



# HOPE'S DOOR

*Embracing Life Free  
From Domestic Abuse*

## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



### MISSION STATEMENT

Hope's Door seeks to end domestic violence and to empower victims to achieve safety, independence and healing from the trauma of abuse.

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[www.HopesDoorNY.org](http://www.HopesDoorNY.org)



“HOPE’S DOOR HAS GIVEN ME THE COURAGE AND HOPE I NEVER HAD BEFORE AND HAS HELPED ME BECOME THE WOMAN I WAS MEANT TO BE—STRONG, COURAGEOUS AND MOST OF ALL, FREE.”



HOPE'S  
DOOR

[www.HopesDoorNY.org](http://www.HopesDoorNY.org)

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CARLLA HORTON

**FROM THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The victims of domestic violence that we serve at Hope’s Door encounter many obstacles on their personal journey from victim to survivor. The work of Hope’s Door is to help each survivor overcome those obstacles to safety, independence and healing and forge a new life free from abuse.

This year, 504 victims of domestic violence sought our help in their struggle to achieve safety and transformational change in their lives. We served 7 men, 158 children and 339 women who came from all walks of life. Each arrived feeling hopeless and then found hope.

But serving victim after victim is not the Hope’s Door answer. Our mission demands that we end domestic violence. To break the cycle of abuse, we worked in 82 schools last year and empowered 7,846 teens across Westchester with the skills to recognize a healthy relationship, potentially life-saving information about abuse and where to go for help if confronting the issue.

As the year comes to a close, we gratefully acknowledge the courage of our survivors and the work of our staff, board of directors, volunteers, and donors. In the year to come, we ask that you continue to share in our mission of hope.

# LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT AND STAR PEER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## Teen Dating Abuse Awareness, Intervention and Prevention

Love Shouldn't Hurt empowers young people with the skills to distinguish between abusive relationships and those based on equality, respect and trust. The cornerstone of our program is the knowledge that young victims are reluctant to reveal abuse to adults but will reach out to friends. Our program empowers young people with the knowledge they need to help themselves, to give each other good advice and, ultimately, to break the silence that allows abuse to continue.

### Workshops – Awareness Events – Teen Symposium

During the year, staff and peer leaders presented 177 classroom workshops, sponsored 36 awareness events, and facilitated a teen symposium. An estimated 7,846 teens empowered themselves with potentially life-saving information about abuse. 107 teens participated in STAR; 63 earned peer leadership status.



White Plains High School STAR Leaders

“Even after my ex-boyfriend choked me, I didn't tell anyone. I didn't know where to turn. I felt stuck. Then I heard about the teen program at Hope's Door. I not only learned how to protect myself but now I can help others facing the same problem.”



STAR Presentation and Student Discussion

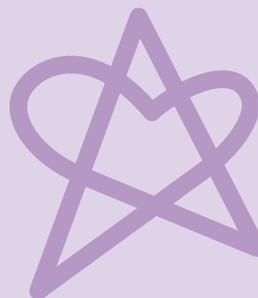
### Results of Our Work – Breaking the Silence

- Teen victims who would tell no one about the abuse dropped from 25% to 16%.
- Teen victims who would tell a parent grew from 26% to 41%.
- Teens who would tell a friend grew from 66% to 84%.



Hendrick Hudson Students and Educators at Symposium

## STAR CHAPTERS



Alexander Hamilton HS  
Hendrick Hudson HS  
Pleasantville at Hope's Door  
Maria Regina HS  
Rye High HS  
Westlake HS  
White Plains HS

## EMERGENCY SHELTER

It takes tremendous courage for a battered woman to walk away from her home and into our shelter. Often she leaves behind not only her abuser but also her family, friends, neighbors, job, and other sources of love and support. Imagine just for a moment your life without these or similar comforts. It's almost unimaginable — perhaps equally as painful as the abuse and violence left behind. During the year, 111 women and children were served.



Shelter Resident and Staff at Hope's Door Gala

## COUNSELING, SUPPORT & ADVOCACY

### Tammy

Tammy broke free from her abusive husband seven years ago. She got a divorce and a five-year order of protection. In April, she returned to court for unpaid child support — she never received a dime. After leaving court, her ex-husband became increasingly enraged and made death threats against her. Tammy fled, called Hope's Door, and with our support decided to file a police report for violation of the protective order. We assessed Tammy as high risk for homicide and advocated with the NYS Office of Victim Services, which awarded her funds to install a home security system. Thanks to our Special Needs Fund, we were able to pay for the first six months of home monitoring. Tammy secured a new order of protection and her ex-husband was sentenced to three years probation.

## SAFETY PLANNING

Safety planning and danger assessments are the most important services we provide. We help victims assess their level of danger and empower themselves with safety strategies — whether the victim decides to leave or to stay in the relationship.

### Andrea

Andrea had been strangled, beaten, emotionally battered and controlled for years. She had left and returned to her partner many times before fleeing to our shelter.

At the beginning, Andrea minimized the abuse, talked about it as if it had happened to someone else, and often stated that she wanted to return to the man she loved. Then, Andrea completed a Danger Assessment that identified risk factors associated with intimate partner homicide. Andrea had the highest danger score ever recorded at Hope's Door. This was the turning point for Andrea. She began to recognize the danger she was in and how deadly it could become if she returned to her partner. Andrea is developing her strengths and empowering herself with strategies to maximize her safety.

Our counseling, support group and advocacy program is a safe place for victims to break the silence about the violence, to learn safety strategies and to prudently plan for their future. In our sessions, abuse victims learn the difference between a relationship dominated by power and control and one based on equality, respect and trust. 504 victims were served during the year.



Support Group Members Gather for a Wellness Day at the Cherylyn Salon in Armonk

“When we first arrived at the shelter, I looked around and was stunned. I don't know what I was expecting — maybe a gymnasium with cots all around and me staying awake all night to protect the kids. What I found was a home where everybody did everything they could to make us safe and comfortable.”

## LEGAL SERVICES

“When I left court, I had more than my order of protection. I went home with my dignity and my confidence restored. Hope’s Door had built a protective fence around me and my family. It was the first time in months that I felt I could breathe.”

In their desperate struggle to maintain power and control, abusers often will wage protracted court battles over child custody, child support, visitation and marital dissolution. That’s where we come in—with the organizational, emotional, and legal support that can keep victims working in the system long enough to secure safety and economic security. 54 victims were served during the year.

### Cindy

*Cindy was married for seven years and had two children when her husband began to accuse her over and over of having an affair – an affair that never happened. Things spiraled from there and the beatings began. Cindy secured an order of protection and came to us for a divorce. She had no money, as her husband had removed all of their funds from a joint checking account. We accepted her as a client and began to advocate on her behalf. Over the next four months, our staff attorney negotiated with opposing counsel on issues related to custody, visitation, child support and equitable distribution. We negotiated a settlement and Cindy got everything she wanted, including joint custody, child support and reasonable visitation. Most importantly, her ex-husband bought out her share of the marital residence, where she and her daughters may live for two years for a modest monthly rent.*

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Our community education and outreach campaign reached more than 10,000 persons during the year. We worked with communities of faith, police departments, human service agencies, civic organizations, schools, colleges, youth-serving organizations, court personnel, elected officials, medical providers and corporate employers, among others. If you would like a program tailored to your needs, please call us at (914) 747-0828.

## CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

Children who witness or endure family violence suffer from trauma and manifest behaviors that thwart their ability to thrive. Given this reality and its daunting implications, we employ an array of strategies to help children break the cycle of violence, learn safety strategies, and heal from the trauma of abuse. 158 children were served during the year.

“I tried so hard to protect my children, but in the end, the only way I could protect them was by leaving, and the only way I could leave was with your support. Thank you for helping us to make it through that very difficult time.”



MBIA Foundation Visits Children’s Room at Shelter

### Emily and Her Mother

*Emily, 3 years old, and her mom came to our shelter in February. It was a difficult time. Emily missed her dad and was angry with mom for separating them. For the first month, Emily expressed her feelings by screaming and throwing things at her mom. This was distressing, but we worked with her mom to enhance her parenting skills and eventually we all began to see a turn-around in Emily’s emotional well-being and behavior. Emily continues to ask for her father whenever she and her mom are getting ready to go out. Mom has made peace with this idea and we are working with the courts on a visitation schedule.*

## 24-HOUR HOTLINE

“I lived with abuse for seven years before I found the courage to call the hotline at Hope’s Door. I finally realized that we just couldn’t live like that any longer.”

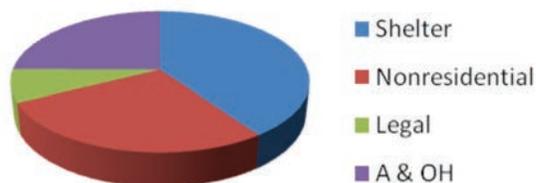
During the year, our hotline workers and volunteers responded to 1,027 callers in crisis.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Condensed Statement of Support, Revenue, and Expenses  
For the Years Ended June 2007, June 2008, June 2009, June 2010, and June 2011

Public Support and Revenue	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Public Support</b>					
Contributions and Special Events	\$311,253	\$266,513	\$226,160	\$282,989	\$275,969
Bequests	\$52,169	\$ 46,101	\$45,581	\$42,100	\$64,190
United Way	\$26,556	\$ 7,843	\$1,623	\$926	\$0
Other Public Support	\$109,249	\$140,150	\$195,611	\$113,250	\$78,195
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>\$ 499,227</b>	<b>\$ 460,607</b>	<b>\$468,975</b>	<b>\$439,265</b>	<b>\$418,354</b>
<b>Government Support</b>					
DSS Shelter Fees	\$453,022	\$470,131	\$587,193	\$585,810	\$526,419
NYS Crime Victims Board	\$200,751	\$218,285	\$226,175	\$261,470	\$310,387
Westchester County Office for Women	\$196,718	\$230,991	\$233,168	\$240,982	\$200,840
Division of Criminal Justice Services	\$32,037	\$28,702	\$29,969	\$30,347	\$32,337
Other Government Grants	\$191,551	\$199,086	\$83,041	\$72,763	\$79,126
<b>Total Government Support</b>	<b>\$1,074,079</b>	<b>\$ 1,147,195</b>	<b>\$1,159,546</b>	<b>\$1,191,372</b>	<b>\$1,149,109</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
Interest Income	\$26,716	\$ 25,788	\$12,728	\$5,413	\$3,470
Other Revenue	\$1,211		\$530	\$803	\$436
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$27,927</b>	<b>\$ 25,788</b>	<b>\$13,258</b>	<b>\$6,216</b>	<b>\$3,906</b>
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,601,233</b>	<b>\$ 1,633,590</b>	<b>\$ 1,641,779</b>	<b>\$1,636,853</b>	<b>\$1,571,369</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Program Services</b>					
Shelter Program	\$ 583,396	\$689,608	\$656,414	\$679,439	\$616,955
Nonresidential Program	\$ 463,946	\$450,222	\$475,940	\$453,606	\$419,907
Legal Program	\$ 152,485	\$133,189	\$114,971	\$106,514	\$115,676
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$1,199,827</b>	<b>\$ 1,273,019</b>	<b>\$1,247,325</b>	<b>\$1,239,559</b>	<b>\$1,152,538</b>
<b>Support Services</b>					
Management and General	\$230,104	\$265,914	\$291,400	\$286,437	\$271,404
Fund Raising	\$81,037	\$86,346	\$77,982	\$106,398	\$109,833
<b>Total Support Services</b>	<b>\$311,141</b>	<b>\$352,260</b>	<b>\$369,382</b>	<b>\$392,835</b>	<b>\$381,237</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,510,968</b>	<b>\$1,625,279</b>	<b>\$1,616,707</b>	<b>\$1,632,394</b>	<b>\$1,533,775</b>
<b>Excess of Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 90,265</b>	<b>\$ 8,311</b>	<b>\$25,072</b>	<b>\$4,459</b>	<b>\$37,594</b>
Percentage for Programs	79%	78%	77%	76%	75%
Percentage Administration and Overhead	21%	22%	23%	24%	25%
<b>Ending Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,036,298</b>	<b>\$ 1,044,608</b>	<b>\$ 1,069,682</b>	<b>\$ 1,074,141</b>	<b>\$ 1,111,735</b>

### HOPE'S DOOR EXPENSES



# WITH THANKS TO OUR MANY DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND THESE RECENT ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS



## GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

Child and Adult Care Food Program  
County of Westchester  
County Office for Women  
Emergency Food and Shelter Program  
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services  
NYS Office of Children & Family Services  
NYS Office of Victim Services

## BEQUEST

Audrey Nelson Grantor Trust

## FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Alden Foundation  
Avon Foundation  
AXA Foundation  
Baker Foundation  
Elizabeth G. Butler Angel's Fund  
Give Back Foundation  
Griffin Family Foundation  
Harold E. Hirsch Foundation  
Helen I. Graham Charitable Foundation  
Leventhal Family Charitable Foundation  
Louis and Ann Abrons Foundation  
Marshall Frankel Foundation  
Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation  
MBIA Foundation  
Pfizer Foundation  
Saint Faith's House Foundation  
Shmerler Foundation  
Stafford Foundation  
TD Charitable Foundation  
TJX Foundation  
Westchester Community Foundation

## CORPORATE & BUSINESS SUPPORT

Bloomingdale's  
Blue Dog Collections  
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Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP  
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Desires of Mikolay  
Dodge & Cox Fund  
EEG  
Eileen Fisher  
Empire Education Group  
Entergy  
Goldman Sachs  
HCC Specialty  
Hudson Valley Bank  
IBM  
Invesco  
Kitson Law Firm LLP  
Marino & Associates PC  
McLaughlin & Stern LLP  
Medco Employee Giving Campaign  
Merck Partnership for Giving  
Michaels & Associates  
Millwood Market  
Moms Made Easy  
Morgan Stanley  
Mrs. Monogram  
O'Melveny & Myers LLP  
Oppenheimer and Company  
Rosenthal & Markowitz LLP  
Signature Bank  
SKCG Group  
TD Bank  
Touched by Design  
Towers Perrin  
Towers Watson  
Verizon  
W. R. Berkley Corporation  
Westchester Family Magazine

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

American Legion Post 136  
American Muslim Women's Association  
Bedford Village Lions Club  
College of Westchester  
Contemporary Club of Pleasantville  
Girl Scouts Troop 2746  
Hispanic Resource Center  
Manhattanville College  
Open Door Family Medical Center  
Pace University  
Pace Women's Justice Center  
Rotary Club of Chappaqua  
Rotary Club of Ossining  
Scarsdale Elks  
The Volunteer Center  
United Way of Westchester & Putnam  
Westchester Women's Agenda  
Westchester Women's Bar Association

## INTERFAITH SUPPORT

Bedford Presbyterian Church  
Briarcliff Congregational Church  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
Church of St. John and St. Mary  
Church of St. Mary the Virgin  
Community Memorial Baptist Church  
Dominican Sisters of Hope  
First Congregational Church of Chappaqua  
First Presbyterian Church of Katonah  
First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown  
Hudson Valley Fellowship  
Interfaith Caring Community  
Irvington Presbyterian Church  
Pound Ridge Community Church  
Presbyterian Church of Mount Kisco  
Presbyterian Church of Pleasantville  
Scarsdale Congregational Church  
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
Stevens Memorial Methodist Church  
Temple Bet Torah  
Temple Shaaray Tefila  
United Methodist Church of Mount Kisco  
Woodlands Community Temple

## STATEMENT OF CHARITY ACCOUNTABILITY

Hope's Door wants the public to have complete confidence in our charitable work. We are recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit charity. Our tax ID number is 13-3023259. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Contact us or refer to our website to review the following:

- IRS Letter of Determination
- Annual Reports
- Audited Financial Statements
- IRS Form 990s

Please accept our apology for any inadvertent omissions. Please know that we do not list individual donors.