



# SAVING GRACE

*Imagine Life without Violence*

*Saving Grace provides comprehensive family violence and sexual assault services and promotes the value of living life free from violence.*

## Year End Review

- 4,095 crisis services were provided for 1,494 people
- 277 women & children were protected, fed, clothed and lodged for 3,113 days
- 2,048 hotline calls were answered
- 3,165 people learned how to prevent violence
- 62 families received 849 supervised visits & exchanges
- 82 volunteers provided 14,619 hours of services

- 99% of victims said they now make better choices\*
- 99% of victims said they now have better access to resources\*
- 98% of victims said they now can keep themselves/children safer\*
- 92% of children felt safer when their parents used Mary's Place

*\*from surveys returned at 77% return rate*



While this last year brought many changes, what didn't change were the values of benevolence, service, justice, autonomy, and integrity that guide our services and keep Saving Grace healthy and strong. The board, staff, and volunteers of Saving Grace are proud of how we 'walk our talk' with respect for

all. We are also proud of our accomplishments.

In 2001, we were the first domestic violence program in Oregon to measure program outcomes. Our program evaluation process, using victims' and survivors' feedback has given us an incredible method to measure the contribution Saving Grace makes to every single person receiving services as well as the impact we have on our entire community. Our program evaluation data, measured as "outcomes" as well as our financial records are evaluated by 22 federal, state and other grant monitors. Once again this fiscal year we received a clean audit for 2007/2008.

All of us at Saving Grace, victims, volunteers and staff want to say how fortunate we feel to do this work for you, for victims, for society. We feel honored to know we have your trust and support. We enter the New Year stronger than ever with a view toward an exciting future. You can be proud of your relationship with our fine organization. I am.

*Janet Huerta, Executive Director*

For additional information about us visit our website at [saving-grace.org](http://saving-grace.org)

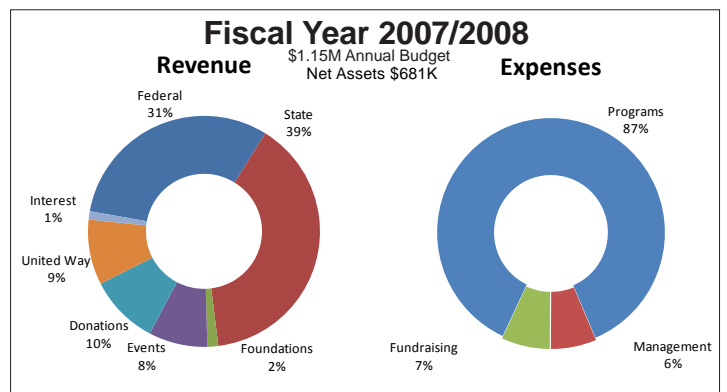
A little over a year ago, Sasha came to us because she was worried about her son, Brent. Although Sasha's husband was abusive, she felt that it was more important to live as a nuclear family than leave him - she could tolerate his abuse of her for their son's sake. Yet, now there was something very wrong: Brent backslid in his potty training and tried to stab her with scissors on two occasions.

Divorce paperwork was filed, but her husband hired an expensive attorney. Sasha could barely afford an attorney. Her husband constantly told her son Brent, "Your mom is a bad mother,"



and did his best to drive Brent away from his mom. Finally, after a long, expensive year of divorce proceedings, Sasha was awarded custody. Although she and Brent stayed in the family home, her husband took all the furniture. Her financial situation was precarious and with limited and often late support payments, Sasha couldn't afford heating, a phone or a television.

We admire Sasha because she talks about her new sense of empowerment to provide happiness and safety for her son, not about what she lost. Brent's happier and no longer acting out his trauma by trying to hurt his mom. Sasha says, "If someone had told me how hard my husband was going to make it for me to leave him, I might have made a different choice but I'm so relieved I left."



"My safe place feels safe because I can cry in it and yell in it and not get into trouble."

*Art as a Healing Tool program participant, age 8.*