



*Project Safe
Annual Report
2025*

The Purple Knight: Master of Her Fate

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share Project Safe's 2025 Annual Report. Our theme is Empowerment, a guiding tenet that shapes the foundations of trauma-informed care, working with survivors, and helping survivors shape their own futures.

For a survivor to rebuild their life after abuse, they must go on a hero's journey of empowerment to reclaim what is rightfully theirs: choice, autonomy, freedom. That is a battle that is not necessarily easy to win after being told countless times that they would not, nor could not do it.

One of our advocates once said in a staff meeting that "People do not rise to low expectations." We set up frameworks for survivors to get their first job after never being permitted to leave the house unsupervised. We help survivors build their own businesses, find their own homes, and how to reconnect with friends and family after being isolated for so long. We hand them the tools they need for their quest so that they may once more, master their own fate.

But Project Safe continues to set new expectations for itself. We increased breadth and depth of service provision, clients reached, training protocols, presentations given, and continue a long legacy of firsts and leadership in Georgia Domestic Violence Advocacy. We will continue on our own journey of empowerment for ourselves.

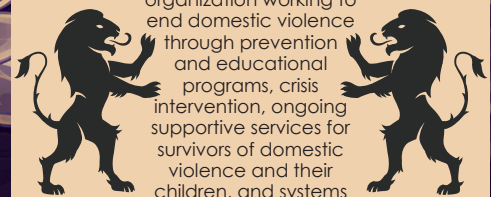
Joan Prittie

Governing Board:

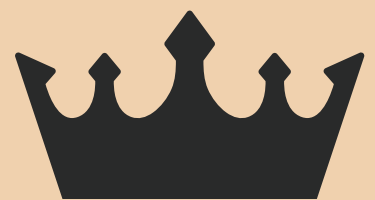
Adam Fouche, Chair
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Ashley Bohn
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Executive Director

Joan Prittie



Project Safe is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization working to end domestic violence through prevention and educational programs, crisis intervention, ongoing supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their children, and systems change advocacy in our community.



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Battle Stats



In February 2025, Project Safe was honored as the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year by the Athens Area Community Foundation which “recognizes and rewards nonprofit organizations in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties that promote excellence in leadership, management, innovation, collaboration, and impact.”

We were joined by the Small Business of the Year, Kaptiv8, who later reached out to donate their services including a new website and refresh of our logo. The new logo reminded us of a purple knight, and we draw inspiration in this report and our work from the epic poems and heroic tales of courage and service.

“We celebrate an organization whose impact is often unseen, yet undeniably powerful...For nearly 50 years, @projectsafeinc has been a beacon of hope for survivors of domestic violence, providing emergency shelter, pioneering innovative programs, and advocating for policies that protect families. Join us in celebrating Project Safe, a nonprofit that is saving lives, changing futures, and refusing to settle for anything less than a world without violence.”

--Athens Area Community Foundation award announcement

Project Safe served 2001 clients in 2025, answering 2592 hotline calls, sheltering 131 people and 15 pets, serving 887 survivors in outreach, and 35 in longer term housing

Project Safe is committed to evaluating the efficacy of our services. These outcomes are self-reported by clients on anonymous surveys turned in upon the conclusion of services.

*“I could not have gotten through this without Project safe”
-former client*

In 2025...

- 98% reported they increased their knowledge of community resources
- 98% reported they learned strategies to enhance their safety
- 89% achieved their safe housing goals
- 59% achieved their employment goals
- 94% achieved their other goals

Protecting the Young

Ongoing Supportive Services

Our Children's Advocate hosts weekly children's support groups at the shelter. The programs vary in their emphasis based on the ages of the participants, but all use the restorative power of play to help children staying in shelter navigate through the feelings and changes that come from having to uproot their lives so young. And throughout 2025, parents started a surprising and heartwarming trend—bringing their children back to shelter so their children can continue learning and finding support. What a testament to our staff, volunteers, interns, and facility (including a playroom and playground)!



"Thank you so much for doing this for my child. You guys have been one of the best things to happen to her!"

--current client



Law of the Land

Systems Change Advocacy

In addition to our work with clients, Project Safe works to improve larger systems at the community and state levels to better protect survivors and hold abusers accountable.

2025 brought two big wins for survivors in Georgia law. The Survivor Justice Act changes the way cases of victims of family violence who are charged with crimes connected to that abuse are handled in court. Incarcerated survivors in Georgia are already having sentences reconsidered, reflecting the development in how our legal system views and understands the dynamics of abuse.

HB177 explicitly provides for care and custody of household pets in family violence and dating violence temporary protective orders. Pets are commonly threatened by abusers in order to control survivors, so providing legal protections for pets is another advancement in the legal system in combating abuse. Project Safe has been a leader in our movement in creating pet friendly services and facilities while educating the public about the link between pet abuse and intimate partner violence. Following passage of the bill, Joan Prittie served on a team of four attorneys who drafted new TPO forms for statewide use.

"The staff has been beyond kind and generous. I am truly grateful for the love and kindness shown to me and my fur baby when we needed it most."

--former shelter resident

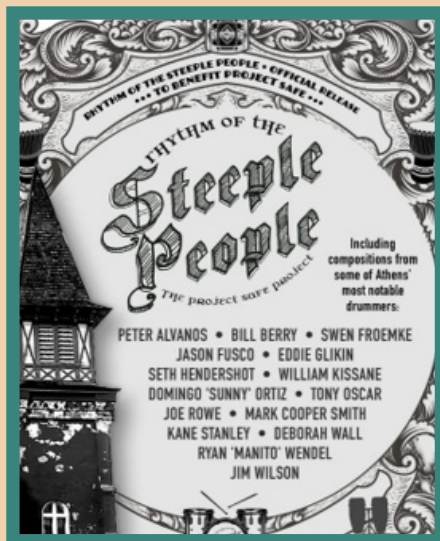


Recording the vote to pass the Survivor Justice Act



So Sang the Knighthood

Rhythm of the Steeple People



Organized by percussionist and longtime Project Safe supporter, Eddie Glikin, more than 3 years of work culminated in the release of the Rhythm of the Steeple People. The CD contains 27 original songs composed by Athens drummers and percussionists.

The Steeple People Band along with Five Eight, The Bad Ends, and the Granfaloons performed over 20 of those songs at the CD release party at the legendary 40 Watt in April.



Funds raised at the release party helped support our work in 2025, and Project Safe continues to benefit from sales of the album which can be purchased at this link:



<https://thesteeplepeople.bandcamp.com/album/rhythm-of-the-steeple-people-2>

Training the Next Knights

Prevention and Education

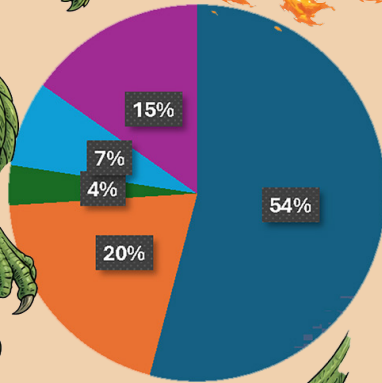
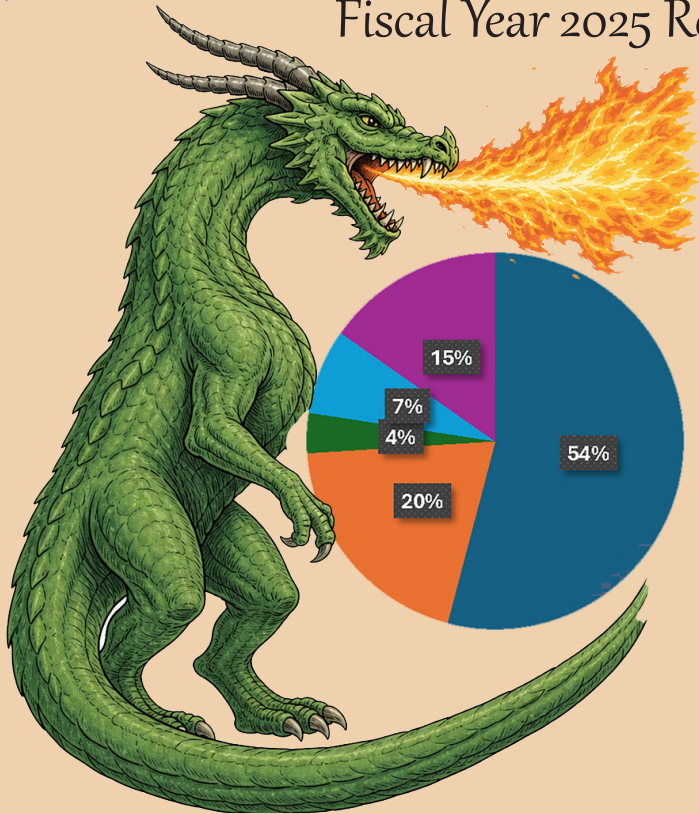
Our Breaking Silence team was quite busy in 2025, bringing multiple educational groups and ambassador programs to schools in our service area, as well as operating Georgia's official statewide dating violence textline. In 2025, they provided services through 200 textline conversations. They had 119 youth presentations, and reached 5,620 people. Additionally, the team has been making a concerted effort to increase their social media presence, and had a grand total of 46,960 views on social media. Teaching youth the warning signs and encouraging empowerment early on in life can create lifelong healthy impacts!



The Dragons Hoard

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year 2025 Revenue

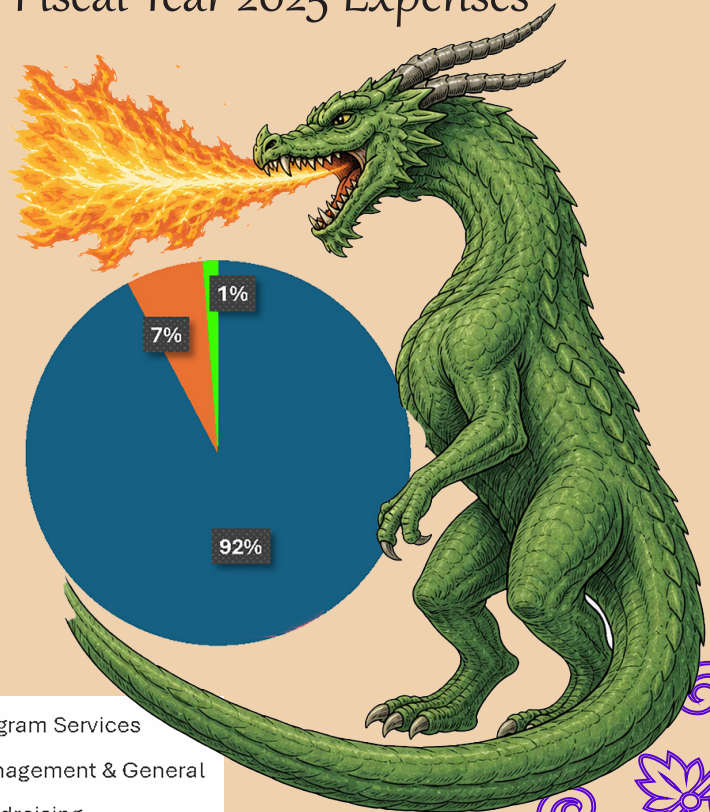


- Grants & Contracts
- Contributions
- Investments & Other
- Special Events
- Thrift Store

"Whether it's a holiday hotline call or midnight ride to safety, the folks at Project Safe are so dedicated to helping keep people safe...I'm a proud supporter of this organization that does so much for people in our community who have nowhere else to turn!"

-review on Great Nonprofits

Fiscal Year 2025 Expenses



- Program Services
- Management & General
- Fundraising



For the 14th year in a row, Project Safe was named a top rated nonprofit by Great Nonprofits!

Steaming Armor

Feature Page

Project Safe's thrift store is the only one of our organization's facilities with a sign and open doors to the public. In addition to being a revenue-generating business to support our mission, the thrift store serves as a clearinghouse for donated goods. Our clients shop for free, and each year we give away tens of thousands of items through vouchers to schools and other area nonprofits.



In October 2025, our Athens store celebrated its 20th anniversary, while August saw the grand opening of our second thrift store in Danielsville. We have been intentionally increasing our presence and programming in Madison County, and the new store is an important component of that plan.



Donors

DONORS LISTED HERE CONTRIBUTED
\$500 OR MORE IN FY OR CALENDAR 2025

40 Watt Club
Abdulwahab & Naomi Alharoun
Adam Fouché
Adele Patrick
Alexis Hagberg
Allison Smith
Alpha Chi Omega
Amanda Giordano
Andrea Wellnitz
Andrew Case
Ann & Mike Bascle
Anonymous
Arar Han
Architectural Collaborative, Inc.
Art Archibald & Virginia McKenna
Ashford Memorial Methodist Church
Ashley Bohn
Athens Area Community Foundation
Athens Human Rights Festival, Inc
Athens Rock Lobsters
Barbara & Rod Wright
Bertis & Katherine Downs
Betsy Vonk & Rand Young
Betty Jean Craigie
Bob Waln
Bradley & Karen Hankins
Bree & Geoff Derber
Brian Olson
Briscoe Family Foundation
Cable East Inc
Campbell J Nairn Iii
Carl & Sara Glickman
Catherine Schwender
Chapelwood United Methodist Women
Chapelwood United Methodist Men's Fellowship
Charities Aid Foundation America
Charles Jameson
Charlotte L Pratt
Chris Slay
Christina Streetman
Chuck's Fish
Cindia Cole
Cindy Suveg
Cinnamon Beach Grill
Circle Of Love Center
Clara Waln
Classic City Pilot Club Of Athens
Classic City Roller Girls
Coldwell Banker Upchurch Realty
Cynthia Miller
Cynthia Rosso
Cynthia Suveg
Cynthia Willett
Darrell & Tammy Burt
David Prickle
Dean & Kathleen Rojek
Dean Firschein
Deanna Beckwith
Deb Weiler
Deborah Kalaritis
Debra Eberhard-Mohnen

Demmie Hicks
Dixon Family Fund
Donald & Phyllis Nelson
Dr. Merissa Nelms
Dr. Regina Smith
Edward & Carol Schimmel
Edward & Faye Chambers
Edward Jones
Edwin Levine
Elizabeth Levine
Emily Carr
Emily Nicholas
Erika Lewis Family Fund
Estate Of Dana C. Tully
First Christian Church
First United Methodist Church Of Athens
Five Points Nutrition
Fleet Feet
Fred & Sharon Stephenson
Frederick Wiegert
Gainesville Mechanical
Gary & Gretchen Bowen
Gilles Allard
Ginger Duensing
Golden Pantry
Gwen Turner
Hayes Restaurants Llc
Heather Stewart
Henry Family Charitable Fund
Hilltop Grille
Holiday Benevolence Market
In Memory of Joshua Sampson
J Burnett
Jackson EMC
Jalibreaks By Classic City Bonding
James & Margaret Williamson
Jane Horton
Jared Harper
Jeffrey & Rebecca Engel
Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams
Jennifer Frey
Jeremiah Bame
Jerry & Sarah Shannon
Jinx Patel
Jittery Joe's
Joan Prittie & Sandy Berry
Joan Yantko
Joanne Cono
John & Christine Langone
John & Lisa Prittie
John Lingard
Joiner & Associates
Josh Koons
Julia Richardson
Julie Boyd
Julie Stanton
June Sanders
Karen Harris
Kari Abernathy
Karyl Faucher
Kathleen McQuiston & Lawrence Stueck
Kathleen Rojek
Kathryn Stege
Kathy Hoard
Kathy Poss
Kelley Sorrow
Kelli Baker
Kelly Family Cuidiu Foundation

Kirby Smart Family Foundation
Kristin Hess
Lee Nelson Weeks
Lori Phillips
Louise Taylor
Marcia Hector
Marcus Wiedower
Maria Segura-Hegueros
Mario Erasmo
Mark Schell
Marker 7
Marti's At Middy
Mary Garrison
Mary McFarland
Maurice & Caren Snook
Maximilliana Mango
McLeroy Family Giving Fund
Mdig, Llc
Megan Golden
Melanie Ford
Melissa Lewis
Micah Gell-Redman
Michael Worth & Cheri Wranosky
Morgan Stanley
Mt Hermon Presbyterian Church
National Christian Foundation
Neal & Patricia Priest
Neal Pylant DMD
Nick & Mim Bourke
Nina Burkdoll
Nishita Morris
Normaltown Brewing Company
Oconee Lions Club
One Capital
Pamela Mitsoff
Patricia Bell-Scott
Patricia Dixon
Patricia Richards
Paul & Carol Kurtz
Paula Ciembor
Paula Hennessey
Paula Whiting
Pb Athens, Llc
Peter Anderson
Phil Hughes Honda
Philip Russell
Phillip & Janine Durden
Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center
Rame Eskridge
Regina Quick
Regions Bank
Rhythm Of The Steeple People
Richard & Jody Warner
Richard & Marcia Page
Richard Boone
Richard Rosemond
Rob Hoyt
Roberta & Marie Ballard-Myer
Robins Federal Credit Union
Ruth Poproski
Sandra Townsell
Sara Beresford
Scott & Amy Marshall
South Main Brewing Llc
Steve & Diane Horton
Sue Lawrence
Suzanne Bourgeois
Suzanne Sperling

Synovus
Tammy Gilland
Tammy Kemper
Tangela Ferguson
Taqueria La Parrilla
Tazikis Restaurant
Teresa Nester
The Center
The Harris Foundation
The Pearls Girls Llc
The Quick Family
The Wall Family
Thomas Kadri
Tiffany Mason
Timothy Roberts
Todd Campbell
Tom & Maureen Killeen
Toppers International Inc
Tradd Harter
Trent Gibson
Trinity Accounting Group
Tuckston United Methodist Church
Turner Family Foundation
Ulm Family Foundation
Union Christian Church
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Of Athens
United Way Of NE Georgia
Virginia Coleman
Walter M Furjanic
Wes & Jennifer Zwirn
Wes Markeles
Will Eskridge
William Fay
William M. Overend
Zolinda Stoneman

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

THROUGH ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY:

5%,

ARPA Homelessness

Community Partnership Program

U.S. Department of Housing
& Urban Development

THROUGH CRIMINAL JUSTICE
COORDINATING COUNCIL:

Family Violence Prevention & Services Act,

Victims of Crime Act

Violence Against Women Act,

State of Georgia Family Violence

~ And One for All ~

Community Events

Project Safe hosts several events throughout the year to increase awareness of our impact and raise funds for our mission while bringing together a wide cross section of the community.



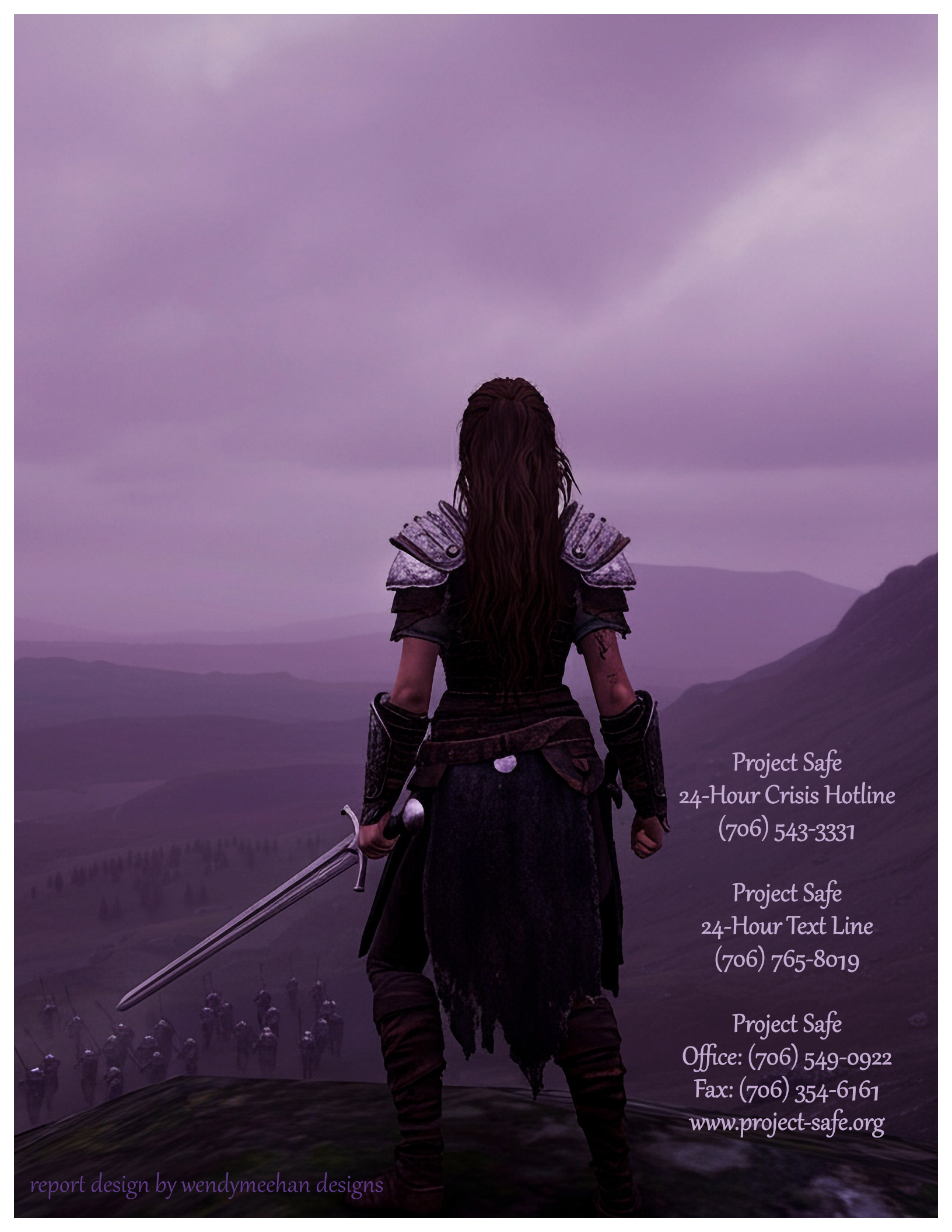
Groovy Nights celebrates the era that formed the movement to end domestic violence



Dancing with the Athens Stars has fueled Project Safe's growth, netting \$1.9 million dollars toward our mission. In 2025, we set a new record of \$221,000 raised.



Project Safe had its first Acoustic Autumn this year, a new fundraising event hosted in Madison County.



Project Safe
24-Hour Crisis Hotline
(706) 543-3331

Project Safe
24-Hour Text Line
(706) 765-8019

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Fax: (706) 354-6161
www.project-safe.org