Annual Report 2018
Critical Services for Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse
Dear Friends, Donors and Community Members,

It is an honor to lead an organization like Remedies that is dedicated to serving our community and those impacted by addiction, mental health and domestic violence. The dedicated staff, Board of Directors and volunteers remain compassionate in serving the needs of some of our community’s greatest challenges. As our name indicates, Remedies remains committed to ‘Renewing Lives’ in the communities that we are proud to serve. Remedies will continue to live its mission to provide the services and support for a better and safer future for the individuals that seek our services.

On November 1, 2017, Remedies partnered with the Rockford City Police Department and the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office in the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). This program is part of a two-year initiative to promote increased victim safety by improving the response to victims of domestic violence. During the first eight months of the LAP Program, Remedies has responded to an additional 1,252 high risk phone calls and an additional 1,282 crisis hotline phone calls. This shows a 75% increase in calls from the prior year. In addition to the increase in hotline calls, Remedies has welcomed and served an additional 356 victims of domestic violence and their dependent children since the program’s inception.

In our community, 34% of the calls that law enforcement responds to are domestic violence related. The Lethality Assessment Program allows for immediate access and assessment from the domestic violence emergency shelter and services. This collaboration has also provided the groundwork for law enforcement to work with victims to safety plan, seek shelter and access legal advocacy. Our continued hope is to assist in providing for a better and safer future for the victims of domestic violence.

The opioid crisis continues to impact many families across the country and our community. Remedies remains committed to addressing the problem through a comprehensive approach that includes treatment, education and quality care. Remedies continues to work collaboratively with law enforcement and the fire department to ensure there are no barriers to treatment access. Over the past year, Remedies’ Rockford and Belvidere locations have served over 2,000 individuals struggling with addiction issues. Remedies remains committed to providing quality care to our patients and their family members.

In 2017, Remedies received funding to open 7 transitional apartments for victims of domestic violence. The transitional apartments are fully furnished and provide victims of domestic violence a longer period of time to receive the support and services needed to achieve independence. The victims who reside in these apartments continue to receive education, support and advocacy facilitated by our Transitional Advocate throughout their stay. Due to the high level of need for additional transitional living space, Remedies is currently working on a grant proposal to fund an additional 7 apartments.

In May 2018, Remedies hosted an open house for our Belvidere facility. Remedies’ new facility is located at 1908 Pierce Court in Belvidere. The additional space has allowed Remedies to provide outpatient addiction programs as well as domestic violence advocacy and services.

Remedies remains compassionate about meeting the needs of the community. We look forward to the future for continued opportunities to serve. Thank you for believing in us and partnering with us to continue to provide compassionate care.

Gary Halbach
President/CEO, Remedies Renewing Lives

Our Accomplishments

As an organization and a community, we are indebted to the founders of what is now Remedies. They could not possibly have known how many lives would be saved because of their commitment to make a positive change in their community.

In January 2016, in order to meet the escalating demand for domestic violence and substance abuse related services in our community, Remedies relocated to a larger facility. Our new updated and larger space allows staff to continue to provide addiction treatment services, shelter and advocacy for victims of domestic violence, and the opportunity to implement new programs and services. The additional space also allows for each family that enters the shelter to have their own room and bathroom, which provides further privacy and dignity. Our new home is energy efficient, structurally sound and offers the ability to expand as needed.

The new facility is designed to accommodate an increase in the number of shelter beds from 40 to 62. There is also space dedicated to hosting community education forums, training sessions for clients and staff, as well as a secure outdoor play area for the children of shelter residents – all in close proximity to public transportation to facilitate access to schools, employment and recreational activities.
Our History

Remedies' origins date back to 1955 when a compassionate, concerned group of citizens came together to address the unmet needs of individuals struggling with alcohol addiction. Thanks to their dedication and perseverance, this informal organization thrived and incorporated in 1959 as the Blackhawk Committee on Alcoholism.

During the 1960s, the organization recognized a need in the community for substance abuse treatment services, and in 1969 changed its name to the Northern Illinois Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency (NICAD) to better reflect the scope of services offered.

In 1979, again in response to a need in the community, NICAD welcomed Working Against Violent Environments (WAVE) under its corporate umbrella, which brought aboard services for victims of domestic violence and resulted in a second name change to Personal Health/Abuse Services and Education (PHASE); the organization became known locally as PHASE/WAVE.

In 2009, the organization took on the new name Remedies and embarked on yet another chapter in its service to the community, continuing to provide individuals, children and families critical support to help them deal with issues resulting from substance abuse and domestic violence.
When pregnant women use opioids, their infants may be affected. Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) is a term used to represent a pattern of clinical findings that can be associated with opioid withdrawal in newborns. Most newborns of mothers who use opioids during pregnancy develop symptoms of NAS. The range and severity of the symptoms experienced by the infant depends on a variety of factors. Treatment of NAS includes non-pharmacological and pharmacological methods.

Remedies received funding to provide a Recovery Coordinator who will work collaboratively with community healthcare providers to support the health, safety, well-being and recovery of pregnant women with opioid use disorders and their infants. Remedies has hired a Registered Nurse as the Recovery Coordinator who will provide support, screening services and linkages to treatment in the prenatal period, as well as coordination with prenatal and postpartum services between hospitals and other community partners. Working with these community partners and other healthcare providers will be key to support effective, healthy outcomes for pregnant women with opioid use disorders and their infants.

Fiscal Year Financials
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

We are the only domestic violence shelter and advocacy agency in Winnebago and Boone counties. Each year Remedies serves over 1,900 victims of domestic violence, many of whom are children. Remedies’ substance abuse programs serve an additional 2,000 adults each year. We provide a safe, supportive environment and critical, client-centered services designed to promote the healing of individuals and families.
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Remedies’ 2018 Donors
We would like to thank each of our donors for your generosity and financial support, for making possible our efforts to shelter support and help Remedies’ clients realize a better tomorrow.

Bounds at 815-966-1285 so that we may make corrections as needed. We value our supporters, and it is never our intention to omit anyone.
By The Numbers

Substance Abuse

Gender
Total Clients: 2,094 (1,257 Male, 837 Female)

- 40% Female
- 60% Male

Ethnicity

- 68% Caucasian
- 6% Native American
- <1% Asian
- <1% Hispanic
- <1% Other
- 25% African American
- <1% Other

Age

- 32% 30-39
- 26% 22-29
- 20% 40-49
- 15% 30-39
- 10% 18-21
- <1% 70+
- 4% 60-69

Intake Assessments
For those battling substance abuse issues, Remedies provides individualized, group, and relapse prevention counseling options. With convenient day and evening programs, we have education and prevention groups as well as self-help groups available. Our aftercare program assists those in recovery to prevent relapse.

Services Offered
- Individual, Couple, Family or Group Counseling
- Medical and Psychological Services
- Prevention Education and Training
- Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous
- Relapse Prevention Counseling
- Medication-Assisted Treatment
- Referrals to Other Beneficial Resources

By The Numbers

Domestic Violence

Gender
Total Clients: 2,227

- 40% Female
- 60% Male

Ethnicity

- 68% Caucasian
- <1% Native American
- <1% Asian
- <1% Hispanic
- <1% Other
- 25% African American
- <1% Other

Age

- 32% 30-39
- 26% 22-29
- 20% 40-49
- 15% 30-39
- 10% 18-21
- <1% 70+
- 4% 60-69

Nights of Shelter
Our domestic violence program provides 24-hour emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. In addition, Remedies provides a 24-hour crisis hotline, medical and legal advocacy, individual and group counseling, economic, educational and employment advocacy, life and parenting skills coaching, children’s counseling, and screening and advocacy for an array of children’s needs, including physical, developmental and emotional issues.

Services Offered
- 2,227 Intake Assessments
- 612 Orders of Protection Filed (602 at DVAC, 10 in Boone)
- 2,094 Total Clients: (1,257 Male, 837 Female)
- 3,702 Shelter Nights Provided to Adults
- 8,558 Shelter Nights Provided to Children
- Total in Shelter: 17,260 Nights
- 3,000+ Calls Received
- 660 Total Residents: (334 Adults, 326 Children)
- 1,259 Total Walk-in Clients: (1,132 Adults, 127 Children)
- 10% Child
- 90% Adult
- 49% Child
- 51% Adult
- Total Residents: 660 (334 Adults, 326 Children)
The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

The purpose of the Lethality Assessment program (LAP) is to save lives by connecting victims to life-saving, community-based services, and to hold abusers accountable and create awareness of lethality factors with victims and communities. The LAP Program was started on November 1, 2017, as a result of a collaborative effort between the Rockford City Police Department, the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office and Remedies Renewing Lives. This program is funded by a two-year initiative, provided by the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, to promote increased victim safety by improving the response to victims of domestic violence. This grant program will serve to educate and empower victims, create a more strategic response to high risk situations and help improve access and cultural responsiveness in both law enforcement and domestic violence service providers.

The LAP process starts when law enforcement responds to a domestic violence call. The grant provides law enforcement with a dedicated phone used to contact a Victim Advocate at Remedies directly. The Victim Advocate then completes a Lethality Risk Assessment with the victim to assess for lethality risk. The Victim Advocate will connect the victim with direct services and provide safety planning and emotional support.

During the first eight months of the program, Remedies has responded to an additional 1,252 high risk phone calls and an additional 1,282 crisis hotline phone calls. This demonstrates a 75% increase in crisis hotline calls from the prior year. Remedies has welcomed and worked with 49.5% more clients in need of emergency shelter, many of whom did not know Remedies existed prior to the LAP Assessment.

Gambling Addiction Program

Gambling disorder affects men and women, young and old, and people of all backgrounds, ethnicities and lifestyles. People gamble for various reasons and in many different ways. Some gamble for thrill, and others for escape. Many start by gambling socially, while others gamble in isolation. Gambling is often the “hidden addiction” that goes unnoticed by family members and friends until financial, emotional and social consequences have gotten out of control. The good news is that help for problem gambling is available and recovery is possible.

Remedies Renewing Lives offers help and hope for individuals struggling with gambling issues at their 1908 Pierce Court facility in Belvidere, Illinois. For more information, or to schedule a confidential assessment, call (815) 547-4502.

Transitional Housing

For Domestic Abuse Survivors

In March of 2017, Remedies received funding for its transitional housing program through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). Remedies’ transitional housing program is designed to serve the needs of victims of domestic violence and human trafficking and their dependent children by providing access to a safe living environment in one of seven secure apartment units. Residents work closely with a Transitional Housing Advocate to obtain access to the support and community resources necessary to achieving the long-term goal of self-sufficiency. Through the Transitional Housing Advocate, Remedies connects clients with legal and institutional advocacy, employment, education, housing and economic assistance, as well as weekly support groups and individual counseling – creating a path to safety for victims of domestic violence and their dependent children.

The staff at Remedies is committed to protecting the privacy of our clients, and we strictly adhere to all applicable federal and state laws that protect such confidentiality.
Remedies is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization governed by a voluntary board of directors.

**About Us**
Remedies is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency dedicated to serving the needs of domestic violence victims and their children. Our goal is to support survivors as they regain inner strength, rebuild self-esteem, and work towards achieving life-building goals—Safety, SUPPORT, Advocacy, Strength, Self-sufficiency and Services. A victim of domestic violence can stay at the shelter for anywhere from 24 hours to sixty days, and all Remedies’ domestic violence services are free.

**Thank You For Supporting Remedies**
A Donation Goes A Long Way

Make a difference in someone’s life by helping us provide the resources to families, victims and persons struggling with addiction and adults and children fleeing from violence. Every generous donation keeps our shelter open, another person from relapsing and helps provide victims an opportunity for a new life free from violence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donation Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Provides 8 nights of shelter for a family fleeing domestic violence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$325</td>
<td>Purchases a case of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA) books.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Provides 8 weeks of group counseling for pregnant and parenting moms in the addiction treatment program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Provides a domestic violence survivor the ability to have locks changed so they may remain in their home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75</td>
<td>Provides 50 bus tokens to assist clients with transportation issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40</td>
<td>Provides 30 minutes of language line interpreter services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25</td>
<td>Provides a new school uniform for a child living in the domestic violence shelter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Helps an individual entering our treatment program or living in shelter obtain a copy of their birth certificate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legacy Gifts**
Donors are encouraged to make bequests to Remedies under their will, and to name Remedies as the beneficiary under trusts, life insurance policies, commercial annuities, retirement plans, and real estate.

**Gifts of Cash**
Gifts may be cash, checks or electronic transfer of funds. As a donor you are entitled to a federal income tax deduction if you itemize.

**Gifts of Stock**
A gift of appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds and mutual funds, is deductible for income tax purposes and also may eliminate the capital gains tax that is owed. All tradable securities will be sold upon receipt unless otherwise directed by Remedies’ President/CEO.

**In Recognition Of**
Gifts can be given in recognition of a birthday, anniversary, bridal shower, wedding, etc.

Please contact Kathy Branning at Remedies at 815.966.1285 for more information about giving, in-kind donations or naming opportunities.
A special thanks to Digital Hive Mind for making this project possible through their generous donation of creative services.

www.digitalhivemind.com