



Safe Passage

Safe Passage's Monthly news & updates

March 2022

COVID-19 Update



The Numbers

Safe Passage has been working cautiously to support clients despite COVID-19; In the last year, the agency has successfully served over 650 clients. Out of those clients, about 111 clients received emergency shelter and 29 clients received transitional housing. These are outstanding numbers, especially given the circumstances we're in.

Staff Appreciation



My name is **Hayley** and I am the *Sexual Assault Program Manager* at Safe Passage. Previously, I was a Sexual Assault Counselor from 2017-2019 where I provided a safe place for survivors to receive trauma-informed therapy as they navigated through their healing journey. In my current role, my goal is to provide advocacy, outreach, and community collaboration to bring action against sexual violence; all while providing a safe and confidential space for survivors to heal and break their silence.



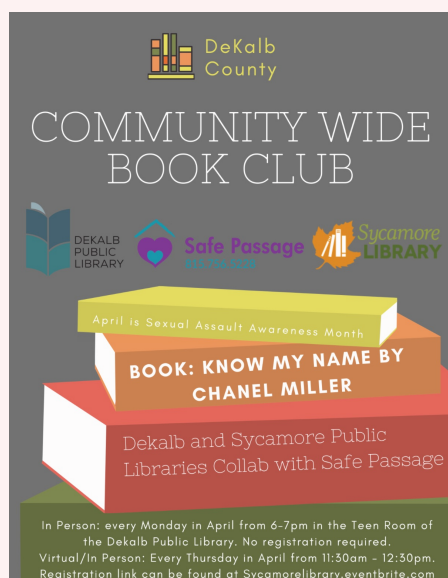
My name is **Kelsey** and I am a *Sexual Assault Legal Advocate* at Safe Passage. This line of work is new to me but I have been in my position for over 6 months and have had the opportunity to work with our community and the amazing survivors throughout. Legal advocacy is very important to me and has gained a very large space in my heart. I have also began working on a SART Team (Sexual Assault Response Team) in order to better reach people in need and ensure they are being taken care of in the best ways possible. It is important to me to always start by believing!

Upcoming – April



This last March has been a busy one; Safe Passage has been diligently preparing for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Though awareness on sexual assault shouldn't just stop at April, the agency recognizes the importance of taking the time to highlight survivors and representing them through our work. Sexual Assault is a problem across all borders- it's not just a "women's problem". Through these events, we hope to inspire the community to contiously support and listen to survivors. We are excited for all that we have in store this next month!

SAAM Events:



Community Book Club

The Dekalb and Sycamore Public Library have both partnered with Safe Passage in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month to discuss Chanel Miller's memoir, *Know My Name*. We will be breaking up the book into four different parts, one discussion each week:

Week 1: Intro - Ch. 4

Week 2: Ch. 5 - 8

Week 3: Ch. 9 - 12

Week 4: Ch. 13 - 14 and Victim Statement

Dekalb Public Library will be hosting in-person discussions *every Monday in April from 6-7pm in the Teen Room*. No registration needed.

Sycamore Public Library will be hosting both in-person and virtual sessions.

Virtual: 4/7, 4/28

In-Person: 4/14, 4/21

[Registration Link](#)

Art Display Night

We wouldn't be here without our

clients- we do everything to support and give them all the resources they need in their safety and healing. The Art Display Show will be a chance for the community to see survivors and their stories through their artwork.

Location: The House Café, Dekalb

Date: April 15th, 2022

Time: 7pm - 9pm



Take Back The Night

Join Safe Passage and the local community in raising our voices for survivors of abuse. This march will also include of a vigil to give the community a chance to share their stories and stance against sexual and domestic abuse.

Location: Egyptian Theatre

Date: April 21st, 2022

Time: 6pm - 7pm

Queers'N'Allies Blood Drive

From a lifetime, to a year, to now a three-month waiting period- This is how long sexually active gay and bisexual individuals had/have to wait before they could donate blood. This is driven off stigma, not science. The argument that they're more HIV and disease prone is problematic in itself, as it's not a "gay disease". HIV can be transmitted from other means outside of sexual activity, from any individual, which is why any blood donated at donation centers are screened for any underlying diseases. For this blood drive, we're partnering with QORRN to end this stigma and setting that example.

Location: Federated Church of Sycamore





Vagina Monologues

Safe Passage's collaboration with StageCoachPlayers from our first showing of the Vagina Monologues was so successful that we will be having another showing this April.

Location: Stage Coach Players

Date: April 22nd, 2022

Time: 7

For more information, check out StageCoachPlayer's [website](#)

Walk A Mile

To cap off Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Safe Passage is collaborating with NIU's Office of Academic, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion by hosting Walk A Mile.

This walkathon will take place at Northern Illinois University's lagoon and will be a way for the agency to fundraise as well as raise awareness about sexual assault and abuse.

For the registration info, make sure to actively look at our [website](#).



For more information on our upcoming events, check out our [Calendar](#).

Volunteering – May / June 2022

Safe Passage's volunteer training program is starting up soon! We are looking for more community members, especially those who are interested in becoming *medical advocates*.

This extensive and informative training program will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays in the months of May and June; Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the evenings and Saturdays in the morning/afternoon.

For more information, make sure to go the Safe Passage

[website.](#)

[Learn more](#)

Stay Connected



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