



2023

SPAN



Safehouse Progressive Alliance
for Nonviolence

Annual Report

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Our work

Every year, SPAN connects and supports thousands of survivors of domestic violence and their families in Boulder and Broomfield counties. SPAN's emergency services are a lifeline for many survivors, providing immediate safety and essential support during moments of crisis. **For many survivors, escaping an abusive environment is fraught with danger and uncertainty; emergency services offer a secure refuge where they can begin the process of healing without fear.** The availability of these services can mean the difference between life and death, ensuring that survivors have access to the resources they need to protect themselves and their families.

In 2023, SPAN services provided immediate protection, essential resources, and compassionate support, enabling survivors to escape abusive situations and begin their journey towards healing and independence. Our commitment to maintaining and expanding these services is at the heart of our mission, as we strive to create a community where everyone can live free from violence and fear.



Working together to create positive social change and end violence – for good.

From our Executive Director

Dear friends,

2023 was another year of challenges and inspiration at SPAN.

As SPAN's Executive Director, I often think about the challenges in terms of numbers, like the more than 10,000 calls to SPAN's Crisis Hotline in 2023; the 1,800 adults and children who turned to SPAN for help; the more than \$3 million it took to keep SPAN's services strong last year.

When it comes to inspiration, I think of stories.

There's "Mary", a 72-year-old woman with dementia who endured years of abuse by her now-deceased husband, then by her adult son. Mary was referred to the SPAN Emergency Shelter by one of our community partners serving older adults. With support from the Shelter staff, Mary found long term housing at a memory care facility. Our Legal Team assisted Mary with a protection order and her son is no longer a threat.

Or I think about "Jose", a 12-year-old boy who struggled with rage-filled outbursts and was convinced he would grow up to be abusive like his stepdad. After he had experienced a series of art therapy sessions at SPAN, Jose told his counselor "I know now that my anger is part of me, but it's not all of me. I am a good kid, and I'll be a good dad someday."

SPAN is making a difference. SPAN is changing lives, even saving lives. And none of this is possible without our community of supporters like you. Together we can meet the challenges ahead and continue to tell stories about SPAN's positive impact. Thank you!

With grateful thanks,



Anne Tapp, Executive Director



From our Board Chair

Dear Friends,

Domestic violence is all too familiar of a lead story in local news. In my career as a news anchor, I regularly referred to the vicious cycle of violence without truly understanding what that meant. It's only fitting that my work with SPAN has enlightened me profoundly on this matter.

Before joining the Board of Directors, my main contribution to SPAN was helping survivors share their deeply personal stories with a hotel ballroom full of strangers. 30 years in broadcast journalism provides a reasonable background for this. Whether co-writing scripts or coaching public speaking, this was something I could contribute. But what I received in return was far more valuable.

Aha moment came when the SPAN staff chose Leaha Silvas as the speaker for our 42nd Annual Chocolate Lovers' Fling gala. Leaha had an extremely abusive partner, and she shared the tremendous impact this had on her children. **Leaha's children were on their way to perpetuating the vicious cycle of violence, getting in fights at school and lashing out to express their emotions.** Leah explained to me, and eventually to a much larger audience, how SPAN interrupted that cycle. Through comprehensive support and resources, SPAN provided Leaha and her family with the tools they need to break free from the patterns of abuse and build a safer future for everyone.

As I review SPAN's annual report, I find myself imagining it as our last. Behind all these statistics lies real change. **Behind every statistic, there are lives transformed, futures rebuilt, and cycles of violence broken. Our accomplishments this year are a testament to the power of community and the resilience of the human spirit.**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for standing with us, for believing in our mission, and for helping us make a lasting impact on the lives of survivors of domestic violence and their families.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Sally Thorner

Sally Thorner, Board Chair



Shelter & Housing Programs



10,077 crisis calls answered by trained, trauma-informed Advocates.

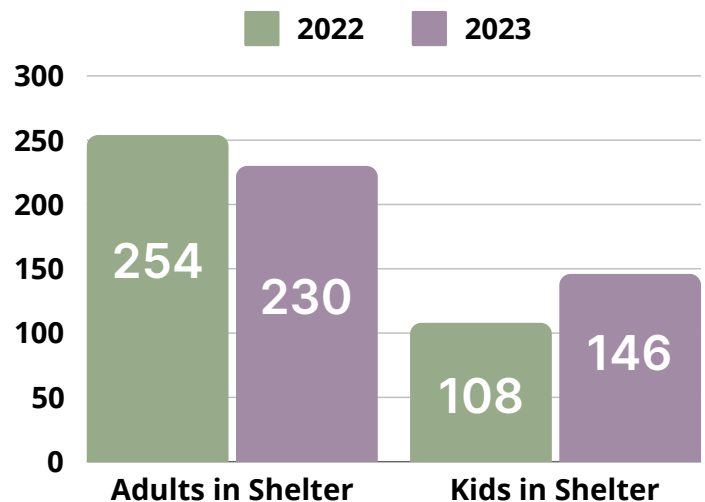


9,315 total bed nights in our safe, confidential Emergency Shelter.

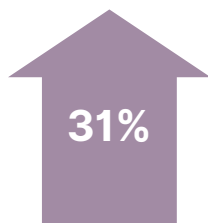
In 2023, we saw a 34% increase of children in our Emergency Shelter from 2022. Meaning, we sheltered more kiddos than ever who had witnessed extreme violence in their household. **Violence has profound and lasting effects on children, shaping their emotional, psychological, and social development in significant ways.**

Here at SPAN, we know how imperative it is to provide comprehensive support and trauma-informed services to help these young survivors heal and build a foundation for a healthier future.

Clients in Shelter



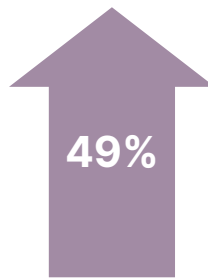
359 survivors supported in our Transitional Housing and Economic Justice Program.



Transitional housing opportunities are crucial for survivors of domestic violence, offering a critical bridge between our Emergency Shelter and long-term stability. By addressing both immediate and long-term needs, our programs empower survivors to break free from the cycle of violence, paving the way for a future where they can thrive independently and with dignity.



Legal Advocacy & Counseling Programs



The implementation and strengthening of the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) has increased SPAN Legal Advocacy referrals and support by 49% in 2023. LAP is an evidence-based approach to reduce intimate partner homicide, increase survivor safety, and build connection with community-based resources.



377 survivors received support and resource navigation in our Legal Advocacy Program.



457 adults and 245 children received client-centered services from our Counseling Program.

Our Counseling Program is essential for survivors of domestic violence, providing a safe and supportive space for them to process their experiences and begin the journey toward healing. Through individual and group counseling sessions, survivors can share their stories, gain insights from others with similar experiences, and build a network of support. Emotional and psychological healing is fundamental to restoring a survivor's sense of self-worth and empowerment. **Here at SPAN, we believe healing happens in community with each other.**



Education Program

4,579 Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) middle and high school students received our Violence Prevention Curriculum.

Implementing violence prevention curriculum in schools is vital for fostering safe and respectful learning environments while shaping a generation that rejects violence. This curriculum empowers students with knowledge about healthy relationships, effective communication, and understanding and practicing consent. SPAN works to equip youth with the tools to recognize and prevent abusive behaviors.



SPAN has provided evidence-based violence prevention education in the Boulder Valley School District for more than 20 years.

7th

Introduction to Relationships
Gender, Sexuality & Toxic Gender Roles
Regulating Emotions

8th

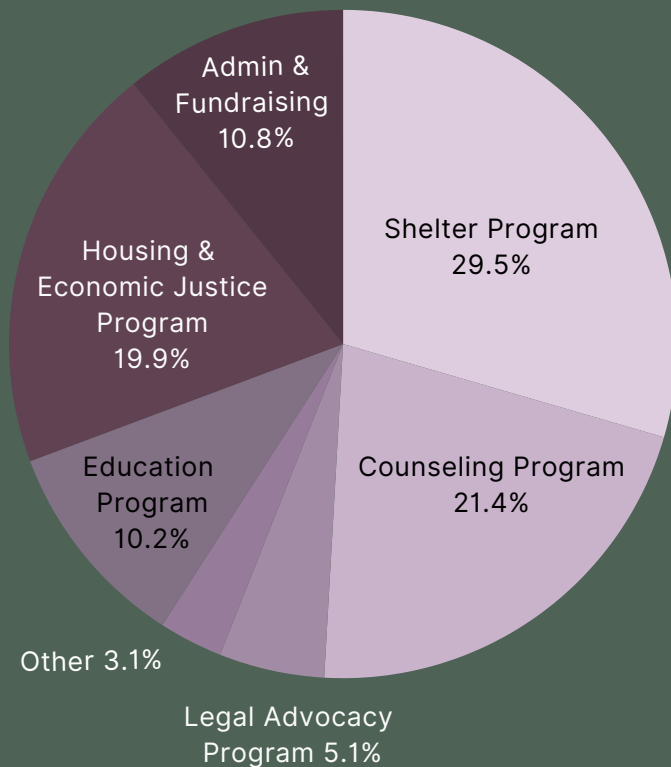
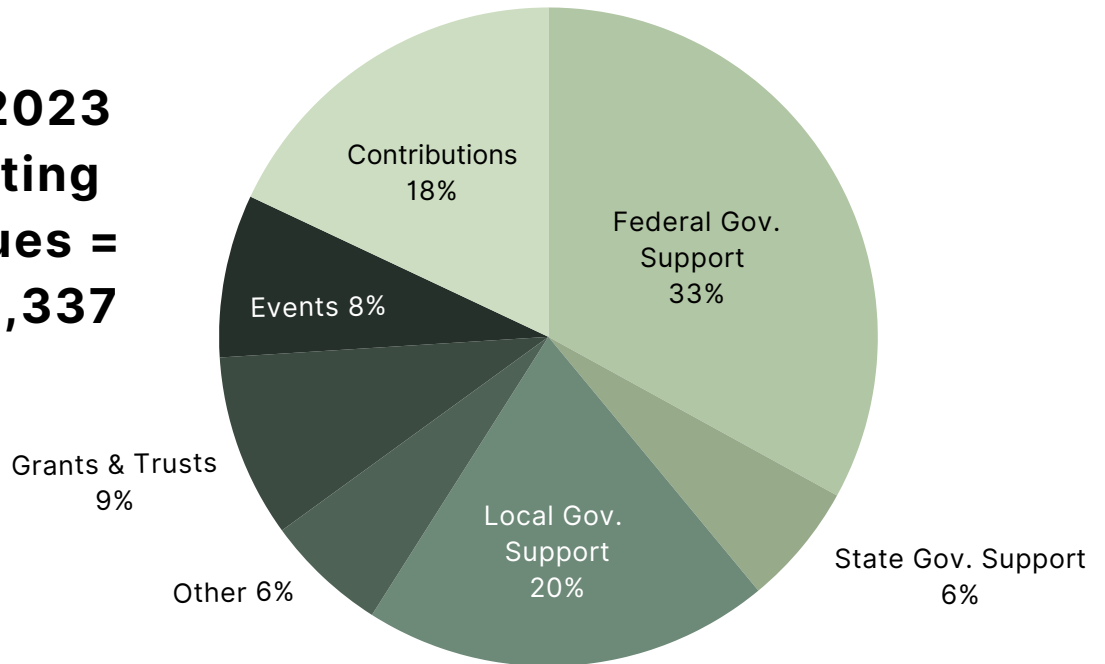
Cycle of Violence
Boundaries, Consent, and Sexual Violence
How to Support a Friend

9th

Introduction to Relationships
Cycle of Violence
Boundaries, Consent, and Sexual Violence
How to Support a Friend

2023 Financial Totals

**Total 2023
Operating
Revenues =
\$3,616,337**



**Total 2023
Operating
Expenses =
\$3,165,693**

Our Team



Anne Tapp | Executive Director

Lisa Van der Veer | Finance & Operations Director

Aparna Harris | Development Director

Erin Shannon | Education Program Director

Mallory Woodman | Legal Advocacy Director

Nicole Borelli | Housing & Economic Justice Program Director

Tsunemi Maehara | Counseling Program Director

Sally Thorner | Board Chair

Judy Knapp | Vice Chair

Chris Maughan | Treasurer

Peter Burr | Secretary

Amy Gestal | Member

Anna Frick | Member

Debbie Ramirez | Member

Denice Walker | Member

Jen Messina | Member

All rights, powers, duties, and responsibilities relative to the control of SPAN's property and affairs are vested in the Board of Directors.

SPAN
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for Nonviolence
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Boulder, CO 80304

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Everyone deserves a safe home.



You can support survivors
and help build a safer
community TODAY.

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To receive our eNews blasts, email us at
info@safehousealliance.org.

