



FALL 2020

Points of Interest

The Newsletter for Friends of Turning Point



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Thank you for continuing to support Turning Point and the survivors we serve. We have had so many people reach out to help us with PPEs and various donations, including food and personal items. One of our generous donors also had a basketball court installed at the Shelter. Plus, our 4th Annual Survivors Golf Outing, our only live event for the year, was a huge success! We are so grateful. Your continuous support is what helps us provide the essential services that survivors need.

For many families living during these difficult and tenuous circumstances, the pandemic was a tipping point that led to even more violence. Turning Point has continued to meet the needs of those seeking help through our

hotline, counseling services, Personal Protection Office, Forensic Nurse Examiners Program, and our Shelter.

Although it's been a challenging year and we have not been able to celebrate our 40th Anniversary as intended, I am happy to share that we still accomplished significant goals. Starting this month, Turning Point will be able to provide supportive housing opportunities for survivors leaving the Shelter, which will remove a considerable barrier for families seeking a new life. We are also partnering with Kelly Services, Macomb Community College, and Career Strong Solutions to provide survivors with educational and employment opportunities, and career coaching and preparation.

Next year we are also preparing to move into a larger building to accommodate our staffing needs. The building will house our counseling staff, our community education staff, our prevention team, as well as our administration staff. We are still working on creating an endowment and a naming opportunity for the Shelter.

Despite the pandemic, Turning Point has been able to make some notable achievements. We are happy to continue working toward achieving our mission to provide programs and resources that enable victims/survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault to regain control of their lives.

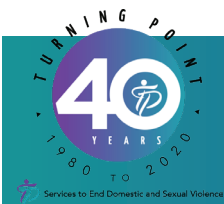
TURNING POINT OFFERS NEW HOUSING PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS

Turning Point recently received the necessary funds to provide supportive housing services to survivors. This new housing program removes the barrier of homelessness for those fleeing domestic and sexual abuse. It will provide housing options for survivors when they leave the shelter. In addition to housing, service offerings will include advocacy, counseling, budgeting, career coaching, and employment skills training. Our first priority is

to furnish the apartments so that survivors can move into safe and comfortable homes. You can help make this happen through our "Adopt an Apartment Program," which would allow you to help furnish apartments for survivors! You could adopt an entire apartment for \$5,000, adopt a room for \$1,000, or choose one of our other giving opportunities. If you are interested in supporting the housing program, please contact Karan at 586-464-0785 or kbgasior@turningpointmacomb.org.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



Points of Interest



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SURVIVOR CORNER



Hailee Gacobelli

I never realized the importance of survival until I was forced to see my rapist every day during my junior and senior years of high school.

I am a rape survivor, but it took a long time for me to award myself that title. Not even knowing you were a victim at all is sometimes harder. Can a girlfriend fall victim to her boyfriend? Or did the fact that we were in a relationship make it consensual? These were questions I asked myself for several months.

After the first day of school, we were no longer together, and a part of me was relieved. However, after a couple weeks I started feeling different. A part of myself shifted, and it didn't feel good in the slightest. Not dating him anymore allowed me time to freely think about all of the things he did to me without wanting to suppress them all down for the sake of a toxic teenage relationship.

Several events resurfaced inside my mind. Emotional, mental, verbal, physical and sexual encounters started to connect themselves. These events happened over the course of almost three months. I felt utterly insane for not realizing everything sooner. The spell he enchanted on me was wearing off. I knew then I was a victim of sexual assault, and from somebody I cared about.

The next few months were nothing short of miserable for me. Confusion, hate, fear and self-disgust ruled my life. I still felt as if I were in his clutches, owned and trapped. Seeing his face in school

was the nightmare I believed I would be lost in forever, but Turning Point changed that for me in December of that year.

I was given an angel of a counselor in late December that year. She was one of the only people during that time who really saw my situation clearly and understood my pain and suffering. The first night I met with her was so life changing because when I walked out, it was the first relief I had in months. I felt a little taller, a little bit stronger, and most importantly I was more hopeful about my future.

Turning Point continued to be the light that guided me out of the dark. They were my safe haven, a place my rapist could never find me. It felt even more comforting going there from school because the counseling would calm my nerves after a triggering day.

After almost two years of receiving services, I joined the Survivors' Speakers Bureau to empower and educate the community on sexual violence in teenage relationships. Sharing my story back then sounded frightening, but now I use my voice for those in the audience still searching for theirs.

Second Hand ROSE Resale Shop



SERVICES TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
158 S. Main Street • Mt. Clemens
DONATE • SHOP • VOLUNTEER

CALENDAR of EVENTS

★ STEPPING OUT WITH THE STARS VIRTUAL EVENT

September 22-24

Tune in to the kickoff on the website at 7:00pm on the 22nd



13th ANNUAL TARA'S WALK VIRTUAL 5K

October 4-10

Check out the website for more info:

www.turningpointmacomb.org

ONLINE TRAINING

www.turningpointmacomb.org

TP Scope of Services

9/28 12:00-12:45pm & 9/30 7-7:45pm

Domestic Violence Series

10/7 12:00-12:45pm & 10/8 7:00-7:45pm

For more information on any of these events please visit our website www.turningpointmacomb.org or find us on -



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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.