2017-2018

Compass Center for Women and Families
Annual Report

Helping more than 6,000 people navigate their journeys to safety, self-sufficiency, and health each year.
Dear Friends,

Compass Center was formed six years ago with the goal of empowering people as they navigate their journeys to safety, self-sufficiency, and health. We believe in meeting people without judgement and supporting them as they make choices that they feel are best for themselves and their families. It is our privilege to meet people where they are and offer practical tools and emotional support to help them take next steps, whether that’s getting a better handle on their finances, changing careers, or rebuilding their lives after experiencing domestic abuse.

Last year was a record-breaking year for us! We set our sights on not only reaching more people, but also on expanding our capacity to serve clients. We did exactly that and served more than 6,000 people. Our Teens Climb High program reached 700 students—more than twice as many as last year—providing them with an evidence-based, comprehensive, sexual health curriculum. With the addition of a new Latinx Group Coordinator and Victim Advocate, we expanded our services for Spanish-speaking clients to include support groups. Our “CUT IT OUT: Salons Against Domestic Abuse” presentations enhanced our presence in the community and turned salon professionals into allies in the fight against domestic violence.

Always keeping our clients’ best interests in mind, we applied for grants that would help us fill gaps in services in Orange County. We are thrilled to announce that we were awarded a $350,000 grant that will allow Compass Center to provide housing assistance and mental health services to survivors of domestic violence and their children. We are excited about these enhanced services! To stay abreast of the rollout of these new services and more, please follow us on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter. You can also sign up to receive our e-newsletter to find out about upcoming program and fundraising events.

Best,

Cordelia Heaney, MFA, MBA
Executive Director
Community Impact by the Numbers

SELF-SUFFICIENCY SERVICES

262
People received career and financial counseling to help them become more financially stable

1,201
People were connected to housing, mental health, food pantry, and other local resources

292
People received legal information services related to divorce, separation, child custody, and spousal support from local attorneys

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CRISIS SERVICES

1,189
People received counseling and emotional support through our 24-hour hotline, in-person counseling, court advocacy, or support groups

204
Victims of domestic violence filed protective orders, sometimes referred to as “restraining orders,” which can require abusers to stop all contact with victims

760
Community members and professionals received education and training on the dynamics of domestic violence and how to connect people to local domestic violence crisis services

ADOLESCENT EMPOWERMENT SERVICES

716
Teens received medically-accurate sexual health information so that they can make informed choices

1,233
Adolescents learned about the dynamics of healthy relationships and the importance of active consent

Financial

INCOME

EXPENSES

Total Revenue $989,249

$82,957
Income from state grants

$103,950
Local government grants

$22,445
Other grants

$84,120
Events

Total Expenses $946,670

$379,956
Domestic violence services

$248,571
Self-sufficiency services

$125,023
Adolescent health programs

$101,590
Management and general

$91,530
Fundraising expenses
Career Exploration and Preparedness services assist people who are unemployed, under-employed, or considering new career paths. Our individual and group services address topics including résumé and cover letter composition, interviewing skills, and job search tips.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Individual career counseling
- Career development workshops

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Partnered with Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina (UNC) to provide a series of career workshops
- Partnered with North Carolina Central University’s Counselor Education Program to serve more career counseling clients

Legal Information Services make legal information regarding North Carolina family law accessible to more people. We partner with the UNC Law School faculty and students as well as local attorneys to provide free legal information services to clients.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Monthly family law information sessions
- 15-minute calls with attorneys
- 30-minute appointments with a law student under faculty supervision

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Partnered with UNC School of Law and Orange County Women Attorneys to provide two new family law clinics
- Provided much-needed legal information services around landlord-tenant and family law to people in the Triangle

Financial Literacy Education workshops and counseling services empower people to get on a path to financial independence. Our services can assist people with managing money, saving to buy a home, or addressing poor credit.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Individual appointments with financial counselors
- Financial education workshops

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Provided 15 community financial education workshops throughout Orange County
- Partnered with Wells Fargo and Latino Credit Union to offer financial education workshops

Domestic Violence Crisis Services help people who are experiencing or have experienced emotional, verbal, physical, sexual, or other forms of abuse from an intimate partner. We provide information and options to individuals and allow them to make their own choices about the best options for them.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- 24-hour hotline
- Crisis counseling (in office and on the hotline)
- Safety planning
- Emergency shelter placement
- Help filing Domestic Violence Protective Orders
- Support and advocacy in civil and criminal domestic violence court
- Support groups with free childcare

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- 83 clients participated in support groups on subjects including domestic violence, healing through art, self-esteem, divorce and separation
- Provided court advocacy to 153 clients who were pursuing criminal charges against their abuser in order to secure their long-term safety on 214 occasions
- 121 Spanish-speaking clients received domestic violence services in their preferred language from staff members trained in cultural competency
Community Education raises awareness and seeks to prevent domestic violence in our communities. We provide a variety of community education presentations, training sessions, and public awareness activities.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Professional training sessions for businesses
- In-service training for first responders
- Tabling at community events

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- 70 hair stylists learned how to detect signs of domestic abuse and to connect clients with supportive and accessible services through the CUT IT OUT: Salons Against Domestic Abuse training

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Adolescent Empowerment Programs provide medically-accurate sexual health education and teen dating violence prevention education to middle school students in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools. These programs teach students life skills and critical thinking to help them make positive life choices and avoid teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Comprehensive sexual health education through the Teens Climb program
- Teen dating violence prevention education through the Start Strong program

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Teens Climb High more than doubled its reach this fiscal year, serving over 700 students compared to 300 last year
- The Community Advisory Councils of Teens Climb High and Adolescent Parenting Program have begun meeting quarterly to discuss best practices

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Information and Referral Services provide clients with emotional support and access to vital information about community resources. Our trained volunteers practice active listening when engaging with clients and connecting them to services including local agencies, therapists, and support groups.

**SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Distribution of:
  - Food
  - Hygiene products
  - Diapers

**Referrals to / information about services such as:**
- Health
- Housing
- Latinx, refugee, and immigration
- Rape and sexual assault
- Senior

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- 396 different families received diapers through the Diaper Bank partnership this year
- 47 clients who speak either Karen or Burmese received access to vital information and resources this year—a marked increase from the 3 clients served last year.

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“It wasn’t just the practical help that I got—it was the moral support, too.”
— Gary, self-sufficiency client
MISSION

Compass Center for Women and Families helps all people navigate their journey to self-sufficiency, safety, and health. We empower individuals and promote equal access to opportunity regardless of gender or economic status. Our services include career and financial education, domestic violence crisis and prevention programs, assistance with legal resources, and youth health programs.

WE BELIEVE IN...

- Empowering clients so that they can make informed choices that they feel are best for themselves and their families.
- Recognizing every individual’s uniqueness and respecting our differences to ensure that the organization reflects the diversity of our community and is welcoming and accessible to all.
- Meeting people without judgement and acknowledging the inherent value of every person.
- Providing care that is client-focused, trauma-informed, and based on best practices.

Leadership

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cordelia Heaney

HENDERSON STREET HOUSE FOUNDATION
Joan Gillings, Sara Morgan, Margie Haber, Mimi Fountain, Jay Miller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*new board members for 2018-2019

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