

FINANCES:

We appreciate all of our supporters during fiscal year 2018!

Foundation Revenue:

- Anonymous Foundation
- Fred Wells Trust
- Miscellaneous Grants
- Vanguard
- Haymarket Fund
- Monthly United Way
- United Way Donor's Choice

Contract Revenue:

- Community Legal Aid OVW Subcontract
- PH General Community Based Domestic Violence Services
- DPH Flex Funds
- DPH Supervised Visitation
- DPH Rape Crisis Center (state)
- DPH Rape Crisis Center/Rape Prevention & Education (federal)
- DPH MA Rural Domestic & Sexual Violence Project
- MOVA SAFE Plan
- MOVA VOCA
- NWDA-STOP Subcontract

Total Revenue	\$1,091,338
Total Expenses	\$1,118,256
Temporarily restricted (reserve)	\$79,000



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Beth Lux, President
- Pam Brown, Vice president
- Tessa White-Diemand, Clerk
- Johanna Bourgeois, Treasurer
- Sandy Staub
- Rachel Gordon
- Karen Fitzpatrick



Thank you to everyone who has participated in our 2018 fundraising and volunteer efforts, including the annual Bowl-A-Thon!

CONTACT US!

GREENFIELD OFFICE:

479 Main Street, Greenfield, MA

Mailing Address: NELCWIT,
PO Box 520
Greenfield, MA 01302

413.772.0871 | Fax 413.772.2743

Administration & SAFEPLAN offices are at our Greenfield location.

NORTH QUABBIN OFFICE:

131 West Main Street, Suites 203 & 206

Orange, MA

978.544.9857 | Fax 978.544.8375

FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN'S VISITATION PROGRAM:

413.325.8011 | Fax 413.325.8291

NELCWIT 24 Hour Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Hotline: 413.772.0806

or **888.249.0806** (Franklin County/North Quabbin Toll-Free Number).

Our lines are TTY enabled or use MA Relay 711.

Find us online on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pg/NELCWIT or at our website: www.nelcwit.org



BUILDING SAFETY, JUSTICE,
AND DIGNITY FOR ALL

NEW ENGLAND LEARNING CENTER FOR WOMEN IN TRANSITION • ANNUAL REPORT 2018

OUR BUSIEST YEAR YET



Abuse is isolating and survivors are not always able to seek support. At NELCWIT, survivors can come to the Greenfield office 5 days a week, without an appointment, at any time that is safe and convenient for them. Survivors can call the crisis line 24 hours a day.

NELCWIT provides free and confidential services to domestic and sexual violence survivors in the rural region of Franklin County and the North Quabbin region of Massachusetts, where the geography of the area creates further barriers for survivors seeking support. Lack of transportation, combined with the lowest wages and income in the state, create barriers that prohibit survivors from reaching out.

Over the last fiscal year, 2,242 calls came in on our crisis line alone. Walk-in and crisis-line services are the gateway to additional support services at NELCWIT and this past year has been our busiest ever: 887 people received counseling and advocacy. Our SAFEPLAN program assisted 471 people seeking protective orders, and our Franklin County Children's Visitation Program offered a safe, supervised setting for family time to 107 people. Through the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) collaboration with the Hampshire and Franklin county police departments, NELCWIT advocates responded to 181 calls reporting domestic violence incidents, providing immediate support to survivors. NELCWIT works hard through our outreach, prevention, and education programs to share our services with the community.

NELCWIT's committed and knowledgeable staff include 4 full-time counselor/advocates bilingual in Spanish and English. All our counselors tailor services to the expressed needs of survivors and using the empowerment model. Our work is led by a commitment to social justice and dismantling systems of oppression.

CLIENTS
SUPPORTED
FISCAL YEAR
2018



¡Todos nuestros servicios también están disponibles en español!
Nuestra Línea de Ayuda está abierta 24/7: 413-772-0806 - 0 - 888.249.0806

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OUR MISSION

NELCWIT's mission is to work within the community to build safety, justice, and dignity for all. We offer survivors of domestic and sexual violence 24-hour crisis support, counseling, education, advocacy, referrals to shelter, a visitation center, and community organizing to survivors of domestic violence or sexual abuse. As an antiracist, multicultural organization, NELCWIT also joins with and mobilizes other groups and individuals who are working to end domestic violence and sexual abuse, ensure human rights, and create social change.



PROGRAMS

Crisis Advocates

Our crisis advocates are the first contact point for most NELCWIT clients. When survivors or their loved ones call our hotline seeking emotional support, safety information and resources, our advocates work hard to assess, validate and empower. NELCWIT clients are often contending with a variety of confusing systems—state assistance, disability claims, child custody, mental health treatment—in addition to the abuse they're enduring. Clients walk-in to our office in Greenfield when they have an urgent need, like help preventing an eviction or an upcoming court date. Legal questions about divorce, child custody, spousal/child support and financial separation are common on the hotline, and our advocates are able to refer those callers to area organizations that can provide more legal assistance, or to our own SAFEPLAN program, which assists clients seeking protective orders. Our crisis advocates can provide clients with basic need assistance, like help with utilities arrears, gift cards for gas and food, gently used clothing, phone service and sanitary products.



Legal Advice Sessions

NELCWIT offers free hour-long, legal consultations relating to domestic violence and sexual assault through collaborations with the Franklin County Bar Association and Community Legal Aid.

Photo: NELCWIT staff, 2018

Franklin County Children's Visitation Program

The Franklin County Children's Visitation Program (FCCVP) offers a child-friendly atmosphere for families who need an alternative to unsupervised visits between children and their non-custodial parents. The FCCVP operates in accordance with the National Guidelines for Supervised Visitation and honors the Bill of Rights for Children.

SAFEPLAN

NELCWIT's SAFEPLAN project is part of a statewide program that assists victims of domestic and sexual violence who are seeking restraining orders. Our advocates are located in the Greenfield and Orange courts. In addition to supporting victims through the restraining order process, they offer safety planning, referrals and advocacy and assist with court-related paperwork.

NELCWIT's Franklin County Children's Visitation Program provides safe, supervised, age-appropriate spaces for people ages 0-17 to visit with their non-custodial parents. This photo features a staff member's family.



SUPPORT GROUPS:

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Education Support Group

Fridays from 10-11 in Greenfield

This drop-in support group offers educational tools and resources for understanding the dynamics of abusive relationships, as well as the effect of trauma on the mind and body. Group materials include education on the cycle of violence, healthy relationship dynamics, power and control, coping skills and mindfulness/meditation.

Creative Ways Art Group

Mondays 10-12 in Greenfield, drop-in, no intake

This group provides coloring books and other art supplies for a freeform survivor drawing session. Sharing is encouraged, but not mandatory-- the focus of Creative Ways is exploring and releasing emotion in non-verbal ways. Survivors are invited to disconnect from their daily stress and trauma, and focus on the beauty and potential of their own creativity.



A September 2018 visit from Officer Donut, the Greenfield Police Department's comfort dog. Officer Donut has

been trained to provide reassurance in the aftermath of trauma, including after mass shootings, natural disasters, and with domestic/sexual assault survivors.



Sewing Group

Thursdays from 10-12am in Greenfield

This support group focuses on community connection and building sewing skills. With assistance from skilled community volunteers and our Latin@ Outreach Advocate, participants in the sewing group have made bags, robes, curtains and many other kinds of fabric art. Six sewing machines and a variety of textiles are available to choose from, and the members of this group help and support one in a safe space that's focused on creative potential.

Social Fabric Support Group

Fridays 10-12 in Orange, Drop-in with short intake if not a current client

This drop-in support group at our Orange office offers a safe space for survivors or friends and family of survivors to share and learn from one another. Facilitated by a NELCWIT counselor, Social Fabric emphasizes the importance of social connection in healing from trauma and combating the isolation that DV survivors often feel. Discussion focuses on identifying difficult

emotions and articulating them in a healthy way, along with conflict resolution and managing triggers in unsafe spaces.

Garden Project 2015-2018

A collaboration between NELCWIT, the Women's Center of Turners Falls, the Salasin Center, Greenfield Community College and funded by the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts, the Garden Project has provided education on sustainable agriculture for local survivors.



Each "class" completes four credited courses at GCC: Co-op Business, Vegetable and Herb Garden with Raised Beds, Permaculture Garden Design and Implement-

ation, Food Storage and Preservation. With the skills obtained in these classes, the students designed and built three public garden spaces—one in NELCWIT's front yard in Greenfield, one at the Women's Center in Turners, and one in Orange. In the final year, volunteers from the previous classes were trained to evaluate community projects and gave recommendations for improvements to the Garden Project.

NELCWIT offers services to people of all genders, sexual orientations and abilities. All of NELCWIT's services are free of charge, do not require health insurance or documentation, and are available in Spanish and English, with other languages offered through an interpretation service.



Our 24/7 Crisis Hotline: 413-772-0806

Walk-in hours: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM, and Friday, 9AM-1:30PM, at our Greenfield location:
479 Main St., Greenfield, MA.