



December 2024

Success Stories

Over the past 12 months, A Safe Place has supported hundreds of women affected by Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). Through its comprehensive services, ASP has provided refuge for survivors and their children fleeing abuse, while also assisting non-shelter clients at our community center. These services include shelter, mental health services, legal aid, case management, support groups, and even extending help to the community through community education and outreach. Two survivors who have benefited from A Safe Place have written, in their own words, just how impactful this organization has been amongst their IPV journeys.

Survivor #1



Hi

So writing this letter ,And coming to the realization and thinking about that part of my life, It stills freaks me out a little bit.But the good part is, it's not as bad as it used to be I have more control over myself and my thoughts and being happy is what I want and I deserve it Because gave me peace.

So let's get to the good part,I am thankful for the safe place. I was in a horrible situation and place in my life mentally, spiritually and physically, but the safe place took me in when nobody did, even his family members that claimed to help in a time of need wouldn't. Because they didn't want to call the police on him and I was just all alone. So the safe place is a place for people like me, who really need a place of comfort and safety.Where you can rest , be safe and at peace.plus all the activities, especially therapy, were a game changer. I finally came to the realization that I am not crazy as he claims me to be.It only happens when you let it.So I just decided to choose Me and achieve the things I had set to accomplish for me and my life.

Mr Blanco and Miss Michelle help me tremendously with building me back up, I appreciate them beyond words.

Freeing your mind mentally is the greatest gift ever. I stoped crying and started to thank God that i got out of that horrible situation finance classes too(I paid off the Debt)A little education goes a long way.I needed the help and i got it

Plus I finally have A number,I didn't even know what it was but I do now.its an Alien number to track your immigration paperwork,And everything is handled. I just have to wait for the mail.The safe place gave me that.

Personally this program has helped save me in more ways than you guys could know imagine.

Thank you to all the staff there(Shoutout to Miss Gloria for always making sure we didn't miss a holiday)all in all, you guys have no idea what you did for me.

Am so grateful.

Thank you.



Survivor #2

عندما وصلت إلى أمريكا كنت أعيش في العيش مع زوجي يعاملني بالعنف يهسرني ويهددني بالقتل والتبذير. والآن أصبحت عبيدة جيدة يقبل الشرطة Oakland ساعدتني جيداً وأصبحت عبيدة جيدة يقبل الملبأ الذي أنا متواجة قفاليا أسكر مع كثير على المعاملة العبيدة معي. منذ أن وصلت إلى الملبأ أصبحت أنام أأكل جيداً. أستقم جيداً. أصبحت أتعلم الإنجليز لم يقبضني أي شيء تركت عائلتي صفا. حتى الآن أنا فقورة جيداً بالملبأ الذي أنا متواجة فيه مالياً. عندما ذهبت. أول مرة إلى الشرطة كنت أركي كثيراً لأعرف أي أمه صفا. ولأعرف ماذا سوف يحدث لي ظنت أنني وعبيدة في هذا البلد. لم أتوقع أن أجد الشرطة معي والملبأ. بعد ذلك أنا فقورة جيداً جداً.

في هذا الملبأ وجدت الملبأ ووجدت الأمان ووجدت كل شيء كما أعرف وكيف أعيش عن هذا يعطيني كثيراً هذا الملبأ لأنه فيه كل شيء. لم أتوقع أن أحصل عن سعادة والمصروف عندما وصلت إلى الملبأ أعطوني سعادة الصلاة والمصروف أنا فقورة جيداً لأنهم يهتمون الدين الإسلام. لم أتوقع هذا لأن زوجي منعني عن الصلاة والصوم. لقد تركت الصلاة بعد ذلك أسفر في الجزائر ووجدت الملبأ عائلتي لم أتوقع أن يحدث لي زوجي لا يوردني أن أهلي وأهومي. أنا فقورة جيداً بالملبأ كثيراً.

شكراً لكم. لأن أنني صفا العروف الذي قدمتم لي.

When I arrived in America. I was living in hell with my husband who treated me violently, beat me and threatened to slaughter me. I became good thanks to the police Oakland, they helped me a lot and I became very good thanks to the shelter, where I am currently. I thank them a lot for their good treatment of me since I arrived at the shelter. I have been sleeping well, eating well and showering well. I did not lack anything. I left my family in Algeria and found a family in this shelter. I did not expect this to happen. I am very proud of this shelter. When I went to the office for the first time, I cried a lot. I do not know anyone here and I do not know what will happen to me. I thought that was alone in this country. I did not

expect to join the police and live together with me. Thank God. I am very proud of this country. I did not expect to find the police with me and the shelter. Praise be to God. I am very proud of this country in this shelter. I found safety, I found everything. I do not know how to express this. I like this shelter very much because it has everything. They respect the religion of Islam. My husband prevented me from praying and fasting. I stopped praying for a few months because my husband did not want me to pray and fast. I am very proud of the shelter. Thank you very much. Never forget this favor.

Christmas Donors

This season we want to give recognition to some of our amazing donors who have generously donated gifts to our survivors and their children. These donors have single handedly helped craft a Christmas that these survivors will never forget.



Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle club: In the 19th century, an all-black United States Army regiment was formed and as these brave men fought for this country their efforts were overlooked historically. The Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club is a Black and African American based club that spreads awareness and preserves the legacy of these soldiers. Not only do they spread awareness about these groundbreaking soldiers but, they give back to the community of Oakland by having food and clothing giveaways, among working closely with other non-profits.

SSCollective: LaShae Walker, the founder of SSCollective, is committed to promoting financial empowerments for all.

SSCollective provides holistic services shaped for individuals to create generational wealth, enhance financial literacy, optimize their retirement plans, and address their insurance needs.



Individual Christmas Donors: Pamela Sanders, Chris Wade, and Barry Rose



***Donation
Highlight:***



Lynne Christine Dennis was a passionate supporter of A Safe Place and one who cherished her hometown of Oakland California. Throughout her career, she worked as a copy editor at several newspapers and shared her wisdom about the English language to English Language Students as a tutor. In early December, she passed away from multiple myeloma, a type of blood cancer at the age of 74. We are deeply appreciative of her constant support of A Safe Place, and we extend our gratitude to her family for choosing to honor her memory by directing donations to our organization.



End of the Year Recap:

The end of the year is simply a new beginning. But, before we start anew, we would like to take some time and recall the achievements, milestones, and memories A Safe Place has made in the year 2024.

January 2024: A Safe Place announces specialized support groups for survivors combatting stress and anxiety, as well as skill building.



STRESS AND ANXIETY REDUCTION FOR WOMEN

At A Safe Place, we provide support groups free of charge for domestic violence survivors. Contact us today for more info!

510.986.8600
www.asafeplace.org

Goodbye Anxiety Support Group

Join us for confidential support with other survivors of relationship abuse.

 An initial intake is required prior to attendance.



CAN COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY HELP ME?

At A Safe Place, we provide support groups free of charge for domestic violence survivors. Contact us today for more info!

510.986.8600
www.asafeplace.org

Skill Building Support Group

Join us for confidential support with other survivors of relationship abuse.

 An initial intake is required prior to attendance.

April 2024: A Safe Place had a grand opening for its new community center located in Oakland California.



May 2024: A Safe Place turns 47!



September 2024: A Safe Place teams up with the Fabolous sorority Xi Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha for a domestic violence awareness walk and vigil for those who have passed due to domestic violence.

A purple poster for a Domestic Violence Walk for Awareness. At the top, it says "Xi Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® in partnership with A Safe Place presents...". A white starburst contains the text "JOIN US". The main title "Domestic Violence Walk for Awareness" is in white and blue script. A purple ribbon is on the right. A circular photo shows a woman being embraced. The date and time are "SATURDAY October 26, 2024 12:00 PM". A section titled "FEATURED SPEAKERS" lists Carolyn Russell, Executive Director, and Jamilia Land, Domestic Violence Advocate. The program description mentions survivor testimonies, education, and a candlelight vigil. The meeting location is "A Safe Place, 5674 Shattuck Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609". Logos for the sorority and A Safe Place are at the bottom.

September 2024: A tabling outreach event was held in the community of Oakland where A Safe Place handed out flyers, information, and most importantly spread awareness about Domestic Violence and the resources available for it.



November 2024: A holiday gathering was hosted by ASP for our lovely donors, supporters, and board members to recognize their hard work and thank them for all that they do.



December 2024: UC Associated Student's Senator, Maitri Halappa brought together driven students from UC Berkely to come to ASP's community center and put together personal hygiene bags for those in need.



Our Heartfelt Thank you

As the year 2024 comes to end, A Safe Place reflects on the work and progress we have made on the lives of intimate partner violence survivors. Whether it be volunteers, staff, board members, donors, or allies, each and every one has played a pivotal role in the success of A Safe Place this year. Our small but mighty team have helped hundreds of women this year alone in the process of case management, crisis counseling, and shelter. Though intimate partner violence remains a rampant issue, we recognize the hard work that the dedicated people in this organization have contributed to someone's journey in becoming a thriving survivor.

Thank you to our churches for supporting A Safe Place:

- **Havenscourt Community Church**
- **Lakeside Temple of Practical Christianity**
- **The Motherhood Foundation**
- **Mills Grove Christian Church**
- **St John's Presbyterians Church of Berkeley**
- **First Church of Religious Science**
- **Lakeshore Baptist Church**

Thank you to the foundations that support A Safe Place

- **Clarence B. & Joan F. Coleman Charitable Foundation**
- **Sunlight Giving Foundation**
- **Lowell Berry Foundation**
- **Clarence B. & Joan F. Coleman Charitable Foundation**
- **Michael & Ina Korek Foundation Trust**
- **William G. Irwin Charity Foundation**
- **West Davis & Bergard Foundation**
-

Thank you to the social organizations that support A Safe Place

- **PEO Chapter WB**
- **AAUW Oakland Piedmont Branch**
- **OakLuv Foundation**

Thank you to the trust that supports A Safe Place

- **The Kirsten H Walen 1991 Trust**

Thank you to the companies and organizations that support A Safe Place:

- **Kendrick Realty Inc.**
- **SS Collective**
- **PG&E**
- **Kaiser**
- **Liberty Mutual**
- **Chevron**
- **Hearst**
- **Lawrence Livermore National Lab**
- **Nurting Therapeutics**
- **FedEx**
- **H/L Agency**
- **Vivian Soliemani Design**
- **Colliers International**
- **DW Davenport Co**
- **Whole Foods**
- **Wells Fargo**

Ways to Support ASP



<https://www.asafeplace.org/>

Donate to us Online:



<https://www.asafeplace.org/donate>

**Donate items needed at ASP and
schedule a donation delivery**



<https://www.asafeplace.org/in-kind>

**Your generous
donation can make a
meaningful impact in
the lives of survivors
facing IPV. Please
consider contributing
to our organization
and helping us
continue our mission.**

A Safe Place does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, physical challenge, sexual preference, gender, creed, or age in admission or participation in its program, services, and employment.