

# 2023



## South Peninsula Haven House

### Supporting Individuals, Family, and Community

*"Just a quick note to express my gratitude. Being brand new to Alaska, and faced with a situation that called for my protection was scary."*

*"Thank you for being so quick, flexible, and professional in your decision to house me on no notice."*

*"My husband is seeking help from an appropriate Dr., here in Homer. I think we'll be all right. However, I also know that my ability to be able to safely leave him, motivated him to find his own Dr., to deal with his own problems."*

*"Again thank you."*  
HAVEN HOUSE RESIDENT

### Message from our Executive Director

Did you know that on February 28, 2003, Haven House (HH) opened its residential shelter doors? The shelter was funded by a Community Development Block Grant and Rasmuson Foundation, and this year we celebrate its 20th birthday. We need the generosity of our community and stakeholders to continue to exist and serve those that need it most.

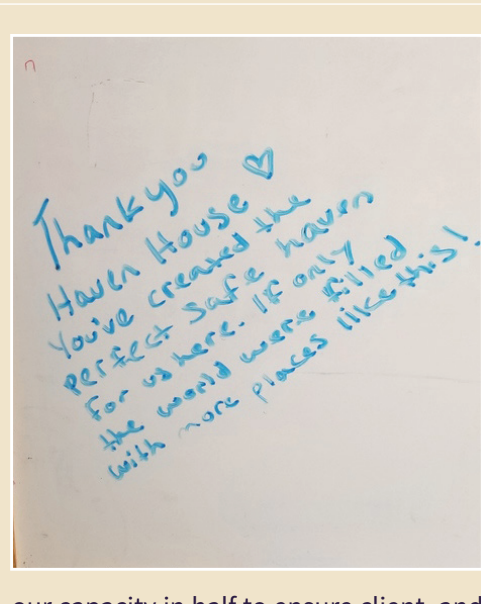
Before HH had a residential shelter, and because Haven House is in the center of a compassionate community, victims of crime were housed off-site in safe homes. Many smaller communities that provide domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse day services do not have a residential shelter. These smaller communities continue to rely on safe homes to keep victims safely sheltered until arrangements for a larger service area can be made. Depending on the time of year and the availability of air travel, it can be weeks before victims can be safely relocated.

Some of you may not have heard of the term safe home or safe homes, and others may have been safe home hosts. We thank those that have been a host and want to take a minute to share what a safe home

is for those that don't know. A safe home is a residential home where a family opens their doors to provide safety and security for folks actively fleeing domestic violence. These homes are secure places where client safety and confidentiality are of the utmost importance and are hosted by caring community members anonymously. While staying in a safe home, clients can expect safety, a warm place to sleep, meals, and access to health care and victim advocacy. Local advocates can still assist victims with protective orders, travel arrangements, and creating safety plans.

The Haven House residential shelter is unique in that it can safely house up to 20 residents in a home-like environment when needed. When capacity is high, extra advocates are brought in to ensure that all residents feel supported and that everyone's needs are met to the best of our ability. This also ensures that hot meals are served on time and that there are enough staff to assist with the transition that the evening hours bring. Additional evening staff allows facilitated adult groups and supervised children's groups to be held.

During the pandemic, we had to cut



our capacity in half to ensure client, and staff, safety while continuing to provide advocacy support for all individuals needing assistance. During that time, we safely housed victims in hotels and cannot express how much we appreciate the generosity and support clients received during those uncharted times.

Now that the state of emergency has been lifted, HH is operating at a normal capacity and continues to offer all victim services on a walk-in basis.

Thank you for all you do to support survivors and their families!

Ronnie Leach, Executive Director

### Girls on the Run

Spring 2023 Girls on the Run program was a season of fun and growth!!! Our participation was another year where we had large numbers for our small community. Team members came from West Homer Elementary School, Fireweed Academy, Homeschool Connections and McNeil Canyon School. This was the second year we had participants from McNeil Canyon and one more girl was added for two participants total. This is significant because the dismissal time at McNeil Canyon does not line up, so those parents and arrange for them to leave school early.

There were 12 participants and 5 of the girls were return participants. One girl was the sibling of a previous year's Girl on the Run! It is always a bonus to have a family involved for over 3 years, supportive and excited to keep their kiddos in this awesome program!

We had 7 incredible volunteer coaches again this year, 5 of which returned for the



2nd, 3rd and 4th years in a year. That kind of consistency makes a positively huge difference for the girls in this program.

This season we returned to a more traditional version of Girls on the Run. We used the West Homer Elementary gym, classrooms and school grounds, leaving Covid-19 adaptations behind.

11 Girls completed the final 5K, all participants ran personal best times and they definitely finished in less time than I anticipated!!! The weather came through with a warm, sunny spring day; allowing families to enjoy the beautiful Homer Spit vista. We are blessed.

Marcee Gray, Girls on the Run

### A Note from our Shelter Manager

It is truly a privilege to work with our participants. There is no quick fix when it comes to healing and moving forward from violence. It is an honor to provide a safe haven for those who have started the process of rebuilding themselves and reclaiming their lives.

Leslie Scroggin, Shelter Manager

### The Kenai Peninsula Children's Advocacy Centers saw 147 children in FY23

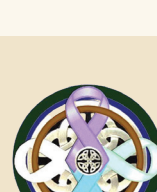
#### Community Collaborations

Many of the services Haven House provides to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault would not be possible without the collaboration of community partners. One such organization is South Peninsula Hospital; an integral ally in our Children's Advocacy Center and Sexual Assault Response Team programs. This year we were able to utilize victim services funds to purchase a new exam table, chosen specifically by the SPH Forensic

Nurses. This upgrade in patient care enables the Team working on behalf of a survivor to provide dignify, around services with compassion, warmth, and respect. This team can include Law Enforcement (HPD or AST), the Office of Children's Services, South Peninsula Behavioral Health, as well as the SPH Forensic Nurses. These essential partnerships are what allowed us to serve 147 children, and respond to 15 SART call outs in FY23.



Lindsey Collins, Director of Child Advocacy & SART



South Peninsula Haven House

## By the Number

- 37,345 bags/boxes of items donated to Homer Thrift
- \$3,982 Homer Thrift vouchers given to community members
- 1700 Shelter Bed Nights
- 257 People Trained in Green Dot
- Crisis Line supported 516 crisis calls
- 147 Children supported through the Child Advocacy Center (CAC)
- 329 Individuals assisted through emergency financial support
- 110 Batterer's Intervention Classes Attended
- 88 referrals to other victim services programs
- Assisted with 26 Protective orders
- 47 families kept from homelessness
- 12 Girls & 6 Coaches participated in Girls on the Run
- 15 Responses to SART services (Sexual Assault Response Team)
- 1 employed through the Empowerment Program
- 2 employed through the Mature Alaskans Seeking Skills Training program

## Financials 2023



Revenue Source	Amount	Category
Alaska Department of Public Safety CDVSA	\$887,345.93	Grant
Department of Health & Social Services	\$301,223.14	Grant
Homer Thrift Sales	\$296,666.82	Other
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	\$95,358.34	Grant
Public Support (Individual, Business, Other Organizations)	\$73,605.19	Other
National Children Alliance	\$47,509.46	Grant
Fundraising	\$13,894.02	Other
Other Organizations Reimburse	\$9,000	Other
Program Service Fees	\$3,160.00	Other
Interest	\$1,926.94	Other
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority	\$1,567.06	Grant
Misc. Revenue	\$824.56	Other
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,732,081.46</b>	

Haven House Team			
Board Members	Management	Staff	Coaches
Britt Huffman, Board Chair	Ronnie Leach, Executive Director	Marcee Gray, Girls on the Run Coordinator	Linda Stumpff, Assistant Homer Thrift Manager
Gregory Draais, Vice Chair	Sarah Borgen, Prevention Coordinator	Lia Jacobsen, Office Manager & Homeless Assistance Coordinator	Lauralee Peterson, Kenai Child Advocacy Center Manager
Diane Borgman, Secretary	Josh Collins, Batterer's Intervention Program Manager	Jamie Mason, Bookkeeper	<b>Coaches</b>
Amy Smith, Finance Chair	Lindsey Collins, Director of Child Advocacy & SART	Meghan Pollak, Human Resources & Operations Manager	Patricia Westbrook
Maria Walker, Member	Liz Doan, Homer Thrift Manager	Leslie Scroggin, Shelter Manager	Kim Perkins
	Jessie Felice, Green Dot Coordinator		Olga Voneguieser
			Angela Head
			Keriana Lasiter

Supporting Haven House is an investment in a safer community.

**DONATE TODAY**



The South Peninsula Haven House logo consists of a collaboration of the awareness ribbons for Domestic Violence (purple), Sexual Assault (teal), Child Abuse and Neglect (light blue), and Men Committed to Ending Violence (white).

The four awareness ribbons intertwined with a concentric circle – a series of purple, teal, light blue, and white ribbons – representing our belief in the freedom for all people and the interconnected nature of our lives on the Southern Kenai Peninsula. The protective Celtic Trinity Knots represents the ideal of safe families and Haven House's commitment to be part of ending domestic, sexual, and childhood violence."