

bloom

STORIES FOR PEOPLE
WHO SUPPORT SURVIVORS

FALL 2023





I learned about **healthy relationships**, how to set boundaries, and knowing what red flags look like. And understanding once you see that red flag, you can't change the color of it. It's never going to go away.

Shelby's story

"Once you see that red flag,
you can't change the color of it."

He was in recovery and was already one year sober when I met him. We were doing great. Then he slipped up and that's when I saw his worst demons.

When he put his hands on me the first time, and my children were standing there, I just couldn't do it.

I watched my mom go through it with her second husband and I didn't ever want my kids to have those memories of watching their mom be hurt by someone who supposedly loves them.

I went to my friend's house and looked up shelters. That's when I came across GreenHouse17. They immediately got a room for me. I was there for six months about five years ago.

At first it was really scary. I'm a single mom with two children. The women across the hall were open-armed and welcoming and so were the staff. It was nice because the transition was hard.

I started going to the groups as much as I could. I learned about

self-care and how important that is. Meditation classes helped relieve so much anxiety.

I utilized everything I could. I started a car savings account. I heard about transitional housing and asked how to apply. It took me some time because I didn't have my birth certificate.

I finally got the news it was moving day. It was right before the big [shelter] remodel, so I asked if I could have the dresser from my room. I still have it in my new apartment.

They gave me a basket with household supplies and a gift card to ReStore where I found a couch. My church furnished the rest of my apartment.

"It's ok to ask for help"

It's ok to ask for help because you never know where it's going to get you. If I hadn't asked for help, if I hadn't reached out to GreenHouse17, I wouldn't be where I am today. I can say they saved my life.

This is only part of Shelby's story, in her own words, shared with her permission.



Both laws became effective on June 29. Search “Safe at Home” from the Ky.gov website for the application. If you discover someone has placed a tracking device on or in your vehicle, contact the police and do not remove the device until an officer arrives.

NEW KENTUCKY LAWS

Protecting Survivors

State lawmakers passed two bills during the 2023 legislative session to improve protections for survivors of intimate partner abuse.

Safe at Home

The Safe at Home Act, sponsored by Senator Julie Raque Adams, will improve safety and confidentiality for Kentucky survivors of intimate partner abuse.

This new law allows program participants to mask their address on most publicly available government records, including voter registration rolls.

Participants can use the address of the Secretary of State, instead of their own, on public documents. Mail received by the office will be forwarded to the confidential address.

Although a court order is not required to participate, application to participate requires a sworn statement of victimization.

Location Tracking

Location tracking devices make our lives safer, but abusers often exploit the technology to maintain power and control over victims.

A new Kentucky law, sponsored by Senator Rick Girdler, cracks down on misuse.

Use of tracking devices on motor vehicles without consent of the vehicle owner or lessee is now a Class A misdemeanor in Kentucky. The law specifically prohibits the use of tracking devices by a restrained party under domestic violence or interpersonal protective order.

Those convicted of violating the law can face up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$500.



FIND
your
FIRE
WITHIN

END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Find your fire within to support survivors and call for an end to the abuse.

◆ **SPARK POSSIBILITY**

Create a network of support for survivors through partnerships between individuals, nonprofits, businesses, professionals, and faith places in the community.

◆ **IGNITE CHANGE**

Challenge misinformation and bad information. Speak up when friends, family, and colleagues blame survivors.

◆ **KINDLE HEALING**

Through empathy and compassion, we can help survivors rebuild their lives and rediscover their strength.

◆ **EXTINGUISH BARRIERS**

Poverty, lack of housing, below living-wage jobs, sexism, racism, ableism—we can't end domestic violence without addressing these and other intersections.

◆ **Featured Events**

SATURDAY, OCT 14

Register for the 30-minute ride at **CYCLEBAR** in Patchen Square to benefit services for survivors.

THURSDAY, OCT 19

Purple Thursday! Wear purple to raise awareness and show your support for survivors. Tag us in your pic on social media!

SATURDAY, OCT 21

Local band Canvas and the Cellar Bar & Grille at Lansdowne host **Rock Relief for Domestic Violence**. Enjoy an amazing lineup of several local bands with the donation of an item from the concert's wish list.

◆ Visit our website for the calendar of many more events and happenings across central Kentucky during the month: **GreenHouse17.org**





Merry's story

"I married my first boyfriend. We were 19 when we met."

"Our whole marriage was gaslighting and neglect—things I blamed myself for."

The abuse escalated. He began throwing things at her, tried to hit her, and was talking about buying a gun.

"I had looked at your website so many times over the last few years and wondered, 'is what I'm going through abuse?'"

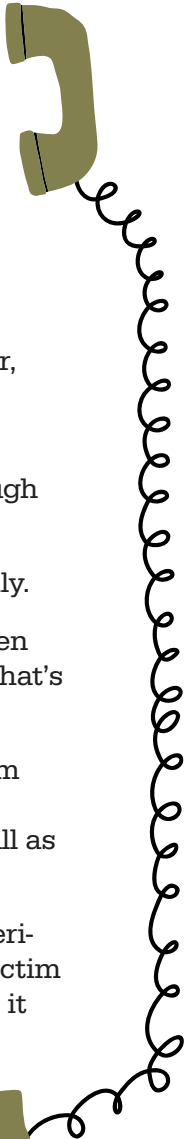
Merry's husband wanted her to cut ties with her family.

"My dad called. He told me my youngest sister had been driving past my house to see if I was okay. I thought that's just a reality I can't accept."

Merry went to stay at her parent's house, and her mom encouraged her to call our hotline. She describes the conversation with the advocate who answered her call as a pivotal moment in her life.

"It was the first time I really admitted what I was experiencing was abusive. The call made me realize I'm a victim of what's happening to me, and I don't have to accept it anymore."

This is only part of Merry's story, in her own words, shared with permission.




Certified Domestic Violence Advocates are available 24/7 to take your call at **800-544-2022**, and you can find resources on our website at GreenHouse17.org



COMMUNITY CARE


nurturing lines



Although the work to end intimate partner abuse always will be difficult,  safer tomorrows are possible in a community that cares about survivors.

The second annual HollerGirl, a female-forward music festival in Livingston, was an inspiring weekend! We're grateful to be the event's charitable partner.



Friends from the Fayette County Master Gardener's Association toured the farm and shelter. 




Dozens of teens from the Church of Latter Day Saints braved the heat to paint our very long fence in record time!

Volunteers from Gray Solutions helped tend to the summer weeds and brush on the property.



Many thanks to our friends from the Redeemed Christian Church of God for supporting survivors at our shelter.

We are honored to be one of the ten recipients of the Good Neighbors Grant from Bluegrass Realtors. 

Do you have a great idea to support survivors?

Let's chat! Reach out to Reena at 859.519.1911 or rmartin@greenhouse17.org.



july-june ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY



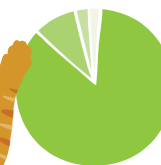
SURVIVORS

■ Adults	3,166
■ Children & Youth	1,150
■ Anonymous Crisis Calls	2,152



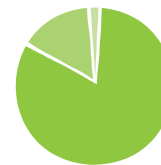
SERVICES

■ Safety & Emotional Support	33,283
■ Shelter & Housing (bednights)	27,648
■ Legal & Other Advocacy	10,747
■ Information & Referral	4,607



REVENUE

■ Grants	\$3,004,664
■ Donations	\$409,706
■ Farm Sales	\$62,458
■ Interest & Misc	\$13,041



EXPENSES

■ Programs & Services	\$2,857,703
■ Administration	\$540,708
■ Farm Operation	\$35,119

Services reflect the fiscal year ending June 2023. Financials reflect most recent audit. **Visit our website for more details.**



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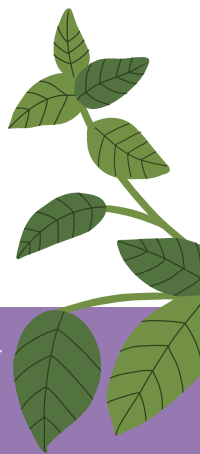
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Handmade by Survivors products make lovely holiday gifts for friends, family, and colleagues. Shop anytime at GreenHouse17.org.



GreenHouse17

Nurturing lives

harmed by intimate partner abuse.



800.544.2022
24-HOUR CRISIS HOTLINE



For questions and more information about this publication, call 859.519.1904 or email contact@greenhouse17.org

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