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Dear Friends,

As we reflect back on the year, I am in awe of what we have achieved with your support. In this report, we share the accomplishments of our small but mighty MSP team and the tenacious, courageous survivors we serve.

These are my favorite highlights, because each number represents the heroic survivors we’ve supported this year, and their individual transformational journeys:

*108 women and children were provided with safe, secure shelter for an average of 90 days

*763 case management and counseling sessions were provided, including 153 psycho-education workshops

*145 women and children transitioned to transitional or permanent housing

*321 safety plans developed with Domestic Violence survivors

We celebrate these successes because behind each number is the inspiring story of a survivor of domestic violence who was able to get the life-saving support needed to transform their future. There are still too many survivors who are not getting the essential help they so desperately need. With your continued support – I know we will be able to help them.

MSP demonstrated this year just how impactful specialized trauma-informed services are in effectively combating domestic violence in our communities. Thank you for empowering our mission to remain a safe resource for the victims of domestic violence who come to us for help.

Please take a moment to read more about our life-saving work and be inspired by the amazingly resilient and brave survivors we serve. We hope that you will translate that inspiration into action by continuing to support our work and mission.

Thank you,

Mercedes Lemp
Executive Director
My Sister’s Place
Our Mission

My Sister’s Place (MSP) seeks to end domestic violence and empower survivors to live healthy, independent lives free from violence.

For over 40 years, MSP has been an innovator in changing lives by providing DC’s first hotline and first domestic violence shelter, and now by taking a public health approach to the epidemic of domestic violence. As DC’s oldest domestic violence shelter, we have served as a cornerstone of the District’s response to this pressing public health issue since 1979, and our impact on DC’s community remains as strong as ever.

MSP is unique in offering a full continuum of care from emergency shelter through transitional-to-permanent housing. Our experienced team of case managers and residential counselors provides clinical counseling, case management, and comprehensive services to empower survivors to recover and thrive. MSP also provides training, case consultation, and advocacy to engage communities to prevent violence and abuse. Our goal is to end domestic violence, and empower everyone to build healthy lives and relationships.
I remember that first day I called and spoke to Ms. Barbara. She was my first sight of light - but then it took too long for me to be placed. I was about to give up and continue living in my unhappy and abusive marriage, but then Ms. Abby called. My second sign of light. The love and support has permanently lit the light which I was seeing from a distance. I almost lost hope, and MSP restored and brought my hope back.

- Jessica

The Family Care Coordinator taught me that I can do anything I put my mind to. I learned that I can trust others, and there are a lot of people in my corner. My mom doesn’t seem to worry so much. I am happy that my little sister and mom are safe. I’m really happy that I don’t have to hide under my bed anymore.

- Kareem

Over 20 years ago, I was so desperate to escape my abuser, I picked up everything I had, and fled in the middle of the night with all four of my children. I found shelter and community at My Sister’s Place. Their staff helped me find transitional housing, employment, and job training. I ended up receiving my certification in information technology, which has allowed me to remain employed and independent to this day. I don’t know what I would do without the support of MSP.

- Diane
Sanctuary Plus: our 90-day emergency shelter provides a safe haven for survivors of domestic violence and their children. Sanctuary Plus provides residents with counseling, case management, daily coaching, and referrals to enable them to successfully transition to permanent housing and independence.

Reaching Independence through Survivor Empowerment (RISE): our innovative transitional-to-permanent housing program helps families fleeing from domestic violence move from crisis and homelessness to safety and stability. Our staff provide case management and other supportive resources aimed to empower RISE participants. Rental payments are subsidized by MSP for one year. Families have the option to remain in the homes they have made for themselves, promoting long-term self-sufficiency and freedom from abuse.

Community Outreach and Education: eradicating domestic violence requires a coordinated community response that embraces prevention and intervention. My Sister’s Place collaborates with district partners and community members to ensure that service providers and community members are equipped to appropriately respond to victims’ needs.

Aftercare: upon exiting our residential and non-residential programs, survivors are provided ongoing contact with case-management staff to support them in their independence. Services include counseling, referrals to community-based services, and advocacy as needed. Our goal is to assist clients in building long-term supportive systems within their communities, to reduce the likelihood of future victimization.
Program Impact

...October 2017 – September 2018

Survivors are provided holistic care under the direction of licensed case managers. Our combination of clinical care and a survivor-centered approach to domestic violence allows us to create a continuum of care that leads to empowerment and independence.

- 763 case management and counseling sessions were provided, including 153 psycho-education workshops
- 262 mental health service sessions empowered survivors to recover and thrive
- 145 women and children transitioned to transitional or permanent housing
- 321 safety plans developed with Domestic Violence survivors
- 94 women and children received aftercare services, including continued case management
- 261 community members received DV-101 & Bystander Intervention training to educate them in supporting DV Survivors
Eradicating domestic violence requires a coordinated community response that embraces prevention and intervention. MSP partners with law enforcement, the legal community, clergy, and others to ensure that service providers and community members are equipped to appropriately respond to victims’ needs. MSP raises awareness about domestic violence, in English and Spanish, with a focus on prevention and intervention through the distribution of literature, dissemination of information at events, and innovative projects. Additionally, in collaboration with the DC Volunteer Lawyers Project and DASH, weekly walk-in clinics in the community to provide legal and other support to survivors seeking help.

Clothesline Project 2018

MSP’s Annual Clothesline Project empowered survivors to tell their stories on their own terms, in their own unique way - breaking through the shroud of silence that has surrounded their experience, through art-work on t-shirts that represent their journey. Members of the community walked away with an increased knowledge of the plight of survivors and education on how best to support them.
My Sister’s Place relies on community partners to provide comprehensive care to our clients. The success of our programs and events relies on the dedication of our volunteers, service partners, and donors.

Thank You:

Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP)
Ayuda
Bread for the City
Cake Brigade
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
Child and Family Services (CFSA)
Community Family Life Services
Dance Institute of Washington (DIW)
DC Metropolitan Police Department
DC Safe
DC Volunteer Lawyers Project (DCVLP)
Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)
Department of Health (DOH)
Help Me Grow
Department of Human Services (DHS)

District Alliance – Safe Housing (DASH)
District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCCADV)
Eloquii
FBI Community Outreach
House of Ruth
Institute for Women’s Policy Research
Love By The Handles
Mary’s Center
National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)
Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSIG)
Street Law, Inc.
The Family Place
The Rosemount Center
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
University of Maryland
## Statement of Activities FY18

### Revenue and Support:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>$ in actuals</th>
<th>% of revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,388,065.00</td>
<td>74.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Contributions</td>
<td>327,222.00</td>
<td>17.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child &amp; Family Services</td>
<td>59,841.00</td>
<td>3.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way/CFC</td>
<td>23,756.00</td>
<td>1.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Services</td>
<td>56,572.00</td>
<td>3.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>7,768.00</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividend income</td>
<td>528.00</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized gain (loss) on investments</td>
<td>143.00</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>5,669.00</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total unrestricted Revenue and Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,869,564.00</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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### Expenses:

#### Program Services:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>$ in actuals</th>
<th>% of revenue</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelter Services</td>
<td>1,069,286.00</td>
<td>55.28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Education</td>
<td>110,653.00</td>
<td>5.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Counseling and Consultation</td>
<td>234,750.00</td>
<td>12.14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transitional housing</td>
<td>160,503.00</td>
<td>8.30%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program services</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,575,192.00</strong></td>
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#### Supporting services:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>$ in actuals</th>
<th>% of revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>304,077.00</td>
<td>15.72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>55,007.00</td>
<td>2.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total supporting services</strong></td>
<td><strong>359,084.00</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expense**

| Total Expense                            | 1,934,276.00 |             |
Everything we do is powered by you, our community - passionate supporters, donors, fundraisers, influencers, and partners. Thank you to all of the compassionate individuals, companies, grantors and foundations who heard our call and partnered with us, in pursuit of our mission to end domestic violence and empower survivors to live healthy, independent lives free from violence.

Thank you for caring. Thank you for believing. Thank you for being a part of our amazing work.
My Sister’s Place seeks to end domestic violence and empower survivors to live healthy, independent lives free from violence.

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