



# Points of Interest

FALL 2019

The Newsletter for Friends of Turning Point



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

*“Every 9 seconds in the US, a woman is assaulted or beaten. Around the world, at least one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused during her lifetime.”*

[DomesticViolenceStatistics.org](http://DomesticViolenceStatistics.org)

Last year, Turning Point provided services to over 20,000 individuals: 9,376 crisis line calls, served 3,651 people face to face, serviced 518 in shelter (258 children), performed 350 sexual assault exams (47 children) and delivered 409 prevention presentations to 6,966 middle and high school students. However, our dedication to helping survivors does not change the intolerable statistics.

This high prevalence of sexual and domestic violence can only be sustained by a culture, a social context that surrounds and tolerates such behaviors. A culture in which social norms exist that condone violence, the use of power over others, the subjugation of women, and silence about violence and abuse. At Turning Point, we believe it is essential to change the societal norms that allow for the tolerance of violence, and by creating this change, we can break the cycle of domestic and sexual violence. We believe we can accomplish this goal through community education and prevention and the establishment of community collaborations.

To create this change, Turning Point strengthens its commitment to provide speakers, facilitation of discussions, and trainings to the community, agencies, faith-based organizations, and small neighborhood groups. We hope that through our partnership we can stand against behaviors and attitudes that promote a culture that tolerates sexual and domestic violence. We are in this fight together!

If you would like more information about Turning Point's services, community education, events, sponsorship, and volunteer opportunities, please contact us (586) 463-4430.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence. Turning Point has a program dedicated to educating youth in middle and high school about dating violence, sexual assault, and gender socialization. The programs are designed to reduce to prevalence of domestic and sexual violence among adolescents, and to connect youth to available resources and support; with PowerPoint presentations, interactive activities, and discussions. Educators give students the opportunity to ask anonymous questions at the end of

day one, which they answer for all students on day two of the presentation. Turning Point's Community Education Program is currently serving 13 of 21 school districts in Macomb County. Our goal for this fiscal year is to build relationships with the remaining districts, which include Armada, Richmond, Anchor Bay, Clintondale, Roseville, Warren Woods, East Detroit Fitzgerald school districts. You can aid our Community Education Program by helping us advocate to be in all Macomb County Schools. For more information contact Sara Dobbyn at 586-464-0779 or [sdobbyn@turningpointmacomb.org](mailto:sdobbyn@turningpointmacomb.org).

## “WHAT DOESN'T KILL ME”

Please join Turning Point on October 23rd for a screening of the documentary “What Doesn't Kill Me” a film about domestic violence and the battle for custody. We are pleased to partner with the Emerald Theater for this unique screening. There is no charge to attend, but donations will be gratefully accepted. A panel discussion will follow the film. Doors open at 6:00, screening at 6:30 and panel discussion immediately following. Emerald Theater is located at 31 N. Walnut Mount Clemens 48043.

## OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

FOR A FUTURE WITHOUT DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE



## SURVIVOR CORNER



“I made the ultimate choice to choose BETTER over BITTER.”

I AM a survivor of domestic violence. My

experience covered every form of abuse – emotional, financial, physical, sexual, and verbal. There was a period where I had this atrocity occur in my life that I planned to take to my grave. Outside of what I shared with my sister and mother, I would never speak of it again. I later learned life had another plan for me.

While I didn't seek any resources such as those offered at Turning Point due to a lack of awareness. A bit odd, considering how quickly I will google everything else. Eventually, I did enter a period when I realized that I was on the verge of allowing bitterness to take root. I knew I had to change course because I simply could not further allow the abuser to change the trajectory of what I represented at my core. In my personal healing journey one of the questions I posed to myself was, “Did I want to be better or bitter?”

I became aware of Turning Point in a couple of ways. First, my son participated in Tara's Walk in 2014. Afterwards, a former schoolmate would share things relating to Turning Point on social media. While I checked out their website during this timeframe AND somehow decided that I would volunteer to share my story through the Survivor Speaker's Bureau. I did not act upon my decision until April 2017. Also, deciding to further expand my volunteering to

other areas which mainly includes information tables in August 2017.

I am grateful that I found the courage to share my story and volunteer. Each is an opportunity to educate others whether the impact is direct or indirect. I love that I can take this work and training I received and apply it in my everyday walk of life. For instance, to inform people that domestic violence is not just physical or how to support a love one without being judgmental.

Sharing my story or offering my time to educate or inform others of the resources available is all about empowerment. My survivorship grants me the opportunity to pay it forward to others.



**Tara's Walk**  
KNOW MORE. DO MORE.



**September 28, 2019**  
Freedom Hill, Sterling Heights, MI  
5K Walk/Run  
Price: \$25 person  
**\$20 person for a group of 6 or more**  
**Kids Free (age 10 and under)**  
Registration 9a.m. Walk 10a.m.

On-line Registration Opens June 21, 2019  
[www.turningpointmacomb.org](http://www.turningpointmacomb.org)

## CALENDAR of EVENTS



**TARA'S WALK**  
September 28  
Freedom Hill  
10am-1pm

### CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

October 10  
Partridge Creek  
All Day

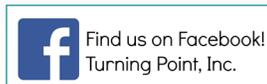
### “WHAT DOESN'T KILL ME”

A Documentary Screening  
October 23  
Emerald Theater • 6pm

### PAINTING WITH A PURPOSE

October 28  
Painting with a Twist  
Shelby Location • 7-9pm

*For more information on any of these events please visit our website [www.turningpointmacomb.org](http://www.turningpointmacomb.org) or find us on –*



## LEGACY GIFTS

*Remembering Turning Point in your will can help you reduce estate taxes and ensure the life changing work you care about will always continue.*

*Second Hand*  
**ROSE**  
**Resale Shop**

SERVICES TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

158 S. Main Street • Mt. Clemens  
**DONATE • SHOP • VOLUNTEER**