

Annual Report 2018



Stop Abuse Today, Inc
27 Sturbridge Rd
Holland, MA 01521

Foreword:

Stop Abuse Today, Inc is a 501 c 3 nonprofit whose purpose is to support abuse victims and their families. Our primary objective is to provide education, awareness, outreach and support concerning domestic abuse, elder abuse and bullying among our youth. The group strives to develop partnerships with our school systems and our public safety officials, as well as other community groups and local and state government leaders.

In 2001, the Towns of Brimfield, Holland & Wales joined forces with the Tri-Town Domestic Violence Task Force which was created after Wales resident, Sheryl Crane, was murdered by her estranged husband. Over the years, the Task Force worked to support abuse survivors and to raise awareness in our communities on how to break the cycle of violence. On November 3rd, 2017, at a meeting of the original Trustees, the Task Force was designated as the charter member of Stop Abuse Today, Inc.

At its inception we formed an Executive Governance Committee of Officers to oversee the organization. The group established a regulations document which includes articles of organization, bylaws, and formal meeting rules. On January 4th, 2018, the Internal Revenue Service officially determined Stop Abuse Today, Inc as a tax exempt organization.

We are very excited about what the future holds and we continue to seek participation from the public and our municipal leaders. We firmly believe that we must all work together to promote healthy relationships to help prevent the abuse that afflicts our communities, including our families, senior citizens, and today’s youth.

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Executive Committee Chair Report:

Greetings,

It is a great privilege to author this report and I am honored to have been chosen to be the first Chair of the Stop Abuse Today, Inc Executive Committee. I am proud to have been given the opportunity to work with a group of individuals who are so passionate about supporting abuse survivors. The time that each and every volunteer spends on the cause is truly inspirational.

Focusing on elder abuse and bullying in addition to domestic abuse makes our group unique. Our members and partners have the ability and expertise to focus on different aspects of the education, prevention and support process, ranging from those who can provide support in the areas of counsel and recovery, to those who can provide support in matters related to the criminal and legal procedure. Working together as a cohesive group of people from varying backgrounds allows us to contribute to the cause from different perspectives, which in turn allows us the ability to provide a more comprehensive service overall.

In the past year and a half we have built upon the foundation that the Tri-Town Domestic Violence Task Force provided us by becoming self sufficient in all areas of the operation. Our organization is made up of many moving parts and we have an obligation to make certain that we have the most proficient process in place so that we can provide the most effective service possible. While sometimes it will take creative ideas to overcome the challenges that we are sure to face, working within a controlled and ordered system will allow us to produce a truly professional organization.

In December of 2018 we officially implemented individual Task Forces to work independently of one another within Stop Abuse Today, Inc. This will allow us to coordinate our assets and integrate personnel, priorities and protocols in an efficient manner. Having individual groups of people focus on one subject then bring their ideas to the Executive Committee will allow us to successfully organize plans with a consistent and equitable approach and allow us to generate a productive and well organized operating system. In the coming weeks and months we will be looking for people to join us in the capacity of Task Force members and we have already designated individuals to oversee the groups.

In December we also officially launched Project BREAK which is an initiative to provide the public with education and awareness that focuses on building healthy relationships in order to prevent abuse. This program involves creating printed materials that we distribute to the public and our partners and the acronym stands for [**B**uilding **R**elationships through **E**ducation **A**wareness & **K**nowledge].

Executive Committee Chair Report:

2018 was a very successful year for the organization. In addition to establishing our foundation we were very active in the areas of education, awareness and fundraising. On June 15th, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, Stop Abuse Today, Inc partnered with the Holland Police Department to host an Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Seminar that was held at the Holland Community Center. The purpose of this seminar was to raise awareness about elder abuse and to provide prevention recommendations which included topics regarding caretaker neglect and financial exploitation.

On September 22nd the group partnered with the Southbridge Eagles to host a motorcycle ride to end violence and abuse which raised over \$700.00. On October 6th the group again partnered with the Holland Police Department to host a 5K Walk & Run which raised more than \$3,000.00. Team Hoyt also partnered with us for this event and Executive Committee member Deborah Williams was our Race Director.

The group hosted and participated in several other events this past year to include a walk against domestic violence which was held in Brimfield on October 14th and a vigil to remember those who lost their lives to domestic abuse which was held in Brookfield.

We were also the proud recipient of the proceeds from the Justice 4 Janet Fundraiser. The fundraiser was held in the memory of Janet MacDonald Kastberg who was murdered in Holland on June 29th, 2018. Her husband was arrested the same day and subsequently charged with the murder. These funds will be utilized for domestic abuse victim and survivor support, as well as education and awareness.

Our organization does not receive direct funding from municipal or government agencies so we are reliant on donations and grants in order to operate. I would like to personally thank all those who have donated over the past year and a half and would like to ensure you that your donation will be utilized to provide support for the greatest amount of people possible.

Respectfully,



Bryan C. Haughey
Executive Committee Chair

Treasurer Report:

Submitted by: Jennifer Mott- Treasurer

2018	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	TOTALS
Income	\$14,592.15	\$143.95	\$1,234.71	\$1,714.97	\$6,778.69	\$3,651.83	\$28,116.30
Expense	\$(2,977.49)	\$(249.45)	\$(1,013.62)	\$(2,515.03)	\$(1,869.57)		\$(8,625.16)
	\$11,614.66	\$(105.50)	\$221.09	\$(800.06)	\$4,909.12	\$3,651.83	\$19,491.14
						<u>Balance: As of 11/17/18</u>	\$19,756.14
Outstanding: As of 11/19/18	#121		\$(155.25)	Last Mile			
	#120		\$(150.00)	Commonwealth of MA- Registration Fee			
						<u>Actual Balance</u>	\$19,450.89
						<u>Re-calculated balance: As of 12/18/18</u>	\$18,990.89

Payment distribution to Coordinator: 06/01/18 - 11/01/18 \$5,253.56

1.	\$100.00	#103	Supplies/ PO Box
2.	\$700.20	#101	"Time and Miles- May"
3.	\$358.24	#104	reimbursement
4.	\$127.05	#106	mileage
5.	\$840.00	#105	Pay
6.	\$800.00	#107	Pay
7.	\$99.00	#108	mileage
8.	\$800.00	#110	Pay
9.	\$144.28	#109	mileage/supplies
10.	\$300.00	#112	Costco supplies
11.	\$74.79	#116	reimbursement
12.	\$910.00	#115	Pay

Finance Committee Report:

In October, the Executive Committee voted to establish a standing Finance subcommittee to assist in the financial matters of the organization. The Finance Committee consists of 5 members which includes the Treasurer who was designated as the Committee Chair.

The committee is responsible for providing the Executive Committee with fiscal procedure recommendations as well as operating and capital budget recommendations for each fiscal year. The committee is also responsible for researching and establishing grants on behalf of the organization.

The committee created and presented a Finance Policy which was implemented by the Executive Committee on December 7th. The primary objective of the Finance Policy is to fulfill the organization's mission in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner. The policy includes provisions for cash management, conflicts of interest and for the protection of personal information.

Transparency is paramount and the organization must have safeguards in place to remain accountable to our clients, partners, funders, and volunteers, as well as the communities that we serve.

The Finance Committee held 3 meetings in 2018 and we thank Jennifer Mott, Sarah Zafiris, Janet Zafiris, Bryan Haughey and Deborah Williams for their hard work in creating our Finance Policy.

Membership:

Executive Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Bryan Haughey	Chair	11/2017 - Current
Jennifer Mott	Treasurer	09/2018 - Current
Sarah Zafiris	Secretary	11/2017 - Current
Janet Zafiris	Member	11/2017 - Current
Karen Distefano	Member	11/2017 - Current
Deborah Williams	Member	08/2018 - Current
Susan Gregory	Member	11/2017 - 11/2018
Lisa Warren Richie	Member	11/2017 - 08/2018
Margo Chevers	Member	11/2017 - 06/2018
Faith Ward	Member	06/2018 - 12/2018

Coordinator

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Margo Chevers	Coordinator	11/2017 - 06/2018
Faith Ward	Coordinator	05/2018 - 11/2018

Finance Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Jennifer Mott	Chair	10/2018 - Current
Sarah Zafiris	Secretary	12/2018 - Current
Bryan Haughey	Member	10/2018 - Current
Janet Zafiris	Member	10/2018 - Current
Deborah Williams	Member	10/2018 - Current

Domestic Violence Task Force

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Deborah Williams	Chair	12/2018 - Current
Katrina Eberly	Member	12/2018 - Current
Pam Sweny	Member	12/2018 - Current

Elder Abuse Task Force

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Janet Zafiris	Chair	12/2018 - Current
Jennifer Mott	Member	12/2018 - Current

Anti-Bullying Task Force

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Service Dates</u>
Karen Distefano	Chair	12/2018 - Current

Corporate Partners & Donors:

Service Provider Partners

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Katrina Eberly	Victim Rights Law Center
Crystal Rondeau	Valley Human Services- BHN
Susan Fafard Desrosiers	Harrington Memorial Hospital

Corporate Fundraising Partners & Sponsors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event</u>
Holland Police Department	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Team Hoyt- Dick, Rick & Kathy	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Fraternal Order of Eagles- Southbridge	Ride to End Violence and Abuse- Southbridge

Corporate Fundraising Donors

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Event</u>
C&R Tire- Sturbridge	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Diane's Villa Nova- Holland	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Caldwell Banker- Lisa Boudreau	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Holland's Maine Attraction- Holland	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Hoyt Foundation, Inc- Holland	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Le Boeuf Rubbish Removal- Southbridge	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Osterman Propane, LLC- Whitinsville	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
PJ's Town Crier- Holland	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Ragged Hill Orchards- W. Brookfield	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Schott North America, Inc- Southbridge	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
State Representative Todd Smola- Warren	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Sullivan & Company Real Estate, LLC	Stop Abuse Today 5K- Holland
Cracker Barrel Old Country Store- Sturbridge	Ride to End Violence and Abuse- Southbridge
Kaizen Sushi Bar & Grill- Sturbridge	Ride to End Violence and Abuse- Southbridge
Sadie Green's Curiosity Shop- Sturbridge	Ride to End Violence and Abuse- Southbridge
Justice 4 Janet	Justice 4 Janet Go Fund Me Fundraiser