



ANNUAL REPORT
2016-2017

transformation

Changing lives and giving hope.



Investing in Life

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is a tremendous honor to share with you the work of the Marjaree Mason Center and the impact of your investment. This year was filled with changes, growth, and an opportunity to reassess where our services are needed in Fresno County. Unfortunately, there is no shortage of individuals and families affected by domestic violence in our community.



We know that an average of 7,000 domestic violence cases are reported locally each year, and countless more are unreported. As a result, our two safe houses (with a total of 155 beds) are constantly at capacity. MMC provided over 51,000 nights of safe housing last year.

Your investment in our programs and services, such as counseling, legal support and teaching life skills, exponentially impacts the lives of each woman, man, and child who comes in contact with the Marjaree Mason Center. Your investment meets critical needs of the more than 5,700 people we serve annually. I thank you for your partnership and encourage you to continue providing valuable feedback. This report salutes YOU, our dedicated staff, volunteers, and leadership team. We know that, together, we CAN create a community free of domestic violence.

We are humbled by and grateful for your generous support.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole".

NICOLE LINDER



TRANSFORMING CHILDHOOD

Children often express their feelings through art. The picture above was a gift from a child who stayed with her mother and siblings at an MMC safe house.

"In my painting the ants are the staff they are hardworkers. The castle is the Marjaree Mason Center. It may not look like that from the outside, but the people make it a great place. I am very happy that there is a shelter that helps and supports families in need."

- Child of former client, age 12

60% of individuals who are sheltered at MMC are children. Marjaree Mason Center provides the services and support they need to set them up for brighter futures.

a donor's story

GARY OLIVER

When a longtime Clovis resident, Gary Oliver, heard that the Clovis safe house could lose its federal funding, he knew he had to do something to help keep its doors open. "Giving back to my community means everything to me," Oliver said. He toured the Clovis safe house, and that was when he decided that offering his financial support was the right thing to do.

"We all know somebody... who has been in an abusive situation," Oliver said. "I think if we are honest about it instead of looking the other way... we can be part of the solution."



Gary Oliver with Clovis Police Chief, Matthew Basgall

Oliver sought to ensure MMC had the ability to keep supporting survivors whenever they are ready to seek help. He believes in providing a helping hand to those who don't have one at home. Oliver was able to make a significant contribution to MMC by transferring appreciated stock.

Oliver wants to encourage others in our community to join him in supporting the work of the Marjaree Mason Center, but also to consider creative donations, such as stocks, IRA, real estate, planned gifts, etc.

Even if you don't have the monetary means to contribute to a cause, you can give back in other ways. "Whether it's cutting out one trip to Starbucks a week or volunteering your time," Oliver said, "the little things can add up to be big gifts."

2016-2017 FINANCIALS

Fiscal year was October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	34,027
Short-Term Investments	1,722,272
Grants Receivable	959,235
Accounts Receivable	159,190
Other Current Assets	142,953
Long-Term Assets	3,180,169
Total Assets	6,197,846

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	65,835
Accrued Expenses	376,236
Deferred Revenue	101,940
Forgivable EHAPCD Loan	1,000,000
Net Assets	4,653,835
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	6,197,846

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Grants and Contracts	3,789,276
Contributions	909,249
Program Fees	335,374
Special Events	283,266
Donated Services and Supplies	139,599
Investment Income	98,491
Total Revenue	5,555,255

EXPENSES

Program Expenses	4,697,751
Supporting Expenses	657,327
Fundraising Expenses	194,415
Total Expenses	5,549,493

REVENUE OVER EXPENSES

5,762

Sarah's STORY

Sarah moved to Fresno from Washington over 10 years ago with little support and nowhere to turn. That's when she met Brian. "He was all I had here," Sarah said. Brian was the son of a pastor who led a tight-knit congregation. Sarah soon became part of this community—one that would later turn their backs on her.

It took years for her to realize something wasn't right, but looking back, Sarah said all of the red flags were there. Brian wouldn't let Sarah invite her friends over to their house. He restricted her to "women's work" inside. The meals she cooked were never good enough. She had to go without essentials in order to pay the bills, but Brian always had money to buy alcohol.

Isolated from friends, Sarah felt alone in her situation. She was ashamed, but decided to speak to her mentors in the church about her relationship. They told her every marriage has its problems. They told her that if she was a better wife and submitted, he wouldn't react the way he did.

Things got worse. Sarah developed two autoimmune diseases from the chronic stress she was under and suffered several miscarriages. When she finally became pregnant with their now 5-year-old son, Brian forced her to stop working.

She felt boxed in, so she decided to walk to the Marjaree Mason Center from their downtown home while Brian was at work one day last summer. That was when everything changed.

"The hardest part of my situation was that I didn't have [any physical] marks," Sarah said. "It was all psychological abuse. Not having [the] validation that what was happening was [domestic violence] was the worst part." But when she came to MMC, she was given that validation. The education she received gave her the words to voice what was happening—that it was real.

With the guidance of a legal document preparer, she filed for divorce. MMC also provided her rental assistance through a housing program called "Welcome Home", and she felt safe for the first time in her own apartment.

Though she's still going through legal proceedings regarding custody, Sarah is feeling hopeful. She's going back to school to become a paralegal and give back to others in similar situations.

"I realized I am my own person and I don't deserve abuse," Sarah said. "I'm looking forward to doing all of the things I was told I couldn't do."

**Names have been changed to preserve safety.*



IMPACT & *need*

Fresno County's rate of calls reporting domestic violence is

63% HIGHER
than the state average.

7,000

domestic violence calls to law enforcement in Fresno County each year.

75% of those homes include children

SHELTER

51,000

nights of safe housing provided to women, men and children each year.

60%

of sheltered clients are children.

34

days average stay in emergency housing.

99

days average stay in transitional housing.

155

beds at two safe houses.

CRISIS SERVICES

2,457

hotline callers.

COUNSELING

6,779

individual and group counseling sessions provided.*

**Clients may have attended multiple sessions.*

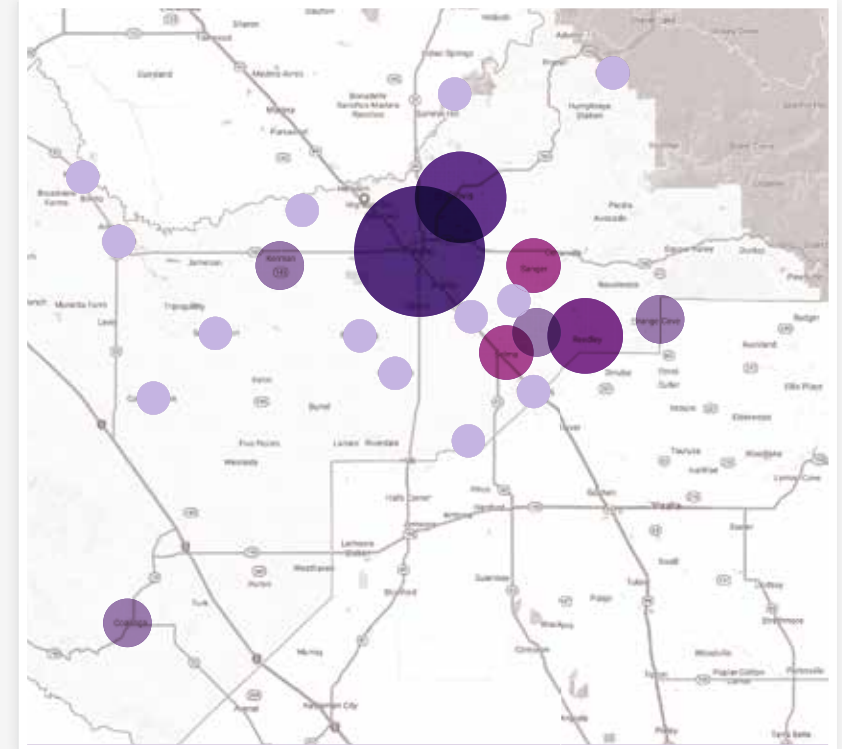
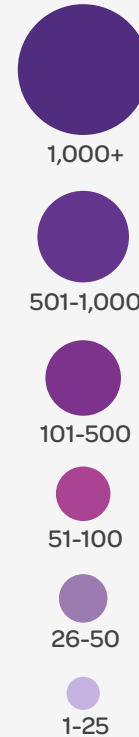
LEGAL

1,853

adults received legal assistance.

17% OF ALL CLIENTS SERVED

come from the rural areas of Fresno County. Services were provided to 5,742 unduplicated individuals.



MAJOR PUBLIC

funders

California Office of
Emergency Services

City of Fresno

County of Fresno

- *Department of Social Services*
 - *Probation*
 - *Sheriff's Department*
 - *Superior Court*
-

Federal Emergency
Management Agency

First 5 of Fresno County

Fresno Unified School District

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U.S. Department of Justice



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January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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Keynote Speaker
Denise Brown

PRESENTED BY:



Thursday, October 11, 2018

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fresno Convention Center

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mmcenter.org

"...THERE IS hope and THERE ARE people who care about us."

- Domestic Violence Survivor

"It was liberating for me to know that there were actually places for me to go."

- Domestic Violence Survivor

"Marjaree Mason Center saved us. If it wasn't for you we wouldn't be doing so well. You will always be a big part of our lives."

- Domestic Violence Survivor

"My family and I are always thinking of you. I am so thankful because at MMC, I got encouraged to go to Fresno State and now I'm here at this university. I'm impressed because I never really thought that I was going to be here. MMC will always be a huge part of my life."

- Child of Domestic Violence Survivor

