



ISSUE 8 · DECEMBER 2019

# TURNING POINTS

News and Updates from Turning Point of Lehigh Valley



Turning Point  
of Lehigh Valley

## Mission Accomplished!

Our Board of Directors recently adopted the following change to our agency Mission Statement in which replaced the words domestic violence to domestic and intimate partner abuse. Here is our updated mission statement:

**The mission of Turning Point of Lehigh Valley is to eliminate domestic and intimate partner abuse in the Lehigh Valley through empowerment, education, and engagement.**

**Why Make the Change?** In the early days of our work, we were part of what was most-often referred to as the, “battered women’s movement.” The success of those early efforts led to a national awakening of just how broad the problem was, and the term “domestic violence” soon was used in its place.

We know that words matter. Emotional, verbal, and psychological aggression are harmful. Physical violence may leave visible wounds, but all types of abuse are harmful and leave lasting effects. It is very challenging to leave a relationship when you live with an abusive person, but leaving an abusive dating relationship can also be tremendously hard, especially in today’s digital society. There is no continuum – each abusive relationship is harmful in its own way.

As we develop our next Strategic Plan to guide our growth over the next several years, we knew it was time to revisit our mission. In order to best serve our community, all survivors need to see themselves in our mission, regardless of the specific type of abuse inflicted or the living arrangement of the persons involved. This doesn’t change what we do, but it hopefully does better convey to everyone who may need us that we are here for them.

## #GIVINGTUESDAY

A huge heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who gave on #GivingTuesday. With the generosity of our community, we raised \$3,243.30 of our \$5,000 goal. The amount that we raised this year was double the amount that we raised last year. Way to go!!!



# We Need Your Help

Last year we were able help 65 families at Turning Point last holiday season because of the generosity of our community allies. There is still time to give back this holiday season, we are continuing our "Spirit of Empowerment" Holiday Gift Card Giving Drive. We will be collecting gift cards until December 16th, 2019 to allow for shopping time.

Here is one of our survivor stories from Marissa about how donated gift cards helped her and her children:

"My three kids and I left an abusive home and Turning Point was there to help. They gave me gift cards so I could go shopping for my children. It brought me to tears knowing that I didn't have to worry about how I was going to afford presents for my kids during the holidays. That stress and weight was lifted off my shoulders so I could focus on healing and improving my life for myself and my children. Thank you to whoever purchased those gift cards and helped us last year...you are our guardian angel on Earth. One day I will give back to Turning Point and help someone so they can have peace of mind like I was given."

We want to make the holidays extra special for our clients and their children. It allows our clients to reclaim their dignity especially during the holidays, which can be an extremely emotional time. Please spread the word with your friends, family, and within the community.

**Also, here items that we are in low supply of  
(we ask that all items are NEW):**

Women's Clothing (Sizes XS-2XL) Leggings, Long Sleeve Shirts,  
Sweatshirts, Sweatpants, Socks

Women's Underwear and Bras (All Sizes)

Women's Slippers and Sneakers (Sizes 6-9)

Big Kids Clothing for Boys and Girls (Sizes - 7/8, 10/12, 14/16) - Leggings, Jeans,  
Long Sleeve Shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweatpants, Socks and Underwear

Children's Slippers and Sneakers (Big Kids Sizes 1-7)

**For more items, check out our current Wish List on our website -  
<http://www.turningpointlv.org/how-you-can-help/wish-list/>.**





***"Spirit of Empowerment"***  
***Holiday Gift Card Giving Drive***

At Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, we embrace the philosophy of empowerment. Our belief is to empower our clients through our programs and services to give choice and control back to domestic violence survivors.

As the holidays approach, it is important to reflect on the joys and blessings in our lives while being aware that there are many families of domestic violence who are in need. There are financial burdens as a result of starting over after domestic violence. Consider the Holiday Gift Card Giving Drive to help domestic violence survivors celebrate with dignity during this holiday season.

Gift cards are the easiest way to donate. Your gift card donation empowers survivors to be part of holiday shopping experience for their loved ones allowing them to pick out just the right gifts for this holiday season. With your generous support you can brighten the holiday spirit and warm the hearts for our families and children. Thank you for giving the gift of empowerment.

We will be collecting gift cards (increments of \$25) until  
**December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019** to allow for shopping time.



**GIFT CARDS NEEDED:**

**Giant**  
**Target**  
**Walmart**  
**Wawa**  
**Weis**  
**Visa**

**Please contact Andrea Search,  
Community Outreach Director, to let her  
know how many people you are able to  
sponsor this holiday season. We are asking  
that it is \$50 per person.**

**[andreas@turningpointlv.org](mailto:andreas@turningpointlv.org) or  
610-797-0530 ext. \*229**

**Donations can be dropped off to our  
Administration Building Monday-Friday  
8:30am-4:30pm.**