



Volunteers from Metro Beauty Academy sharing their time and talents



Grace Nava, Outreach Educator, at the Puerto Rican Culture Preservation Back to School Event



2017 Vigil Performer and Friend Dina Hall with Hunter

## FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Forty years ago, domestic violence was largely hidden from view. It was considered a private issue, outside the domain of law enforcement, the courts and even loved ones. Family members often felt helpless because to help might only escalate the harm.

It was in this social context that Turning Point of Lehigh Valley was founded. In 1976, a small group of women began to meet, determined to actually do something about domestic violence rather than just talk about it. Out of these meetings, May Day Anonymous was born. Dedicated volunteers took turns answering calls from women trapped in domestic violence, passing the phone from one volunteer to the next.

In 1978, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley became a reality led by Bonnie MacDonald, our first executive director. A few years later, I had a chance meeting with a young woman fleeing an abusive relationship with just the clothes on her back. She was seeking help from Turning Point, grateful for a safe haven. Her story stuck with me through the years and eventually led me to become a volunteer at Turning Point. Today, I am honored to serve as president of the board.

In October, we celebrated our 40th anniversary and reconnected with many individuals who made Turning Point what it is today. We heard from survivors who shared their stories filled with hope and determination for a better life. We heard from loved ones and friends of victims, determined to make a difference.

This year has been a time of growth for Turning Point. In the community, we opened new counseling offices in Easton, Trexlertown and Slatington. Behind the scenes, we automated our fiscal, personnel and client management systems so we can remain good stewards of the funds entrusted to us. We invested in salaries and training for our frontline staff because we value their unfaltering commitment to our mission.

The Board of Directors also has made important strides to strengthen its role. This past year, we recruited several new board members with diverse skills and viewpoints. We continue to engage in lively discussions about the direction of the agency as we begin to develop our new strategic plan. I am grateful for the voices and support of each board member.

Since 1978, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley has worked with nearly 100,000 women, children and men ensnared in domestic violence. While we are proud of our accomplishments, we recognize that our work is not yet done. I invite each of you to join us as we work to prevent domestic violence in the Lehigh Valley through empowerment, education and engagement.

With gratitude,

Joan Marcus, President

"Turning Point has been a tremendous blessing to my children and myself. I have received knowledge and peace in my situation. My counselor was my turning point in my recovery. I am grateful to this program and all the staff."

- **Counseling Client**

We are a member in good standing of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.



We are a United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley partner agency.



Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible as no goods or services were exchanged. The official registration and financial information of Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

"I feared that he would kill me one day. I didn't want the next time to be the last time."

- **L.C.**

"My Turning Point was when my doctor told me that I was not safe in my relationship and he feared for my safety and life."

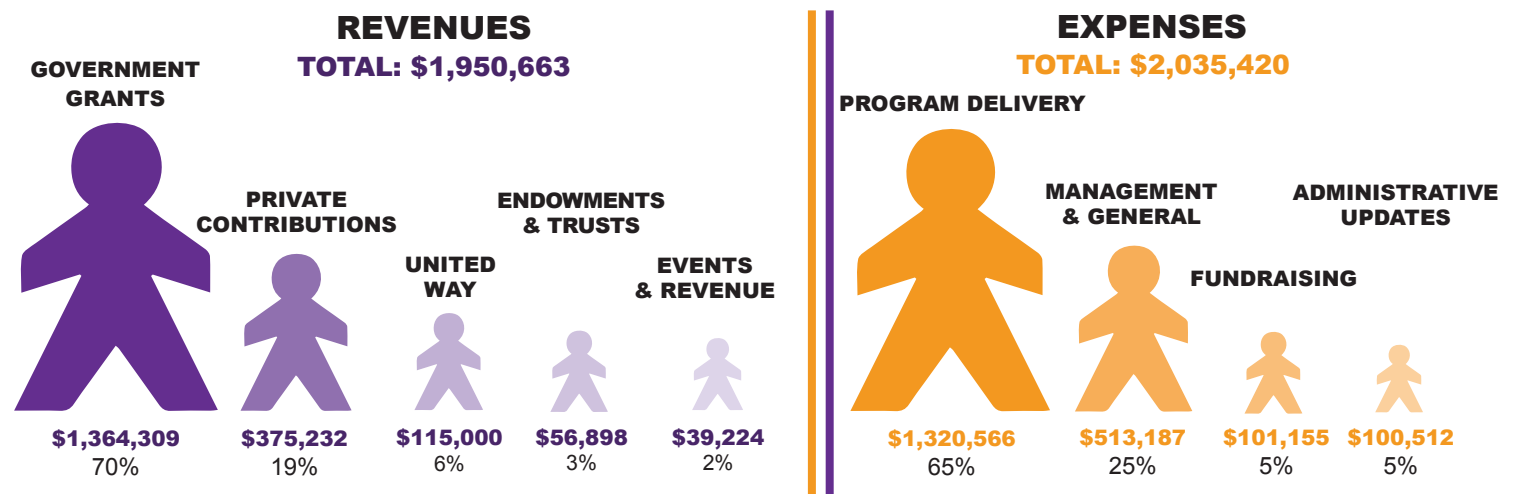
- **Michelle**

### Programs & Services:

- 24-Hour Helpline
- Emergency Safe House
- Empowerment Counseling
- Empowerment Groups
- Legal Advocacy
- Outreach Education
- Medical Advocacy



**In 2017, there were 117 people killed in Pennsylvania as a result of domestic violence.**



## TURNING POINT OF LEHIGH VALLEY

**2017 - 2018**

**2,540** new people served. Numbers include:

- 252 children
- 117 people over the age of 60
- 100 people with disabilities
- 18 veterans
- 43 people identifying as LGBTQIA

**1,052** Helpline Calls received

**5,559** hours of counseling provided for adults and 491 hours of counseling provided to kids; combined 6,050

**180** Prevention programs to 3,624 people

**140** Educational Awareness programs for 4,621 people

130 adults & 146 kids under 18 received combined 8,190 nights of Safe House shelter services



Luz and Tomas, showing their support during Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Barb Baus, Lori Sywensky, Adrian Shanker Lori accepted the 2017 LGBT Community Leadership Award on behalf of Turning Point of Lehigh Valley

If you know someone in an abusive relationship who needs assistance:

**24-HOUR HELPLINE: 610-437-3369 / TOLL-FREE: 877-438-4957**

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc. / 444 E. Susquehanna St. / Allentown, PA 18103

Follow us on social media



turningpointlv.org



turningpointoflv

[www.turningpointlv.org](http://www.turningpointlv.org)



## Annual Report 2017 - 2018

*Empowering Victims  
and Survivors*

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc.  
444 East Susquehanna Street  
Allentown, PA 18103

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017 - 2018

Joan Marcus  
*President*

Rev. Donald Hayn  
*Vice President*

Celeste Coffey  
*Secretary*

Thomas Domin  
*Treasurer*

Danielle Adams  
Debra Cummins  
Joanna Jaindl  
Lisa A. Pammer  
Sharon Pratt

Lori Sywensky  
*Executive Director*

### Thank you to this year's private donors (\$1,000 and above):

Mary and Rodney Afflerbach  
Air Products Foundation  
Anne Alexander  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
Thomas Bancroft  
Boyle Construction  
Bracy Construction  
Buehler Memorial Trust  
Community Action Committee of L.V.  
Elizabeth Stevens Duane  
Exchange Club of Northampton  
Exchange Club of Western Lehigh  
Ephraim Fithian  
Follett Corporation  
Ken N. Gardner  
Dennis and Nancy Giangulio  
Guardian Life Insurance  
Co Of America  
Harry C. Trexler Trust  
William and Patricia Hoppe  
Fred J. Jaindl  
Family Foundation

L24 Collective  
Joan B. Marcus Communications, LLC  
Melanie McPeck  
Nativity Lutheran Church  
One Putt Ventures LLC  
Sandra Richard  
Rosemont Lutheran Church  
Monica Seligmann  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
The Allstate Foundation  
The Lutheran Church of The Holy Spirit  
The Will R. Beitel Children's Community Foundation  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
Two Rivers Health & Wellness Fdn.  
Lee Wei  
Wheels of Time Street Rod Association  
James and Naomi Yergey  
James C. Zellner  
Elizabeth Rokus

*Thank you to all of our  
generous public &  
private sponsors.*

The next time you're in a room with 6 people, think about this:

1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experience violence from their partners in their lifetimes.

1 in 3 teens experience sexual or physical abuse or threats from a boyfriend or girlfriend in one year.  
1 in 5 women are survivors of rape.

1 in 2 women and 1 in 5 men have experienced some form of sexual violence in their lives.

## OUR MISSION IS TO

**eliminate domestic violence  
in the Lehigh Valley through  
empowerment, education,  
and engagement.**



[www.turningpointlv.org](http://www.turningpointlv.org)