

In 1971, a woman victimized by domestic violence had little in the way of legal support, community advocacy, or a safe place to go.

Something had to be done...

Hope started in a garage

The History of Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence is Rich

In **1971**, Bea Robinson, a Latina community activist concerned about the domestic violence she observed in the homes of her neighbors and friends, joined together with other like-minded activists and started a hotline to provide support and information to women in crisis. The need was so overwhelming she opened an office in a garage for women's safety needs.

Within three years, the service was incorporated as The Women's Alliance (WOMA), a private, non-profit organization. In the same year, the shelter opened to provide safe emergency refuge. It is the second oldest shelter program in the state. It was one of the first shelter programs offering bilingual English/Spanish services in the nation.

In **1989**, WOMA changed its name to Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence (NDS), and in **1994** acquired a new building, relocating the shelter to a new home.

Since opening in 1971, NDS has provided shelter to more than 10,000 women and children.

In **1998**, NDS formed a collaboration with LifeMoves, Charities Housing, four additional domestic violence service providers, and local government agencies to launch the development of *HomeSafe Santa Clara*—a housing community for victims of domestic violence and their children.

In **2001** the first families moved into the 24 HomeSafe Santa Clara units and in **2002** the collaborative broke ground on HomeSafe San Jose.

By **2002** NDS had increased its suite of services, expanding to five locations.

In **2003**, NDS merged with one of the HomeSafe partners, Women and Their Children's Housing (WATCH). NDS remains a partner providing transitional support services to HomeSafe residents.



Bea Robinson Mendez
NDS Co-Founder

In **2009**, NDS developed a theory of change outlining a vision that encompassed greater intervention, prevention, and elimination of domestic violence, resulting in an increase of NDS' ability to reach more community members impacted by domestic violence through collaborations with other service providers and local municipalities.

TODAY, Next Door Solutions programs and services are built upon the Woman-Defined Advocacy model, a pragmatic

approach to working with battered women where the woman ultimately defines the advocacy and help she needs, building upon her perspectives, strengths, and goals.

NDS' employs a comprehensive approach in all its work for identifying barriers to the client's safety, stability and self-reliance based on the Eight Domains of Self-Sufficiency framework: Income, Housing, Food, Employment, Education, Healthcare, Wellness, and Domestic Violence. The safety of the client, and any children, is always the first objective.

45 Years OF



A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement that I look back on the many accomplishments of Next Door Solutions over the last year, and it is with even greater excitement that I look forward to the future.

In 2016, Next Door Solutions celebrated its 45th anniversary. In the last year alone, NDS responded to more than 15,000 calls to its Hotline and provided nearly 3,000 clients with supportive services. We could not be more proud to be such a robust and stable source of assistance as we help people move out of domestic violence and into their futures.

I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to say another farewell and thank you to Kathleen Krenek, our amazing executive director who retired last summer. We are well underway in the process of finding a new leader and we look forward to making that introduction to the community—and we want to express, again, our sincerest and heart-felt gratitude to Kathleen for her fifteen years of dedication, leadership, and service to our community.

And of course, I want to express my gratitude as well, for all of the amazing Next Door Solutions staff and supporters—we couldn't do it without you!

Thank you,

Melissa Hollatz
Board Chair



1971

Bea Robinson and other activists establish a safe space for women in a garage.



1974

Group incorporates as WOMA.

1977

In California, the *Domestic Violence Center Act* passes which marked the beginning of safe houses for battered women at the local level with funds from marriage license fees.



1985

Bea Robinson leaves WOMA.

SAFETY, SHELTER, AND S

WHAT WE DO A COMPREHENSIVE SUITE OF PROGRAMS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



24/7 Emergency Hotline

Trained bilingual English-Spanish Advocates provide a vital portal to all NDS or community partner services. Hotline Advocates provide crisis and options counseling; risk, lethality, and housing assessments; and referrals and vital information to assist survivors in making informed decisions around their safety.



Risk Assessments and Safety Plan

All NDS clients receive a lethality Risk Assessment that helps the client understand life-generated risks and batterer-generated risks — identifying the client's particular needs. The information is used to develop a realistic Safety Plan — and contain simple but critical steps the survivor can take to increase their, and any children's, safety while they deal with the violence they face in their personal life. All NDS program staff are trained and certified Domestic Violence Peer Counselors.



24/7 Crisis Shelter

The Shelter Next Door, with 19 beds, is open 365 days a year. NDS accepts survivors and their children and assists them in maintaining safety and family unity. The Shelter provides Safety Planning; options counseling; holistic case management that helps clients address the myriad of physical and emotional impacts of DV; risk and housing assessments; transportation; meals; transition planning for children; and vital, safe, temporary housing.



Walk-in Crisis Counseling

Crisis & Community Support Advocates and clients work together to complete Risk Assessments and develop Safety Plans. The Advocates coordinate emergency services, and refer clients to other NDS programs and community partners to address housing, health, hunger, legal assistance, and other needs. NDS keeps a pantry at the Community Office that provides clients free access to personal hygiene products, diapers and formula, and other needed items.



Legal Advocacy

Bilingual Crisis & Community Support Advocates provide assistance with completing and filing restraining orders, information on the legal system and family court, and make referrals to the NDS Consulting Attorney or to community partners that provide free or low-cost legal assistance.



HomeSafe

Through a community partnership, NDS provides Self-Sufficiency transitional support services and Kids Club services to residents at HomeSafe housing communities in Santa Clara and San Jose for victims of domestic violence and their children. NDS also provides a computer lab at each site and coordinates workshops by community volunteers for both adult and youth residents. HomeSafe is a collaboration with LifeMoves and Charities Housing.



Housing Assistance

Bilingual English-Spanish Advocates coordinate services that address hunger, homelessness, health, and other life domains; and helping clients rebuild their lives. Using the Intensive Self-Sufficiency Case Management model using the Eight Domains of Self-Sufficiency, the Advocate and client identify immediate and long-term housing needs and goals.

1989

WOMA becomes Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence (NDS).

1998

NDS collaborates with community partners to launch HomeSafe Santa Clara.



2001

Kathleen Krenek appointed as NDS Executive Director. First families move into HomeSafe Santa Clara.



2002

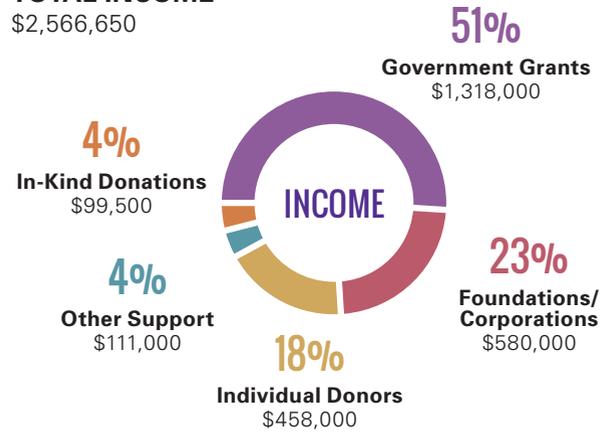
NDS and partners break ground for HomeSafe San Jose.

SUPPORT

FINANCIALS FY2015-16

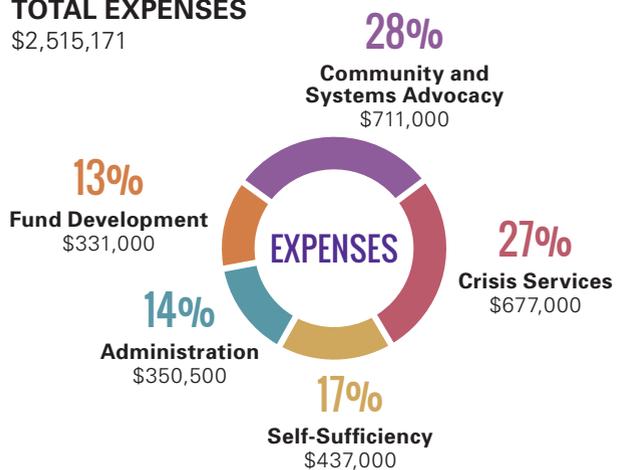
TOTAL INCOME

\$2,566,650

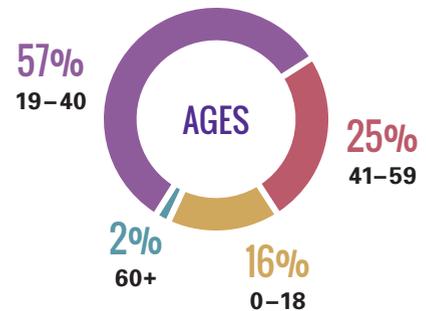


TOTAL EXPENSES

\$2,515,171



DEMOGRAPHICS FY2015-16



Support Groups

NDS addresses the physical and emotional needs of DV survivors through customized, peer support groups facilitated by trained facilitators. Groups are provided in English and Spanish, and include evening and mid-day groups, a Quilting Group, a Male Survivor Group, and a Self-Sufficiency Group. Support Groups are conducted at NDS' Community Office and in Mountain View, Los Gatos, and at the County's Women's Correctional Facility in Milpitas.



Children's Programs

For clients participating in Support Groups and workshops, NDS offers Kids Club — positive play for youth. Children and mothers staying at the Shelter Next Door work with the Children's Advocate to develop a Transition Plan to assist them in addressing crisis, trauma, and other issues and to make the transition to the Shelter and then on to their next home.



Self-Sufficiency Program (SSP)

SSP takes a long-term approach, 12-24 months, to help survivors gain or regain their financial footing during and after abuse. SSP uses Intensive Case Management built upon the Eight Domains of Self-Sufficiency framework, that assists the client in identifying barriers to self-sufficiency and then working with the Advocate to incrementally address those barriers. Clients have access to workshops and a Support Group, and computer labs at the Community Office and HomeSafe sites. NDS also provides mobile advocacy, meeting with a client at local CalWORKS offices or at any safe location.

2003

NDS merges with HomeSafe partner, WATCH.

2011

Open Self-Sufficiency Program.

2015

Second annual Light Up The Night.





Thank you!

Hope continues to thrive.

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Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence's mission is to *end domestic violence in the moment and for all time*—by creating paths for survivors to achieve safety, stability, and self-sufficiency.

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