# THE VOICE

### **SPRING 2022 ISSUE 34** Celebrating **40 Years** of Providing Safe Futures



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: Keep Moving ForwarD

We are so thankful to the team at Keep Moving ForwarD for paying off the mortgage for our shelter! After 29 years of sheltering families in our community from violence, we feel so grateful that our safe space is officially paid off. Keep Moving ForwarD has made an immeasurable difference to our community that will continue on for years to come.

Keep Moving ForwarD has a passion for helping people, and the community we live in. Not only have they contributed financial support to Voices, but over many years, they have volunteered countless hours to help us advance our mission to break the cycle of violence. They show a true passion for our work, and we are so grateful for their support. **Thank you so much to the team at Keep Moving ForwarD. The difference you have made is indescribable.** 

" A sailboat that sails backward can never see the sun rise"



Dear Friends and Supporters,

2022 marks the 40th year that Voices Against Violence has been providing **confidential and free services** for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking. Voices has supported the transformation of thousands of survivors to a life free from fear and abuse. While we dream of a day when our services are no longer needed, we consider it a privilege to still be here providing safe futures for adults and children in our community.

Voices Against Violence Reaching Out, Speaking Out

Throughout the years, Voices has had over **100,000 contacts** with over **15,000 survivors**. During this same time, we have provided over **30,000 bed nights** to more than **500 adults and children** in our confidential shelter and other safe housing locations.

Our confidential shelter is an integral service we offer for survivors in our communities. With supporters like you, we can continue providing victims, survivors, and their families a safe and violence-free place to heal.

Donating today in honor of our 40th anniversary will allow Voices to continue to provide these crucial services to our clients. Your support helps survivors find safety hope and healing. View other ways to help by visiting our website at www.voicesagainstviolence.net.

With Deepest Gratitude,

Meg Kenedy Dugan

Meg Kennedy Dugan Executive Director

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Richard Gowen Board President

**Gift to Voices:** Each and every gift you make to Voices allows us to help every person who comes to us for safety.



#### **VOICES OVER THE YEARS: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE IN**



Plymouth Task Force Against Domestic Violence registered as a non-profit agency in the State of New Hampshire First paid staff were hired! 1982 1990

A small group of women started the Plymouth Task Force Against Domestic Violence. A women's shelter was provided in Task Force members' homes.

1981

Services for survivors of sexual assault were added

1989

#### **APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**



Sexual Assault Awareness Month serves as an opportunity to promote education and prevention of sexual violence. During this month, people across the United States raised awareness about sexual violence, how to prevent it, and how to support those who are affected by it.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month traces its origins to the 1970s, when activists began organizing on a national scale to reduce sexual assault and violence. Advocates fought tirelessly to bring a topic that was once taboo out of the shadows and shed light on the widespread problem of sexual assault.

Source: National Sexual Violence Resource Center

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS FAQS

#### Are most sexual assaults committed by strangers?

No; in fact, more than half of women who are raped report that the perpetrator was an intimate partner.

Where can sexual assault survivors find counseling and support?

Voices Against Violence can help connect survivors to resources. Our office number is 603–536–5990 and we have a 24/7 hotline at 1–877–221–6176.

## How can educators incorporate sexual assault prevention into their curriculum?

We can all help end the silence and use our voices to empower freedom from sexual assault.

1 in 10 men





1 in 4 women

experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime

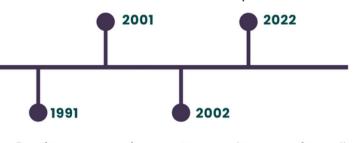
#### **OUR COMMUNITIES FOR 40 YEARS AND COUNTING**

is paid off in full!

The Voices Against Violence

confidential shelter mortgage

First Executive Director was hired and a Board of Directors was formulated



Purchase and renovation of a safe house to shelter women and children Agency became formally known as Voices Against Violence





### **DANCING UNDER THE STARS**

Join us on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at Kelley Park in downtown Bristol for the annual Voices Against Violence Dancing Under the Stars event!

Local community stars paired with professional dancers will be hitting the dance floor again this year and boogieing for a cause!

A panel of judges, and the audience, will vote on the winner. All proceeds will benefit Voices to ensure we are able to continue supporting victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence.



To learn more about this year's dancers and donate to this event, visit our website at www.voicesagainstviolence.net or scan the QR code with your mobile device!



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It is our mission to break the cycle of violence by providing comprehensive services for all victims and survivors and by creating social change through education and action.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### A July 14, 2022: Dancing Under the Stars Kelley Park, Bristol NH

Big Daddy Joes, Rumney, NH

View our upcoming events by visiting us at www.voicesagainstviolence.net

#### LEADERSHIP

Meg Kennedy Dugan, Executive Director

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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