



Empathy in Action

Helping children heal from the trauma of abuse.
Helping adults act to protect children.

ANNUAL REPORTS FY 2016 AND 2017

OCT. 2015 – SEPT. 2016

OCT. 2016 – SEPT. 2017





Since 1995,

Safe Shores – The DC Children’s Advocacy Center has been providing intervention, hope and healing to children and families affected by sexual and physical abuse and extreme violence in D.C. We’re working also to prevent child sexual abuse through education and training.

A Note from the Executive Director

Life can be a lot sometimes, right? It can throw the truly unexpected at us, unspeakably hard things, incredibly painful experiences.

Consider what it might feel like for a child to have her life turned upside down by violence and betrayal, having her reality shattered by someone, perhaps someone she knows.

Safe Shores knows firsthand about childhood brokenness. We exist precisely because devastating, unthinkable things happen to children and to the families that love them.

For more than two decades, Safe Shores has been on the front lines, providing intervention, hope and healing for children and families affected by abuse, trauma and violence in DC. And, we have our sights squarely set on preventing abuse through education and training.

Safe Shores does not work alone. We serve as the hub of a team of public and private partners that includes DC’s Child and Family Services Agency, Children’s National Health Center, the Metropolitan Police Department, the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, and the United States Attorney’s Office for DC.

Over fiscal years 2016 and 2017, Safe Shores continued to do all we can to provide intervention, hope and healing to child victims of abuse in DC and their families and to prevent the preventable crime.

Join us, stay with us in pulling out all the stops to **#ProtectKids365!**

Yours in service of children,

Michele B. Cole

Michele Booth Cole, JD
Executive Director
Safe Shores – The DC Children’s Advocacy Center

FY 16 & FY 17 Combined Report

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Strategic Plan

Fiscal Years 2015 – 2017

Throughout the summer of 2014 till fall, the board of directors and staff of Safe Shores engaged in a rigorous strategic planning process to review and build upon the strengths of the organization, address challenges, and ensure sustainability in support of future goals over the next three fiscal years. Our strategic plan’s primary objectives are to strengthen:

- Services and relationships with stakeholders – clients, MDT, and the community.
- Internal systems and processes
- Resource development and sustainability
- Learning, growth, and innovation

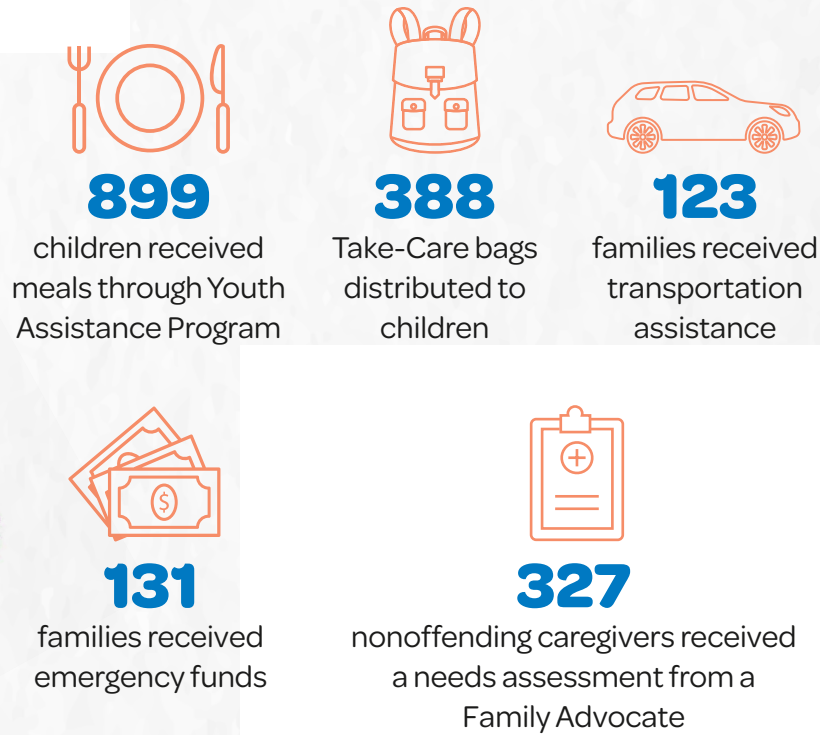
For more information on the strategic plan, please visit: safeshores.org.



Impact

FY 16

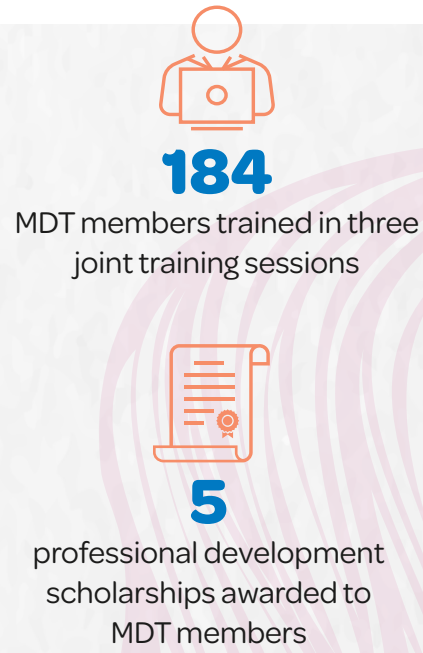
FAMILY ADVOCACY



PREVENTION



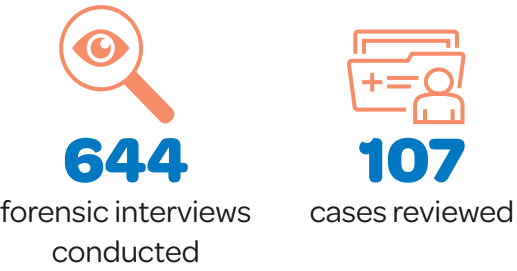
MDT ADVANCEMENT



CLINICAL SERVICES



FORENSIC SERVICES



SEASONAL DRIVES



SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT



Impact

FY 17

FAMILY ADVOCACY



970

children received meals through Youth Assistance Program



400

Take-Care bags distributed to children



126

families received transportation assistance



118

families received emergency funds



383

nonoffending caregivers received a needs assessment from a Family Advocate

MDT ADVANCEMENT



5

professional development scholarships awarded to MDT members

CLINICAL SERVICES



117

children received mental health services



1,433

hours of consultation with caregivers of therapy clients

SEASONAL DRIVES



481

children received holiday gifts and school supplies from seasonal drives

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT



3,729

social media followers

PREVENTION



1,301

adults trained in Stewards of Children®

FORENSIC SERVICES



713

forensic interviews conducted:



778

cases reviewed



441

child sexual abuse



105

child physical abuse



11

child trafficking



4

technology-assisted child exploitation



2

child victims of violent crimes other than abuse



15

witnesses to violence



129

precautionary interviews



6

adult competencies



Client Story

Aaron, 11-years old, had only the clothes on his back when he arrived at Safe Shores with his mother. The mother and son came to Safe Shores from a homeless shelter, where they had been staying since Aaron told his mother that his stepfather, her husband, had been sexually abusing him. The abuser had sworn Aaron to secrecy. In the rush to leave home, Aaron stuffed whatever he could into a plastic grocery bag. His mother could not afford to replace the

belongings Aaron had to leave behind. A Safe Shores Family Advocate gave Aaron a Take-Care bag filled with new clothes and toiletries and helped the family find stable housing. Aaron also received a forensic interview and therapy from Safe Shores. His involvement with us began when a Family Advocate greeted Aaron and his mother with a smile. Safe Shores' intervention placed Aaron and his mother on a pathway to healing.

Legislative Action

Advocating for Child Victims

Safe Shores served on DC's task force on SAVRAA (Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act of 2014), which was established to study nationally recognized best practices and develop recommendations for implanting the Act. In February 2016, we provided testimony to DC Council stating our support for the SAVRAA Task Force recommendations to establish an anonymous hotline for minors and to provide community-based, victim-centered credentialed advocates to help children understand their rights as a victim and the investigation and prosecution processes.

Legislative Breakfast

It has become a tradition for Safe Shores to host a Legislative Breakfast at D.C.'s city hall, the John A. Wilson Building, during Child Abuse Prevention Month. Our events on April 28, 2016 and April 27, 2017 attracted D.C. Councilmembers and Council staff, who started their day catching up on the latest happenings at Safe Shores.

Events & Public Engagement

Cherishing Childhood

Since 2011, Safe Shores has used the Benevon model for building sustainable funding from lifelong donors. As part of the approach to create new friends and increase community support, we held our 5th annual Cherishing Childhood Breakfast on April 19, 2016. Themed “The Art of Healing,” the event was an opportunity to highlight Safe Shores’ use of art therapy and to kindle multi-year pledges for our work and mission.

Coffee for Kids

Coffee for Kids

Every other Thursday, Safe Shores takes visitors on a tour of our mission. The one-hour morning event educates and inspires guests with the facts and stories about Safe Shores’ work in promoting intervention, hope, and healing. Between FY 16 and FY 17, we experienced a nearly 10% increase in visitors to Coffee for Kids.

Visitors

Public officials from around the globe visit Safe Shores to see our site and to learn how we implement the CAC model. We receive requests from government agencies and nongovernmental agencies to tour the Center and meet with staff. We strive to accommodate all interests in exploring the work of Safe Shores in support of efforts to replicate the CAC model in places near and far and to understand the impact of childhood trauma.

In FY 16 and FY 17, Safe Shores welcomed delegations from the countries of Georgia and Lithuania and a group of judges from DC Superior Court.

“Child Abuse Isn’t on Spring Break” Campaign

For Child Abuse Prevention Month 2017, Safe Shores launched an infographic campaign on our social media platforms on how to end child sexual abuse. “Child Abuse Isn’t on Spring Break” spread prevention information via Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram throughout April.

safeshores.org

Our website got a new look in FY 2016 to enhance the experience of visitors, amplify Safe Shores’ messaging, and increase public engagement.



Response Highlights

Family Advocacy Services

Since 2011, Safe Shores has used the Benevon model for building sustainable funding from lifelong Growth, collaboration and outreach highlight the momentum Family Advocacy experienced over fiscal years 2016 and 2017 towards achieving Safe Shores' strategic goals.

FAS added a third Family Advocate position, engaged in outreach efforts with partner agencies, began attending pre- and post-forensic interview conferences, and partnered with our Prevention Program to start and implement the Caregiver Support Group.

Five caregivers attended the first gathering in September 2015, and immediately began to support one another through sharing personal experiences, feelings and insights. The group met once a week for seven weeks in the evening. We provided childcare and dinner.

Clinical Services

In FY 16, Safe Shores established trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT) as the core treatment modality used by the Clinical Services Program. TF-CBT is an evidence-based treatment for children and adolescents impacted by trauma and their parents or caregivers. Research shows that TF-CBT successfully resolves a broad array of emotional and behavioral difficulties associated with single, multiple and complex trauma experiences, such as child sexual abuse.

Forensic Services

During fiscal years 2016 and 2017, our Forensic Services program grew in capacity by hiring a full-time MDT Coordinator and an additional on-call interviewer. Additionally, our Forensic Services team continued to stay abreast of best practices in the field through professional development trainings. Both of our full-time interviewers trained in two different protocols and continued a rigorous peer review schedule.



Prevention & Outreach

In both fiscal years, we exceeded our target of training 1,000 adults annually in the Stewards of Children® child sexual abuse curriculum. Additionally, we introduced Darkness to Light's Bystander training at DC General, a homeless shelter housing upwards of 250 families.

February 2016, Safe Shores began implementation of the ACT Raising Safe Kids Program, which is an education support group to help parents and caregivers of children ages birth to 8 build strong safe families that protect children from violence. The group met for nine, two-hour sessions. "I look forward to this group every week," a parent said. "I just want to be the parent I wanted when I was growing up." We added an additional part-time staffer to support Prevention's growing outreach.

MDT Advancement & Support

Serving child victims of abuse and their families demands the highest level of professional skills from each member of the MDT. Therefore, Safe Shores offers trainings and scholarships to support the MDT's advancement. Additionally, we facilitate best practices for responding to child victimization.

In FY 16, we held three joint MDT trainings, which received high approval ratings from attendees. And, we launched CSEC* case review amid an increase in the number of CSEC cases seen at Safe Shores. Note: CSEC is the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.

In FY 17, Safe Shores surveyed the MDT as part of our Outcome Measurement System to assess our successes in serving children and families. We value our partners' review of our performance in coordinating DC's multidisciplinary response to child abuse and other extreme childhood violence.

Financial Report Template 2017

REVENUE

Grants & Contributions	\$ 1,423,000
State Awards	\$ -
Individual, Corporate, & Community Contributions	\$ 907,579
Interest Income	\$ 87,698
Other Revenue	
In-kind Contributions	\$ 21,817
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,440,094

EXPENSES

General Program	
Clinical Services Program	\$ 677,289
Family Advocacy Program	\$ 587,851
Forensic Services Program	\$ 351,138
Prevention & Outreach Program	\$ 262,861
MDT Advancement & Support Program	\$ 279,743
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 2,158,882
Fundraising	\$ 205,542
General & Administrative	\$ 232,730
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 438,272
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,597,154
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
Net Assets, Beginning of the Year	\$ 2,418,302
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 2,261,242

Financial Report Template 2016

REVENUE

Grants & Contributions	\$ 1,390,285
State Awards	\$ -
Individual, Corporate, & Community Contributions	\$ 1,020,608
Interest Income	\$ 9,696
Other Revenue	
In-kind Contributions	\$ 141,364
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,561,953

EXPENSES

General Program	
Clinical Services Program	\$ 668,130
Family Advocacy Program	\$ 584,024
Forensic Services Program	\$ 249,745
Prevention & Outreach Program	\$ 229,711
MDT Advancement & Support Program	\$ 229,994
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 1,961,604
Fundraising	\$ 248,313
General & Administrative	\$ 269,459
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 517,772
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,479,376
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
Net Assets, Beginning of the Year	\$ 2,335,725
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 2,418,302

Board of Directors

Fiscal Year 2016

- **Neil Albert**, Chair
- **Thomas M. Cicotello**, Vice Chair
- **John E. Gilmore**, MBA, PMP (Treasurer)
- **B. Michael Young** (Secretary)
- **Kathryn Barnes**
- **Cyntoria Carter**
- **Michele Booth Cole**, JD, Ex Officio, Executive Director, Safe Shores -The DC Children's Advocacy Center
- **Joe Geissenhainer**
- **Shana Glickfield**
- **Melissa Hook**
- **Rachel Kronowitz**, Esq.
- **Barbara Annette Mullenex**, AIA
- **Tanya Sweeney**, Non-Officer Exec. Cmte. Mbr.

Fiscal Year 2017

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- **Rachel Kronowitz**, Esq., Vice Chair
- **John E. Gilmore**, MBA, PMP, Treasurer
- **Shana Glickfield**, Secretary
- **Neil Albert**, Non-Officer Exec. Cmte. Mbr.
- **Kathryn Barnes**
- **Michele Booth Cole**, JD, Ex Officio, Executive Director, Safe Shores -The DC Children's Advocacy Center
- **Henry C. Cashen II**
- **Lynn English**
- **Joseph Geissenhainer**
- **Melissa Hook**
- **Barbara Mullenex**
- **Rae Robinson Trotman**, MPH, MSW



Safe Shores – The DC Children's Advocacy Center

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THE DC CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER