



Safe Passage Monthly Update

Thank you to everyone who supported Safe Passage at our first annual LOVE Fundraiser!



February at Safe Passage

Your monthly update:

On February 15 we hosted our first annual Love Over Violence Event at Blumen Gardens! Over 100 people came to support our agency and helped us raise funds to support survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

February was Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month! On February 20 our prevention team went live on Facebook to answer our community's questions about what we can do to keep kids safe. Head over to our [Facebook page](#) to check out the video!

Our Residential Case Managers participated in the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence's Advocacy Boot Camp in Springfield. They were able to gain new skills to better serve their clients.

Interested in joining our team? We are currently hiring for two positions in our Legal Advocacy Program. To learn more and to apply, please visit our [website](#).

Welcome Brian!

We are excited to welcome Brian Jackson to our Board of Directors!

Brian is a CPA and former auditor whose passion for technology and continuous

improvement led to his second career as team lead for Crowe LLP's Audit and Tax Technology Center of Excellence. As an assistant director within the Enterprise Architecture and Transformation team, Brian provides thought leadership and direction for initiatives, projects, problems and activities related to the identification, analysis, selection, development, and implementation of technology used by assurance professionals in the delivery of client services.



We are grateful to have you!

Counselor's Column

Written by Safe Passage's Director of Counseling Services, Melissa McGraw

Safe Passage Sexual Assault Counselors, Liz and Kate, have been offering a weekly Creative Arts Group for survivors of sexual violence since July 2018. This group provides an opportunity for trauma survivors to process their abuse experiences through the use of art.



Many survivors are unable to express their trauma using words, so this group allows them to process their feelings through the creation of art. Clients have access to several different media, including water colors, colored pencils, and paints. In a recent group the facilitators provided the prompt, "What does healing look like for you?", and then allowed the clients a safe, calming space to begin creating.

The facilitators are mindful of creating a space that is calming to all the senses, including the use of relaxing background music and aromatherapy. The creation of art in a safe, nonjudgmental space can allow survivors to gain insights about themselves and their healing that they may not have been able to access in other ways.

Additional information on this group and other counseling services at Safe Passage can be obtained by calling the 24-hour crisis hotline at 815-756-5228.

We are here for you. We believe you.

Upcoming Events

CAN YOU
WALK A MILE
IN HIGH HEELS?



Walk a Mile: April 6, at Sycamore High School Field House (427 Spartan Trail, Sycamore)

Dig out your heels! We are once again hosting our annual Walk a Mile, an opportunity for our community to stand against sexual violence by putting yourself in the shoes of a sexual assault survivor to walk a mile in high heels (men's sizes available)!

Schedule of Events:

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Check in and Registration

11:00 AM Walk Begins

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM After Party at Fatty's

\$30 Individual Registration

\$25 Small Group Registration (4-9 individuals)

\$20 Large Group Registration (10+ individuals)

Hurry! Pre-Registration ends March 30th! [Register here!](#)

Take Back the Night: April 16, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the Egyptian Theatre (135 N 2nd Street, DeKalb)

Stand with survivors in a powerful march through downtown DeKalb. Join us after as survivors share their stories. Light refreshments will be served.

[*For more information on our upcoming events, click here.*](#)

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