



MY SISTERS' PLACE annual review 2008

mission statement

My Sisters' Place ("MSP") aims to engage each member of society in our work to end domestic violence, so that all relationships can embrace the principles of respect, equality, and peacefulness.

core values & guiding principles

The following statements reflect our view of what constitutes My Sisters' Place. They explain the beliefs and principles that motivate us and influence how we approach providing services to our clients, advocating public policy on their behalf and building community partnership in order to promote social change.

Our values and principles define our role in the community, give us direction for the future and distinguish us as a leading resource for victims of abuse in the Westchester County region.

core values

Safety & Security: through emergency services such as hotline, shelter and crisis counseling

Encourage & Empower: through listening, believing, understanding and responding to our clients' needs

Nurture & Inspire: through programs that help clients meet basic needs and gain skills, tools and resources to pursue their goals

principles

Through direct services, we support the abused, primarily women and their children, in seeking safety, self-determination, and justice.

Through community education, we challenge public perceptions of intimate violence and the social inequities that give rise to it, and we promote prevention with a special emphasis on youth.

Through advocacy, we act as a force for social change in law and public policy.

my sisters' place programs & services

MSP provides comprehensive shelter, advocacy, legal services, and supportive services for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, stalking, and human trafficking and currently offers a range of services that address the needs of victims at various stages of separating from their abusers and their subsequent pursuit of productive, independent lives.

Services and programs include: two emergency shelters; a 24-hour hotline for assistance and referrals; an extensive support group network in both English and Spanish; a full service Legal Center providing advice and representation; and a life skills program that includes job training. MSP's comprehensive children's services include both residential and non-residential support groups and a therapeutic art program for children who have experienced domestic violence. Outreach efforts reach high school students to prevent dating violence and healthcare workers to identify signs of domestic violence.

2008 agency highlights

MSP's Legal Center assisted more than 1,000 women with advice and services related to orders of protection, child support and custody and immigration.

MSP's emergency hotline answered over 2,500 calls

MSP's Domestic Violence Education and Prevention program reached over 6,000 teens throughout the county with community outreach and work in the schools addressing healthy relationships and teen dating violence.

MSP's counseling programs supported over a 1,000 women through individual and group support.

MSP's children's services supported over 3,000 children through individual and group support and art therapy programs.

MSP launches **the next generation** campaign composed of multi-generational family members who have joined together to prevent relationship abuse. The campaign aims to involve multiple family members in events, activities and special campaigns to raise awareness about domestic violence and take action toward its prevention.

MSP plays a central role in drafting, advocating for and helping to pass landmark New York State legislation that now allows domestic violence shelters across the state to get reimbursed for shelter undocumented victims of domestic violence.

finance & governance

MSP is a New York not-for-profit corporation that is exempt from taxation under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. We are governed by a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors, and our day-to-day operations are managed by our Executive Director, Karen Cheeks-Lomax, Esq., who supervises five senior staff members: the General Counsel, Director of Development and External Affairs, Director of Programs, and the Director of Finance and Administration. Our programs are staffed by trained professionals and supported by trained volunteers.

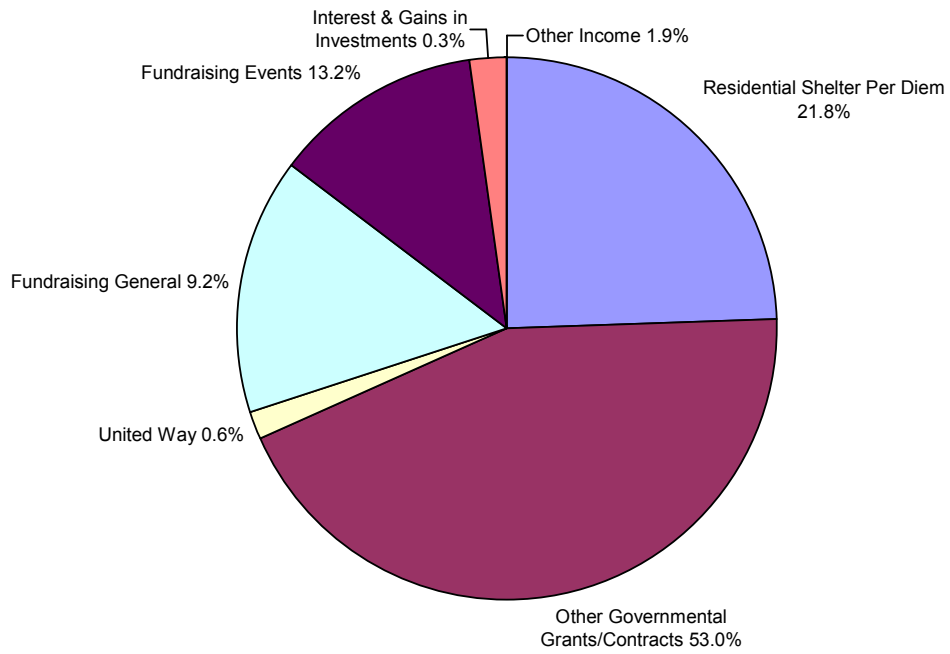
MSP's most recent audited financial report and IRS 990 form can be found on our website:

<http://www.mysistersplaceny.org/financials>

The following revenue and expense charts are based on MSP's most recent financial reports:

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FY 08 Revenue Sources



FY 08 Expense By Major Category

