



# 2020 Annual Report

SUPPORTING THOSE IMPACTED BY  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE

Dear Friend,

**Journey Center for Safety and Healing** (formerly Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center) is grateful for your critical support in these challenging times. While our name has changed, our mission and vision have not. The new name reflects that we are here to walk alongside those impacted by domestic violence and child abuse. Every person's journey is unique as they find a path toward healthy, thriving relationships.

Nearly 20,000 children and adults experiencing domestic violence and/or child abuse in Cuyahoga County were touched by Journey's services in 2020. COVID-19 reinforced our critical mission. We were all asked to stay at home during the pandemic, but home is not a safe place for everyone. People experiencing domestic violence and child abuse have been isolated at home with their abuser. We knew this would be a dangerous time and, indeed, Journey has seen a significant increase in the need for services. We anticipate that trend will continue. Despite the challenges, significant achievements were possible because of your support:

- Throughout the pandemic, Journey has maintained essential services. Helpline and Shelter have operated continually and COVID-19 increased the needs for Shelter clients: alternative safe housing options; outreach to victims isolated at home; more food, activities, cleaning, PPE, and educational tools; and more staff serving on the frontline. Advocates and therapists have been there to help - working with survivors through remote technology but also in person when necessary. Requests have increased 80%.
- Journey implemented the Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Expansion to train police officers to use the Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement. This evidence-based risk assessment tool helps identify victims at the highest risk of intimate partner homicide and severe and lethal assault and provides an enhanced response immediately connecting victims to services. Journey was a partner in a 3 year pilot in Cleveland's Districts 1 and 5 which saw a 62% reduction in intimate partner homicides over that time. Expanding this life saving effort to suburban Cuyahoga County jurisdictions is a critical next step.
- Canopy Child Advocacy Center realized its vision and honored its collaborative partnership by receiving its 501©3 status and, beginning with the new year, is an independent nonprofit organization. Journey and Canopy will continue to work closely. Child abuse and intimate partner violence are inextricably linked and require a two-generation approach that will continue to be the focus of Journey's mission.

We could not do this without you! While Journey is fortunate to receive significant government support such as from the Office on Violence Against Women and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), these grants do not fully fund the delivery of quality comprehensive services. This year, we received a 36% cut from VOCA; additional cuts from United Way resulted in an \$840,000 reduction to our annual budget. This is just one reason we are so grateful for your continued and generous support.

On behalf of the clients we serve, thank you for your partnership and for letting those experiencing domestic violence and child abuse know they are not alone on their journey to health and safety.

In Peace and Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa Graves".

Melissa Graves  
Chief Executive Officer



## DID YOU KNOW THAT?

There were **109** fatalities due to domestic violence in the last year.

On just one day in September 2019, **1,499** adult and child victims of domestic violence sought shelter in Ohio's emergency domestic violence shelters or transitional housing programs.

## FISCAL YEAR 2020 BY THE NUMBERS

**16,110 individuals impacted by Journey's mission**

**6,183** Crisis interventions through our 24-Hour Helpline & Emergency Shelter

**5,516** People educated about family violence and healthy relationships

**3,001** Victims of domestic violence supported through the judicial process

**1,132** Supervised visits and safe exchanges for children of separated parents

**714** Children received services at Canopy Child Advocacy Center

**263** Victims healing through individual therapy, art therapy and support group sessions

**\$133,207** In-kind donations to support clients' basic needs

**Journey's mission is to provide services that foster safety and healing for those affected by child abuse and domestic violence; and to prevent abuse through education, advocacy, and systemic change.**

In 2020, we witnessed the impact of systemic racism, from the disproportionate effect of COVID-19 on communities of color to the reality of police brutality. While this was an awakening for some; for others, it was yet another painful act of racism. Domestic violence and child abuse is happening in every American community. Still, survivors in communities that experience systemic racism and discrimination have additional risks and challenges in finding safety and healing. Non-white children are over-represented in the child welfare system; Black and Indigenous women experience the highest rates of homicide by an intimate partner – three times higher than White women. As a country and a community, we continue the path toward equity and Journey will continue to be part of the fight to end both racism and sexism. We are deepening all aspects of our organization through the lens of anti-racism and equity. Journey will continue to highlight and address discrimination and racial disparities within the fields of domestic violence and child abuse; offer best practice training for law enforcement, courts, and service providers; and continue evolving our programming to hear, honor, and be responsive to all survivors.

# Services

## 24 - Hour Helpline and Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter

Operating in the same confidential location for 45 years, the shelter operates as a safe haven for the many persons at high risk for revictimization and stalking. Advocates provide crisis intervention, safety planning, group activities, art therapy, assistance with education, and connections to housing, employment and community supports. Helpline receives crisis, referral, and information calls, texts, and live messages 24/7.

## Justice System Advocacy

Journey provides community based advocacy for domestic violence victims involved in criminal and civil proceedings throughout Cuyahoga County. Advocates offer crisis intervention, safety planning and education, and connections to community supports; they also facilitate support groups that help with the healing process.

## Safe and Sound Visitation Center

Safe and Sound Visitation Center (SSVC) is the only one of its kind in Cuyahoga County helping high-risk, high-conflict families in need of safe, supervised visits. The program meets a critical need in the community by increasing the safety of the child(ren) and the residential parent or guardian when domestic violence, mental health or substance abuse is an issue, or when other significant life challenges may put the child(ren) at risk. SSVC also serves families in neighboring counties.

## Prevention, Education and Inclusion

**Professional Trainings:** Journey has diverse speakers with years of experience providing information and education, seminars, and professional trainings to schools, human service agencies, medical professionals, law enforcement, and interested community groups.

**Latina Domestic Violence Project:** Offers culturally relevant advocacy and support services for Latina victims of domestic violence. All Advocates are bilingual in Spanish.

**Education Group:** This 7-week program provides education on the dynamics of domestic violence to help those affected by abuse make informed life decisions.

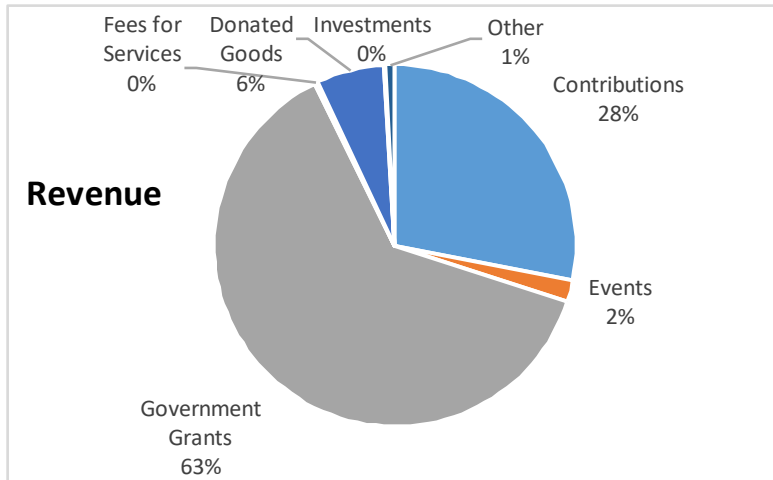
## Trauma Services

Therapy services for children, adolescents and adults who have experienced trauma, grief, and loss related to child abuse, teen dating violence, domestic violence and/or stalking. Therapists are skilled and trained in trauma focused therapy models like Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). Services include individual and group therapy for both children and adults.

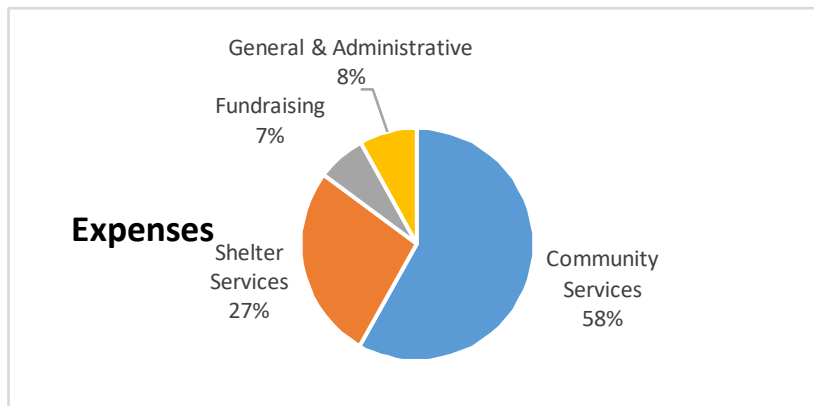
## Canopy Child Advocacy Center

A national best practice model utilized to reduce trauma for children and their families impacted by child abuse and improve service delivery through interagency collaboration, Canopy opened November 2018. Journey serves as fiscal agent and legal entity for this important resource on behalf of partners that include Cleveland Division of Police, Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, Frontline Service, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, The MetroHealth System, University Hospitals, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and Journey Center for Safety and Healing.

# July 2019 – June 2020 Financials



Contributions	\$	1,502,030
Events	\$	103,626
Government Grants	\$	3,359,158
Fees for Service	\$	17,815
Donated Goods	\$	323,905
Investments	\$	3,607
Other	\$	47,617
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,357,758</b>



Community Services	\$	3,088,839
Shelter Services	\$	1,434,085
Fundraising	\$	361,790
General & Administrative	\$	428,251
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,312,965</b>

## Board of Directors

**Jeffrey C. Sindelar, Jr.** (President)

**Polly C. Furey** (Immediate Past President & 1st VP)

**Roseann Pappas** (Vice President)

**Sally Ingberg** (Treasurer)

**Amy Thompson** (Secretary)

**Michael Anderton**

**Lauren Backus**

**Kellee Bacote**

**Susan Belman**

**Jejuana C. Brown**

**Michelle Fischer**

**Brandon Griffin**

**Dean Jenkins**

**Melissa Kline**

**Jim Lawler**

**Eric Logan**

**Eva Love, MD**

**Alison Magyari**

**Andrea Martemus-Peters**

**Joseph F. Maslowski**

**Sonia Monroy Matis**

**Arbi Raina**

**Kelly Woodard**