



Stewardship REPORT

SPRING 2019 DONOR UPDATE

Creating Intentional Success

Many people wonder how we tackle such tough issues as domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex-trafficking. These are challenging situations and survivors need many different services to support them.

At WEAVE, we are committed to creating success for every survivor while knowing each person's goals will — and should — be unique to them. With your support, we're able to do that. Thank you for contributing to each and every success.

Defining Success

For each of us, defining success is personal and situational. This holds true, as well, at WEAVE.

We know that success for a 17-year-old survivor of sex trafficking is different from that of a 28-year-old who is sexually

assaulted or a 39-year-old mother of two who is contemplating leaving a violent marriage. Our commitment to standing with each survivor during dark times — and celebrating successes — keeps us going.

In every situation, we ask ourselves basic questions ... “Is the survivor safer?” ... “Does the survivor now have more skills to move forward?” ... “Is the survivor better equipped to meet challenges?”

By asking these — and similar — questions, we gather the information and establish the tools to gauge the success of our programs. And as a result, we can decide where to invest resources that, when personalized to the individual, create the best results.

This process is only possible because of the support of generous individuals like you. WEAVE's government funding — which represents only 60% of our budget — funds basic services. It is your support that allows us to go beyond that basic foundation and to meet the full demand for services and personalized responses.

Achieving Success

For WEAVE, the basis of success is built on roadmaps of survivor-centered interventions and services. We have
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Thanks to your support, we have been able to provide thousands of survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sex trafficking from the Sacramento region with the safety and the life-changing services they needed to heal and get back on their feet.

We cannot take on these challenges without you and other generous donors in our community.

Thank you!



Creating Intentional Success

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intentionally developed these plans for each of our core service areas or approaches — sexual assault, domestic violence, sex trafficking, violence reduction through collaborations, and prevention education.

Each roadmap identifies short- and long-term goals to move from crisis to stability to

thriving. We work with survivors to link them to the interventions and services that work best for them. Along the way, our skilled staff are documenting progress using indicators tailored to the needs of each survivor or family.

Moving away from evaluation that only quantifies the number of survivors served and toward a process that

explores the true impact of our work is only possible because of supporters like you.

Without your generous support, we would not have the capacity to invest in this effort.

Creating Successful Services & Interventions

We know that needs — and what defines success — will change over time. Thanks to our generous donors, we have been able to consistently identify emerging needs and to create and test out new approaches.

One example of this ongoing assessment is our legal program. During the 2008 recession, WEAVE experienced rapid and significant funding losses, which resulted in the decimation of this critical program. We knew that 90% of those needing emergency shelter had a legal barrier to safety yet did not have the resources to help at the level needed.

Armed with the data we had and the knowledge of the immediate need — and

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Paula knows firsthand how critical the services are.

“I met the WEAVE Advocate at the clinic when I got my rape exam. I was still frightened and she helped a lot and she and the doctor explained everything to me. When the exam was done, the Advocate stayed with me. We talked through the anxiety I was feeling and she assured me it was normal. She made sure I had a safe place to stay. She let me know she would call me in two days to go over everything and she did. She helped connect me to my counselor, too. I started seeing a counselor and they helped me apply for victim’s compensation so I could keep going after the initial sessions. They let me know I could have an advocate go to court with me if I wanted. But ultimately, the case wasn’t prosecuted. By the time that decision was made, I’d been seeing the counselor long enough and was able to handle the news. I know it doesn’t change that I was raped. I’m relieved to not have to go to trial but still angry he got away with it by lying. I’ve gotten enough help that I can deal with it and I won’t let him destroy my life.”

implications if legal services were not restored — our board of directors set out to reinvent the program. Individual donors and funders provided \$150,000 in seed funding that allowed WEAVE to hire an attorney and a legal advocate. A key part of their initial work was adding to the documentation of the need for legal assistance.

While we could not respond to every survivor, we were able to develop a process for determining those at the greatest risk for serious injury or death and to quantify the types of legal assistance needed. The information was used to secure a three year federal grant to stabilize legal services, and we were able to secure additional state funding thereafter, as well.

By understanding what survivors need and leveraging flexible funding, WEAVE could demonstrate the importance of legal assistance. This was only possible because of our generous donors. Those early donations created the foundation for a comprehensive legal program

that today includes four attorneys and three legal advocates and which supports more than 700 victims each year.

Sustaining Success

WEAVE's approach to providing personalized and survivor-centered services requires us to constantly assess if our current approaches are responsive and accessible, while being adaptable to survivors at different points of healing. With your help, we can continue to ask ourselves challenging questions and build services that meet the complex needs of the diverse survivors we serve.

Our overarching goal is to support survivors as they progress from crisis, where immediate safety and stability are critical, to a safer future. This beginning step is where our 24-hour Support & Information Line, walk-in crisis intervention services, and 24/7 community response programs shine.

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The process in practice is obvious in Deanna's story.

"I had tried to leave my children's father before but I couldn't afford an attorney. He was representing himself. This meant he could question me on the stand. He'd file all these legal motions. I gave up and let him see the kids and tried to have family members pick them up so I didn't have to see him. He wouldn't leave me alone. He'd call. He'd show up at my work. It reached a point where I was terrified of him because every time I refused to go back to him he'd get angrier. I heard WEAVE had workshops and went to find out if I could get something to make him leave me alone or to at least make him return the kids when he promised. I found out that they could help me get a restraining order and help with custody. Once I got the order and the attorney stepped in, he couldn't bother me anymore. Eventually I got a custody arrangement. Once he couldn't use the kids to hurt me, he stopped asking for visitation. I feel bad for my kids but I know we are all better when he stays away. I'd still be dealing with his threats and abuse if it wasn't for WEAVE."



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Our services are designed to be easily accessible for those in crisis, including multi-lingual assistance through the Support Line which serves 27 different languages. It also includes embedded Advocates at 34 different community locations, to be more available to those who need them and to reduce transportation barriers.

Once a survivor stabilizes, they choose what services are needed to overcome barriers and work towards personal goals. For a survivor of domestic violence, this may mean working with our legal program to obtain a Domestic Violence Restraining Order and establishing a custody arrangement for their children. They may want to enroll in a support group where they can share experiences with other survivors, learn more about the dynamics of domestic violence, and develop healthy coping skills.

Ultimately, we work towards the time when the survivor completes services. It might be a survivor of domestic violence who is graduating from our Transitional Housing program or a survivor of sex trafficking who secures her own apartment paid for with wages from her full-time job. These survivors



may have benefited from our Housing First program where they received Financial Literacy Education and financial assistance to secure their apartment. They were supported by a Case Manager, working with them to overcome obstacles and to achieve their goals. They have stable permanent housing, employment, and the knowledge to remain self-sufficient. They are thriving, and services are complete.

Each of these steps is only possible because of your support. Every WEAVE program depends on philanthropic support to provide the array of individualized and survivor-centered services. It's your help that enables us to examine our efforts and to identify new opportunities in response to trends. Our ability to define, achieve, and sustain success is your gift to us.

Save the Date!

Big Day of Giving

On **Thursday, May 2**, WEAVE will participate in the Big Day of Giving! This day is aimed toward highlighting the important work that is achieved by the nonprofit organizations in our community.

We hope you will join us by making a donation in support of our lifesaving programs. As with any gift — your support is essential to providing the highly personalized resources survivors need to be safe and thrive.

And any day that you decide to make a gift to WEAVE is a special one. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.



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OUR MISSION is to build a community that does not tolerate sexual assault, domestic violence, and sex trafficking and to provide survivors with the support they need to be safe and thrive.