

# ANNUAL REPORT

MEASURING ACHIEVEMENT

2023-2024



## THE WOMEN'S CENTER INC. COLUMBIA & MONTOUR COUNTIES OF PA

### OUR THOUGHTS

The Women's Center is dedicated to empowering individuals and advocating for a socially just community free from violence. This year marks our fiftieth year of service to the communities of Columbia and Montour Counties. Over the past five decades, we have grown from a volunteer run hotline to the full-service domestic violence and rape crisis center we are today. We have expanded our community partnerships to help meet the changing needs of survivors and their families. Our center has been a beacon of hope, support, and inspiration for countless individuals.

We wouldn't have been able to do it without the continued support of the community we serve. We are grateful for your generosity, support, and continued dedication to ending domestic violence and sexual assault in Columbia and Montour counties. Your continued support helps to provide a safe, supportive environment for victims to achieve autonomy, safety, and security for themselves and their families.

As The Women's Center, Inc. reflects on its 50-year legacy, it remains steadfast in its commitment to serving and advocating for victims and survivors in Columbia and Montour counties.

The accomplishments you will find herein are the culmination of the hard work, dedication, and tireless determination of our staff, volunteers, supporters, and the community over the last fiscal year.

Sincerely,

Christy Roberson  
Executive Director

### 2023/2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Collaborated with Geisinger's Wellness Center to develop a SharePoint site (housing domestic violence resources) and Office Hours for Geisinger Employees experiencing domestic violence.
- ◆ Maintained a private, safe place with the resources/supplies and equipment necessary for survivors and their children to safely access medical and mental health care utilizing telehealth services.
- ◆ Maintained a Healthy Survivor Support Fund to support survivors' healthcare-related needs, including COVID support bags, food, personal care items, cleaning supplies, and gift cards.

# 2023/2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Provided accompaniment services for 98 survivors in the medical setting and 165 survivors in the legal setting.
- ◆ Maintained Children's Counseling services in the school setting, providing counseling services to eight children.
- ◆ Hosted a successful toy drive, collecting over 220 toys and raising \$2,400 for the purchase of toys for families in need.
- ◆ Held our Annual Participant Holiday Event as a meal and toy pick-up, serving over 60 meals to adults and children.
- ◆ Partnered with local businesses to provide Thanksgiving meals and 30 Easter baskets to survivors and their children.
- ◆ Provided 353 instances of emergency financial assistance (emergency food, cleaning supplies, and personal care items).
- ◆ Maintained partnership with the Columbia County Housing Authority to provide transitional housing to women and children through the Bridge House Program.
- ◆ Assisted 28 survivors and their children to secure permanent safe housing.
- ◆ Maintained two staff trained to provide the Mandated Reporter Training and presented Mandated Reporter Training to community organizations.
- ◆ Provided training on the impact of domestic violence on survivors, barriers survivors face when interacting with law enforcement, victim-centered interviewing, criteria for a Protection from Abuse Order, and the intersection of domestic violence and sexual assault to 52 officers from six police department across our service area, including University Police.
- ◆ Two staff trained as trainers for the Lethality Assessment Program. Facilitated partnerships with one Law Enforcement Agency in Columbia County and one Law Enforcement Agency in Montour County to begin implementation of the Lethality Assessment Program.
- ◆ Participated in community events including Take Back the Night, National Night Out, Out-Fest, Pride-Fest, Montour Delong Fair, Community Health Fair, and Montour Senior Expo.
- ◆ Presented education and prevention programs (Be the Change, Care for Kids, Weird Series, Expect Respect) at local school districts, NCSTU, N4C's, Berwick For the Cause Teen Center, Bloomsburg For the Cause Teen Center and Trinity Learning Center (488 programs; 4,236 reached).
- ◆ Continued to cultivate relationships with local EMS to enhance services to survivors.
- ◆ Solidified partnerships with Commonwealth University Bloomsburg Campus's Women's Resource Center and LGBTQ Resource Center.

# 2023/2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Enhanced partnerships with community organizations that serve marginalized/culturally specific populations including CMSU, North Central Secure Treatment Unit, and Columbia County Jail.
- ◆ Increased outreach and relationship building within community-related health care fields such as dentists, eye doctors, chiropractors, nursing homes/personal care homes, and adult day programs.
- ◆ Participated in Bloomsburg University's internship program, hosting two students.
- ◆ Obtained funding to upgrade the alarm and security system at the shelter facility and the telephone system throughout the agency.
- ◆ Obtained funding to enhance prevention education programs for school-aged children throughout the service area.
- ◆ Continued our Healthy Workplace Initiatives through our fourth Healthy Workplace Grant.
- ◆ Continued DEI initiatives including the development of an internal DEI team.
- ◆ Continued pay equity work.

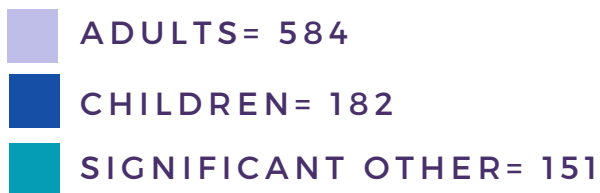
## A WORD FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- ◆ "Throughout our existence, The Exchange has thrived because of the collaborations that we have built with other organizations. Our gratitude goes to The Women's Center for their partnership. At the simplest, that has meant a place to plug in ArtFest musicians' sound system. Much more profoundly, it has meant young people in the Exchange Gallery working with our facilitator to make artwork in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We look forward to many more occasions like that--and activities that we have not even thought of yet!" - Oren B. Helbok, The Exchange
- ◆ "From the moment we opened our very first youth-led drop-in center, The Women's Center has been an invaluable partner to our organization, For the Cause. Their dedication and expertise have been instrumental in developing our Drop-In Counseling program, providing essential support and guidance to our youth. Additionally, they have created impactful programs focused on healthy relationships for teens, bringing crucial awareness to issues such as sexual assault. Their contributions have been vital in enhancing our teen programming and fostering a safer more informed community for our youth. We are deeply grateful for their continued support and collaboration." -Teresa L. Peters, For the Cause Teen Center

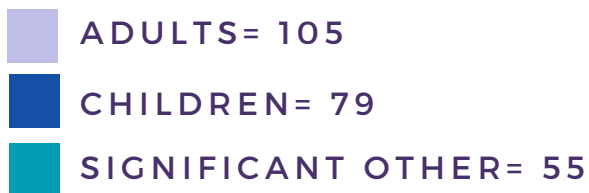
# STATISTICS

THE WOMEN'S CENTER, INC.

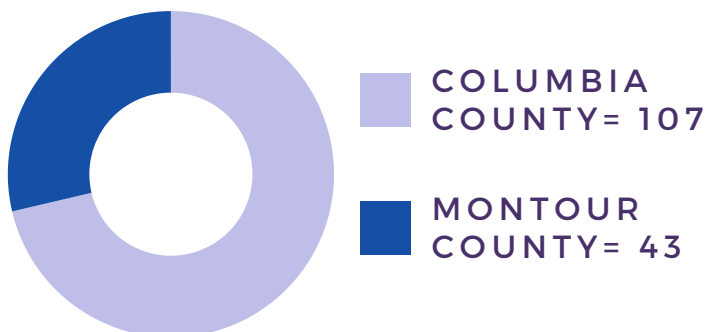
## TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS= 1,156 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



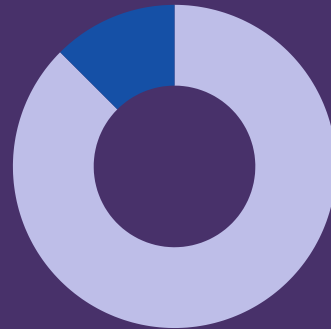
## SEXUAL ASSAULT



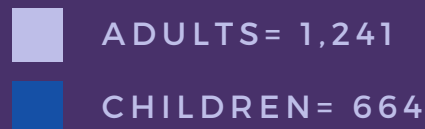
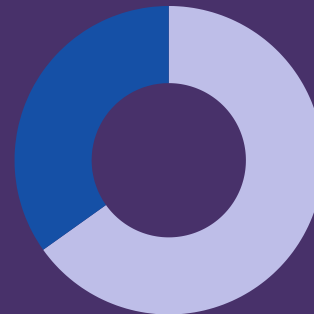
## TOTAL NUMBER OF PROTECTION FROM ABUSE PETITIONS= 150



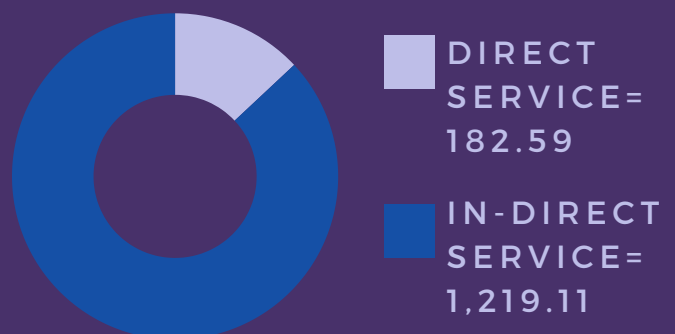
## TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNSELING HOURS= 5,156



## TOTAL NUMBER OF SHELTER DAYS= 1,905



## VOLUNTEER HOURS= 1,401.7

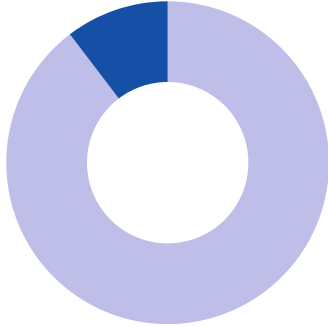


# STATISTICS

THE WOMEN'S CENTER, INC.

# EXPENSES & REVENUE

## TOTAL NUMBER OF HOTLINE CALLS= 1,873



- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE= 1,679
- SEXUAL ASSAULT= 194

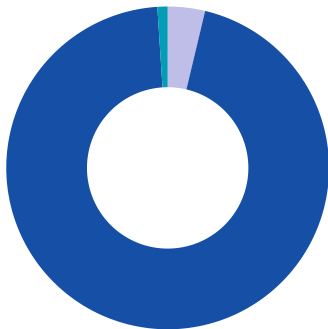
## 33,378 INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### COLUMBIA COUNTY



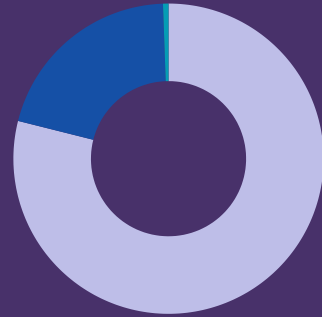
- COMMUNITY= 1,525
- PROFESSIONALS= 204
- SCHOOLS= 1,520

### MONTOUR COUNTY



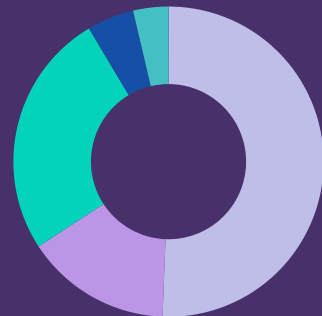
- COMMUNITY= 1,124
- PROFESSIONALS= 28,697
- SCHOOLS= 308

## EXPENSES TOTAL \$1,246,756



- PROGRAM SERVICES= \$983,891
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL= \$255,738
- FUNDRAISING= \$7,127

## REVENUE TOTAL: \$1,164,763



- PA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE= \$589,534
- PA COALITION AGAINST RAPE= \$176,914
- OTHER GOVERNMENT FUNDING= \$298,491
- LOCAL SUPPORT= \$57,073
- FUNDRAISING= \$42,509
- INVESTMENT RETURN= \$242

# TWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE WOMEN'S CENTER, INC.

- Tim Pelton, **President**
- Gretchen Schappert, **Vice President**
- Colleen Patterson, **Treasurer**
- Tina Entzminger, **Secretary**
- Christy Roberson, **Ex Officio**
- Meghan Pontz
- Chulhee Jun
- Gabrielle Maddux
- Sally Meyer
- Amanda Schell
- Emily Kahn
- Jung Kim
- Ernesto Perez



## Contact Information:

24/7 Hotline:  
(570)-784-6631  
(800) 544-8293

570-784-6632 Monday through  
Friday, 9AM-5PM

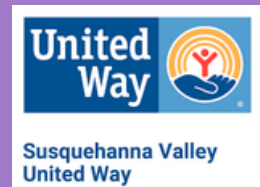
Office: 111 Market St.,  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Website:  
[www.thewomenscenterinc.org](http://www.thewomenscenterinc.org)

## Mission:

The Women's Center, Inc. of Columbia/Montour provides direct services for all victims & survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse, education & prevention activities, advocacy, and leadership in partnership with the community in their efforts aimed at eradicating domestic violence and sexual assault both individually and systemically.

*Proud Program Partner of the  
Susquehanna Valley United Way*



*Funded by Pennsylvania Coalition  
Against Domestic Violence and  
Pennsylvania Coalition Advancing  
Respect*

