



Gateway Domestic Violence Center

ANNUAL
REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



“GATEWAY ALWAYS HAD PROVIDED HOPE TO SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE. BUT THIS NEW SHELTER REPRESENTS SOMETHING MORE – A PLACE BUILT WITH THEM IN MIND. A TEMPORARY HOME OFFERING SAFETY, HEALING AND THE PROMISE OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE.”

It's been a special year to serve as the president of the Gateway Domestic Violence Center Board of Directors. Gateway was founded 40 years ago, and it's been truly inspirational to look back at where this nonprofit started – with a handful of dedicated women and community allies who saw a critical need – and to realize just how much we've grown.

When Gateway launched its capital campaign six years ago, I had not yet joined the board. Through my job in commercial real estate, I had the opportunity to work with the organization's leadership to identify properties from raw land to existing buildings that might be suitable for Gateway's new shelter.

It was during this process I learned so much more about the organization and the critical services they provide in our community. I was honored to help Gateway find its new home and, ultimately, to come on board and contribute in any way that I could.

Like most real estate clients, Gateway had a list of features that were musts and a few others that were considered important but not deal breakers. After an extensive search that took us to all kinds of properties, we found a site that enabled Gateway to check everything off their list:

- ✓ **Located in the City of Gainesville**
- ✓ **Safe area**
- ✓ **On city sewer**
- ✓ **Near public transportation**
- ✓ **Room for future growth (the new site has 5+ acres)**
- ✓ **Employment opportunities for clients**

Gateway's campaign committee originally selected a tagline for the capital project: "Building Foundations. Securing Hope." I'm excited to say that's just what we've done. The foundation for our brand new shelter has been poured and builders are putting the finishing touches on the beautiful space as I write this.

The organization's future is secure, thanks to the generosity of our supporters. Due to the support of individual donors, foundations, business, churches and grants, we will open the shelter this summer debt-free, having blown past our \$4.5 million campaign goal.

Gateway always had provided hope to survivors of domestic abuse. But this new shelter represents something more – a place built with them in mind. A temporary home offering safety, healing and the promise of a brighter future.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. I know I can't wait to see what Gateway is able to accomplish over the next 40 years!

Charlie Hawkins

GATEWAY TO 2020 CAMPAIGN RESULTS

**RAISED:
\$4,537,454**

**GOAL:
\$4.5 MILLION**



SUPPORT GATEWAY'S THRIFT STORE!

1642 Park Hill Drive | Gainesville

DONATION HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SHOPPING HOURS

Monday - Saturday
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Gateway Thrift Store provides a place for clients to select clothing and household items to get back on their feet. All proceeds from store sales support Gateway's operations & services.

**Our thrift store has limited floor and storage space. Small donations accepted during hours listed above. If you have a large volume or larger items to donate, please call ahead to ensure we can accommodate your generosity: 770-536-6789.*

POINTS OF PRIDE



Pictured: A screenshot of the virtual award presentation during the 27th Annual Family Violence Conference. From left, Michelle Myers, Hall County Solicitor's Office; Janet Whittaker, Gateway Domestic Violence Center; Dan Franklin, Hall County Sheriff's Office.



Join us as we discuss Netflix's

MAID

TASK FORCE RECEIVES STATEWIDE RECOGNITION

Janet Whittaker, Gateway shelter manager, presented at the 2021 Georgia Commission on Family Violence (GCFV) Conference. Janet shared information about the Hall County Domestic Violence Task Force's responses to incidents of domestic violence-related murder-suicide incidents. Task force members have spent hours meeting with surviving family members, providing information about victims' compensation, and gathering required documents. They also have made counseling referrals and advocated for services needed by survivors.

Hall County saw a surge in incidents of family violence-related deaths in 2021. According to GCFV, Hall County saw an average of 2.4 deaths related to family violence per year from 2013-2017 (the most recent five years the Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review reports were published). In 2021, Hall County experienced 9 family violence-related deaths and two critical injuries associated with these fatalities.

During the GCFV conference, the Hall County Domestic Violence Task Force was named the "Domestic Violence Task Force of the Year."

DISCUSSION GROUPS HIGHLIGHT SURVIVORS' FINANCIAL STRUGGLES

The series *MAID* topped the Netflix charts at the end of 2021. The series focused on a mother who fled an abusive relationship and struggled to provide for her child. Gateway developed a discussion guide and hosted four discussion groups based on this series. In addition to hosting local events, Gateway shared the curriculum with other organizations throughout the US and Canada. Gateway is still available to facilitate discussion groups based on this series. Contact Janet Whittaker at jwhittaker@gatewaydvcenter.org for more information.

GATEWAY provides safety, shelter and support for those impacted by domestic violence.

GATEWAY BY THE NUMBERS IN 2021...

192 women and children lived in the emergency shelter.

79 people were placed in a hotel for some or all of their emergency shelter stay because there was not enough space in the shelter

17 average number of people in the 18-bed emergency shelter

33 average length of stay in the emergency shelter

6,216 guest nights of shelter were provided in the emergency shelter

52 women and children lived in Gateway's long-term transitional housing program

17 average number of months residents lived in the transitional housing program

8,754 guest nights were provided in the transitional housing program

\$11.35 average hourly wage of transitional housing residents

1,453 total number of clients served - both residential and nonresidential

2,168 number of crisis calls Gateway answered on the 24/7 hotline

91% of the adults who participated in Gateway programs said they can better manage their own safety

116 Temporary Protective Orders were secured

102 adult survivors of abuse participated in support groups

128 children participated in support groups and educational programs

40TH ANNIVERSARY TIMELINE



1982

Gateway House opens; providing services 24 hours a day, every day, since opening – more than 14,000 consecutive days.



1984

Children's Program starts; has served children and teens continuously since.



2001

A significant facility expansion, including the addition of three on-site transitional apartments, is completed.

2002

First Gateway Thrift Store opens.



2008

Receive the Medical Center Foundation Golf Tournament proceeds (\$201,565) which are used to add dedicated support group space for children and teens.

2011

The "Power of We" \$1 million capital campaign begins, aiming to raise funds for Transitional Housing expansion.

2015

Construction of seven Transitional Housing Apartments is completed debt-free.

1985



Gateway moves into a new shelter provided by the City of Gainesville; it's the first domestic violence shelter in Georgia to be designed and built specifically as a shelter for battered women.

1992

First expansion of the Gateway shelter.

1997

Gateway's Legal Advocacy program begins, and within two years a second legal advocate is added.

1995

Gateway begins offering bilingual services and support groups.



2016

The Gateway Board of Directors launches the "Gateway to 2020, Building Foundations – Securing Hope" capital campaign to raise funds for construction of a new shelter.



2021

Construction begins on the new shelter.

BOARD MEMBERS & **STAFF**

as of June 1, 2022



Gateway's Staff



Gateway's Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charlie Hawkins, President
Nick Challen, Vice President
Anna Moore, Past President
Todd Ratliff, Secretary
Sally Pittman, Treasurer

Loveanne Addison
 Lynn Carter, D.C.
 Ana Eguluz Collins
 Wendy Coto-Puckett, M.D.
 Susan J. Daniell
 Kristy Davies
 Jenny Floyd
 Joy Griffin
 Kristi Griffin
 Giovanna Holden
 Heather Hollimon
 Sharon Holt
 Shannon Hughs
 Bernard Larkin
 Kelly Lee
 Elida Lopez
 Nikova Mason, M.D.
 Jay Parrish
 Holly Reynolds
 Rachel Sproue
 John Strupe

Vanessa Sykes
 Julie Tenhold
 Susanne Stribling Turner
 Melissa Tymchuk
 Keith Whitaker
 Morgan Wood

EMPLOYEES

Danica Barron,
 Night and Weekend
 House Manager
 Cindy Bryant,
 Transitional Housing
 and Advocacy
 Services Manager
 Jessica Butler,
 Executive Director
 Jackie Denney,
 Bookkeeper
 Jennifer Findley,
 Night and Weekend
 House Manager
 Lanita Harris,
 Director of Legal Advocacy
 Christine Hernandez,
 Legal Advocate
 Lauren Hutton,
 Child Advocate

T.J. Johnston, Night
 and Weekend
 House Manager
 Shelby Kinsey,
 Volunteer
 Coordinator
 Lola Longoria,
 Shelter Operations
 Coordinator
 Kelly Perez,
 Advocacy Team Leader
 Jennie Pless,
 Night and Weekend
 House Manager
 Dana Skelton,
 Night and Weekend
 House Manager
 Karen Staley,
 Administrative Assistant
 Lourdes Thomas,
 Family Advocate
 Janet Whittaker,
 Shelter Manager
 Melissa Wiley,
 Development Coordinator
 Phyllis Wintter,
 Night and Weekend
 House Manager

SUPPORT GROUP LEADERS

Dawn Columbo
 Latorya Dopson
 Ava Jennings
 Jess Maynard
 Sage Rider
 Lily Sheppard
 Sarah Sukumaran
 Katelynn Warren
 Tyra Wimpye

THRIFT STORE EMPLOYEES

Jessica Armour
 Miriam Gregory
 Betty Jo Hatcher
 Sheila Stephens
 Cora Stewart



We honor the memory of **Brenda Cook**, who passed away on October 12th, 2021. Brenda served as the Executive Director at Gateway from 1994 until 2007. She was respected by her peers in our community and around the state. She oversaw the expansion of Gateway's shelter and the addition of our first transitional housing apartments in 2001. We appreciate her dedicated work for survivors of domestic violence.