SARC
COMING TOGETHER
TO END ABUSE
35th Anniversary
1978-2013
From the Executive Director

In this, SARC’s 35th Anniversary year, I invite you to join with the Board of Directors, employees and volunteers who work so hard every day to bring about an end to domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking; to aid its victims and to create a society free from abuse and fear.

SARC began as an all volunteer organization with a helpline directing survivors of violence to resources. The organization has since grown to serve over 2,000 victims a year with 32 employees and over 50 dedicated volunteers and offering a 24 Hour Helpline, a 28 bed Safehouse, Legal and Counseling Services, a Companion Program and an Educational/Outreach Program.

A woman once told me that she didn’t even feel like a person after the abuse she experienced...that she hesitated outside SARC’s doors because her thought was “I’m not worthy of help.” SARC is bigger than the organization; it is about ensuring that there is always a place to reach out for help...a place where someone will believe you...a place where human dignity, which we are all entitled to, is restored. Every day SARC team members partner with victims of violence in the fight to get back something that was taken from them—HOPE. They are warriors in a fight against the darkness...against the hopelessness. This battle has been fought every day since the organization was founded in 1978...that’s 35 years.

SARC is fortunate to be supported in these efforts by so many: the law enforcement community, State’s Attorney’s Office, and Harford County Government who continue to be integral partners in the work done each day; the generosity of the business community which has helped to keep our costs down... in media promotion, IT support, human resources, and donations of a variety of goods and services. The financial support received from you has been critical to the survival of the organization in a time of increasing government funding cuts. We are grateful to each and every one of you who have rallied around us throughout the years to ensure that the vital lifesaving services SARC provides continue. This short history does not just belong to SARC, it is a story of how each one of us are making the world a better place...starting right here in Harford County! Together we are one step closer to creating a society free from abuse and fear.

Luisa Caiazzo-Nutter

From the President, Board of Directors

The people who have come together over the years to bring SARC along is awe inspiring. It is my hope that this anniversary book will inspire you to volunteer, donate or re-engage with the organization and join the community’s efforts to end domestic violence.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served and continue to serve on the Board of Directors of SARC. SARC’s 35th Anniversary Committee has searched high and low for documents which chronicle the beginnings and the growth of the organization. Unfortunately much has been misplaced over the years as the organization relocated many times. So, please let us know if you are not listed and forgive me if your name has been omitted. We want you to be a part of SARC’s future!

Sandra Linkous

Current Board Members:
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- Regina Burstein (Secretary)
- Jeffrey Potter (Treasurer)
- Maryann Bogarty
- Dr. Deborah Cruise
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- Sandra Wallis
- Jordan Watts
- Diane Weisheit
- Sueann West
**What is Abuse?**

Dating or domestic abuse occurs when one partner uses different types of abusive behavior to gain POWER and CONTROL over the other partner.

Dating or domestic violence is a learned pattern of behavior that can include emotional, mental, verbal, financial, physical, sexual and social abuse.

Abuse can happen to anyone! Both teens and adults experience abuse in their relationships. Dating abuse can happen to anyone, no matter their sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, income level, educational or national background.

It is important for victims/survivors of abuse to find local resources and to have trusted friends or family members who can give them nonjudgmental support. Leaving an abusive relationship can be dangerous, so if you or anyone you know is being abused, please contact SARC to help plan for safety.

If you think you may be in an unhealthy relationship, or are a survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, incest or molestation and would like to speak to someone, please call our 24 hour helpline at 410-836-8430.
From yellowing files in the *Aegis* in 1976 through 1978, the use of the words battered spouses and rape evolved into the name for the group at the forefront of the movement to protect women in Harford County: “Battered Spouse-Rape Crisis Center”. In 1978, Paula F. Valkenburg became the Director of the Crisis Center which was located at the Community Services Building in Aberdeen. The Crisis Center was established through a Maryland State grant of $26,677. At the time of the award, Harford County’s Coalition for Women had transitioned to the Harford County Commission for Women with Diane Warnement as its Director. The funds were used to “hire a director and assistant, establish a 24-hour hotline, offer counseling, and start a preventative education program.” Governor of Maryland Harry Hughes’ Commission for Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice approved the funds. As documented in an October 1979 *Aegis* article: “…a subsequent grant enabled the commission to set up SARC in July 1978.”

The next evolution of the name was within a year of the grant award: The Harford County Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center. It began the 24-hour emergency telephone counseling “with volunteers trained to deal with emergency needs of victims by telephone,” said Ms. Valkenburg. “The counselor will offer follow-up services by the center to each victim. This is our first program to go into effect and will be the most crucial aspect of the Center’s functioning.” The *Aegis* article went on to give the telephone number and hours for each number; call-answering was not available all seven days of the week. “24/7” coverage would come later.

Ms. Selena H. Gaskins, who served on the Board of Directors for the Center, became Administrative Coordinator assisting Ms. Valkenburg. At the same time, the *Aegis* reported in October 1978, Joan Traub (now Philippe) was appointed Administrative Assistant to the Commission for Women. She noted in an article: “The Commission office is a communication center between the women of Harford County and many organizations and agencies.” She hoped the November 1978 Women’s Fair would bring many of these women together. One of her goals was to see a shelter for SARC established.

It would be several years before the residential safehouse would be realized. In about 1980–1981, Patricia Scott, former Board member, was responsible for finding a safe place for victims to come for counseling and referral services—because the county building SARC was then occupying in Aberdeen was to be torn down. SARC offices were moved to a building at Thomas and Bond Streets. Ms. Scott’s company, A Better Answer, fielded calls for SARC for many years until the organization could answer its own dedicated line.

In the 1980’s Eileen Rehrman, a delegate in the state legislature from 1980-1990, fought for legislation to protect victims of assault and rape. Ms. Rehrman recounted that SARC, since its inception, has always been a leader and a pathfinder.

**1978**

Diane Warnement (left) and Paula F. Valkenburg, first director of SARC.

**1981**

SARC receives its tax-exempt status and sets up its first office on Thomas Street in Bel Air to serve as a walk-in Crisis Center.

**1987**

First Safehouse services available through support from Episcopal Social Ministries.

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**Thank You**

JoAnn Macdonald, “What’s Your Story” joannmacd@comcast.net

For conducting interviews and documenting the history of SARC. Those interviewed for the project: Noreen Anderson, L. Jesse Bane, Gloria Barnhart, Stacie Beard, Dorothy Stancill Cernik, Mary F. Chance, Joan H. Hodous, Hazel U. Hopkins, Shirley Klein, Marlene Lieb, Joan Traub Philippe, Eileen Rehrmann, Patricia Scott, Judi Walkley; SARC Staff: Luisa Caiazzo-Nutter, Amber Guthrie, Sandra Linkous, Kelsey Luchey, Stephanie McAtee, Ian Stump and Gwendolyn Tate.

The SARC 35th Anniversary Committee: Standing left to right: Hazel Hopkins, Kathy Casey and JoAnn Macdonald. Seated left to right: Joan Hodous, Marlene Lieb, Judi Walkley and Kelsey Luchey.
Fulfilling the Mission

In response to the growing needs of the community, SARC announced a three-phase capital campaign in 1995 to expand services and consolidate operations. Phase I included the opening of a permanent emergency shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Thanks to funding from the State of Maryland and private support from citizens of Harford County, a 28-bed, confidentially-located safehouse opened in 1996.

As Harford County grew, other services were identified that SARC could provide free of charge to the community, such as the Community Outreach Program, which provides professional training, presentations, and community education on domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking as well as volunteer training; SARC’s Legal Program, which provides free legal representation, information, advocacy, and court accompaniment to victims. These two programs were expanded in 1996 to the services that exist today.

After moving several times, Phase II was completed in 1999, and brought SARC’s administration, crisis intervention services, legal services, and community outreach and development—all but clinical services—under one roof. In recognition of the importance of SARC services to the community, in November 2005 SARC received title to the historic Methodist Church on Main Street in Bel Air courtesy of Harford County Government. Phase III concluded in July 2008 with the renovation of the building’s lower level completing relocation of SARC’s core operations into one central location and allowing for easy access of services to victims as well as a cost savings to the agency which no longer had to rent space. This space was named “Broumel Hall,” in memory of Tom Broumel, who together with Police Explorer Post #9010 started Bel Air’s first youth center years ago in this same building.

“Through SARC I found my voice again and was given back peace and strength.” – Former client

FY 2013 Income

- Federal 32%
- State 25%
- Fundraising 19%
- Local 8%
- In-kind 8%
- United Way 6%
- Program Fees 2%

FY 2013 Expenses

- Programs 78%
- Administration 11%
- Fundraising 11%

These charts were developed using unaudited FY 2013 figures based upon a budget of $1,555,600. SARC receives funding from the Governor’s Office on Crime Control and Prevention, United Way of Central Maryland, Maryland Legal Services Corporation, Administrative Office of the Courts and Harford County Government—Department of Community Services. Thank you to the many community members, foundations and businesses that support SARC’s mission every year! Visit our website at www.sarc-maryland.org to learn more about our community partners.
Since it was founded, SARC has been at the forefront of systemic change in the community. Harford was one of the originating counties to participate in the pilot project for the First Responders Lethality Screen when, in 2004, SARC, the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, and the Harford County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) collaborated on the creation of the Lethality Project. The pilot was an overwhelming success and is now a permanent program in Harford County and a best practice which is being modeled elsewhere throughout the country.

In keeping with the national movement toward the development and establishment of comprehensive domestic violence victim service and support centers, and as an outgrowth of the Harford County Jurisdictional Plan, a new collaborative project called the Harford County Family Justice Center (FJC) opened for business on June 1, 2006. The Domestic Violence Units of the State’s Attorney Office, the HCSO, SARC Crisis Consultant, SARC Legal Advocate, and SARC Attorney formed a team in one central location. In this center, their efforts are combined toward their common goal of holding offenders accountable and helping victims escape the patterns of power and control perpetrated by their abusers.

Continuing to implement best practices throughout the organization is a top priority. A Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team was organized in 2009 as a method to engage a multidisciplinary team of community agencies to review domestic violence related homicides, explore potential gaps in services, and make recommendations for future policy changes. In 2010, SARC, in collaboration with the Upper Chesapeake Health System, initiated a Harford County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). This is a multidisciplinary interorganization team of individuals working collaboratively to provide services for the community by offering specialized sexual assault intervention services. In 2011, SARC transformed its 28-bed safehouse through the implementation of the best practice model, Trauma Informed Care. This model explains that, “often women find that caring individuals and a safe environment yield the greatest benefit. It is not so much what people do to help, but how they do it.” SARC is increasing positive outcomes for clients by offering services that are trauma informed. In that same year, the counseling program implemented the best practice approach of Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Also in 2011, working with the District Court Administrative Judge, SARC was able to establish an office within the District Court of Maryland. Being the best at what we do not only enhances services to clients but also builds confidence in those that invest in the organization. Systems are now in place to measure the effectiveness of the entire agency and the leadership team is constantly seeking to improve and evolve.

“Through SARC I became the person I was always supposed to be.”

- Former client
Below are ways you can help support SARC to create a society free of abuse and fear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Points to Consider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct Donation</td>
<td>Cash or property donated to a public charity or community foundation.</td>
<td>• Immediate benefit to charity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• No associated costs of set up</td>
<td>• Donor needs to research and choose specific charities to benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Current income tax deduction normally allowed*</td>
<td>• Deduction is subject to Adjusted Gross Income restrictions*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May receive income from gift</td>
<td>• Donor receives no income from gift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor-advised Fund</td>
<td>Public charity pools donations with other donors’ gifts and invests them; fund makes grants to charitable recipients upon recommendation of donor.</td>
<td>• Contributions usually fully deductible in current year*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Flexible giving in future years</td>
<td>• Deduction is subject to Adjusted Gross Income tax restrictions*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Can give anonymously</td>
<td>• The fund’s trustees have final authority over grants</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Consolidated charitable giving</td>
<td>• May be less flexible than a trust or private foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Can establish legacy with successors to direct grants from account</td>
<td>• Donor receives no income from gift</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Relatively simple to establish</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Charitable Bequest</td>
<td>Instructions in a will or creation of a beneficiary designation for an asset or insurance policy can provide a gift to charity upon the donor’s death.</td>
<td>• Revocable or changeable prior to death</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Gives donors access to assets until death</td>
<td>• No immediate tax benefit*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• May give anonymously</td>
<td>• The bequest must be paid from the estate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May provide tax deduction for the estate</td>
<td>• Probate may add costs, delays and complexities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Foundation</td>
<td>A private, nonprofit grant making organization that receives most of its funding from one source, usually an individual of family. 5% of assets must be distributed each year.</td>
<td>• Is a customized plan for the person or family establishing it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Foundation has full control over the distributions to charities</td>
<td>• Cannot give anonymously</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May identify a competent trustee</td>
<td>• Full liability for IRS filing and compliance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Income to income recipient is generally taxable according to the complex 4-tier accounting system*</td>
<td>• Tax treatment is complex</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Donor receives no income from gifts</td>
<td>• Setup and maintenance costs may be substantial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Strict operating rules</td>
<td>• More complex to establish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charitable Remainder Trust</td>
<td>An irrevocable trust that provides payments to income recipient(s) during the term of the trust and the remainder to charity at the end of the trust term. May be Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) or Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT).</td>
<td>• A portion of contribution may be deductible any year a gift is made*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Income for the donor or other non-charitable recipient</td>
<td>• Deduction is subject to Adjusted Gross Income restrictions*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The charity receives remaining assets when trust ends</td>
<td>• Income to income recipient is generally taxable according to the complex 4-tier accounting system*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Can be for lifetime or for term of years not to exceed 20 years</td>
<td>• Must identify a competent trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Additional gift to trust may be allowed for CRUT</td>
<td>• CRATS cannot accept additional donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Donor receives no income from gifts</td>
<td>• More complex to establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Gift Annuity</td>
<td>In exchange for gifted assets, a charity guarantees to pay a specified life income payment to beneficiary. The charity receives the remainder at death of the beneficiary.</td>
<td>• Fixed annual income for life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Part of the income may be a tax-free return of principal*</td>
<td>• Charity liable for the annuity; if the charity has financial difficulties, the income beneficiary might not receive income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The charity receives remaining assets at donor’s death</td>
<td>• Deduction is subject to Adjusted Gross Income restrictions*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A portion of contribution may be deductible in year of the gift*</td>
<td>• Transfer of long-term appreciated assets may give rise to tax liability to donor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pooled Income Fund</td>
<td>Allows irrevocable gifts from donors to be commingled for investment purposes. Income beneficiary receives a prorated share of the net income earned by fund each year.</td>
<td>• A portion of contribution may be deductible in year of the gift*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Income for the donor or other non-charitable beneficiary</td>
<td>• Deduction is subject to Adjusted Gross Income restrictions*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Relatively simple to establish</td>
<td>• Income is variable and taxable as ordinary income*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May provide gift, estate and generation-skipping tax advantages</td>
<td>• Less flexible than a trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Lead Trust</td>
<td>An irrevocable trust that provides payments to charity during the term of the trust and the remainder to non-charitable beneficiaries at the end of the term.</td>
<td>• Assets may be passed on to heirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Generates income for charity during donor’s lifetime or over a specified number of years</td>
<td>• Tax treatment is complex*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May provide gift, estate and generation-skipping tax advantages</td>
<td>• More complex to establish and fees are generally higher than some alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Must identify a competent trustee</td>
<td>• Must identify a competent trustee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please consult with your legal and tax advisors on which strategy is most beneficial to you.

For more information please contact the Development Director at SARC at 410-836-8431 or development@sarc-maryland.org.
SARC provides hope and resources to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, and stalking.

www.sarc-maryland.org
P.O. Box 1207  Bel Air, MD 21014
410-836-8431

SARC
Coming Together to End Abuse