

## A Letter from Our CEO



Dear Friend,

I reach out to you on behalf of more than 10,000 people now served by Safe Futures annually.

Our mission is to save lives, restore hope and change the future for victims of domestic violence in southeastern Connecticut. They are women, children and men of all ages suffering life-threatening attacks, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking among other domestic and criminal abuses. You may not be personally aware of anyone living in such terror, but they are very much among us. Today, we serve 21 towns and have helped hundreds of thousands in our 46-year history.

The human damage is heartbreaking and immeasurable. And the annual economic loss is now estimated at \$12 billion nationally. Tragically, the annual number of victims continues to grow.

But now, we plan to build The Center for Safe Futures, where we can help more people more quickly and more easily get the assistance they need to recover and reconstitute their lives in safety and with new hope. This single-location will offer immediate, on-the-spot support for people to benefit from a full range of critical services including legal aid, law enforcement, emergency and longer-term housing, health and child-care, as well as education and employment assistance. The model of aggregating and centralizing access to social services working against domestic violence has consistently proved its success in a nationwide program of Family Justice Centers. It has resulted in fewer homicides, increased safety, greater autonomy and empowerment for victims, reduced recanting and more prosecutions of assailants.

We have the land. We have the building plans. We have the support of our long-term partners who will share our space and work side by side with Safe Futures to better serve all who reach out to us for help. What we still need are the financial resources to make this promise a reality. So, we have begun a capital campaign to build The Center for Safe Futures and we appeal to your social responsibility and generosity for your support.

Following is greater detail on our current operation and plans for The Center for Safe Futures. We hope that the more you know about our work, the more you will find it in your heart to help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Verano'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

**Katherine Verano**

## HOW DOES SAFE FUTURES WORK?

Since our founding in 1976 as an information, referral and rape crisis hotline for women, we have continuously expanded our services to meet the increasing needs of women, children and men who are victims of domestic violence throughout southeastern Connecticut. Today, we are a walk-in service with a 24/7 hotline.

**We provide help, hope and above all, safety to those suffering from individual and family violence, sexual assault, stalking and trafficking, elder and child abuse, among other forms of victimization.** We work in collaborative relationships with partners providing access to legal services, law enforcement, civil courts, medical and educational facilities, counseling, child support, housing and aid for employment. We are saving lives and creating new futures for desperate people throughout our region -- people with nowhere else to turn.

**The numbers are growing at a frightening pace.** Nationally, 25% of women, nearly 18% of children and over 14% of men are victims. In southeastern Connecticut, we served nearly 10,000 people in 2021 including almost 1,000 children, placing 178 of them in our emergency crisis shelter and housing programs. The annual increase of those we helped soared by 39% (partially due to the pandemic but nonetheless staggering).

We work without charge and in total confidence, compassionately and responsively offering victims the help they have told us they need, bringing them relief and on-going safety. **The growing challenge of domestic violence demands new resources, newly organized for continued success.** This is why we must build The Center for Safe Futures. With it, we will continue to aid the increasing number of domestic abuse victims, serving more of them, providing them new hope and helping them build new futures.

# HOPE

HEAL

believe

advocate

opportunity



# INTRODUCING THE CENTER FOR SAFE FUTURES

The Center for Safe Futures will provide a single location where victims will meet an advocate, talk with police and prosecutors, plan for their safety, and get access to emergency and longer-term assistance immediately and all under one roof.

It is based on the model of Family Justice Centers -- 160 built over the past 20 years throughout the U.S. and recognized by Congress and the federal government as a best practice for intervention and prevention of domestic violence.

For victims, centralization will relieve them of having to navigate many locations, dealing with differing systems of access to services. It will reduce the amount of travel, repetitive applications and interviews, and debilitating fears about the confidentiality and safety of their outreach.

For Safe Futures, it will increase our capacity and enhance communication of referrals and coordination of the many efforts of social-care providers. It will

allow us to create a single-support framework to help more victims receive faster, more comprehensive and increased integrated care.

We are ready to break ground in Waterford on 11 acres we have acquired through the donation of real estate. The plans have been drawn to construct a 21,000 square-foot building.



It will house offices and conference spaces for Safe Futures' partners, private interview rooms, medical exam facilities, reading and playrooms for children, training labs in computer learning, virtual courtroom and court support services, life skills training rooms and resources and a chapel/meditation area, law enforcement and more. The interior spaces will be adaptable to changing needs of logistics and capacity. Warmly welcoming reception areas and surrounding green spaces will enhance the overall experience for staff and victims alike.

The Center for Safe Futures will be a huge step forward in how well we can serve the growing number of our neighbors who will need our help every year.

# YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL HELP STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

For over four decades, we've been working to protect adults and children of all ages from the horrors of domestic violence. **With your help, The Center for Safe Futures will make a bigger difference in helping more victims live more fulfilling, productive lives, finally free of fear.**

We need \$7.5 million to get it done. Some of it will come from a state bond offering. Some will come from grants and corporate sponsorships. Some will come from our directors, all of whom are contributors. And some will have to come from other individual donors answering the need to stop the growing scourge of domestic violence. It will come from people who share our compassion for the victims and our commitment to help them change their futures. It is our profound hope some of it will come from you.

Your gift will be totally restricted to the building of The Center for Safe Futures unless you specify otherwise. Obviously, it can be made outright or as a pledge to be fulfilled over time and would be completely tax deductible. At various levels of gifting, your generosity can be memorialized by naming all or part(s) of the facility in your honor or by being listed on a permanent plaque prominently displayed in the lobby.

We welcome the chance to give you greater details of our past, our present and most important, our future, showing specifically how your gift will help fulfill the promise of our name. A donation or pledge today will accrue to the life-long benefit of the unfortunate women, children, men and families we have yet to serve.

Please join us in making the good we do today even greater tomorrow. Thank you for your consideration.

## Safe Futures Board of Directors

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## Capital Campaign for The Center for Safe Futures 7 Ways You Can Give

Type of Gift	Benefits to You	Benefits to CFSF
<b>1. Gifts of Appreciated Stock or Securities</b>	Avoid capital gain tax. A tax deduction for the full fair market value of your gift.	Immediate receipt of gift.
<b>2. Gifts by Will/Bequest or Revocable Living Trust</b>	A future gift with no cost now. A deduction for estate taxes.	CFSF will receive funds upon the passing of the donor.
<b>3. IRA charitable rollover</b>	Reduce your taxable income. Counts toward your annual required minimum distribution. Tax free use of an over funded IRA account.	Immediate receipt of gift.
<b>4. Life Income Gifts; Charitable Remainder Trust or Charitable Annuity.</b>	Immediate tax deduction for a portion of your gift. Increase your income. Defer capital gain tax.	CFSF receives funds upon the passing of the income beneficiary.
<b>5. Other Assets; Real Estate, Life Insurance, Royalty Interests.</b>	An income tax deduction. Avoid capital gain tax. Unneeded assets are put to good use. Simplify your estate. Avoid estate tax.	CFSF benefits from the full proceeds upon sale of the asset.
<b>6. Retirement Plan Designation</b>	No cost to you now. Avoid income and estate taxes. Easy to do without updating your will.	CFSF will receive proceeds upon the passing of the donor.
<b>7. Donor Advised Fund</b>	Receive a tax deduction when you need it. Make charitable distributions on your own timetable. Involve your family in philanthropy.	Immediate receipt of gift.

Safe Futures does not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. This material has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide, and should not be relied on for, tax, legal or accounting advice. You should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisors before engaging in any transaction.



## Capital Campaign for The Center for Safe Futures Naming Opportunities

Gift Level	Room Name
\$500,000	Court Support Services Wing
\$200,000	Children's Play and Education Area
\$200,000	Lobby and Reception Area
\$150,000	Elevator
\$100,000	Hope Chapel
\$100,000	Culinary Training Kitchen
\$100,000	Outdoor Serenity Garden
\$100,000	All-Purpose Training & Meeting Room
\$50,000	Adult Education Room
\$50,000	Essentials Boutique
\$50,000	Reception Waiting Area
\$50,000	Forensic Medical Exam Room
\$50,000	Forensic Interview Room
\$50,000	Law Enforcement Offices
\$50,000 x 2	States Attorney Offices
\$50,000 x 2	Civil Legal Services
\$35,000 x 2	Meeting Rooms
\$35,000	Library
Customized	Mosaic Mural and Dedicated Art Spaces

### Pledged

\$100,000	Indoor Skylight Courtyard
\$100,000	Virtual Courtroom
\$100,000	Outdoor Children's Play Area
\$25,000	Food Pantry and Café

*All major gifts will be recognized on a prominently-placed, permanent plaque at The Center for Safe Futures.*



## Capital Campaign for The Center for Safe Futures Pledge Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

### Gift Information:

I (we) intend to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Safe Futures, restricted to The Capital Campaign for The Center for Safe Futures. The gift will be paid as follows:

- Single payment
- Multiple payments – I will pay the pledge over \_\_\_\_\_ (number of years) as follows:  
     \_\_\_ Monthly   \_\_\_ Quarterly   \_\_\_ Semi-Annually   \_\_\_ Annually
- Payment beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year)
- Gift will be matched by (company/family/foundation):  
     \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information:

- My check is enclosed payable to: **Safe Futures**

Contact me for:

- ACH Banking information.
- I wish to donate stock/appreciated assets.
- The gift may be made from a Donor Advised Fund, Family Trust, or some other entity.

### Gift Recognition:

- Please publicly recognize this gift from (name/names):  
     \_\_\_\_\_
- I am interested in permanent recognition opportunities within the facility.
- This gift is in my honor / in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Please do not recognize this gift publicly. I (we) wish to remain anonymous.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your completed pledge form to:**  
 Katherine Verano, Chief Executive Officer of Safe Futures  
 16 Jay Street, New London, CT 06320  
 kverano@safefuturesct.org

**Thank you for investing in the future of our community!**

*Safe Futures is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization – Tax ID 06-0950718. Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by the law. This pledge is not legally binding and may be altered by the donor at any time.*