Mission Statement

Safe Homes of Orange County works to eliminate all forms of domestic violence through education, outreach and provision of services to individuals and families affected by domestic abuse.

Safe Homes is client-centered. We educate and empower people to make informed choices. We serve with compassion and dignity.

Our belief is:
“Every home should be a safe home.”

Domestic Violence Facts

- 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.
- Almost 1/3 of all female homicides in the United States are perpetrated by an intimate-partner.
- In New York State alone, approximately 450,000 domestic incidents are reported to police departments annually.
- According to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, there were 91 intimate-partner homicides in the state during the course of 2008—a 25% escalation in deadly crimes against women, compared to 2007.
- Between September of 2004 and December 2010, 14 Orange County women were murdered by their husbands or intimate-partners. One woman is still missing.

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We offer hope to individuals affected by domestic violence.

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“Every home should be a safe home.”

24-Hour Hotline: 1-888-503-HOPE
2010 Program Highlights

- The Orange County Family Justice Center (FJC): Acting as the front door to Safe Homes’ comprehensive services, the FJC provides management, access to legal services, and a Children’s Drop-Off Center.
- Teen Dating-Violence Prevention Program: age-appropriate prevention and education curriculums for area-schools and youth organizations.
- Support Groups: offering five weekly, support groups throughout the county, free of charge, in English and in Spanish.
- Link Program: a collaborative effort with the Orange County Department of Social Services to improve the safety of the victimized parent and children through centralized resources and shared expertise. Launched in October of 2009, the program is funded by New York State’s Office of Children & Family Services.
- Safe Havens: supervised parent-visitation for families who have experienced domestic violence.
- Save Yourself Program: addresses the economic crisis that often faces women affected by domestic violence by focusing on economic stability and education.
- TASA: provides case-management services for pregnant and parenting teens.

FUNDRAISING

- Celebration of Hope Dinner: Honoring David Jolly, Commissioner, Orange County Department of Social Services; Mount Saint Mary College; Newburgh Teaching Assistants. Sponsored by The Knight Family, Orange & Rockland, Crystal Run Healthcare and the Newburgh Rotary, the event raised $30,000.
- Love-Gently: The 16th edition of this annual family event gathered 200 supporters and raised $5,500.

2010 Services

- Gingerbread Houses: The 6th annual holiday event raised $1,100.
- Holiday Wish-List Adoption Program: 330 wish-lists were adopted by community and faith groups, schools, businesses and individual donors.

SERVICES

- Safe Homes’ Non-Residential Programs served 597 new adult clients, 1,002 children; advocates worked with 3,297 clients on an ongoing basis.
- Safe Homes’ Advocates provided 1,100 emergency services and 4,117 advocacy services in the areas of court accompaniment, law enforcement, medical and social services, housing, employment and education.
- Safe Homes’ Advocates answered 5,783 hotline calls and 4,720 calls for information and referrals; advocates made 4,758 victim-outreach calls and follow-up calls on Domestic Incident Reports.
- Safe Homes’ Education and Prevention Programs held 211 presentations, reaching an audience of approximately 1,849. The Teen Dating-Violence Prevention Program reached 2,732 teens.
- The Safe Homes’ shelter housed 64 adult victims of domestic violence and 60 children.
- The Family Justice Center served 609 clients.
- The Link Program received 295 referrals in three months of operation.
- In its first full-year of operation, TASA case-managers served 100 teen girls. Primary medical providers accompanied the birth of 44 healthy babies; 52 teens enrolled in school and completed GED programs; 4 teens enrolled in college; 23 teens secured employment.