

# Laurel House Happenings

By Liz Lyons, Development Coordinator

Annual Report FY 15.16

## Laurel House Services

2016 saw several of our programs experience tremendous growth— our DART team’s call volume was at 150% of 2015’s total, our Transitional Housing program housed nearly two dozen families, and our Counseling program expanded to offer services in previously unreached areas of the county. Below are some of our highlights from the year:

- \* **4200 days of emergency shelter** were provided to **182 women and children**.
- \* **1700 hotline calls** were answered.
- \* **1177 hours of individual clinical counseling were provided to 238** domestic violence **survivors**.
- \* DART (Domestic Abuse Response Team) provided crisis intervention and case management to **300 victims**.
- \* **23 families** were housed in our Transitional Housing program.
- \* **978 students** from **10 middle schools, high schools and colleges** were educated on teen dating violence.
- \* **21 trainings** were provided to law enforcement and medical professionals.

## Letter from our Board of Directors

Dear Friends of Laurel House,  
On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men (<http://ncadv.org/learn-more/statistics>). Domestic violence knows no boundaries; it affects all ages, genders, races, ethnicities, and socio-economic statuses. As domestic violence continues to receive media attention, we need to remember to support the organizations that are providing assistance to domestic violence victims on a daily basis. Laurel House is an organization that provides assistance for victims, and is dedicated to the mission of ending domestic violence within each home and community, every single day.

This year, Laurel House has provided support to thousands of victims through shelter, individual and group counseling, and legal advocacy. Our 24/7 hotline and our DART Team have been instrumental in providing support for an increased number of victims. Victims also include our children; who need to heal physically and emotionally.

Our staff and volunteers have provided numerous domestic violence trainings this year at local companies, schools and places of worship. As we continue our outreach, we are committed to ending domestic violence and providing preventative education for our young people.

This past year, we had numerous fundraising efforts; including our annual Laurel House Gala, 5K DASH Against Domestic Violence, and Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®. Our resale shops, Marian’s Attic and Laurel’s Loft, help to raise awareness while also providing funds to continue our mission. We cannot thank you, our community members, enough for your engagement and support of these efforts, and the many others that have provided Laurel House with the ability to continue providing assistance to victims of domestic violence.

The Laurel House Board of Directors and staff remain committed to evaluating services and programs. As the leading comprehensive domestic violence agency in Montgomery County,

Laurel House will continue to provide high quality services.

We want to thank our Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers for all of their hard work and their dedication to the Laurel House mission. We also want to thank each of you who have supported our fundraisers and provided in-kind donations throughout this past year. Laurel House would not be the preeminent domestic violence agency in Montgomery County without your continued support.

Sincere Thanks and Appreciation,

Colleen Lelli and  
Mary Griffith-Alfarano  
Board Co-Presidents



## Thank you from Laurel House Clients

*I am forever grateful for this place and all the support I received during my stay here.*

*Thank you for everything that you have given us this year- we greatly appreciate everything.*

*The follow up support I continue to get has helped keep me strong.*

*Without your help, I wouldn't be able to say that I am a SURVIVOR!*

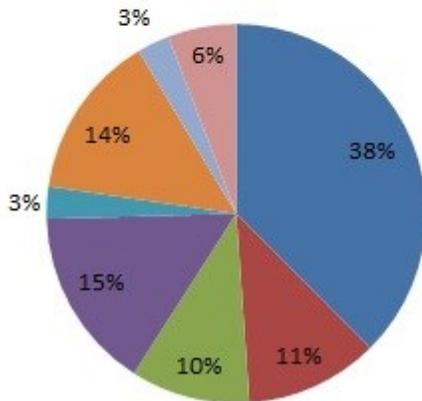
*Words can't express my gratitude for the team at Laurel House*

*The validation you provided gave me the strength I needed to take action. I'm truly grateful for that.*

*Because of you I was able to move on and better myself.*

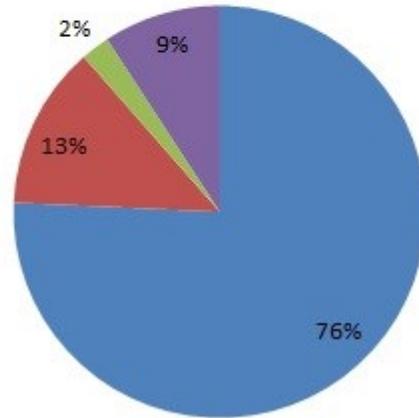
### Operating Income FY 15-16

- Government
- Foundations
- Program Svs. & Investments
- United Way
- Special Events
- Thrift Shops
- Donations
- In Kind



### Operating Expenses FY 15-16

- Programs
- Special Events
- Administrative
- Fundraising



*I just want to let you know how amazing Laurel House has once again proven to be. My coworker and I just attended the preliminary hearing involving Amber\* and we were so incredibly happy to see the transformation she has made since we got her to shelter with you. I almost could not believe the person standing in front of me smiling and confident was the same terrified young woman I spent nearly an hour talking to on her front steps.*

*My coworker and I agreed that this is one of those cases that makes a rejuvenating difference in a sometimes frustrating career and seeing her happy and thriving with such a great support system is the type of outcome that reminds us why we started in this line of work in the first place. Thanks to everyone at Laurel House who has helped Amber move forward- what a tremendous success story in the making! - from a local police lieutenant*

All of the life changing services that Laurel House provided over the past year would not have been possible without our community partners who share our dedication to ending domestic violence. Each day, we work with community groups, volunteers, law enforcement, medical facilities, and more to provide comprehensive support to victims of domestic abuse.

While these partnerships are critical to our success, it is **our donors**, people who selflessly give their hard earned money, who truly enable us to do this important work. We could not do it without you.

We thank you for your past contributions, and we ask you for **your support today**. Together, we will achieve our vision of **ending domestic violence in each life, home, and community**.

\*not her real name

