

ALIVE, Inc.

Alternatives to Living In Violent Environments

Fiscal Year April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013

**Annual Report** 

## ALIVE's Mission and Vision

Provide counseling, emergency sanctuary, and other critical services to adults and children impacted by domestic abuse, as well as to increase awareness in order to create a supportive community. Our vision is to end domestic abuse, restoring safety and peace one family at a time.

In Fiscal Year 2012/13, ALIVE served 1,239 adults and 622 children through its two offices located in St. Louis County and Franklin County, Missouri.

# Client Demographics

	<u>(</u>	<u>Gender</u>	
Female	78.5%	Male	21.5%
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	<u> </u>	<u>thnicity</u>	
Caucasian	50.2%	African-American	29.0%
Hispanic	2.0%	Asian	15.4%
Other	3.4%		
	Ac	e Range	

Children (age 0-17) 37.7% Adults (age 18-59) 61.2%

Adults (age 60+)

## 24-Hour Crisis Line

# Nights of Safety Emergency Shelter Program

ALIVE's crisis line often provides clients with their first access to our services. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the crisis line is answered by staff, practicum students and volunteers who are trained in providing crisis intervention. There is a crisis line available for the greater St. Louis area and an 800 number available for the Franklin County area. Since this program is based upon responding to those who are in crisis situations. the demographic data that is available is often inconsistent.

Staff, student interns, and volunteers answered 10,066 crisis calls.

At the core of ALIVE's work with families victimized by domestic violence is our emergency sanctuary program. ALIVE was founded in 1983 as an all-volunteer network of safe home providers who shared their homes with battered women and their children when safe shelter was not available.

Today, ALIVE's Nights of Safety program continues to provide emergency shelter for adults and their children who are impacted by domestic violence. Our Nights of Safety program is a unique and innovative addition to the services available to family violence victims in the greater St. Louis area.

Finding adequate shelter remains an immediate problem that individuals victimized by domestic violence often face. There are no shelters available in the Franklin County area, and the local St. Louis shelters are often full or unable to house a family in crisis. Additionally, ALIVE's Nights of Safety program is the only shelter program in the area that serves male victims of domestic violence.

ALIVE's staff and volunteers work around the clock to ensure that clients are placed in a safe location. ALIVE has contracts with a number of motel chains in the St. Louis metro area that are willing to provide the needed emergency shelter for women and men escaping from a violent

partner. The motels are scattered throughout the area and their locations are kept confidential.

This program is absolutely vital to keep adults and children who are victimized by domestic violence safe until shelter space becomes available, an Order of Protection is obtained to remove the abusive partner from the home, or other arrangements are made for their safety.

1,242 Nights of Safety were provided to 195 adults and 251 children.

## **Transportation**

Emergency transportation is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This service brings clients and their children, who otherwise have no means of travel, into the Nights of Safety emergency sanctuary program, or helps clients in their transition to another shelter program. It also provides a means of safe transportation for families trying to leave the St. Louis area, or even for clients who might not be able to come into the office for therapy sessions due to the cost of gasoline or lack of access to a bus line. 724 adults and children were transported to a safe place.

## Adult Counseling/Support Groups

ALIVE's counseling services include both individual therapy and group sessions. Individual sessions are conducted on an "as needed" basis with a staff therapist. Support groups are held weekly, and are open-ended and ongoing, so clients may come and go to suit their own needs. Group facilitators use a psycho-educational format and work from an empowerment model. Services are provided in the counseling program by Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, and graduate level practicum students who are supervised by licensed staff. Individuals who enter our counseling program will complete initial intake testing and evaluations on a regular basis confirm that progress is being made and evaluate the success of the program. ALIVE provided 3,742 hours of counseling to 405 clients. 65 support group sessions were conducted.

## Court Advocacy

Trained staff and volunteers assist individuals victimized by domestic violence through every step of the legal system, whether filing for an *Ex Parte* or for a full Order of Protection, a divorce, or child custody. Since the court system can be particularly frightening, the most important aspect of our court advocacy program is providing support to those who would otherwise have no one there to assist them. *ALIVE staff members and volunteers assisted: 72 clients with Ex Parte Orders of Protection; 542 clients with Full Orders of Protection; 131 clients with Child Orders of Protection; 150 clients with other legal proceedings.* 

## Children's Treatment Program

While the needs of the primary victims of domestic violence have been addressed for some time, until recently, a huge population of secondary victims had been neglected, namely children who witness the atrocities taking place in their own homes. ALIVE was the first local domestic violence agency to offer non-residential counseling for these young and innocent victims of domestic violence. The main focus of this treatment program is on the trauma that the children have experienced and the subsequent behavioral and emotional consequences caused by this exposure. This program addresses the needs of children, ages 4-17, and their parents, and has three distinct components: assessment, intervention and prevention. *418 children and their parents received 1,657 hours of counseling.* 

## **Community Education**

Educating the St. Louis and Franklin County communities on the various issues surrounding domestic violence is key to the recognition and prevention of this scourge in our local neighborhoods. ALIVE is committed to working with health care providers, educators, students, business and civic groups, as well as the media and the court system. Whether it's through our work with the local police departments, participation in a Rotary meeting or by addressing medical professionals about the issues that are a part of working with victims of domestic violence, ALIVE makes our community education program available to any group interested in learning about our services and how to help. **Staff delivered 106 presentations to 2,282 individuals.** 

Financial Information		Income
ncome		Government55%  Donations32.5%
Government Grants	\$521,644	■In-Kind/Misc7.9%
Donations & Foundations	\$307,966	■Special Events-4%
In-Kind/Miscellaneous	\$ 74,440	Program Donations-less than 1%
Special Events	\$ 38,613	
Program Donations	\$ 4,978 <b>\$947,641</b>	Expenses
<u>Expenses</u>		■ Program Costs80%
Program costs	\$779,442	■Management & General- 13%
Management & General	\$123,673	■Fundraising7%
Fundraising	<u>\$ 72,580</u>	
	\$975,695	

Our deepest gratitude to these individual, foundation, corporate, civic and government partners whose generosity allowed us to help more than 1,800 individuals this year.

#### \$15.000+

Franklin County Children and Family Community Resource Board Missouri Foundation for Health Missouri Department of Public Safety Missouri Department of Family Services St. Louis County Treasurer Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund

## \$10,000-\$15,000

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