Lowenberg, M.D.
Sarah Moray
Joel Ohlgren
Michelle Piotrowski
Tracy Sanginiti



40th Anniversary Luncheon – Stories of Courage & Triumph

On February 12, 2017, DVS hosted our 40th Anniversary Luncheon celebrating our founders and longtime supporters.



Betty Stephens and Kristi Newton



Bonnie Weinberg, Carolyn McCall,
Cynthia Garner and
Cindy Sapienza



DVS Founding Members



Luncheon Committee Members



DVS Board Members Lynn Brown and Sofie
Langhorne with Junior League Members



Susette Warynick, Penny Braniff, Susan
Loberg, Beverly McCurdy, Catalina Steven
and Jean Schuyler



DVS Board Emeritus President
Julie Capritto and
Mary Clement



John Wigle, Arthur Perry and Bob Boas



Russ and Heidi Bautista



DVS Board Vice President and Luncheon Chair
Virginia Wigle, Rima Villarreal and Chief Luhn



Stan Lowenberg and
Anne Steinmann

From Victim to *Survivor*

"....I was terrified and that is when I finally called Domestic Violence Solutions. My daughter and I ended up living in a shelter, because I was afraid for my life, for the life of my daughter. She was so resilient that at only three years old, she helped me make the transition worth it. We arrived around midnight and seeing her settle in, sit to the side, color and not ask questions, almost as if she knew why we were really there. I remember DVS bringing us extra sheets, toiletry items, diapers, and went out of their way to ensure my daughter had Lactaid milk to fit her needs. I was scared, but felt a sense of relief and that we were with people who cared for us and had no judgment on me as a man. I remember not feeling comfortable because I knew the other residents in the home were women and I wasn't sure they would accept me as a man, but it was never brought up, they simply knew I was there for the same reasons as they were. But I was still unable to speak out and get help.

This was the most difficult time in my life. The court process kept getting pushed back and I felt like I was the one who was doing wrong. But thanks to DVS supporters and the stories of other survivors, I was able to get through it, and most importantly, I was able to break the cycle of violence so my daughter does not have to experience it! I kept hope, even when the system seemed like it was against me. La fe es lo que me tiene aquí hoy.

To this day, I still find it hard to trust others, I find it hard to keep simple friendships; I find excuses to shut myself out and just keep a tight hold of my daughter, but I continue to have hope. Through much needed counseling, support and new friendships, I will get better. Buscando y aceptando ayuda es como nos mejoramos."
– Former DVS Client Kenneth Cumbie

Hear more of Kenny's story at our 10th Annual Luncheon on Sunday, February 25, 2018.



Kenny shared his story at our Candlelight Vigil in Santa Maria on October 26, 2017

DVS Serves *All* Victims of Domestic Violence

DVS is a community leader in domestic violence issues offering training to family, friends, community members, medical, social service, therapeutic, and law enforcement personnel on how to break the cycle of violence. DVS welcomes all victims regardless of race, religion, gender-identity, sexual orientation, or citizenship status.

For the past **41 years**, DVS has been proudly serving Santa Barbara County.

How to *Help* a Friend who is being abused:

- Believe the person. Tell the person it is not her/his 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, she/he will leave.
- Offer your support, and refer your friend to the resources we offer.
- Educate yourself about abuse.



What We Do...

Crisis and Information Lines

DVS provides 24-hour hotlines in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Lompoc, and Santa Ynez. Trained staff provide counseling, information, referrals, and access to immediate shelter.

"Thank you for changing our lives. Mine and my child's. It has made a huge difference and I'm so thankful."
 – Former DVS Client

"I have been hit for years and did not know where to go. Thank you for DVS."
 – Former DVS Client

"I have experienced abuse for a long time and DVS has helped me get out of a situation that was life threatening. I am forever grateful!"
 – Former DVS Client

"With the help of DVS I was able to escape my abuser and have the opportunity to remain in Santa Barbara and return to pursue my Bachelor's at UCSB. Thank you for your support towards living a life free of abuse and towards a higher education!"
 – Former DVS Client



In the past year, DVS answered more than 4,981 calls to our 24-hour crisis and information lines

Financial Information

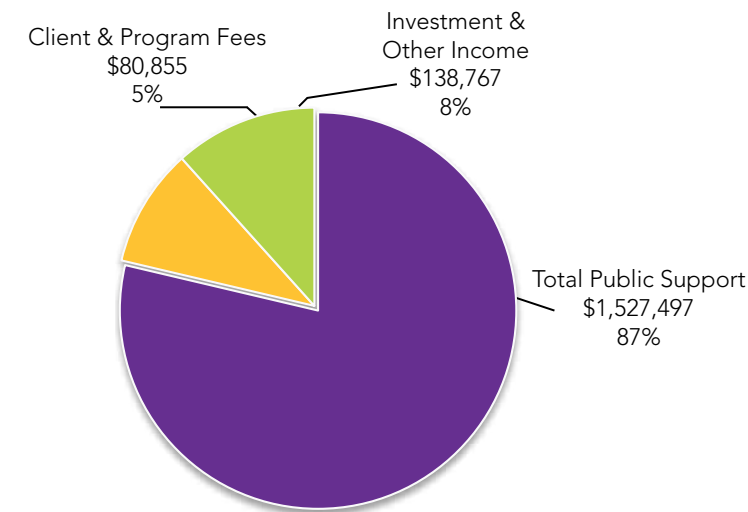
July 2016-June 2017 *

2017 at a Glance

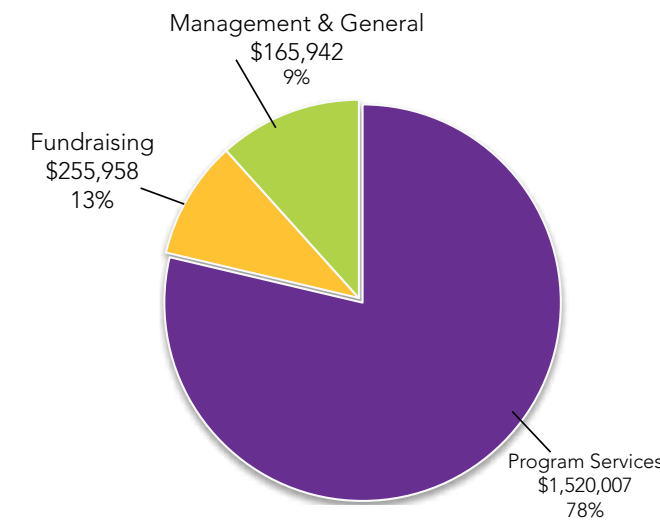
- Answered more than 4,981 calls to our 24-hour crisis and information lines
- Provided 4,687 safe nights to victims of domestic violence
- Responded to over 472 calls from law enforcement and emergency rooms at the victims' location
- Participated in 244 educational and outreach events throughout the community
- Sheltered as many children as adult victims of domestic violence



Total Revenue: \$1,747,119



Expenses: \$1,941,907



* Current 990 and audited financials can be found at www.dvsolutions.org

What We Do...

Therapy and Counseling

DVS offers individual, group, child and family counseling for shelter and transitional program clients. In addition, community support groups are also offered. These services are provided by Licensed and Intern Marriage and Family Therapists. The majority of the clients we serve have never had counseling, and are telling their stories for the first time.

Children and teens are offered individual counseling that focus on safety and coping skills.



Carolina Najera-Magana is our Clinical Director

Carolina has worked for DVS for more than seven years. She earned her Bachelor in Psychology from UCSB and her Master in Psychology from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She has worked with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, persistent and severe mentally ill clients, dual diagnosis clients, and sexually offending teens. She is dedicated to her work with domestic violence victims.

"Thank you for taking the time to listen and make me feel like I matter."

– Female Client

"Talking to you and feeling supported has given me strength."

– Female Client

"My life is a better place because of DVS. I had nowhere to go and had to hide my pain. I can talk about everything to the counselors and be a better mom and role model for the kids. Thank you DVS."

– Former DVS Client

Community Outreach

The Outreach and Program Development Coordinator is available year-round for educational presentations on teen relationships. DVS provides interactive teen education in high schools, professional settings and other community organizations.

Activities include a variety of related topics, including jealousy, communication, power and control, sexual harassment, and, descriptions of all types of abuse. DVS trains teachers, service providers and parent groups to recognize potential red flags in children and students, both in English and Spanish.



Eloisa Patterson is our Outreach and Program Development Coordinator

Eloisa has more than 15 years of non-profit experience, including nine in program development and community outreach. She has worked for DVS since 2015. She holds a Master in Psychology, a Bachelor in Psychology and a Minor in Chicano Studies, all from California State University, Bakersfield. Eloisa says, "I believe domestic violence is preventable and with the help of the community I believe that we can change beliefs about resorting to violence between intimate partners and make it unacceptable."

For more information on outreach and education please contact Eloisa Patterson at EloisaP@dvsolutions.org.



In the past year, DVS participated in 244 educational and outreach events throughout the community

What We Do...

Domestic Violence Emergency Response Team (DVERT)

DVS advocates respond with law enforcement and emergency room personnel to domestic violence 911 calls and provide victims with support, advocacy and access to safe, confidential shelter.

"As a police department we work side by side with DVERT in order to educate and prevent the cycle of violence from continuing, and to better equip our community with the tools to get out of violent relationships."

– Officer Lazarus

"I was so scared to call law enforcement, I know what he's capable of. I couldn't go on living this way. I finally got the strength to do it for my children." – Former DVS Client

"Thank you for taking the time to listen to my experience, I felt so alone. I'm glad that there are services for victims of domestic violence."

– Former DVS Client

"I have never told anyone that I was sexually assaulted when I was a teenager. Telling you for the first time lifts a huge weight off my chest. Thank you for making me feel comfortable and for understanding."

– Former DVS Client



Officer Beth Lazarus of the Santa Barbara Police Department spoke at our Candlelight Vigil in Santa Barbara on October 19, 2017



In the past year, DVS responded to over 472 calls from law enforcement and emergency rooms at the victims' location

What We Do...

Emergency Shelter

Victims and their children may stay in one of our three confidential emergency shelters for up to 45 days. There 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. Residents and children can participate in counseling and support groups.

"Thank you. You are my heroes. I don't know what I would have done if I had not found the shelter."

– Former DVS Client

"Thank you for helping me survive. I am not sure I would be here if I did not find DVS."

– Former DVS Client

"Thank you for all your kindness while we stayed with you. All staff members were kind and helpful."

– 35 Year-Old, Female Client

"Thank you for giving us food and for everything you did for us."

– 10-Year-Old, Male Child



In the past year, DVS sheltered as many children as adult victims of domestic violence



What We Do...

Second Stage Transitional Housing

After the initial emergency shelter intake, DVS offers a transitional housing program for victims who have met their goals during their stay at the emergency shelter. Residents and their children may stay up to eighteen months in one-bedroom apartments, while receiving group and individual counseling and other supportive services.

Second Stage is designed to allow survivors of domestic violence to make long-term positive changes for themselves and for their children.

"Thank you so much for all you do for us. People don't seem to care when you're being abused, but DVS does and they have a safe place to go for us."

– Former DVS Client

"After years of abuse from my dad, brothers and husband, I decided to leave with my two children. I was scared I would be sent back to Mexico but I was able to find a place at DVS to heal myself. Now I have a job and a home."

– Former DVS Client



In the past year, DVS provided 4,687 safe nights to victims of domestic violence

Rapid Rehousing Program

Through generous funding, we are able to introduce this program as a way to help our survivors remain in our community.

We offer the following supportive services:

- Housing search and placement assistance
- Assistance in applying for subsidized housing
- Information on Tenants' Rights, Housing Laws, and the Violence Against Women Act
- Education on rental and leasing skills
- Case management
- Ongoing support
- Referring and linking to community resources

"I was very happy with my advocate for being persistent and following through with assisting me in housing."

– Former DVS Client

"I felt relief knowing a housing advocate was on board to guide me with housing. I felt supported by the Rapid Rehousing program."

– Former DVS Client