



2020
Annual Impact Report
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020



WOMEN IN DISTRESS
OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC.

JIM & JAN MORAN FAMILY CENTER

Helping families rebuild their lives *for 46 years!*

Our mission is to stop domestic violence abuse
for everyone through intervention, education, and advocacy.



Financial Report

Revenue: \$7,971,197

Government Grants	\$4,311,929
Gifts, Corporation,	
Foundation Contributions	\$1,844,699
Thrift Store & Other	
In-Kind Donations	\$894,402
Thrift Store Revenue	\$395,731
Special Events	\$456,949
Capital Campaign Contributions	\$67,200
Investment Earnings	(\$6,156)
Other Revenue	\$6,443

Expenses: \$7,740,755

Program Services	\$6,704,803
Fundraising, Events & In-Kind	\$538,697
Management/General	\$497,255

**87¢ of Every Dollar
went back to programs and
services for survivors**

Women In Distress Welcomes New President and CEO



Linda Parker

In an important and exciting step for our agency, Women In Distress welcomed **Linda Parker, Ph.D. as President and CEO** in September. Dr. Parker succeeds Mary Riedel, who will be retiring from WID in June 2021 after having the privilege of leading the agency for more than 12 years and being involved before that as a volunteer leader and supporter since 1996.

Parker brings more than 16 years of experience in both human services and higher education. Most recently, she was the Executive Director of the Peace River Center, a domestic violence and sexual assault center serving the three-county

area surrounding Lakeland. She is also board chair of the new Florida Partnership to End Domestic Violence (FPEDV) statewide coalition of certified domestic violence centers.

As we face the uncertainty of COVID-19, the need to be nimble and find innovative solutions to meet survivors' changing needs is more pressing than ever. **Dr. Parker's diversity of experience and her work with survivors of domestic violence will build upon the impact Women In Distress has had over the past 46 years in keeping families safe, while forging new ground as we work together to end domestic violence.**

New Challenges Bring New Opportunities

Over the past 46 years, Women In Distress has faced many challenges, but none quite like this year.

We are proud to share this Impact Report. Though it reflects a year that included a once-in-a-lifetime global pandemic, social unrest and economic uncertainty, our doors always remained open for the women, children and men seeking safety and healing from the trauma of domestic violence.

We were able to be there for survivors and their children because of you. Our community, donors and public and private sector funders stood solidly and steadfastly behind us. We never missed a moment or a day—remarkable given the challenges – and also learned new ways of meeting the needs.

Look at what together as a community we were able to accomplish during this past year. **Total hours of service for advocacy, shelter, counseling, crisis line calls, therapy, legal, education, job readiness and other activities totaled more than 30,000 hours of life-saving services to more than 3,000 adults and children.**

This speaks to your unwavering support, the tremendous efforts of our staff, volunteer leaders, donors at every level and the continuous innovation of our programs—and to the fact that domestic violence does not stop even when the world comes to a halt.

Longtime supporters Phyllis and Al Thomas stepped up with a \$250,000 Thomas Family Foundation Vision for the Future Challenge Grant to encourage other donors. This year was not the vision that we could have imagined. And perhaps because of the unprecedented times we faced, their challenge grant was matched in just seven months. We are very grateful to the Thomas Family for their vision.

Fulfilling our mission means finding new solutions to providing services in our "new normal," such as:

- **WID Learning Lab:** Onsite online learning instruction for our smallest survivors
- **Virtual individual and group therapy**
- **Virtual legal assistance:** Our legal team provided legal consultations, filed petitions, obtained temporary restraining orders by phone and participated in court hearings via video conferencing. One attorney successfully litigated a sexual violence case via Zoom. The survivor was very thankful at the end of the trial and felt like her voice was finally heard.

Every one of the survivors we helped last year has a story of resilience, strength, and hope—things that connect us as a community when we need it most. Operating with the boldness our agency was founded upon, we hope you join us as we find new approaches to meet the pressing needs of our survivors and end domestic violence.

Your support has helped our families stand strong in a time of crisis. We look forward to Dr. Parker's leadership through this next chapter. From all of us at Women In Distress – our staff, Board, Trustees, volunteers, and especially the families we are privileged to serve – thank you for helping us keep families safe.



Mary
Mary Riedel
Past President

Kim
Kim Bentley
Chair, Board of Directors



Advocacy,
Counseling
and Therapy
Hours
30,027

Safe
Emergency
Shelter Nights
25,828

Emergency shelter was provided to 475 survivors, and included food, clothing, safety planning, counseling and therapy, and pet assistance and shelter. **More than 60% of the survivors served in the emergency shelter were children** ranging in ages from newborn to teens.

Mental health support was provided to survivors and their children to help **heal the emotional scars** of domestic violence abuse so they could begin to rebuild their lives.

24-Hour
Crisis Hotline
Calls Answered
21,044

The hotline provided survivors with a critical lifeline, helping them access **emergency shelter, counseling and therapy outreach services, relocation information, legal referrals,** and other homeless-related inquiries and referrals.

Attended
Educational/
Professional
Programs
14,163

Students, community members and professionals attended 325 events to learn about the different types of domestic violence, how to identify the signs of abuse and the services available for survivors with the **goal of reducing or eliminating violence in our community.**

Assisted by
our Injunction
For Protection
Legal Program
678

Attorneys provided survivors with legal advice and representation on filing for and maintaining injunctions for protection (restraining orders) in order to **keep themselves and their children safe from their abuser.**

Received
Economic
Empowerment
Services
252

Survivors were provided with financial literacy education, employment and job training opportunities, and assistance with finding affordable housing to **help them become financially independent from their abuser.**

3,282
women, children
and men
received free
and confidential
life-saving
services





Thank you to our dedicated leaders and Impact Partners

who ensured our doors remained open to provide essential services to survivors and their families. They reflect the communities we serve and guide our mission of keeping families safe.

24-Hour Crisis Line 954-761-1133
TTY/TDD 954-527-5385
Phone 954-760-9800 / Fax 954-832-9487
P.O. Box 50187, Lighthouse Point, FL 33074

WomenInDistress.org

Executive Committee

Kim Bentley, Board Chair, Community Volunteer
Elizabeth "Billie" Grieb, 1st Vice Chair, Community Volunteer
Beth Wallace, 2nd Vice Chair, Universal Property Casualty Insurance
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Karen Leikert, Past Chair, Wells Fargo
Linda Parker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Women In Distress
Mary Riedel, Past President, Women In Distress

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Please remember Women In Distress in your will and estate planning.

Our Impact Partners

Bank of America
Broward County
Colony West Women's Golf Group
Community Foundation of Broward
Cleveland Clinic Florida
Cox Media Group
Donnah's Fund
Entercom Miami
Florida Department of Children and Families
The Fritch Foundation
Hal Herman Children's Fund
The Jim Moran Foundation
JM Family Enterprises
Leo Goodwin Foundation
Memorial Healthcare System
Miami Dolphins
Nova Southeastern University
The Paul Palank Foundation
Publix Super Markets Charities
State of Florida Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
Sun Capital Partners Foundation, Inc.
SunSentinel Media Group
The Tate Family Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation of Broward
The Thomas Family Foundation
Ultimate Software
Wells Fargo
Yellow Cab

Lorraine Thomas

In memory of a dear friend and donor to Women In Distress for more than 20 years

