

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2015 Annual Report

In 2016, Albion Fellows Bacon Center proudly celebrates its 35th year of assisting thousands of people in finding emergency shelter, crisis intervention, referral and support. At this time of reflection upon 2015, we also take the time to acknowledge that through the years, the Center has not only experienced growth and a higher demand for service in virtually all of our program areas, but we have gained the support of many and built community partnerships that are critical to our mission achievement. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life for victims and their children in need of comprehensive services. Our agency's mission is to prevent domestic and sexual violence and empower victims through advocacy, education, support services and collaborative partnerships. All services are free, confidential, and although we accept victims from any geographic area, we have an 11-county service area.

Our numbers speak for themselves; our staff never hesitates to go the extra mile to help meet the growing demand for service. To assist us meet those demands, we are also very fortunate to have the assistance and dedication of numerous volunteers and student interns who contribute countless hours of service. The following is an overview of our 2015 output accomplishments:

- 9,906 nights of shelter were provided to 430 women and 237 children (343 unduplicated). As an emergency shelter, women and their children may stay with us for up to 45 days.
- The Outreach Program assisted 1,017 adults throughout our eleven county service area.
- The Legal Advocacy Program provided services to 672 residents of Vanderburgh County.
- Sexual Assault services were rendered to 524 primary and secondary victims of sexual abuse.
- Crisis Response services reached 580 individuals in Vanderburgh County.
- Calls to our two 24-hour crisis line totaled 2,887; and 957 individuals requested safe shelter.
- 743 students received valuable single presentation information on dating, domestic and sexual abuse.
- Primary Prevention efforts reached 1,455 (7,437 duplicated) in multi-session formats, completing 371 sessions of evidence-base Safe Dates prevention curriculum.
- Community education and professional training sessions reached 3,764 individuals throughout southern Indiana.

Just a few highlights of our Outcomes: Safe Dates participants reported: 86.5% increase in their ability to identify what a healthy relationship is; 68% decreased acceptance of gender stereotyping beliefs; 89% increased their skills in intervening to help a friend in a dating violence situation; 86% increased their ability to identify ways to prevent sexual assault. Results from a participant survey of our Sexual Assault support group showed that knowledge of understanding the dynamics and effects of trauma changed from 47% to 82%. Participant

results from our awareness event, Take Back the Night showed: 70% increase in knowledge of services available and a 65% increase in improved knowledge on preventing violence. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the residents staying in our shelter stated they felt safe while in shelter and 97% left with a safety plan for the future. Residents and non-residential clients indicated an improved understanding of their victim reaction and the dynamics of abuse through Albion service delivery.

Who are we?

Our **Vision is our goal**: Albion Fellows Bacon Center will transform our community's awareness of and attitude towards domestic and sexual violence into a community of advocates that works to eliminate the generational cycle of abuse and actively supports victims. Our **Mission will take us there**: The mission of Albion Fellows Bacon Center is to prevent domestic and sexual violence and empower victims through advocacy, education, support services and collaborative partnerships.

Core Values: Mission-Driven. Compassion. Advocacy. Respect.

Our logo represents all of the words we use to describe this agency, as well as our prevention education and outreach efforts. The wording is bold to depict strength and empowerment, the umbrella maintains part of our origins, but serves as a reminder that we are working to shield, protect and empower those in need of our services. The female in our logo is poised and confident outreaching her hand to those in need. We serve men, women and children, all victims. Our logo is symbolic, extending an invitation to a violent free future to all. Named after a historical pioneer of human rights, Albion Fellows Bacon, who lived in Evansville in the late 1800's-early 1900's.

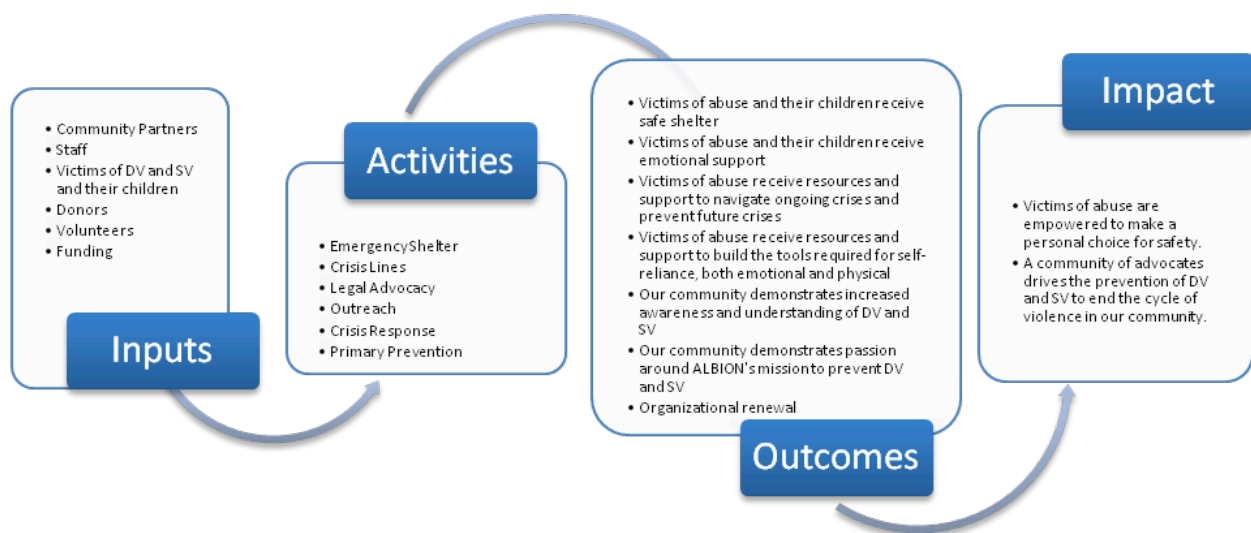
Today, (board and staff) are focused on a brighter future for our community; creating a plan of strategy to see significant and meaningful change for our organization, our clients and the society we live in. We are investing on infrastructure and capacity. We are working diligently to research evidenced-based approaches to programming and evaluation. We have poured the few government grant increases that we received in 2015 into the ability to properly and safely staff our residential facility and to maintain an adequate number of responding advocates.

Our Strategy (Theory of Change)

Albion Fellows Bacon Center believes that victims of DV and SV must be supported and empowered in order to make a personal choice to end the cycle of violence in their lives. Support for victims must be provided in many forms. Providing emergency shelter to victims and their children helps ensure their physical safety and provides them time to heal, both physically and emotionally. Victims and their children also require emotional support and encouragement. Victims need to be connected with resources to build the tools required for self-reliance. As victims recognize their personal strengths, their self-reliance grows and they

build the necessary skills to break the cycle of violence. Albion equips victims to make a personal choice for safety; however, the choice must ultimately be theirs.

Albion Fellows Bacon Center believes that education about domestic and sexual violence is essential to breaking the generational cycle of abuse. By educating our community, Albion builds a community of advocates and eliminates apathy regarding DV and SV. Breaking the cycle of violence requires passionate advocates determined to change the status quo. A community of advocates must include adults and children, victims and service providers. Community also plays an essential role in empowering victims. As our community acknowledges the realities of DV and SV, victims feel supported and are more readily connected with resources needed to end the cycle.



Sustainability for Albion involves a multi-level plan to not only diversify our funding streams, since we cannot continue to rely on decreasing government grants, but to focus on agency impact for our clients and our community; how this agency can drive change and be a better, version of its self. We are committed to defining that impact and to aligning our resources strategically behind the vision, which drives the outcomes necessary for sincere, positive, and deliberate change on agency and community levels.

For our agency, we have worked to deepen our relationships with the community and have enhanced our plan for strategic recruitment of premiere board members who are deeply committed to our mission. Although not alone, our statistics continue to increase every year just as other domestic and sexual violence agencies in our state. For this reason, we must think of reducing and preventing violence through prevention efforts for our community. I am proud to say that Albion has invested in this effort. I see our Primary Prevention Program (which we created in January of 2014) having the potential to be the most robust of programs that we offer. Just think of all the lives spared if we can get on the front end of this monstrous issue! I feel so inspired hearing the commitment of my staff. They are ready to make impactful, life changing progress toward prevention!

Awareness events continued to provide invaluable opportunities to reach various populations and age groups throughout southern Indiana. Crime Victims' Rights Week, Stalking, Teen Dating Violence, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness Months activities not only attract hundreds of participants, but allow for systemic conversation and ultimately.... change. Our intention is to not only reach those who are suffering in silence, but to educate the public in order to change public opinion on these issues and increase sensitivity. Collaborative partnerships are vital in bridging gaps in our community to increase the likelihood that victims will be better served. We work tirelessly to foster strong working relationships with social service agencies, law enforcement, the Department of Child Services, the medical and criminal justice communities. We are active in several task forces and committees throughout our eleven-county service area, as well as an agency member of Evansville-Vanderburgh County Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Indiana Coalition against Domestic Violence and the Indiana Coalition against Sexual Assault.

Cutting Edge Examples: Historically, (and nationally) domestic violence and sexual assault agencies have focused on awareness to ensure that the public learns about the dynamics and signs of abuse and awareness of existing services. As time has passed, we have learned it is also imperative that we get in front of the problem of both issues of domestic and sexual violence. We must put focus on ways of preventing victimization from occurring. In the past four years, we have committed ourselves to providing this type of education through the addition of specific, evidence-based curriculums (Safe Dates and In Their Shoes), as well as social marketing and social norming campaigns (White Ribbon and Red Flags).

In 2015, a community needs assessment in Gibson County was spearheaded by Albion's Prevention Program staff. This was done to identify what risk and protective factors related to sexual assault are present based on secondary data, stakeholder interviews, and survey. Based on the findings a work group was organized to determine next steps for strategy. Having responded with advocacy and education to outlying counties throughout our history, a 2015 needs assessment of service availability revealed the desire and need from the community for more intentional in-county advocacy in Gibson County. The Violence against Women Act-Victims of Crime grant made it possible for our Outreach Program to expand to a satellite office in the Gibson area to provide the services desired.

Being one of the first of Indiana Domestic Violence shelters to incorporate "voluntary services" programming, focusing on empowerment through individual case management and relationship building with the victim, rather than rule enforcement, we have served as a mentor agency and with the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), our agency has made intentional changes and efforts toward accommodating the needs of special populations as well as training to serve with a trauma-informed perspective.

We have joined the growing national "NO More" campaign, incorporating the message into local public service announcements that are reflective of the national public service announcements that were shown during the 2015 Super bowl by the www.NoMore.org organization.

We extend **our thanks** to local media outlets that continued to be so very good to us throughout 2015. From covering fundraising events, creating the many articles and features in area newspapers, to the airing of a "No More" campaign PSA created by WFIE 14 specifically designed to use during Awareness Months, to the overwhelming donation given by Townsquare Media of PSAs focused on those in need and those hoping to volunteer for us. PSAs ran through the year and brought countless people to services and made the community aware of our mission. In 2015, Townsquare enhanced their support by creating a local No More campaign dedicated to the issues and to Albion. Local dignitaries, such as the mayor, chief of police and sheriff, as well as on-air personalities lent their voices to internet, social media and radio spots. Midwest Media (formerly South Central Media) highlighted our Gala and services by creating a promotional PSA and including us in a 12 Days of Sharing campaign. Project Reveal highlighted Albion's services while creating a special one hour special on emotional abuse. We cannot thank our local media enough for the many connections we have been able to make with our community in need.

The generosity of our community continues to encourage and empower our agency. The kindness shown through donation of time, talent and treasure makes it possible for our agency to serve more victims in our community. We are a proud member of the United Ways of Southwestern Indiana, Posey and Gibson counties. Again this year we benefited from events such as the "Time of Celebration" Gala (our premiere fundraiser) that brought almost 350 friends together (thank you St. Mary's for all that you help us accomplish at this event and beyond), the David Duell Memorial Golf Outing, and Westside Nut Club Fall Festival. Businesses

such as Alcoa came forward to give much-needed donations that allow our dollars to be stretched further so we may ensure that vital service provision is possible and scheduled employee work days and the United Way's Day of Caring help us with our unending "to do" maintenance list. The list of donors who remember our families at holiday time with gifts, food and toys are too long to mention, but made it possible for 53 Outreach families and 29 shelter residents to be helped during the holidays....and so very appreciated.

In 2015, community partners assisted our ability to serve. Some of those include: the Welborn Baptist Foundation, Old National Bank, West Side Nut Club, The Evansville Endowment Fund, United Way of SWI, Gibson and Posey counties, Toyota Foundation, TJ Maxx Foundation, Mead Johnson Nutritional, Holiday Management Foundation, The James and Adelaide Duncan Foundation, Alcoa Foundation (Christmas and assistance) and a Junior League of Evansville. These are just a few of the wonderful contributors who made it possible to continue important service provision in our 11 county service area. For a list of contributors, visit our website (www.albionfellowsbacon.org).

We must continue to be inspired on our journey. Albion is one of the 45 domestic violence shelters in Indiana. We are the only agency in the area serving both domestic violence and sexual assault with a residential and nonresidential program. Though stretched at times, serving 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and operating on a budget of only \$848,567.13 we have met many challenges. From responding to victims at Holly's House, area hospitals, and law enforcement offices to courtrooms to provision of outreach and safe shelter, our counselors, advocates, volunteers and board members continue to lend their support and expertise. Invisible but lifesaving work of advocates and domestic violence programs occurs with Albion. However, Albion would not be the effective, comprehensive agency that it is without your dedication, support and love of humankind. I invite you to join our effort in honor...and memory of all victims. We are focused on the service provision; we are focused on those we serve; we are changing lives, and you are a part of that success. Thank you for being a special part of making our community a safer place, one person, one family at a time.

Candice L. Perry
Executive Director

SHELTER PROGRAM

2015 Annual Report

The Shelter Program provides safe shelter and a variety of services to domestic and sexual violence for victims and their children. Such services are provided to achieve the ultimate goal of helping victims and their children identify, prepare and strive toward the final goal of living in a violent-free relationship.

Victims and their children are accepted into shelter, not only from our eleven-county area, but from anywhere in the United States. As a shelter, we also maintain communication with shelters nationwide in the event a resident would need to be transferred to a safer location.

24-HOUR CRISIS LINE: When a person requests shelter, an assessment is conducted via our 24-hour crisis line to determine eligibility. In 2015, 2,887 crisis calls were received and 957 individuals requested shelter.

ASSESSMENT: When a person enters shelter, an intake is done; following the intake, a service plan is completed to determine the client's needs. Based on that assessment, referrals are given to other community agencies and the client is encouraged to follow up and progress is charted. In 2015, 767 referrals were provided to our women and children in shelter. Referrals were made to forty-one (41) agencies (local and partnering agencies). Client goals are set on a weekly basis and are re-evaluated at these times.

LEGAL ADVOCACY: The Legal Advocacy Program Coordinator and Crisis Response Advocate provide information concerning the legal system and how it may relate to the individual situation of each client. These advocates also help clients file protective orders, pro-se divorces, police reports, and victim crime compensation claims. The advocates refer shelter clients to other agencies which are more appropriate to handle a victim's immediate needs, such as legal assistance (also see Legal Advocacy Report). The Program also provides vital support necessary to shelter clients when accompaniment is requested to the Prosecutor's Office, Police/Sheriff's Departments, attorney appointments and to court.

Legal advocacy was provided to 75 residents.

FAMILY SERVICES COUNSELOR: The Family Services Counselor meets with clients within 72 hours after entering shelter. This person conducts an initial interview in which she interviews the client in depth as to her family of origin, and full history of abuse beginning in childhood. In 2015, 104 initial interviews were conducted with residents without children.

The intention is to establish an emotional bond between the Family Services Counselor and the client that enables both of them to set the needed goals and case management ensues. The Family Services Counselor meets with the client on a daily basis to chart her emotional progress and to offer support as needed. In 2015, the Family Services Counselor provided 780.50 hours in individual sessions. The Family Services Counselor meets with each client individually to

formulate three written safety plans based on the client's situation. These safety plans may prove invaluable to the client should she choose to return to her abuser. In 2015, 315 safety plans were completed. The client is given a copy of her safety plans to keep with her. Assistant Director provided 525.50 hours in individual sessions with residents.

In 2015 the Family Services Counselor provided 81 support groups to 318 duplicated women in shelter. The topics included: "The Cycle of Violence", "Power and Control", "Why Women Stay", "Facts and Myths of Abuse", "Generational Cycle of Violence", "Tactics Used by Batterers" and documentary films. The support groups provide knowledge, which in turn empowers victims to be survivors.

The Family Services Counselor will provide the client with referrals to community agencies based on the client's needs, including, but not limited to housing, healthcare, education, public assistance, etc. In 2015, 392 referrals were provided to shelter clients.

The Shelter Staff continues to play an important role in the community as well, and is recognized around the many tables that we partner with. The Homeless Healthcare Network, Coordinated Entry Task Force, Homeless Prevention Coalition, HELP, Regional Peer Review Team, FACES , Prevent Child Abuse, Homeless Service Council, and EVSC "Big Table" are just a few of the areas of representation provided by staff. The Child Advocate recently accepted a seat on the board of Prevent Child Abuse.

Throughout the year, interested individuals and businesses wanting to learn more about our agency take part in informational meetings and site visits. Community speaking engagements are also an essential component, bringing awareness of the Shelter Program services to the community. Twenty-eight (28) presentations were provided to 1,057 community participants.

CHILD ADVOCACY: Many of the children, to whom we provide shelter are victims of physical, emotional or sexual abuse. They will often be witnesses to violence in the home as well. We have continued to keep statistics on the children who come into the shelter as a means of giving us a more in-depth profile of a child living in an abusive environment.

Most domestic violence advocates agree that education equals intervention, leads to prevention and prevention is the only way to break generational violence that permeates our society. It is vital that children be educated as to what a healthy relationship is and how to handle their feelings of anger, shame and guilt. It is just as important that these children know who to go to for help if there is a violent incident, whether it's between adults or directed at them. We offer a comprehensive children's program that addresses all of the above issues using excellent assessment tools that include information not only from the parent but also the child. The abuse may come from one or both parents. We may observe some abuse from the victimized parent if the family remains in shelter long enough. Our goal is to assess and provide immediate intervention for the child.

CHILD ADVOCATE: The Child Advocate meets with the child, if age appropriate, and completes the intake. She then meets with the mother to obtain a more in-depth view of the abusive history and target any behavior problems the child may have. The Child Advocate will make the appropriate referrals based on that complete assessment.

In 2015, 119 unduplicated children entered shelter. There were 65 initial interviews conducted with mothers; 708.5 individual hours spent in sessions on mothers; 133 safety plans on mothers; 85 referrals were made to outside agencies based on the Child Advocate's assessments regarding the needs of both—the mother's and the children; 33 safety plans on children were completed. The Child Advocate facilitated 32 children's groups.

Subjects included but were not limited to the following topics:

Welcome Group	Art Groups
Feelings Are Important	Healthy Relationship
Hands Are Not For Hitting	Choices
What is Abuse	Emotions
Call For Help (911)	Conflict Resolution
Self-Esteem	Scary or Safe
"Safety Plan" Children's Group	Ages & Stages Developmental Assessment

Our Children's Program served 237 children, (119 unduplicated) this past year. In order to maintain those numbers we continue to nurture our most valuable relationships with volunteers and other community agencies. In 2015, 196 (duplicated) volunteers donated 828.5 hours of service to the shelter program. Our residents and children were able to participate in the following activities:

- Teen Power Easter Party
- YMCA Programs
- Christmas Party and Visit with St. Nick
- Valentine's Day Party
- Halloween Party
- Family Group (using workshops from "Windows Between Worlds", art as a healing tool.

In 2015, the Child Advocate continued to be an instrumental partner for the work surrounding human trafficking. Her obligations in that area involved sitting on the IPATH (Indiana Prevention for Abused and Trafficked Humans) board, being a part of the youth prevention task force and addressing community presentations. In October, the Child Advocate left Albion to pursue a full time position in the human trafficking field.

A goal for 2016 is to incorporate the implementation of the 40 Developmental Assets into group and individual client sessions so as to strengthen current programs and create resiliency into the individual and familial bond.

Albion's Shelter Program has increased the number of employees in the positions of Crisis Intervention Counselor (CIC) to be able to ensure all shifts had two personnel for safety and programming.

Our shelter staff also spearheaded, "Operation-Christmas". Letters written by the Executive Director were sent out at the end of October to announce our plea to provide Christmas for those in and outside of shelter who may not otherwise have a Christmas. We partnered with businesses/groups and individuals who donated to the cause. We received all we asked for and more. On Christmas morning, 19 women and 10 were provided holiday presents at the shelter. Fifty-three (53) adults and children were served outside of the shelter due to the generosity of our community.

STATISTICS: In an attempt to provide a more in-depth profile of the women and children we shelter, the following is a 2015 unduplicated statistical report that contains information regarding age, income, ethnic identity and geographical information about our clients. This profile represents 224 women and 119 children, who were sheltered one time only from January through December, 2015.

<u>County and/or State</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Sheltered No. of Nights for Women</u>	<u>Sheltered No. of Nights for Children</u>
*Vanderburgh	182	101	2,149	1,316
*Warrick	10	7	63	45
*Posey	7	1	73	1
*Gibson	7	1	57	2
*Perry	1	0	17	0
*Spencer	2	1	15	13
*Pike	1	1	17	17
Knox	3	2	34	30
Martin	1	0	12	0
Vigo	2	2	50	48
Out of State	8	3	64	22
TOTAL	224	119	2,551	1,494

* In Service area

We also want to provide a realistic glimpse of our duplicated facts. The national statistic states that a battered woman may leave her home for safe shelter, seven - nine times. This Annual Report reflects the unduplicated statistics, but, would be remiss if our duplicated numbers were not also highlighted regarding the women, children and nights of service. The gratification comes as we witness clients returning to our shelter on numerous occasions during the year, for their safety. Each time they come into shelter, another layer of comfort, awareness and building of self adds to the foundation of their self-worth.

Duplicated Women.....	430
Duplicated Children.....	237
Total.....	667
Nights of Service.....	9,906

82% from Vanderburgh County	12% from Warrick, Posey, Gibson, Dubois, Pike, Perry, Spencer
2% from IN counties not in our service area	4% from out of state

Relationship to Abuser (abused by):

3% Ex-Spouse	7% Family Member
24% Spouse	2% Other

64% Intimate Partner

Client's Income

65% 0 - 5,000
28% 5,000 - 15,000
5% 15,000 - 25,000
2% 25,000 - 40,000
0% 40,000 +
0% Unknown

Abuser's Income

30% 0 - 5,000
11% 5,000 - 15,000
4% 15,000 - 25,000
4% 25,000 - 40,000
1% 40,000 +
50% Unknown (do not know
abuser's income)

Follow-Up:

5% Returned to Abuser
7% Own Home without Abuser
11% Friends
2% Transitional Housing

13% Separate Residence
22% Another Shelter
18% Relatives
22% Unknown

Fifty-four (54%) percent of the clients polled stated they had been abused as children.

Abuse was always emotional, often physical, sometimes sexual, or a combination of all three. In gathering information regarding their abuser, thirty (30%) percent related that their abuser had been emotionally, physically or sexually abused as a child or a combination of all three.

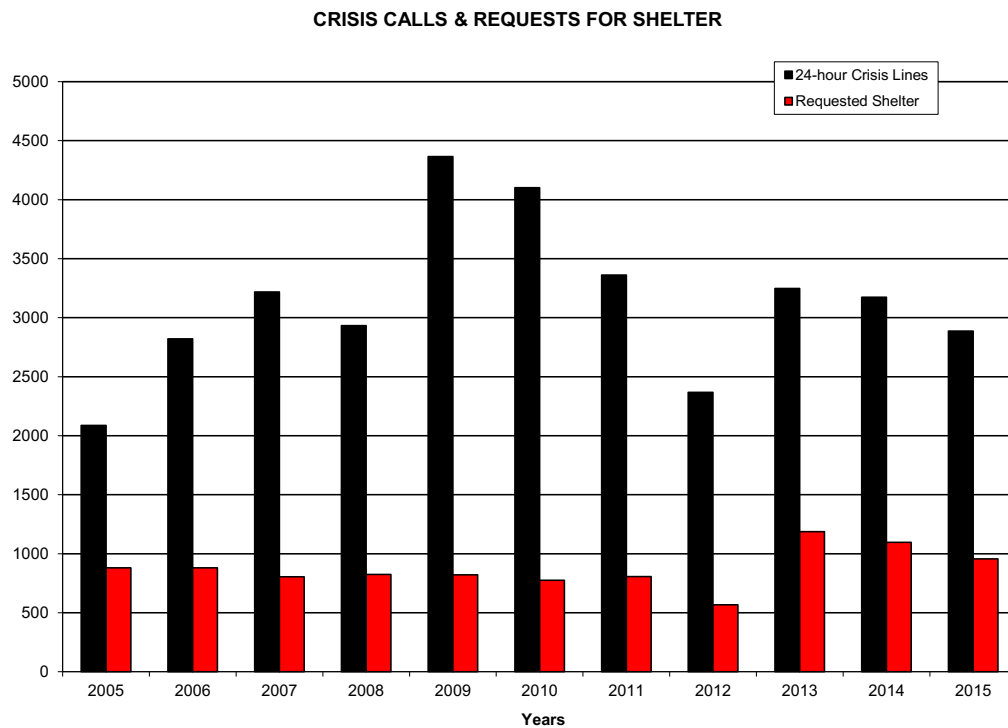
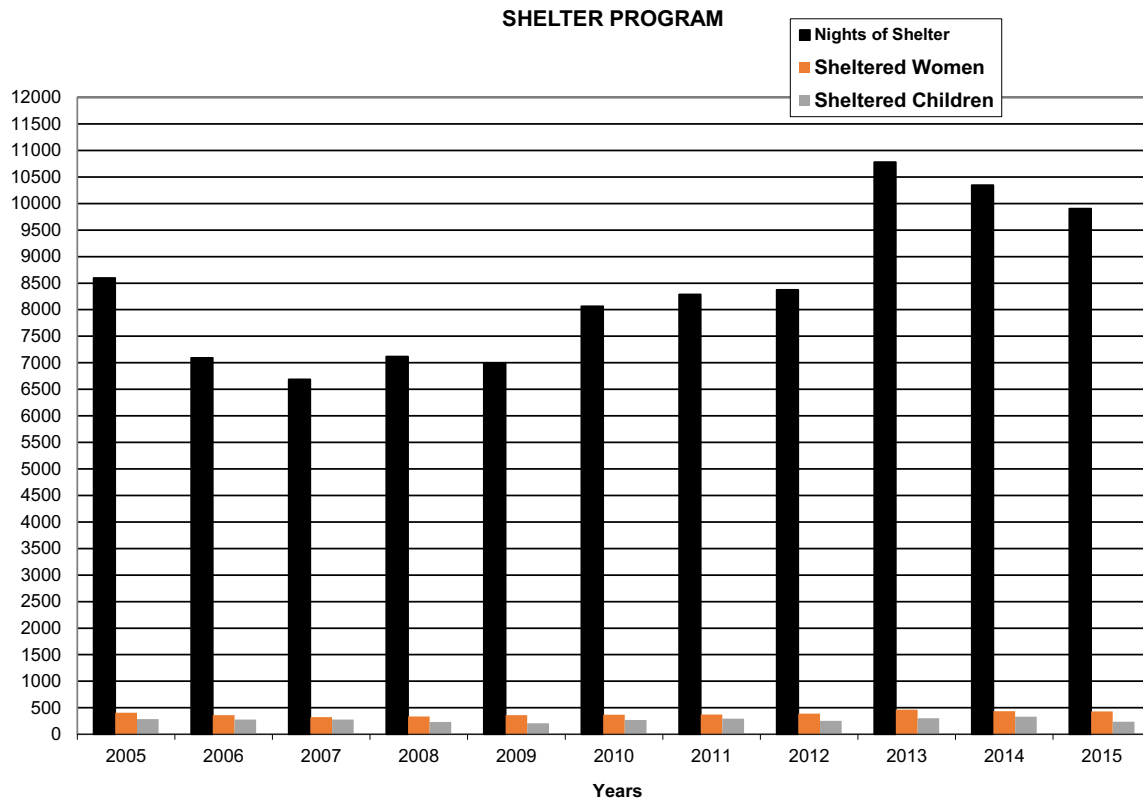
Substance abuse continues to be interwoven into the fabric of domestic violence. Whether the victim uses alcohol or drugs to survive the abuse or the abuser uses alcohol or drugs as an excuse for the violent behavior, the result is the same. The issue of domestic violence cannot be addressed until substance abuse issues have been dealt with. What we can and do offer is safe shelter and emotional support to the victim and refer her to the appropriate agencies for help. Clients are provided a support group on substance abuse monthly. These are provided by other community agencies that are experienced in that area.

Eleven (11%) percent stated they have substance abuse problems and sixty-eight (68%) percent stated their abuser has a substance abuse problem.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: Of the clients polled, we received the following information:

40% stated they contacted the police during a violent situation
11% stated their abuser was arrested
25% stated they filed charges against their abusers
2% stated that they had contact with the criminal justice system in some way but not with arrest or charges filed
48% nothing done

Jenny Ballard
Assistant Director



LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM

2015 Annual Report

The Legal Advocacy Program provides a range of comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The program offers support and advocacy and is designed to assist victims throughout the court process.

Services include (*but are not limited to*):

Information and referrals (shelter, counseling, access to legal services)

Crisis intervention

Safety planning

Court accompaniment to hearings

Court advocacy and assistance in applying for civil protective orders and pro-se divorces

Information about the criminal justice system

Victims Compensation

Victims' Rights Information

In addition, the advocates monitor the response of the court system and advocate for changes that are a benefit to domestic violence and sexual assault victims. We are a certified trainer for the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and provide training to criminal justice professionals. We also attempt to educate the media and the community to the needs of domestic violence victims.

The Crisis Response Program falls under the umbrella of the Legal Advocacy Program. This is staffed by one coordinator, Gina Gist, and one Crisis Response Advocate, Leslie James, who maintains a volunteer staff of crisis response advocates. The following are additional services provided by the Legal Advocacy Program (crisis response numbers are in a separate report):

Approximately **969** clients utilized the Legal Advocacy Program's services in 2015. The Legal Advocacy Program Coordinator met with **672** clients and the Crisis Response Advocate met with an additional **297** legal advocacy clients.

Of the 672 Legal Advocacy clients:

420 clients were new

44 were male

58 were Shelter residents

3 were Crisis Response clients

72 were Outreach clients

15 were Sexual Assault clients

30 were Misdemeanor Court Contacts (attended 24 times)

DIRECT SERVICES

243 hours, 30 minutes were spent providing phone/crisis counseling

141 hours, 15 minutes were spent in individual counseling
457 hours, 15 minutes were spent in court
955 agency referrals provided to clients.

The following services were provided:

487	Crisis counseling -- in-person crisis intervention, emotional support, guidance and counseling.
507	Follow-up contacts -- in-person contacts, telephone contacts and written communication with victims to offer emotional support, empathetic listening, check on a victim's progress, etc.
504	Crisis hotline counseling – phone counseling which provides counseling, guidance, emotional support, information and referral, etc.
33	Shelter/safe house -- referral to both short and long term housing
308	Information and referral (in-person) -- in-person contacts with victims during which time services and available support are identified.
202	Criminal justice support/advocacy -- support, assistance and advocacy provided to victims at any stage of the criminal justice process.
19	Emergency financial assistance -- cash outlays for transportation, food, clothing, emergency housing, etc.
127	Emergency legal advocacy – assisting clients with filing protective orders, elder abuse petitions and child abuse petitions
7	Assistance in filing compensation claims -- making victims aware of the availability of crime victim compensation, assisting the victim in completing the required forms; may include follow-up contact with the victim compensation agency on behalf of the victim.
906	Personal advocacy -- assisting victims in securing rights, remedies and services from other agencies, intervention with employers, creditors and others on behalf of the victim, accompanying the victim to the hospital, etc.
552	Telephone contacts -- contacts with victims during which services and available support are identified.
63	Transportation – assisting clients with location transportation or providing transportation to a client.
498	Safety Plan – assisting clients with creating written or verbal safety plans
249	Civil Court Accompaniment – accompanying clients to non-criminal court proceedings (protective orders, small claims, divorce, etc.)
10	Attorney Meeting Accompaniment – accompanying clients to attorney appointments

Human Trafficking: Myths, Facts and Community Response

17th Annual Awareness Training (April 30th and May 1st)

Featuring: Abby Kuzma, Skyler Whittington, Tracy McDaniel, Rachel Van Tyle, Kerry Blomquist and Uncharted International

- (2) one day trainings (**250 attending**)
- **9 Legal agencies** represented: Evansville Police Department, Vanderburgh Co. Sheriff's Office, Gibson Prosecutor's Office, Warrick Prosecutor's Office, Spencer Prosecutor's Office, Vanderburgh Juvenile & Adult Probation, Posey Probation, Vanderburgh Juvenile Drug Court
- **32 Social Service agencies** represented (Vanderburgh, Warrick, Gibson, Posey, Spencer, Knox, Dubois and Henderson counties)

Sponsored by:

Albion Fellows Bacon Center

Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office

Contributors:

Deaconess Cross Pointe

Dunn Hospitality Group

Gibson County Prosecutor's Office

Holly's House

Ivy Tech Community College

Parenting Time Center

Posey County Prosecutor's Office

Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office

Warrick County Prosecutor's Office

Misdemeanor Court

The Legal Advocacy Program Coordinator continued to attend **Misdemeanor Court** on Wednesdays (domestic violence trials) to speak to victims about options, services and what to expect with the legal system. Attended Misdemeanor Court 27 times and met with 30 victims.

Court Care Packages

The Legal Advocacy Program received a \$2500 grant from the Jr. League of Evansville in 2013 to provide Court Care Packages to clients. These packages included items to help clients deal with the stress and intimidation of dealing with the legal system. Kleenex, stress balls, pens, calendars, sticky notes and information cards were included in the packages. The packages were distributed to clients with court proceedings.

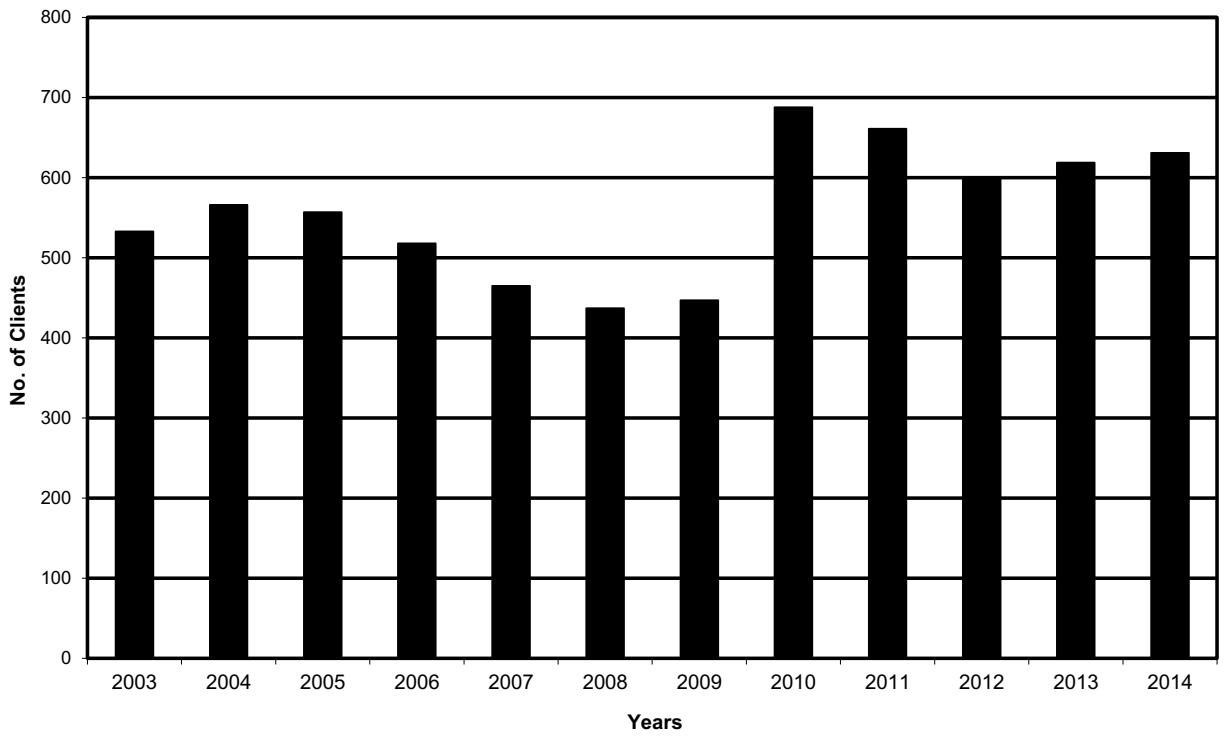
Other:

- Attended Walk-a-Mile in Her Shoes
- Completed interns interviews, evaluations and references

- Assisted with interviews for Victim Support Specialist (Special Populations and Community Outreach Specialist (Holly's House)
- Compiled Enforcement/Treatment Year End Report for Mayor's Commission Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Manned information table, created resource card, magnets & info page for National Crime Victims' Rights Week
- Attended "An Evening to Celebrate:
- Distributed Christmas gifts for 3 clients
- Worked with attorney regarding protective order pro bono project
- Created press releases for Awareness events
- Sent out thank you's for Human Trafficking Training
- Attended Brenda Blackmon panel
- Attended Project Reveal Lantern Release
- Organized Human Trafficking Training (secured speakers, created Eventbrite page & brochure, collected registrations, created certificates, evaluations, thank you's, press releases)
- Manned information table during NCVRW

Gina L. Gist
Legal Advocacy Program Coordinator

LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM



CRISIS RESPONSE ADVOCACY PROGRAM

2015 Annual Report

The Peer Advocacy Program was created in 1996 in partnership with the Evansville Police Department and continues to work closely with the Department. The Vanderburgh County based program is designed to provide information, emotional support and advocacy to victims of domestic violence during the post-crisis period. The Peer Advocacy Program was renamed the Crisis Response Advocacy Program in 2013. The primary goal of the Crisis Response Advocacy Program is to increase the number of domestic abuse victims working towards violence-free futures. Crisis Response Advocates play an important role in this goal by offering appropriate follow-up services to victims.

The Crisis Response Advocacy Program utilizes volunteer advocates to provide services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. After completing the required training, the volunteer advocates provide coverage during on-call shifts. Each volunteer receives approximately 18 hours of domestic violence training on topics including crisis counseling, victim's options and available services, legal/personal advocacy and the dynamics of domestic violence. By learning about and being able to offer different types of follow-up services within the community, the volunteer crisis response advocates are able to make the Crisis Response Advocacy Program a truly community wide program.

The Crisis Response Advocate also assists with client loads for the Legal Advocacy Program, assisting with Protective Order filings and court accompaniment. In addition to completing follow-up visits with a Detective from the EPD Domestic Violence Unit, the Crisis Response Advocate works closely with the Prosecutor's Office and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office in contacting victims of domestic violence for follow-up and to offer services.

For 2016, the Crisis Response Advocacy Program hopes to reach the following goals:

- ◆ Increase community awareness concerning services offered by the program
- ◆ Increased utilization of the program by the community, including hospitals, EPD, Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, doctor's offices, churches, businesses and other community agencies
- ◆ Strengthen follow up program with Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office
- ◆ Continue to increase Crisis Response Advocate's contact with media
- ◆ Strengthen the DV Education Class within Vanderburgh County and assist in expanding the program outside Vanderburgh County

The following is a breakdown of activity that occurred in the Crisis Response Advocacy Program in 2015.

Client Services:

A total of 580 people received services through the Crisis Response Advocacy Program in 2015.

- ◆ 297 Legal Advocacy Clients
- ◆ 520 domestic violence victims (43 male)
- ◆ 54 adult sexual assault victims and secondary sexual assault victims (4 male)
- ◆ 4 child sexual assault victims
- ◆ 6 batterers (male/female)

These numbers do not necessarily add to the total served, as one person may fall into more than one category.

During 2015, a total of 2,322 referrals were made. Of these, 1,435 referrals were made to intra-agency services and 887 referrals were made to outside service providers.

Services provided to clients:

- ◆ 627 Crisis Counseling
- ◆ 430 Follow-up Contacts
- ◆ 279 Crisis Hotline Counseling
- ◆ 285 Shelter Referrals
- ◆ 2322 Information and Referral
- ◆ 516 Criminal Justice Support/Advocacy
- ◆ 11 Emergency Financial Assistance
- ◆ 88 Emergency Legal Advocacy (protective orders)
- ◆ 795 Personal Advocacy (including securing services from other agencies, intervention with employers, creditors or others, accompanying to hospital)
- ◆ 153 Phone Counseling/Contacts
- ◆ 166 Other Services (including spiritual concern need initiated by the client, photographing injuries, etc.)
- ◆ 32 Residents of Shelter
- ◆ 416 Safety Plans
- ◆ 88 Peer Advocacy Interventions (including 147 hours medical advocacy)
 - Staff responded to 56 of these interventions and volunteers responded to 32
 - Interventions took place at the following locations:
 - Life Choices: 1
 - Deaconess ER: 27
 - Deaconess Gateway: 26
 - St Mary's ER: 30
 - Echo Clinic: 1
 - By Phone: 1
 - St. Mary's Warrick: 1
 - EPD Headquarters: 1

In addition, the Crisis Response Advocate spent 253 hours in court providing Legal Advocacy.

The Crisis Response Advocate attempted to contact 187 total victims referred by the following services:

- ◆ 37 by the Evansville Police Department
- ◆ 131 by the Prosecutor's Office
- ◆ 19 by the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office

The Crisis Response Advocate successfully contacted:

- ◆ 129 primary victims
- ◆ 14 secondary victims
- ◆ 5 batterers

Literature concerning Albion's services was sent by mail or left at the home of the victim (when completing home visits with a DV detective) for those victims with whom the Crisis Response Advocate did not have personal contact.

Domestic Violence Education Program:

The Crisis Response Advocate continued collaboration with the Legal Advocate, YWCA, Vanderburgh County Victim Assistance Program, and Vanderburgh County Judicial Officers to facilitate the Domestic Violence Education Class. This two session class is for victims of domestic violence who appear before a Judge and request a No Contact Order be lifted or contact the Victim Assistance Office and request that charges against their abuser be dismissed. Before a decision will be made about either, the court and/or prosecutor's office will refer the victim to the DV Education Class. The class is divided into two sessions, each an hour long. Session One focuses on DV dynamics, defining domestic violence, Power and Control Wheel, Cycle of Violence, an examination of batterer behaviors and why it is difficult for victims to leave. Session Two focuses on Safety Planning and the Effects of DV on Children. Upon successful completion of both sessions, the participant is given a certificate to present to the Judge or Victim Assistance Office. The decision about how to proceed from there is up to the Judge and/or State.

The Crisis Response Advocate reached out to the Warrick County Prosecutor's Office in an attempt to offer this service in Warrick County. It was decided to refer Warrick County clients to the Vanderburgh County class for a year and reassess the need to have a class taught within Warrick County.

During 2015, 104 people attended the DV Education Class (92 women and 12 men). Of these clients, 83 were from Vanderburgh County and 21 were from Warrick County.

Volunteer Activity:

- 10 Crisis Response volunteers provided 8,755 hours of on-call coverage
- 166 volunteers provided 758 hours of indirect service
- 23 volunteers provided 152 hours of direct service

- 5 interns provided 987 hours of service
- Crisis Response Advocate provided 2,259 hours of off-duty on-call coverage
- Of the 88 Crisis Response Interventions in 2015,
 - staff responded to 56 and
 - volunteers responded to 32

Until December 2015, the Crisis Response Advocate continued in the role of Volunteer Coordinator. The Crisis Response Advocate co-facilitated 4 new volunteer orientations for 15 volunteers and 5 interns. The Crisis Response Advocate also interviewed 24 potential volunteers, interviewed 7 potential interns, trained 2 new Crisis Response volunteers, provided training updates to 2 current volunteers, and supervised 5 interns including meeting with their professors for midterm and final evaluations. Also coordinated a job shadow opportunity for 2 USI Social Work student.

The Crisis Response Advocate/Sexual Assault volunteer programs have transitioned to a cross trained model utilizing Crisis Response Advocates who are dually trained and able to respond to both domestic violence and sexual assault crisis calls.

Volunteer areas have been identified. They are:

Direct Service

Crisis Response Advocate
Crisis Line Operator
Court Advocate
Support Group Assistant
Children's Activities Volunteer

Indirect Service

Donations Volunteer
Shelter Volunteer
Community Education Volunteer
Special Events Volunteer
Administrative Volunteer

In 2015, the Crisis Response Advocate held a Volunteer Information Session quarterly at Central Library for those interested in learning more about Albion's volunteer program. 15 people attended the information session. Additionally, 38 people called to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

The Crisis Response Advocate handled the Volunteer component of Peer Review.

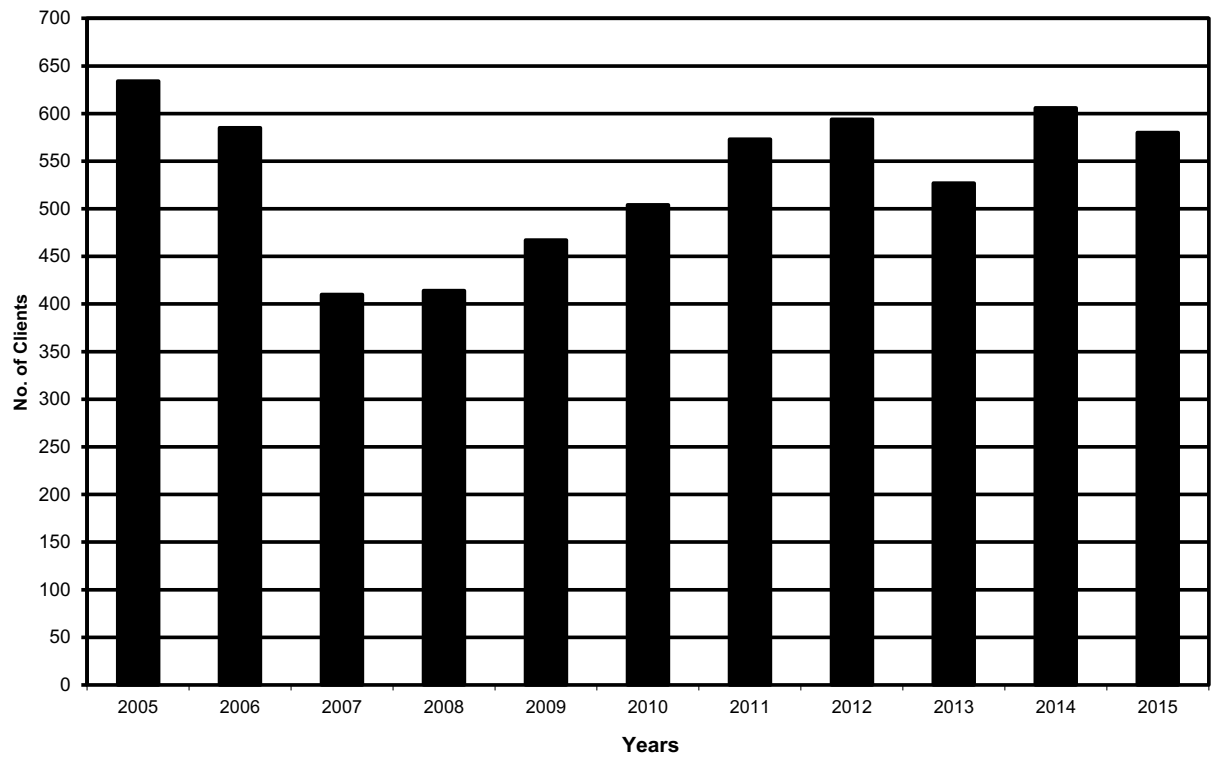
Other:

- ◆ Assisted Legal Advocate in planning, set up and registration for 17th Annual Prevention Training
- ◆ Covered Misdemeanor Court for Legal Advocate
- ◆ Met with new Domestic Violence Case Coordinator with VCSO to discuss Albion Services (Coordinated Orientation/Shelter Tour)
- ◆ Attended the Open House for the Deaconess Center for Life Balance
- ◆ Lead support group at Deaconess Family Medical Residency for Community Outreach Program Coordinator
- ◆ Attended meeting at St. Mary's with ED and board members to discuss Crisis Response programming and DV Screening in Emergency Department
- ◆ Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events

- Participated in Walk A Mile in Her Shoes
- Participated in Take Back the Night
- ◆ Attended Child Abuse Prevention Walk
- ◆ National Crime Victims' Rights Week Events
 - Delivered soap for Human Trafficking Awareness
 - Manned table at Courthouse
 - Made 200 magnets
 - Delivered resource cards to Evansville Police Department
- ◆ Attended Celebration
- ◆ Contacted other agencies statewide to discuss DV Education program; began process of implementing changes per request from Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office
 - Met with ED and LA to discuss DV Ed Classes and upcoming changes
- ◆ Met with ED and two local attorneys to discuss strengthening our relationship with the Bar Association and creating a local Protective Order Pro Bono Project.
 - Presented at the Bar Association for 20 attorneys
- ◆ Met with manager at Penny Lane to discuss Awareness Event planning.
- ◆ Attended Women's Equality Day Luncheon (Thank you for the opportunity!!)
- ◆ Presented Crisis Response Program overview to new Albion employees, Albion Board of Directors and community partners/guests
- ◆ Met with Emily Fiedler, Director for Employer Development, at the University of Evansville to discuss service delivery and potential internship opportunities for UE students
- ◆ Played in the Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser
- ◆ Domestic Violence Awareness Month Events
 - Delivered DV Info packets to Convenient Care locations
- ◆ Met with Legal Advocate and Legal Advocate from the YWCA to plan Southwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy New Recruit Training
 - Taught 32 new recruits at SWILEA for 8 hours (DV Dynamics)
- ◆ Attended Destination Home Celebration at the CK Newsome Center
- ◆ Presented at two nursing conferences at Deaconess
 - Medical Surgical Neurological Nursing Conference (DV Screening)
 - Pediatric Nursing Conference (Human Trafficking)

Leslie James
Crisis Response Advocate

CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM



OUTREACH PROGRAM

2015 Annual Report

The Outreach Program works collaboratively with communities to empower victims, survivors, and persons affected by domestic violence and sexual assault in the counties of Vanderburgh, Warrick, Posey, Pike, Gibson, Spencer, Dubois, Perry, Orange, Crawford and Harrison. This goal was accomplished through many different program outputs.

In 2015 the Outreach Program provided services to 524 Sexual Assault Victims, 405 primary victims and 119 secondary victims. There were 105 teens, 16 males, and 284 females receiving sexual assault services. Domestic Violence Services were utilized by 1043 Domestic Violence Victims, 919 primary victims and 62 secondary victims. There were 26 teens, 36 males, and 981 females receiving domestic violence services from Outreach Program.

Client numbers and service hours increased in 2015. Crisis Counseling is provided by phone or in-person to educate the client on the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault, understanding trauma responses, safety planning, offer emotional support and assist in exploring options. In 2015, Outreach program staff spent about 446 hours providing telephone crisis counseling and about 2,350 hours of in-person individual peer counseling.

Support groups assist clients in working through the normal emotional reactions to trauma from abuse by helping to break down isolation and allow clients the opportunity to receive support and encouragement from other survivors. Two support groups were facilitated at Albion (once a week for outreach clients and once a week for shelter residents to introduce outreach services) as well as two additional outreach groups held at various locations holding 119 groups. The Outreach groups were held at Lucas Place (a permanent supportive housing program) and Deaconess Family Medical Residency (local family medical practice). We have been able to access a significant number of clients through these community support groups that had not utilized our services attending group.

In 2015, 119 support groups were held with staff providing 280 hours of support group services.

Legal advocacy is designed to ease some of the stress and intimidation of dealing with the legal system. Accompaniment during civil / criminal processes and explanation of legal options is provided. This could include assistance with filing Protective Orders, emotional support for divorce and custody hearings, advocacy support for criminal prosecution of perpetrators, etc. In 2015 Outreach staff provided legal advocacy support for about 121 hours.

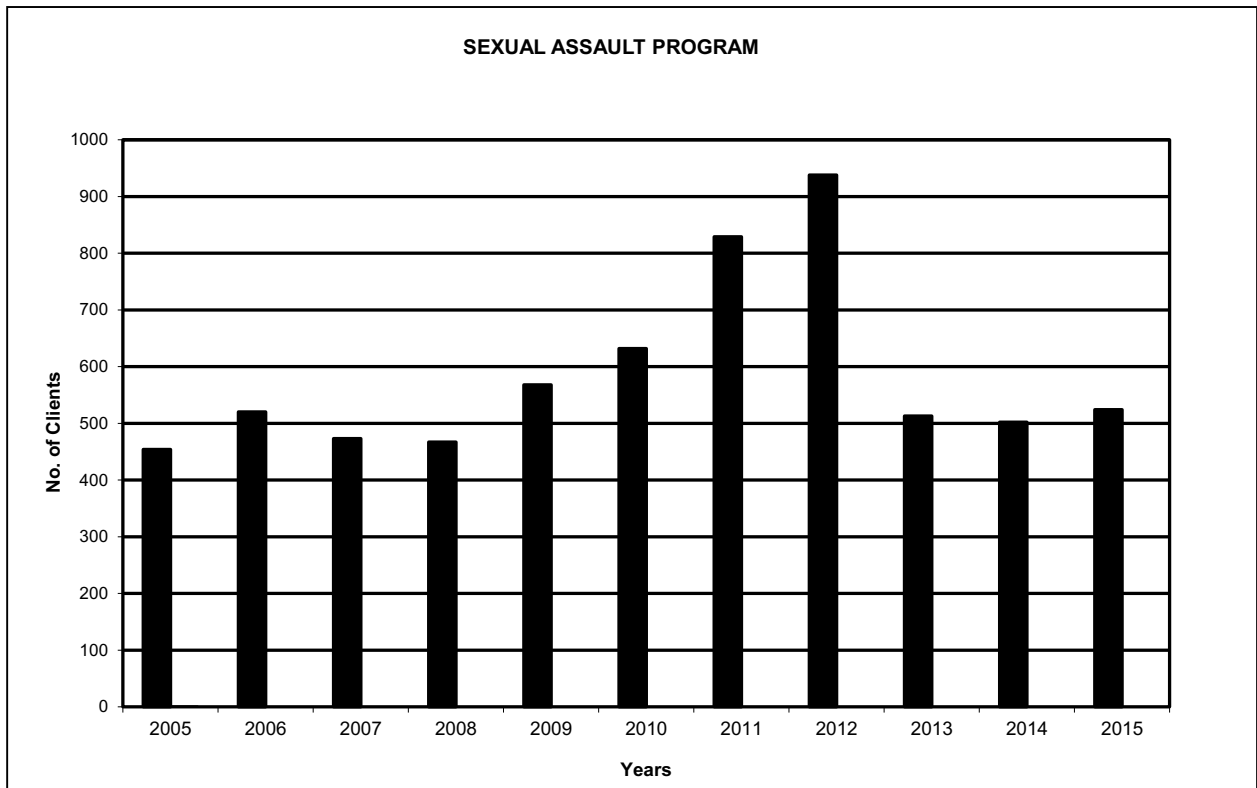
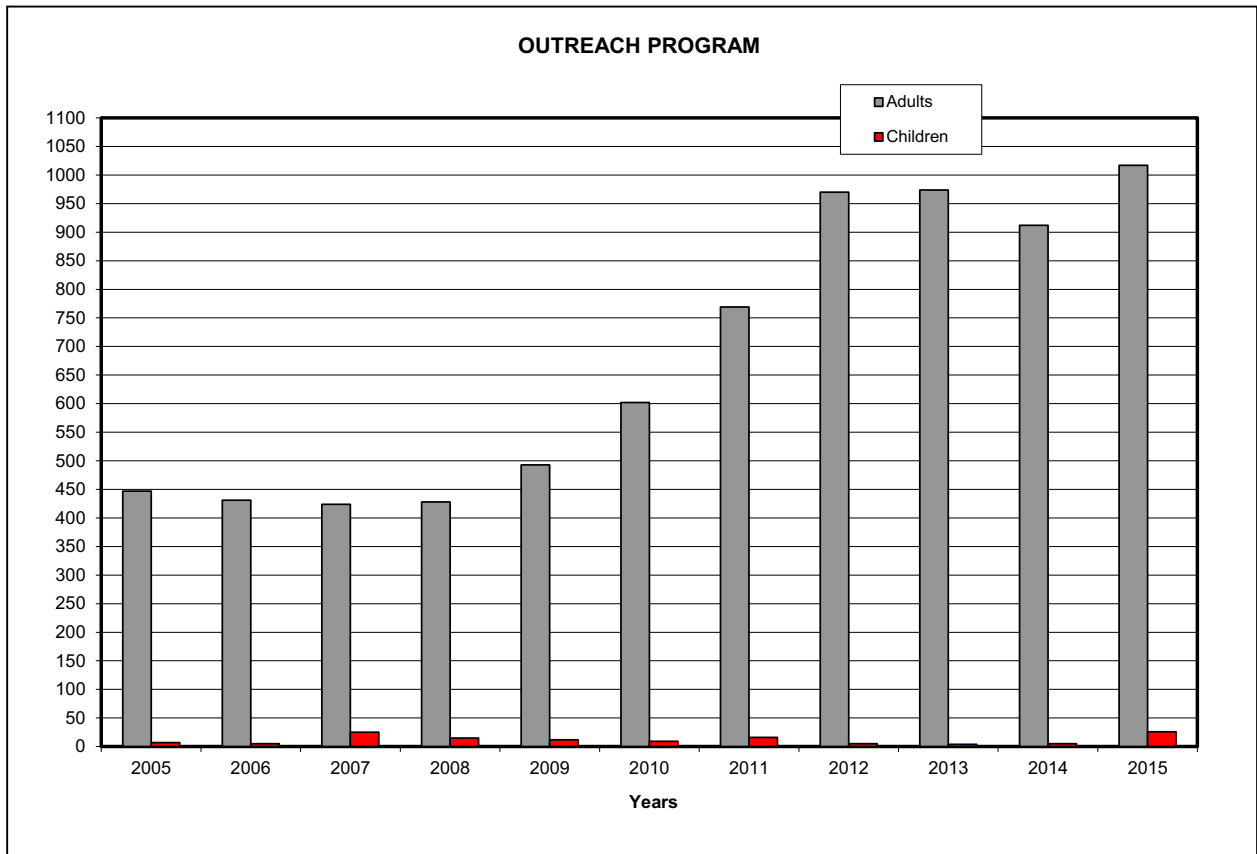
Crisis response advocacy is provided by Outreach staff to Holly's House, to local hospitals, law enforcement agencies, colleges, schools, and safe neutral locations in Vanderburgh, Warrick and Gibson Counties. When we are able to bring services out of our building and into the community then victims are more likely to follow through with use of services at Albion.

In 2015, 68 individuals received services from Albion at Holly's House, 43 sexual assault cases and 25 domestic violence cases. We served about half as many cases but spent 3 times more time physically at Holly's House with slightly more hours spent in service delivery for about half the clients from previous year. Albion spent 342 hours at the facility with 94 hours of that time was spent in direct services to victims. We were able to connect families and victims to appropriate partner services through 117 community referrals. The position to cover these responses increased from a 24 hour a week position to a 40 hour a week position. We were able to improve our coverage of Holly's House interviews by providing advocacy during 117 interviews and only missing 19, all of which received follow-up contact if they agreed to have an Albion advocate contact them. Additionally, this year we received many direct follow-up requests from Holly's House and Law Enforcement who identified additional clients through various means that might benefit from our services, these requests equaled 34 follow-up calls to victims.

Two of the five members of the Outreach team serve as back up for a 24 hour 7 day a week on-call volunteer advocacy schedule that allows us to meet victims at hospitals, law enforcement agencies, return crisis calls and arrange to meet at safe neutral locations in the evenings and on weekends. Outreach, provided through staff response, on-site advocacy to 26 Sexual Assault clients and 1 Domestic Violence clients at Deaconess Main Hospital providing 45 hours and 45 minutes of service, 18 Sexual Assault clients and 3 Domestic Violence clients at Deaconess Gateway providing 47 hours and 30 minutes of service, 4 Domestic violence calls to Deaconess Cross Pointe providing 14 hours of service, and 24 Sexual Assault clients and 2 Domestic Violence Clients at St. Mary's Hospital providing 59 hours and 30 minutes of service.

Community Education is a way for Albion to raise awareness about our services and domestic violence and sexual assault. Community education presentations include workshops and trainings to schools, medical personal, law enforcement, community groups, and many others about domestic violence, dating violence, healthy relationships, cyber safety, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. Last year the Outreach Team provided 35 presentations to 35 agencies and groups with 795 participants. Outreach Team presented at 4 schools 8 times in 3 counties reaching 187 students.

Staff coordinated activities during October National Domestic Violence Awareness Month including two different Flowers on the Lake events (a March and demonstration to break the silence surrounding domestic violence). Events were held in Gibson County by the Gibson County Task Force and in Vanderburgh County on the campus of the University of Southern Indiana by the Campus Sexual Assault and Gender Violence Task Force with coordination from Albion Fellows Bacon Center. Press coverage was present at both events after being notified by press releases. Also this year in Gibson County Albion coordinated an awareness campaign called Purple Light Nights which collaborated with area businesses and community members to shine purple lights on their porches and in their store fronts to support dialogue about domestic violence. Gibson's two newspapers covered the awareness raising event for that community.



PRIMARY PREVENTION PROGRAM

2015 Annual Report

Launched in 2014, Albion's Primary Prevention Program (PPP) is an intentional effort to impact our community's present and future health, focusing on the prevention of dating/domestic and sexual violence in our community. Our staff utilizes prevention modalities that address risk and protective factors that contribute to the prevalence of violence. The program educates and engages youth and youth influencers, using a multi-session evidence-based curriculum, enhancement through social-norm campaigns, and purposeful, strategic discussion toward the objective of nurturing and developing positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors understanding that by focusing on prevention we can eliminate intergenerational cycles of violence. Preventing violence is at the core of Albion's mission.

This year we were able to expand our prevention program further by increasing our part-time Prevention Specialist to a full-time employee. This staff member concentrates on the Safe Dates program, a very important component of the Prevention Program. This increase has been greatly demonstrated in the fact that we were able to increase the number of youth who participated in Safe Dates by 68%. The Prevention Specialist also focuses on program marketing to youth serving influencers, such as teachers, group leaders, etc. This has provided opportunities for the coordinator to focus on building a foundation for the program by working on initiatives that incorporate primary prevention into the community. This includes building and cultivating relationships with schools, universities, workplaces, and community partners.

Albion Fellows Bacon Center has been a recipient of the Rape Prevention Education (RPE) grant for the last four years to create and maintain initiatives to prevent sexual violence in five counties (Vanderburgh, Gibson, Warrick, Pike, and Posey). During 2015, the prevention staff completed a community needs assessment in Gibson County in order to identify what risk and protective factors related to sexual violence are present based on secondary data, stakeholder interviews, windshield survey and Photovoice. The Photovoice presentation can be accessed at http://prezi.com/avjmlpoopmgrp/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy. Staff produced a 44-page report presenting our findings and recommendations. Following the recommendations, staff organized a Primary Prevention workgroup to determine next steps and strategies for the upcoming grant cycle.

The coordinator has also been instrumental in working in partnerships with the Executive Director and Diehl Consulting Group to improve our agency evaluation process. Staff is working on developing program specific logic models and tools to accompany the outcomes established in the logic model. Furthermore, staff is incorporating prevention elements within each program to build capacity on building a prevention focused agency.

Our program received funding from the Junior League this year, enabling us to form Albion's teen chapter of SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere). SAVE is a national youth driven organization that empowers youth to take an active role in youth violence prevention. Our chapter's main goal is to prevent dating and sexual violence through provision of events, youth-focused materials, and social media presence.

Another prevention effort this year has been the collaboration between our program and the shelter program on a project to promote a positive and healthy culture in our shelter to help children and families thrive. This project was a simple way to create a supportive framework by promoting protective factors that reduce the likelihood of domestic and sexual violence for families while they are staying in our shelter. We wanted to create easy, tangible steps for families to participate in asset building during their time in shelter. Staff used the evidence based 40 Developmental Assets framework, to create posters highlighting asset and gives basic action steps for the family to implement. The action steps are activities that they are capable of doing and will help guide discussion to enhance the parent-child relationship while they are in shelter and once they leave. We envision that this will be a great opportunity to provide a healthy and supportive environment for residents and their children through these signs throughout the shelter. Our goal for 2016 is for the posters to be displayed throughout the shelter in addition to developing programming surrounding these assets.

Prevention Efforts

Safe Dates

The following schools/organizations took part in the Safe Dates program in 2015, educating 1164 youth and completing 368 sessions of programing:

◆ Signature School	81
◆ Castle HS	98
◆ North HS	7
◆ Castle North MS	202
◆ Princeton Community MS	132
◆ North Posey HS	149
◆ Owensville Community MS	152
◆ Gibson Southern	165
◆ Mt. Vernon HS	85
◆ St. James	19
◆ Even Start	4
◆ Hillcrest Youth Home	21
◆ Life Choices	10
◆ Youth Care Center	18
◆ United Methodist YH	13
◆ Vision 1505	4
◆ AIS Diamond	<u>4</u>
	1164

The Safe Dates program provided the following results:

- 86.5% of participants increased their ability to identify what an unhealthy relationship is.
- 79% of participants decreased acceptance of dating abuse among peers.
- 68% of participants decreased acceptance of gender stereotyping beliefs.
- 91% of participants increased their ability to identify resources to help a friend in an abusive relationship.
- 89% of participants increased their skills in intervening to help a friend in a dating violence situation.
- 86% of participants increased their confidence in intervening to help a friend in a dating violence situation.
- 93% of participants increased their ability to identify calming strategies for anger control.
- 87% of participants increased conflict resolution skills.
- 86% of participants increased their ability to identify ways to prevent sexual assault.

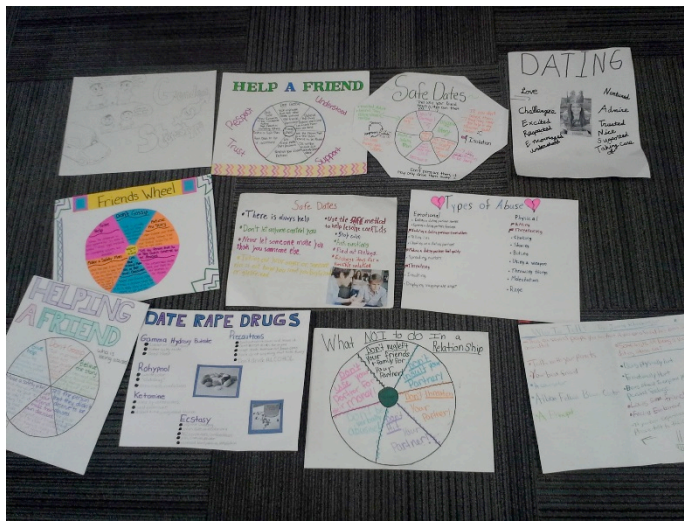
We rely on participant feedback to ensure high quality of service delivery and student engagement. The following are direct quotes from participants from the Safe Dates program.

- “I feel like this kind of program is very important and fairly eye-opening. I feel more confident in my ability to prevent abuse now and I'm grateful.”
- “I liked the part about gender stereotypes because that isn't talked about and I believe it needs to be. People should be equal.”
- “It was a topic that would not normally be taught at school. It was very useful for future dating advice”
- “Learning about all the red flags was my favorite part. I wish I would have known about those sooner to prevent physical abuse in a past relationship.”
- “I liked learning about emotional dating abuse. Some of the things mentioned I didn't know were considered real abuse.”
- “The presenter was very enthusiastic about it and I realized some things about myself I need to change.”
- “I like how wide the spectrum of subject material in this class was. It wasn't just abuse, it was also real situations and stereotypes and feelings and being aware of them.”

- “I liked how we dealt w/real world situations, learning about not only what to do if it happens, BUT HOW TO PREVENT IT, that made this program worthwhile.”
- “I felt that the program was relatable and let us know that we have somewhere to turn if we are ever in that sort of situation.”
- “I enjoyed getting to learn about this topic. Now I know what to do if this happens to me. I looked forward to this program every day.”

These questions demonstrate the importance of addressing these topic as students are eager to have the opportunity for open dialogue regarding relationships/issues.

- “I used to get abused and now I have a lot of depression and I really don’t know how to handle it. Where do I turn to because I lash out really bad”?
- “What do you think is the right age to start dating”?
- “Should you trust someone if they cheated but you got back together?”
- “How do I tell my friend she’s abusive?”
- “I've been in 3 physically and emotionally abusive relationships, I have been controlled, insulted and always end the relationship physically hurt. How can I break this chain and stop finding the same guys over and over again?”
- “If there is not a verbal "yes" response but there’s also not a "no" is that still considered rape? Or is it only if the word no is spoken?”
- “What do you do if your parents are in an abusive relationship?”



Pictured above are Posters from participants of our Safe Dates program

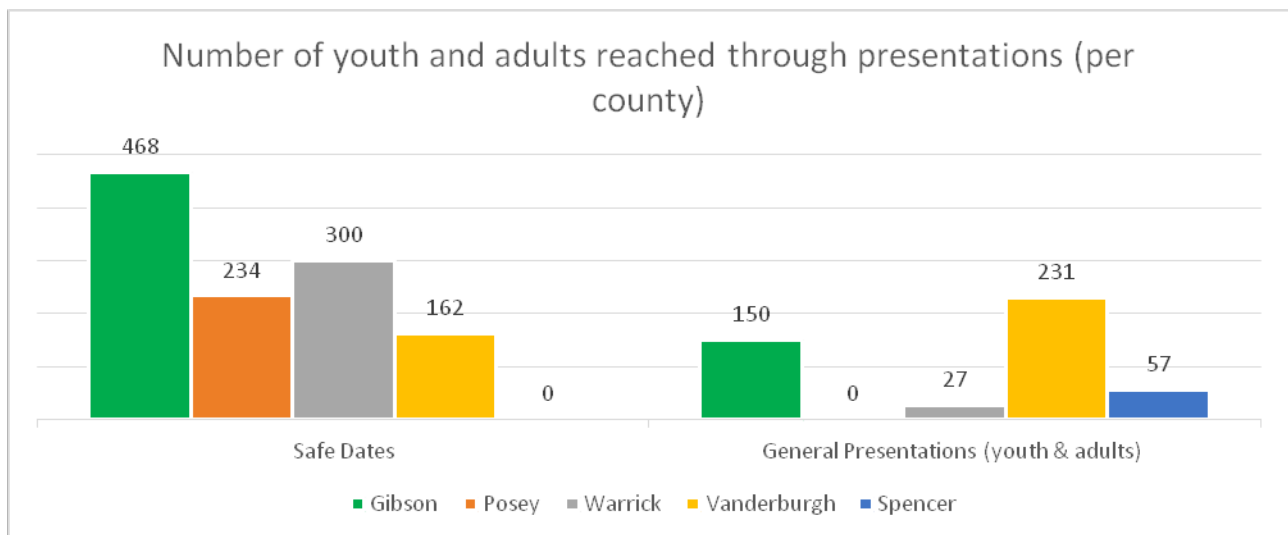
In Their Shoes

The PPP also facilitates the *In Their Shoes: Teens and Dating Violence*, a scenario-based training program for any group of adults such as teachers, counselors, youth group leaders, law enforcement, or parents. Participants become one of six teen characters based on the experiences of real teens including sexting, pregnancy, homophobia and stalking. They make choices about their relationships and move through the scenario by reading about interactions with their dating partner, family, friends, counselors, police, and others. In 2015, the PPP presented this program to the following organizations:

◆ Vanderburgh County DCS	60
◆ Life Choices	5
◆ IYI Youth Worker Café-Warrick	27
◆ IYI Youth Worker Café- Vanderburgh	56
◆ University of Evansville	<u>5</u>
	153

Community education/engagement efforts

The PPP also provided 312 individuals (107 middle school, 181 high school and 24 adults) with single session education on topics relating to services offered, primary prevention, healthy relationships, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or cyber issues. The following chart is a breakdown of participants from each county who received programming (either through the multi-session program, Safe Dates, or our general single presentations).



The PPP partnered with three local universities, University of Southern Indiana, University of Evansville and Ivy Tech to assist with prevention efforts and strategies regarding Title IX, Clery Act and Campus Save which mandates the inclusion of prevention on campus.

- At USI, staff sits on the Gender Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force and has assisted with male-led strategies including the White Ribbon Campaign. Additionally, staff

developed a bystander survey for the second year which was distributed at the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event and received 173 completed surveys.

- A large emphasis was placed at UE with the creation and evaluation of bystander intervention and consent social norms. Staff partnered with the University's counseling department to develop a survey that was distributed to all students, resulting in 444 survey responses. Our survey also pinpointed which types of interventions are taking place, what barriers to intervening were present, and how often sexual assault or domestic violence was taking place. This data will be used to create a primary prevention plan to address the specific misperceptions.
- At Ivy Tech, staff was invited to sit on their SaVE Act Committee. The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (**SaVE**) **Act** is an update to the Clery Act, expanding the scope of this legislation in terms of reporting, response, and prevention education requirements around rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Collaborative Partnerships

Collaborative partnerships are vital in preventing domestic and sexual violence. We work tirelessly to foster strong working relationships with community partners. Staff co-chairs (with the Outreach Program Coordinator) the Gibson County Domestic and Sexual Violence Task Force. This year we held the second annual community wide project called Purple Light Nights and had over 50 businesses participate. We expanded the Purple Light Nights program into Franklin Street this year during the first week of October, as this is a highly populated area with the Fall Festival taking place at this time. Staff sits on the Caring Communities of Gibson County and is a part of the Youth Involvement subcommittee as well as the Evansville Vanderburgh County Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence- Education Subcommittee.

Our staff felt that we had a responsibility as an agency to be a catalyst and a role model for other agencies by being informed and knowledgeable regarding prevention, and especially primary prevention. For this reason, staff provided primary prevention training to 12 direct service staff of YWCA on how to incorporate prevention elements into all aspects of intervention work.

PPP staff also manages and regularly updates our agency's website and Facebook page, keeping community members informed of agency needs, events, and articles related to domestic and sexual violence issues. In 2015, staff posted over 100 post on Albion's Facebook page on issues around domestic and sexual violence in addition to marketing agency events.

For 2016, the Primary Prevention Program hopes to reach the following goals:

- ◆ Engage new community partners and develop existing partnerships for the purpose of building and supporting primary prevention work.
- ◆ Focus on agency capacity-building regarding Primary Prevention.

- ◆ Empower youth to be a part of the prevention movement.
- ◆ Work on strategies that cultivate Safe, Supportive, Nurturing Relationships and Environments.
- ◆ Evaluate the effectiveness of strategies.

Sophia Blaha
Primary Prevention Program Coordinator