

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT For Immediate Release

South Valley Services Appreciates All Community Support

WEST JORDAN, UTAH—July 21, 2022—South Valley Services (SVS), a local 501(c)(3) organization, is striving to increase awareness of the challenges of local domestic violence. SVS is asking the community to get involved in prevention and support services for survivors.

The mission of SVS is to help local families who have been devastated by domestic violence.

"It is a delicate subject, but one that requires attention and much-needed support," said Lindsey Boyer, SVS's new executive director. "This is a worthy cause and a very critical mission of which we can all be a part of the solution."

One in three women and one in four men are affected by domestic violence in the United States. On a local level in the last year, SVS has helped 239 women, 20 men, and 200 children by housing them in the shelter and providing them with the necessary resources, training, and hope for a better future. SVS has also provided non-shelter-based advocacy and counseling services for 2,033 additional survivors, serving a total of 2,492 survivors.

South Valley Services receives funding and federal grants to support families during a crisis.

"Grants help SVS provide shelter, counseling, case management work, and housing support," said Jeff Stott, SVS board chair. "But one of the challenges that we face is that the demand for our services is so much greater than what we receive from grant support. That's why we kindly ask for community support."

Community support for SVS comes from municipalities, police departments, volunteers, corporate sponsors, individual donors, and many others.

SVS holds several events each year to empower local communities to get involved and to highlight the shelter's needs. At a corporate fundraising breakfast hosted by SVS in May, many local and national companies sponsored the event and sent representatives to show their concern and support for the community challenges that SVS is addressing.



"The community response was tremendous," said Stott. "Fifteen companies sponsored the breakfast, filling tables with employees and guests, and many attendees personally giving to this great cause."

SVS corporate breakfast sponsors included WCF Insurance, Wasatch I.T., Chris & Dawn Page, Donna Rentmeister Agency for American Family Insurance, Extra Space Storage, Hillcrest Bank, Microsoft, MK Nash Photography, Software Technology Group, and Windermere Real Estate. Extra Space Storage generously committed to match dollar for dollar every personal donation raised for the event up to \$10,000, doubling the impact of each donation.

The corporate breakfast included addresses given by Jeff Stott, Lindsey Boyer, and special guest speaker Peggy Larsen, the first female executive at Workers Compensation Fund, a survivor of domestic violence, and author of *Beyond My Wildest: One Woman's Story of Rebellion, Tragedy, and Finding Strength*.

"I have a passion for what SVS does as I have a history with domestic violence," said Larson during her address. When you get involved, "You have no idea how many lives you're changing, how many you're saving and giving them hope for the future—not only for the moms and dads but also for the children. These are generational changes that can happen."

The breakfast raised funds that will be used for services for victims, training to educate on safety and prevention, and tools to empower the community to help strike out domestic violence and sexual assault.

Employees at one company discovered how they could help in other ways by taking collections at the office for urgent-need items listed on the <u>SVS website</u> and donating a truckload of consumable goods and blankets to the shelter.

"This type of giving happens often with companies, church groups, youth groups, and families doing what they can through care packages, donations, service projects, and volunteering. We appreciate the amazing care people show," said Boyer.

The next SVS community event will be a "Strike Out Violence" bowling event planned for the fall. The agency enjoyed great success at this same fundraising event last October and hopes to see even more community support this year. Event details will be announced in August.



For questions regarding the SVS agency and its domestic violence prevention programs, please contact:

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About South Valley Services

South Valley Services (SVS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has served the local community since 1998. The mission of SVS is to provide safe shelter, advocacy, case management, and prevention services to those experiencing domestic violence, including psychological, physical, emotional, economic, or sexual abuse at home. SVS aims to empower individuals to recognize their self-worth and to develop the necessary skills to reach their greatest potential, contributing to the collective well-being of our community.

For more information, please visit the agency's website at <u>www.svsutah.org</u>.

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Provided Photos:



SVSBreakfast5.jpg – Community members gather for the SVS Corporate Breakfast held May 19, 2022. The event was held to raise funds to assist the shelter and provide services for survivors of domestic abuse.



SVSBreakfast17.jpg - Lindsey Boyer, SVS's new executive director, addresses attendees at the SVS Corporate Breakfast about the critical mission of SVS.





SVSBreakfast23.jpg – Guest speaker Peggy Larsen talks of her experiences with domestic violence and the need for communities to be more involved.