

# SAFE, Inc.

Offering survivors of domestic and sexual violence options for safety, empowerment, healing, and hope



## Winter 2011 Newsletter 2010 Annual Report

# 2010 a Busy Year at SAFE

## Key Service Numbers Are Up Over 2009

SAFE increased its service to the community in key areas in 2010.

### Shelter

SAFE's 14-bed shelter was a busy place in 2010. We provided free, safe shelter to 113 clients, an increase of 18% from 2009. Fifty-eight of those clients were children, up 41% from 2009. The shelter is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Shelter supervisors provide advice and support to help victims build a safe future for themselves and their children.

### Counseling

SAFE expanded its outreach to victims in 2010. SAFE provided 57 group therapy sessions last year, an increase of 14% from 2009. SAFE provided

1,906 hours of peer counseling, up 10% over 2009. Lynn Durchman, a licensed professional counselor, provides therapy to help victims and their children heal.

### Advocacy

SAFE stepped up efforts to empower victims in 2010. Victim advocate Rebecca Parker (pictured above) and other SAFE staffers provided 886 incidences of advocacy last year, up a whopping 73% from 2009. Advocates help victims get protective orders, provide support during court hearings and link victims to needed community services.



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### SAFE, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erica Walker,  
Chairperson  
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Weekend Advocate  
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Weekend Advocate  
Ginger Law,  
Weekend Advocate  
Guylene Milam,  
Shelter Manager  
Regina Miller,  
Weekend Advocate  
Tim Murphy,  
Community Educator  
Rebecca Parker,  
Court Advocate and Sexual  
Assault Services Coordinator

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: ABUSE IS NO RESPECTER OF AGE

It's a new year, time to take stock and make predictions on what's to come. Looking ahead, we expect to see continued changes in our client mix. The age distribution of our clients is widening, reflecting an increase in both elder

abuse and teen dating abuse.

Our area's population is aging, driving an increase in domestic elder abuse. The number of SAFE clients over age 60 increased by 37 percent last year, an unfortunate trend we ex-

pect will continue in 2011.

On the other end of the age scale, teens are struggling with the same types of relationship abuse as adults. Intense peer pressure, media influences and

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**NEED HELP? PLEASE CALL 838-SAFE (838-7233) ANYTIME**

# Many Turned to SAFE for Help in 2010

*(Continued from page 1)*

## Community Education

Community education efforts were up 68% in 2010. Last fall, we launched **safewilkes.org**, our new website with extensive content for victims.

## New Choices Program

SAFE's New Choices program provides an array of services to help people successfully transition into gainful employment and self sufficiency. As the local economy struggled in 2010, a surge of local

folks turned to our New Choices Program for help with career and educational issues. New Choices program coordinator Rebekah Gardner *(pictured at right)* served 95 clients last year, a 51% increase over 2009.



Demand for some services declined from 2009. Calls to SAFE's 24-hour crisis line were down almost a third, and the number of sexual assault victims SAFE served at Wilkes Regional Medical Center also declined. SAFE served a total of 738 daytime clients, down from 967 in 2009.

## 2010 BY THE NUMBERS



1,149 nights of safe shelter provided



3,447 meals served



113 shelter clients

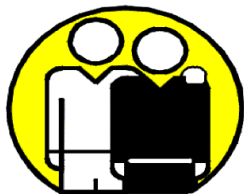
- 55 adults
- 58 children



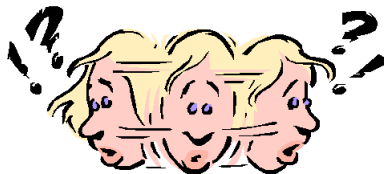
257 domestic violence crisis calls  
29 sexual assault crisis calls

738 daytime clients

- 497 adults
- 241 children



886 incidences of advocacy



673 referrals  
855 information



- 1,906 hours of peer counseling
- 57 Group Therapy sessions
- 81 Children's Therapy sessions
- 27 Children & Domestic Violence Program sessions

# SAFE's 2010 Honor Roll of Giving

*We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of individuals, churches, foundations and businesses who made financial contributions to SAFE, Inc. during 2010.*

## Advocate

*Annual Gifts of \$1,000 and Above*

The Health Foundation, Inc.  
The Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation, Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. William Hurd  
The Kulynych Family Foundation II

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation  
Lutheran Church of the Atonement  
The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation  
Window World

## Patron

*Annual Gifts of \$500-\$999*

Mr. & Mrs. Claude Faw  
McLean Floor Coverings  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Murphy

North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church  
Dr. & Mrs. Brad Shinaman

## Sponsor

*Annual Gifts of \$250-\$499*

Mr. David C. Braswell  
Mr. & Mrs. James Cook  
First United Methodist Church UMW  
Mr. & Mrs. Bart Hayes  
Mr. Julius C. Hubbard



Mr. Robert Johnson  
Mr. Clifford Silvers & Ms. Kristian Thomas  
Dr. Sylvia Smith  
Ms. Mary C. Steele

## Friend

*Annual Gifts of \$100-\$249*

Mr. Jack Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. James Andrews  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Barrett  
Dr. & Mrs. Keith Bentley  
Dr. & Mrs. John Bond  
Ms. Barbara B. Broom  
Ms. Margaret C. Bryant  
Mr. & Mrs. James D. Bumgarner  
Mr. & Mrs. William Clark  
Mr. & Mrs. George Collins  
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Curl  
Ms. Lynn Durchman  
Ms. Margery Edgerton  
Mr. & Mrs. George S. Forester, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Furr  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Goodman  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted M. Hall

Mr. & Mrs. Vaughn Hayes  
Ms. Jenny Hix  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Joines  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Lankford  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe D. Ledbetter, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight E. Pardue, Sr.

*"We make a living  
by what we get. We  
make a life by what  
we give."*

Winston Churchill

Ms. Jodi Province, LPC  
Rep. Shirley Randleman  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Reavis  
Judge & Mrs. J.A. Rousseau, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Skees  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Smithey  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Swofford  
The Strickland Family Foundation  
Wade Faw Shoe Repair  
Mr. & Mrs. William Watts  
Ms. Patricia Welborn  
Mr. Timothy D. Welborn P.A.  
Ms. N. Susan Whittington  
Wilkesboro Fire Department  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Yale

Honor Roll of Giving continued on page 4

# SAFE's 2010 Honor Roll of Giving

*Continued from Page 3*

## Supporter

*Annual Gifts of \$25-\$99*

Ms. Bebe Anderson Hennessy  
Antioch Baptist Church  
Mr. Robert L. Bauguess  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Benfield  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Billings  
Dr. Lynda Black  
Mrs. D.R. Blevins  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris J. Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey D. Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Call  
Mrs. Frances H. Casey  
Circle #1, North Wilkesboro Pres-  
byterian Church  
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Cook  
Ms. Becky Craft  
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Domeck  
Mr. Brent Drum  
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Dudek  
Mr. & Mrs. William Dunn  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Forester

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Foster  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy M. Foster  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Graf  
The Rev. Nelson Granade  
Mrs. Mary Belle Greene  
Ms. Melissa Hamby  
Mr. & Mrs. Josh Harrold  
Mrs. Bettye J. Hicks  
Ms. Kathryn Hix-Boyette  
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Ingle  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Inscore  
Ms. Flossie C. Johnson  
Ms. J. Ashley Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Laws  
Mr. & Mrs. Whit Loflin  
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Lovins  
Mr. & Mrs. David McNeill  
Michael's Jewelry  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Morrison

Mr. & Mrs. David Moulton  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Nenow  
Ms. Elizabeth Payne  
Mr. & Mrs. Hank Perkins  
Ms. Bobbie Phillips  
Mr. James A. Sebastian  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Smith  
Mrs. Gordon Smoak  
Ms. Elizabeth J. Stahl  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Steele  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Stegall  
Mr. Sam Stroud  
Mr. & Mrs. James Swofford  
Mr. & Mrs. James Trice  
Mr. & Mrs. Travis Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. James Welborn  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth P. Welborn  
Ms. Elizabeth B. Whitaker  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim York

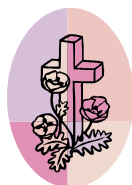
## 2010 Honorary Gifts

In honor of Curt Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. James Welborn  
In honor of Irmi Drum on our 29th wedding  
anniversary  
Mr. Brent Drum  
In honor of Ms. Marion Ellis  
Mr. & Mrs. StanDudek  
In honor of Carol Ernst  
Mr. & Mrs. William Clark  
In honor of Julius C. Hubbard, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Domeck  
In honor of Tim Murphy  
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Laws

In honor of the Rev. Lewis Poag  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Benfield  
In honor of the SAFE staff  
Clifford Silvers & Kristian Thomas  
In honor of Mel Shinaman  
Ms. Kathryn Hix-Boyette  
In honor of Dr. Paige Hall Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted M. Hall  
In honor of Darla Smithey  
Mr. & Mrs. George S. Forester, Jr.  
In honor of the Rev. Steve Snipes  
Ms. Elizabeth J. Stahl

## 2010 Memorial Gifts

In memory of my grandmothers  
Ms. Lynn Durchman  
In memory of Beth Forester  
Mr. & Mrs. George S. Forester, Jr.



In memory of Sen. John A. Garwood  
Mr. Sam Stroud  
In memory of Dottie S. Hubbard  
Mr. Julius C. Hubbard

## Generous Community Puts Shelter Campaign Over the Top

# Shelter Renovations Under Way

SAFE's shelter renovation project is in full swing, thanks to an outpouring of community support.

Installers from Window World recently installed 28 energy efficient vinyl replacement windows at the shelter. Window World donated the windows and installation, a gift valued at about \$10,000.

"We're very appreciative of this wonderful gift from Window World," SAFE executive director Kristian Thomas said. "We'll reap the rewards every time we open our utility bills."

Over the next six months, work will continue at the 14-bed shelter, built as a private home in 1930. Renovations include safety improvements, structural upgrades, and changes to make the shelter more home-like.

The shelter renovation campaign exceeded its goal, Ms. Thomas said, thanks to an outpouring of gifts, big and small.

Other major gifts to the project include:

- \$25,000, restricted to materials, from Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation
- \$5,000 from the Health Foundation, Inc.
- \$5,000 from the Kulynych Family Foundation II
- \$1,000 from the Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation



Window World's Ken Rhodes puts the finishing touches on one of the 28 new windows that were installed at SAFE's shelter recently. The windows were a gift from Window World. Upgrades to the shelter's HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems will start soon, with security enhancements and outdoor improvements to follow in the spring.

Fifty-five individuals and small businesses contributed a total of \$5,480 to the shelter renovation campaign. Their generosity helped the project qualify for \$5,000 in matching funds from the Health Foundation, Inc.

"At a time when there's such economic uncertainty, we've been blown away by the generosity of Wilkes County. We've heard from old friends and made new friends," Ms. Thomas said. "With the success of the campaign, we will

be able to do more to keep the shelter safe, sound and serene for years to come."

## Stalking Is Serious, Sheriff Warns, But There Are Ways to Stay Safe

"Stalking is a serious crime," warns Wilkes County Sheriff Chris Shew, honorary chair of SAFE's Stalking Awareness Month campaign. "Stalking can escalate over time, sometimes with tragic results."



One in five stalkers uses weapons to harm or threaten victims, and stalking is a major risk factor for

homicide of women in abusive relationships.

Intimidating behaviors like stalking, peeping, communicating threats, cyber stalking and telephone harassment are crimes in North Carolina, but many victims suffer in silence.

"Over half of stalking victims don't report it," Sheriff Shew said. "Many of them don't even

know stalking is a crime. We want to make the community more aware of stalking, so we can protect victims and prevent tragedies."

Being stalked? We can help!

- Please call SAFE's trained victim advocate at (336) 838-SAFE (838-7233) any time.
- Check out our stalking safety tips at <http://safewilkes.org/find-help#stalk>.

# SAFE, Inc.

Sheltered Aid to Families in Emergencies

P.O. Box 445  
Johnson J. Hayes Federal Building  
207 W. Main St., Suite G10  
Wilkesboro, NC 28697

Office Phone: (336) 838-9169  
24 Hour Crisis Line: (336) 838-SAFE  
www.safewilkes.org

SAFE is a United Way of Wilkes  
partner agency



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## INSIDE: SAFE 2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: ABUSE IS NO RESPECTER OF AGE

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social technology all play a role in teen dating abuse.

SAFE is changing to reflect our shifting demographics. We're renovating our shel-

ter to improve our accessibility. We're doing more to educate the community about elder abuse. And we're actively targeting middle and high school age teens with "SAFE Dates," our new, research validated teen re-

lationships curriculum.

It's a new year, and SAFE is focused on what's coming.

*Kristi*

Kristian Thomas  
Executive Director

## TWO FUN(D)RAISERS START SOON

SAFE's **Basket Auction** enters its third year.



You'll be delighted at the creativity and flair of our basket creators. Baskets will be on display at the Brushy Mountain Smokehouse in North Wilkesboro March 16<sup>th</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds from the silent auction benefit SAFE. If you'd like to donate a basket, please call us at 838-9169.

And SAFE's **Beard-A-Thon** is back. Men across Wilkes County will shed their shavers and collect donations for SAFE. The Beard-A-Thon begins March 17<sup>th</sup> and ends April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Beard-A-Thon is a fun way for guys to enlist in the fight against domestic violence. If you want to participate, please call us at 838-9169.

