

## 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



There is help for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.



Nearly

# 3 IN 10 WOMEN and 1 IN 10 MEN

in the US have experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by a partner and report a related impact on their functioning. [ii]

# GET THE FACTS.

#### 14.8% OF WOMEN and 4% OF MEN

have been injured as a result of intimate partner violence that included rape, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner... [iii]

#### 1 IN 4 WOMEN and 1 IN 7 MEN

aged 18 and older in the United States have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime. [iv]

#### 30 TO 60% OF PERPETRATORS

of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the household. [ii]

#### 9.4% OF HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENTS report being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to a nationwide survey. [i]

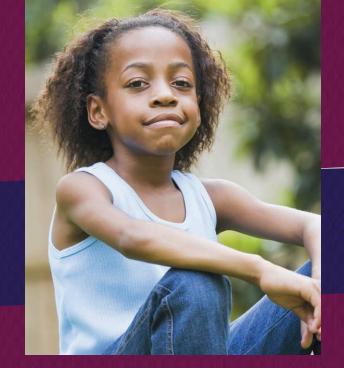
#### NEARLY 1 IN 5 WOMEN and 1 IN 71 MEN have been raped in their lifetime (by any perpetrator). [i]

Nearly 1 IN 10 LGBTQ SURVIVORS of intimate partner violence (IPV) has experienced sexual assault from those partners. Studies suggest that around half of transgender people and bisexual women will experience sexual violence at some point in their lifetimes. Source: The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects (NCAVP)

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The mission of First Step is to eliminate both domestic and sexual violence and to provide comprehensive services to individuals and families impacted by these crimes.

VISION Peaceful Families,
Safe Communication Safe Communities



# **VALUES**

#### **SAFETY**

Our commitment to safety is paramount

#### **EMPOWERMENT-BASED ADVOCACY**

We advocate with a holistic approach which is client-driven

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

We demand fairness and equality for all



#### **VALUE RESOURCES**

We are conscientious stewards of our resources

#### **COMMUNITY ACTION**

We engage in strategic partnerships to maximize the impact of our work

#### **INTEGRITY**

We adhere to a high ethical standard while doing our work with honesty and professionalism

#### **ANTI-RACISM**

We demand an end to oppression and take responsibility for dismantling racism within our sphere of influence



## FIRST STEP PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Since 1978, First Step has been working for peaceful families and safe communities in Wayne County, Michigan. First Step is the only non-profit in Wayne County providing comprehensive services for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

First Step provides free and confidential programs designed to help survivors of violence overcome the lack of intervention and support, the feelings of powerlessness, isolation, physical danger and fear, and the financial, emotional, and cultural barriers that victims of violence often face when seeking help.





#### WHAT MAKES FIRST STEP STAND OUT FROM OTHER COUNSELING PROGRAMS AND SHELTERS?

First Step staff members and volunteers are specially trained to assist and empower survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and sexual assault. First Step staff and volunteers are skilled experts in domestic violence. sexual assault, and trauma. They know the laws, have knowledge and experience with the dynamics of these crimes and understand the effects they have on the human spirit.

#### INFORMATION AND REFERRALS

Providing critical information and referrals regarding housing, legal assistance, counseling, temporary emergency housing, transportation, and health care is a large part of First Step's work.

#### CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Children ages 3 through 18 are provided individual and group counseling sessions to overcome the effects of witnessing violence in the home and, in some cases, the trauma of being physically or sexually abused themselves. First Step also recognizes the need for fun and recreation. Through volunteers and staff, First Step provides recreational activities such as field trips, craft activities, holiday celebrations, birthday parties and more for the children and adults in our program.



#### 24-HOUR HELPLINE (734-722-6800)

The 24-hour help line is a core service at First Step. For many, it is literally a lifeline. Specially trained First Step staff and volunteers provide crisis intervention, support, information, and safety planning to survivors who call.

#### ASSAULT RESPONSE

First Step staff and volunteers, on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, respond to victims of domestic and sexual violence at local emergency rooms, police stations, and schools. Survivors receive immediate crisis intervention, clothing, support, safety planning, and links to First Step and other vital services.

#### COMMUNITY EDUCATION

First Step believes that prevention is a key component to ending violence in our communities. First Step volunteers and staff members present to schools, businesses, religious organizations, medical personnel, police officers, and civic groups. Topics range from the effects of violence on children, to dating violence, domestic/sexual assault myths and facts, and community resources.

#### **ARK (ANIMALS RECEIVING KINDNESS)**

The ARK Building allows survivors to bring their pets into shelter. The building features four dog kennels, four cat kennels, an outdoor dog run, four outdoor dog pens, a cat play area, a family visitation area, a laundry/storage area, and a restroom. The ARK is an important resource to remove the barriers that keep survivors from leaving for fear that their pet will be harmed or killed as a result of the power and control that often occurs in domestic violence situations.



Galentines comedy event

for First Step



#### TEMPORARY EMERGENCY HOUSING (SHELTER)

When home is no longer a safe option, First Step provides emergency, short-term housing for victims of domestic and/or sexual violence and their children. Survivor Advocates work with residents to assist them in meeting their goals. Residents have the opportunity to participate in vital services, such as individual and group counseling, safety planning, medical attention, housing referrals, and educational and recreational activities for children.

#### OTHER

First Step provides food, toys, clothing, birthday gifts, gift cards, books, school supplies, diapers, household goods, transportation and many of the other basic needs to help survivors in transition.

#### TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

The Transitional Housing Program provides full rent subsidy and support while helping survivors build a credit history and skills to obtain and maintain permanent housing.



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

Through individual and group sessions, survivors of domestic and sexual violence learn about the dynamics of abuse and how to advocate for their own resources and needs. They are given the space to discuss the emotional impact of their situations. Groups allow survivors to share their stories and find strength in connecting with others, who sometimes become life-long friends. Non-residential sessions are available in four sites: Plymouth, Wayne, Lincoln Park, and Detroit.

First Step's Community Response Project Survivor Advocates help victims who are identified through police departments and courts throughout Wayne County. In several communities, Survivor Advocates work with a designated domestic violence prosecutor and specially trained police officer to respond to the crimes of domestic and sexual violence. Survivor Advocates contact the victims of these crimes just after the police report is filed. They focus on assessing lethality, making safety plans, and explaining the criminal justice process and the dynamics of domestic and sexual violence to support adults and children involved throughout the prosecution process. Referrals are also made to other First Step programs, as well as pertinent outside resources. In addition, First Step provides in-court victim advocacy and support through free legal clinics.

FIRST STEP
TOUCHED THE LIVES
OF 7,998 PEOPLE
IN 2018-2019

Total Number of Survivors Served 7,523 ADULTS 475 CHILDREN

127 CLIENTS

Had Help Obtaining

Lethality Assessment Program Screenings:

#### 903 SCREENINGS

High danger: Canton 51% Dearborn 57% Taylor 55%

#### **2.997 PEOPLE**

Participated in First Step's OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SESSIONS

Personal Protection
Orders

Counseling and Advocacy

PROGRAMS & SERVICE STATISTICS 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR .

FirstStep

Parceful Families · Safe Communities

for Adults and Children 7,534 SURVIVORS 11,973 HOURS

TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

22 Survivors and 55 Children Received Subsidized Safe Housing (19,020 Nights) & Supportive Services

#### TRANSPORTATION

First Step Provided 353 Rides for 76 Survivors SUPPORT GROUPS 1,031 HOURS

Community
Response Program in
Police Departments and
Court Houses

3,473 SURVIVORS 6,492 HOURS

#### 2018-2020 FIRST STEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Elaine Tingle



Genelle M. Allen



June Nicholas Treasurer



Heidi A. Naasko Secretary



Kathleen Cronin



Jennifer Hartke



Patrice Alexander



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Kate Davy



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Jeff Gielniak



Samantha Martens



Karen Mazo



Carla O'Malley



Karen Wilson Smithbauer

EMERGENCY
HOUSING
14,025 NIGHTS OF
SAFE SHELTER
100 ADULTS
135 CHILDREN

Criminal Justice Advocacy

3,014 SURVIVORS 1,548 HOURS 24-hour Helpl ine 4,656 SURVIVORS 11,436 CALLS

Violence Prevention Programs in Schools

Coalition Building

439 PEOPLE

Stepped Up and Volunteered For First Step, Giving 7,383 HOURS of Service

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness Month Activities

#### SAFETY PLANNING

All Adult and Child Survivors Who Work With First Step Develop A Safety Plan

24-Hour On-Call Assault Response Team Responded to

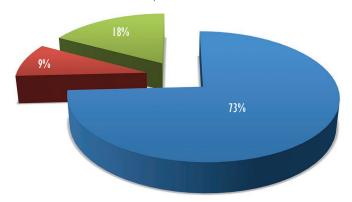
49 PRIMARY AND 4 SECONDARY VICTIMS FOOD, CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Provided to Families as Necessary

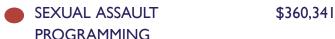
#### EXPENSES

#### REVENUE

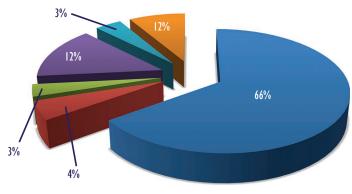
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019. PROGRAM ENDORSEMENTS AND DETAILS ABOUT FIRST STEP'S FINANCIAL REPORTS CAN BE FOUND AT HTTP://FIRSTSTEP-MI.ORG/GUIDESTAR







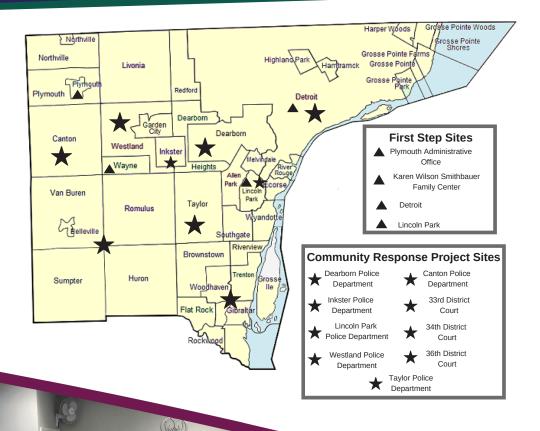
SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$693,579
General & Administrative	



FEDERAL	\$2,594,024
STATE & OTHER	\$122,600
FOUNDATIONS	\$165,696
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$459,134
UNITED WAY	\$118,030
CONTRIBUTED SERVICES	\$474,371

TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,946,968 TOTAL REVENUE \$3,933,855

## FIRST STEP OFFICES + RESPONSE SITES



First Step Administration Office and Survivor Services 44567 Pinetree Drive Plymouth, MI 48170 734.416.1111

First Step Karen Wilson Smithbauer Family Center 4400 South Venoy Road Wayne, MI 48184 734.722.1772

**Survivor Services** Lincoln Park 1394 Cleophus Parkway Lincoln Park, MI 48146

**Survivor Services** Detroit 2727 Second Avenue, Ste 304 Detroit, MI 48201

> 24-HOUR HELPLINE 734.722.6800

FIRSTSTEP-MI.ORG FIRSTSTEPWAYNECOUNTYMI (©) FIRSTSTEPPEACE1





Allstate check presentation

Dunning Foundation makeover of the Plymouth First Step Office





Eagles for Children supports First Step and other Children's Charities



Sharon Brown and helpers donate pillows



Rescue Rebuild ARK Project