

# Safe Passage's Monthly news & updates May 2023



# Why should you donate to Safe Passage on May 4th?

Did you know that the most dangerous time in an abusive relationship is when the survivor leaves?

Our agency works around the clock to provide life saving shelter, care, and advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Every dollar that you donate towards Safe Passage goes towards our clients who are unmatched in their strength, resiliency, and courage.

Our agency provides survivors with emergency shelter, counseling, case management, legal advocacy, medical advocacy, and prevention education. And we never charge survivors for our services.

Safe Passage has been around for over 40+ years. Our agency has been fortunate to participate in this generous community-wide giving day since the beginning of Give DeKalb County— 10 years ago.

We intend to keep fighting for the universal right to be loved in a safe, healthy and abuse-free way — and we can't do it without the help and support of our community.

Thank you for your support of Safe Passage during Give DeKalb County!

To learn more about our 2023 goals for Give DeKalb county, scan this QR code or click the button below:

**Give DeKalb County** 





The month of May is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Much like sexual and domestic violence, mental health affects all.

Physical abuse, sexual abuse, and mental health are closely tied. Survivors of abuse often have lasting mental health impacts, and people who have mental health diagnoses are often targeted by people who perpetrate abuse.

It's also important not to stigmatize people who have mental health struggles. While some people who use violence do have mental health disorders, abuse is always a choice.

### Resources:

<u>24/7 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:</u> (988)

24/7 Crisis Textline: Text "HOME" to (741741)

<u>Hope Haven Dekalb:</u> (815)-758-5765

<u>Substance Abuse and Mental</u> <u>Health Services Administration</u> <u>(SAMHSA):</u>

24/7 Hotline: (800)-662-HELP

**24/7 Textline**: (4357)

Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator and SAMHSA 24/7 Treatment and Referral: (800)-662-4357

### It's A Wrap!

April is such an important month for Safe Passage. 365 days out of the year, we advocate for those affected by both domestic and sexual violence; however, during April, we dedicate the entire month commemorating survivors of sexual abuse and educate the community on both available resources as well information on the realities of this epidemic.

With Sexual Assault Awareness Month coming to an end, let's recap on how the awareness month turned out!

### Take Back The Night 2023:







#### Walk A Mile 2023:







A HUGE shout-out to all of our sponsors!

# **Convocation Center**

www. NIUconvo.com



















On May 2, the next session of our 60-hour intensive training will start. This training covers domestic violence and sexual assault and is a requirement for all direct service volunteers and interns.

We offer this training three times a year and our next session won't be until September, so if you're interested in working with Safe Passage over the summer, act fast!

#### We offer both direct and indirect volunteer opportunities:

Direct service volunteers work directly with clients. They are hands on with clients and assist them in times of crisis or when they need support.

Indirect service volunteers assist the agency itself. They might help with office projects like organizing supplies or putting together mailers. These volunteers help us keep things running smoothly and create a welcoming environment for all.

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

**Apply Now** 

### **Board Highlight**



## Libby

**Board Member** 

"Hello! My name is Libby Raih, I am the Store Manager of the DeKalb Michaels. I began volunteering with Safe Passage on the Fundraising and Events Committee in 2022 and recently became a Board Member. I am a 20-year business professional and relationship builder with a passion for investing in my teams as a servant leader. I have been able to contribute to events by utilizing my skill set that includes project management, adaptability, and positive leadership skills. I enjoy finding ways to make events unique and memorable. I call DeKalb my home alongside my husband Dustin and son Warrick and our two dogs Mister and Willy Wonka. I am honored to be part of this amazing organization that provides free resources to all, no matter age, gender, or when the abuse occurred, a needed service in DeKalb County."

Thank you, Libby, for your commitment to Safe Passage!

#### Stay Connected









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