Safety. Options. Hope.

Someplace Safe for Everyone

Fall 2015



Domestic Violence A Survivor's Story: Ellie

My story begins like many others, in that I was raised in a home where alcohol and violence were a regular occurrence. I was the oldest of four, and often times had to act as the protector and caretaker to my younger siblings. I was frequently putting myself in the middle of fights between my mother and her boyfriends, so they wouldn't turn their rage toward my younger siblings. I had been around this type of life for so long, that it had become "normal" to me. The only time I had seen adult couples together without violence and drinking was when I was over at a friend's house.

When I turned 16, child protection finally got involved, and we were all put into

temporary foster care. Thankfully, we were all able to be placed together until my mother finished chemical dependency treatment and we were allowed to go back home with her. My mother continued to do well and stay sober, so I finally felt ok about getting a job after barely graduating from high school. I was hired as the overnight waitress at a restaurant near our home. That's where I met my husband.

"Rick" was a former foster kid himself. I was instantly drawn to him, because he had been through many of the same things that I had been through growing up. We immediately started dating, and we moved in together three weeks later. I did think that things were moving fast, but I was convinced Rick was my soulmate. He would constantly tell me there was nobody else in the world for him except me. I believed him, and that is likely why I ignored most of the red flags that other people were seeing. Rick was a heavy drinker, and was quick to get angry. We were living with one of his cousins, and Rick started to accuse me of messing around with him.

The first time Rick hit me was because he found out that I had given his cousin a ride home from work. I can remember as clear as day actually feeling a strange sense of re-

lief when Rick hit me. Even though we had only been dating for a couple of months, something in the back of my mind kept telling me, "When is he just going to do this, already?" For me, it was the anticipation leading up to the violence that was the scariest. And even though we were so in love, and it was so exciting to have someone who "gets me," I had always just expected that violence was a part of it. It was all I knew. Just a few months later, I became pregnant with our first son. Rick and I got married shortly after and moved close to 300 miles away because of his new job. I stayed at home with our son, and rarely talked to my family, as it would usually start a fight when I did. Rick was drinking even more, and the violence had escalated. He became even more controlling, and would call and text me constantly while he was at work. Rick would lose his job due to

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Someplace Safe Receives Technology Grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation

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The Otto Bremer Foundation, majority owner of Bremer Bank, recently awarded a technology grant to Someplace Safe. The funds will be used to increase Someplace Safe's capacity to provide client services through technology improvements. Sheila Korby, Executive Director, said "Someplace Safe has expanded and adapted programming to better meet the changing needs of the communities served since 1979. To create a safer world for everyone, we work to eliminate violence and oppression through advocacy, education, and services. This is the mission of Someplace Safe, the guiding force behind all of our work, and the overarching goal of the organization's staff, Board of Directors, and supporters. By increasing capacity Someplace Safe staff will be able to provide direct services in a more efficient way, without increasing staff costs." Thank you!

Executive Director Corner

Agency-wide Growth, Change and Expansion



Sheila Korby Executive Director

This has been an exciting few months at Someplace Safe and has brought incredible changes for the agency. Since the last newsletter, Someplace Safe has begun undergoing a major technology overhaul – thanks to an Otto Bremer Foundation grant. The scope of this project and funding is allowing the agency to make incredible advances in how we communicate with each other and clients. Over the past four years, the agency has grown exponentially, now having over 50 employees at 13 sites. With limited monies and opportunity to improve the communications and equipment without funding, the grant could not have come at a better time. Please see article on page 1 describing details of the project.

The new Someplace Safe Regional Youth Advocate has begun work on juvenile trafficking, and since February 2015 has provided services to over 25 youth in Someplace Safe's nine county service area who have been trafficked or exploited. Someplace Safe was notifed that the agency will receive continued funding for this much needed position from the Minnesota Department of Health for at least 18 months! See page 3 for more information on the Safe Harbors Program and Someplace Safe's services for Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Youth.

Beginning October 1, 2015, Someplace Safe will begin full time office hours and staffing at the Grant, Traverse, and Big Stone County Advocacy Offices! In addition, a second Regional Coverage Advocate will begin to assist in providing coverage for offices which have a large number of clients, or where staff is gone for training or time off. This will allow victims increased access to advocates, as well as allow the advocates in those counties to provide enhanced services.

E-newsletters are changing – beginning in fall 2015 the format for the enewsletter will be changing to feature a program, county, or office in its entirety. To sign up to receive the monthly e-newsletter, please email: newsletter@someplacesafe.info

Board of Directors

Nancy Voss (Chair), Otter Tail
Heather Brandborg, Otter Tail
Tara Gromatka, At Large
Ruth Grussing, At Large
Carol Jergenson, At Large
Zach Johnson, Stevens
Michelle Moorer, Pope
Jim Minion, Traverse
Lynn Nesland, Wadena
Rhoda Smith, Stevens

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Becki Jordan - Director of Advocacy becki.j@someplacesafe.info

Ashley Zach Ehlert- Director of Development & Communications ashley.ze@someplacesafe.info

Michael Munn - Manager of Someplace Safe Alexandria Thrift Store michael.m@someplacesafe.info

Rilee Moulton - Manager of Someplace Safe Morris Thrift Store rilee.m@someplacesafe.info

Look on page 6

for a valuable coupon from our Community Thift Stores!



Someplace Safe invites you to join Minnesota non-profts on November 12th for Give to the Max Day 2015! Each year, generous donors like yourself show support for their favorite charitable organizations on Give to the Max Day, by making a donation to them on GiveMN.org. This annual 24-hour online giving event allows non-profit donors from all over Minnesota and

beyond to simply visit the GiveMN website to quickly and easily make a donation to their favorite organization. By making a donation to Someplace Safe on Give to the Max Day, you are helping to change lives in your community. Your donation may also help Someplace Safe receive additional donations on November 12th! How? Every gift made on GiveMN.org will be entered into drawings for additional donations throughout the 24-hours of the Give to the Max day! So the more you donate on November 12th, the better the chance Someplace Safe has to receive additional bonus contributions! Please mark your calendar and make your gift on November 12th by visiting www.givemn.org/organization/Someplacesafe. Thank you for "giving to the max" in support of Sompleace Safe!



Someplace Safe Provides Advocacy Services to Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Youth

In 2011, Minnesota added the definition of sexually exploited youth (SEY) into child protection codes, increased the penalties against commercial sex abusers or purchasers, and directed the Commissioner of Public Safety to work with stakeholders to create a victim-centered, statewide response for sexually exploited youth. Effective August 1, 2014, the state now excludes SEY under the age of 18 from the definition of delinquent child. This will resolve the conflict that defines in law a sexually exploited youth as both a victim and delinquent. If youth engage in conduct that relates to being hired, offering to be hired or agreeing to be hired by another individual to engage

in sexual conduct, they will no longer be charged with a crime for this act. In addition, Minnesota is in the process of implementing a state service model called "No Wrong Door", which makes resources and services available for SEY, including regional navigators, housing and shelter, comprehensive services, and training and protocol development.

In February 2015, Someplace Safe added a full-time Regional Youth Advocate (with grant funding through the Minnesota Department of Health for Safe Harbor Supportive Services), dedicated solely to identifying and working with both sexually exploited youth and youth at risk of exploitation and/or trafficking, throughout the region. This highly-trained position has not only enabled Someplace Safe to offer specialized direct services for SEY, it has increased the organization's capacity to focus on creating coordinated, trauma-informed systems to assist youth. Prior to this specialized position, the agency provided services for youth as they were identified within the agency's advocacy program, or through outside referrals from other community agencies or service providers. The creation of this position is allowing Someplace Safe to work more effectively to identify and help coordinate services to youth and families in need. From February to May 2015, the Regional Youth Advocate provided direct services to at least 25 SEY, with several more having been referred but not yet seeking services. The Regional Youth Advocate coordinates intakes and referrals in regards to sexually exploited and/or trafficked youth, in addition to providing direct services to SEY ages 17 and under in Big Stone, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, Wadena and Wilkin Counties in West Central Minnesota. The advocate works in collaboration with local communities, service providers, and systems partners, and is also available for community presentations or educational requests. These requests can be made online at www.someplacesafe.info under the Training and Education tab.

If you or someone you know is in an unsafe or dangerous situation, please contact Someplace Safe in your area, or call 1-800-974-3359 24-hours a day.

Someplace Safe Community Thrift Stores: Alexandria and Morris

Existing as viable cornerstones to raise funds and awareness for Someplace Safe services, engage communities, recycle usable goods, and provide employment and volunteer opportunities. Profits support victims of crimes and families in local communities.

ALEXANDRIA LOCATION

Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturdays:

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Please check our updated winter hours on our website at :

www.someplacesafe.info/thrift-stores

690 VOYAGER DRIVE #106 320-763-4677

DONATIONS ACCEPTED MONDAY - FRIDAY

9 a.m. - 6 p.m. (or by appointment)



MORRIS LOCATION

Monday - Wednesday, Friday:
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursdays:
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturdays:
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

708 ATLANTIC AVE 320-585-6614

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

MONDAY - FRIDAY

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (or by appointment)

September 25 -WADENA: Chili Fundraiser

Wadena Elks Lodge: 647 Jefferson Street, Wadena

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Cost: Free will donation

October 7 -

OTTER TAIL - Perham: Domestic Violence Vigil New Creations Lutheran Church: 295 Coney Street West, Perham

Time: 4:30 p.m.

"Remember My Name" vigil, program, and children's games

Meal served from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Cost: Free will donation

October 8 -

POPE: March Against Domestic Violence

Starting Point: Human Services Parking Lot 211 E Minnesota Ave. GLenwood, MN

Start Time: 11:30 a.m.

Lunch and Guest Speaker following the March at Human Services Open House after March: Someplace Safe - 16 MN Ave. W. Suite 103

Cost: Free will donation accepted - Free t-shirts to participants

October 13 -

DOUGLAS: Taking Steps Against Violence Awareness Walk

Starting Point: Douglas Co. Courthouse Lawn- 305 8th Ave. W, Alexandria

Start Time: 5:00 p.m.

Conclude: Calvary Lutheran Church - 605 Douglas St, Alexandria

Free meal and t-shirts provided

Featured Speaker: Lindsey Kalina - Domestic Violence Survivor

Cost: No cost and no registration required

October 14 -

WILKIN: Twin Town Domestic Violence Awareness Walk

Registration: Begins at 4:30 p.m. with refreshments at Three Rivers Crisis Center: 509 Dakota Ave, Wahpeton, ND Start Time: Walk begins at 5:30 p.m. at Three Rivers Crisis Center Brief program midway through walk on the Twin Town Bridge Ending Point: Refreshments at Someplace Safe

115 N 5th Street, Breckenridge, MN

Cost: Free will donation

October 14 -

DOUGLAS: UCAN Domestic Abuse Luncheon

Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center: 2100 Arrowwood Lane, Alexandria

Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tickets available at: Someplace Safe Douglas Advocacy Office and

Neighborhood National Bank

Featured Speaker: Kathy Weckwerth, Domestic Violence Survivor and

Executive Director of Best Life Ministries

Cost: \$15/person

October 15 -**GRANT: Chili Fundraiser**

Thorson Memorial Library, Sanford Room: 117 Central Ave N, Elbow Lake

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cost: Free will donation

October 16 -

BIG STONE: Chili Fundraiser

First English Church: 9 NW 3rd Street, Ortonville

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost: Free will donation

October 20 -

OTTER TAIL - Fergus Falls: Women's Self Defense Class

Fergus Falls Police Department: 122 West Junius Ave, Fergus Falls Registration: 6:00 p.m. / Class: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Instuctor: Sat. Kevin Sonstebo

Cost: Free event

Pre-registration available by calling Someplace Safe at 218-739-2853

October 20 -

WADENA: Domestic Violence Awareness and Family Fun Event

M-State Campus: 405 Colfax Avenue SW, Wadena

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Pumpkin decorating and children's games - bring the family!

Open to the public

Free will donation accepted

October 20 -

WILKIN: 4th Annual Chili Fundraiser

Breckenridge Senior Citizens Center: 225 5th St. S, Breckenridge

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Cost: Free will donation

*Please note change in time this year

October 21 -

DOUGLAS: Conquering Fear of Violence Course

Shultz Martial Arts Association

Lakes Area Gymnastics Building: 1910 Aga Drive, Alexandria

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Cost: Free

Register: josh@enrichingconfidence.com (limited number of paticipants)

October 22 -

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TRAVERSE: Chili Fundraiser

American Legion: 303 5th Street North, Wheaton

Time: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Cost: Free will donation

October 22 -

STEVENS: Gather in the Park

East Side Park: East 7th Street, Morris

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Community Meal / 6:00 p.m. Speaker Community meal, live music, children's activity table

Cost: Free to the public

Please visit www.someplacesafe.info/events for more information

Someplace Safe Upcoming Events, Fundraisers, and Open Houses

Someplace Safe Signature Fundraisers

Christmas Extravaganza 14th Annual Craft Show

Saturday, November 7th 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Starbuck Community Center Starbuck, MN Free event

Someplace Safe 13th Annual Tea

Saturday, February 13th Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Program begins at 11:30 a.m. Legacy Hall, M-State Campus Fergus Falls, MN Tickels \$25

4th Annual Purple Power "Ladies Night Out"

Thursday, February 25th Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Eagles Club - Wahpeton, ND *Tickets* \$25



Have you ever wondered what we do at Someplace Safe? Are you interested in learning more about helping others in your community?

You are invited to join us this holiday season as we open our doors to you. Bring a friend,

stop by and visit with staff in your community, ask questions, see the offices, and find out for yourself what Someplace Safe is all about!

Refreshments will be served in each office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone who attends will have the chance to enter in a drawing to win a door prize just for stopping by. Your opportunity to drop off holiday items for clients, as well as cell phones in working or non-working condition, will also be at this time, so feel free to bring these items if you can. Hope to see you there!

OPEN HOUSE DATES AND LOCAL LOCATIONS:

Nov 30: Ortonville Advocacy and Ortonville Parenting Time Center

Dec 1: Wadena Advocacy

Dec 2: Fergus Falls Advocacy and Fergus Falls Parenting Time Center

Dec 3: Morris Advocacy and Morris Parenting Time Center
Dec 4: Alexandria Advocacy Office and Alexandria Thrift Store

Dec 7: Wheaton Advocacy Office

Dec 8: Glenwood Advocacy Office and Parenting Time Center

Dec 9: Perham Advocacy Office and Parenting Time Center

Dec 10: Elbow Lake Advocacy Office
Dec 11: Breckenridge Advocacy Office

Please visit www.someplacesafe.info for more information

SPOTLIGHT

Making a Difference: Susan Keehn



Susan Keehn, a Crime Victim Advocate at Someplace Safe's Douglas County Advocacy Office, has been with our agency for over 8 years. During this time, Susan has worked tirelessly to assist victims of crimes, as well as to create positive change within her community. Susan was awarded the Mayor's Peace Award in 2012 in appreciation for her continuing efforts to reduce domestic violence in Douglas County. This well-deserved honor was quite fitting for Susan, given her extensive efforts in seeking justice and providing support for victims of domestic violence in her community. When asked what she likes best about working for Someplace Safe, Susan replied, "The best part of this work is helping people find hope again and become empowered for their lives at a time when they are in crisis". When asked what she would like the broader community to know about the work of Someplace Safe, she stated, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. United together

we can bring life transforming hope and change for those experiencing violence in their lives!". Thank you Susan for your dedication and for all of the work you have done on behalf of victims of violence in your area!

-Survivor story continued from page 1 -



not showing up because of his drinking, or because confrontations with his bosses or coworkers. We only had one car, and he always had the keys. The bank account was only in his name, and only had his name on the cell phone account. In just 3 years, we had 2 more children, and I found myself back in the same situation I was in growing up. Only this time, I was the main target for the rage and abuse. Once again, I was in the position of having to protect my children from witnessing violence and drug and alcohol abuse.

One night, the neighbors heard me screaming and called the police. Rick was arrested. I called my mother, and she drove to get us the next afternoon. The kids and I stayed with my mother for a couple of weeks. I tried the best I could to try to get a job, so we could move out of her home and into a place of our own. My mother and I were not getting along, and she was drinking. I was suddenly a single mom of three kids under the age of 5, and had absolutely nothing. I felt defeated. I felt like a failure.

Rick started calling and texting me as soon as he got out of jail. Of course, he was very apologetic and begged me to take him back. He told me that he could get back on to a work crew here, and he promised to get help for his drinking and be a better father for the kids. Being out of any other options, we moved back in with Rick. It didn't take long for things to fall right back into where they were before. Rick never did stop drinking, and the violence started back up. Only this time, he had the reason for me "getting him thrown into jail" to fuel his rage. It was hopeless.

The last time Rick ever put his hands on me was the day that would change my life. I won't go into the details, but I will tell you that I almost lost my life that

night. After he beat me, he left our apartment to go hide. It was actually my son who called my mother to come over to the house, and it was her who called the police, as I was physically unable to do so.

The police took me to the hospital, found Rick and arrested him. This time, thankfully, he wasn't able to bail out. I was in the hospital for 2 days, and was getting ready to be released that afternoon when I got a visit from the officer who responded to the scene that night. I was, and still am today, so moved by the compassion of this officer. He came by to be sure I was ok, and wanted to know what I was going to do next. I immediately began to cry and told him, "I don't know." It was that officer that told me about Someplace Safe, and urged me to call them for help. I had actually been in contact with Someplace Safe in the past, but didn't want to call them for help, as I was ashamed for going back with Rick. The officer assured me that I was not going to be judged there, and gave me their number. I reluctantly agreed, and he actually made the call to them from his cell phone. That call saved my life.

When I walked into the office at Someplace Safe, I was immediately greeted and escorted into my advocate's office. After only a few minutes of talking with her, I immediately felt such a sense of relief, I broke down. I'm guessing I'm not the only one this has happened to, as this didn't seem to faze her. She listened to what I was saying, and allowed me to be upset by what had happened to me. When I started to tell her about the last incident, I was surprised to learn that she already knew all about it. Law enforcement had already been in contact with them, and the advocate had attended Rick's first court hearing. She explained the entire court process to me, and assured me that she would be sure I knew what was happening with Rick's case every step of the way. She helped me write a protection order that restricted Rick from having any contact with me or the kids. She also gave me resources and put me in contact with people and agencies that were able to help me to find a home of our own. I started seeing a counselor, and started in-home family services for all of us. Before I knew it, I went from being all alone, to having a whole network of people who wanted nothing but the best for me and my family. I had to do a lot of work, and it was truly overwhelming at times, but my advocate was there, and is still there, to listen and help see me through it.

Rick eventually plead guilty and was convicted of felony domestic assault. With the help of my advocate, I wrote a victim impact statement and read it at Rick's sentencing. To this day, it's still amazing to me to think that in a year's time, I went from being so afraid to say the wrong thing to Rick, to being able to stand before him in a courtroom, and tell him how his actions had affected mine and the children's lives. But I was also able to tell him that I was no longer in that place and I had no intentions of ever going back there again.

Today, I am working part-time, and am in my second year of college. All of the kids are doing great in school, and are keeping me on my toes with all of their activities. They have had supervised visitations with their father for the past year, and they seem to be going very well. I still see my therapist, and am active in my church. Of course, I still talk to my advocate as well. Thank you so much, Someplace Safe. May you be blessed in all you do in the name of service to others!

Names and identifying details have been changed to protect the privacy of individuals in this article submission. Someplace Safe is not responsible for any statements and/or the content contained therein.



Give to

Give Online at: www.someplacesafe.info/give



Please mail to: Someplace Safe PO Box 815 Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0815

onor Name:	In Memory of:		
ddress:			
-Mail:	Phone:		
Il prefer to receive my updates via email.	□Please re	move me from your Newsletter List	
☐ I would like to give a gift of \$ □ DO NOT include me in the donor I	to help support Someplace Safe.		
☐ I would like to pledge a monthly gift Someplace Safe will send you a month You will be included in our Someplace □ DO NOT include me in the don	Safe Sustainers group		

ADVOCACY OFFICES

Big Stone Office 133 2nd Street NW, Suite 101 Ortonville, MN 56278 Phone: 320-839-2331

Douglas Office 700 Cedar Street Suite 237 Alexandria, MN 56308 320-762-1995

Grant Office PO Box 103 Central Court, Suite 6 Elbow Lake, MN 56531 218-685-4203

Otter Tail Office-Fergus Falls 106 South Union Avenue PO Box 815 Fergus Falls, MN 56538 218-739-2853

Otter Tail Office-Perham 115 5th Street NE PO Box 207 Perham, MN 56573 218-346-7276

Pope Office 16 Minnesota Ave W Ste 103 Glenwood, MN 56334 320-634-3483

Stevens Office 202 Atlantic Avenue Morris, MN 56267 320-589-3208

Traverse Office PO Box 63 Wheaton, MN 56296 320-563-4121

Wadena Office 318 S Jefferson Street - Suite 3 Wadena, MN 56482 218-631-3311

Wilkin Office 115 N 5th Street Breckenridge, MN 56520 218-643-3109 Visit www.someplacesafe.info/give for more information on giving to Someplace Safe

Safety.

Someplace Safe provides emergency services and support for victims of violence and their families. We collaborate with systems professionals to create safe, healthy communities.

Options.

Someplace Safe offers information and resources to individuals utilizing our services.

We create opportunities for volunteers, donors and supporters to get involved.

Hope.

Someplace Safe empowers survivors to live a violence free life.

We inspire social change through advocacy, education and awareness.

Please send your questions, suggestions, story ideas, and mailing list additions or removal information to: newsletter@someplacesafe.info - we would love to hear from YOU!



PARENTING TIME CENTERS

Fergus Falls Location 1402 E Bancroft Street Fergus Falls, MN 56537 218-739-3132 Fax: 218-739-5791

Perham Location 115 5th Street NE PO Box 207 Perham, MN 56573 218-298-1501 or 218-739-3132

Glenwood Location 16 Minnesota Ave W Ste 103 Glenwood, MN 56334 320-424-2301 or 218-739-3132 Fax: 320-634-0192

Morris Location 202 Atlantic Avenue Morris, MN 56267 320-424-2301 or 218-739-3132 Fax: 320-589-9926

Ortonville Location 133 2nd Street NW Ortonville, MN 56278 320-305-1400 or 218-739-3132

THRIFT STORES

690 Voyager Drive #106 Alexandria, MN 56308 320-763-4677

708 Atlantic Avenue Morris, MN 56267 320-585-6614

ADMINISTRATION

PO Box 815 Fergus Falls, MN 56538 218-739-3486 Fax: 218-739-9305



PO Box 815 Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0815

Phone: 218.739.3486 Toll Free: 800.974.3359 Fax: 218.739.9305

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Would you like to receive Someplace Safe's newsletter via email? Sign up today at: newsletter@someplacesafe.info



www.facebook.com/someplacesafe

HOLIDAY GIVING 2015



2015 has been a wonderful year at Someplace Safe! On behalf of clients, staff and Board Members, we would like to thank you for your support of our organization all year long. Because of you, we were able to provide SAFETY, OPTIONS, AND HOPE to nearly 4,500 individuals in the past year! Please consider Someplace Safe for your holiday giving or tax deductuble gift. Here are a variety of ways to give to Someplace Safe this holiday season:

DONATE TO SOMEPLACE SAFE: Your tax deductible monetary contribution allows Someplace Safe to provide services to clients and their families, directly impacting your community. Make donating easy by dropping off or mailing your donation to any of our office locations, or utilize our online giving option at

https://givemn.org/organization/Someplacesafe.

STUFF A STOCKING: Fill a stocking or gift bag full of items you think clients would enjoy. Be sure to label what gender and age the items are most appropriate for. Some suggestions include: Small Toys, Games, Activity Books, Toiletries, Shampoo/Conditioner, Socks, Giftcards, etc.

UNWRAPPED PRESENTS: Giving a unwrapped gift gives individuals the chance to receive a hand picked gift that you chose especially for them, or something they can choose specially for someone they love. Ideas include: Games, Books, DVD's, Art Supplies, Toys, Lotions, Parfumes/Colognes, Manicure/Grooming Sets, Robes, Slippers, Baby items, etc

GIFT CARDS: Enables individuals to shop for their own families or treat themselves to something they want or need. Local ideas we suggest: Herberger's, Shopko, Target, WalMart, Visa or Mastercard, local restaurants, gas stations, retail stores, and grocery stores.

ADOPT A FAMILY: This is a great way to give to families who are experiencing extreme hardships or difficulties. Due to the nature of each of these families circumstances and to protect the safety of both you and the families, we are not able to let you drop off items at their homes. You will be provided a wish list.

GIVING TUESDAY: We all know about shopping for deals on "Black Friday" and "Cyber Monday", but don't forget about charitable giving on December 1st, during "Giving Tuesday"! It is easy to donate to Someplace Safe on Giving Tuesday by visiting: https://givemn.org/organization/Someplacesafe.

#GI**≫INGTUESDAY**DECEMBER 1, 2015

BLACK FRIDAY. CYBER MONDAY.