

VOLUME 1 • JULY 2020

THE SCOOP

SAFE PASSAGE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

IMPACT STORY

BY SAFE PASSAGE ADVOCATE/INTERVIEWER

This month a child was seriously abused by his father and passed away due to the abuse. Two of the victim's siblings were witnesses to this tragedy. After the incident the aunt of the children, 'Sarah', took the siblings into her care, and brought them to Safe Passage for forensic interviews. When Sarah met the team involved with the case for the first time, she was surprised about how many people were in the room- 2 detectives, 2 DHS caseworkers, 2 DA investigators, 2 Safe Passage interviewers, and a Safe Passage advocate.

Both children were interviewed while the advocate met with Sarah. Sarah asked a lot of great questions, starting with "What is this place?". The advocate explained what Safe Passage, a Children's Advocacy Center is, and how the model of care helps children, families and all team partners involved by ensuring that a child does not have to be interviewed repeatedly by all different agency's involved.

After the interviews were completed, Sarah had time to ask further questions and receive referrals for other services, including mental health counseling for the children. She expressed her gratitude that Safe Passage was such a welcoming place for the children and shared that even with "all of this COVID stuff" going on she felt like her family was getting every bit of support they could have hoped for from all of the professionals involved that day at Safe Passage.

This is the beauty of the the model of care that Safe Passage provides! We surround families in the midst of tragedy and offer **hope** and **healing** through **holistic** services and care while taking actionable steps towards **justice**.

TAKE A PEEK!

NUMBER OF PRIMARY
AND SECONDARY
CHILD VICTIMS
SERVED IN MAY &
JUNE:
199

"The staff here was very welcoming and it felt like a safe place for children that are in this situation."

Parent of a child victim



THANK YOU

The past few months have been filled with much uncertainty and stress however the work of Safe Passage has remained strong and steady amidst COVID-19. We have continued to provide essential services to our community with many safety precautions put in place. As we all know, child abuse does not end with a pandemic but rather will likely increase as many children are not safer at home in this time.

Because of your support we have been able to serve 199 children these past two months, like the young child and siblings talked about in our impact story. We cannot thank you enough for your support! We are stronger because of you.

Let's keep making a difference together.

-Emily Bowker

Ways to Give

- Help a child "SHINE" through sponsoring a child we serve for \$134.00 a month, \$1,600 a year. This provides one forensic interview, one medical exam and advocacy services for one child. Via www.safepassagecac.org and sign up for a recurring gift.
- Become a *Friend of Safe Passage* through a monthly \$50 contribution or more at www.safepassagecac.org
- One time gift via text to 202-858-1233 and enter shortcode: Safepassagecac or via our website at www.safepassagecac.org
- Mail a check to 423 South Cascade Ave. Colorado Springs, CO 80903

SHINE