



2010 Annual Report

Mission Statement

We work to end
domestic violence, sexual violence and
stalking; to aid its victims,
and to create a society free
from abuse and fear.

Vision Statement

We are Harford County's lifeline to victims, potential victims, and survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking.

Working within the community, we are the catalyst for the eradication and prevention of violence. We stop the pattern of violence by providing:

A safe haven which offers hope, empowerment, opportunities and tools, for new beginnings.

Comprehensive training to professionals, community education, and prevention initiatives to recognize and reject abusive attitudes and actions.

Additional access to resources through partnership and collaboration with allied community organizations, and leadership and expertise by developing and implementing solutions to issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking.

We do this in a confidential environment of trust, respect, and mutual accountability without regard to race, creed, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or economic circumstances.



From Executive Director, Luisa Caiazzo-Nutter

I am pleased to share with you SARC's 2010 Annual Report which describes our programs and some of the highlights of this past year.

The year began with the implementation of SARC's new strategic plan on July 1, 2009. As a result of hours of planning with the Board of Directors and staff, SARC embraced a new mission statement to reflect the services we had been providing to stalking victims for years. SARC continued to meet this mission through the hard work of our dedicated staff who assisted 2,260 women, children, and men who were victims of violence. In addition, SARC moved to a new Vision Statement which guides us each and every day.

In addition, SARC expanded its current website to include a "Teen Corner" which provides information to both parents and youth on a variety of topics such as cyber bullying and dating violence. SARC embarked on a partnership with the Department of Social Services in Harford County to pilot the first ever use of the Lethality Screening in a non-law enforcement environment. This exciting new initiative utilizes a tool that has already been proven to save lives.

After holding a focus group made up of community members and victims in FY09, SARC has been working with volunteers on the design of a new logo, brochures, and website with the goal of connecting victims more readily to our organization. After all, what good is a brochure if those we serve aren't drawn to pick it up, read it, and make the call? We are proud to display our new logo on the cover of the annual report and look forward to introducing other new materials in FY2011.

The only thing that all victims of violence have in common is that they are victims. Thank you for helping us to spread the word about SARC services, so that no victim need take the journey from victim to survivor alone.



From the President of the Board, Vickie Luther

Each year seems to go by faster and faster...and we've been busy here at SARC. It's been a year of learning and growing for the SARC Board of Directors. I am pleased to say we have nearly a full Board of Directors and all of our members are very hard-working and committed to SARC's mission. It's such a pleasure to work with people who share your same enthusiasm and commitment. And we continue to look for new ways to educate our friends, neighbors, and businesses on SARC's services. I thank all of our Board of Directors for their time, commitment, support, and lending their expertise to keep SARC moving forward.

In addition to the Board of Directors, we also work with SARC's staff and volunteers from time to time, and they always renew our enthusiasm and commitment to SARC. On an ongoing basis, staff come to our Board Meeting and keep us informed of what's happening within their department. We all appreciate their time and keeping us informed on SARC's programs. They help us to understand how the program works and what they may need to improve the program for our clients. They are a great group of people...committed to SARC's mission and growth, so that SARC is able to reach as many people as we can. We are fortunate to have such a committed staff of employees and volunteers at SARC.

And I have to say that it has warmed my heart to see donors continue to support us. Even with the current economic situation, through our donors, foundations and grantors, we are able to keep moving forward and service our clients. We sincerely thank all of our donors, foundations and grantors for their support throughout the year. It truly is a group effort to keep these services in our community and we can't do it without you. You play a very important role in helping someone who may be your neighbor, your friend or a business associate, get the help they need so they too can move forward and improve their lives.

And one final observation...It's a good feeling to be able to help someone who needs help at a time when they may think no one can help them...and then see them gradually become self-assured and a positive role model for their children. I'm grateful we have such a place in Harford County...SARC...and I thank all of you for helping to make that happen.

Board of Directors

Vickie Luther - President
Gemcraft Homes

John Pastalow, III - Treasurer
Ameriprise Financial

Lynda Bryan
Ports America

Mary Kay Fishpaugh
Harford Bank

Gene LaCour
Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union

Eric Martinez
Booz Allen Hamilton

Brenda Morrison
Harford Community College

Joyce Thomas
Harford Mutual

Sandi Linkous - Vice President
Merle Norman Cosmetic & Day Spa Bel Air

Cathy Panos – Secretary
Johns Hopkins Bayview

Marilyn Eben
Re/Max American Dream

Leslie Greenly Smith
Fire & Ice

Andrea Parrish
Baltimore County Public Schools

L. Content McLaughlin
Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP

Jeff Potter
Jeff Potter, CPA

SARC Program Accomplishments

Residential



Our fantastic team of Residential Staff celebrate moving into the shelter's new kitchen thanks to the Homebuilder's Association of Maryland.

Residential Program

In an effort to help survivors prevent homelessness and promote self-sufficiency SARC provides a 28-bed crisis shelter. Research has found that 38% of domestic violence victims became homeless after they separated from their abusive partner.

In FY 2010, **SARC provided 6,357 abuse-free bed nights**, almost double the previous year. After an average stay of 30 nights, 59% of the families exited into safe, permanent, or transitional housing.

A 2008 study titled *Meeting Survivor's Needs* (University of Connecticut) found that, "survivors reported that their shelter experience increased their access to safety (91%), their knowledge of options and choices (91%) as well as community resources (85%)". Importantly, these particular changes have been associated with longer-term improved safety.

In FY 2010, **85%** of SARC client's survey reported increase in knowledge about **ways to plan for their safety**.

SARC Program Accomplishments

Legal

Legal Program

Attorneys represented a total of **132 clients** at 214 court proceedings. Clients were provided with 1428 instances of information and referral throughout the year along with 292 crisis counseling sessions and 350 safety planning sessions during which legal advocates and attorneys assisted clients in specializing their safety plan to their current needs.

In 2010, **89 percent of SARC legal clients** seeking an order received an order. This is compared to a Maryland study found that battered individuals who had an attorney were successful in getting a protective order from the court 83 percent of the time, while only 32 percent of battered individuals without an attorney obtained an order.

Research by economists Amy Farmer and Jill Tiefenthaler indicates that helping domestic violence survivors access legal representation is paramount to helping survivors flee from their abusive partners by obtaining protective orders, custody of their children, child support and public assistance. Legal services programs help the victim achieve physical safety and financial security and thus to leave their abusers.

SARC Program Accomplishments

Clinical & Outreach

Clinical Program

The Clinical Program continues to serve primary and secondary, as well as adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

- 821 Helpline calls answered during the year, providing safety planning, crisis de-escalation, and referrals for services.
- 257 clients were provided 502 crisis intervention sessions, where they were able to learn about establishing a safety plan, formulate a short-term action plan, and receive information and referrals to programs both within the agency and within the county.
- 101 adults were seen for 1,581 individual counseling sessions throughout the year.
- 221 group counseling sessions were held, both at the agency and at the Harford County Detention Center, in which 42 clients participated.
- 40 children were provided 467 individual counseling sessions.
- 68 abusers were attended 991 groups through our Abuser Intervention Program.
- 6,619 referrals provided to clients for services throughout the year.
- 50 adults were served that identified being molested as a child as an issue for which they were seeking out services.

Outreach

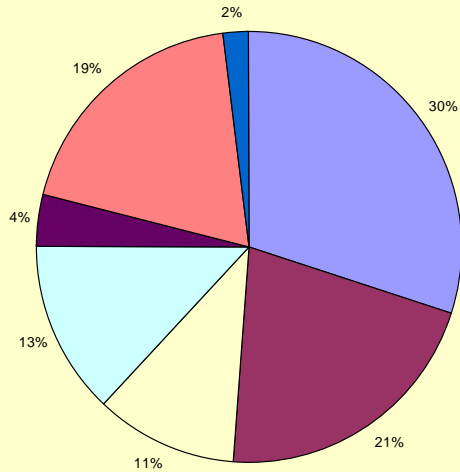
In FY2010, SARC responded to 34 companion calls requesting support for victims at local hospitals.

5,656 Companion hours where volunteers were on-call for up to 24 hours to be notified if there was a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault and responded to offer support, resources, and safety planning.

- Volunteers donated 875.5 hours answering SARC's 24 Hour Helpline
- Over 450 hours volunteering at SARC Fundraising and Awareness Events, SARC's Holiday Project, in the office and at educational fairs and expos in Harford County.
- Outreach provided over 130 Educational Presentations and Training to over 2,900 people in Harford County.
- Outreach held Primary Prevention Workshops at the Harford County Drug Symposium and Harford Community College.
- Over 60 SARC families were adopted and over 100 Thanksgiving and Holiday Meals were provided to SARC families as well.
- Outreach raised \$1966.00 in cell phone recycling collections.

2010 Financial Information

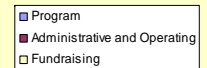
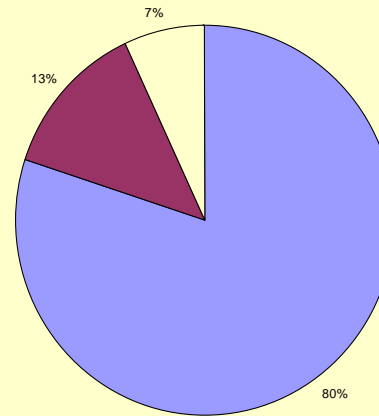
FY 2010 Income-\$1,688,946



These charts were developed using audited FY2010 figures. SARC receives funding from the Department of Human Resources, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, United States Department of Justice, Harford County Government Department of Community Services, Maryland Legal Services Corporation, Administrative Office of the Courts and the United Way of Central Maryland.



FY 2010 Expenses



SARC – A Story of Surviving & Success

Victim's lives are changed forever as a result of violence. Putting a life back together is not easy but it is possible. The following is an example of the work that we do at SARC.

Sandra came to SARC seeking information about Protective Orders. Her husband of 5 1/2 years had just assaulted her. Sandra met with a legal advocate who explained the court process and the relief that could be sought. Sandra was granted her TPO. During an intake, Sandra shared her story. The abuse began when she married Rob at 17. Sandra had been slapped, smothered, choked, and sat on while pregnant.

The most recent assault occurred while Sandra and her four children were trying to move out of the house. Rob threw items at Sandra, pushed her out the door, kned her in her stomach and began hitting Sandra's head into the floor. The police were called and Rob was arrested. SARC agreed to represent Sandra. Photographs were taken of Sandra's injuries and subpoenas for records were issued.

During the course of Sandra's interaction with the legal program, Sandra was provided with referrals to the counseling program for her and one of the parties' minor children. Sandra met with a crisis specialist. Sandra's son was assigned to the children's counselor for counseling services which are ongoing. Sandra was able to stay at SARC's shelter for 3 months. The Judge granted Sandra a FPO for 1 year and ordered Rob not to abuse or contact Sandra. Sandra was granted sole custody and visits were to be supervised. She was also granted Emergency Family Maintenance

To date **Sandra** and her son have received the following services...

23 hours of Individual Counseling . 90 Days of Shelter . 65 referrals given . 26 safety planning sessions . 12 Trips to the Food Pantry . 12 Case Management Sessions (12 hours) . 3 hours of Crisis Counseling (6 sessions) . 6 Court Representations (5 hours) . 2 Court Accompaniments (2 hours) . 15 Helpline Calls (3.5 hours) . 20 Legal Counseling Sessions (14 hours) . 42 instances of Legal Case Preparation (8 hours) .

333 instances of service = 1 life changed forever

www.sarc-maryland.org

SARC – A Letter from a Former Client...



An image from SARC's 'Clothesline Project'.

“I just wanted to take a moment and thank you for everything you have done for me over the past two years.

Although it was a long journey, both of you continued to fight on my behalf every step of the way until I was able to get the protection I needed in order to move on with my life. Both of you taught me a lot about myself. I never realized how strong of a person I really was until my strength was challenged day after day.

The constant reassurance allowed me to stay focused on the current day and allowed me to truly believe that I did not deserve to be treated as I had been in my previous relationship.

This was an extremely difficult time for me and a journey that I will never forget. The legal and counseling services have allowed me to pick up the pieces of my life that were once scattered and move on with my life.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank both of you and the SARC organization for everything.

I only hope that in the future that I will be able to in some way, shape, or form repay your organization for the help. Thank you once again.”

SARC- A Year of Sharing & Success



SARC accepts a check from *TJ Maxx*.



The new lower level, '*Broumel Hall*' opens.



SARC accepts a check from *Verizon Foundation*.



Girl Scouts donate items SARC.

SARC- A Year of Sharing & Success



Congratulations to **Gwendolyn Tate**, Legal Director!! She is the recipient of the Shea Award which was presented to her by the Maryland Bar Foundation at their Annual Meeting in June 2010. The Edward F. Shea, Jr. Professionalism Award was created in 1996 to recognize a young lawyer who demonstrates pride, dedication, and adherence to the highest standards of integrity, civility, and compassion.

I'm sure you'll all agree that Gwendolyn exemplifies all of these qualities and more. We are proud and privileged to have her as part of the SARC team.



Supports of SARC participate in our annual *Vigil*.



SARC- A Year of Sharing & Success



Basket Bingo was a huge success again this year raising over \$7,924 .



Judges pose with the winning baby for Harford's *Most Beautiful Baby Contest*. This new SARC and Harford Family House Event raised over \$3,000.

Walk A Mile In Her Shoes

Walk A Mile In Her Shoes was a true grass roots effort with over 68 walkers, not to mention family, friends and community members that all came to show their support for SARC. Over \$16,000 was raised by participants!



Walkers enjoy the day and raising funds for SARC!



The Jones Junction Team with Honorary Event Chair Billy Boniface.



Dads and Daughters join together to support SARC!

SARC Donors

American Legion Auxiliary Edgewood Unit 17
Annalee Francis
Anthony and Clarissa Lambros
APGFCU
Art Little
Bel Air Athletic Club
Bill & Vickie Luther
Bob Sullivan
Booz Allen Hamilton
Brightview Assisted Living
Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc
Cathy Werner
Chesapeake Professional Women's Network, Inc.
Christ Our King Presbyterian Church
David and Wilma Hooper
Deer Creek Harmony Church
Fallston Presbyterian Church
Flying Geese Quilt Guild
Free State Numismatics, Inc.
Friendly Inn
Frito Lay
Geraldine Muthig
Gessner, Snee, Mahoney and Lutche, P.A.
Grainger
GRC Wireless, Inc.

Gregory and Gene LaCour
Harford Bank
Harford Community College
Harford County Association of Realtors, Inc.
Harford Mutual
Harry Wilkins
Haven Foundation
Heather Blackwell
Highland Presbyterian Church
The Aegis
Irka Zazulak
Jarrettsville United Methodist Church
Jeffrey A. and Luianne M. Potter
Joe and Valerie Twanmoh
John and Anne Herzich
John and Sandra Ferriter
Jones Junction
Josef's Country Inn
Joyce and John Thomas
Loretta Husemann
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Mark and Content McLaughlin
Melani Williams
Nick and Cathy Panos
Nicole Rocca

Philip and Leslie Smith
Raphael Rocca
Renee & Charlie Renshaw
Rick and Mary Kay Fishpaugh
Robert and Cheryl Troska
Sandi Linkous
Sandra Wallis
Saxon's Diamond Centers
Sharon L. Babcock
Stephanie Key
Steve and Pat English
Susquehanna Orthopaedic Associates
Target, Bel Air
The Clorox Company Foundation
The Dresher Foundation, Inc.
The TJX Foundation, Inc.
The Trustees, Churchville Presbyterian Cong. Inc.
The Wachovia Foundation
Thunder Tabernacle Church
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
 Women's Ministry
Verizon Foundation
Victoria's Secret
Wal-Mart Foundation
Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP

SARC - Client Quotes of Hope

Abusers shouldn't be able to do this to the next person / SARC Legal Services] have been very helpful and caring
The FPO made me feel safe / I would go to court again to protect my child and myself / I found [the Legal Services Program to be extremely helpful and comforting / I am just glad the peace order was granted and everything is over-
Now that I have my peace order I feel much safer / The staff were very nice and helpful / Kerri was very helpful and supportive during the whole process / Kurt was great to have in court, he made me feel much more comfortable
Everyone at SARC was wonderful and I really appreciate all of their help / I did not really know how or why I should get a PO, but now I realize it does help and is not difficult to do so / I am really glad some approached me in court; I had no idea this kind of service was available / I know I did all I could for our safety / So very, very kind, courteous, helpful people / Stephanie was such a blessing. She was loving and kind and very professional and helpful / Kerri was very kind and supportive-I was thankful for her support in court / Gwen was also very kind, helpful, and professional. Answered all of my questions and was very supportive / Thank God for such an organization as SARC
This has been a very difficult time in my life but what a blessing and help to have such wonderful people by my side
When I get on my feet again, I (and my parents who were very impressed with SARC) would like to donate / Domestic Violence is a crime- it must be stopped / Your office was professional, kind, understanding and effective / I think the defendant realized I meant business / Everyone was very nice and made the whole experience much smoother / I am beyond grateful for everything SARC has done for me. You helped me much more than you will ever know. Thank you!! / I was very pleased with the entire staff that I came in contact with-I felt safe when I dealt with this organization. Each time I had to be represented by SARC, I felt as though every aspect was clear which sent a message that all dealings between the defendant and myself were by the book and that appropriate actions would be taken if need be
I felt as though I was well aware of each step and all that would take place from beginning to end / The intake process made me feel comfortable and at ease by making me aware of each step / I had no problems being able to speak to anyone in the legal department. If not available I always received a return call / I felt safe and knowledgeable at all times. Any questions that I had were answered promptly and thoroughly / The legal staff were a great help for getting me the help I needed and pointing me in the right direction / Very professional and compassionate / No one deserves abuse / I felt safe. They looked out for me and were on my side / Before I finished my initial paperwork you were there holding my hand and reassuring me / Proficient intake process / Excellent. I am a professional and never thought this would happen to me. It did. They made me feel it happens and that it is not your fault.