



individuals & communities ending abuse

Family Violence Project

2019 Annual Report



Remembering former Associate Director Linda Kley

By FVP Staff Members

This year we have decided to dedicate the FVP Annual Report to Linda Kley who passed away on November 30, 2018. Linda began her long career at FVP on September 1, 1988 as our very first Volunteer Coordinator. She later became an Associate Director, supervising all the programs and program staff at FVP until her retirement in 2006. Not wanting to lose such an important part of our team, Linda was invited to join our Board of Directors, which she did in January of 2007. Linda brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Board where she served as Secretary, Vice President and President until her term ended in 2015.

Linda had a very strong work ethic, which was greatly admired. She became a mentor for anyone she supervised. Many of us owe her so much of our professional development as an advocate. She would lavish with encouragement and praise while also making gentle corrections when any one of her staff or volunteer employees went “off course.” Her wisdom just flowed over you and could not help but seep into your pores. Linda was a lovely woman, a curious mixture of absolute gentility which could morph in seconds into bawdy humor. Her sense of humor had a delightfully edgy funny streak, which was infectious and could easily diffuse any situation. She had a sharp mind, a quick intelligence and witty sense of the bizarre which is important in the difficult, sometimes harrowing circumstances we help people through. Linda had a beautiful voice and a song for every occasion! She had a remarkable ability to speak with anyone, from any walk of life, honestly, directly, and warmly. She was always patient and kind. Linda was “one of my all-time favorite FVP staff” for more than a few of us.

Linda could tell you the exact year and month when someone she had trained as a FVP volunteer took their training. She could also tell you exactly when they started volunteering. One of the first volunteer trainings after she came on board had over 20 participants. Linda built our volunteer program, cultivating more than 60 volunteer helpline advocates. She also worked diligently to maintain that number. Her volunteers adored her and her support of them was to be admired. During the time she ran the volunteer program, she was adamant that no full-time staff would take first call shifts on weekends or nights. She would take any unfilled shifts for her “staying close to the work” exercise. She felt we all worked so much that extra shifts were not healthy.

Her philosophy about working in the domestic violence field was that it was “a calling”. We could expect to donate some time to the cause of ending violence in intimate family relationships, that was part of the bargain! She would occasionally make the funniest side comments about this, like, “when someone says they are going to take better care of themselves, look out, because there will be more for the rest of us to do!

Linda was one of a kind and an integral part of making FVP what it is today. She led with sensitivity, courage and grit. Her influence goes beyond those that knew and worked with her because of the impact she had while she was here. We were deeply saddened at her passing and miss her more than words can say. We will miss Linda’s warmth, her smile, and her voice.

Linda will always have a piece of our heart.



A Message from our Executive Director, Pam Morin

In this time of reflection, as I look back on my first year as Executive Director, one thing that stands out above and beyond all else is passion. All who contribute to this cause, whether staff, volunteer or community partner cares deeply and genuinely for victims/survivors, their families and our shared goal to end all domestic abuse! I give my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the multitude of community members, volunteers and our very proficient staff for forging forward in this most meaningful purpose. I am honored to stand side by side with such dedicated advocates.

Family Violence Project's 42-year history of social change advocacy has created a pathway for connection and collaboration with a goal to create a safe and peaceful society. We can make a difference in the lives of survivors and their children by listening to, respecting, and responding to their individualized needs. Survivors of domestic violence are the experts in their own lives and their own relationships. We must ensure that foundational philosophy performs as the cornerstone of the strategies we implement, while appropriately holding the perpetrator solely responsible for the violence. It is imperative that we work together to ensure every survivor's request for help is met with non-judgmental understanding and a relentless determination to help them access safety. Contributing to our ongoing efforts for a just and equitable society benefits everyone!

During this year, FVP served 2,043 survivors and answered 6,329 helpline calls. Our advocates have been present in courts, hospitals, multiple schools, businesses, task forces, churches, community groups, and anywhere we can strive to bring awareness about our mission. We have returning and new enthusiastic board members who have strong ties to the community and are keen to help in any way possible. As a result of declining community resources, our advocates are challenged to support survivors in accessing assistance that could help strengthen their safety net, beyond the direct impacts of domestic abuse and violence. We continue to forge relationships within the community and explore ways in which to strengthen the safety net that victims rely as they begin to rebuild and create safe and healthy lives.

The victims of domestic violence face multiple barriers in their journey to safety and healing. Our efforts to form coordinated responses within our communities increases the ability to keep survivors safe and create nonviolent environments for all. This advocacy and partnership make it possible for needs to be met and fewer people to fall off or fall through the cracks. The horrific and senseless homicides committed by intimate partners in our community this year alone, remind us that our work must persist. To live in a world we want, we need to create that world.

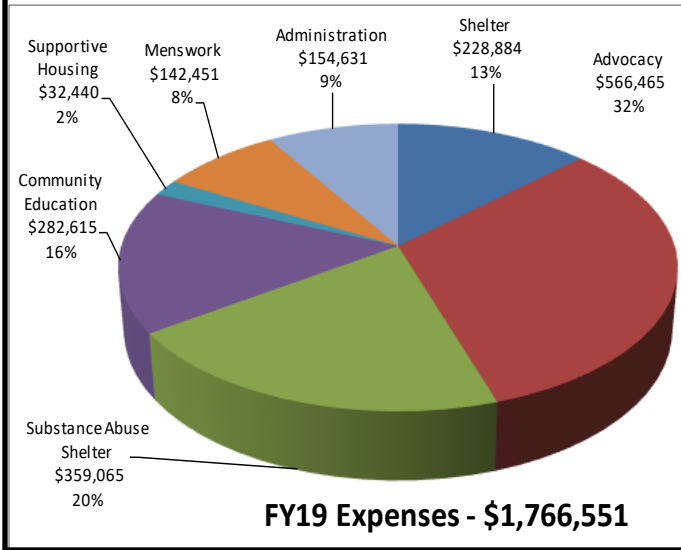
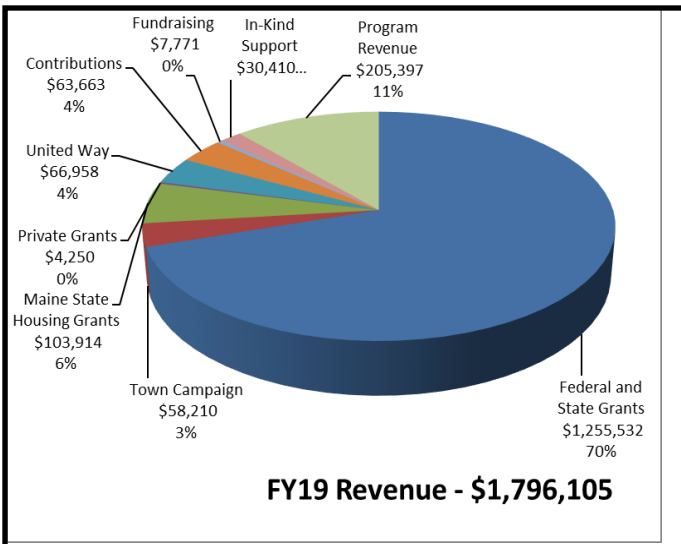
Our efforts don't stop when barriers present themselves, or when challenges seem insurmountable. Instead we get stronger and speak louder and fight harder. There really is no other option. Our voices matter and our values will be respected. The work we do has many moments of transformation and inspiration. We know by doing it that change is possible, change is always possible. May we live in a world of peace and opportunity, where violence is unacceptable, and people treat each other with respect.

Thank you for your support over this past year! I am eager to see how much we can accomplish together in the next year, helping all people impacted by domestic abuse.

FY 2019 Management Team at Family Violence Project

Pam Morin	Executive Director
Heidi Hall	Director of Administration and Finance
Beth Crowe	Director of Advocacy and Community Engagement
Melanie Beaulieu	Director of Shelter Programs
Jaime Mooney	Director of Volunteer and Helpline Programs
Jon Heath	Director of Menswork

Family Violence Project Revenue and Expenses For Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019



3rd Annual Benefit and Recognition Night

was a success as we were able to honor 3 more community members who have supported Family Violence Project in many ways. We value our Community Sponsors in that they not only provide monetary gifts but show their support within their businesses.

Family Violence Project would like to thank our Honorees and Sponsors for a successful night at our 3rd Annual Benefit and Recognition Night

<p>Individual Honoree Ann Buxton—Underdog Jog</p>	<p>Business Honoree Hope@Home Program</p>	<p>Volunteer Honoree Michelle Radloff</p>
--	--	--

Gold Sponsorship

Silver Sponsorship

Bronze Sponsorship

*To Our Vendors,
Thank You So Much*

Tom Lowrie—Photographer
Bruce Olson—Tree Spirits Winery
Cushnoc Brewing
Penny Amunsden—Harpist

Other Sponsors we would like to recognize:

Lotus Learning Tree Spirits Winery
Darling's Chrysler/Dodge/Hyundai

FVP FISCAL YEAR 2019 SERVICES IN NUMBERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Total number of unduplicated persons served 2043
Number of face to face contacts 7174 □ Number of presentations in schools 172
Number of students at school-based presentations 2712 □ Number of presentations in the community 355 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Number of volunteers 57
Number of volunteer hours 3046.25 □ Persons receiving court advocacy 775 □ Persons participating in support groups 133 □ Persons accessing emergency shelter 79 □ Number of calls to the helpline/offices 6329 |
|--|--|

Community Education

There was a significant focus on training this past year. FVP held three offerings of our Core Advocacy, Intervention, Response and Ethics Training for New Advocates, otherwise known as CAIRET. This training varies in length from 45 hours for volunteers to 50 hours for intern students and staff. Since this is a recently updated curriculum, all staff are being required to undergo the training. Through these three offerings of the training we were able to train 12 staff on the updated curriculum and 10 new advocacy volunteers. Here are just a few comments from some of the participants: “[This was] a very thoughtful and encouraging learning atmosphere,” “The presenters are amazing; they foster incredible discussions,” and “so glad I decided to do this!”

A new training for Mental Health workers was also rolled out to fulfill the new recertification requirements for social workers, therapists and psychologists which requires they have 12 CE hours of training in domestic violence. We also began offering the Safe Haven program which is presented to faith communities because people will often seek out their faith leader’s advice when they are experiencing domestic violence.

At the same time, we are providing Domestic Violence 101 workshops, participating in lunch meetings and community events. We partner with Kennebec Behavioral Health to facilitate the Respect Me program, which is a mandated program for women who have been convicted of a domestic violence assault.

Prevention Education

Our Abuse Prevention Educators continue to offer excellent prevention education in the schools at every level, thanks in large part to funding through United Way. Teachers are referring us to new schools and keeping us very busy. Between our two educators, we reached over 2,700 students in 27 schools. We also participated in wellness fairs with 1,225 students attending. Group and individual support were provided for youth experiencing abuse in cooperation with guidance and the student health center. One youth stated, “I felt so alone...I have never felt so much support until you came in.”

Our Southern Kennebec Educator lead a workshop at the NCADV National Convention based on her work to help create the video *We See You*.

Advocacy

With funding from a federal STOP grant we were able to work with residents of two homeless shelters as well as the Emergency and Obstetrics Departments at MaineGeneral to assist victims of domestic violence.

Our Civil Legal Advocate did a great job of coordinating with the three district courts in our area, Sexual Assault, the District Attorney’s office, advocates at FVP and Pine Tree Legal through a federal grant from the Justice for Families Program. Our four court advocates supported 770 clients with PFA applications.

As part of our Coordinated Community Response, we facilitate a task force in each county and work as part of a team to safety plan at High-Risk Response Teams. The Somerset County task force also planned the 2nd annual 5k which is a great awareness builder and growing each year.

Advocates in each of our offices offer a support group that combines peer support and education.

Menswork

During this past fiscal year, Menswork accepted 138 new participants, had 75 program completions, 69 discharges and 4 participant transfers to other Batterer Intervention Programs (BIP). Beginning July of 2019, Menswork rolled out what began as Maine LD 525 funding program for indigent participants. This provided funding for 40 eligible Menswork participants, lowering their class fees to \$10 per week. Menswork ended its fiscal year, holding 3 weekly classes in Augusta, 2 weekly classes in Waterville, 3 weekly classes in Skowhegan, and participating in 3 domestic Violence Monitoring courts monthly. Menswork currently has 7 part-time educators who are trained in the Duluth Curriculum.

During this past year, Menswork Director Jon Heath contributed to the more significant coordinated

Continued on page 5

Menswork continued.

Community response to DV, by participating in a study out of Durham University in the UK. A weekly 90-minute videoconference BIP class was co-taught with Melissa Scaia, M.P.A., director of International Training at Global Rights for Women. The study focused on the use of Videoconference technology and its limitations and benefits to BIP programming world-wide.

Shelter and Housing Programs

Our supportive housing programs provided services for seven families in Augusta and Waterville and our housing navigator assisted those families to safely transition into the community. We had a high occupancy rate with our supportive housing apartments filling relatively quickly when residents moved on from the program.

Family Violence Project shelters provided compassionate, complete care to families fleeing domestic violence situations in Somerset and Kennebec Counties.

Somerset House was able to provide services through funding from OVW and DHHS grants, working in partnership with Kennebec Behavioral Health and other community supports to provide programming for survivors of domestic violence who have addictions. This program helped survivors work towards and maintain recovery while focusing on a holistic approach. Recovery was promoted through group work, individual work, and trauma sensitive yoga.

In the Fall of 2019, FVP was approached by Consigli Construction, who wanted to give back to the community. They asked how they could partner with us to best help our residents. The conversation became a partnership with us to update our Kennebec shelter. This community-based project enabled local contractors working with Consigli Construction, to come together to provide some much-needed updates to the shelter. The project allowed for plumbing, flooring, painting and various other renovations and repairs to transform the well-loved shelter into a warm and inviting space for families to live and heal. Community is built through these valuable relationships.

Helpline and Volunteers

Our 24-hour Helpline remained busy throughout the year. The After-Hours helpline during this time was covered by paid staff with the help of approximately 26 volunteer advocates. We also enjoyed the assistance of three volunteer advocates who helped co-facilitate weekly support groups and utilized several volunteers who assisted with clerical services, childcare, and other needs as they arose. We were very fortunate to have a Master of Social Work intern student on board who assisted with the helpline and shelter work. We are blessed to have an active pool of volunteers who commit their time and hearts to this work!



*Family Violence Project would like to thank the
Somerset County Domestic Violence Task Force
and sponsors for a successful event*

The Third Annual Race to End Domestic Violence
was held on October 20, 2019 at 9AM at the
Kennebec Valley Community College Campus
15 Stanley Drive, Hinckley, Me

Look for Race information on our Website for the 4th Annual Race to end domestic violence.

Race Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Thank you to:



Donations to Family Violence are greatly appreciated. It is now easy to make your donation on our secure web site:

<https://www.familyviolenceproject.org/how-you-can-help/>

You may make a single or a monthly giving donation. Thank you for your support

We have gone paperless!

Please join our email list in order to receive our Newsletters and event information.

<https://www.familyviolenceproject.org/category/newsletters-reports/>

To contact Family Violence Project:

Helpline 24/7 coverage 207-623-3569

Toll Free 1-877-890-7788

www.familyviolenceproject.org

Follow us and Like us on Social Media



Family Violence Project Maine



@FVP



familyviolenceproject

Augusta Administrative Office	207-623-8637
Waterville Outreach Office	207-877-0835
Skowhegan Outreach Office	207-474-8860
Menswork Program	207-620-8494

Family Violence Project is supported through funding from US Office on Violence Against Women, Maine DHHS, United Ways of Kennebec and Mid-Maine, Maine State Housing Authority, municipalities, private grants, special fundraising events and donations.

Family Violence Project does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, age, ancestry or national origin, gender identity or expression, pregnancy or any other characteristic protected by law.

Family Violence Project was incorporated in 1978 as an independent, nonprofit organization. With offices in Augusta, Waterville and Skowhegan, the Project serves the communities of Kennebec and Somerset Counties, providing a 24 hour helpline, emergency shelter, individual and court advocacy, support groups, community and school-based education and a certified batterer intervention program.

2019 Board of Directors

<u>President</u>	David White	<u>Board Members Cont.</u>
<u>Vice President</u>	Nate Richards	Susan Gayne
<u>Treasurer</u>	Rick Barry	Maeghan Maloney Esq.
<u>Secretary</u>	Dan Howard	Lian Oyerbides
<u>Board Members</u>	Victoria Alexander	Michael Pike
	Karen Boston Esq.	Donna Russell
	Emily Fortin	