



Empowering Victims, Supporting Survivors for Over 20 Years

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT: www.dasasmi.org

To Volunteer Contact: Rita Reed at ritar@dasasmi.org

To Schedule a Community Presentation Contact: Mary Lynn Falbe at marylynnf@dasasmi.org

To Make a Donation Contact: Rose Parshall at rosep@dasasmi.org or visit our website

For Information e-mail dasasinfo@dasasmi.org or call 269-273-6154 /toll free 1-800-828-2023

MAKE A CHANGE AND A COMMITMENT BY: KAREN B. SOULE

I was born, raised and live in St. Joe County. I love my community! I have watched my community grow and change. It is said that "change is the only constant in our lives." I have watched our community bring in industry which has brought in new residents, the need for more and varied housing and a greater variety of services to meet the needs of the residents. Growing up in this rural community I knew families that struggled with finances, drugs,

abuse and violence but these things were not to be spoken about in public or private.

As an adult I realized that many of the taboos were indeed real and do affect our community. Domestic violence and sexual abuse affects individuals from all income levels and in all types of families. We cannot afford to sit back with blinders on thinking that violence and abuse is someone else's problem. It is real and affects

all of us in the community. It affects the child in school that cannot focus and is distracted in class. It affects the pastor who wonders why the seemingly "All American" family is no longer in church on Sundays. It affects the neighbors who wonder why the house on the corner always has the blinds drawn and the children are not allowed to play at the homes of friends. It affects social service providers who wonder why they received a call for

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 2007- SEPTEMBER 2008

DASAS is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.
Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services
P.O. Box 402
Three Rivers, MI 49093-0402
www.dasasmi.org
**24-hour Help Line
800-828-2023**
**Administration
269-273-6154**
**FAX
269-273-9465**
**Hillmann House Shelter
269-279-5122**
dasasinfo@dasasmi.org



Karen B. Soule is a Board Member and ERS Volunteer for DASAS and a Social Worker for KCMHSAS

A DASAS advocate sat through a sentencing with the mother of a 12 year old girl who had been raped by an older boy. The mother squeezed her hand for dear life while the Judge read the sentence and through tears thanked her for being there to support them through the ordeal.

THE MISSION OF DASAS

Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services will lead efforts to end domestic violence and sexual assault in southwest Michigan. DASAS will assist domestic violence and sexual assault survivors in clarifying their options, accessing community services that support personal choice, and will

provide a safe place for survivors and their children.

We provide direct services through Hillmann House our shelter facility, 24 hour crisis line, supportive counseling, legal advocacy, crisis intervention, and ongoing referrals and assistance.

We continue to create a large network of community allies, to join us in speaking out against domestic violence and sexual assault.

Our experienced team of advocates and staff provide empowerment and supportive services to survivors every day.

MAKE A COMMITMENT CONTINUED

help and then have no-show appointments. We can no longer stand back and mind our own business. Domestic violence and sexual abuse is real. It is real and it occurs daily in our communities.

Because I care about my community I have made the commitment to "give back" to my community. I decided long ago to volunteer using my educational and professional skills to empower others to make changes that improve the quality of their lives. I have been a volunteer for DASAS as an Emergency Response Volunteer for one week a month for the past five years. This means that I am "on call" from 5pm until 8am for one week a month to respond to a call to meet with a victim, provide transportation to the shelter or for medical care. Two years ago I increased my volunteer time and agreed to serve on the DASAS Board of Directors. I want my community to continue to thrive and grow. In order for that to happen, we need to be accepting of change and be welcoming of others. Without change we will miss out on new opportunities to improve our community and the lives of those that live in our community.

During my tenure with DASAS I have met incredible people that are committed to the people they serve. The staff at DASAS are committed to the belief that they can help others make changes in their lives that will make them stronger and empower them to work through the adversity in their lives.

If you are someone who desires to see our community grow and prosper, I encourage you to make a change, stand up for victims. Volunteer your time and talents to DASAS. We are looking for people that want to share their talents to better the lives of others.

"I was in an abusive relationship for 20 years. I left my abuser and after a time started seeing a man that I had known since childhood. I felt he was a 'good guy' and we eventually became engaged. He was from another city and came to see me on weekends. After a while I was able to see the warning signs of his power and control tactics and broke off the engagement. Had I not received education on domestic violence from DASAS I wouldn't have recognized the signs of this abuser and gone back through the domestic violence cycle. Thank you DASAS."

-A Survivor

The following represents services provided and the number of clients served by DASAS for the period of October 2007, through September 2008

<u>Service Category</u>	<u># Served</u>
Domestic Violence Individual Supportive Counseling	980
Domestic Violence Support Group	469
Civil Legal Assistance	604
Sexual Assault Advocacy and Supportive Counseling	187
24 Hour Crisis Line Calls	624
Hillmann House Unduplicated Adult Residents	2,081
Hillmann House Unduplicated Child Residents	2,265
Total Unduplicated Shelter Clients	4,346

The following represents the demographics of the clients served by DASAS for the period of October 2007, through September 2008

<u>Category</u>	<u># Served</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
RACE		
Caucasian	761	81.3 %
African-American	106	11.3 %
Hispanic	50	5.3 %
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	.4 %
Multi-Racial	0	
Native American	4	.4 %
Unknown	10	1.3 %
AGE		
0-17	158	16.8%
18-24	159	17.0%
25-59	559	59.7%
60 +	29	3.1%
Unknown	30	3.4%
TOTAL ADULT REFERRALS		
CASS COUNTY		96
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY		168
OUT OF DISTRICT*		56
Total		320

The Hispanic community in St. Joseph County is growing fast. As of the 2000 census, 3.99% of this county's population was Hispanic or Latino; most of them are first generation immigrants, who came from Mexico and/or other parts of Latin America looking for a brighter future. Some of them came to this part of the state because their relatives live in this county and it's easier for them to establish their lives here.

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, Hispanics are the largest, fastest growing and youngest minority in the country. Each year, legally or illegally, thousands of Hispanics migrate to America. Some of these immigrants learn to speak English others don't. The immigrants who learn to speak the English language have the opportunity to merge with the American culture

and understand it. They also have different options and can benefit from different community programs. However; there are a great number of Hispanic immigrants that do not speak English, therefore miss a lot of opportunities. These immigrants are left behind and very often can't reach for help when they need it.

It's very common for Hispanic immigrants to be alienated, discriminated against and rejected. In the case of women, they also have to deal with abusive relationships and they ignore that they can get help. Because of this problem, Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services believes that is crucial to have a Hispanic Liaison available to provide services for this growing population.

My position, as Hispanic Liaison, is the bridge between the organization

and the Hispanic community and I am able to reach and educate Hispanic women about the dynamics of domestic abuse and sexual assault, how to deal with it and how to avoid it when possible. In this position I provide information about community services, accompany the survivor to court, interpret from English to Spanish and provide moral support to the domestic violence survivor.

For Hispanic women who are being abused, I am the difference between domestic violence and freedom. I not only advocate for Hispanic survivors but also give them information and tools for a new life. I am able to give hope to women who don't know where to go because of the language barrier and empower survivors to be independent.



Janneth (Lilly) Ospina,
Hispanic Liaison/ Client
Advocate for DASAS

"The assailant continues to make direct or third party contact with them even when there is a 'no contact' order by the court. The assailant 'puts on the 'charm' and says he 'wants help' and 'wants to change', however, he is still trying to control and abuse by blaming and saying the victim/survivor is responsible to help them change their behavior."

-Reported by women from our Domestic Violence groups who have recently left a violent relationship.

QUALITY OF SERVICES

BY CATHY BROWN

DASAS provides survivors with surveys that allow them to rate our programs and services. The information gathered is used to improve the quality of our services. Some of the information gathered includes (expressed in percentages):

- 97% Felt safe while residing at Hillmann House.
- 100% Felt supported and empowered to make decisions about their safety.
- 100% Were assisted in identifying strategies to enhance their safety and respond to future abuse.
- 100% Felt knowledgeable and supported as they worked with the criminal justice system.
- 96% Felt their children were safe while residing at Hillmann House.
- 97% Reported that childcare allowed them to participate in groups and individual counseling sessions.
- 100% Felt safe sharing their feelings in support group.



Cathy Brown
Program Manager
for DASAS

Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services Supporters

A special thanks to the following individuals, churches, services clubs, businesses, local governments and foundations who have contributed to Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services during the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. Your monetary donations make it possible for us to achieve our mission.

INDIVIDUALS

Adams, Eldred & Margaret
Allen, Dennis & Vickie
Amones, John & Chris
Aronson, Doris (Trust)
Bainbridge, Robert & Carol
Baker, Kay
Barna, Raymond & Leslie
Behnke, Heidi
Berry, R. David & Shirley
Blackwell, Leo & June
Bluiner, Dale
Briegel, David & Camille
Brown, Cameron
Campbell, Robert & Linda
Charvat, Mike
Creal, Lillian J.
Crocker, Angie
Curtis, Richard & Diane Barrett
Daugherty, Rita
Ditmer, Regina & Curtis
Dobrowolski, Chester & Bernice
Dunn, Mary
Eldred, Dorothy
Farris, Lawrence & Patricia
Fassett, Lee & Eleanor
Fitz, Victor
Flowers, Elenore
Flucke, Robert & Mary
Franks, Michael L
Frantz, Richard & Teri G
Gardiner, Burton & Dorothy
Gaspers, Marsha
Gast, Joanne
Geis, Fred
Goodman, E.D. & J.L.
Gorsuch, Paul & Diane
Gosling, Marilyn A.
Groner, Barbara J.
Haas, Patrick & Kathleen
Haring, Sheila
Haylett, Ned & Mary
Higgins, Carol
Holden, JoAnne
Hopkins, Lawrence & Onalee
Iott, Don
Jeffers, Arthur & Alice
Johnson, J.A.
Johnson, Linda
Jones, Bruce & Barbara
Jones, Phyllis
Jones, Ronald & Marion
Judd, Karen A
Kolmodin, Doug
LaPointe, Cathy
Lawrence, William & Judy
Leck, Inez & Ronald
Lori, Matthew & Linda

Lowe, Adeline
Lull, Richard & Rhonda
Maher, Charles H
Manos, Steve & Nancy
Mathews, Dr. Fred L
Matthews, Ronald
McCullough, Hugh & Beverly
McDonough, Robert T.
Meisterheim, Doloros
Miller, Eugene
Miller, Ronald & Charlotte
Moore, Armond W
Nelson, Tom & Cynthia
Parker, Nancy
Parshall, Dave & Rose
Patton, Stephen
Paul, Leslie
Powell, Elizabeth
Price, Kathleen
Proctor, Terry & Pam
Proven, Deborah & Gregory
Rangler, Candace
Ray, Terry & Jennifer
Reeves, Nancy
Rentfrow, Stacey A
Richard Imgrund
Rosenberry, Richard & Ilene
Rutherford, Paul & Judy
Salisbury, Richard & Patricia
Schten, Arnold & Abigail
Shank, Rebecca J
Skibbee, Lester & Diane
Smith, Ben & Sharon
Soderbloom, Paul & Cari
Soule, Karen
Springsteen, Arthur & Ada M
Stanley, Daniel & Dawn
Stowers, Robert & Peggy
Strekar, David & Barbara
Teter, Scott
Trimnell, John & Elaine
Underwood, Cindy
Vogel, Ralph & Sarah
Ward, Richard & Donna
Wiedenbeck, Roger
Wiedlea, John & Ann
Williams, Tony & Marlys
Wilson, Laird & Dorothy
Wood, Cynthia
Woodhouse, Don & Lauren
Yoakam, Richard & Margaret

BUSINESSES

Abbott Laboratories
American Electric Power
American Metal Fab, Inc
Barlow Research Associates
Berrybrook Enterprises
Burling & Gillesby, DDS, PC
Cass County Council on Aging

Cass Outdoor Power Equipment
Commission on Aging
Community Giving Campaign
Eckman Chiropractic Clinic, PLLC
Fishin' Show on Ice
FNB
G.W. Jones Exchange Bank
Greater Michigan Movers, LLC
Jim D's Body Shop, Inc.
Jim Vetter Chevrolet-Buick, Inc.
Jones' CPA Office
Judd Lumber
Just Give .org
K & D Body Shop, Inc.
K & M Machine-Fabricating, Inc.
Kadant Johnson, Inc.
Kemner-Iott Agency
Lee Memorial Hospital
Lowry's Books
Mahar Insurance Agency
Mary Kay Consultant-M. Jill Polomcak
Matthew V. Cripe, DDS
McLauchlin-Clark Funeral Home
McLeod Chiropractic
Midwest Engery Cooperative
Nate Wines, Inc.
Neal, Dr.Trevor
Oakleaf Financial Services
Omni Community Credit Union
Palmer's Damp-Proofing, Inc.
Penny Automotive
Preferred Printing
Securit Metal Products
Shepard House Counseling
Shields, Richard S., DDS
Southwestern Michigan College
Splatmandu
Swiss Valley, Inc.
TAP
Three Rivers Banking Center
Tomkins Corporation Foundation
Tranzon Bippus
Tyman Designs, Inc.
Vylonis Contracting, Inc.
Wolverine Mutual Insurance Company

CHURCHES

1st United Methodist Church of Three Rivers
Bethany Class—Three Rivers
Cassopolis United Methodist Church
Centreville United Methodist Church
Christian Tabernacle Church
Church of God - Cassopolis
Dowagiac First United Methodist Church
First Baptist Church
First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis
First Presbyterian Church of Three Rivers
Kalamazoo Christian School Association
Light & Life Wesleyan Church
Mendon United Methodist Church

New Jerusalem Baptist Church
Ninth Street United Methodist Church
Nottawa United Methodist Church
Penn Friends Church
Riverside Church
S & R Jewelry
Sacred Heart of Mary Church
Second Baptist Church
Silver Creek United Methodist Church
St Johns Episcopal Church
St. Edward Catholic Church
St. Pauls Lutheran Ladies
The Federated Church
Trinity Church
United Methodist Women-Dowagiac

SERVICE CLUBS

American Legion Auxiliary
Beta Sigma Phi
-Theta Mu Chapter 11572
Cass County Order of Eastern Star
Constantine Rotary Club
Dowagiac Lions Club
Dowagiac Rotary
Edward Lowe Fund
Fraternal Order of the Eagles
Order of Eastern Star #210
Sturgis Eagles
Sturgis Junior Womens League
Three Rivers Elks #1248
Three Rivers Lions Club
Three Rivers Womens Club
Westside Lions Club

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Burr Oak Township
City of Dowagiac
Constantine Township
Leonidas Township
Mason Township
Milton Township
Mottville Township
Penn Township
Sherman Township
Silver Creek Township
Sturgis Township
Township of Flowerfield
Township of Mendon
Village of Constantine
White Pigeon Township

FOUNDATIONS

Child Abuse and Neglect Council
McLoughlin Family Foundation
St. Deny's Foundation

We try very hard to be sure our lists are accurate but we can make mistakes and ask you to please call us if your name is misspelled or missing in our donor list. Thank you. 269-273-6154 ext. 101

Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services

Unrestricted Revenue and Expenses
For Year End September 30, 2008



Unrestricted Revenue

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Grants and Reimbursements	\$511,082	\$646,554
Contributions	\$ 62,048	\$ 46,925
Donations (non-cash)	\$114,156	\$101,562
Released restricted assests	\$ 3,000	\$ 24,532
Fundraising Events	\$ 19,603	\$ 22,799
Other	<u>\$ 4,069</u>	<u>\$ 5,060</u>
	\$713,958	\$847,432

Expenses

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Program Expenses	\$624,314	\$697,444
Management & General Expenses	118,872	102,836
Depreciation	10,756	11,394
Fundraising	<u>5,749</u>	<u>9,511</u>
	\$759,691	\$821,185

Board of Directors:

Ned Haylett, Chair
Ron Jones, Vice-Chair
Lauren Woodhouse, Secretary
M. Jill Polomcak, Treasurer

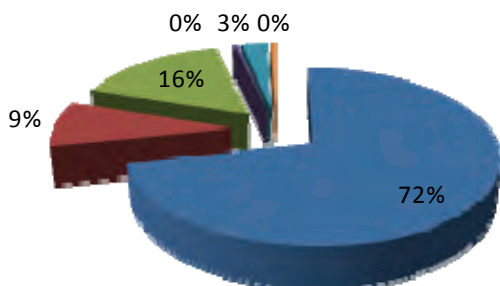
Karen Soule
Diane Barrett-Curtis
Tom Bringman
Brad Ayers

DASAS Staff

Mary Lynn Falbe, Executive Director
Ann Baker, Courthouse PPO Advocate (SJC)
Cathy Brown, Program Manager
Mallory Dowd, Sexual Assault Coordinator
Shelley Grubbs, Child Advocate
Sunshine Grubbs, Hillmann House Support Staff
Erika Herbert, Hillmann House Support Staff
Kim Kramer, Hillmann House Coordinator
Teresa Lewis, Sexual Assault Advocate
Antonia Magana, Hillmann House Support Staff
Mary Marretti, Hillmann House Support Staff
Carolyn McNary, Hillmann House Support Staff
Janneth Ospina, Hispanic Liaison/Client Advocate
Rose Parshall, Office/Finance Manager
Natasha Payton, Hillmann House Support Staff
Linda Price, Client Advocate
Rita Reed, Volunteer/ERS Coordinator
Stacey Stewart, Hillmann House Support Staff
Elender Sykes, Courthouse PPO Advocate (CC)

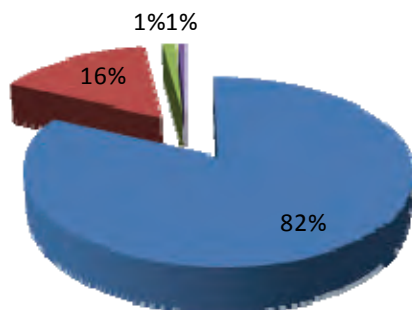
2008 Revenue

- Grants 72%
- Contributions 9%
- Donations (non-cash) 16%
- Released Assests <1%
- Fundraising Events 3%
- Other <1%



2008 Expenses

- Program Expenses 82%
- Management & General Expenses 16%
- Depreciation 1%
- Fundraising 1%



DASAS Hillmann House Grandma

LaDoris Hunt, CAASCM Foster Grandparent

DASAS Interns

Samantha Blue, Spring Arbor University
Diana Warren, Southwest Michigan College
Rajeane Fetch, YOU Michigan Works!

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Domestic And Sexual Abuse Services (DASAS)
P.O. Box 402
Three Rivers, MI 49093-0402
Phone: 269-273-6154
Fax: 269-273-9465
E-mail: dasasinfo@dasasmi.org
www.dasasmi.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BY MARY LYNN FALBE

Another year is behind us in which we have stretched to serve a number of survivors while the costs of doing business continue to rise and funding continues to shrink. Are we hopeful that the new year will be better? Yes we are because we exist thanks to your financial assistance.

We ask that you pray for the survivors and proactively support our efforts to enable everyone to live free of violence. Many families do not enjoy this most basic right as their homes are filled with fear and violence.

These are real people, our neighbors, who have been torn apart by violence.

You can make a difference in 2009-2010! Please help us stop the cycle of violence so families in our community can live free of fear. Your **tax-deductible** donation is especially important to fill the gap between funding and a higher demand for services. No donation is too great or too small. If you cannot donate your treasure, perhaps you could donate your time. A few dollars or a few moments of your time will

make a difference that can last a lifetime.

In ways large and small DASAS is a positive force who advocates justice, supports survivors, strengthens families, heals wrongs, opens doors, and changes attitudes. It all adds up to a better world and community.

On behalf of the staff, board, volunteers, and clients of DASAS, we thank you for your support this last year and, in fact, for the last 24 years! You and all our donors make this a dynamic, vital organization.



Mary Lynn Falbe,
Executive Director
for DASAS

Please call our office to arrange a presentation for your group or organization. We would be honored to join you and tell you more about DASAS and the work we do.
269-273-6154

"I've learned why I may be feeling the way I am and some strategies for dealing with the feelings. I have also come to realize that what I have been through is NOT my fault."
- A Survivor

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DASAS IN 2009-2010

October 2009 marks the 25th anniversary of Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services and Hillmann House formerly know as Domestic Assault Shelter Coalition.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month to be recognized

with Candlelight Vigils in Cass County on October 1, 2009; and in St. Joseph County on October 8, 2009.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and we will be holding our Take Back the Night in Cass County on April 8, 2010

and in St. Joseph County on April 15, 2010.

For more information on these events and others sponsored by DASAS, please watch our website www.dasasmi.org or call the Administrative office at 269-273-6154.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL—OCTOBER 2008

SHOES REPRESENTING THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE DIED DUE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SINCE 1997



We hope you will help DASAS and Hillmann House!

There are many opportunities for involvement:

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to DASAS, please contact Rose Parshall at 269-273-6154 ext 101 or rosep@dasasmi.org; send a donation directly to DASAS, P.O. Box 204, Three Rivers, MI 49093 or on our website www.dasasmi.org

We couldn't provide comprehensive services to survivors without our committed and dedicated volunteers. There are many ways for individuals or groups to become involved.

For information on volunteer opportunities, please contact Rita Reed at 269-273-6154 ext 109 or ritar@dasasmi.org

Our Federal, State, and Local Grant Funding Partners include:

Michigan Domestic Violence
Prevention and Treatment Board
Crime Victims Services Commission
Victims of Crime Act
St. Joseph County United Way
United Way of Southwest Michigan
Salvation Army
Michigan State Housing Development Authority
FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Family Independence Agency ES funds
St. Denys Foundation

REWARDS WITHOUT MEASURE BY NED A. HAYLETT

Let me introduce myself. I'm Ned Haylett and they have honored me by allowing me to be the Chair for the Board of Directors of the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services (DASAS) organization. To give you a little background, I came to be a community volunteer somewhat late in life because I was never sure that I had something useful to offer...life experience, business experience, talent, connections, or money. After becoming involved with DASAS for the last 5 years, I now find that I HUGELY regret not having gotten started earlier. The education that our volunteers and staff have provided me and the interesting people I have met have provided rewards without measure.

Those of you who are taking the time to read this newsletter are probably already volunteers in some charity or organization in the St. Joseph or Cass County area. You are interested in the things that are going on around you, things that affect how you live, how your business functions, what streets or roads are being rebuilt, what programs are available for the children of the community, which organizations can help with shelter, food, or protection. You are the cheerleaders of these programs and, by extension, the St. Joseph and Cass County area. The strength of this area can be directly reflected in the strength of the volunteer support for the many charities, non-profit organizations and

activities. These are the underlying lifelines of our community. When companies are looking to relocate or expand, they want to know that they can find a committed workforce and the level of local volunteerism is one of the criteria they study. Your activism sends a message to the rest of the world that we are not going to take our future casually.

Please take this message to your children, your friends, your contacts.....volunteering is the very essence of a culture. We need people to bring their talent, their experience, their willingness to make a difference in the world. I would love to have you consider volunteering for DASAS....but, first and foremost, I just want you to volunteer.

If you would like to discuss the possibility of volunteering but do not know where to start, call 211 and simply ask them for suggestions. If you would like to volunteer for any of the boards or positions at DASAS, contact Ms. Mary Lynn Falbe. Thanks for taking the time to read this and for being a friend of DASAS.



Ned Haylett is Chair,
DASAS Board of Directors
and Vice President of Sales
for Burr Oak Tool



A BROKEN HEART.

WE EMPOWER

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

P.O. Box 402, Three Rivers, MI 49093-0402
Empowering Victims, Supporting Survivors for Over 20 Years



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
KALAMAZOO, MI