

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

FISCAL YEAR 2020



A WOMAN'S PLACE
A WELCOME PLACE

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A Word from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Reflecting on 2020, Weld County has continued to graciously support A Woman's Place throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Our donors have stepped up to ensure that A Woman's Place can keep providing essential services to those in immediate danger.

Our safehouse stayed open throughout 2020, with clients staying 29% longer due to COVID, quarantines, and lockdowns. Our multi-cultural team is answering more crisis phone calls and providing advocacy support to a more diverse group of clients than ever before. Our staff empower clients to meet their own personal long-term goals of safety, work and housing.

We continue our work with the wholehearted belief that every person deserves a life free from violence. We are so grateful for the ongoing community support and continued generosity!

With Deep Appreciation,

Diane Heldt
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



OUR MISSION is to empower victims and survivors of domestic abuse to become safe, secure, and self-sufficient and through collaboration, to mobilize our community to help prevent domestic violence.

OUR STORY For more than forty years, we have provided services for survivors of domestic violence. A Woman's Place was first founded as a crisis line in 1977. In 1981, we opened our safehouse. Today, our 29-bed facility is the only safehouse in Weld County.

OUR VISION Our services are guided by the belief that all individuals deserve to live a life free from violence. We are committed to providing services to all survivors regardless of their backgrounds and remaining accountable for the resources entrusted to us.

2020 At a Glance



273

Clients served



712

Crisis Calls answered



107

Community presentations
(including 26 for youth audiences)



127

Clients received Legal Advocacy
for enhanced safety



54

Clients received job search support
for long-term self-sufficiency



160

Youth clients participated in
youth-focused programs

Programs & Services

AWP's services have been developed in line with the best practices in victims services. We strive to provide services with integrity and to help survivors understand what they need to do to become self-sufficient.



HELPING SURVIVORS MOVE FROM CRISIS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

CRISIS AND TRAUMA

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our clients is a top priority.

- ◇ Crisis Line, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- ◇ Safety Planning with trained advocates to learn strategies and resources for staying safe
- ◇ Emergency Shelter

EMPOWERMENT

Client-centered, trauma-informed services to promote self-determination and healing

- ◇ Goal planning
- ◇ Mental Health Support
- ◇ Youth and Family Services
- ◇ Housing Search
- ◇ Legal Advocacy

SELF SUFFICIENCY

We support Housing and Employment Stability through:

- ◇ Financial assistance for housing and employment expenses (e.g., rent, utilities, uniforms, trainings, etc.)
- ◇ Job Search Assistance
- ◇ Housing Advocacy and education
- ◇ Developing skill building

Survivor Feedback

We are honored to help survivors of domestic violence in their journeys towards violence-free lives. In 2020, clients provided the following feedback about our shelter (shared with permission).

"I just want to thank [AWP] for helping **get back up**...Thank you guys so much!"

"I do love A Woman's Place. I believe it is a great place to be safe and **become independent.**"

"Even though my situation is complicated, they've definitely given us a safe place to sleep and rest and **I will forever be grateful** for all the wonderful staff."

"Staff is very understanding and helpful **they don't judge** and are helpful in everything"

"I feel **safe, supported and loved.**"

"[Staff] have helped me feel more **hopeful** about the future."

"Thank you for being here when I need a place to be **away from threats** [and] the chaos of domestic abuse "

"You were all **amazing and very respectful.**

Thank you for being there for my children."

"**I feel so much safer** and able to get my head together and am focused!"

"**A wonderful place.**

The staff is very kind and helpful."

"I want to thank the staff who took care of me in the office, they **put you at ease even when you are feeling devastated.**"

"Thank you guys for **a new beginning.**"

"This shelter has provided me with such caring and selfless support that **I feel empowered more than before,** I am very grateful!"

"Thank you so very much I couldn't be where I'm at today without your **help and understanding.**"

"Thanks so much for giving me tools to have **a brighter future.**"



Pandemic Response

As cases of COVID-19 surged throughout the United States, many communities issued stay-at-home orders to slow the spread of the virus. This meant victims of domestic violence were trapped at home with their abusers with few opportunities to safely reach out for help. Widespread closures also reduced access to resources that victims need to achieve self-sufficiency and lead violence-free lives. As a result, many victims were staying in dangerous situations. For this reason, it was critical that A Woman's Place, the only domestic violence agency in Weld County, continue providing services throughout this crisis. Through **careful planning and coordination with community partners**, and through the **tireless efforts of our advocates**, A Woman's Place has been able to continue operating without interruption throughout the pandemic.

A Shelter in the Storm

What we're doing to stay safe during the pandemic:

- ◇ We are a socially-distanced facility. We assign only one household per bedroom. Clients also have access to a large outdoor space.
- ◇ We provide hand sanitizer and face masks.
- ◇ High-touch surfaces are sanitized every shift. The safehouse is bleached weekly, and professionally deep-cleaned quarterly.
- ◇ Residents are provided with food and basic supplies to minimize unnecessary travel outside the safehouse.



- ◇ Our advocacy, counseling and outreach services are available remotely. While our playroom is closed, we provide Family Activity Kits for use in their assigned bedrooms.
- ◇ We invested in Wi-Fi Boosters so all our clients have improved connectivity. We also have five Chromebooks that school-aged children can use for remote learning.

On the Frontlines

Staying safe during the pandemic meant changes for our clients and for the brave people providing those services. AWP advocates shared what it was like to work in the safehouse during the pandemic:

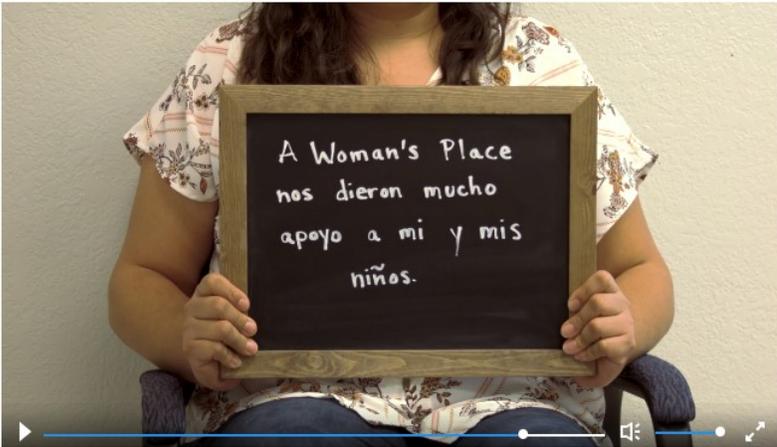
"Every shift...was incredibly overwhelming. It was a difficult and stressful time."

"It wasn't fun, it was stressful...I really felt like the main goal was to keep the safehouse open and I'm SO proud that we have been able to this entire time."

"It was a very hectic environment to come into, and I felt burnt out pretty quick into the beginning of the pandemic. However, the safehouse has implemented the best and safest COVID measures for both clients and staff. Although it was a big adjustment at first, knowing it was all for safety on both ends, made the adjusting



Diversity & Inclusion



Access for **ALL** Survivors

In Colorado, the pandemic has disproportionately affected BIPOC. We continue to reach the most vulnerable members of our community by coordinating with our existing partners. Our ongoing collaborations with the IRC (**Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado**) and DOVE (**Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment**) help us reach victims who are also immigrants, refugees and/or are deaf or hard of hearing. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals are assisted through the use of bilingual staff (Spanish, Arabic) and the Language Line, a telephone-based service that offers interpretation in over 150 languages.

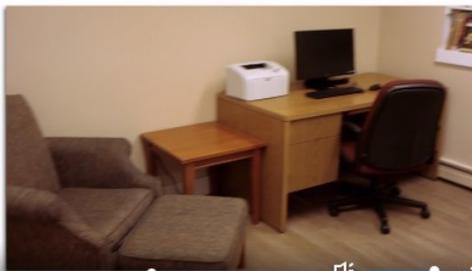
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CONFIDENCIAL



A WOMAN'S PLACE
A WELCOME PLACE

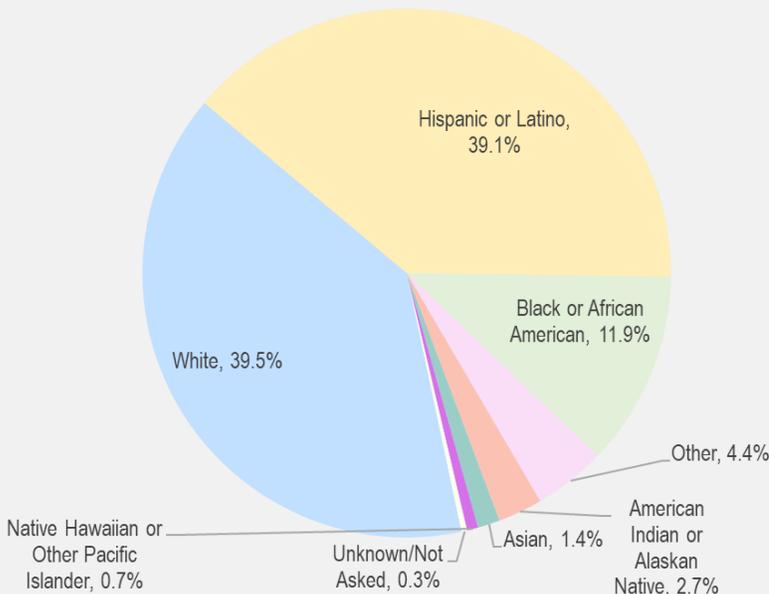
NO
DISCRIMINAMOS
POR SU:

- Edad
- Origen Nacional
- Étnico
- Género
- Orientación Sexual
- Discapacidad

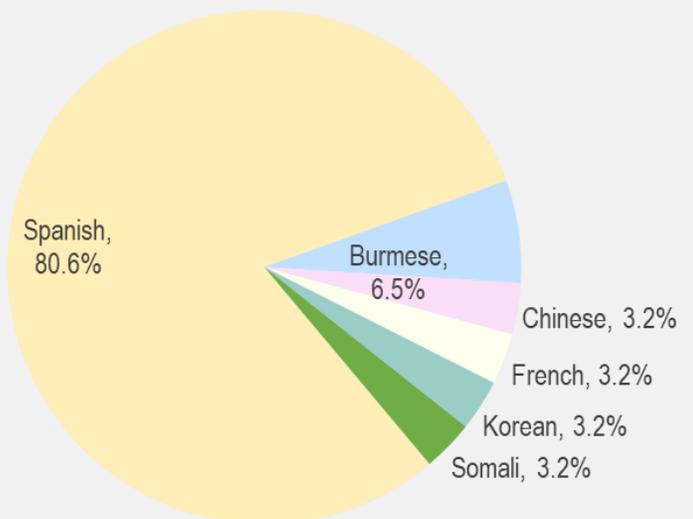


ABOVE: Screenshots from new agency video in Spanish. Available at <https://www.awpdv.org/espantildeol.html>

Client Race/Ethnicity

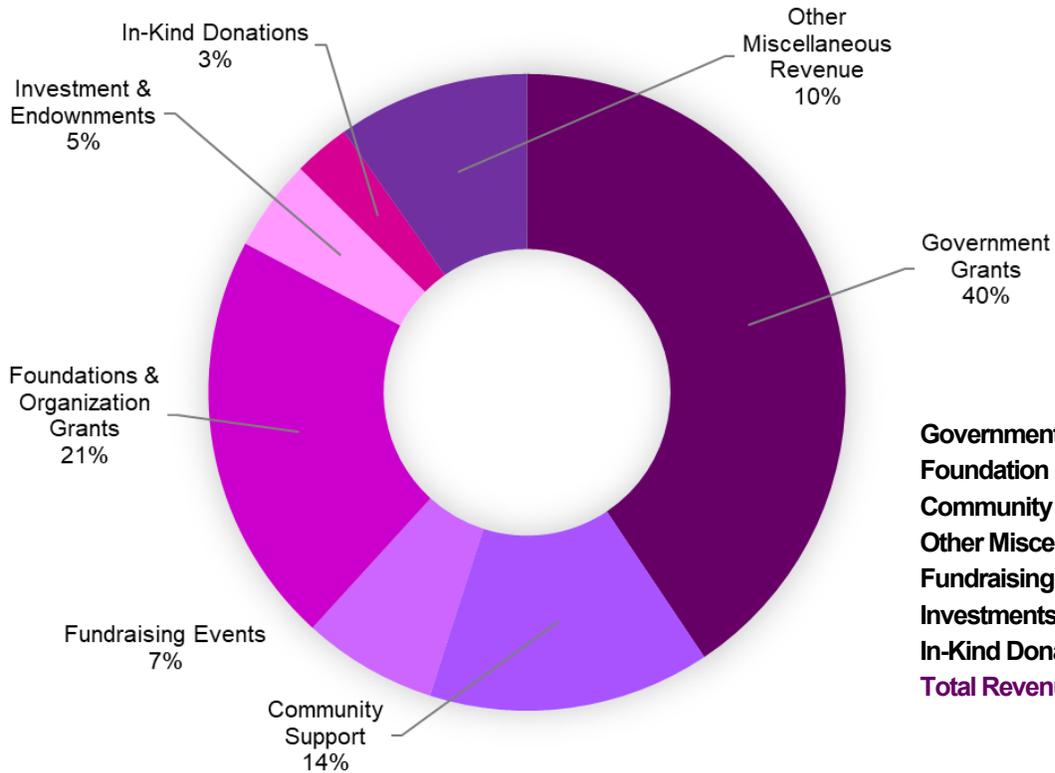


Language Assistance Requested



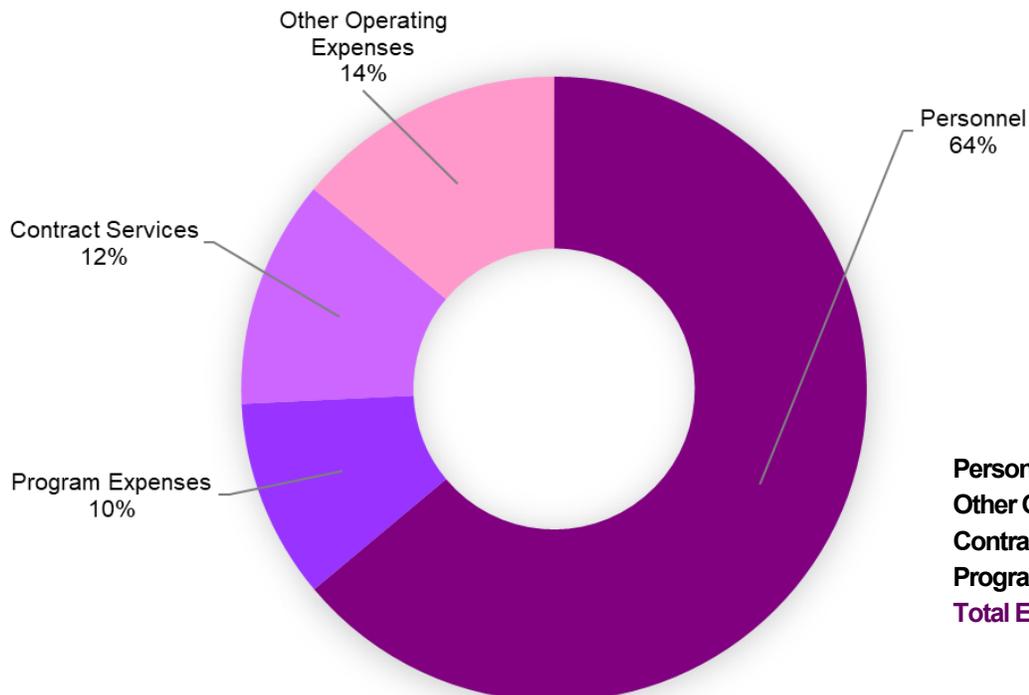
Financial Overview

Revenue



Government Grants: \$508,991
Foundation & Organization Grants: \$263,020
Community Support: \$179,407
Other Miscellaneous Revenue: \$122,000
Fundraising Events: \$85,502
Investments & Endowments: \$58,344
In-Kind Donations: \$35,918
Total Revenue: **\$1,253,181**

Expenses



Personnel: \$576,991
Other Operating Expenses: \$125,910
Contract Services: \$106,696
Program Expenses: \$93,239
Total Expenses: **\$902,837**

Funders

19 th Judicial District VALE Program	Nordson Community Impact Outreach
Anschutz Family Foundation	Schwab Charitable
Bomberger Foundation	State of Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program (DVP)
City of Dacono	
City of Fort Lupton	United Way of Weld County (including: <i>Collective Impact Group; Youth Leadership Council; COVID-19 Operations Adaptation Fund</i>)
City of Greeley of Weld County Inc.	
Colorado Bar Foundation	Violence Free Colorado
Colorado Institute to End Hunger	Walmart Community Grant
Colorado Office for Victim's Programs, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Program	Weld Community Foundation (including: <i>Littler Youth Grant; W.D. Farr Endowment; and Lyster Family Fund Foundation</i>)
Daniels Fund	Weld County Department of Human Services, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)	Weld County Food Bank
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Weld Recovers Fund
Friends of A Woman's Place	Weld Trust
Great Western Operating Company	WeldWerks Community Foundation
JBS	Women's Foundation of Colorado
Mile High United Way: Colorado Relief Fund	The Women's Fund of Weld County
Monfort Family Foundation	

Staff

Diane EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy ADVOCATE
Josselyn ADVOCATE
Bobbie ADVOCATE
Sintia ADVOCATE
Sophia ADVOCATE WITH LEGAL DUTIES
Lisbeth ADVOCATE WITH EDUCATION DUTIES
Seth FACILITIES MAINTENANCE
Lamont CUSTODIAL
Desiree INTERVENTION AND EMPLOYMENT COORDINATOR
Vanessa LEGAL SERVICES COORDINATOR
Brittany OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Brittany ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
Daniela GRANTS COORDINATOR

Interns and Volunteers

Alina	Lauren
Ana	Lauren
Danielle	Lexi
Jade	Lisbeth
Jennifer	Riley
Julia	Sara
Katherine	Sarah
Kennen	

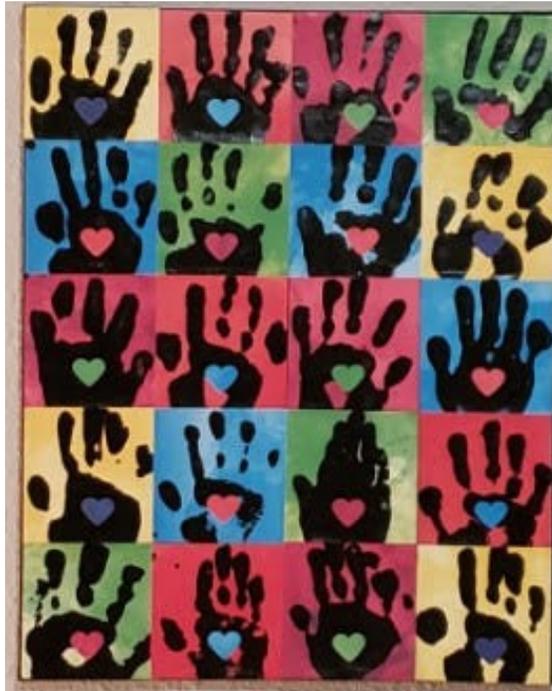
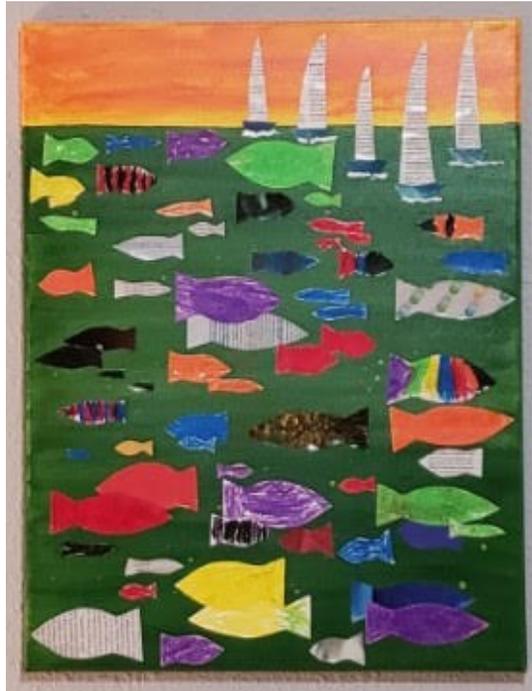
Thank You!
Thank you to all of our many individual donors.
We are so grateful for your contributions!





“Art is the highest form of hope.”

Gerhard Richter



In 2020, students at Cardinal Community Academy in Keenesburg, Colorado painted art to bring **color** and **hope** to our safehouse.

Clockwise from top left:
 “Freedom” - Fifth Grade;
 “Reach for the Stars” - Fourth Grade;
 “Little Hands, Big Hearts” - Kindergarten;
 “You are Not Alone” - Second Grade