



SAFE PASSAGE STAFF POSE FOR A PHOTO AT THE CLIENT CHRISTMAS PARTY

# The Quarterly



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## New Beginnings

Winter is not always the happiest season. We're tired of the short days, the cold weather, and the icy roads. It feels like everything green and growing is gone. But winter is also the season of new beginnings.

Winter is when we make New Year's Resolutions! Winter is when the earth is preparing for the growth of spring. Winter is when we feel hope about what the future is bringing. At Safe Passage, we know our clients go through difficult and heartbreaking seasons. We're here for survivors through the challenges and the trauma. We're here when it feels like things just can't get any colder or any worse. We're here to remind survivors that this is a new beginning. We're here to bring hope.

Violence is not the end of a survivor's story. It is just the beginning. Safe Passage exists to assist survivors to heal from the past and walk into a brighter, healthier future. As we look toward the future of Safe Passage and the changes our new beginnings can bring, we hope to have you at our side!



### ANNUAL EVENTS

SEE HOW OUR CLIENTS AND STAFF CELEBRATED THE HOLIDAYS!

THANK YOU TO ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS

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## Client Holiday Party



On December 3rd Safe Passage Clients celebrated the holidays together at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in DeKalb. They enjoyed home cooked dishes catered by our very generous community. Kids were able to get creative at our activity table. They enjoyed decorating holiday masks and even got to make their own ornament! Santa made a guest appearance and talked with the children about their

hopes and wishes for the season and for their future.

A big highlight of the night was during the DeKalb High School Madrigal performance. Clients were all smiles as the students sang Christmas classics.

A very heartfelt thank you goes to Christine Kyler of Kyler Photography for taking family photos of our clients during the evening. This is a memory they will have and cherish for many years to come.

## Annual Appeal

**Special thank to our generous community who supported us in response to our annual appeal!**

*"For so long, I've been hurt by other people. For so long, I've felt stuck, like there's no way out. For so long, I didn't have a voice of my own. Dropping everything and coming to Safe Passage, I found my voice. I found safety. I'm not scared and I learned I'm not alone. I'm happy again!" – Safe Passage Client*



For many of us, the holiday season is a time of warmth, love, and family. We enjoy a season of thankfulness and celebration while looking forward to the new year filled with new beginnings. For many, coming to Safe Passage can be the start of a new beginning. Safe Passage can be the place where they can learn or re-learn what it means to feel safe, whole, and respected. Safe Passage can be the place where they allow themselves to dream again. Safe Passage can be the place where they finally start to feel like survivors.

For over 900 adults and children in 2018, Safe Passage was the beginning of a new life, a life filled with healing, hope, and possibility. Thanks to your support and the support of our generous community, we have been able to provide shelter, counseling, and crisis support for so many brave survivors of violence. As we look toward the next year, our services, unfortunately, are more needed than ever.

# *A Message from Safe Passage's Volunteer Coordinator*

Written by Pamela Rosales

The volunteer department has a new volunteer opportunity for those with a flexible schedule! We are introducing the new Medical On-Call Volunteer Position, in which you will solely provide emotional support to patients of domestic and sexual violence at Kishwaukee Hospital, Valley West Hospital, and the DeKalb Police Department. This is perfect for individuals who need a flexible volunteer schedule!

Our next 65 hour domestic violence and sexual assault training will start in July. If you are interested in volunteering or interning with us, the deadline to apply for the July training is June 17. As an intern, you will be working alongside our case managers in helping clients during crisis intervention on the 24 hour crisis hotline and the shelter, fill out in-take forms for an individual new at the emergency shelter and set up domestic violence or sexual violence counseling sessions. You will also have the opportunity to help out with the needs of our shelter, including: cleaning, cooking with the clients, setting up for community meetings and events, and stocking up on snacks and materials.

If you are interested in applying for the July training, you can apply online at [safepassagedv.org/volunteer](http://safepassagedv.org/volunteer). If you would like to know more about the Medical On-Call Volunteer Position, or other volunteer and internship program information, please contact Pamela Rosales at [prosales@safepassagedv.org](mailto:prosales@safepassagedv.org) or by phone at 815.756.7930 x 144.

## *New Changes in 2019 for Pokanoka's Run/Walk*

For several years, runners and walkers have braved the 4<sup>th</sup> of July heat for an 8-mile trail run through the historic woods of Shabbona Lake State Park. This year, we're excited to announce a date change! On September 28<sup>th</sup> Pokanoka's participants are invited to join us for a newly designed 10K race.

This year we are proud to our partner with the DeKalb Corn Classic. Their popular race takes place on September 29<sup>th</sup>, the day following Pokanoka's. Participants of both events will receive a registration discount and a special DeKalb County race weekend medal. Registration is scheduled to go live on April 1<sup>st</sup>.



For the latest details on this event, follow Pokanoka's Run and Walk on Facebook, or check in with our website: [www.safepassagedv.org/events](http://www.safepassagedv.org/events).

## Mark Your Calendars

We hope you can join us!



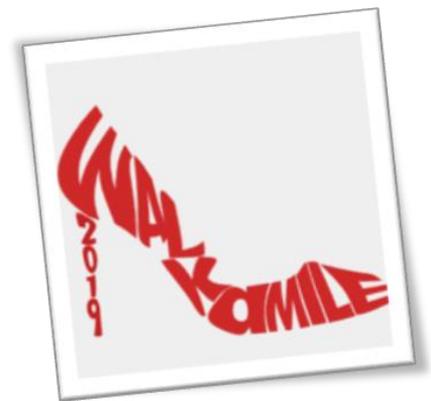
On Friday February 15th, we are hosting our first annual "LOVE", or Love over Violence Event, at Blumen Gardens. This event will serve as our new fundraiser as a replacement to Evening of Chocolate. The night features a free signature drink by Taxco Mexican Cuisine, appetizers by VAC Premier Catering, dancing, and live music from local artist, Bob Palmer. Additionally, Glidden Campus Florist will host a bouquet creation station during the evening and a local dance instructor will be on hand to provide small dance lessons.

Tickets are \$50 and are available online ([www.safepassagedv.org/events](http://www.safepassagedv.org/events)) or at The Egyptian Theatre Box Office Tuesday-Thursday 3:00 – 6:00 PM.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and our agency continues to provide opportunities for our community members and clients to raise awareness to the important issue.

We're kicking off the month with our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Walk a Mile. The event serves as an opportunity to stand against sexual violence by putting yourself in the shoes of a sexual assault survivor for a mile long walk in high heels. Men, we even have shoes for you to borrow!

The event will be held at Sycamore High School Field House on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Registration and check in begins at 10:00 AM with the walk starting at 11:00 AM. Register online at [www.safepassagedv.org/events](http://www.safepassagedv.org/events). Team discounts are available!



On April 16th, join us for Take Back the Night at the Egyptian Theatre from 6:00 – 8:00 PM!

We will stand together with survivors and community members to say sexual violence is not tolerated in our county. Together, we will march downtown DeKalb and let our voices be heard. Immediately following, survivors will have a chance to share their stories. Light refreshments will be served.

Signs are available to use at the event, but you can also bring your own.

## Stay Updated!



Are you interested in learning more about domestic violence and sexual assault? Do you want to become involved in our events? Are you curious how to help Safe Passage? Stay tuned by following us on Facebook (Safe Passage, INC.), Instagram (safe\_passage\_dekalb) and Twitter (Safe\_PassageDV). Learn from our blog: [www.safepassagedv.com](http://www.safepassagedv.com).

We understand society lacks education on domestic violence and sexual violence. By joining the conversation and sharing our posts you can help us educate and reach individuals in our community.



**Help us go green!** If you are interested in being added to our electronic mailing list, please visit our website, [www.safepassagedv.org](http://www.safepassagedv.org), and sign up on our home page. If you wish to continue receiving a hard copy, please contact Kendal Baker at 815.756.5228 or through email: [kbaker@safepassagedv.org](mailto:kbaker@safepassagedv.org).