

Executive Director's Report August 2019

Grants:

Awarded:

- \$10,000, Laura More Cunningham Foundation, CAC
- \$4,000, Three C's, CAC

Safety:

Successes:

- Working more with survivors at the felony level and attending more hearings. Safe Passage advocates have been working with the prosecutors advocates to get contact information on survivors so we can reach out and offer Safe Passage services being more proactive in our approach.
- Our numbers in survivors continues to increase. Staff are cross trained and able to help survivors with a number of issues instead of having to refer to someone else. Staff have taken the time to increase their knowledge which helps survivors get their needs met in a more efficient way.
- An advocate took a phone from an old client she worked with years ago. She sometimes still sees our counselor and was calling to set up an apt. She was one from another country who married a man here, had two kids by him, experienced a lot of things etc. Years ago she wasn't even sure if she was allowed to leave him, take her kids, their clothes, or her books. Now, she's in her senior year of her undergrad. She expressed extreme gratitude for all of us here and said she couldn't have done it without us. So her life has really improved and she's done some incredible things and come a long long way.

Challenges:

- We are in need of hospital volunteers. Many staff have had to step up and take shifts reporting to the hospital on weekends and after hours because we don't have enough volunteers.

Resiliency:

Successes:

- Shelter started a peer support group and has increased attendance with all shelter clients participating.
- Ladies night out of the office continues to be a success and grow in numbers.
- We are back up to full time counseling hours.
- We have been assisting a client for the past 5 months, first with shelter, then legal protection, and safety planning. She was not able to work as she had five children including an infant that was still breast feeding. She had to move to a family members

property and stay in a fifth wheel to wait for housing assistance. She was able to find an affordable large unit to rent, and this week we assisted in paying the deposit to secure the place for her. Now her children will be able to start school living in their own home.

Challenges:

- When the shelter is full the size of the shelter continues to be a struggle. Staff will have to move clients around several times when bringing in a new client or offer them longer hotels if there isn't space in the house. Clients easily become frustrated with each other because they don't have space to spread out and spend time with their children alone.

Empowerment:

Events attended:

- Day of Welcome at the NIC campus
- Kootenai Behavioral Health presentation
- Idaho Youth Ranch presentation
- District 271 kick-off breakfast
- Day of Welcome – NIC Rathdrum Campus
- Juvenile Detention Center
- CHS All staff meeting – Talking about our services to new and old employees
- Training new mentors at CHS
- Freshman orientation BBQ at CHS

Challenges:

- Getting school staff interested in Green Dot. School staff will say they are interested then change their mind. This will cause the program trouble getting started and continuing to grow.
- Community partners understanding our confidentiality and becoming frustrated with us because of it.

Staff Report:

- No new staff
- All staff meeting to roll out new mission, vision and values as well as strategic plan. Talked with staff about the barriers they expressed during staff re-treat and some of the things we will be able to address this year as well as why we can't implement some of their ideas.