



TPLV Executive Director Lori Sywensky with Mary Saveri from UAW 677 Women's Committee



DeSales University Students at It's On Us Campaign



NCC Students volunteering at the Chili Cook-Off at Eyer Middle School

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year proved to be one of significant challenges, opportunities, and rewards. However, this is not a unique storyline for us, nor is it unique for the hundreds of not-for-profit agencies helping to meet the needs of our residents in the Lehigh Valley. Turning Point's mission is to eliminate domestic violence in the Lehigh Valley through empowerment, education, and engagement. Eliminate domestic violence - no small task, but we take it seriously and aim to meet the challenge with a commitment to resiliency.

This past year we devoted thousands of hours to directly empowering survivors to create lives for themselves free of violence. This amounted to 6,594 hours of counseling services provided to our clients this year. We provided over 950 educational programs – nearly three a day – to help our community understand the prevalence and impacts of domestic violence. We participated in 40 community-wide events and increased awareness through our more than 1,600 media posts and newsletters.

However, we know that despite these efforts, we need to do more. So, we helped over 2,600 of our neighbors explore options and access safety measures. We managed the unexpected renovation of our Safe House this year due to a fire. We handled the inevitable challenges that come with enhancing our administrative and technology infrastructure to ensure effective stewardship of funds. We started adding satellite locations throughout the Lehigh Valley to make our services more accessible. In challenge we found opportunity.

Additionally, we also committed to a new two year plan that helps move us closer to achieving our mission. As part of this, we began piloting evidenced-based education programs, researching methods to improve the outcomes of our services, and forging partnerships with community partners. This will help us to best meet the multitude of challenges our community faces together. We partnered on initiatives with allies such as North Penn Legal Services, Lehigh Valley Health Network, and Valley Youth House to create sustainable improvements and increased efficiencies in our service delivery systems. Our Board of Directors is growing as it begins to literally and figuratively assess our foundation and plan for the future in this 39th year.

We welcome challenging years and like so many of those that walk through our doors, we will make more progress and see positive changes when we know we are not alone. On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and beneficiaries of Turning Point, thanks to all of our friends for your continuing support. We look forward to embarking on another challenging and rewarding year with your help!

In peace ~ Lori Sywensky, Executive Director

"Talking to someone that could understand me made me feel like I wasn't an outcast. It felt good knowing that I am not alone." – **Maria, a survivor**

We are a member in good standing of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence



We are a United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley partner agency.



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"My counselor's kindness and compassion.

Her reassurance, being non-judgmental, and also being concerned for my safety and future."

Natalie, a survivor

Programs & Services:

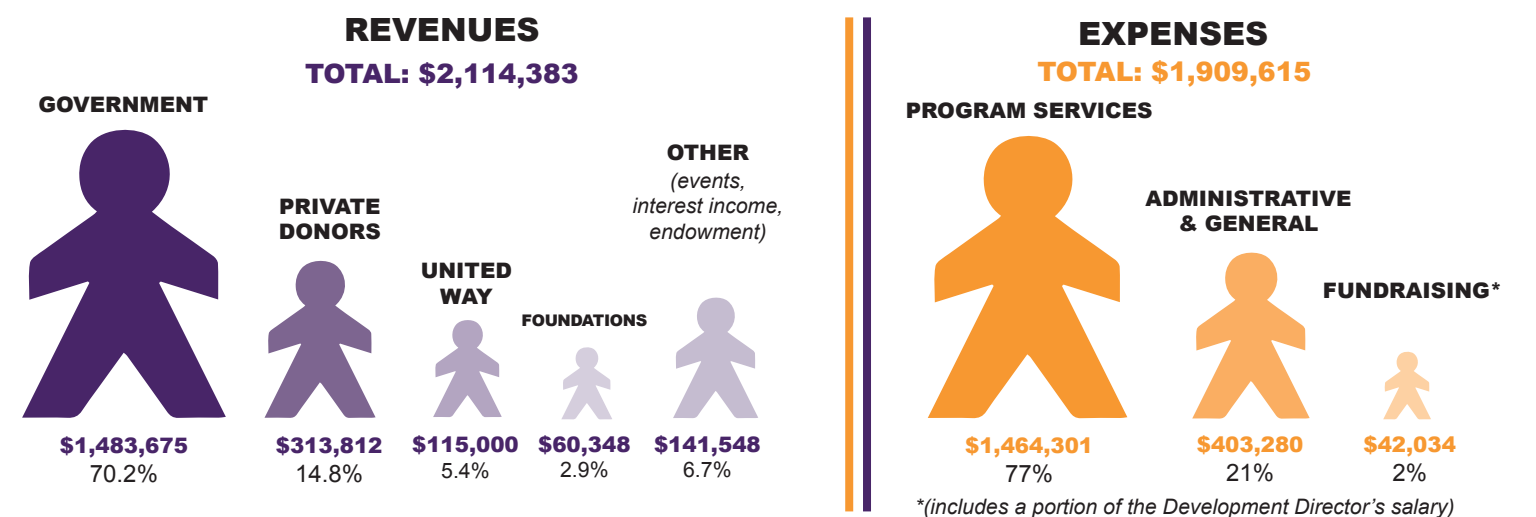
- 24-Hour Helpline
- Empowerment Counseling & Support Groups
- Safe Shelter
- Court Advocacy
- Community Education & Outreach
- Medical Advocacy



Every 9 seconds a woman in the U.S. is a victim of domestic violence.

"Thanks for making me feel welcomed, accepted, and understood. It feels good to know that I am not the only one."

Michael, a survivor



TURNING POINT OF LEHIGH VALLEY

2016-2017

2,792 adults and children served through our program.

1,111 Helpline Calls received.

1,840 people served via our court advocacy program during **3,189** hearings.

5,205 nights of shelter were provided in our Safe House.

6,594 hours of counseling were provided.

Intimate partner violence is most common among women between the ages of 18 - 24.

Between 21% - 60% of victims of intimate partner violence lose their jobs and lose nearly 8 million days of paid work per year in the US due to reasons stemming from the abuse.

36% of domestic violence victims have injuries to the head, neck, or face.

Intimate Partner Violence is the leading cause of female homicide and injury-related deaths during pregnancy.



Miriam, Nina, Mrs. Claus and Mr. Claus, Damaris

ABUSE MAY BE:

verbal, physical, emotional,
sexual, religious, or financial.



Toyna and volunteers from the Lisa Diener Foundation

If you know someone in an abusive relationship who needs assistance:

24-HOUR HELPLINE: 610-437-3369

TOLL-FREE: 877-438-4957

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc. / 444 E. Susquehanna St. / Allentown, PA 18103

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**Thank you to all of our
generous public &
private sponsors.**

The next time you're in a room with 6 people, think about this:

1 in 3 women and 1 in 4
men experience violence
from their partners in
their lifetimes.

1 in 3 teens experience
sexual or physical abuse
or threats from a boyfriend
or girlfriend in one year.
1 in 5 women are survivors
of rape.

1 in 2 women and 1 in 5
men have experienced
some form of sexual
violence in their lives.



TurningPoint
of Lehigh Valley

Annual Report 2016 - 2017

*Empowering Victims
and Survivors*

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc.
444 East Susquehanna Street
Allentown, PA 18103

TURNING POINT'S MISSION:

**eliminate domestic violence
in the Lehigh Valley through
empowerment, education,
and engagement.**



FOR **39**
YEARS

www.turningpointlv.org