

# Highlights



During Fiscal Year 2007-08, the **renovations to our Hospitality House Emergency Shelter were begun.**

The work includes remodeling and refurbishing the kitchen, dining and common areas, and bedrooms.

Overcrowding at our shelter has been an ongoing problem. Often victim families must share rooms and at times be put on a waiting list in the midst of their trauma. But the completion of our annex last year and the renovations to our existing shelter this year will go a long way toward resolving this situation.

We are so grateful to the local corporations, professional groups, foundations, elected officials and private citizens who contributed to our capital campaign.

In the coming year, we will embark on the final phase of our improvements project—the development of an outdoor green space behind our shelter, which will include a children's play area. Children comprise 50 percent of the victims of violence in our emergency shelter.



SafeNet and Safe Horizons, a domestic violence program in Union City, were the **first recipients of the**

**United Way's new Women In Action grant.** The money funded an awareness campaign that drew attention to the hidden nature of interpersonal abuse and how it affects people of all walks of life, rich or poor, young and old. It takes an educated and aware community to make a difference with this wide-spread problem that takes a great personal toll on its victims and a great financial toll on society. The grant also helped SafeNet and Safe Horizons establish outreach programs to provide easier access to domestic violence counseling and services in outlying communities.

## ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL  
2007  
2008



Tom Corbett

**Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett was the keynote speaker at SafeNet's**

**first annual Legal Conference.** The conference addressed issues and concerns surrounding domestic violence from a legal point of view. It brought together professionals involved in social work, advocacy, law enforcement, corrections, mental health, drug and alcohol treatment and legal fields.

Nationally recognized police officer and domestic violence educator **Lieutenant Mark Wynn** of the Nashville, Tennessee Metropolitan Police Department also gave an informative presentation. Lt. Wynn recounted his experiences as a police officer and as a child growing up in a home where his mother was severely abused.



Olga Trujillo

**Olga Trujillo, JD, an attorney and a survivor of domestic violence was the keynote speaker at SafeNet's**

**annual medical conference.** As a child, Ms. Trujillo witnessed her father's brutal and terrifying attacks every day on her mother. She herself suffered constant physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Remarkably, she was able to rise above her dire life and go on to become a successful lawyer and General Counsel to the US Office of Justice Programs. Her meticulous analysis of her childhood experiences and how she survived, were instructional and encouraging to medical and other professionals dealing with troubled families.

## Victim Services

- **Hospitality House Emergency Shelter** A safe, confidential place for victims and their children to stay. Counseling, child care and referral services are available on site.
- **Bridge House** Supported living in independent apartments for women and their children made homeless by domestic violence. Families work toward self-sufficiency and finding safe, affordable housing.
- **TLC (Transitional Living Center)** Supported living for homeless mothers between the ages of 16 and 22 and their children. The young women work toward self-sufficiency, develop parenting skills and find permanent housing.
- **Legal Representation Program** Attorneys and SafeNet advocates work together to help victims of domestic abuse through the Protection from Abuse (PFA) process and other civil legal action as needed.
- **Medical Program** Our counselor/advocates help victims 24/7 in emergency rooms at area hospitals. They also connect victims with services to reduce repeated injuries and the need for medical treatment.
- **Counseling Program** Our counselor/advocates are available 24/7 to provide immediate help to victims of domestic violence. Both individual and group counseling are available to adults and accompanying children.
- **Healthy Families** Mentors provide empowerment, education and support to young mothers in order to prevent child abuse and neglect.

## Community Outreach

- **Education & Training** SafeNet offers educational programs to community groups and provides prevention education to young people up through college age. Providing awareness and response training plus hosting annual conferences for medical, human service and legal professionals are important parts of our connection to the community as well.

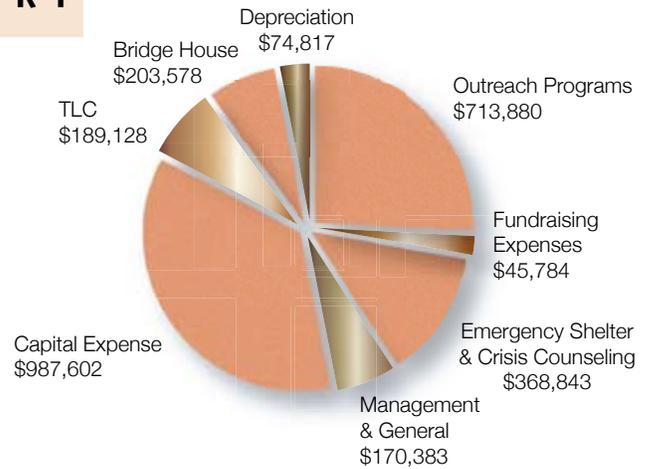
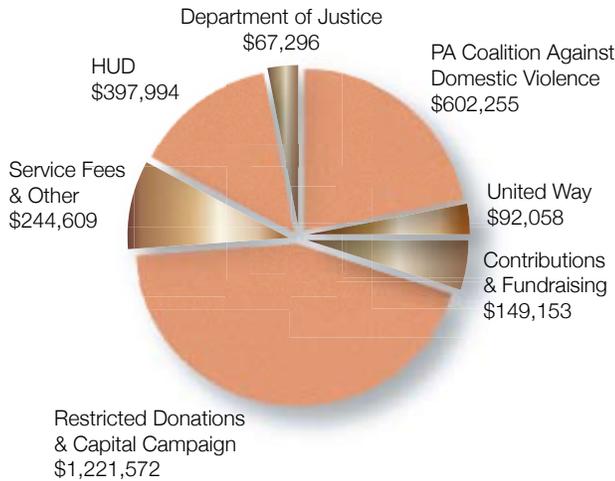
**S**afeNet is Erie's only accredited domestic violence agency. We provide sanctuary, support, education and legal advocacy. We believe every individual has the right to be respected and live a life free from abuse.



**SafeNet**  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAFETY NETWORK

# ANNUAL REPORT

**Income \$2,774,937**



**Expense by Program \$2,754,015**

## Board of Directors

- Shirley Williams  
*President*
- Edward Whitbred  
*Vice-President*
- Kathleen Whipple  
*Secretary*
- James Herr  
*Treasurer*
- Lynn McBrier
- Kathleen Pae
- Nancy Sennett
- Lisa Hart
- Linda Lyons King  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Service	Adults	Children
emergency shelter	342	345
transitional housing	30	34
counseling	405	175
hospital counseling	218	
legal advocacy	867	
hotline callers	1,104	
in-school prevention		2,128
community education	1,517	
professional training	2,853	
counseling hours	11,776	2,888
residential days	6,994	10,968

## Local Funders & Program Partners

- City of Erie • Economic Development Corporation of Erie County • Erie Art Museum • Erie City Police Department • Erie Community Foundation • Erie County Bar Association • Erie County District Attorney's Office • Erie County Department of Human Services • Hamot Medical Center • Highmark • Housing Authority of the City of Erie • Mercyhurst College • Millcreek Police Department • Office of Drug and Alcohol • Penn State CORE • PNC Bank • Saint Vincent Health System • Jewish Community Council of Temple Anshe Heshed • United Way of Erie County • United Way Women In Action

## Affiliations for Advocacy & Action

- Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence\* • Domestic Violence State Standards Committee • Domestic Violence Medical Advocacy State Committee\* • VOCA (Victims Of Crimes Act) Policy Board • Erie County Protection From Abuse Task Force\* • Domestic Violence Medical Advisory Task Force\* • District Attorney's STOP Violence Against Women Committee • Children's Advocacy Center, Board of Directors • Community HealthNet • Erie DAWN • SCI Albion Batterer's Intervention Project\* • Department of Public Welfare Maximizing Participation Task Force • Children's Health Initiative of Pennsylvania • Child Death Review

- Committee Erie County Department of Health • Advisory Board Erie County Offender Re-entry Program • Healthy Youth Development Advisory Committee • HUD HOME Team\* • Family Group Decision Making Task Force • National Network to End Domestic Violence • Mercy Center for Women • Safe Horizons • Mercyhurst Civic Institute: Policy and Planning Council • MHEDS • Erie County SHIPP Health Initiative Partnership\* • Mother To Mother Advisory Board • United Way Executive Directors Forum • Erie Safe Kids Coalition • Erie Housing Authority Interagency Council

\*Founding member or current officer in organization.