

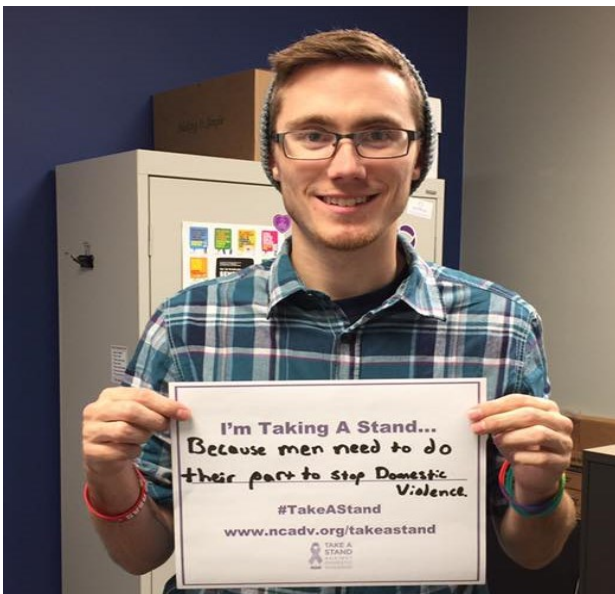


SAFETY

EMPOWERMENT

CHANGE

2016 ANNUAL REPORT
















UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, INC.



Our Services

Our services are voluntary, free and confidential to survivors of abuse in Saginaw County.

How We Help

-  **Crisis Helpline:** Support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
-  **Emergency Shelter:** Our 19-room, 46-bed shelter provides safety and comfort
-  **Emergency On-Call Response:** Advocates provide 24 hour coverage to meet with victims of abuse
-  **Advocacy/ Therapy / Support Groups:** Individual and group counseling provides skills & empowerment
-  **Court Support:** We provide help with personal protection orders, court appearances, and legal options
-  **Housing Support:** Programs are adapted to the needs of the survivor as they move into a new home
-  **Individualized Assistance:** Includes 911 phones, household items, supportive services & more
-  **Youth Services:** Children's services include youth advocacy, therapy, and free, licensed day care
-  **SafePlace Program:** Provides supervised visitation & safe child exchange for families in the region
-  **Community Outreach:** Prevention education in schools and community awareness presentations
-  **Volunteer Opportunities:** Opportunities to volunteer are available through various programs
-  **Girls in the Run Program:** Inspires girls to become joyful, healthy and confident
-  **Underground Railroad Resale:** Donations provide survivors with necessities. and help fund URR



Our Mission

Our mission is to empower survivors and create a culture of safety and respect in the community.



Empowerment Philosophy

Underground Railroad, Inc. recognizes that abuse is damaging to individuals and to society as a whole. The philosophy of the corporation is that abuse is rooted in a social structure that produces significant inequities in roles, relationships, resources, and power between women, men, and children. Abuse is criminal conduct, which cannot be tolerated. Prevention through education, advocacy and appropriate intervention is the ultimate goal. All victims should be provided safety and must be treated with dignity and respect.

Interventions that blame the victim and do not hold the abuser accountable for the violence are ineffective and inappropriate. The Underground Railroad shall encourage and advance the empowerment of victims and seek social change, which addresses the existing imbalance of power within violent relationships.

We believe that to make informed choices for themselves and their children, victims should have access to safety, information about domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking, available options, and community resources. To carry out their decisions, victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking may require support and advocacy that respects their right to self-determination.

To this end the Underground Railroad will provide leadership in our community on issues affecting survivors and be accountable to survivors.



Letter from the President and CEO



Dear Friends,

Thank you for making 2016 another incredible year for Underground Railroad! This year we celebrated 39 years of service, incredible growth as an organization, and a brand new mission statement to empower survivors and create a culture of safety and respect in the community. Here are a few other things you helped us accomplish in 2016:

- ◆ You reinstated our Civil Legal Assistance program, offering free and critical legal support to survivors
- ◆ You launched our Men's Campaign initiative which engages men in our community as allies to prevent abuse
- ◆ You educated over 6,000 middle and high school students about respect in relationships
- ◆ You kept over 700 women, children, and men safe and comfortable in emergency shelter



Seeing a survivor receive the services she needs to become independent and empowered is part of the reason we stay motivated to do this important work. We consider ourselves blessed to be supported by such an incredible base of volunteers and donors who share our passion for making a difference. You made a difference in 2016, and we look forward to the growing impact you will have in the years to come!

Valerie Hoffman, Executive Director

Grant Funding

City of Saginaw (CDBG)

Department of Housing & Urban Development

Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women

F.E.M.A.

Michigan Department of Community Health (VOCA & RPE)

Michigan Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention & Treatment Board

United Way of Saginaw County



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YEAR IN REVIEW



3,380 calls
to the crisis
helpline



7,778
hours
of
childcare
were
provided

107
families
were
provided
with

43,185
nights of
RRH,
TSH and PSH
support



14,263

safe nights in shelter

2050
hearings
attended



566
PPOs
filed



2,197 individual
and **198 group** hours of
of counseling services



1398 volunteers
donated over
17,825 hours
of service to URR



415 girls
completed the
Girls on the Run
program,
and end-of-year
5K run



More than
1,940
adults
received
individualized
assistance

Over **6,563**
youth attended
308 prevention
education sessions



94 public
awareness
events
were attended



52
families
spent quality
time together
in SafePlace

Our resale store provided **\$16,723**
of merchandise using our voucher
system. Over **\$50,000** was
contributed to operating funds.





FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2015/2016 Expenses

Expenses:

Personnel	1,620,633.00	61.1%
Occupancy	260,604.00	9.8%
Office Expenses	221,347.00	8.3%
Specific Assistance	283,877.00	10.7%
Miscellaneous	49,428.00	1.9%
Interest	36,526.00	1.4%
Travel & Conferences	39,835.00	1.5%
Advertising & Recruitment	7,840.00	0.3%
Depreciation	124,644.00	4.7%
Membership Dues	9,478.00	0.4%
Total	2,654,212.00	100%



Personnel	Interest
Occupancy	Travel & Conferences
Office Expenses	Advertising & Recruitment
Specific Assistance	Other
Miscellaneous	Membership Dues



Shelter & Services	Resale Shop
Court Support Programs	Fundraising
Transitional Housing	Education / Outreach
Sexual Assault	Management General

Program/Services Expenses:

Shelter / Services	627,777.00	23.7%
Court Support Programs	222,154.00	8.4%
Transitional Housing	853,804.00	32.2%
Sexual Assault	132,440.00	5.0%
Resale Shop	174,041.00	6.6%
Fundraising	118,203.00	4.5%
Education/ Outreach	194,356.00	7.3%
Management/ General	331,437.00	12.5%
Total	2,654,212.00	100.0%

2015/2016 Income



■ Businesses ■ Individuals
 ■ Churches ■ In Kind
 ■ Clubs / Groups ■ United Way
 ■ Foundations

Community Contributions:

Businesses	28,208.00	6.4%
Churches	15,676.00	3.6%
Clubs/Groups	19,446.00	4.4%
Foundations	185,850.00	42.3%
Individuals	42,646.00	9.7%
In Kind	79,380.00	18.1%
United Way	67,694.00	15.4%
Total	438,900.00	100%

Income:

Contributions	438,900.00	16.6%
Rent	40,655.00	1.5%
Grants & Fees	1,912,316.00	72.5%
Interest	8,190.00	0.3%
Special Events	53,215.00	2.0%
Store Sales	176,888.00	6.7%
Miscellaneous	8,595.00	0.3%
Total	2,638,759.00	100%



■ Interest ■ Contributions
 ■ Special Events ■ Rent
 ■ Store Sales ■ Grants & Fees
 ■ Miscellaneous

When I retired I wanted to give back in remembrance of a couple close friends that were personally helped by the URR. I have continued to volunteer for about 7 years as I enjoy meeting with the staff and the women who come for services.

- Mary Bain , Volunteer

I donate to URR because the community derives a great deal of benefit from the work that it performs. Hearing stories from survivors of abuse created a special place in my heart for URR. It provides a lifeline to so many in the community. The work is vital, and staff at URR does it with skill and integrity.

- Dave Nall, Donor

Some things I learned from Girls on the Run are to be confident and brave. And also how important it is to be yourself and love yourself!

- Emma,
Girls on the Run Participant

Twenty-three years ago, I was taken to emergency shelter with a newborn who was only a few days old. I had been beaten, and strayed away from my family in California. Underground Railroad's immediate assistance, in the middle of the night 23 years ago, gave me the opportunity to obtain my graduate degree. And now my son is in his final semester at California State University, Long Beach. I have never forgotten that because of you, my son and I have not just any life, but a successful one!

- Anonymous Survivor



UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, INC.

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www.undergroundrailroadinc.org