

2023 Impact Report



Our Mission

To end the cycle of domestic violence in Brevard County through education, empowerment, intervention, prevention, social change, advocacy, and engagement of community.



From A Survivor:
 "I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the entire team for their unwavering support and compassion. You have made a profound difference in our lives."

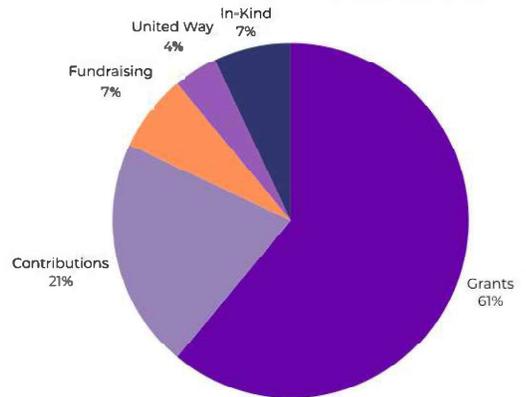


You are not alone

Confidential Helpline
321.726.8282
 Text/TTY

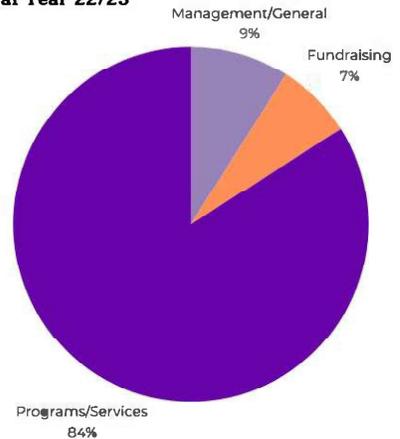
Income

Fiscal Year 22/23



Expenses

Fiscal Year 22/23



6,944
 nights of
 safe housing

2,336
 individual
 counseling

401
 injunction for
 protection
 clients

441
 community
 education &
 professional
 trainings

585
 children kept
 with their
 non-
 offending
 parent

11,405
 helpline
 calls, secure
 texts &
 webchat

Serene Harbor provides free and confidential services to adults, children and pets affected by domestic violence.

- Emergency Shelter
- 24/7 Helpline
- One-on-one confidential support
- Crisis Counseling
- Safety Planning
- Lethality Assessment
- Support Groups
- Help Navigating the Criminal Justice System
- Teen Dating Violence ASsistance (with parent or guardian consent)
- Rapid Housing Program
- Connection to Injunction for Protection Florida Bar Attorney
- Prevention Education for Adults and Children
- Relocation Assistance
- Serene Harbor Empowerment (SHE) Education Program

To learn more, visit
www.sereneharbor.org
 Follow us:
 @sereneharbor
 Facebook & Instagram

Our Vision

A community that is educated about and welcoming to survivors of domestic violence and their needs.



Welcome

Serene Harbor is a Certified Domestic Violence Center, including an emergency stay shelter, serving survivors of domestic violence since 1992. Our center has a 20-bed capacity, serving survivors of domestic violence, their children, and their pets.



Our Mission is:

To end the cycle of domestic violence in Brevard County through education, empowerment, intervention, prevention, social change, advocacy, and engagement of our community.

Program Metrics (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

7,436 nights of safe housing

1,834 safety plans

377 injunction for protection clients

622 community education & professional trainings

678 children kept with their non-offending parent

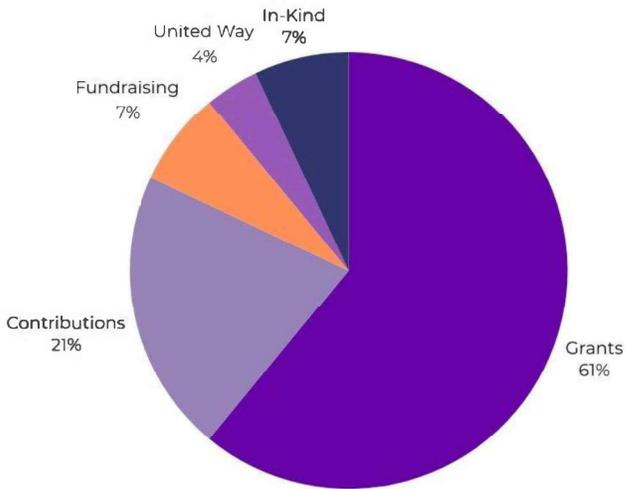
2,543 individual counseling hours

39 days of average stay

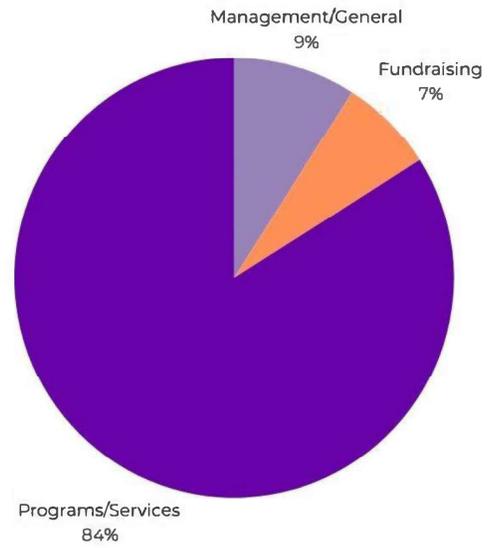
8,680 referrals given

631.23 hours spent on the hotline

Income



Expenses



Proposed unit costs

Our costs per unit (night of shelter) = \$103.06

What does it cover?

Basic needs for survivors in shelter & shelter operations/utilities, food, hygiene items, shelter cleaning supplies, baby needs such as diapers/formulas, medications, & specific needs for survivors for cultural needs.

Proposed level of service

We propose that we will provide 7,300 nights of shelter to domestic violence survivors.

The average stay at Serene Harbor was 39 days per survivor for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Match/Leverage Component

Serene Harbor has match requirements for government grants.

We are required to use funds that are not restricted funds.

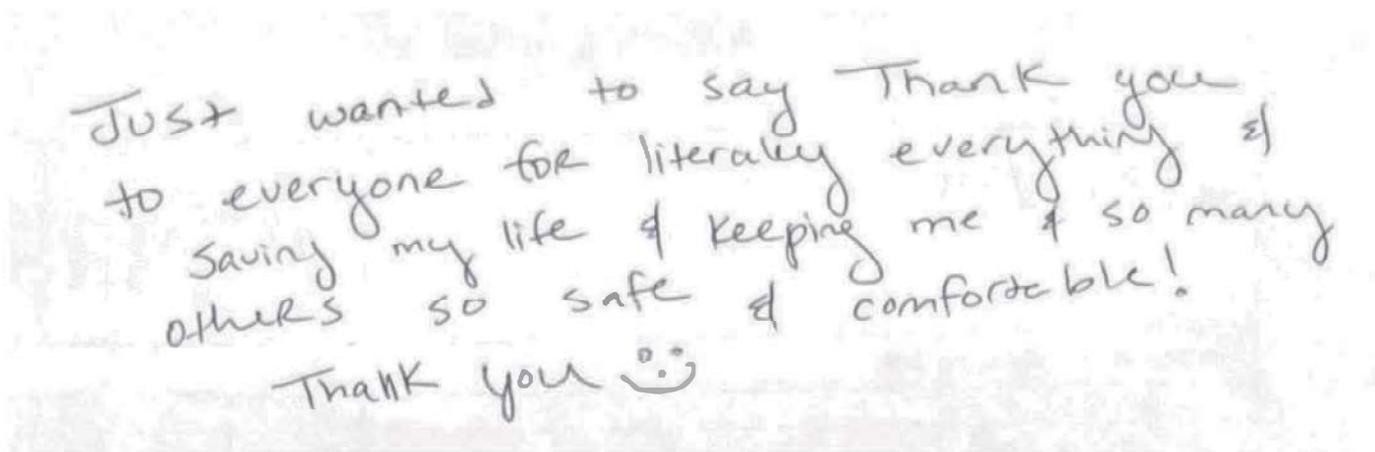
Match requirements for our two grants are 37k and 35k respectively, making a total of \$72K.

At this time, we have a match waiver for one of our larger Grants. The waiver is through September 2024.

We currently use United Way allocations to fulfill our match requirements.

Overall Return on Investment

Safe, self-sufficient, empowered, and healthy lives for survivors and their families, including the family pets.



Just wanted to say Thank you
to everyone for literally everything of
saving my life & keeping me & so many
others so safe & comfortable!
Thank you 😊

-from a shelter participant

The Positive Impact of your Funding

We take individuals at their lowest, and we are able to empower, educate, and advocate for them, as per our mission.

Through United Way funding, Serene Harbor's services have expanded to be comprehensive and life changing. Our empowerment-based program teaches self-sufficiency and supports a life free from violence.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

We provide our services to ALL of those impacted by domestic violence, including the family pet.

WHAT IS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE UPON ENTRY?

A network of certified & trained individuals here to help.

A welcome bag w/ personal care items.

Bedroom

Playroom

Communal kitchen and pantry

Food provided to meet dietary needs

24/7 Laundry room

Playground

Pet kennel

Access to computers & transportation.

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER:

The emergency shelter's goal is not only to provide safety but is designed for survivors to become self-sufficient while also being supported.

24-hr CONFIDENTIAL Hotline

Staffed 365 days a year 24-hours a day by certified & trained advocates.

Support, Advocacy, Counseling, Information and Referral are all provided on our hotline.

Our hotline can be accessed by calling or texting.

In addition to the hotline we offer a secure online chat available through our website as well.

Impact of Funding

Our Pet Suites

3 pet suites

Dog run, doggy doors, self-relieving areas, cat climbing walls, remote locks, & working televisions to check up on your furry loved ones.

- 87% of pet abuse is committed for the purpose of revenge against a partner.
- 71% of pet owners in shelters report the abuser threatened, injured, or killed the family pet.
- 65% of individuals delay/do not leave their abusers out of fear for the safety of the pet.



Transportation

2 vans available to shelter participants for transportation, driven by certified staff members, with tinted windows for maximum confidentiality 24/7.

Other available options: Ubers, vouchers for bus passes, taxi & shuttle services.

Common transportation reasons: school pick-up and drop-off, job interviews, court, medical appointments,

Impact of Funding

S.H.E Business Center

Located inside the shelter; offers opportunities to research, compile resumes, access online resources, do their coursework, and much more!



S.H.E Closet

Provides an onsite resource for survivors to be able to obtain clothing for success when engaging in professional engagements

- such as job interviews, work, court, or business related venues.

Provided:

Makeup	Nail Polish
Shoes	Accessories
Purses	Business casual clothing

Relocation Advocate

Assists with relocation, such as, looking for apartments, transitional housing, etc. Provides home essentials, a furniture package, a security package, as well as, luggage.

Provides documentation, such as SS card and birth certificate.

Provides laptops to help participants achieve their GED/degree.

Pays for car repairs, car insurance, past evictions, airline tickets, train fares, etc.

Our relocation advocate is here to help survivors become financially independent and stable again, as financial challenges are often the result of DV and/or escaping DV.

Participants are allotted unlimited amount of time with their case manager.

Adult Case Management

Provide supportive services to counteract the negative effects of DV.

Monitor and facilitate progress towards their goals.

Accompany civil and criminal court appointments.

Self-sufficiency program classes.

Weekly Support Group

Individual Counseling, safety planning, advocacy, and empowerment based support.

Impact of Funding

Child Case Management

Same standards as adult case manager.

Safety plan with child, specifically.

Assistance in enrolling children in school or daycare, routing buses, helping with schoolwork.

Youth group held weekly.

Parenting skills training.

Individual counseling, safety planning, youth oriented activities, empowerment based approach to helping children heal.

Impact of Funding

All certified staff members can provide:

Counseling

Evidence-based & 1:1

Weekly support groups

Empowerment-based educational classes

Available during their stay at shelter & after.

Available through our HIPAA compliant Zoom or face-to-face.

Other Services Provided to Shelter Participants

Injunction for Protection Attorney

- Free representation & legal advice to survivors of domestic, dating, & sexual violence, as well as, stalking.
- Legal services can help participant's determine if an injunction is safe, assist with filing, and representation at any hearings.

Domestic Violence Child Welfare Advocate

- Keep child with non-offending parent as a part of the CPI project.
- Participate as subject matter experts in case consultations, staffing, case transfer staffings with child welfare partners.
- Advocate on behalf of survivor during DCF investigation.
- Provide training to child welfare partners.

Prevention Specialist

- Collaborate with local organizations, schools, companies, etc.
- Directly interact with many different groups to train and educate on DV.
- Heightening awareness, reducing victimhood.

OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

S.H.E Education

Umbrella program

Mentoring & scholarship partnerships with Eastern Florida State College (all four campuses!)

ESFC waives shelter participant's application fee, tuition costs, and book costs for participants.

Serene Harbor offers a GED program at no cost to the participants.

Free Intensive English courses are offered by Serene Harbor, as well.



Eastern Florida
STATE COLLEGE

Serene Harbor Empowerment (SHE)

CURRENT:

44 participants are enrolled in college/career advancement courses

12 participants are pursuing their GED.

6 participants are enrolled in Intensive English courses.

Our Community Impact

S.H.E. Mentoring Program

In collaboration with ESFC, they initiate the process and connects them with Women in Higher Education (WiHE) WiHE will match the survivor with a mentor Mentor can provide guidance through career paths, work-life balance, personal hurdles, etc. Each participant will also have a campus advisor.



S.H.E. Employment Program

Job search assistance through a partnership with Career Source Brevard Our participants are prioritized to have them employed in a timely manner. Assistance with writing resumes, mock interviews, and prepare them with business attire clothing and accessories.



Our Community Impact

Serene Harbor administers Rapid Rehousing rental aid, utilities support, and deposits in partnership with the Brevard Housing Coalition (BHC).

Additionally, BHC provides financial support for Emergency Shelter services to assist with some operational expenses.

Through collaboration with our case managers and BHC Housing Specialists, survivors work towards achieving self-sufficiency in a safe, violence-free environment. This collaborative effort ensures that survivors receive comprehensive support as they progress towards their safe housing goals.



Through microgrants with the Embraer Foundation & Collins Aerospace, Serene Harbor provides laptops free of costs to our participants.

This laptop can be used for educational & employment purposes.



Impact of Reduced Funding

We are mandated as a Florida state-certified domestic violence shelter to provide the assistance necessary to families that reach out to us for shelter regardless of our ability to house them. When we are full and cannot offer a shelter bed we provide the family with a safety plan, a referral to a certified sister shelter, and assistance with transportation to that shelter if necessary. We often shelter over capacity, if this is the safest option.

Survivors we were unable to assist last year: 259

If these survivors do not have Serene Harbor, they are staying in a lethal situation. Without funding, *deaths* in Brevard County attributed to DV for parents, children, and pets would be *higher*.

Impact of Reduced Funding

The impacts of reduced funding from United Way (UW) are significant for Serene Harbor, as they directly affect our ability to leverage funds from other grants. With diminished financial support from UW, we face challenges in maximizing the resources available to us through various grant programs.

As a result, our capacity to provide essential services, such as emergency shelter, 24/7 helpline, safety planning and relocation is compromised.

Despite these challenges, Serene Harbor remains committed to working collaboratively with our partners to ensure that survivors receive the comprehensive assistance they need to achieve self-sufficiency in a safe, violence-free environment.



From A Survivor:
"I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the entire team for their unwavering support and compassion. You have made a profound difference in our lives."



Voices

They helped me find daycare for my toddlers, ensuring that they were well taken care of while I focused on getting back on my feet. Additionally, the shelter assisted me in making sure that my children had a memorable and special birthday by providing birthday gifts. This act of kindness meant so much to us during such a challenging time.

I am also incredibly grateful for the assistance I received in securing housing. The shelter provided me with a voucher to fill out for housing, which eventually led to me getting my own place. When the time came for us to move into our new home, Serene Harbor helped us with the transition and even ordered everything we needed for our new apartment. This incredible support allowed me to start my life over and create a safe and stable environment for my children.

I am still actively involved in the outreach program, and I can't thank the shelter enough for the ongoing support and guidance they continue to provide. With their help, I have been able to rebuild my life and create a brighter future for my family.





Shelter Story

Participant (12 yrs) in shelter is autistic. He has not been able to attend school, as his family has been actively fleeing and it was dangerous for him to attend prior school, due to abuser's presence. Today, we were able to transfer him to a safe school with appropriate IEP designation and route the bus system to pick him up and drop him off. When I drove him to school today, he got to tour his new school and was ecstatic about the playground and that he will get to do homework again! He said "It feels like I'm winning."

