

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

And so she drew her boundaries

Not thin and bendable like they usually were

But thick, strong, unwavering lines that were unbreakable

She focused on her light and it grew so bright that it shined on others

She focused on her courage and it grew so powerful that it sheltered others

She respected herself and she began to respect her relationship with others

She realized that you can't give something you don't have

And that made all the difference

Poem by: Writing & Art Challenge Winner

Moving Forward Together

MCWVC
Montgomery County Women's Center

HOTLINE 936-441-7273

A LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Moving Forward Together

To our community partners, supporters, and friends,

Every day at the Montgomery County Women's Center, we witness how one phone call can change a life. Our 24/7 Crisis Hotline is often the first point of contact for someone escaping violence. On the other end of that call is a trained advocate, ready to listen, to believe, and to help find a path to safety.

This year, our advocates answered more than 41,500 calls for help. Each call represents a moment of courage from someone reaching out in fear, confusion, or hope. For many survivors, that call is the beginning of a journey toward healing and independence. It is also a powerful reminder that our community stands ready to support them every step of the way.

One of those calls came from Kristen, a mother of two who had just fled her home after years of abuse. She called our hotline late at night from her car with her children, unsure where to go. Our advocate stayed on the line, helping her find safety in our emergency shelter and reassuring her that she and her kids were not alone. In the following weeks, Kristen received counseling, legal services, advocacy, and assistance in finding permanent housing. Today, she is courageously rebuilding her life with strength and confidence.

Stories like Kristen's show why crisis hotlines are so essential. As highlighted in recent national reports, 24-hour crisis hotlines provide more than immediate intervention. They serve as an essential bridge between emergency response and long-term recovery, connecting survivors to basic needs, counseling, housing, and community resources. They also guide friends, family members, and professionals who want to help but do not know where to start.

Your support has made this possible. Every donation, every partnership, and every volunteer strengthens our network of care, allowing us to answer every call, at any hour, with compassion and hope. Because of you, our hotline remains a lifeline for tens of thousands of survivors and is a critical part of our community's commitment to safety and healing.

As we reflect on this year's remarkable accomplishments, we are filled with gratitude for everyone who continues to support our work. Together, we are building a safe community where survivors are heard, believed, and empowered to live their life, free from violence and fear.

Sarah Raleigh

Sarah Raleigh
President & CEO

Vicky Pafk

Vicky Pafk
Board Chair

AGENCY IMPACT

BY THE NUMBERS



41,544
Crisis Calls
Answered



1,368 Victims
Accessed
Emergency Shelter



17,902 Emergency
Shelter Nights
Provided



2,832 Survivors
Received
Advocacy &
Accompaniment



952 Received
Legal
Representation &
Advocacy



1,520 Survivors
Received Non-
Residential Case
Management



54 Residents in
Transitional
Housing



1,510 Received
Individual &
Group Counseling



Reached **13,479**
Community
Members



1,761 Dedicated
Volunteers
Donated **32,418**
Hours

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

OPEN YOUR PURSE FOR CHANGE

This past year, we celebrated our 12th annual Open Your Purse for Change event on October 2, 2025. The sold-out event was chaired by Ally Seder, Carol Watford, Elvira Graham, and Sandy Petermann-Williams. The evening was hosted by Lotus of The Woodlands, and with outstanding support from our community, we raised over \$300,000!

WRITING & ART CHALLENGE

The Writing and Art Challenge is a creative platform for middle and high school students to raise awareness by reflecting on the core aspects of healthy/unhealthy relationships. It provides a safe and engaging space for teens to share their perspectives and foster a meaningful dialogue. In February, we received 56 original submissions from students across the county, demonstrating their enthusiasm and creativity by participating in this challenge.

FLOWERS ON THE LAKE

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, on October 14, 2025, Judge Echo Hutson, the Montgomery County DA's Office, and the Montgomery County Veterans Memorial Commission, hosted an event to honor survivors of domestic violence. In an incredible show of support, the community floated 2,025 purple flowers on the lake.

Shanette Simeon-Walker - Residential Services Coordinator

In a year defined by change, resilience, and growth, Shanette has been a steady source of guidance and hope for survivors in our Shelter. Shanette introduces survivors to the Agency with patience and respect, ensuring they feel seen and supported from the moment they arrive. Beyond introductions, she walks alongside clients as they prepare for the next chapter of their journey. Her advocacy, encouragement, and unwavering belief in their strength lay a strong foundation for healing and hope. Shanette is most proud of her ability to navigate difficult conversations with compassion and professionalism. She has a remarkable gift that makes both clients and staff feel welcome and valued. Her consistency, approachability, and commitment to providing a supportive space continue to strengthen our team and advance our mission. Her work reminds us that every step forward, no matter how small, is powerful and that no one should have to take that step alone. We are incredibly grateful for the heart, dedication, and passion Shanette has brought to us every day for the past seven years.

Cindy Williams - Assistant Store Manager

At the Montgomery County Women's Center, every story of healing begins with someone who cares deeply. Cindy is one of those people who brings compassion, strength, and unwavering commitment to every situation. Cindy joined the agency in 2015 as the Assistant Manager for Something Special. She plays a vital role in keeping the store running smoothly, ensuring staff and volunteers have what they need, and overseeing incoming donations. Her commitment runs even deeper as she continues to volunteer with the agency outside of her working hours, where she first began, driven by her belief in our mission and the impact we have on those we serve. Wearing many hats and adapting to whatever each day brings, Cindy remains a steady, dependable presence. Over the past year, she is most proud of building positive relationships with the community and contributing to a year of shared success. Her motivation comes from seeing the store reach its goals together and knowing their work directly supports the agency's life-saving mission. By showing up every day ready to help however she can, Cindy inspires others to do the same. We are so fortunate to have Cindy on our team!



Our mission is to lead the effort in preventing domestic violence and sexual assault through crisis intervention, assistance, advocacy, empowerment, and social change.

CONROE OFFICE

1401 Airport Road
Conroe, TX 77301

WOODLANDS OFFICE

1600 Lake Front Circle # 130
The Woodlands, TX 77380

SOMETHING SPECIAL

19073 I-45 South
Shenandoah, TX 77385