



A WORD FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We are pleased and proud to present this annual report highlighting DASI's 35th year of service. In our 35 years, with the support of our state and local community, DASI has served over 30,000 victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. In addition, we have served over 5,000 men in the DECIDE offender intervention program. We have sheltered over 3,000 women and children in our safe house, and responded to tens of thousands of helpline calls. We have raised awareness of power-based violence in our community, instituted comprehensive prevention programs, and initiated social change. We have seen laws strengthened and services expanded to meet the needs of survivors. We are so grateful for the collaborative spirit of the human service community in Sussex County – over the years, DASI has built valuable local partnerships that have enriched our work and broadened our reach. This is difficult but rewarding work, and when we work together, we can build a stronger and safer community for all.

We thank the DASI Staff, Board of Trustees, and Volunteers for their extraordinary dedication to building a future free from violence. We thank you, the Sussex County community, and all of our funders, for your generous support over 35 years. Most importantly, we thank survivors past and present for inspiring us every day with their strength, courage, and resilience. May you find the peace, stability, and independence that you so deserve.



JENNIFER CABLEPresident, DASI Board of Trustees



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Chief Executive Officer

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Debora Meltz

Board Member Emeritus

DASI MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY FOR 35 YEARS









1982

NJ Legislature passes the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act

1984

NJ Dept. of Human Services grant received to open domestic violence Shelter in Sussex County

First Call for DASI Volunteers

1986

DECIDE Batterer Intervention Program established

1987

DASI Emergency Shelter opens its doors











2006

1998

DASI Sexual Assault Program established

1999

Purchased and opened the DASI Community Outreach Center in Newton

2004

DASI celebrates 20 years!

Domestic Abuse Services, Inc. becomes Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention Services to better reflect the breadth of services offered

2008

Step by Step Transitional Living Program and apartments opens











1988

First National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Vigil held in Newton

1994

DASI celebrates 10 years!

1995

Capital Campaign launched for Shelter renovation and expansion

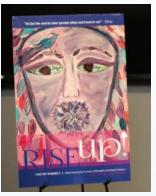
First Domestic Violence Response Team established in Hamburg

1997

Domestic Violence Assessment Center established









2011

DASI opens the Morning Glory Shop

2014

DASI celebrates 30 years!

2018

DASI RiseUp! Poetry Group publishes first anthology of poems and artwork

Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy services for children first offered

2019

Municipal Court Project launched in all Sussex County municipal courts

DASI making a difference in the community for 35 years!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The DASI 24-Hour Helpline and Text Line are available to callers in need of emergency shelter, support, information, and referrals to community resources for themselves or for someone they care about.

24-Hour Helpline 973-875-1211. This year we established the 24-Hour Text Line for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Individuals 973-222-2593. Collect and anonymous calls are accepted.

1,813 total calls received 1,656
regarding
domestic violence

177
regarding sexual assault

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

The DASI Emergency Safe House... when home isn't safe and the Step by Step Transitional Living Program

DASI provided safe and supportive haven for 58 survivors of domestic/sexual violence and human trafficking: 27 adults served including 26 women, 1 man, and 31 children with a total of 5,575 bed nights.

This year, with a generous grant from the NJ Department of Community Affairs, we were able to do some major repairs and renovations to the apartments at Step by Step. The roof was fixed, floors were replaced, bathrooms were renovated, and new appliances purchased. Special thanks to our contractor Tom Scarnachia of Thomco Construction, LLC for donating part of his time and upgrading materials to make the rooms extra special!!

Counseling Program

Trauma-informed counseling and evidence-based group models form the basis of the DASI Counseling Program. An empowerment-based, psychoeducational approach can assist a survivor with understanding the impact of domestic and sexual violence on her life, can help her weigh options for her future, and enhance the healing process. 115 survivors were served with 720 group and individual counseling sessions.

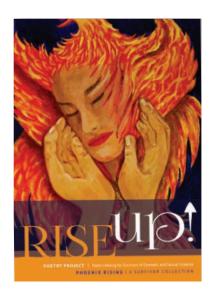


The Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM)

TREM is an evidence based intervention designed to facilitate trauma recovery among women with histories of sexual and physical abuse. The 24-session group emphasizes the development of coping skills and social support. Drawing on cognitive restructuring, psychoeducational and skills-training techniques, TREM addresses both short-term and long-term consequences of violent victimization, including mental health symptoms, especially posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and substance use disorder. 14 women participated in 51 sessions of the TREM group and 41 sessions of related individual counseling.

The RiseUp! Poetry Group

It is year three for our poets as they saw their second anthology of poems and artwork published and celebrated at a Book Launch party held at Fountain 42 in Port Jervis, NY. This year art therapist Karen Klein joined the group leaders to facilitate more creative endeavors! 43 sessions of Rise Up! were held this year with a total of 8 poets.



Children's Services

The littlest victims of domestic violence often suffer greatly, but with positive interventions can be helped to heal. The 31 children that resided in our Emergency Safe House and Step by Step Transitional Living Program had numerous services and resources available to them, from a liaison to their schools, to case management, to recreational activities, to counseling.

Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)

Up to twenty TF CBT sessions are offered for children ages 3 - 18 and their parents/guardians. This year, 26 children were referred to the program, 13 children began participation, and 4 completed. This therapy provides:

- Education about trauma and common reactions
- Help with parenting and behavior problems
- Relaxation/Stress Management training
- Information about feelings and ways to express them
- Exploration of thoughts, feelings, and actions
- Creative ways to help kids talk about what happened
- Help to change any unhelpful thoughts about the trauma
- Family sessions to help the family talk together about the trauma
- Education and opportunities to practice safety skills

Legal Advocacy Program

Legal advocates helped 334 victims of domestic and sexual violence in Sussex County Superior Court, municipal courts, and in our Community Outreach Center. Legal Advocates help victims to better understand their rights under the law; work with victims on developing safety plans to address immediate and future safety concerns; assist with court preparation; accompany victims to civil and criminal legal proceedings; connect victims to other community services; and, provide crisis intervention, education, information and referrals.

FY 2018-19 was the first full year for DASI's new Municipal Court Project, which began as a pilot in one court but quickly grew to covering all municipal courts in the county. This year DASI advocates were present in municipal courts to inform 65 victims and defendants about services available to them.

Case Management Services

Advocacy on our clients' behalf and linkages with other community services and resources can be critical for both residential and nonresidential clients working to get their lives back on track after domestic or sexual violence. DASI Case Managers helped 58 individuals connect with other services and resources that could be of help.

Domestic Violence Liaison (DVL)

The Domestic Violence Liaison Program (DVL) is an innovative partnership of the NJ Department of Children and Families, the Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP), and the NJ Coalition to End Domestic Violence at the state level, and the DCPP local offices and domestic violence agencies at the county level. The goal is to strengthen and enhance the service coordination between New Jersey's child protection and domestic violence systems to bring about improved safety and well-being outcomes for women and children when child abuse and domestic violence co-occur.

The DASI DVL served 106 individuals, participated in 195 case consultations, and coordinated 4 trainings for DCPP staff on the topics of the link between child abuse, domestic violence, and animal abuse; the effect of witnessing domestic violence on children; human trafficking; the DASI Safe House; and, perpetrators' patterns of power and control.

Domestic Violence Response Teams

Trained DVRT volunteers assist victims of domestic violence at police stations after a domestic violence incident to provide information and support to victims and their children. This year, 25 volunteers responded to 112 call-outs, 9 new volunteers completed training and 7 volunteers began their training.

Sexual Assault Response Teams

Undergoing a forensic exam or a law enforcement investigation can be frightening for a sexual violence victim. Trained SART advocates meet with victims of sexual assault at hospitals and police stations after a sexual assault has occurred to provide support, information, and advocacy. This year SART provided 23 medical/forensic accompaniments and 7 law enforcement accompaniments for 23 victims of sexual violence.

DECIDE

DECIDE is a program for men who are seeking to stop the use of control and abuse in their relationships. The 26-week group program is based on an evidence-based model, and is an intervention program that can help individuals understand that they CAN change. DECIDE is not an anger management or therapy group, but an educational program for change that is based on the beliefs that abuse and interpersonal violence are learned behaviors that can be unlearned and are social problems requiring changes at individual, institutional, and cultural levels. 191 individuals were helped by DECIDE this year with 68 enrolled in groups and 27 helped with case management. 25 participants (37%) completed the group program during the fiscal year. 25% chose to return for support after program completion. 90% of the men in the program identified as fathers or were living with or involved with children (total children affected=115).

"The group helped me learn how to think through things before I act, and to keep my balance"

On Campus at Sussex County Community College

DASI is proud to report on the activities accomplished throughout the second year of holding office hours at the Student Center at Sussex County Community College. We are excited by the success of this collaboration and so grateful to SCCC for their support and to Project Self Sufficiency for generously partnering with DASI on this endeavor. In total, DASI staff held 311 office hours, spent 37.5 hours at outreach and awareness events, and reached over 358 students and faculty during office hours and through various educational programs and outreach events including:

- Screenings of "The Hunting Ground" and "Miss Representation" followed by panel discussions
- Media Literacy: Gender, Violence, & Our Culture workshops helped students learn skills for accessing, analyzing, and evaluating media messages
- Taco About it Tuesday: Pornography Media Literacy



"I learned how social media and the sexualization of advertisements play a role in our culture."

Community education programs & outreach events reached 2,876 Sussex County teens and adults in 92 presentations.

Staff Professional and Personal Development

DASI prioritizes professional training and development for our staff and volunteers. In addition to quarterly self-care and team building retreat days, this year staff participated in the following training topics: Economic Empowerment; Surviving & Thriving; Firearms & Domestic Violence; Suicidality; Cultural Competence; Inclusion; Stalking; Diet Culture & Fat Phobia; Protection Orders; Military Response to Intimate Partner Violence; Removing Barriers to Service and Justice; Teen Protection Orders; Interstate Custody; Community Engagement; Strangulation; Fetal Alcohol Disorders; Law, Ethics & Victim Assistance; HR in a Challenging Culture; Understanding Rape Culture; Media Literacy; Empathy; Animal Abuse, Child Abuse & Domestic Violence; Sexual Violence & Trauma; Incarcerated Survivors; Teen Dating Violence Prevention; #MeToo; Objectification; Mandatory Reporting Laws; Shame & Trauma; Advanced Safety Planning; Trauma & the Body; Mindfulness; Working with Male Survivors; Gender Equity; Disney, Porn & Healthy Sexuality; Elder Abuse; Protective Factors; Landlord Tenant Law; Risk Assessment; Affirming Care for Transgender Victims; Legal Ethics; Domestic Violence & Healthcare; Domestic Violence & Use of Technology; NARCAN; Addressing Ableism; Addressing Racism; and, Building Resiliency.

Morning Glory Thrift & Gift Shop

Morning Glory, DASI's ongoing fundraising initiative, generated an astounding \$115,486 in sales this year. Although shop expenses are quite high and only a small percentage makes up the proceeds that go to DASI, Morning Glory is a valuable asset to DASI and to the community. Donations pour in from the generous Sussex County community who want nothing more than to help survivors and have a worthy destination for their unneeded items. Low income families can find much of what they need at low prices. And, Morning Glory is a friend-raiser for DASI, providing enjoyable volunteer opportunities and a public space for raising awareness of the issues and our services. For more info call 973-786-0018.

THANKS & APPRECIATION

Volunteers and Community Partners Helping DASI to Meet our Mission

DASI volunteers provide a wide variety of services to help us meet our mission, including domestic violence and sexual assault response teams, fundraising, reception and administrative support, donation pick-ups, helping out at the Morning Glory Shop, yard maintenance, and client activities and services. 65 volunteers provided 6,273 hours of service this year!

Honored at the 2019 DASI Volunteer & Community Partner Appreciation Dinner:



Timi Fearick, 2019 Debora Meltz Volunteer of the Year with Roxana Letchi, DASI Office Services Assistant



Dawn Palmer, Morning Glory Shop Volunteer of the Year with Jess Mott, Manager, Morning Glory Shop



Judy Beardsley, Service Volunteer of the Year with Jessica Ziegler, DASI Volunteer Coordinator and Roxana Letchi

Community Partners help fill in the gaps to meet the needs of our clients in ways that we never could without them.

2019 COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARDS WENT TO:

Project Self-Sufficiency • Hopatcong Women's Club • Cailey Jewelers

A special thank you to all of our community partners for your incredible generosity and support:

Hopatcong Women's Club

BW NICE
Brook Hollow Farm
Calmoseptine
Connect for Community
Cub Scouts, Glasser, NJ
Delta Kappa Gamma
Fonzarelli
Foodshed Alliance
Get Juiced

Helping Heart & Handbag

Lake Mohawk Country Club Local Share Longmeadow Farm New Jersey State Police Posh Project Self Sufficiency Race Farm Ryan's Cases SEC Sparta Women's Club- Circle of Yarn St. Francis de Sales Church St. Mary's Episcopal Church Sussex Elks Club 2288 Sussex Women's Club Thomco Construction, LLC Tranquility Farm/ Circle Brook Farm Tranquility SDA Church United Methodist Church Vernon Women's Club

2019 FINANCIALS



EXPENSES LESS DEPRECIATION

Residential Services:\$433,233Non Residential Services:\$1,116,504G&A:\$228,307Fundraising & Morning Glory Shop:\$182,155

Total: \$1,960,199

INCOME

Grants:	
Federal:	\$597,943
State:	\$1,081,258
Country:	\$42,658
Other	\$18,000

Fundraising/Donations:

Morning Glory \$115,486
All Other \$266,183

 Program Fee
 \$15,376

 Other Income
 \$1,174

Total: \$2,138,078

EVENTS

DASI 35TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

In April we celebrated 35 years of DASI programs and services! The evening honored Debora Meltz, whose 25 years of stellar volunteerism, fundraising, and financial support has been so critical to our success. The audience was treated to a slide show of her history with DASI, as well as photographic peeks into the work life of several long term staff and Board members. Nancy Jacobus was recognized for 35 years (yes, 35!) on the DASI Board of Trustees. Executive Director Jamie Bernard was also recognized for 35 years, Personnel Manager Cathy Rudder was recognized for 25 years, Associate Director Gwen Federico for 20 years, Residential Services Director Dawn Penna for 15 years, and Legal Advocacy Services Director Cassandra DeLucchi for 10 years. Held at the beautiful Lake Mohawk Country Club with music by Party of Phive, attendees heard inspiring words from brave survivors, bid on auction items, and danced the night away. A wonderful time was had by all!









CLOTHESLINE PROJECT at NEWTON SQUARE & SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

To commemorate Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Crime Victims' Rights Week in April, DASI, SCCC, Ginnie's House, & the Sussex County Office of Child Protection & Permanency joined together to present the Clothesline Project. T-shirts are created and displayed to reflect individuals' experiences and expressions of anguish and hope; bear witness to sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse within our community; and provide a forum for survivors and supporters to speak out. SCCC activities included an Open Mic Night, and in Newton we offered Coffee with a Cop, a petting zoo, face painting, and activities for children.









"In order to heal, we need to tell our stories."

Annual Candlelight Vigil

Each year during October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, DASI hosts a Candlelight Vigil to remember those who have died as a result of domestic violence, to support those who are still suffering, and to celebrate survivors who have found peace. We present the Full Circle Award to a survivor who now gives back to other survivors or who works to help prevent domestic violence in her community. The 2019 Full Circle Award was presented to JENNIFER STOLL, who said the #MeToo movement inspired her to reveal her struggle on social media.



Project Protect

Because animal maltreatment is often "the tip of the iceberg" and the first warning sign of an individual or family in trouble, DASI convened individuals and organizations in the community to work together to prevent child abuse, animal abuse, & domestic violence. The Project Protect Conference was sponsored by the Sussex County HSAC Child Abuse/Missing Children Committee, iHeart Media and SB One Bank.

Conference keynote speaker Phil Arkow, prolific author, inspiring educator, violence prevention expert and Coordinator of the National Link Coalition, shared his expertise on preventing abuse.



DASI Agency Video



With much appreciation to Flying Turtle Studio, LLC, the comprehensive DASI agency video debuted in the community and on our website to rave reviews.

Check it out on the homepage at www.dasi.org!

"I'm not going to sugarcoat it and say it was easy, but there was hope...I want people to know you should never give up, and even at rock bottom, you can still stand."

DONORS

ABCODE Security ABS Environmental Cody Adams Elise Adams Michelle Adan Arlene Albino Albino & Clark, LLC Marel Albrecht Laura & Byron Alcantara Kylen Anderson Sheila Garry Avery Janis Awan Megin R. Babakissina Clifford Baden Marshall L. Badgley Nicole & Bill Baker Beryl Basher Pat Beach Judy Beardsley Murray Bell Jack Bemporad Kim Bennett Deneen Bennett Wendy Bentson Deborah Berry Toon Amy Bogman-Abrams Bernice Bonilla Roberta Bootsma Stephen Brady Eric Brandt Chris Buckley Robin Burger Scott & Linda Bury Jorge Bustamante Lindsay Campbell Helen & Bill Carey Harold & Rebecca Carlson Raffy H. Chilingerian Nina Chodniewicz Christ Union Chapel - North Shore Culver Lake

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Ann Schelle

Cassia Schlesinger Defrank Paul Schmidt

Lvnn Schnabel Jeff Schnare Linda & Tom Schneider Walter Schoen Priscilla H.Schuster Lynn Scott

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Ilona Varga Elizabeth Vogelaar Voices Women's Circle Cindy Wagner Terri Wagner Margaret Walker Jenna Wetmore Erin White Mary Youngblood

Courtney Zeich

Over \$500

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Over \$5000

Jamie Bernard & Charles Ross, MD BW NICE, LLC Mark Endicott Beverly & Bruce Gordon Jaime Sella The Sella Foundation

Over \$25,000

Alex Cable

Over \$50,000

ThorLabs, Inc.

Foundations Grants

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Jane Dorothy Perlmutter Foundation
Investors Bank
Lakeland Charities
Lake Mohawk German Christmas Market
Lambert Family Foundation
Sella Foundation
ShopRite Partners for Caring Fund
Sunshine Lady Foundation
The Allstate Foundation
The Caring House Project, Inc.
Young Men's Philanthropic League

Government Grants

Federal Emergency Management Agency NJ Department of Children & Families NJ Division on Women NJ Department of Consumer Affairs NJ Division of Criminal Justice NJ Department of Law and Public Safety Sussex County Grant-in-Aid Sussex County Chapter 51

