

<b>Our Mission</b>	To provide advocacy, parenting time services and emergency shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence.
<b>Our Vision</b>	Eliminate the oppression that exists in the community by providing education, victim advocacy, parenting time services, systems intervention and agency collaboration.
<b>Those We Serve</b>	Safe Avenues provides domestic and sexual violence victim advocacy to 8 primary counties in Southwestern Minnesota. We provide emergency shelter for a larger 18 county area covering the lower Southwestern corner of Minnesota. In addition, we provide safe parenting time services for families in need.
<b>Core Value Statements</b>	<p><b>Integrity</b>          We live our values and mission in our actions and words. We are honest and just in the things we say and do.</p> <p><b>Honor</b>          We treat everyone with dignity and courtesy. We honor and value the beliefs, cultures, traditions and skills of others.</p> <p><b>Trust</b>          We commit to act in the best interest of those we serve.</p> <p><b>Compassion</b>          We are dedicated to creating a safe, caring and healing environment.</p> <p><b>Accountability</b>          We will provide consistent and efficient services with compassion and expertise.</p>
<b>Our Goals:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide consistent, relevant and unduplicated services throughout our service area.</li> <li>2. To provide services that meet the self-identified needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence.</li> <li>3. To provide quality parenting time services in a safe and caring environment at Harmony Visitation Center.</li> <li>4. To invest in the Safe Avenues staff and board of directors by using best practices to provide quality training and education.</li> <li>5. To continue to build and nurture quality staff</li> <li>6. To maintain a volunteer program that utilizes the strengths within our communities.</li> <li>7. To collaborate with community and systems professionals to strengthen relationships and provide consistent services for victims.</li> <li>8. To expand awareness of our vision through a coordinated and consistent message.</li> <li>9. To seek stable funding and explore alternative options for future funding.</li> </ol>

## ***Services we offer:***

### **Emergency Safe Shelter**

- For individuals and their children who are victims of domestic or sexual violence
- We provide food, clothing, hygiene products, transportation and all advocacy services while in shelter
- We provide special programming to develop self-sufficiency and parenting skills, as well as provide support group for adults and children
- We provide shelter services for 18 counties in the lower Southwestern corner of MN

### **Community Advocacy Program for Domestic Violence Victims**

- Advocates provide support through safety planning, legal advocacy, accompaniment to appointments, and support group.
- Advocates coordinate services within the criminal justice system for victims of domestic violence.
- We provide domestic violence victim advocacy for 6 counties; Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift.
- Offices are located in: Benson, Litchfield, Olivia, Montevideo, Madison and Willmar

### **Community Advocacy Program for Sexual Assault Victims**

- Advocates provide support through safety planning, legal advocacy, support group, during evidentiary exams and if victims report to law enforcement.
- We provide sexual assault victim advocacy for 7 counties; Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Renville, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, and Swift.
- Offices are located in Benson, Hutchinson, Litchfield, Olivia, Madison, Montevideo, and Willmar

### **Harmony Visitation Center (HVC) Our Parenting Time Program**

- Supervised and semi-supervised visits provide children safe access to their non-custodial parent, extended family and in reunification cases.
- Supervised exchanges are available to families when there is concern about the child witnessing hostility between parents during an exchange.
- HVC is the only parenting time center within a 50 mile radius of Willmar

### **Community Education, Professional Training & Volunteer Opportunities**

- We provide presentations in the community on program services, domestic and sexual violence, dating violence, stalking, bullying and internet safety.
- We provide training for professionals on domestic and sexual violence, and the services we provide.
- Safe Avenues is always seeking volunteers to assist our various programs. Please contact us for more information.
- Provide training to criminal justice system professionals on domestic violence response.

**A strong committed Board of Directors is essential for maintaining a respected organization that serves the people of the community.**

- Board Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Board terms are 2 years
- Members can participate for up to 3 terms
- Board positions are volunteer positions; members receive no monetary compensation
- Members are expected to participate on at least one committee
- Applications are received at any time by the Executive Director or a Board Member
- Applications are reviewed by the Governance Committee
  - Which will include an interview
  - Followed by approval of the entire Board at the next board meeting
  - New members receive orientation from the Executive Director which takes about 2 hours

Safe Avenues' Board Member Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Work Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why you are interested in becoming a Board Member for Safe Avenues:

What are the experiences, education, skills, talents and/or special interests that you will be able to offer the Safe Avenues' Board?

*Please email or mail to:*

Jen Johnson, Executive Director  
PO Box 568  
Willmar, MN 56201  
[jenj@willmarshelter.com](mailto:jenj@willmarshelter.com)

Or Governance Committee  
C/O Safe Avenues  
PO Box 568  
Willmar, MN 56201