

Safe Passage's Monthly news & updates December 2022

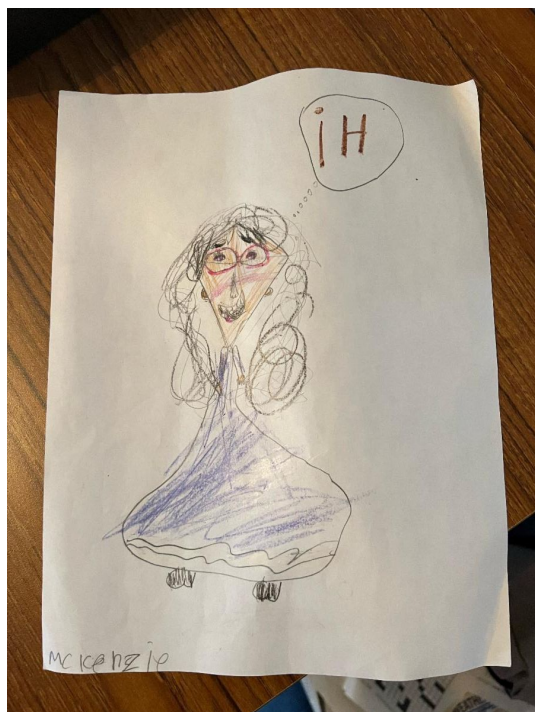


As we're coming close to the end of 2022...

There are many things that our agency went through this last year. Through the chaos and state of our world, the agency has prevailed. We've been reorganizing the agency as a whole. With growth comes changes and Safe Passage is constantly looking for ways to improve how our agency operates.

Some positive changes include:

- With the Legal Advocates, we are starting to speak with our clients about the packet that the state sends out to them in the mail. This packet includes the victim's assertion of rights, crime victims' compensation and many other important documents. This is being implemented because our legal advocates notice that it's something that tends to be overlooked yet it's a very critical step for our clients when handling criminal charges.
- Providing legal attorneys from Prairie State Legal services for our current and registered clients, specifically for immigration cases.
- Providing other legal attorneys and representation for clients in Family Court for custody and divorce cases.
- Issuing a contract with a Nurse-Practitioner or Nurse to help with medication management and health screenings and issues.
- New Staff (from the last 2 months):
 - Jessica - Domestic Violence Child Counselor
 - Brittney - Domestic Violence Legal Advocate
 - Shayna - Prevention Specialist & PAIP co-facilitator
 - Kirsty - Prevention Specialist
 - Wesley - Crisis Support Advocate
 - Alexis - Overnight Case Manager
 - Samantha - Sexual Assault Case Manager
 - Harvey - Residential Case Manager
- New windows and a new kitchen table and chairs for the shelter.



Our Prevention Staff have been very busy, visiting schools in Dekalb County and teaching Erin's Law to grades K-12. Our Marketing Specialist, Errica, was given a drawing from one of the students.

"It starts at home- Kids need to have that conversation of what are and aren't safe touches. We understand that we can't control the conversation that goes on at home, but we understand that reaching the schools is our best form of contact. It's important to raise our younger generation that abuse shouldn't be a taboo topic to talk about."
- Errica, Marketing Specialist

Board & Staff Highlights



Savannah

Board Member

Our board member, Savannah, was recently elected as a DeKalb County Board Member for District 5!

"I'm a Graduate of NIU, worked at Safe Passage as an intern in 2015, quickly moved into an advocate role in the shelter. I completed my internship in counseling at Safe Passage and was the previous Director of Abuse Intervention Services. I also oversaw the Opioid Diversion Program in DeKalb County. Provide trainings and consult with International Non Profits.

Many of my years in DeKalb County have consisted of being an advocate for community members."

Join us in congratulating Savannah for all of her accomplishments!



Erika

Domestic Violence Adult Counselor

"I'm a bilingual Counselor that earned a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Psychology back in Mexico. My interest for human behavior has been part of me since I could remember, and I knew this is what I wanted to dedicate my life. I love working with underserved population and I have been fortunate enough to provide services in federal prisons, crisis centers, mental health facilities and with survivors of domestic violence and perpetrators in different countries. I've worked at Safe Passage for more than 6 years and I couldn't find a better place that matches my passion and values. It's a very challenging job but the support of my supervisor and colleagues makes it very enjoyable. I wake up every day ready for the adventure of counseling my clients and grateful for their trust and resiliency.

On my free time I love long walks, traveling and support my soccer team."

Thank you, Erika, for all that you've done for both your clients and our agency!

We're not done being grateful!

More of our staff members wanted to share what they're grateful for while working at Safe Passage. *Here's what staff has to say:*

"I am grateful to have been blessed with the opportunity to serve within this population of amazing, resilient, and strong women (and men), and to do so alongside such incredibly focused and devoted fellow staff!"

Lisa, Domestic Violence Adult Counselor

"I am grateful for the abundance of kindness the staff here at Safe Passage display every day."

Nicole, Data Specialist

"I'm grateful for Safe Passage because of the opportunities that the agency has provided me with. Safe Passage has been extremely helpful in developing my professional role in my career. I'm grateful for my co-workers and supervisors who have become more like a second family to me."

Sandy, Volunteer Coordinator

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE L.O.V.E. 2023

February 17th, 2023
Blumen Gardens

LOVE
over
violence

Join us for this season of love for dancing,
drinks, and appetizers!

February 17, 2023
BLUMEN GARDENS
403 Edward St., Sycamore



Volunteering & Interning with Safe Passage

For the start of 2023, we will be offering our 60 hr. intensive training for those who are interested in volunteering and interning. For volunteering, we offer both direct and indirect opportunities of volunteering.

Direct service volunteering will involve more interaction with clients and survivors. These volunteers will be able to be hands on with clients and assisting them in times of crisis or simply when they need support.

Indirect service volunteers will be of assistance for the agency in itself. Through their positions, indirect service volunteers support clients and survivors by keeping things running smoothly and creating a welcoming environment for all.

As for internship opportunities, we offer several positions that involve firsthand experience providing direct client service in a fast-paced environment.

Jan/Feb 2023 Training

Weekly Schedule: Tuesdays
(5:30pm-9:30pm) Wednesdays
(5:30pm-9:30pm) Saturdays
(8:30am-4pm)

January:
24th, 25th, 27th, 28th, 30th,
31st

February:
1st, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 10th,
11th, 14th, 15th

For more information and/or to
apply to be a volunteer or intern,
click on the links below.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Internship Opportunities](#)

Stay Connected



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