

hope & healing for families



Safelight

**JUNE 2015 - SEPT 2016
ANNUAL REPORT**

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Thank you

to our **75 active volunteers** who
provided over **7,930 hours** of service!

Our Mission: creating hope; healing lives; changing community

I want to begin this letter by saying how proud I am of our first annual report as Safelight, Inc. after the merger of Mainstay and The Healing Place almost a year and a half ago. I apologize for the delay in releasing this report but we decided to change the beginning of our fiscal year from July 1 to October 1, in order to better coordinate with funding sources. Therefore, this “annual” report contains fifteen months rather than twelve. We will subsequently be back on a twelve-month reporting cycle.

The collective breadth of expertise that Mainstay and The Healing Place brought together has allowed us to increase our services so that we are now greater than just the sum of our two parts. The Believe Child Advocacy Center grows stronger every day and gives us a much greater scope in child abuse treatment and prevention services. Safelight has established amazing new working partnerships with Park Ridge Health, Pardee Hospital, and The Free Clinics to improve services to sexual assault victims and give them the quality medical care and support they need at the most critical times. Furthermore, staff has worked hard to institute school-based education programs for 6th-8th graders and skills building educational programs at the Boys and Girls Club as well as increased services and partnerships at The Henderson County Family Justice Center.

Safelight has even undertaken extensive renovations in the shelter facilities to address inadequacies in privacy and security. Remedying these concerns was considered critical so that a family that calls our shelter “home” can live in the best environment possible to overcome trauma and start down the difficult path to new a life. We are very proud of what we have been able to accomplish in the space we currently occupy. The Dandelion continues to act as an amazing stepping stone towards that new life with its job training and confidence building capabilities.

Transition and change can be difficult and full of growing pains but the Safelight family of staff, volunteers, and community rose to the occasion during and after the merger so that we are now stronger than ever. There are so many stories and people behind the numbers and text in this report. I am truly humbled by the people we serve and continuously grateful to the staff and volunteers that help make miracles happen. Completing the merger was a daunting task but also a huge catalyst for community good. I am a true believer in our new mission of “creating hope, healing lives, changing community” and know that it will continue to be the beacon that guides Safelight into the future.



Sincerely,

Tanya Blackford , Executive Director

How did WE get here?

2011-2013

In 2011, Mainstay rented the upper portion of the building located at 210 5th Avenue West to provide outreach services and support groups.

In 2012, The Healing Place developed a parenting program to help adults understand child sexual abuse. The Healing Place decided to focus its efforts on providing specialized services to victims and refocused agency efforts moving forward including creating a new mission statement.

In 2013, the Dandelion, a local eatery to support Mainstay's job training program, was opened.

1991-1997

In 1995, the Mainstay shelter was destroyed by fire. The community rallied with support and a new facility at 125 Main Street opened in 1996.

In 1996, the RCCHC name changed to The Healing Place. In 1997, the Healing Place combined services with FOCUS, and the Child Advocacy Center to reduce trauma to child victims.

1986-1990

A house was purchased on Haywood Avenue to be utilized as an emergency shelter. In 1990, the Purple Ribbon resale store was opened to support needed programs.

2015

In the Fall of 2015, The Healing Place and Mainstay, Inc. merged into one agency offering services for domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse.

2014-2015

In 2014, Mainstay and partner agencies opened The Henderson County Family Justice Center. In early 2015, The Believe Child Advocacy Center was opened.

2006-2010

In 2006, transitional housing was opened for clients exiting the shelter.

In 2007, The Healing Place added a Prevention Specialist to engage men in the sexual violence awareness movement.

In 2008, Mainstay moved to its current location at 133 5th Avenue West.

In 2009, The Healing Place developed programming for 7th-9th graders.

1990

The Healing Place separated from the Buncombe County Rape Crisis Center forming the Rape Crisis Center of Henderson County, (RCCHC).

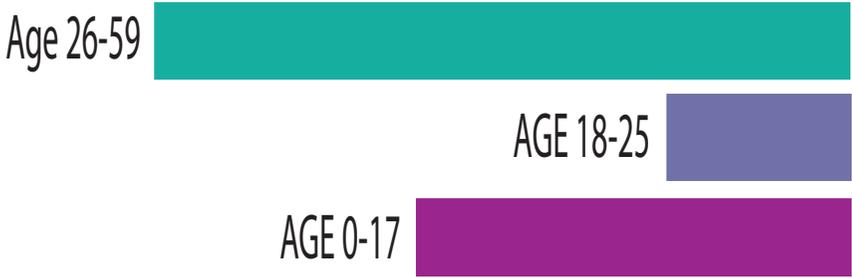
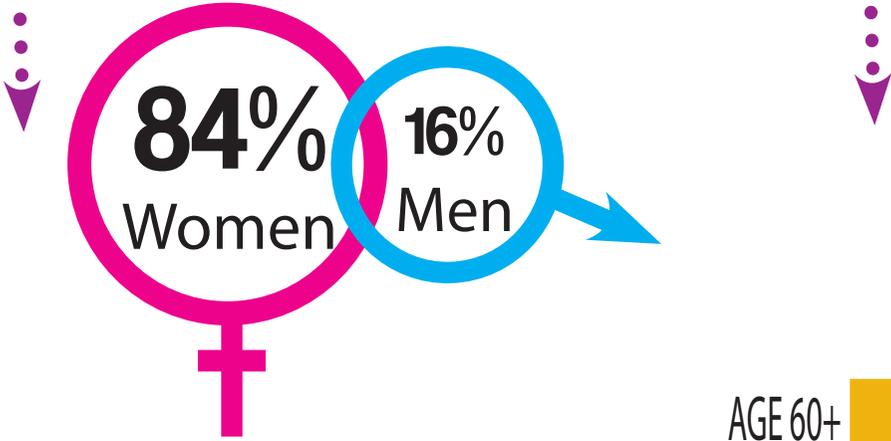
1985

Two local groups merged under the name Mainstay to provide help to abused women.

.....▶ 2016

Announcement of **Safelight, Inc.**
as the new name for the combined
organization!

..... Who do WE serve?



748

Crisis Hotline Calls Received

Emergency Shelter

147 adults &
85 children
age 0-18



called shelter
home for

15,256
safe nights

shelter services include:

- 34 bed facility
- 24/7 support staff
- case management
- trauma counseling for
adults and children
- parenting support groups
- daycare services

Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center is “one-stop-shop” of services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, and other forms of intimate partner violence. Advocates empower, educate and counsel survivors through emotional support, safety planning, case management services, and advocacy within medical, court, child welfare and other systems of care.

401 court accompaniments*

*provides adult victims support to navigate the court system

“It was outstanding to have an advocate in the court room to **help protect** my child from glares and intimidation. - FJC Client ”



Job Training Program

The Safelight Job Training Program provides job training and support for survivors of violence. Through this program, interns work with their job coach to design a clear path to further employment or educational opportunities that will create self-sufficiency for themselves and their families. Internships are available at the Dandelion, Safelight Resale Store, and other community partners.



“Even when I didn't believe in myself, they always **believed** in me.
-Safelight Intern”

63% found employment

11% returned to school

Counseling and Support

Trauma informed speciality services are necessary for adults and children who have experienced abuse. These services are provided free of charge, to all community members, adults and children, who are victims of child abuse, rape, sexual assault or domestic violence.

972 outreach
services provided

208 children **&** **316** adults
received therapy



Rape Crisis Services

12 hospital accompaniments

76 individuals received counseling

23 individuals received court advocacy

Believe Child Advocacy Center

The Believe Child Advocacy Center (CAC) brings the necessary community partners together to create a multi-disciplinary approach for the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of child abuse and neglect. Timely treatment is essential for not only the physical and emotional well-being of the child but also in the collection of evidence for potential prosecution. The CAC provides one location for all services to occur, including medical exams conducted by Blue Ridge Health and The Henderson County Health Department, and investigations led by the Department of Social Services and local law enforcement. All after-care therapeutic services are provided by CAC staff and, are available to both the victim and any non-offending family member.

25 comprehensive medical exams (began March 2016)

63 forensic interviews (began February 2016)

148 received counseling

“ Counseling **has helped** me a lot with my son. I did not know how to talk to him about what happened.

-Parent of Client ”



Community Based Education

An important part of our mission at Safelight is to educate the public about interpersonal violence in order to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. **Darkness to Light Training** aims to raise awareness of the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse by educating adults about the steps they can take to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to the reality of child sexual abuse.

Youth Education

Safelight is committed to ending the cycle of abuse in Henderson County and believes filling the educational gap through age-appropriate curriculum for youth will lessen cases of interpersonal violence later in life. Trained CAC staff members bring the "Safe Dates" curriculum to local middle and high school students, and The Boys and Girls Club.



January-June 2016...

35 school presentations,
reaching **407** youth

***35** as a result of these presentations **35** youth disclosed they had been or were currently being abused.

what aspect of Safelight was most helpful to you...?

"having someone in the courtroom for my hearing gave me a **great deal of comfort.**"

"My case manager, because she listened to my needs and offered good **solutions to my problems.**"

"I feel like I finally have **someone to help** me"

"The **caring and thoughtful counseling** with great insight helped me get through the toughest time in my life."



"the **support and guidance** for my next steps."

"**helping me** with paperwork for a restraining order."

"having **people to talk to** without the stress of having to pay for services."

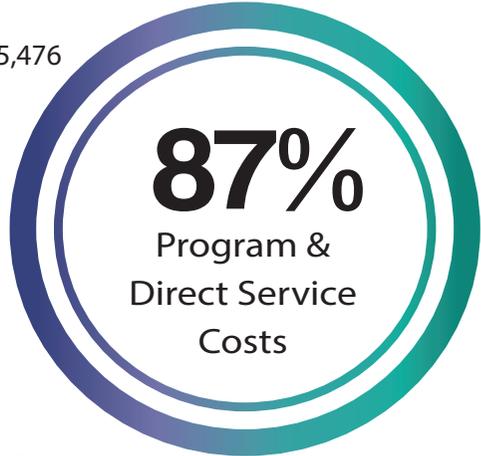
Statement of Financial Position

REVENUES

Contributions- \$265,567
Special Event and Fundraising- \$65,476
Grants- \$777,324
Group Counseling Fees- \$14,073
Career Center- \$327,320
Sale of Donated Items- \$114,462
Investment Income- \$10,132
Other Income- \$46,046
Total Income- \$1,620,400

EXPENSES

Program Services- \$1,592,287
Management and General- \$170,507
Fundraising- \$67,563
TOTAL- \$1,830,357



ASSETS

Current Assets- \$432,620
Property and Equipment- \$2,218,825
Investments- \$204,609
Beneficial interest in Endowment Funds- \$143,813
Total Assets- \$2,999,867

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities- \$37,599
Deferred Revenue- \$1,143
Long Term Debt- Current Position- \$181,869
Long Term Debt- Noncurrent portion- \$6,725
Total Liabilities- \$227,336



A very special
THANK YOU
to our **978** donors
and **45** event
sponsors!

“

These amazing results would not be possible without your generous gifts and care for our clients. Thank you for partnering with us.

-Laresa Griffin (Director of Development)

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On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express our appreciation for the support you, the community, give Safelight. The creation of Safelight through the merger of Mainstay and The Healing Place has resulted in more comprehensive crisis intervention and counseling service to better meet the needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence in Henderson County.



Safelight's Executive Director, Tanya Blackford, a visionary and enthusiastic leader, has worked very successfully in collaborating with a committed staff and multiple community agencies to foster program development and enhancement of services for clients. Renovations of the shelter space are currently underway and recently renovated counseling spaces are other ways that Safelight promotes client confidence that they will always be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion.

Safelight services are uniquely designed to meet the needs of a vulnerable population that is vital to the overall well-being of the community. Financial support of Safelight comes from donors, grants, foundations, faith congregations, and fundraising events such as the annual Celebration of Courage. The Safelight Board commends the leadership and staff for maintaining fiscal responsibility. Donors can be assured their contributions are used wisely as 87% of every dollar received goes directly to client services. We're excited to share this annual report to show the specific ways your contributions of time and money support the valuable services of Safelight.

Sincerely,

Patricia Ashe
Board President



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