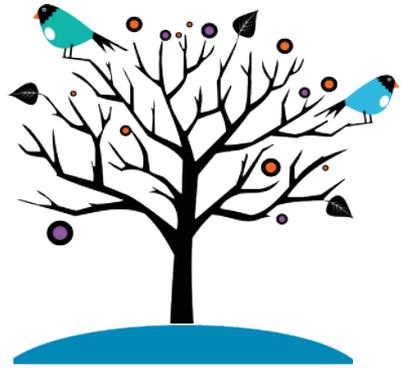


NEWS

for all seasons

FY 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



With every change comes an opportunity for something greater.





Thank you so much. I called the hotline last night and spoke to a wonderful woman named Lili who helped me through a challenging situation. I felt so relieved after speaking to her.

I look forward to connecting again as I am realizing I need so much more support and counseling than I realized.

NEWS Help Line Caller

24 HOUR HELP LINE
707.255.NEWS (6397)

In FY 2021-2022 NEWS advocates answered 3,197 calls to our emergency Help Line.

Every day is a new chance to make a difference.

Dear Friends of NEWS,

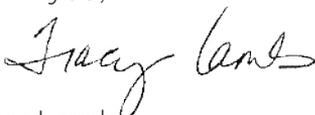
Seasons are about beginnings, growth, change and endings. Sometimes it takes an ending to get to a new beginning, and it can feel like a fight for survival while growth is taking hold. The changes we go through in life take many different paths and can create new challenges, but then, eventually, things that did not seem possible, will bloom.

NEWS is here to support that growth. When the wind is blowing and it seems like the sun will never shine, we help protect and nurture, so that beauty can emerge.

While a nice metaphor, it doesn't truly capture the complexity of each individual's path to freedom from abuse. Please know, each number in this report represents a strong and resilient individual who courageously reached out for help. They overcame barriers to create a more safe future for themselves and their children. We do this work together with our many city, county and nonprofit partners, and through the generosity of our beloved community supporters. We are forever grateful.

The report reflects last year's accomplishments, but we are already looking ahead to find ways that we can continue to create pathways that ease the burden survivors face. We hope you will find this report both informative and inspirational.

Thank you,



Tracy Lamb,
Executive Director



Shelter:

SEASONS OF GROWTH! A welcoming and safe place to grow



The pandemic had us completely changing our shelter operations and finding new ways to house people. With the help of local hotels, special donations and grants, we found safe space for those in need, from both abuse and COVID-19.

Thankfully, since July of 2021, we have been able to fully utilize our safe house again and have been quite full ever since. We could not have gotten through all of this without our faithful volunteers who were there when

we needed them!

The Shelter team is loving being together again. I believe we have actually come through this stronger and even more dedicated to the work we do.

Sarah

Sarah, Shelter Program Manager



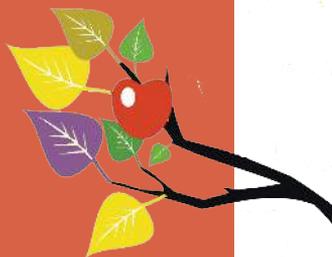
Shelter Highlights

46 adults received shelter

42 children received shelter

3,197 Help Line calls were answered

79% of clients exited shelter to safe and sustainable homes



We had a child's 5th birthday party at the Shelter today. Walking through the house it really does feel like "home" with all the sounds of the kids playing and moms cooking and preparing for this special day. Each client came up to me and said that it really felt like they have formed their own family here and are happy to have found each other.

-Liliana, Shelter Lead Advocate



Housing:

SEASONS OF GROWTH! Home together Starting fresh



Housing is one of the most important resources NEWS provides. COVID-19 brought another year of challenges to families and individuals facing staggering obstacles, including job loss and health issues.

NEWS clients are already some of the most vulnerable to homelessness and the pandemic created even more difficulty, both physically and emotionally. Thanks to the passion and tenacity of the NEWS Housing team, hundreds of families were able to have a safe place to call “home”.

In 2021, City of Napa Housing Authority issued NEWS 17 special housing vouchers. These were incredibly helpful in allowing us to successfully find new housing for eight households including 14 children. We were also able to prevent nine households, including 16 children, from becoming homeless. These vouchers have been a golden ticket for the NEWS clients who receive them. In most cases, the clients were able to go back to work, or school to increase their income, and secure long-term safe housing for their families.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen".

Helen, Housing Program Manager



Housing Highlights

152 clients who received housing assistance, advocacy and information

\$252,000 distributed in flexible financial assistance, including rent

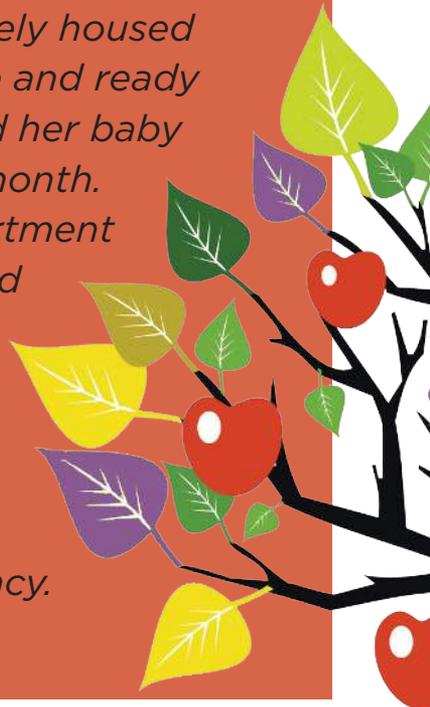
140 households received flexible financial assistance, including rent

232 children lived within those households



Our Shelter client was safely housed yesterday, full of joy, hope and ready for a new start for her and her baby boy who will arrive next month. She is going into this apartment with nothing, so we helped her get donations of items to set up her home. We just purchased a mattress for her so she can sleep comfortably in her last month of pregnancy.

-Mariela, Housing Advocate



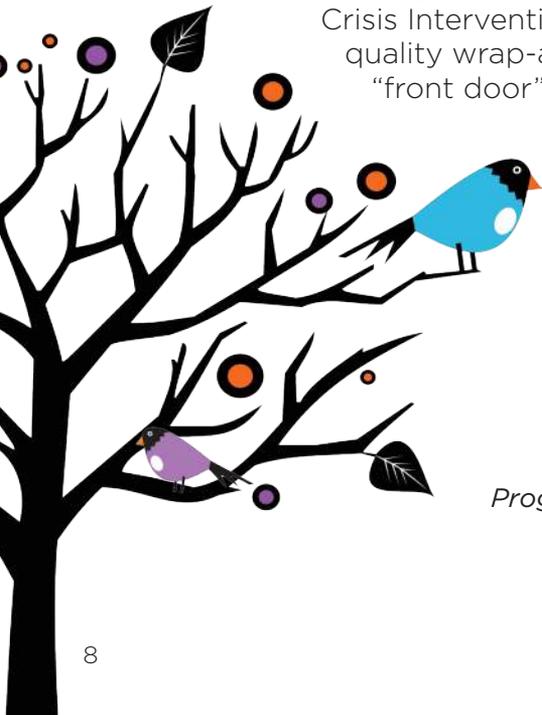
Crisis Intervention Services:

BETTER TOGETHER!
Critical needs, stability, safety planning, and case management

The Crisis Intervention Team has often been referred to as the “front door” of NEWS. Here, clients are greeted with a friendly face who helps assess for danger, safety plan, prioritize and meet needs, and refer to other NEWS programs and community resources.

This year, clients came in with more complex cases and needs, requiring intense case management. With the shifting environment, we were able to grow our team to four, including new intake and case manager positions. This has given us a smoother workflow to be more responsive to our clients’ unique needs.

Considering the challenges and transitions the year brought, I am happy to report that the Crisis Intervention Team ensured the highest quality wrap-around services as NEWS’ “front door”. We served 424 individuals, initiated 304 internal referrals to other NEWS programs, and facilitated 184 external referrals to community partners.



Michelle
Michelle, Crisis Intervention Program Manager



Crisis Highlights

\$75,950 distributed in emergency financial assistance, including food and rent

323 survivors received crisis intervention counseling, financial assistance, and referrals



My client was visiting Napa and had a physical incident with her boyfriend. She knew no one here since she was just visiting and had no money, clothes, or phone, when she fled the scene.

We provided her with gift cards for food and clothing and a GoPhone so she could connect with family. We advocated to law enforcement to escort her so she could safely collect her belongings.

She then flew back home to her family. In tears she said she will forever hold us dear to her heart and was extremely thankful.

-Yunnuel, Crisis Services Case Manager



Community Response & Education:

BETTER TOGETHER! Response, Protective Orders, and Court Accompaniment

**LOCATED AT THE MONARCH
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER**



In October 2021 a team of NEWS advocates were co-located at the Monarch Justice Center offering a new door for survivors to access court services. NEWS provides outreach to and advocacy for domestic violence survivors after incidents involving law enforcement, assistance with protective orders, and advocacy on court-related matters.

Clients have expressed increased hesitancy in filing for a restraining order due to their fear of losing the income of their abuser and/or support for their children. Sadly, this was a trend that began during the pandemic and continued through the year. Having an advocate walk with you through the process can make all the difference.

Our Court Advocates at the Monarch Justice Center helped survivors navigate crisis situations and connected them with NEWS and other community services to help them find the resources they need.



Ana

Ana, Program Director

*See page 16 for more information on the
Monarch Justice Center*

CRE Highlights

130 survivors had emergency in-person support following a DV incident

135 survivors received court advocacy assistance, including help with restraining orders and child custody cases

“As I sit here typing up a report regarding a very serious incident of domestic violence, I was reminded that, thanks to our collaboration at Monarch, I was able to immediately put the survivor into contact with Erika to get a Domestic Violence Restraining Order (DVRO). I want to thank NEWS for stationing Court Advocates at Monarch. I have had multiple incidents where I have walked into the court advocates office and said, “Hey, I have a survivor who needs help ASAP,” and each time NEWS staff have immediately volunteered to help. During this incident, they spoke to the survivor, set up an appointment the following day, and helped get the DVRO granted. We coordinated the service of that DVRO, and when the DVRO was served a staff member took the proof of service to the court since our records could not have it entered. NEWS staff also communicated to the survivor that the order had been served. NEWS court advocates consistently go above and beyond.

*William Hernandez
Domestic Violence Detective,
Investigations Bureau
Law Enforcement Specialized Units
Police Department, City of Napa*



Youth & Children's Services:

LOVE GROWS HERE! Healthy relationships, prevention, and healing trauma



As schools planned for a safe return to campus, it was critical to consider the health and well-being of students and address the increased presence of mental, physical, and emotional health. The pandemic has created significant stress and trauma for children, adolescents, and families. Our goal was to support and protect young people facing multiple challenges by providing safe and supportive spaces. NEWS worked diligently to create new ways of connecting with children exposed to domestic violence and sexual abuse. These efforts included increased in-person and on-campus services, strengthening our partnerships with school Wellness Centers. Additionally, the Kids Exposed to Domestic Violence (KEDS) Support Groups were reformatted to provide both in-person and online support.

Zoom calls, phone calls, texting, and in-person services - we did it all. It has been heartbreaking to hear how COVID-19 has impacted these youths' personal lives. Without a doubt, the 12-17 year olds were the most affected age group during COVID-19. There has been a tremendous increase in mental and emotional distress and, therefore, more cases of domestic violence and sexual abuse among young people. In fact, the number of referrals we have received has nearly doubled in this last year.



Carla

*Carla, Youth
Prevention
Services
Manager*



Youth Services Highlights

600+ youth participated in Healthy Relationship Presentations and Workshops

81 middle and high school students received one-on-one healthy relationship coaching

10 Teen Dating Violence Awareness #Orange4Love school events

326 children served in KEDS program

School Partnerships: Napa Valley Unified School District, St. Helena Unified School District, Justin Siena High School, Up Valley and American Canyon middle and high schools

I gave my students an assignment to find resources and strengths in our community that had helped them and their families survive the pandemic emotionally and physically. Several of my students listed NEWS as a resource, even some male students. I was amazed at what these student wrote about NEWS.

Todd Pridy, Napa High School Coach/Teacher

Sexual Assault Victim Services:

**BLOOMING WITH
GRACE & HOPE**
A new day of
rebirth and pride



As the pandemic persisted, there was very little change to our 24-hour, seven day a week crisis services for sexual assault survivors.

Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS) continued to assist in the personal healing of each survivor by providing information, accompaniment and referrals in-person whenever possible. Court hearings and trials continued to be virtual, and unfortunately victims experienced many continuances due to issues

related to the pandemic, which added much stress and hardship, making our support even more important.

The pandemic allowed us time to examine opportunities for our services, to think about how we could do better, and to evaluate our success.



Bailie, SAVS Program Manager





SAVS Highlights

233 clients provided crisis, advocacy, and accompaniment services

Nearly 40% served were minors

11 clients accompanied to sexual assault exams

147 clients supported through criminal justice system

245 students engaged in prevention education



Napa County Child Abuse Prevention Council Names Christina Gomez, NEWS SAVS Advocate, “2021 Professional Advocate of the Year”

Christina is a consistent source of guidance and support for children and families impacted by abuse and her care and compassion can be felt by all who work with her. Among her colleagues, Christina has gained a reputation for her tenacity and dedication, often making time for advocacy at all hours of the day and night. Despite the circumstances, Christina inspires survivors of child abuse and their families to believe that they can survive, heal and thrive. She is easily one of the most compassionate advocates at NEWS and goes out of her way to ensure children’s needs are met and their voices are heard.





MONARCH JUSTICE CENTER

COMMUNITY Better, stronger and protected

NEWS is excited and honored to be one of the founding members and on-site partners at the newly formed Monarch Justice Center.

In late 2014, Napa's leaders in government, education, the nonprofit community and business started dreaming about a better way to serve our community. Recognizing that access to compassionate service was unequal, inequitable, and burdensome, they aimed to gently transform an overly complex and inconvenient system all while honoring the dignity of our community members. Monarch Justice Center opened its doors in July of 2019 and is privileged to serve, honor and advocate as the face of an even more dynamic and empathetic Napa Valley.

Monarch Justice Center envisions a community that is safe and free from violence and victimization. We aim to create a collaborative community that works together to ensure that all survivors have access to equal justice and to the resources they need to heal and to thrive.

NEWS is an integral part of the Monarch Justice Center by supporting six staff members at the Center including Court Advocates and a Law Enforcement Liaison.



MONARCH JUSTICE CENTER

1546 1st Street, Napa, CA 94559

info@monarchjusticecenter.org

www.monarchjusticecenter.org





"A client recently began her restraining order court hearing. The abuser's lawyer had been grilling our client, trying to shame her and discredit her story. Unfortunately, this is a common issue our clients face during any court procedure when testimony is involved.

The abuser's lawyer tried to discredit the restraining order statement, which was impressively written. She tried to bring doubts about the legality of an advocate helping this process and questioned how much of the advocate's words were intertwined with the clients. However, because of a great explanation of limitations, protocols, and a thorough overview of the process by our Court Advocates, the client was extremely confident explaining the statement details and how they were her own words. Ultimately, the statement was found to be fully credible and legitimate.

This is where the extra work of our court advocates pays off. When clients go into court with a better understanding of what they can expect, they know they can stand on their truth and feel confident in our support. As a result, the daunting restraining order process and frightening cross-examination is a bit more bearable.

Ana Soto, Program Director



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 Napa County Board of
 Supervisors

NEWS is dedicated to providing safety, hope, healing and empowerment for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. Equally, NEWS is committed to promoting safe communities and social change through prevention, intervention, education, and advocacy.



Staff



EXECUTIVE TEAM

Tracy Lamb, Executive Director
Ana Soto*, Program Director
Mandy DeBord, Finance/HR Director
Andi Grote, Development Director
Karen Calhoun, Marketing & Communications Director

ADMINISTRATION

Nicole Solorio, Administrative Office Manager
Jeanna Coursey, Development Associate

CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

Michelle Sanchez, Crisis Intervention Services Program Manager
Yunuel Perez*, Crisis Services Case Manager
Ana Arroyo*, Support Services Advocate
Daniela Flores*, Intake Coordinator

HOUSING SERVICES

Helen Rodriguez*, Housing Program Manager
Mariela Perez*, Housing Advocate
Maria Hurtado*, Housing Advocate

YOUTH/PREVENTION SERVICES

Carla Andrade-Maston*, Youth Prevention Services Manager
Karla Salazar*, Youth Prevention Education Services Advocate
Michel Mora*, Volunteer & Community Outreach Coordinator

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES

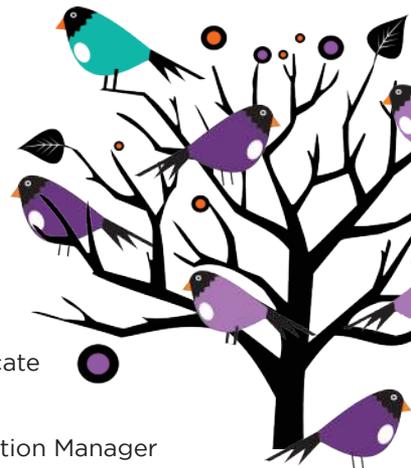
Araceli Vargas*, SAVS Advocate
Christina Gomez*, SAVS Advocate
Elizabeth Alfaro*, SAVS Advocate

SHELTER STAFF

Sarah Engle, Shelter Program Manager
Liliana Estrada*, Lead Advocate
Maria Hernandez*, Shelter Advocate
Selina Farmer, Shelter Advocate
Cytllali Munoz*, Shelter (KEDS) Advocate

MONARCH FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER STAFF

Erika Cazares*, Program Manager Court Advocate
Emily Perez*, Court Advocate
Ashley Cuahutle*, Court Advocate
Yesica Vargas*, Community Response & Education Manager
Shea Hunter, Operations Assistant



*Bilingual

Friends of NEWS:

CHAMPIONING the seasons of our survivors

Everything from crisis counseling to education to shelter, [NEWS is] committed to helping all victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse not only survive but thrive and build a new life for themselves.

Dayna Manning, Donor since 2018

Each season brings something new and beautiful to Napa Valley. This year, we honor the seasons of our community, as NEWS For All Seasons celebrates growth and change, partnership and inclusivity, and hope and second chances.



Our donors, partners, and volunteers provide NEWS with stability and balance. Your donations guarantee critical funds and services for survivors. Your volunteer time ensures a caring advocate can accompany a survivor 24/7. Your expertise guides our operations and governance.

Your ongoing support allows us to navigate change and deliver excellence in services to those who need it most. You make it possible for NEWS to serve our most vulnerable community members.



Thank you for championing the seasons of our survivors.

Andi

Andi Grote, Development Director



Our Supporters

Government Partners

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services | California Office of the Small Business Advocate | California Partnership to End Domestic Violence | City of Napa | City of Napa Police Department | Napa County | Mental Health Services Act in Napa County | United Way Bay Area

Foundations

Drysdale Community Foundation | First Dollar Foundation | HCA Foundation | The Napa Fund of the Napa Valley Community Foundation | The Osgood Family Fund of the Napa Valley Community Foundation | The Peter A. & Vernice H. Gasser Foundation | Pinpoint Foundation | The Silverado Farming One Percent Fund of the Napa Valley Community Foundation | Syar Foundation | Vollmer Family Foundation | The William and Andrea Phelps Family Foundation | Winiarski Family Foundation

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NEWS Community Champions

F&M Bank - Universal Prevention Ally

About NEWS

NEWS is honored to provide domestic violence and sexual abuse advocacy services throughout Napa County. Recognized as a distinguished and well respected nonprofit organization, We believe that the pathways out of violence can be as individual as the people we serve. Our innovative programs and services reflect that belief.

Over 41 years, we have grown and expanded services to address the whole person. We offer resources to help survivors sustain lives free from violence.

Our team is grounded in the values of dignity and respect, both for those we serve and for ourselves. We are committed to continually working toward reducing domestic violence and sexual abuse, promoting healthy relationships, and building a violence free community for all.

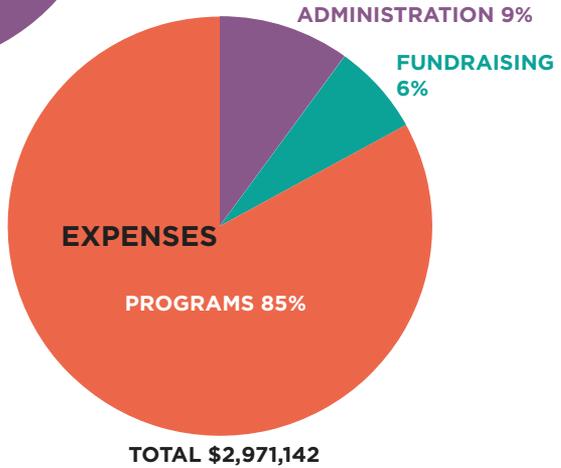
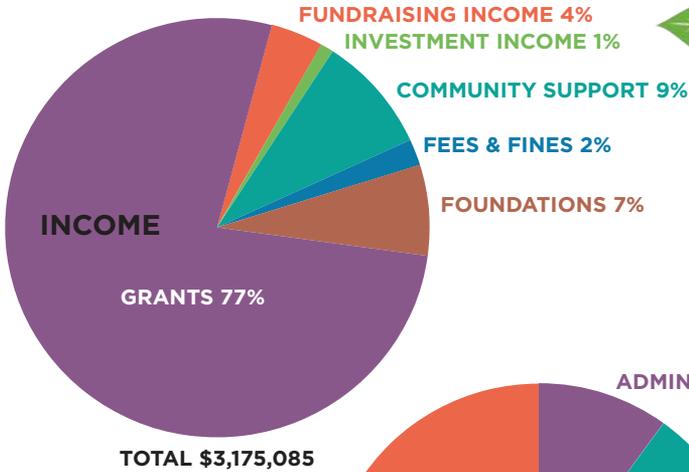
www.NapaNEWS.org



Show NEWS your support and make a donation!

Focus your mobile phone camera on the QR code at the left and click on the link it provides to be taken directly to our easy donation page. You can make donations with a credit card, PayPal, ApplePay, GooglePay, Bank Transfer, or Venmo!

Financials



Despite the ongoing impact of the pandemic, our community continued to support NEWS so we could accomplish our mission and meet the growing demand. We even received a federal grant to hire a director of the Monarch Justice Center. Ultimately, NEWS adapted and expanded services in the face of the uncertainty the pandemic brought to our door step in order to support the increased need of DV/SA survivors in our community.



Mandy

Mandy DeBoard, Finance Director

NEWS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ABUSE SERVICES

NURTURING EMPOWERMENT WORTH SAFETY

In accordance with the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (426 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.), NEWS does not mandate participation in supportive services as a condition of shelter residency or emergency services. Therefore, NEWS services are completely voluntary and require the consent of an individual in order to provide services.



NEWS does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or age in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment.



24 HOUR HELP LINE
707.255.NEWS (6397)

California Relay Service
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