



**ANNUAL REPORT** Fiscal year October 1, 2007 to Sept 30, 2008

Administrative and  
Survivor Services  
Western Wayne County  
44567 Pinetree Drive  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
734.416.1111

Survivor Services  
Redford  
27150 Westfield  
Redford, MI 48239  
734.416.1111

First Step  
Family Center  
4400 S. Venoy  
Wayne, MI 48184  
734.722.1772

Survivor Services,  
Downriver Communities  
26650 Eureka Rd, Suite E.  
Taylor, MI 48180  
734.955.3850

**Serving Wayne County, Michigan**



# Dear Friends,

This has been a difficult year for many of us. The uncertainties of the economy have affected us at many levels. Funding for charities has decreased as companies close and people lose their jobs.

Yet, as always, people need our help. Leaving a violent situation causes even more fear and hardship as families see even fewer options.



We are so very grateful that, you, our long time friends, have continued to support us with your time, talents, and gifts. This year we celebrated our 30-year anniversary; many of you were able to attend. Our roots and foundation are solid and you have all made it possible.

After having raised over \$1.5 million, we moved into our new facility in Wayne. This houses our new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program, as well as all other comprehensive programs. Now our goal is to raise \$3.5 million more to add the residential wing, and retire a debt on our Plymouth building. These are formidable goals. We believe we are up for the challenge. We must position this agency to remain stable, efficient and available to the thousands of women, men and children who reach out to us for help each year.

Please read about our accomplishments in our newsletter and annual report. We thank all of you, individuals, civic and professional groups, religious communities, foundations and kind donors. We look forward to a day when because of our work, all children will live in safe homes and peaceful communities.

Peace be with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Ellis".

Judy Ellis  
Executive Director

I initially chose to become involved with First Step because I saw a great need in the community for this resource -- and I sincerely believed we could make a difference. After more than 10 years of working with the extraordinary volunteers, board members, staff, supporters and survivors of First Step, I believe this more than ever.



Every single one of us knows someone who has been affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. We all have our stories - we all have our reasons why we're here and why we support this great organization.

I'm so proud of the good we have achieved in the past few years: board recruitment, capital campaign, and our new building. But there is so much more to accomplish. Funding has been cut for programs like this, violence from sexual assault is increasing and violence resulting in homicide is on the rise.

Each one of us needs to be an ally, by helping First Step realize our vision of preventing domestic and sexual violence through education, advocacy and appropriate intervention. We need to empower women and families, and surround them with the resources they need in the community.

I offer you my deepest thanks for your commitment to First Step, and I hope that together we can create a community where survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault are treated with respect and justice.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carla O'Malley".

Carla O'Malley  
President, Board of Directors

## Sexual Assault Clinic Opens at First Step

WAYNE - Victims of sexual assault will now receive treatment in a more private and comfortable environment as a result of the new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (S.A.N.E.) Program at First Step.

The clinic, which opened March 2, 2009, will provide survivors with one-on-one care and forensic exams provided by a specially trained nurse and support from a trained advocate. "The First Step SANE Program will greatly enhance the quality of care provided to victims who have suffered the trauma and violation of sexual assault, allowing the healing and support to begin at first contact with the system," said Judy Barr, First Step Associate Director and Director of the Clinic.

SANE nurses, First Step sexual assault crisis counselors and members of local police departments are available to help these victims of violent crime 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These partners provide medical care, evidence collection, advocacy, support, counseling and criminal investigation.



First Step SANE Nurse, Kim Hurst

Prior to the opening of this specialized clinic, victims of sexual assault were treated in busy local hospital emergency rooms by medical personnel who may or may not have had expertise in forensic exams.

"This dedicated program is designed to limit the intrusive nature of the experience while providing confidential, compassionate and victim-centered support for survivors of sexual assault," said Judy Ellis, Executive Director of First Step. We are grateful for our community partners including Wayne County SAFE, Oakwood Healthcare System,

Garden City Hospital, Henry Ford Healthcare, UM Dearborn, MCADSV, DVPTB, MDCH, Serenity Services, LaVida, ACCESS, Lakeshore Legal Services, Schoolcraft Community College, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Michigan State Police and local police departments. First Step is also partnering with Wayne State University. Wayne State will provide evaluation and research components to the program.

"We believe that this program will increase the quality of evidence collection, increase the persecution and conviction of perpetrators," said Ellis. SANE Nurses are also trained in testifying in court.

This program was funded by donations from the Department of Justice-Byrne Grant, Victims of Crime (VOCA), and The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. The new building that houses First Step's SANE Clinic is provided by various capital donations including a generous gift from Karen Colina Wilson.

## First Step Board of Directors 2007-2009

### **PRESIDENT**

**CARLA O'MALLEY** Δ•

Executive Director & President  
Oakwood Healthcare System  
Foundation

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

**JEFF GIELNIAK** Δ•

Oakwood Healthcare, Inc.

### **SECRETARY**

**DORINDA HUGHES** Δ•

RN, ACSW

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**PAUL KOLINSKI** Δ•

Investment Analysis Supervisor  
Ford Motor Company

### **GENELLE ALLEN** Δ•

Senior Vice President of Procurement/  
Strategy Management  
Wayne County Airport Authority

### **PETER CAMILLERI** Δ•

District Manager, Charter One

### **MIKI GOLDENER** Δ•

Data Center Operations  
TRW Automotive

### **JENNIFER HARTKE** Δ•

Principal, Hartke Associates

### **BARBARA MARSIGLIO** Δ•

Retired Brand Character & Design  
Manager, General Motors Corporation

### **MARILYN NIX** Δ•

General Motors, Retired

### **HEIDI NAASKO** Δ•

Attorney Pro Bono Coordinator  
Dykema Gossett

### **LINDA PADGETT** Δ•

Retired Teacher

### **TRACIE DOMINIQUE PALMER** •

Attorney, O'Hara Palmer, PLLC

### **DON TURNER** Δ•

Director, Solution Planning  
HealthMedia

### **MEGHAN KENNEDY RIORDAN** •

Managing Partner  
KRA Immigration Law Group

### **LOREN WADINGTON** Δ•

Director of Development  
Canton Community Foundation

### **KAREN WILSON** Δ•

President, Karen Colina Wilson Foundation

### **ZERIN RAO** •

Retired Physician (deceased)

## First Step Opens New Family Center in Wayne

**First Step has a vision:** to build a safe, warm, welcoming, residential and community facility where victims of domestic and sexual violence can go to take steps to move from violence to safety. This new facility will no longer be a shelter, but a First Step Family Center, designed to give families privacy, independence, dignity and the full range of services they need to transform their lives from violence to safety.

In December 2008, First Step purchased a building in Wayne, Michigan. The new location is in the center of First Step's out-Wayne County service area. There are many community resources conveniently located nearby including bus transportation, the Wayne Community Center, Oakwood Annapolis Hospital and the Wayne Police Department.

The new building features a commercial kitchen, dining room, rooms suitable for children's play areas, office for counseling and staff, storage areas and a large community room. The new building has been renovated to include medical and exam offices for First Step's new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program.

First Step needs to raise an additional \$3.5 million to construct the residential wing. The building plans include "apartment-like mini-suites" with a private bedroom, bath and mini-kitchen. Families will each have their own room.

This new building will allow First Step to open the front part of the facility to the public. First Step will offer innovative model programs that will reach out to the community to promote healthy, equitable and supportive relationships.



**At this site, First Step will be offering the following services:**

- Non-Residential and Shelter Program Counseling for adults, children and groups
- Community Workshops on parenting, self-esteem, healthy relationships, bullying prevention, job skills, healthy relationship skills for teens, raising strong daughters, raising strong & sensitive sons, domestic violence through the eyes of a child, and more
- Events such as conferences, family activity nights, wellness activities, social events, videos, arts events, women helping other women, and more
- A unique family space for residents of our center including movie nights, holiday events, activities, arts and crafts nights, games nights, and more

This facility is desperately needed. In the fall of 2008, First Step former shelter had to be closed due to rapidly deteriorating building conditions.

First Step is providing seamless service to clients at a temporary location.

Many generous donors made the purchase of this building possible. First Step would like to thank all the generous capital campaign donors who are supporting this project especially campaign chairs, Loren and David Treadwell, Board President, Carla O'Malley, and Lead Donor, Karen Wilson.

If you are interested in learning how you can help with this important project, please contact the First Step office at 734-416-1111.

24-hour help line  
14,086 crisis calls



Partnerships with local police and court systems

Art Expressions Groups

Non-Residential Counseling  
737 adults and 347 children

Community response advocates in police/courts

4,100 survivors supported

Help obtaining personal protection orders

561 survivors were assisted

Emergency Housing (shelter)  
First Step provided 526 people-mostly children,  
10,111 nights of safe shelter



In-Court Victim Advocacy/Legal Information/Clinics

57 survivors were assisted

### Safety Planning

All adult and child survivors who work with First Step developed a safety plan



24 hour on-call assault response team-trained advocates responded to 160 survivors

Support Groups  
6,894 group sessions

Speakers Bureau

Collaborations with other organizations



9,000 people participated in First Step's outreach and education programs

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Clinic  
(Opened March of '09)

Transportation  
First Step provided 3,153 rides for families

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICE STATISTICS 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR

First Step touched the lives of 15,493 people in 2007-2008

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities



Volunteer Program

Coalition building



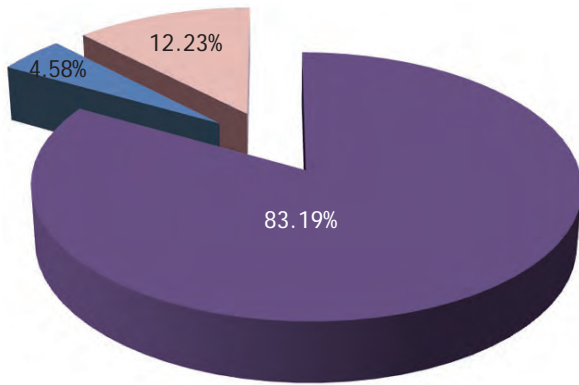
Food, Clothing, Household goods  
First Step provided 13,992 items to families

Violence prevention Programs in schools

Date rape awareness and education

Transitional Supportive Housing  
50 survivors received 2 years of subsidized safe housing (10,111 nights) & supportive services

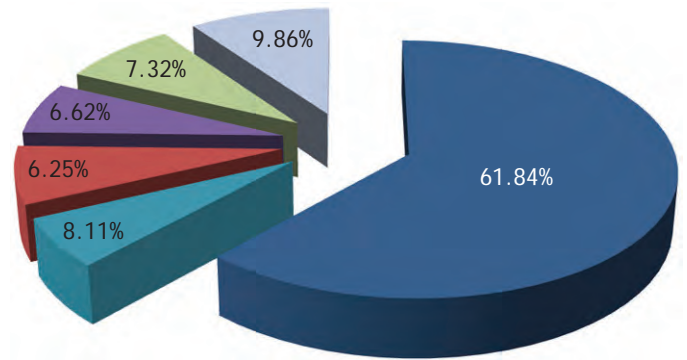
# 2007-2008 Financial Breakdown



## EXPENSES

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMMING	\$1,882,927
SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMMING	\$103,692
SUPPORTING SERVICES GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	\$276,911

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,263,530



## REVENUE

FEDERAL REVENUE	\$140,2872
STATE & OTHER REVENUE	\$141,703
FOUNDATIONS	\$166,145
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$150,172
UNITED WAY	\$184,037
CONTRIBUTED SERVICES	\$223,600

TOTAL REVENUE \$2,268,529

## First Step Thanks & Salutes!

United Way Community Services  
 Plymouth Community United Way  
 IKEA-Canton  
 Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation  
 Salvation Army  
 Zonta Club of Farmington-Novis  
 Professional Women's Symposium  
 Inforum  
 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan  
 Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians  
 Datanational Corporation  
 Foresters  
 Wayne County Family Law Bar Association  
 Leadership Canton-Alumni Association  
 Paul Hillegonds  
 Craig Dunn  
 Paul Kolinski  
 Jennifer Hartke  
 Salem Linebakers Club  
 Eastern Michigan University  
 TGI'Fridays Livonia  
 First United Methodist Church of Plymouth  
 Mantese and Associates, P.C.  
 Krista Dornfried-Bevak Open Donors  
 Steve and Rene LaFave  
 Sodexo, Inc. and Affiliates  
 Cunningham-Limp  
 Brian Duggan  
 Beth Beson  
 Carla O'Malley  
 Karen Wilson  
 Lauren and David Treadwell  
 William Childs  
 Linda Padgett  
 Detroit Red Wings  
 Zerim\* and Jehangir Rao

\*deceased

First Step is grateful to all donors of time, talent and treasure. Your generosity helps us to change the lives of the individuals and families who come to us for help.

Funders listed below are from 2007-2008 - \$1,000 and above

### Government Sources

- Department of Human Services
- Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board
- Rape Prevention and Services Grant
- Transitional Supportive Housing
- Wayne County Emergency Shelter Grant
- Housing and Urban Development-Supportive Housing Program
- Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program
- Department of Justice-STOP and Crime Victim Assistance
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority-Emergency Shelter Grants Program
- Dearborn-Emergency Shelter Grants Program
- Community Development Block Grants from Canton Township, Dearborn Heights, Livonia, Taylor, Wayne, Westland, Woodhaven and Wayne County

### Foundations

David Brandon Foundation  
 Canton Community Foundation  
 Charter One Foundation  
 Colina Foundation  
 Karen Colina Wilson Foundation  
 Kresge Foundation  
 Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan -Bill Demmer Family Fund  
 DTE Energy Foundation  
 Guillian Family Foundation Trust  
 Livonia Community Foundation  
 The McGregor Fund  
 Plymouth Lions Foundation  
 Renaissance Charitable Giving Foundation  
 Stanley and Judith Frankel Family Foundation  
 TJX Foundation  
 Verizon Wireless Foundation

### First Step also thanks:

The people who give of their time and talents - our volunteers, staff and board of directors.

The many donors who donate goods and services.

Thank you