

# Safe Passage's Monthly news & updates

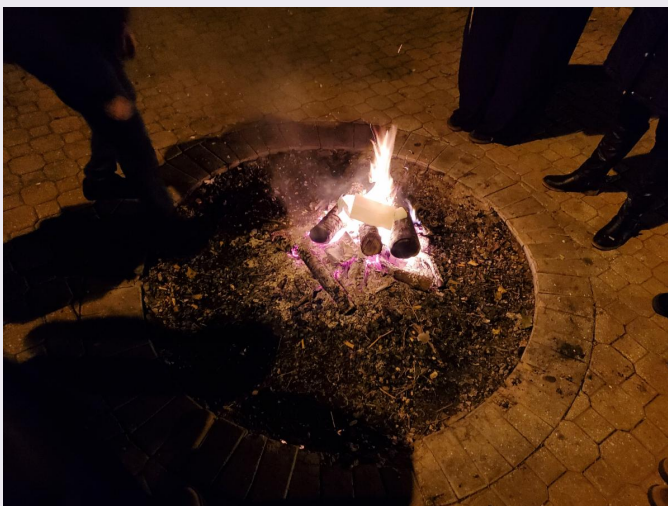
*October 2019: Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

## October



### Halloween Celebrations

For this month's staff bonding, we hosted a pumpkin decorating contest! Congrats to Pam and Liz, Priscilla and Nancy, and Kendal for winning this year's Halloween Activity! Check out their creative pumpkins above.



### "Let it Go"

In October, our Residential Case Managers created an empowering activity for those currently staying in our shelter. Clients wrote letters explaining their pasts,

## Upcoming Events

### **LOVE Fundraiser**

**February 21, 7-10 PM**

*Blumen Gardens (403 Edward St, Sycamore)*

Support Safe Passage while celebrating love with an evening of appetizers, dessert, drinks, and live music. More details available soon.



### **Walk a Mile & After Party**

**April 4, 10-3 PM**

*Sycamore High School Field House )427 Spartan Trail, Sycamore) and Fatty's (1312 W Lincoln Hwy, DeKalb)*

Show your support of Sexual Assault Survivors by joining us for a mile long walk in high heels! Continue the celebration as we honor our 2019 Shoe-per hero while enjoying drink discounts and free appetizers at Fatty's! Registration available soon.

their future goals, and what they wish to let go of. Together, they tossed their letters into a bonfire while reflecting how far they have come. The night ended with smiles and tasty s'mores.

## October's Events

As always, we kicked off Domestic Violence Awareness month with our Annual DV Vigil. Here, we honored the lives affected and lost by violence this year. Many survivors share their experiences, struggles, and advice for those who may be experiencing abuse.

We ended the month with our screening of HBO's At the Heart of Gold Documentary. Here, community members, staff, and clients viewed the film and participated in a discussion after. Thank you to our panel for leading an educational discussion!

**Thank you to the Egyptian Theatre for opening their space for both of our October events!**



## Join Our Team!

Safe Passage is growing! If you're interested in a position within our agency, check out the opportunities below.

[Check out our open job positions here.](#)

[Apply for a position on our Board of Directors here.](#)

## Staff Spotlight



### **Congrats Andrew!**

Andrew is one of our newest staff members and started at Safe Passage in April 2019. Andrew has experience in counseling, but currently works within our Abuse Intervention Program. He says his favorite part of his job is guiding clients towards change. He explains, "I believe that everyone has the ability to affect positive change in themselves and their communities, I enjoy contributing to the change journeys that clients undertake."

Fun Facts! Andrew spends a lot of time collecting rare vinyl and music collectibles. Most of his free time is spent listening to and dissecting music.

## Volunteer & Internship Positions Available

### **Apply Now - Spaces are limited!**

Safe Passage is currently accepting applications for our volunteer and internship programs. As a volunteer or intern, you will gain knowledge of domestic and sexual violence through our training before working

with clients in various programs.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Pamela, at 815.756.7930 or by email at [prosales@safepassagedv.org](mailto:prosales@safepassagedv.org).



[Click here to apply for a volunteer position](#)

[Click here to apply for an internship](#)

## Counselor's Column

### Family Oriented Services

By Melissa McGraw

Safe Passage has recently added a new position to the counseling team: Child and Family Advocate, Abby! Abby will be promoting the importance of family connections and interactions as a part of the healing process from trauma. All members of a family are impacted by trauma in their own ways and many times the family needs opportunities to re-establish family routines after trauma has occurred. Abby will be assisting families to interact with each other in safe ways. Parents will be educated on how the trauma has impacted their children emotionally, behaviorally, and developmentally. These families will also get opportunities to do fun activities together, like play games or go on outings—things that families who haven't experienced trauma may take for granted. Abby will also provide respite care to parents so they can get tasks done, attend appointments or a court date, or just take a break for self-care. Abby will be available to assist families in both the domestic violence and sexual assault programs. We are excited to have Abby here to reinforce the importance of family-oriented care!



[www.safepassagedv.org](http://www.safepassagedv.org) | 815.756.7930 | PO Box 621 DeKalb, IL 60115