



VIOLENCE FREE COLORADO

IMPACT REPORT

2019

WHERE WE ARE NOW

An update from our Executive Director and Board Chair

Even as we navigate the unique trials and opportunities of 2020, it's important to take a moment to reflect on changes and celebrate the successes of the past year. 2019 was one of new beginnings for many Violence Free Colorado staff. The year brought us six new members to our small, but mighty team: Liz Stuewe, Training and Technical Assistance Manager; Lindsay Christopher, Housing Program Manager; Tamika Matthews, Community Impact Manager; Brandy Walega, Technical Assistance and Training Specialist; Stacey Smith, Grants and Office Manager; and Hannah Colter, Community Impact Specialist. Each of them brought distinct perspectives, lived experiences, and strengths that have enriched the organization in too many ways to mention here. Amy Pohl, who served in a variety of capacities over the years at Violence Free Colorado, stepped into the role of Associate Director and did remarkably well supporting our new staff members to settle in, while getting comfortable in her own new position.

After so much change, we hit the pause button on our goals of further program and staff expansion. Instead, we focused on spending the time it takes to effectively welcome in new staff and build a bridge between them and seasoned team members.

Leadership continuity helped our new team seamlessly and successfully carry on existing programming and initiatives. We continued our efforts to interrupt root causes of violence, change systems, laws and policies, develop a network of long-term housing programs, and build the capacity of community-based domestic violence service providers to do good, better.

We hope you will take a few minutes to look back upon and celebrate the advances we made across Colorado last year in the response to and prevention of relationship abuse. We also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support and partnership of our membership, donors, grantees, board members and community members, without whom the possibility of a violence free future would not exist.

We value the perspectives and experiences of the communities and constituents we serve and invite you to reach out with questions, concerns or to get involved anytime. We welcome your input! We have so much listening and learning yet to do and look forward to the work still to come in community with you.

In Solidarity,

Amy Miller, Executive Director

Jennifer Eyl, Board Chair

2019 STAFF & BOARD

STAFF

Amy Miller, Executive Director

Amy Pohl, Associate Director

Lydia Waligorski, Public Policy Director

Liz Stuewe, Training & Technical Assistance Manager

Brandy Walega, Technical Assistance & Training Specialist

Lindsay Christopher, Housing Program Manager

Chance LeBeau, Housing Program Specialist

Tamika Matthews, Community Impact Manager

Hannah Colter, Community Impact Specialist

Stacey Smith, Grants and Office Manager

Michael Teague, Stand Up Colorado
Communications Coordinator through
September 2019

Staff retreat in
December 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Eyl, Co-Chair

Crystal Young, Co-Chair

Deb Bittner, Secretary

Staci Woods, Treasurer

Amy Miller, Ex-officio

Meridythe Winslett

Jackie List

Holly Kasper-Blank

Becky Treece



TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Nearly 1,800 individuals and professionals expanded their knowledge of critical issues surrounding relationship violence through Violence Free Colorado's training and technical assistance opportunities, giving them the tools they need to keep Colorado poised as a leader in efforts to end relationship violence.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

- More than 520 TA requests
- Trained nearly 350 professionals at annual conference
- Trained 650 people through the OLC
- Trained additional 200 professionals through online webinars
- Trained nearly 70 domestic violence and/or sexual assault programs on ACRTI (Accessible, Culturally Responsive, Trauma Informed) in advocacy work



Member programs at a training

PUBLIC POLICY

Our public policy work increased awareness about relationship abuse and other forms of violence, and worked to strengthen advocacy interventions in the legal system to better protect survivors and their families in Colorado.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

- Intentionally created space at policy tables to support, recognize and accommodate the unique needs of survivors
- Testified at the Colorado State Capitol in support of:
 - Extreme Risk Protection Orders, including recognition of interpersonal violence in the House bill
 - FAMLI, with inclusion and creation of safe time provisions in support of paid family and medical leave
 - Renter housing protections, including Time Period to Cure Lease Violation, Expand Supply Affordable Housing and Eviction Legal Defense Fund housing bills
 - Other legislation including equal pay for equal work, and age of marriage bills

Advocating for paid family and safe leave at Colorado's State Capitol



HOUSING & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Coordination around the intersection of housing and economic justice provides creative solutions that go beyond traditional methods and encourage trauma-informed housing and economic stabilization options for individuals and families.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

- Technical assistance through two housing convenings with 10 member programs, member outreach visits, specialized training, and contributions to the “Housing for Crime Victims Special Project” evaluation to interpret and publish outcomes from DVHF pilot project
- Participation in the Close to Home Campaign and the Reciprocity Collective to address housing and homelessness issues through public will-building strategies, and support of the Storytellers Network, a group of individuals with lived experience of homelessness to further these tactics
- Economic Justice program development, including skill building and professional development to increase capacity around economic justice issues, and engagement with the National Network to End Domestic Violence and the Allstate Foundation to strategize and apply for funding to enhance economic justice work in Colorado



Our Housing &
Economic
Justice Team
training in action

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The new Community Impact Team was created to strengthen community ties through meaningful outreach, strategic communications, survivor engagement and prevention work.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

- Engaged survivors through bimonthly Survivors' Caucus meetings and a robust listserv of nearly 60 members who exchange ideas and discuss topical issues around domestic violence
- Connected with nearly 8,000 followers and subscribers across multiple Violence Free Colorado social media platforms and newsletter mailing lists, including Stand Up Colorado, the statewide prevention campaign
- Established and strengthened relationships through local community connections with partners including Woods Boss Brewery, Breakthru Beverage, Medicine Man and Downhill Brewing



Our Breakthru Beverage partners at the Colfax Marathon

MOVEMENT BUILDING

Engaging in diverse work around racial justice puts us ahead of the curve in cultivating relationships to keep up with Colorado's quickly changing demographics and create an inclusive community dedicated to ending violence.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

- Completing a six-month Diversity, Equity and Inclusion staff training in 2019
- Developing a Bold Purpose team that incorporates transformative leadership, mindfulness and anti-racism concepts into the framework of our organization
- Cultivating partnerships with Latinx and Indigenous service organizations, including the Seven Stars Collaborative, an Indigenous collaborative working group
- Centering the voices of traditionally marginalized communities, including a featured Indigenous keynote speaker at the 2019 CAIA conference and eight of 52 individual conference sessions with staff from culturally specific organizations



Our staff at Idaho's Collective Thriving Conference

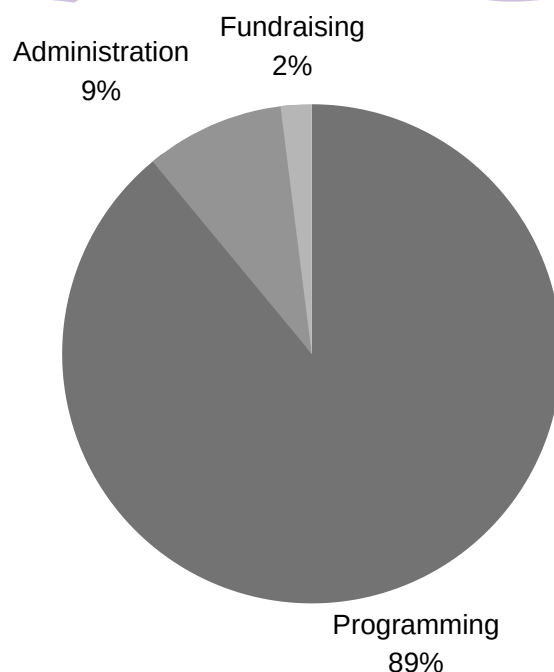
OUR FINANCIALS

Violence Free Colorado is a healthy nonprofit organization that uses financial management practices that build stability and flexibility both today and for the future of our work.

2019 EXPENSES

Total: \$1,178,697

- Programming: \$1,048,574
 - Social Change & Communications: \$315,272
 - Systems & Public Policy Advocacy: \$155,166
 - Technical Assistance & Training: \$572,940
 - Membership: \$5,196
- Administration: \$104,422
- Fundraising: \$25,701

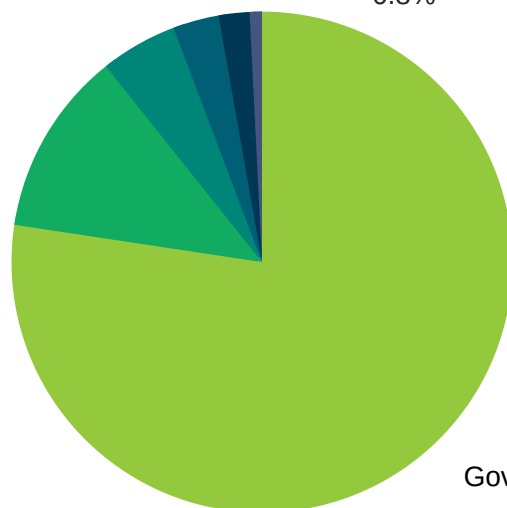


2019 SUPPORT & REVENUE

Total: \$1,157,059

Membership 3%
 Contracts & Service Fees 5%
 Investment Return 2%
 Other 0.8%

Foundation & Public Support 11.9%



- Government Grants: \$897,017
- Foundation & Public Support: \$135,025
- Contracts & Service Fees: \$57,934
- Membership Dues: \$33,923
- Investment Return: \$23,575
- Other: \$9,585

Government Grants
77.4%



**"We are incredibly grateful for your
partnership in combatting domestic violence and
sexual assault in Colorado."**

-Violence Free Colorado Coalition Member

