Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County supports individuals affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation and leads the community towards ending these abuses of power.

We believe...

- All people have the right to be in a safe, non-violent community.
- Personal empowerment is essential to an individual’s growth and healing.
- Volunteers empower the community to help and care for itself.
- It is individuals who choose to abuse and they are responsible for their behavior.
- All people have the right to be free from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse.
- Community-based solutions are essential to ending violence.

We believe in a community free from violence.

“Without these services, I wouldn’t know how to live without being abused. This agency saved me & my daughter’s life. Thank you for giving us a life & a new beginning.”
40 years of advocacy

1979
Whatcom County Crisis Services opens, a merger of Sun Crisis Center, Rape Relief, and Battered Women’s Project.

1984
Built BINGO 262 in Ferndale. Bingo earnings: $21,666.

1984
1985
Developed mission statement and agency vision.

1991
Bingo net earnings peak at $754,700.

1996
Begun legal advocacy program.

1999
Transitional out of general crisis services to focus on domestic violence.

2000
Started agency endowment fund.

2006
Sold BINGO 262, sale netted $239,600.

2007
Formalized partnership with county-wide law enforcement agencies.

2010
Expanded agency mission to include serving victims of sexual exploitation.

2014
Assumed operations of the Womencare emergency domestic violence shelter. Budget exceeds $1,000,000.

2016
Began on-going advocacy, along with walk-in services.

2018
Safe Housing Program expanded by 66% with the opening of Baker Place campus.

Executive Directors

Alex Whitehead
1979-1984

Kathleen Casey
1984-1996

Kathleen Marshall
1996-2007

Karen Burke
2007-2019

Kathleen Casey
1984-1996

Kathleen Marshall
1996-2007

Karen Burke
2007-2019

Karen Burke
2007-2019
I joined the Board because this is a mission I hold near and dear to my heart. Working with DVSAS has helped me heal from my own experiences and given me a platform to raise awareness for this cause. It’s been such an honor to aid this agency for the last three years.

• Virginia Gonzalez, DVSAS Board Member since 2017 •

board of directors

Officers
Ryan Anderson • President
Assistant City Attorney, City of Bellingham
Pete Dworkin • Vice President
Partner Attorney, Belcher Swanson Law Firm

Jono Manion • Secretary
Data Analyst, Wompmobile
Sharon Robinson • Treasurer
Principal, Zervas Architects

Christina Byrne • Professor of Psychology, Western Washington University
Randy Cantrell • Mortgage Loan Officer, Caliber Home Loans
Virginia Gonzalez • Human Resource Generalist, Smith Gardens
Dan Hammill • Council Member, Bellingham City Council
Evan Jones • Deputy Prosecutor, Whatcom County
Lindsay Knaus • Project Manager, North Sound Accountable Communities of Health
Heather Maddox • Clinical Services Manager, Family Care Network
Kevin Mede • Lieutenant, Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office
Claudia Murphy • Lieutenant, Bellingham Police Department
Julia Orloff • Native Environmental Science Advisor, NW Indian College
Julie Ranson • Bank Manager, Umpqua Bank
Maryann Renzi • Retired Human Resources Director
Eric Richey • Prosecutor, Whatcom County
Allison Trimble • Owner, Coastal Realty
Keith Wallace • Partner, Rice Insurance
Abby Yates • Owner, Blue Bird Social Media
## Immediate Help
Immediate services are available through the DVSAS 24-hour helpline. Advocacy counselors provide crisis intervention, emergency safety planning, emotional support, and referrals over the phone and in-person. Additionally, advocates respond to PeaceHealth hospital during forensic sexual assault exams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Point</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpline calls answered by volunteers and staff</td>
<td>2,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survivors accessed DVSAS services throughout the year</td>
<td>2,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survivors supported during forensic sexual assault exams</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Support Services
Support services include long-term advocacy counseling; support groups for women, men, LGBTQ+ survivors, incarcerated survivors, and teens; legal advocacy; and a children’s program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Point</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal advocacy clients supported through court-support</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children served in the Safe Start Children’s Program</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours of support groups to encourage 406 survivors</td>
<td>3,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Safe Housing Program
Survivors of violence can access safe, confidential housing for up to 90 days through this program. Three shelter facilities house families and singles and their house pets. Safe hotels are also provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Point</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Survivors were sheltered in the Safe Housing Program</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of survivors moved into transitional or supportive housing upon leaving the program</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents escaped homelessness through the support of the Beyond Shelter program</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Prevention Education Services
DVSAS offers trainings and education on domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation at schools, community groups, and businesses. Education, awareness, and training is a positive step towards preventing domestic and sexual violence and empowers victims to find help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Point</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools in Whatcom County engaged with DVSAS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classrooms participated in the Empowerment Project</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle &amp; High School students received prevention education</td>
<td>810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019 staff

Clauuda Ackerman • Support Group Coordinator
Katie Akin • Receptionist
Alex Baldwin • Safe Housing Advocate
Renee Barry • Accounting Technician
Shoshana Bass • Prevention Education Specialist
Karen Burke • Executive Director
Meryl Chew • Behavioral Health Program Coordinator
Devin Connolly • Rural Advocate
Norma Esperance • Family Support Specialist
Brooke Eolande • Behavioral Health Program Coordinator
Aaron Foss • Safe Housing Manager
Veronica Garaycoa • Advocacy Counselor
Leeda Ghassemi • Safe Housing Advocate
Meg Hansen • Safe Housing Advocate
Elizabeth Hart • Support Services Manager
Jessica Heck • Development Director
Megan Heishman • Program Assistant
Amber Icay • 24-Hour Services Manager
Isabella Kent • Americorps VISTA
Marina La Luz • Safe Housing Advocate
Kevin Lee • Legal Services Advocate
Chris Ludjin • Maintenance Manager
Simone Mack • Children’s Program Coordinator
Michelle Meyer • Children’s Program Coordinator
Tess O’Reilly • Behavioral Health Program Coordinator
Blanca Ortega • Prevention Education Specialist
Meghan Tinsley • Executive Assistant
Ciera Page • Receptionist
Rochelle Scoggins • Safe Housing Advocate
Angela Sherburne • Events & Marketing Coordinator
Shannon Siri • Legal Services Advocate
Kailee Smith • Safe Housing Advocate
Kyle Sullivan • Advocacy Counselor
Chris Williams • Maintenance Manager
Andrea Wood • Finance Manager

“One of the things I appreciate most about working at DVSAS is how everyone constantly rallies together to support one another and our clients. It is not an every person for themselves organization, but rather everyone working together to push our mission forward for the good of the community.”

• Isabella Kent, 2019 Americorps VISTA •
Volunteers provide advocacy counseling in person and over the 24-hour helpline, court support, advocacy at forensic exams, and help at our fundraising events.

Thank you 2019 volunteers for 7,564 hours of service. Equivalent to 3.5 full-time positions!

2019 volunteers:

Abby M.
Aliza B.
Alyana H.
Alyssa H.
Amanda O.
Armando O.
Ashley H.
Ashley O.
Bayley B.
Beth M.
Brett L.
Briana D.
Britta Sc.
Britta Sp.
Brittany N.
Broderick M.
Calista B.
Camille F.
Carol S.
Cass L.
Cass W.
Catherine K.
Chance J.
Chantell C.
Christina K.
Cindy B.
Claudia D.
Cora B.
Courtney A.
David R.
Declan H.
Dominique K.
Elizabeth G.
Els B.
Emily Gl.
Emily Gr.
Emma J.
Emma P.
Eric D.
Esther F.
Eve C.
Gabby H.
Gabby R.
Georgianna B.
Hailey C.
Hailey F.
Hanna E.
Harold J.
Haylee M.
Heather W.
Holly G.
Isabella B.
Izabella K.
Jacob D.
Jaimee Z.
Jane S.
Jen C.
Jennifer A.
Jessica K.
Jessica R.
Jill P.
Jin O.
Juliana B.
Kale H.
Kalia S.
Kari B.
Katherine A.
Kathryn H.
Katie B.
Katie S.
Kayla B.
Kayla C.
Kayla D.
Kelly V.
Kelly W.
Kelsey H.
Kevin R.
Kristin C.
Kristy G.
Kyle C.
Kylee L.
Lauren R.
Laura R.
Leah F.
Libby G.
Linda M.
Lisa S.
Lucy K.
Maddie C.
Maddie H.
Maddie R.
Maddy L.
Madison C.
Madison M.
Malia M.
Mara P.
Marion J.
Marla R.
Marla T.
Mary L.
Maya W.
Mckenna M.
McKenzie T.
Megan M.
Megan S.
Melissa M.
Mieke D.
Molly H.
Nadia K.
Naomi B.
Nico W.
Pam H.
Payton J.
Phoebe H.
Rachel L.
Rachel La.
Rae L.
Rebecca O.
Samantha S.
Samara S.
Samuel F.
Samuel J.
Silas S.
Skye L.
Sophia S.
Sophie B.
Sophie C.
Stacie R.
Stefanie K.
Stephanie D.
Subin P.
Sydney M.
Tyler S.
Vegas C.
Will B.
**Revenue**

- 68% Government Grants
- 11% Special Events & Community Donations
- 6% Corporate Gifts & Foundation Grants
- 8% Rental Income & Interest
- 7% Endowment Income

**Expenses**

- 74% Program & Services
- 19% General Administration
- 7% Fundraising Expenses

**2019 Presenting Sponsor**

DVSAS has been honored to be supported by Sanitary Services Company for the past 20 years. They are an incredible community partner in the fight against domestic violence and sexual assault. Thank you SSC!

**Corporate Partners**

- Smith Gardens
- Rice Insurance
- Barkley Village
- Mt. Baker Care Center
- Belcher | Swanson Law Firm, PLLC
- Deborrah M. Loober Certified Public Accountant
- Bank of the Pacific
- Peoples Bank
- State Farm
- TransOcean Products
2nd Annual Barkley Village Wine Walk • April 12, 2019

Sponsored By:
- John L. Scott Real Estate
- Country Financial
- KAFE 104.1 FM

Participating Locations:
- Barkley Massage
- Blue Abode Bar
- Bob’s Burger & Brew
- Gies & Associates
- Hamann’s Gallery
- MIX
- Olio Flowers
- Overflow Taps
- Pak Mail
- Statement Apparel
- Umpqua Bank
- Urban Collective

24 Wines tasted
500 Tickets sold
$14,385 Raised

Victory over Violence Luncheon • May 31, 2019

This year VoV celebrated our 40th year of providing advocacy in Whatcom County! Speakers looked at where we were, where we are now, and where we are going.

Stephanie Wahlgren
SANE Nurse Coordinator
PeaceHealth Hospital
Kathleen Marshall Award Winner

19 New donors joined the Circle of Hope, our monthly giving program
$11,950 Raised

Tournament of Hope Golf Classic • August 29, 2019

Sponsored By:
- CALIBER Home Loans

Hole Sponsors & Corporate Teams:
- Andgar Corporation
- Bay City Construction
- Berona Engineers
- Coastal Realty
- Farmer’s Insurance • Erik Dyrland
- NPI/3D

113 Golfers
475 Raffle tickets sold
$18,150 Raised

Hands for Hope Auction & Gala • November 2, 2019

Sponsored By:

Hole Sponsors & Corporate Teams:
- Peoples Bank • Tiffany Bergsma-Evans
- Peoples Bank • Abigail Dixon

Event Sponsors:
- Bellingham Police Association
- Bluebird Social Media
- Hub International Northwest
- Waycross Investment Management Co.

BARRON | SMITH | DAUGERT

Northshore Veterinary Hospital

$18,150 Raised

$109,000 Raised

280 Attendees
$35,750 Raised through Fund-A-Need
$109,000 Raised
A huge thank you to the many local businesses, community groups, and foundations that are helping end domestic and sexual violence in our community.
I came to the shelter feeling broken and afraid and I leave knowing how capable and strong I am. I will forever be grateful.

• DVSAS Safe Housing Program Resident •