



haven·house
Family Services Center

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2015-2016
ANNUAL REPORT
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HISTORY & MISSION



Haven House is dedicated to the elimination of violence against women, men, and children through empowerment, education, social action, and support services.

Haven House Family Services Center was formed in 1978 in Wayne, Nebraska. The agency was an outcome of a joint seminar conducted by the Association of American University Women and Wayne State College staff which determined a need for services for victims of domestic violence and their children.

In 1979, Haven House was incorporated as a non-profit agency under the laws of the State of Nebraska. A volunteer Board of Directors was established, part-time coordinator, and secretary were hired. Original funding was from private donations and the Department of Public Welfare.

A 24-hour crisis line was established, volunteers were trained, and temporary shelter was provided in local motels. Survivors of domestic violence were able to receive emergency financial aid, food, clothing, access to medical services, transportation, emergency legal counseling, emotional support and referrals to established shelters in other communities and other agencies.

In the 1980's, Haven House was awarded funding to provide a 24-hour crisis line, temporary shelter, which was provided through the use of safe homes, motels, and/or referrals to other domestic violence agencies, emergency transportation, emergency financial assistance, legal and medical advocacy, community education, and to extend services to victims and survivors of sexual assault and conduct sexual assault prevention activities. We were also able to expand our





service area to five counties: Cedar, Dixon Dakota, Thurston, and Wayne counties. Funds were also received to provide services to the Omaha Nation and Winnebago Indian Reservations. These funds allowed us to increase client services and add the full-time position of Volunteer Coordinator to provide services on the reservations and to coordinate volunteers to assist staff with the growing demand for victim services experienced in our 5-county area.

In 1994, Haven House established an emergency shelter in Wayne County. With the addition of a shelter, came the position of Shelter Supervisor to oversee/supervise shelter operations and provide advocacy to clients utilizing shelter. At this time, we also expanded our volunteer program to assist with increased client needs.

In 1997, Haven House established a satellite office in South Sioux City, hired a part-time Project Coordinator to provide victim services, and established a Coordinated Community Response Team (CCR) in Dakota County. The CCR was established to address gaps in responding to crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault. A part-time Outreach Coordinator position was later added at the South Sioux City satellite office to provide advocacy and outreach services as well as community education to area churches, organizations, and schools.

Currently, we have 7 FTE's, 21 volunteers, and a volunteer Board of Directors (7). The volunteers and Board of Directors are invaluable to Haven House. Board members representation encompasses our entire 5-county service area. Haven House also receives support from individuals and organizations throughout our service area. This support is a vital part of services and enables us to provide families with more of their basic needs. Currently we have 1,768 donors in our database, who contribute materially and monetarily throughout the year.



HISTORY & MISSION

OUR PHILOSOPHY



Haven House is a non-profit organization founded in 1978 to provide resources for survivors of domestic and sexual violence that has adopted the Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition (NDVSAC) Ethical Guidelines and Core Values and operates with the following philosophies:

- We believe all individuals have a right to safety and freedom from violence.
- We oppose the use of threats, intimidation and violence to create and maintain control. This is the basis for all services and interventions that we provide.
- We believe victims of abuse have the right to confidentiality. We provide services that are free and confidential.
- We are committed to offering services with the highest level of dignity and respect, absent of discrimination regardless of age, gender, race, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.
- We value individual's ability to make their own choices and support their journey to self-sufficiency. We provide non-judgmental services and provide information to support empowerment of individuals to free them from abuse.
- We are committed to an organizational structure that reflects diversity, mutual respect for individual differences, equality, accessibility, participatory decision-making, and collective responsibility among members of the Board, paid staff, volunteers and survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
- We believe that oppression is the root of violence and we oppose it in all its forms including, but not limited to racism, sexism, ageism, ethnocentrism, and homophobia.
- We believe that violence will end only when individuals, institutions, and society as a whole work together to demand an end to abuse.
- We believe abusers must be held accountable for their actions. We believe violence is a public issue, not just a private matter. We believe individuals, institutions, and society as a whole must take responsibility for eliminating violence.



YEAR SNAPSHOT

809
Crisis Calls



317
CLIENTS
PROVIDED
SERVICES



 **58**
Shelter
Clients
(27 adults & 31 children)


3,612
MEALS

7,040
Volunteer
Hours




1,204
Shelter
beds