



Stewardship REPORT

FALL 2021 DONOR UPDATE

Celebrating Community

With the support of partners and donors like you, WEAVE has faced many challenges over its history. Throughout them all, we have centered the needs of survivors in every decision.

Navigating the global pandemic has been no different. As it progressed and the situation evolved, we listened to survivors and responded with the best solutions available. We adapted. We innovated. This was possible because of the overwhelming generosity shown by our community and loyal donors.

While each survivor's experience is unique, isolation is a common theme. Abusers work to destroy relationships between the victim and their family, friends, and colleagues. The isolation often happens slowly over time, and it is intentional so that the victim feels completely dependent on the abuser.

Victims of sex trafficking experience

similar isolation. The trafficker works to ensure relationships that may be lifelines for safety and leaving the life are severed, and the victim depends on the trafficker for every basic need.

Victims of sexual assault experience isolation, as well, out of fear of not being believed or in an effort to move past the assault.

In each of these situations, community can reduce isolation and provide connection to a much-needed support system. Your donations help WEAVE create community through our network of advocates, counselors, and attorneys who support survivors with trauma-informed services. Your gifts support much needed emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing where survivors can heal with others who have similar lived experiences.

As we reflect on our recent experiences and move forward, we are reminded of the importance of community. The communities of survivors who helped us find the right path. Our community of staff and volunteers who found new ways to meet survivors where they were at, even when being together physically was not safe or possible.

As isolating as the pandemic was and remains, we found ways to create community. The value of community, connection, and shared experience has never been more important.



Thank You!

With your support of WEAVE, we ensure that survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking have the programs and services they need to build the life and future that is best for them and their families.

We can't do this work without you, and we appreciate your generosity and commitment.



Creating Community For Homeless Survivors

The homelessness crisis in our region is an issue that is incredibly complex and layered. At WEAVE, we bring a unique perspective to homelessness due to domestic violence, sex trafficking, and the risks vulnerable people face when forced to live on the streets.

Nearly half of homeless women report having experienced domestic violence in their relationship immediately before becoming homeless. Most remained in the relationship because they did not have other housing options. These women ultimately leave and assume the risks of homelessness because they know staying in the relationship places

Most (women) remained in the relationship because they did not have other housing options.

them at significant risk of severe injury or death. Locally, victims share how the lack of housing and rising rent costs make it difficult to make a fresh start.

Knowing the multitude of challenges victims face, WEAVE has adapted its programs. We allow for longer lengths of stay in our emergency shelter programs — up to six months. It is just not feasible for many families to achieve stability, employment, and housing in a shorter time frame. Every woman who enters our emergency shelter program has

The 1.13-acre parcel included mature trees that were incorporated into the design to provide shade throughout the property. We are partnering with the Sacramento Tree Foundation and California Native Plant Society to add native plants and trees.

experienced financial abuse and needs time to address the impact and stabilize her finances. We know that comprehensive supportive services, including case management, counseling, and legal assistance, are required.

Even with more extended stays and more support, many families need additional time. This is why we have added eight units of transitional housing — six cottages and two apartments — over the past eight years. Our transitional housing program provides stable housing for survivors and their children for up to two years. This allows families to begin to heal from years of trauma and move towards stability. It allows survivors time to pursue training, improve their employment options, find stable housing, and address legal issues.

Our staff is trained to recognize financial abuse indicators, and they provide case management to help survivors recover — including education and mentoring to create a budget, addressing credit problems, and preparing for long-term financial success.

Even with this expansion of housing options, too many survivors still face uncertainty, so we continue to investigate how best to support them as they build a new life.



Creekside Village — A New Community of and for Survivors

When Project Homekey was launched by the State of California, and an opportunity to work with the City of Sacramento emerged, we were ready.

WEAVE was selected as a Project Homekey agency at the onset of the pandemic. Through CARES Act funding, along with donations from private foundations and individuals, Creekside Village will expand our housing options by offering Permanent Supportive Housing for survivors.

The funds purchased 1.13 acres of land along with nine manufactured homes. The project represents the first Permanent Supportive Housing built by WEAVE and the only permanent housing dedicated to the ongoing safety and healing of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking in our community.

Survivors will apply for housing vouchers that will pay rental costs for the property. They can remain in the home as long as they qualify for the program. Unlike emergency shelters and transitional housing, there is no time limitation on the length of stay. Equally important, rental income will provide a sustainable source of funding to support continued housing operations, maintenance, and upkeep into the future.

The decision to build Permanent Supportive Housing was in response to the continued challenges faced by

survivors. Too often, these strong and resilient families did everything in their power to rebuild their lives and still faced overwhelming obstacles. They improved their skills to seek better-paying employment. They created savings plans to build a nest egg. They addressed outstanding bills and evictions that were a result of the violence. Even with all that work, clients still faced a rental market with record-low inventory and skyrocketing housing rates. As a result, even the strongest families were left vulnerable, and this placed them at risk of homelessness or returning to a violent relationship.

By investing in permanent housing, WEAVE expands the housing options available to survivors while providing ongoing supportive services through its Housing and Client Prosperity Program. Survivors can continue to access the services and resources needed while living completely independently in affordable and safe housing. Each of the homes includes two bedrooms and one bathroom, and all are accessible and equipped for survivors with disabilities.

Most importantly, Creekside Village provides a community built for the unique needs of survivors. It empowers their continued healing and growth while providing an assurance of stable housing.



Each manufactured home includes two bedrooms and one bathroom. Each is wheelchair accessible and equipped with adaptive technology and resources for those living with disabilities.

Building Community Through Evidence-Based Programs

WEAVE continues to adapt evidence-based models and programs to meet domestic violence survivors' needs.

Our Strengths Model case management program that centers on a survivor's unique strength and resiliency was initially evaluated with individuals with severe mental illness at high risk for homelessness. We built on that starting point and continue to apply a domestic violence overlay to the program, and we have engaged in rigorous evaluation to create an evidence-based model for survivors of domestic violence.

Another example of this approach is the Celebrating Families program being piloted and evaluated currently. Celebrating Families also works from an assumption of strength and includes a two-generation approach that works to build capacity for parents while building resiliency for children.

We know that ending domestic violence means reducing violence in adult relationships and preventing future violence in the relationships of children exposed to domestic violence. This program was first developed and evaluated for families with a history of drug and/or alcohol abuse who were at high risk

for involvement with the child welfare system. We recognized that there are parallels between exposure to domestic violence and the risks to children exposed to alcohol and drug abuse, especially in the possibility of these patterns repeating in adulthood.

The Celebrating Families program includes education and role modeling activities for adults and children. After each family member is involved in separate, age-appropriate sessions, the family comes together for a shared meal to practice what is learned. Combining skill-building, bonding, and shared meals can strengthen vulnerable families and provide tools for parents and children to reduce and prevent future violence.

We look forward to fully launching this program now, as we begin to safely gather together again.



You are
Making
a Stronger
Community

We are committed to creating evidence-based models and evaluation focused on survivors' needs.

We strive to provide high-quality interventions for vulnerable families. In doing so, we increase the likelihood of stopping future violence and preventing children exposed to domestic violence from repeating the abuse in adult relationships.

Our donors create a stronger community which is invested in the well-being of children and adult survivors. Together, we stand with survivors and work towards creating a more peaceful and vibrant future.



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OUR MISSION is to promote safe and healthy relationships and support survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sex trafficking.