REACH

BEYOND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FY 26 ANNUAL REPORT

Led by survivors. Backed by community.

As we celebrate 45 years of REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, I've been reflecting on the lives we've changed and the community that has made our work possible.

Recently, I met a survivor who first came to REACH many years ago. With support through a difficult time for her and her children, she began building a brighter future. Today, her children are older, she works for a nonprofit supporting families, and she shares what she's learned to help others. She credits the day she called REACH as a turning point in her life.

Her story is one of thousands that remind us what's possible when survivors have access to the support they need.

This past year, REACH provided individualized advocacy to 321 adults, answered 1,062 hotline calls, and helped 15 families transition from emergency shelter into long-term housing. None of this happens on its own. It takes dedicated staff, strong community partnerships, and people like you who believe in this work.

For 45 years, REACH Beyond Domestic Violence has helped create pathways to safety, supported survivors and their families, and worked to build communities free from domestic violence.

Behind every milestone is something powerful: a community that believes everyone deserves to live with safety, dignity, and hope.

Thank you for being part of a community that makes lasting change possible.

With Gratitude,

Amarely Gutiérrez-Oliver

Amarely Guttierez-Oliver
Executive Director



REACH staff and board with
State Auditor Diana DiZoglio
at the 2026 Reach for the Stars Gala



REACH LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors with service during FY26

Elisa Filman, *President*
Tony Martin, *Vice President*
Erin Kelley, *Clerk*
Danielle Levy, *Treasurer*
Trap Kloman
Judith Castor
Jeff Allen
Nancy Teevan
Leslie S. George
Kathy Bowler
Mary Fondas
Stephen Reed
Kennedy Kearney-Fischer
Connor C. MacIsaac
Marion Davis
Stephen Langois

Executive Leadership

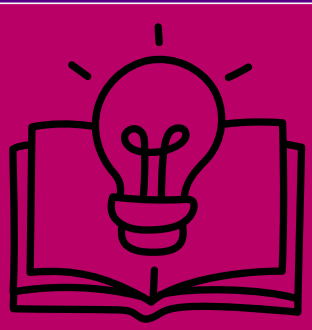
Amarely Gutiérrez Oliver, *Executive Director*
Lauren Nackel, *Director of Operations & Human Resources*
Travis Hinton, *Director of Program Management*
Patricia Vargas, *Director of Finance*
Darrel Byers, Interim Director of Development

1,062

hotline calls answered by trained community advocates

300

Prevention focused trainings, meetings, and community events.





Survivors and families supported in shelter. **28**

Advocated and provided community based support for individuals.

321





adults and children participated in group therapy services

94

REACH by the Numbers

Beyond Survival: Stories of Strength, Healing, and Hope

Every survivor's journey is different. At REACH, we believe everyone deserves the opportunity to move forward on their own terms, with dignity, safety, and hope.

For some survivors, the first step is a phone call. For others, it's attending a support group, asking a question about their rights, or finding someone they can trust enough to share their story. Each step requires courage, and each journey unfolds differently.

Across the communities we serve, survivors come to REACH facing challenges that extend far beyond the immediate experience of domestic violence. Some are navigating complicated legal systems or struggling to secure safe housing. Others face financial uncertainty, concerns about their children, or barriers that make seeking safety feel out of reach.

What connects their stories is not a single path to healing, but the power of having someone alongside them.

Through individualized advocacy, safety planning, legal navigation, housing assistance, and emotional support, REACH helps survivors identify their options and make decisions that are right for themselves and their families. Our advocates build relationships rooted in trust, recognizing that progress can take time and that healing is rarely a straight line.

And through that support, meaningful change becomes possible.

We've witnessed survivors move into homes where they and their children can begin creating new memories. We've seen individuals gain confidence through support groups, discover their voices, and become sources of encouragement for others. We've celebrated survivors pursuing education, strengthening their financial independence, and rediscovering the interests and aspirations that once felt beyond their reach.

Sometimes, progress looks like a major milestone. Other times, it's the quiet relief of feeling safe, being heard without judgment, or beginning to imagine a different future. These moments remind us that REACH's work is about more than responding to violence. It is about creating opportunities for survivors to reclaim their choices, rebuild their lives, and define what comes next.

Behind every story is a survivor's strength. Alongside that strength is a community committed to ensuring no one has to navigate the journey alone.

This narrative reflects common themes and experiences drawn from multiple survivor stories. Identifying details have been omitted to protect privacy.

"The positivity and acceptance I receive at REACH sustains me. I feel accepted and nurtured. In return, I am able to extend that nurturing to people in my life, especially my children. I believe that is a big part of the reason my daughter was able to graduate high school and move on to college despite us living in shelter for a few years. I was able to give because I feel the strength of a caring community beside me and behind me."

-M

Building Safety. Creating Possibility.

REACH Beyond Domestic Violence | FY2026 Community Impact Report

Every day, across the 27 communities REACH serves, people are taking steps toward safer, more stable futures. Sometimes that journey begins with a phone call. Sometimes it means navigating a difficult legal process, finding a safe place to live, or helping a child understand and process their experiences. For 45 years, REACH has worked alongside survivors, families, and community partners to create pathways to safety and build a future free from domestic violence.

During FY2026, REACH continued to meet immediate needs while investing in the long-term well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Behind every service provided is a person making decisions about their future, and behind every milestone is a community helping to make progress possible.



From Safety to Stability

For survivors of domestic violence, finding safety is often just the beginning. Securing housing, maintaining employment, supporting children, and navigating complex systems can take months of persistence and planning. REACH's advocates work alongside survivors to identify their priorities, access resources, and build the support networks they need to move forward.

This year, **15 families transitioned from REACH's emergency shelter into long-term subsidized housing**, marking significant milestones toward stability and independence. One parent, while living in shelter, continued working full-time and ensuring her daughter attended school while pursuing permanent housing. With ongoing advocacy and support, she eventually secured a housing offer for herself and her child. Her journey reflects the determination of survivors and the importance of having consistent support along the way.

The impact of advocacy is also reflected in how survivors describe their own progress. Among 49 survivors who completed multiple outcome assessments, **84% showed improvement in their overall scores**, reflecting progress in their perceived resources and support for navigating safety-related challenges. **These findings reinforce the value of survivor-centered services that strengthen choices, connections, and confidence.**

Supporting Families. Strengthening Futures.

Domestic violence affects entire families, and opportunities for healing extend beyond immediate safety. Children need spaces where they can express themselves, build healthy relationships, and experience the joy and connection that every child deserves. Parents need opportunities to strengthen their relationships with their children while navigating their own paths forward.

During FY2026, **24 children participated in therapeutic support groups, 5 children and adolescents received individual therapy, and 16 adults participated in Parenting Journey**. Through these programs, REACH helps families build connections, develop skills, and create a foundation for continued growth. From children's groups to shared celebrations and family activities, these moments reflect an important part of REACH's work, **creating opportunities not only for safety, but also for belonging, resilience, and hope.**

Building Communities Where Violence Is Prevented

While supporting survivors and families remains central to REACH's mission, creating lasting change also means addressing the conditions that allow domestic violence to persist. Through education, youth leadership, and community partnerships, REACH works to strengthen the knowledge and relationships that help prevent violence before it occurs.

In FY2026, REACH trained or engaged **2,877 people through 300 prevention-related trainings, meetings, and events**, reaching students, educators, healthcare professionals, service providers, and community members. At Waltham High School, students involved in our Peers Against Violence Educators program helped lead conversations with their peers about healthy relationships, consent, and boundaries. Their leadership demonstrates the role young people can play in shaping a future grounded in respect and safety.

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

300
Prevention trainings, meetings, and events

381
Hours leading training and engaging community

176
Students engaged in prevention activities



Building on Our Mission: A Year of Progress and Possibility

Celebrating Year One of REACH's 2026–2029 Strategic Plan

This year marked an important milestone for REACH Beyond Domestic Violence as we finalized our new three-year strategic plan and began putting it into action. Developed through a thoughtful, collaborative process, the plan reflects our shared commitment to strengthening survivor-centered services, investing in our people, and building a sustainable future for the communities we serve.

Our strategic plan is guided by two interconnected pillars: '**Survivor-Centered Services, Advocacy, and Safety'** and **'Excellence in People, Culture, Sustainability, and Infrastructure.'** Together, these priorities recognize that meaningful, lasting impact requires both exceptional services for survivors and a strong, supportive organization to deliver them.

Year One focused on building that foundation, and we have much to celebrate.

Strengthening Services and Expanding Opportunities for Survivors

Throughout the year, REACH made meaningful improvements to the accessibility, quality, and coordination of our programs, helping survivors navigate complex challenges and build pathways toward safety, stability, and independence.

- **Elevating survivor voices**: Expanded opportunities for survivors to share feedback and help shape programs, **with 90% of surveyed participants reporting overall satisfaction with services.**
- **Strengthening advocacy and support:** Enhanced safety planning, legal education, and navigation services, including expanded 'Know Your Rights' programming and support groups.
- **Supporting housing and economic stability:** Strengthened housing advocacy, financial education, and access to community resources to help survivors pursue safe housing and greater financial independence.
- **Deepening community connections:** Launched a new community advocacy initiative and strengthened relationships with local organizations, schools, healthcare providers, and community partners to improve access to support.
- **Advancing prevention and systems change:** Expanded opportunities for education, collaboration, and advocacy while strengthening our approach to trauma-informed, culturally responsive services.

Investing in Our People and Our Future

Our ability to support survivors begins with the people, partnerships, and systems that make this work possible. Year One brought important investments in organizational strength and sustainability.

- **Supporting our team**: Expanded opportunities for professional growth, staff wellness, collaboration, and leadership development, contributing to improved staff retention and organizational stability.
- **Strengthening organizational systems**: Modernized technology, improved internal communication, and enhanced program coordination to better support staff and the people who rely on REACH.
- **Deepening our commitment to equity**: Advanced organizational practices centered on belonging, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, reinforcing our commitment to accessible and responsive services.
- **Building long-term sustainability:** Strengthened fundraising capacity, donor engagement, and community partnerships while making progress toward greater financial stability.

Looking Ahead: Turning Progress into Lasting Impact

Year One was about more than developing a plan. It was about taking meaningful steps toward the future we envision: communities where survivors are believed, supported, and able to live free from harm. As we enter Year Two, we will build on this momentum by deepening survivor engagement, strengthening services, expanding community partnerships, and continuing to invest in the people and systems that sustain our mission.

This progress belongs to our entire community. It reflects the dedication of our staff, the courage and insight of survivors, and the generosity of our volunteers, donors, and partners. Together, we are building a stronger REACH and a future where more individuals and families can live with safety, dignity, and hope.

What We Make Possible Together

None of this work happens in isolation. REACH's impact is strengthened by the generosity of donors, the dedication of volunteers, the collaboration of community partners, and the commitment of people who believe everyone deserves to live free from fear and violence.

This year, community generosity and the efforts of 78 dedicated volunteers helped provide holiday gifts and support to 386 survivors and children, creating opportunities for families to celebrate and connect, and bringing neighbors and local organizations together in support of REACH's mission.

These contributions represent more than individual acts of giving. They are investments in the safety, dignity, and well-being of our shared community.



1,764 donations



2,964 volunteer hours



500 new donors

Thank you to our supporters!

Community Partners

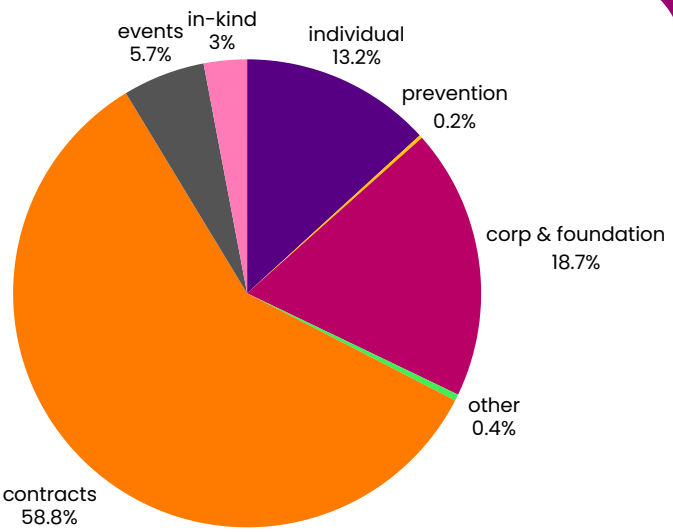
Hermann Foundation
Symetra
Nazely "Nancy" Kalayjian Trust
George H. and Jane A. Mifflin Memorial Fund
Bank of America
Community Foundation for MetroWest
Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Fund
Mary Kay Ash Foundation
Kopf Family Foundation
The Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation
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Michael Charitable Foundation Trust, George & Louise J. Hauser Charitable Trust, Winning Home, Inc., The Perpetual Benevolent Fund, United Health Care Community Plan, Arthur S. Reinherz Charitable Foundation, Gratis Foundation, Essex County Community Foundation, Edison SouthernVinciullo Charitable Trust

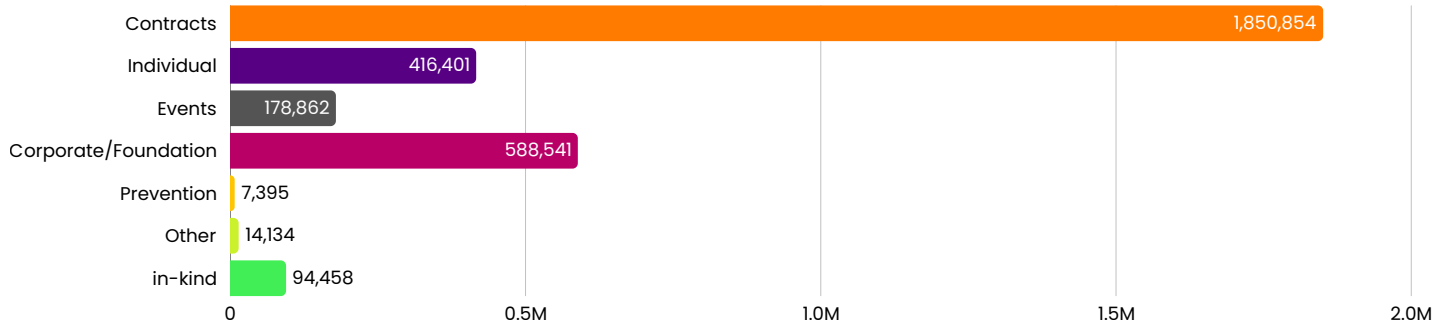
Thank you to our generous and dedicated individual donors, making REACH's work possible through more than $500,000 in charitable giving, including **100% of board members making a meaningful gift to the organization**.

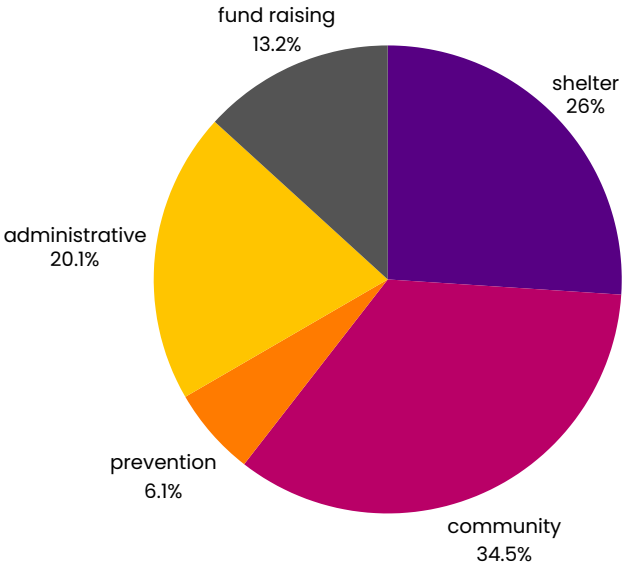
FY26 Audited Financials

Revenue

Total Revenue:
$3,150,645

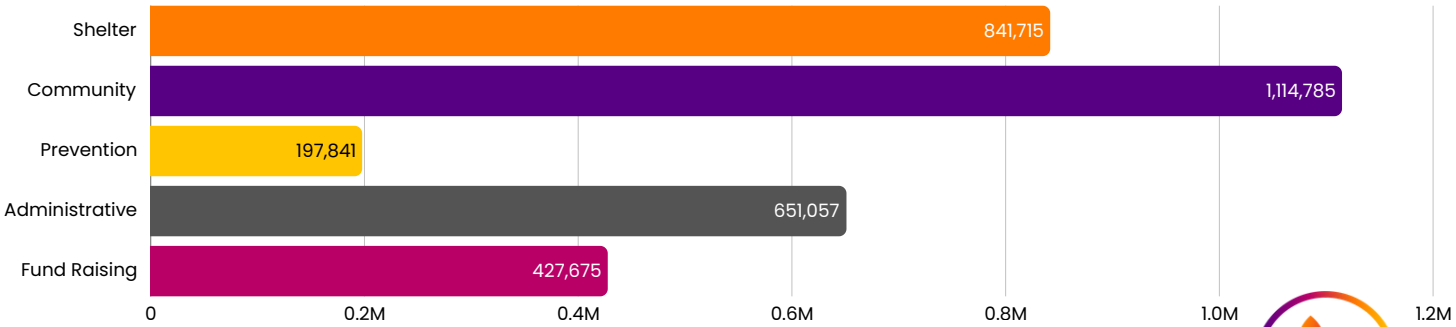






Expenses

Total Expenses:
$3,233,073



Give. Volunteer. Partner. Advocate.

As we celebrate this progress, we also recognize the work ahead. **During FY2026, REACH recorded 509 requests for shelter that could not be accommodated because our shelter was full. Advocates worked with callers to explore alternative options, including connections to resources locally, across Massachusetts, and out of state.** These unmet requests underscore the urgent need for greater access to safe housing and sustained support for survivors.

For 45 years, REACH has grown alongside our communities, responding to immediate needs while working toward lasting change. The accomplishments of this year remind us what is possible when people come together with a shared commitment to safety, dignity, and hope.

Every milestone represents a life moving forward. Every partnership helps make that progress possible. Together, we are building a future free from domestic violence.

















GIVE NOW

SCAN ME!