

## **Sarah's Inn: MISSION**

*To improve the lives of those impacted by domestic violence and to break the cycle of violence for future generations.*

Since 1981 Sarah's Inn, as a comprehensive domestic violence agency, has approached domestic violence as a societal issue that demands a holistic response. We are committed to programming that responds appropriately to the needs of those families already impacted by violence, as well as working proactively to prevent violence for future generations.

## **SERVICE AREA**

Sarah's Inn currently provides services to the city of Chicago and 22 West Cook County communities, including Oak Park, River Forest, Berwyn, Cicero, Melrose Park, Maywood, Stone Park, Elmwood Park, Franklin Park, Forest Park, Hillside, Westchester, LaGrange Park, Riverside, North Riverside, Brookfield, Bellwood, Berkeley, Broadview, River Grove, Northlake and Schiller Park.

## **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

***Intervention Program*** provides services for families affected by domestic violence in order to safely navigate crisis, effectively process trauma and ensure self-sufficiency.

Services include:

- Emergency Assistance through a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter referrals, transportation, and housing assistance
- Individual and Group advocacy and counseling
- Children and Teens group services and individual counseling
- Legal advocacy
- Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP) for perpetrators of violence

Sarah's Inn answers an average of **3,500 calls per year on its crisis line**, and **serves more than 1,400 women and 300 children** each year.

**Sarah's Inn 24-hour crisis line: (708) 386-4225**

***Training and Education Program*** maximizes reach by creating a network of skilled bystanders to appropriately intervene as first responders and community advocates. Sarah's Inn is a certified training site through the Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professionals, Inc. and a leader in providing domestic violence education and training.

Outreach and Training:

- Professional first-responders, such as law enforcement, medical personnel, and related social service providers
- Healthcare professionals and Hospitals
- Businesses, Human Resources and Management
- Social Service providers
- Faith-based communities and partnerships
- Community-based groups and organizations
- In-Service and Professional Development Trainings
- Volunteers providing domestic violence services (Domestic Violence Advocate Training)

Sarah's Inn **educates over 3,000 individuals** annually through institutional advocacy, professional and volunteer trainings, and our public education outreach.

Trained **volunteers provide over 14,000 hours of direct service to clients** each fiscal year.

***Together Strong Prevention Project*** provides school-based educational programming for youth in order to prevent future relationship violence. The goal of this program is to educate and engage youth so that they will pursue non-violence and cultivate healthy relationships throughout their lives. All of our prevention programming aligns with the Illinois Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) standards, and promotes anti-bullying and healthy relationship development.

Current programming includes:

- *Together Strong*: a one to four week intensive violence prevention program for high school students covering topics such as dating and domestic violence, bullying and harassment, sexual assault, digital abuse, and suicide
- *Together Prepare*: a week-long program for 8<sup>th</sup> graders which highlights topics including healthy dating relationships, conflict management, positive coping skills and responsible online interactions
- *Together Discover*: a week-long program for 7<sup>th</sup> graders which highlights topics including identifying personal values, developing empathy, mastering positive coping skills and building healthy relationships
- *Together Connect*: a week-long program for 6<sup>th</sup> graders which highlights topics including healthy friendships, methods for addressing interpersonal differences, positive decision making skills, and responsible online interactions
- Educational and Professional Development seminars for youth & community groups, parents, school faculty and community members
- Sarah's Inn Youth Committee: a program for high school students to engage as peer advocates for non-violence and serve their community

The ***Together Strong Project*** reaches **4,000 youth** annually.