



# ANNUAL REPORT



# MESSAGE FROM THE 2020 BOARD PRESIDENT



**"FINANCIAL STABILITY  
ENABLES US TO CONTINUE  
FULFILLING OUR MISSION –  
SERVING AND SUPPORTING  
SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY."**

As a CPA, auditing nonprofits and closely held businesses is what I do each day. So as a longtime board member serving on the finance committee for Gateway, I know financial stability enables us to continue fulfilling our mission – serving and supporting survivors of domestic violence in our community.

That was our goal when we made the decision in 2016 to launch a capital campaign to build a new shelter – maintain financial stability and a balanced budget while raising additional, substantial funds for the new shelter. I'm pleased to report that we've been able to do just that.

Through the end of 2019, we raised more than \$2.5 million. We continue to raise funds through 2020 and anticipate breaking ground on the new shelter by the end of 2020. We have accomplished this through following best practices for financial accountability, and it's because of this commitment that we've been able to adjust to the unprecedented current events.

When I began my term as Gateway's board president, it was in much different times than where we find ourselves today. The COVID-19 outbreak has changed all of our lives, and it's been no different for Gateway and those we serve. But our organization's stability has allowed us to keep a steady ship in turbulent waters.

Research suggests that incidents of domestic violence increase during times when families spend more time together, like Christmas and other holidays. This period of long-term isolation at home can create similar situations for victims of domestic violence.

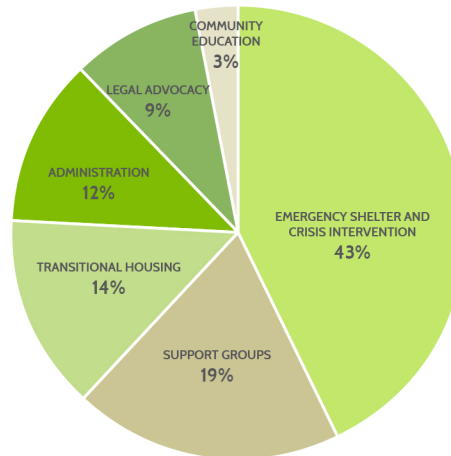
Due to capacity and implementing necessary safety protocols, during the first six weeks of the COVID-19 emergency (March 15 – April 30) Gateway placed 15 families (15 adults and 22 children) in hotel rooms. The cost of each hotel room averaged \$70/night and we used 94 hotel nights during that time.

Thank you to our supporters, board members and staff who put us in the position to continuing meeting these ongoing – and unexpected – needs while we move ever closer to our goal of building Gateway's new home.

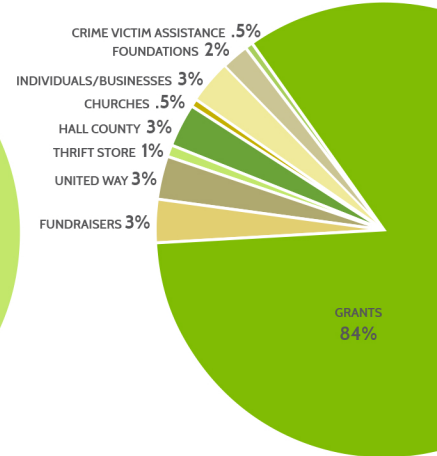
*Kristi Griffin, CPA*

**Kristi Griffin, CPA**

## EXPENSES BY SERVICE AREA \$1,159,672



## INCOME SOURCES \$1,174,074



Gateway to 2020 campaign donations were also received during this 12-month period. Source: 2019 Board-Approved Operating Financial Report



# GATEWAY TO 2020 SHELTER CAMPAIGN



“THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY  
OF DONORS, SPONSORS  
ALONG WITH SEVERAL KEY  
GRANTS, WE FIND OURSELVES  
CLOSER THAN EVER TO  
BREAKING GROUND ON OUR  
NEW SHELTER.”

When we launched our Gateway to 2020 campaign five years ago, our board and campaign committee had a solid timeline, ambitious goal and a strong vision for where we wanted to be at the beginning of the new decade. Thanks to the generosity of donors, sponsors along with several key grants, we find ourselves closer than ever to breaking ground on our new shelter.

Even the best laid plans change, including ours. But our leadership and supporters have enabled us to continue onward, in spite of a few curve balls and the uncertainty all around us due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

As many of you know, our board set a goal of raising \$2.5 million by December 31, 2019 to build the new shelter. That number was based on multiple consultations with construction professionals, but it became clear in 2018 that the amount would need to be adjusted due to rising construction costs and the desire to start building on sound financial footing. That's also the year that we purchased property that checked the boxes of what we were looking for – a safe location, near public transportation with room to grow.

In early 2019, we increased our fundraising goal to \$3 million. Thanks to continued generosity and another well-timed grant, we were looking to Gateway to Hope 2020 to get us across the finish line.

Due to COVID, our annual event did not go on as planned. But the overwhelming support of our event sponsors and those who purchased tickets to our first online raffle was humbling. In total, Gateway to Hope was still able to raise more than \$47,000 of its \$50,000 goal, pushing us oh-so-close.

As we review bids, building renderings and plans for the new site, we can genuinely say we have so much to look forward to, even if 2020 hasn't gone quite like any of us ever imagined when we started this journey. Stay tuned for exciting news about the future of our new shelter. And thank you for your unwavering generosity and support!

*Jessica M. Butler*

Jessica Butler, Executive Director

Advocate Cristina Bennett welcomes a new resident to Gateway's emergency shelter.



**SUSAN WEAKLEY**  
(Feb. 27, 1954 ~ Feb. 25, 2020)

We remember with fondness our friend and colleague Sue Weakley. Sue worked with young children at Gateway for many years, first as a volunteer and more recently as a member of our staff. She had a positive influence on hundreds of women and children during her time at Gateway, and we miss her very much.



# POINTS OF PRIDE



## STEFANOFF HONORED WITH STATEWIDE AWARD

Gateway Domestic Violence Center's Rosemary Stefanoff was honored with the 2019 "In the Trenches" award, by the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV). The "In the Trenches" award, given annually by the GCADV, recognizes one front-line advocate in the state whose efforts go beyond the ordinary to demonstrate extraordinary dedication to safety and justice for domestic violence survivors.

Stefanoff, who recently made the decision to retire, worked in many roles through her 16 years at Gateway, including as house manager. She also worked overnight and weekend shifts at the emergency shelter, answering countless crisis line calls and facilitated support groups.

"When Rosemary sees an injustice, she won't remain silent," said Gateway Executive Director Jessica Butler while introducing Stefanoff during the award presentation in Athens. "She is willing to speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves."



Colleagues from Gateway were present at the Georgia Commission on Family Violence's annual conference to support Rosemary Stefanoff as she received the "In the Trenches" Award.



## CINDY BRYANT: "YOU LEAD"

Cindy Bryant, Gateway's Transitional Housing Program Coordinator, completed the "You Lead" training program offered through the North Georgia Community Foundation. This intense, six-month program focused on leadership development for nonprofit employees. Bryant has been with Gateway for 10 years and works closely with clients who live in Gateway's transitional housing apartments.

*From left: Duane Hinshaw, You Lead program facilitator; Cindy Bryant, Gateway transitional housing program coordinator; Jessica Butler, Gateway executive director; Michelle Prater, North Georgia Community Foundation president.*



## FIERRO EARNS RECOGNITION

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Executive Director Jay Neal, left, and Deputy Director Steven Hatfield recognized Gateway Legal Advocate Alondra Fierro for completing the Georgia Victim Assistance Academy. The academy is a comprehensive, skills-based training experience hosted by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.



## "A WINDOW BETWEEN WORLDS"

Stephanie Moniz, who attended the "A Window Between Worlds" certification program, uses arts-based activities with child witnesses to domestic violence. Moniz was one of two domestic violence advocates from the state of Georgia to receive a scholarship to attend this training program in California. "A Window Between Worlds" strives to empower individuals and communities impacted by violence and trauma through healing arts programs. As a certified agency, Gateway has access to hundreds of art activities and curricula our children's coordinator and support group facilitators can use as needed. Gateway has been implementing arts-based support groups for women and children since 2010.



## GUIDESTAR CERTIFICATION

Gateway received the Guidestar platinum-level seal for the third year in a row. Guidestar's mission is "to revolutionize philanthropy by providing information that advances transparency, enables users to make better decisions, and encourages charitable giving."



## GATEWAY RECEIVES GRANT

Gateway received a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to support our Transitional Housing Program. Gateway is one of only two organizations in Georgia that received this funding in 2019.

Gateway owns 10 transitional housing apartments where survivors of domestic violence can live for six to 24 months as they work toward goals such as education or self-sufficiency. In 2019, 42 women and children stayed in Gateway's transitional housing.



## UNITED WAY READ & RUN 5K

Jessica Butler, Stephanie Moniz, Lanita Harris, Jennie Pless, Alondra Fierro, and Janet Whittaker participated in the United Way Read and Run 5K. Gateway's staff participated in three charity 5K races in 2019. In addition to the United Way of Hall County's event, Gateway employees also participated in the Christ Place 5K benefiting Gateway, and the Dixon Strong 5K, which benefitted the family of Hall County Deputy Dixon who was killed in the line of duty.



# GATEWAY

## BY THE NUMBERS

IN THE PAST YEAR...



**223**  
women and  
children  
received  
emergency  
shelter

**30 DAYS**  
average  
length of stay  
in the shelter

**51  
PEOPLE**  
were placed  
in hotels  
because the  
shelter was full

**18**  
average daily  
number of  
people in the  
18-bed  
emergency  
shelter

**42**  
women and  
their children  
lived in  
transitional  
housing



**131**  
Temporary Protective  
Orders secured

**1,459**  
crisis calls  
received

**128**  
adults attended  
support groups

**103**  
children and teens  
participated in support  
groups

**40**  
children participated  
in an Early Learning  
Program for children  
aged birth to  
four years



**91%**  
of women who participated  
in Gateway's shelter program  
said they now know ways to  
manage their safety and are  
achieving the goals they have  
set for themselves.

**92%**  
of the people receiving legal  
advocacy stated that  
obtaining legal advocacy  
made it easier for them to  
regain a sense of control  
over their lives.

**128**  
active volunteers  
contributed **4,005 hours**  
to Gateway in 2019, a  
value of **\$60,075**.



## Cash Donations Received January 1 - December 31, 2019

### Memorial Gifts

In memory of Charlotte Castleberry  
*By Anne Martin*

In memory of Rickey Cathey  
*By Carolyn Cathey*

In memory of  
Ralph W. and Mary R. Cleveland  
*By John and Cathy Cleveland*  
*Michael and Courtney Cleveland*  
*Scott and Georgie Cleveland*

In memory of Mary Davies  
*By Denise Lee*

In Memory of Connie Finks  
*By Paul and Shelby Adcock*  
*Sherry Jett*  
*Jennifer Maxwell*  
*Jerry and Darlene Upchurch*

In Memory of Merridy Gram  
*By Danny and Lynda Askew*

In Memory of William Greene  
*By Donald and Marilyn Aldridge*

In Memory of  
Phillip Dabbs Huffstatler  
*By Phil Huffstatler*

In Memory of Susan Jessup  
*By Martha Nesbitt*

In Memory of Lois Kenyon  
*By Danny and Lynda Askew*

In Memory of Melissa Kimsey  
*By Cliff McGlamry*

In Memory of Karen Korsun  
*By Beverly and Larry Brown*  
*Linda Citron*  
*Lauren Cohen*  
*Arielle Gumer*  
*Star Newman and Family*  
*Bobby Nooromid*  
*Laura Ross*  
*Scott Struletz*  
*Lynn Weitzman*

In Memory of Welcomb Lipscomb  
*By Berlinda Lipscomb*

In Memory of Terry Martin  
*By Lesa Martin*

In Memory of  
James and Myra Platt  
*By Hal Platt*

In Memory of Stan Truelove  
*By Jane Truelove*

### Honor Gifts

In Honor of Lynda Askew  
*By Jessica Butler*  
*Eula Sommer*

In Honor of Cindy Bryant  
*By Jennifer Romberg*

In Honor of Jessica Butler  
*By Harriette Taylor*  
*By Becky & Mike Whitmire*

In Honor Cheryl Christian  
*By Jessica Butler*

In Honor Susan Daniell  
*By Jessica Butler*  
*By Martha Nesbitt*

In Honor of Bert Dillon  
*By Claudine and George Eastburn*

In Honor of Anna Eades  
*By Polly Eades*

In Honor of Jenny Floyd  
*By Kristi Crumpton*

In Honor of Gateway Staff  
*By Mary Lou Melvin*

In Honor of Blythe Hammons  
*By Susan Daniell*  
*Andy & Elizabeth Latta*

In Honor of Kathy McManus  
*By Colleene Ivey*

In Honor of Irene Shannon  
*By Norman and Sara Essner*

In Honor of Susanne Turner  
*By Jessica Butler*

In Honor of Robin Underwood  
*By Jennifer Allison*  
*Amanda Buono*  
*Kris Dwyer*  
*Marsha Strazynski*

In Honor of Bud & Alice Volk  
*By Gateway Staff*

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Cindy and Gust Askounis  
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Cristina Bennett  
Dawn Marie Bernhard  
Judy Black  
Kay Blackstock  
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Angela and Victor Zubar

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Addison Leadership Group  
America's Home Place, Inc.  
Anesthesia Associates  
Law Office Of Alfred Chang PC  
Cobb Holdings  
Arturo Corso, Attorney at Law  
Creation Counseling  
Lee Dempsey Insurance Agency  
Family Recovery  
Flip Your Dog Yoga  
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GCK Properties, LP  
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Milton Martin Honda  
Milton Martin Toyota  
Northeast Georgia Diagnostic Clinic  
Northeast Georgia Medical Center  
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Spektakular Boutique  
Spine Center Atlanta  
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The Good Life Group / Bev Knight  
Tipton Construction Co.  
Turner Johnson Group, LLC  
Turner, Wood & Smith  
UPS - Legal Department  
Walters Management Company  
Wilheit Packaging L.L.C.

## Churches

Bethel United Methodist Church  
Christ Place Church  
Estes-Dozier Missions Group/FBC  
First Baptist Church Of Gainesville  
First Presbyterian Church  
Flat Creek Baptist Church  
Gainesville First UMC  
Grace Episcopal Church  
Presbyterian Women / FPC  
St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church  
St. Paul United Methodist Church  
T. Richard Davis Class/ FBC

## Clubs and Organizations

Gainesville Wednesday Study  
Group  
Hall County Optimist Club  
Junior League  
Lanier Corvettes Unlimited

## Foundations

Alpha Chi Omega Foundation  
The Bagwell Family Fund  
Ralph and Mary Cleveland Foundation  
Norton and Florence Eberly  
Family Foundation  
GAP Foundation  
J Michael Hosford Foundation Inc.  
Scott Hudgens Family Foundation  
Asden W. & Albert T. Johnson  
Fund at the NGCF  
The Robert G. & Gloria S. Molloy  
Foundation at the NGCF  
Roy C. Moore Foundation  
The Designated Fund of Thomas C.  
& Alice Ann Mundy  
North Georgia Community Foundation  
The Michelle R. Prater  
Giving Fund at the NGCF  
The Robertson Family  
Donor Advised Fund at the NGCF  
The Nathan-Schrage Fund  
Beverly J. Searles Foundation, Inc  
The Seelke Family Fund  
The Rodney & Anita Smith  
Charitable Fund at the NGCF  
The TJX Foundation, Inc.  
Together Rising, Inc.  
Ware Foundation  
Wells Fargo Foundation

# BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

as of August 1, 2020



Gateway staff, November 2019

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**Sally Pittman**, Treasurer

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## EMPLOYEES

Kim Abua, Night and Weekend House Manager  
Cristina Bennett, Family Advocate  
Cindy Bryant, Transitional Advocate and Program Coordinator

Jessica Butler, Executive Director  
Jackie Denney, Bookkeeper  
Ana Dominguez, Shelter Advocate  
Alondra Fierro, Legal Advocate  
Blythe Hammons, Advocacy Supervisor  
Shelby Kinsey, Volunteer Coordinator  
Lanita Harris, Director of Legal Advocacy  
TJ Johnston, Night and Weekend House Manager  
Jennie Pless, Night and Weekend House Manager  
Karen Staley, Administrative Assistant  
Connie Vandervelde, Children's Program Coordinator  
Janet Whittaker, Shelter Manager  
Melissa Wiley, Development Specialist  
Phyllis Wintter, Night and Weekend House Manager

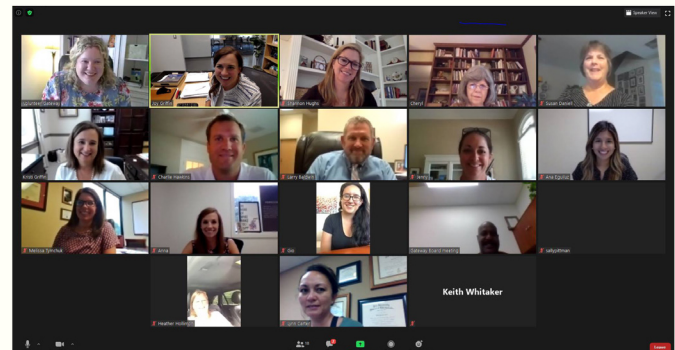
## CONTRACTED EMPLOYEES & SUPPORT GROUP LEADERS

Kelsey Anderson, Children's Support Group Leader  
Melody Blankenship, Early Learning Specialist  
Cheryl Christian, Development Consultant  
Dawn Columbo, Art Group Facilitator  
Jess Maynard, Children's Support Group Leader

Ashley Shadburn, Early Learning Specialist  
Robin Underwood, Women's Occupational Therapist

## THRIFT STORE EMPLOYEES

Jessica Armour  
Miriam Gregory  
Betty Jo Hatcher  
Michelle Parks  
Gloria Sanders  
Shelia Stephens  
Cora Stewart



Gateway Board, July 2020