The Work of WomenSV (Women of Silicon Valley)

By Ruth Darlene, M.A. Executive Director, WomenSV

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WomenSV

Empowering women who are suffering from involvement with a powerful, sophisticated abuser

Our Mission



We empower survivors, train providers and educate the community to break the cycle of covert abuse in intimate partner relationships so that every woman and child can exercise their fundamental human right to be free and safe in their own home.

Our focus



- Hidden victims in middle to upper income areas trapped in a relationship with a powerful, sophisticated abuser
- Uses more covert forms of abuse that can be hard to identify
- Emotional, financial, legal, technological and other forms of coercive control

For example...



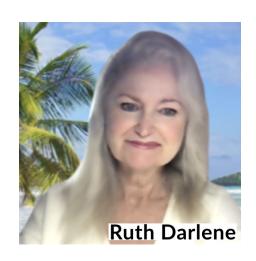
- The therapist
- The CEO
- The cybersecurity expert
- The physician
- The journalist

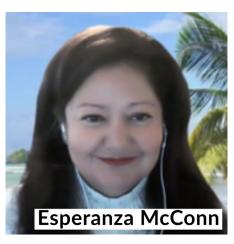
Our Staff











7 additional volunteer advocates

...and 25 other dedicated volunteers!

Our Board of Directors

Advisory Board

- Ruth Darlene, MA
 Chair
- Rebecca Sherwood, DNSc, RN

Secretary

- Dennis Young, CPA Treasurer
- Gerald Jensen
- Roy Lave, PhD
- Karen Scussel
- Paul Marcille, PhD

- Mike Abrams
- Cyndy Ainsworth
- Jessica Dayton, JD
- Todd Emanuel,
 JD
- Jennifer Gonzalez
- James Hoover, JD
- Gigi Kubursi

- Adin Miller WomenSV
- Tom Myers
- Liz Nyberg
- Paul Schutz
- Jim Steinmetz
- Pamela Taft
- Emy Thurber

Our Collaborative Partnerships/Affiliations

- Guardian angels and supporters, Pamela and Ed Taft
- The Phoenix Project (legislative committee behind SB 1141)
- Santa Clara County (SCC) Domestic Violence Death Review Team (DVDRT)
- SCC Courts Systems Committee
- Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council
- Association of Threat Assessment Professionals/ATAP https://www.atapworldwide.org
- Los Altos City Council
- Los Altos Police Department
- Los Altos Community Foundation
- Los Altos Town Crier
- Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
- Mountain View Chamber of Commerce

- CHAC
- CSA
- San Mateo Domestic Violence Council
- Palo Alto Community Foundation
- Sequoia Hospital
- Peninsula Health Care District
- El Camino Hospital Foundation
- PAMF
- SVCF
- Kaiser
- CORA
- AACI

Our Services



Direct Client Support

Trainings for Providers

Public Presentations/Media Interviews/Column

Our outreach









Financial Abuse in the Age of Smartphones Keystroke-monitoring software, hidden cameras, GPS tracking

















Our outreach



JAN 31 - FEB 1, 2021

First conference in the Americas focused on ending coercive control...

theacecc.com



https://www.dropbox.com/s/xag8owp9xrzs fpm/ACECC Presentation.mp4?dl=0





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COMMUNITY

Confronting Domestic Violence: The issue of invisible abuse

Published: 11 November 2020 Written by Ruthven Darlene - Special to the Town Crier

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Craft la

This is the first in a seven-part series on the effects of domestic violence.

We tend to think of domestic violence as something that happens on the other side of town, the poor side of town. The truth is, no town, no neighborhood is immune to abuse. It's just much easier to hide when you have money, power and influence. Domestic violence doesn't always mean blood or broken bones. Sometimes it's not the body, it's the mind, the heart and the spirit that sustain the most damage.

WomenSV is a local domestic abuse nonprofit that serves women from all races, religions, countries and walks of life. The one thing they all have in common is being trapped in a relationship with a powerful, sophisticated abuser. Abuse survivors can be doctors, lawyers, engineers, bankers, therapists, stay-at-home parents - and so can their abusive partners. Survivors in middle- to upper-income areas are typically strong, brave, beautiful, brilliant, accomplished women, healers with big hearts. It's these very qualities that attract partners with similar qualities. Unfortunately, they also attract predators.

The problem with this kind of predator is they can be hard to identify because they blend in so easily with regular people. They tend to be charming, successful, ambitious and upwardly mobile. They may volunteer or donate to worthy causes. It's generally not until further along in the relationship that another, darker side begins to emerge, indicating a preoccupation with power and control. Even then, if you don't know what to look for, early warning signs can be easy to miss, easy to dismiss. Especially if they are charming. Especially if you're in love.



WomenSV 26TH ANNUAL COUNTY OF SANIA CLARA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

BUILDING **BRIDGES**

TRANSFORMING CRISIS TO EMPOWERMENT





Our 10 year anniversary!





WomenSV







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Senator Susan Rubio

February 1 · 🕙

As a survivor myself, I was horrified to hear of these domestic violence allegations. We need to stand with the victims. We know they are almost always isolated from loved ones, making it that much more difficult to escape or seek justice. Victims are usually not believed or are threatened to keep quiet, so when they do come forward, we need to support them.

These allegations of physical, emotional, and financial abuse against Marilyn Manson, also known as Brian Hugh Warner, must be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated. If law enforcement does not do that, we will not only fail these victims, but future possible victims of this alleged perpetrator. We must not let that happen

#DomesticViolence #Survivors Evan Rachel Wood

Our Impact



Over the past 10 years, WomenSV has served approximately

1,000

women suffering at the hands of powerful, sophisticated abusers

Last fiscal year, we served 196 survivors, providing the following services:



22Court Accompaniments



1,043
Individual Client
Interactions

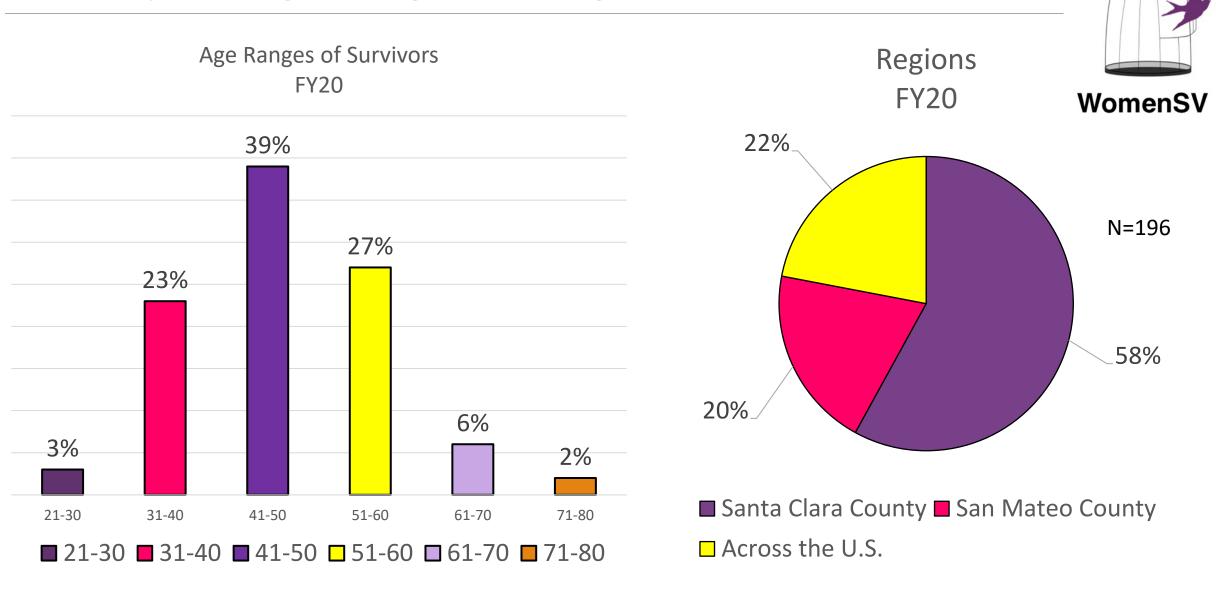


62Support Groups
Hosted

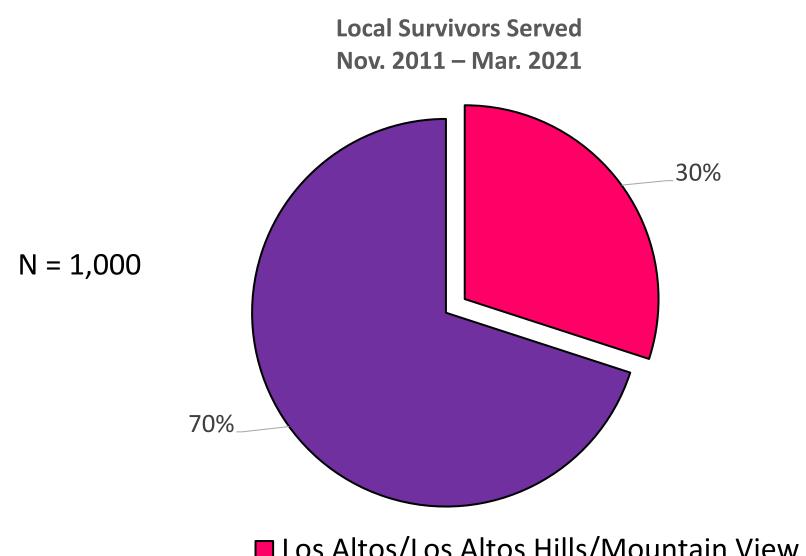


122Support Group Participants

Our Impact: Age Range and Regions



Our Impact from 2011-2021: Los Altos/LA Hills/Mtn View



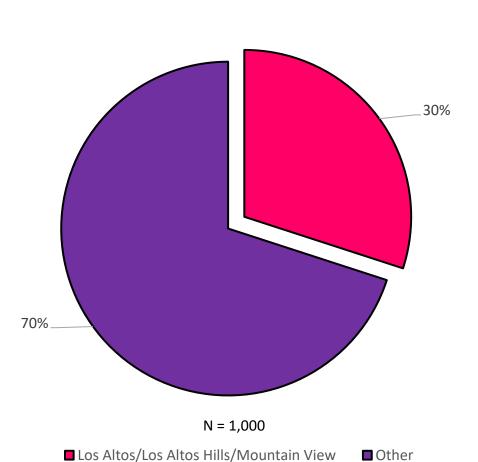


■ Los Altos/Los Altos Hills/Mountain View

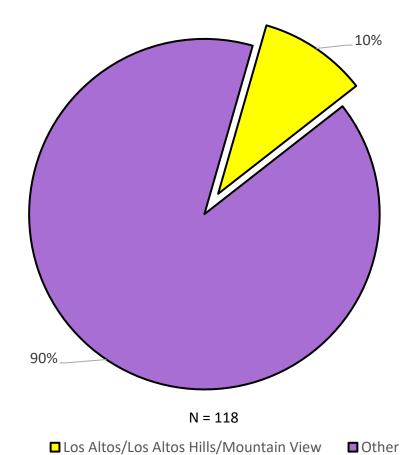
Our Impact: Los Altos

WomenSV

Survivors Served Nov. 2011 – Mar. 2021



Survivor Geographies Apr. 2020 – Mar. 2021



Our challenge

- COVID
- Shifting to virtual support
- Meeting the need—long wait times, referrals to other agencies*
- staffing we need two more advocates
- Education—reaching the schools to educate youth about coercive control
- Growth
- Fundraising

It Takes A Village...



We look forward to continuing to partner with the City Of Los Altos and LAPD to protect the right of every woman and child to be free and safe in their own home!



www.womensv.org

Ruth Patrick, M.A.
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