

THE SILVERLEAF SUPPORTER

A newsletter promoting awareness of sexual violence & child abuse in our communities.



Our mission is to promote the health and well-being of our communities by overcoming the impact and prevalence of sexual trauma through service, education, and leadership.

851
CLIENTS
SERVED

4080
SERVICES
PROVIDED

6878
EDUCATION
PARTICIPANTS

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Goodbye 2023, Hello 2024!

This last quarter of 2023 saw both successes and challenges. In October, we continued our partnership with Communicare's Jail Substance Abuse Program and added individual, onsite therapy services at the jail. Our therapist, Kimberly Cook-Lee is the provider and is so excited to provide trauma services to the women in the program. It was also time for our day-long vision planning retreat. During this time, staff identified agency strengths and cast our vision for the next few years. Overarching themes included refining programs, gathering impact data, and improving client experiences. And, on Oct 30th we hosted an open house where partners and local officials were invited to tour our facility and meet our staff.

November brought some staff changes and resignations. Although change is often difficult, it is also inevitable and necessary. So, during this time, we welcomed a new staff member and some new leadership. We also implemented a new performance management process to assist individual team members in establishing goals that are consistent with our vision plan.

In December, end-of-year preparations are made and Emily Neel begins to draw up the annual Impact Report (be on the lookout for it in the coming month)! We were thrilled to make a large payment toward our building loan to the tune of \$150,000! We will enter 2024 with a building debt of about \$177,000 remaining – which is impressive given that the building has only been standing for a year. Finally, we welcome new members and leadership to our board of directors. Kyle Williamson will be president, Meredith Dubree as vice-president, and Reta McMillen as Secretary.

SAVE THE DATE

Our SURVIVE TO THRIVE Art Fundraiser is back for 2024!



4.20.2024

SERVICES

- Community Outreach
- Crisis Intervention
- Forensic Interviews
- Medicals
- Information & Referrals
- Mental Health Therapy
- Prevention Education
- Victim & Family Advocacy
- Volunteer Program

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT



I am Kimberly Cook-Lee and serve as a full-time therapist. I have been at Silverleaf for 1 ½ years and truly consider it a joy to be a part of the Silverleaf family. I am excited to be a part of the new Silverleaf partnership with the women's SAP Program/Hardin County Detention Center to provide individual therapy services. I am a clinical social worker with 25 years of experience in the medical field, including hospice care, and a passion for helping those dealing with grief, loss, and trauma. My previous experience as a bereavement counselor has been instrumental to prepare for trauma support due to significant grief and loss among survivors. While I am a Kentucky native, I have also lived in Florida where I began my involvement with the anti-human trafficking movement and had the opportunity to learn a great deal about trauma.

I believe it's important to better understand the connection between body, mind, and spirit so we may grow and transition from the familiar place of trying to "survive" to a place of being our best with the ability to "thrive." It takes

practice to develop new coping skills, therefore I enjoy the use of creative art and expression to help clients discover what works best according to individual personality and strengths. I have also received specialized training in Accelerated Resolution Therapy which is an incredible body-based intervention for trauma. In the future, I hope to learn more about the field of equine-assisted psychotherapy which is very effective for the treatment of trauma. Overall, I consider each client a "hero" because of their great courage and strive to share a message of hope...healing is possible!

On a personal note, I have been married to my husband (and best friend) for 22 years. I enjoy animals, music, outdoors, photography, reading, and travel. My favorite place to visit is always the beach while the best travel destination has been St. John, USVI. I am an adventurer, dreamer, and optimist who never gives up and strongly identifies with my faith. Surprising to most, I am a "thrill-seeker" and was grateful to experience a NASCAR "Ride Along" in Daytona years ago. One of my favorite quotes is "The Best Is Yet To Come" which I also like to apply to my role at Silverleaf. Ultimately, I believe Silverleaf is a place of new beginnings!

SPECIAL THANKS

- Individual Donors
- American Legion Post 113
- Zonta Club of Elizabethtown
- Cupper's Choice Coffee
- Orbis
- East Hardin Middle School Beta Club
- LaJuan Culley & Norma Hatfield
- Gabhart Family Dentistry
- First Christian Church Partakers Class
- Local Officials, Funders, and Legislators who attended our Open House.
- Kroger Community Rewards
- Contributions through Facebook
- PayPal Giving
- Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs
- Child Advocacy Centers of KY

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

We have several successes to celebrate this quarter, focusing on several aspects of the work we do.

- A former jailer conveyed the message that he had referred two inmates to Silverleaf after their release and reported the positive impact made on their lives.
- A Social Worker from out of our area complimented staff and stated that the forensic interview space is very calming and the process is smooth and effective.
- A former principal stated how great the Body Safety program is, referencing 2 disclosures they received after the presentation.
- A current client called the crisis line and expressed to her therapist how helpful and caring the staff were. Her past experiences with other crisis lines had not been great.
- A client reported that staff made her feel validated and heard after having a negative experience with another service provider.

COMMUNITY



East Hardin Middle School Beta Club, led by teacher Molly Hazel, helped assemble over 3000 Halloween bags to be given out at Trunk or Treat events across the service area.

LaJuan Culley completed her Eagle Scout project at Silverleaf! Teaming up with unit members, friends, family, and neighbors, she crafted special children's hospital bags for those in local emergency rooms undergoing treatment for sexual assault and abuse.



The Zonta Club of Elizabethtown invited Dr. Carden to speak at their Christmas Tea. Afterward, they donated \$200 and items for the hospital comfort bags.

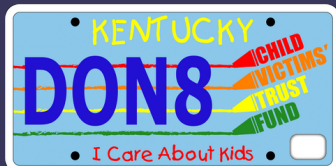
Silverleaf held an open house for local officials, funders, and legislators. They were able to meet and speak with our staff and take a tour of our facility.



The Silverleaf Prevention Team volunteered for the Salvation Army, ringing the bell outside the Elizabethtown Wal-Mart.



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All are welcome!