

# 2018-19 Annual Report

**OCTOBER 1, 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019** 



#### February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Join the Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program for snacks, games, and to learn more about healthy relationships.



Nelsonville Tuesday, February 5 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Nelsonville Tuesday, February 12 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Glouster Tuesday, February 19 3:30 - 5:30 pm Athens Tuesday, February 5 5 - 7 pm

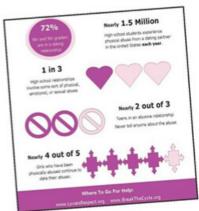
Athens Tuesday, February 12 5 - 7 pm Albany (Wells) Wednesday, February 6 3:30 - 5:30 pm

> Albany (Wells) Wednesday, February 13 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Coolville Wednesday, February 20 3:30 - 5:30 pm Coolville Wednesday, February 6 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Chauncey Wednesday, February 13 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Chauncey Wednesday, February 20 3:30 - 5:30 pm









#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 4 SURVIVOR LETTER
- 5 BOARD PRESIDENT STATEMENT
- 6-7 WHO ARE WE?
- 8-9 WHO WE SERVE
  - 10 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
  - 11 FINANCIAL POSITION
- 12-13 OUTREACH & EVENTS
  - 14 SPONSORS
  - WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT SAOP?

## SURVIVOR LETTER

What follows below is a letter SAOP received from a former client

Dear [Advocate],

First let me apologize as this letter is long overdue. I want to say thank you. From the very bottom of my heart. I would have never made it this far without you. During one of the darkest times of my life, you came in like a shining star and illuminated a path to freedom. It was long and scary and difficult but you were with me every step of the way. When I grew too weak to carry on, you shouldered my burden and kept me going. You gave me hope. You took all of my tears, meltdowns, and chaos in stride. And because of that - because of you - my two amazing children and myself will fall asleep tonight without fear of what tomorrow brings. You set us free of the shackles of domestic violence and anger and fear. There will never be enough words to fully describe my gratitude for all you've done for us. I find myself missing you often as you became such an important person in my life. You helped me in so many ways and I am a better woman for knowing you. I pray this letter finds you well. And you have a blessed holiday season.

Thankful for You,

[Survivor]

#### A WORD FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported SAOP this past year through word, deed, and donation! Your help has made it possible to support 208 individuals like the survivor whose words open this year's annual report.

It's rare that we hear back from clients in such detail. We know that many are rebuilding their lives in the shadow of trauma, drawing on all their reserves and resiliency. Others may still be struggling. Sexual violence respects no social boundaries, but it finds especially fertile ground where people struggle with poverty, isolation, health problems, and discrimination. Those fundamental issues often remain even if the survivor is currently safe from ongoing sexual violence.

Mindful of the chronic nature of these challenges, our staff has recently worked to refocus on the core services a rape crisis center provides in acute crisis – our primary mission. However, the chronic problems dont disappear just because we're not funded adequately to address them. For example, sexual violence often occurs in an ongoing context of intimate partner violence. Executive Director Jen Seifert has been exploring a multitude of strategies to expand our ability to support survivors longer-term when needed, while still prioritizing the core mission of SAOP.

During the past year, the SAOP board has worked to support ED Seifert and the staff in a strategic planning process that will balance these competing needs while ensuring long-term organizational sustainability. We are committed to a democratic and transparent planning process. Planning must be trauma-informed to mitigate burnout and vicarious trauma among the staff. While we're pleased with the general strategic framework we've devised, some of the specific programmatic goals are in limbo, thanks to new funding uncertainties.

This time last year, an extended government shutdown throttled the federal reimbursements that comprise our main funding. The shutdown thankfully ended just at the brink of forcing reductions in our services and staff. However, a new threat looms: Our major grant source (monies from the federal Victims of Crime Act fund, or VOCA) was reduced due to shortfalls at the federal level, and we expect deeper cuts in fall 2020.

ED Seifert has been admirably proactive in seeking out new funding sources. So far that has borne fruit in the form of a new grant under VAWA. The impact of VOCA cuts was cushioned, for now, by a generous increase in Ohio's Rape Crisis Fund. But we can expect more fiscal turbulence unless a fix is found at the federal level. Though the bulk of our funding will continue to come from grants, this unstable environment makes our local supporters all the more essential.

The staff and board of SAOP join me in thanking all the good people who support our work with survivors and who partner with us in outreach and prevention education. Local business owners, clubs, student groups, school employees, public officials, and many caring individuals – from Gallipolis to Logan – have given generously of their time and moral support as well as monetary and in-kind donations. If you've thought about becoming involved in our work, we can use your help too, so please get in touch! Our vision is a world beyond sexual violence. Until then, we'll continue advocating for survivors and working to transform our culture. Toward that end, we warmly welcome your ongoing support and involvement.

Gratefully, Patty Stokes



We are the Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program - a confidential rape crisis center serving survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, sex trafficking, and stalking in Southeast Ohio.

We believe that everyone should have the support to live a life free of sexual and domestic violence. We realize this in our communities by educating about trauma and healthy relationships, empowering our communities to have abusefree relationships, and helping individuals and communities to enact change.





#### FY 2018-19 Board of Directors



PATTY STOKES PRESIDENT



CHRIS LINSCOTT VICE-PRESIDENT



DENISE O'DONNELL TREASURER



KATIE CLELAND SECRETARY



HANAN AL-SHADADI



ELIZABETH DENNIS



ROBIN STOCK

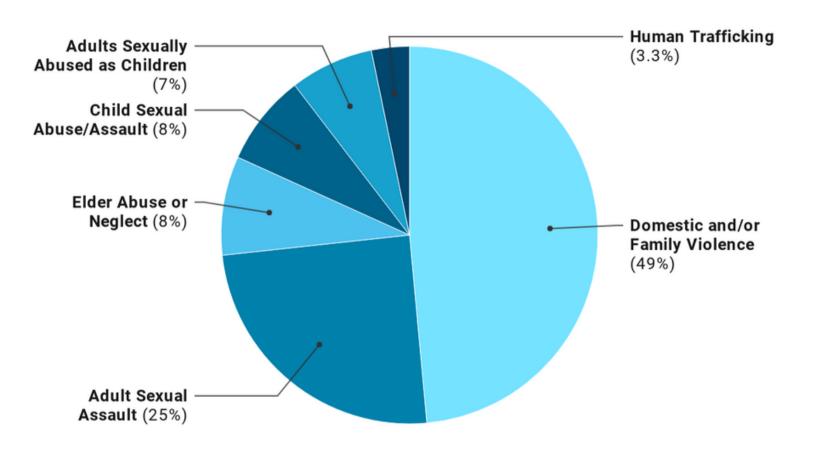


REBEKAH CRAWFORD



DEBBIE PHILLIPS

## WHO WE SERVE



Data reflect victimization of 208 clients served-72 of which experienced multiple types of victimizations.

208

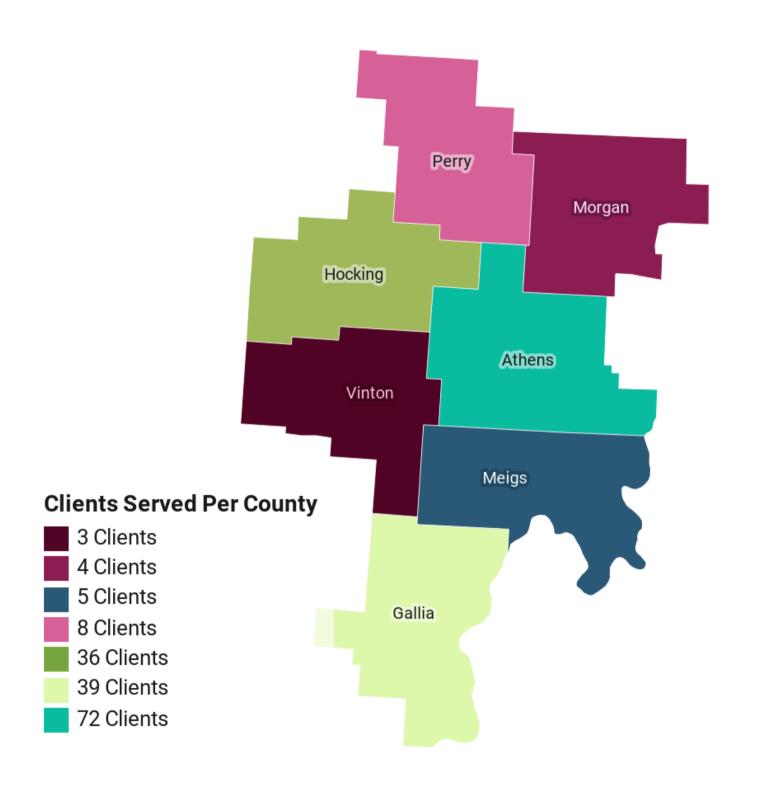
Total clients served during the fiscal year

1125

Total hours of advocacy with and for clients

140

Total hours of hotline advocacy provided



43 clients were from other counties or chose not disclose their location

65

Total incidents of onscene crisis response **76** 

Total clients provided transportation

41

Clients assisted in obtaining a civil protection order

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

2,828

Total hours donated by volunteers and interns

68

Total hours of educational support groups conducted

120

Total hours of volunteer training conducted

**30** 

Total number of volunteers trained

2,386

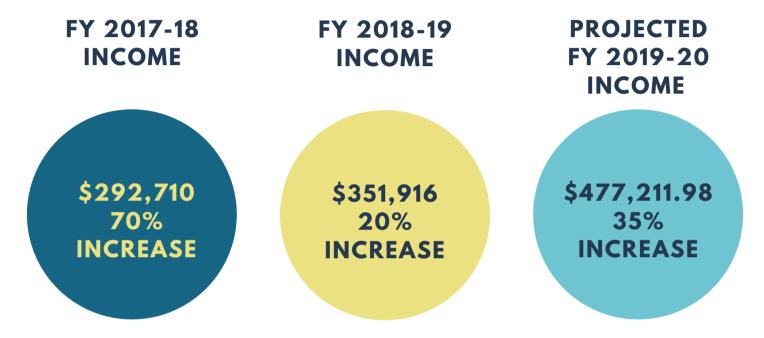
Students who received prevention programming

109

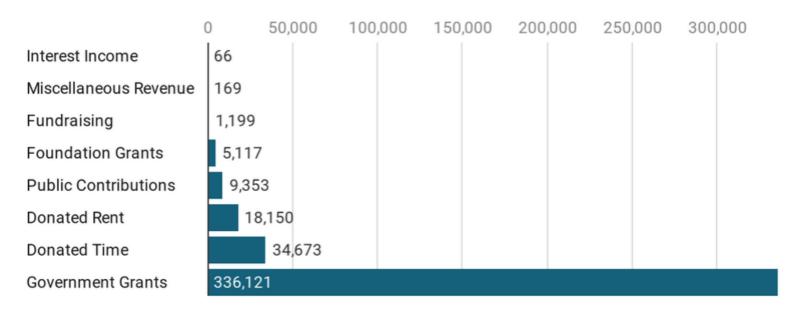
Hours of prevention education conducted

## FINANCIAL POSITION

In the 2016-2017 fiscal year, SAOP received \$171,587 in revenue from government/foundation grants and individual donors. Since then, SAOP revenues have increased from year to year- a trend that is expected to continue.



#### **FY 2018-19 REVENUE BY SOURCE**



## **OUTREACH & EVENTS**



















SAOP hosted, planned, and/or attended many outreach and fundraising events. Here are images and descriptions of just a few.

- 1 Materials for the Turn the Town Teal Sexual Assault Awareness Month Campaign
- 2 Silent Survivor Display at Little Fish Brewing
- 3 Precision Imprint Turn the Town Teal Storefront
- Sexual Assault
   Awareness Month Table Tent at the Vinton County Convention
   Visitors Bureau
- 5 Transforming Trauma Art Project
- 6 Hampton Inn Athens Waffle Bar Fundraiser
- 7 Athens Women's March
- 8 Domestic Violence Awareness Month Display at Athens Public Library
- 9 Girls' Night Out Pomeroy Ohio
- 10 Human Trafficking Prevention at Federal Hocking High School
- 11 Tabling at the Women of Appalachia Project Annual Performance Fundraiser

## OUR SUPPORTERS









Thank you for your support!

















### WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT SAOP?

I really appreciate all the work you all put into the training. The material is very demanding, but everyone from SAOP approached it with an enthusiasm that is quite inspirational. In addition, I observed how you all keep each other motivated and healthy. To be a part of an organization where members feel responsible for each other is truly remarkable. Thanks for letting me be a part of this.

-Volunteer about 40-hour training

Very well taught, I learned a lot and felt like it was easy to connect to, especially the relationships one.

-6th grade student about sexual assault prevention presentation

These folks are a godsend for me! I am amazed at their compassion and concern for me and my well being. They go well above and beyond for me!! Not sure I could have made it without them!!

-Survivior

You provided incredible service in my time of need. I had no idea what my rights were or the process to move forward. Your staff guided me well and for that I will always be grateful.

-Survivior

# IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT WERE ABUSED, WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

If not, you're not alone! No one expects to be a survivor of sexual abuse or in an unhealthy relationship. But that means that when it does happen, most don't know their options.

At SAOP, we educate survivors on their options and empower them to enact their choices. We also conduct prevention programming to stop the abuse from ever happening in the first place.

Help support this invaluable work by donating to SAOP. Your gift helps build resilience, support survivors, and create a healthier community for us all.

Donations can be:
Mailed to 77 E. State St. Athens, Ohio 45701
Made Via Paypal on our website www.saopseoh.org



# April is Sexual Assault Assault Awareness Mouth

## **SUPPORT SURVIVORS**

Visit saopseoh.org for more information about SAOP services and events

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS BEEN AFFECTED BY SEXUAL VIOLENCE CALL

740-591-4266 24-HOUR CRISIS LINE

