



Safe Passage Monthly Update

Celebrate love with Safe Passage during our fundraiser on February 15! For tickets and more information, [click here](#).



January at Safe Passage

Your monthly update:

Our clients had the opportunity to volunteer at Tails Humane Society! Their spirits were lifted as they played with animals and made treats to give the puppies. Thank you, Tails, for letting us come out!

Clients who live in our shelter now have access to a creative writing group, meditation group, and a cooking group. They have expressed that these groups have been really beneficial to their healing process.

Our Residential Case Managers and Sexual Assault Legal Advocates participated in a Suicide Prevention Training at Open Door in Elgin.

They learned several ways to help survivors of violence who may be experiencing suicidal thoughts and feelings.

The Prevention Team attended an ICASA Prevention Conference and learned new ways to educate young students and community members. If you'd like to learn from a presentation, please contact 815.756.7930 x 106.

We are excited to welcome 4 interns and 5 volunteers to our agency! If you would like to learn how to get involved with either program, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Pam, at 815.756.7930 x 144 or by email at prosales@safepassageadv.org.

Counselor's Column

Written by Safe Passage's Director of Counseling Services, Melissa McGraw

Welcome to the first installment of Counselor's Column! Each month, we will provide updates on the important work that the counselors at Safe Passage do everyday on behalf of victims, survivors, and their significant others.

Safe Passage has 3 full-time adult domestic violence counselors, 2 full-time sexual assault counselors, 2 full-time child/adolescent domestic violence counselors, and 1 full-time child/adolescent counselor who goes with the prevention team into the schools. All our counselors have Master's Degrees in social work, mental health counseling, or clinical psychology.

Our counselors are specially trained to provide trauma-informed care, recognizing that trauma survivors have developed coping skills in response to the traumatic events they have experienced. Counseling is focused on "meeting clients where they are", validating their emotions as a result of their trauma, and believing them.

Counseling services can be accessed through our 24-hour hotline at 815-756-5228. Additional questions about the counseling program at Safe Passage can be directed to Melissa McGraw, Director of Counseling Services, at 815-756-7930, extension 140. We are here for you. We believe you.



Upcoming Events

LOVE: February 15, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM at Blumen Gardens

If you've heard of, or attended, our Evening of Chocolate Fundraiser in the past, this is our replacement! LOVE: Love Over Violence Event will include an evening of appetizers, drinks,

dancing, and most importantly, love, while supporting Safe Passage!

Tickets are \$50 per person and include a signature drink.

Tickets are available online ([click here](#)), by phone at 815.758.1225, or at the Egyptian Theatre Box Office (135 N 2nd Street, DeKalb).

Interested in sponsoring LOVE? Call 815.756.7930 for more information.

Lodi Tap House Fundraiser:
February 26, 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM

Join us for a delicious meal as we raise money for our agency! 10% of all food sales come to us! [To view their menu, click here.](#)

Walk a Mile: April 6, at Sycamore High School Field House

Join us for our annual event as we walk a mile in high heels to support survivors of violence. *More details to come!

Take Back the Night: April 16, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the Egyptian Theatre

Stand with survivors in a powerful march through down-town DeKalb. Join us after as survivors share their stories. Light refreshments will be served. *More details to come!

[For more information on our upcoming events, click here.](#)



Safe Passage, INC. | PO Box 621 DeKalb II 60115 | 815.756.5228 | www.safepassagedv.org

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