

#77

COMPLETE

Collector: Gimbel Foundat...nd Evaluation (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, July 28, 2016 7:44:18 AM
Last Modified: Monday, August 08, 2016 1:41:25 PM
Time Spent: Over a week
IP Address: 208.80.208.178

Page 1

Q1 Name of your organization.

Barren River Area Safe Space, Inc.

Q2 Grant #

20150520

Q3 Grant Period

August 1, 2015-July 31, 2016

Q4 Location of your organization

City	Bowling Green
State	Kentucky

Q5 Name and Title of person completing evaluation.

Tori Henninger, Executive Director

Q6 Phone Number:

270-781-9334

Q7 Email address.

thenninger@barrenriverareasafespace.com

Page 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8 Total number of clients served through this grant funding:

343

Q9 Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives. Use the following format: State the Goal: State Objective 1: Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1: State Objective 2 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 2: State Objective 3 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 3:

Objective 1: Assist 100 unemployed/ underemployed homeless women secure and maintain employment within the grant period.

Objective 2: Assess safety needs, career goals, and job skills for 100 survivors of domestic violence within first two weeks of participation.

Objective 3: Educate the community on the intersection of financial abuse and domestic violence in order to increase corporate participation in services, including financial planning within third quarter of grant period.

The agency provided 110 Opt For Change gift cards to residential clients who obtained employment during their shelter residence. The agency increased the income of 107 residential clients. 100% of clients are assessed for safety needs, career goals, and job skills as a part of the entrance paperwork when admitted to shelter. The agency assisted in removing transportation barriers for job searches and work shifts before their first pay check through the assistance of distributing 1000 bus passes and 125 cab vouchers to clients. The third quarter of grant funding provided the opportunity for 6 Allstate Agents to visit the shelter and discuss economic empowerment and financial freedom with clients. This includes one session for our non-residential clients. In attempts to improve financial stability, 124 credit counseling sessions were provided during the grant year and the agency assisted four clients in applying for IDAs (individual development accounts) that are matched through our state coalition at 2:1 or 3:1 ratios.

The agency also utilized Gimbel funding to assist one victim of domestic violence in need of emergency shelter during a time that entrance to shelter was unavailable due to a full shelter capacity. Funding supplied a hotel room for the evening until we were able to provide shelter the following day.

Dress for Change is an annual event that provides gently used or new professional clothing to low-income women in the community and victims of domestic violence in need of appropriate office attire at no cost to them. The success of this program over the years (due in part to the Gimbel grant and the participation of local businesses such as Macy's and CATOs, and through generous community member donations of gently used clothing), the agency was able to expand the event to twice a year (fall/spring), and increase the number of individuals served to over 280 women.

Q10 Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

As in years past, meeting the various schedules of individuals proves to continue to be challenging, but the agency is able to work with most clients through our 24/7 operation of the crisis office and can provide some case management and financial literacy services during nights and weekends to accommodate more difficult schedules.

Providing and securing proper documentation (including government or state IDs, birth certificates, and social security cards) delay employment for many clients due to the need of verification before employment can begin. The agency is able to provide financial assistance to some clients when available for fees associated with that documentation, unfortunately, we cannot speed up the process of return.

A lack of alternative childcare hours in our area limits the types of jobs clients can obtain including alternative shifts such as 2nd, 3rd, or swing shifts in manufacturing companies. Alternative hour transportation for after hours and weekends also proves to be a hurdle for many victims to maintain steady, regular employment. Cabs or agency vehicles are utilized if other public transportation is unavailable.

Q11 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

Case management is available through Advocates 24/7 and can be provided during alternative shifts for clients in need during non-regular business hours. The agency also provides a weekly group class that meets in the evening for victims of domestic violence who need assistance but work during the day. Volunteers are utilized who specialize in certain topics including (but not limited to) financial empowerment, health, safety, and community services. This allows the agency to expand beyond the employees knowledge base to provide all available information to clients. The agency is able to provide funding for documentation as available to overcome the financial barrier that often prohibits victims from obtaining necessary information. Clients are provided job search assistance through an on-site display of available jobs in our community, as well as transportation for application submission, interviews, and work shifts. Our Opt For Change program incentivizes clients to job search and obtain a position through gift cards. If a client submits 10 applications or receives a job, they receive a small gift card to go towards the purchase of employment needs (including uniform pieces such as specialty shoes, khakis, or button down shirts).

The agency-owned vehicle is utilized as often as possible, but bus passes are provided frequently to utilize public transportation during the day for application submission and work shifts. Cabs are utilized as necessary.

Dress for Change overcomes wardrobe limitations providing victims with professional attire for employment needs. The expansion to twice a year has allowed the agency to focus on fall/winter attire and spring/summer attire, allowing participants to cater towards work appropriate outfits, but also weather appropriate.

Q12 Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

In utilizing the Gimbel grant for financial and economic empowerment, the community has rallied behind the agency in support of events such as Dress For Change, and price breaks for public transportation. Our public transportation bus service provides us a discount for the bulk amount of passes we purchase throughout the year. Dress For Change's successful implementation to twice a year will continue to expand and grow, serving more community members, and providing available outreach to people we may not have been able to connect with before.

Q13 Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

The agency has been able to assist in eliminating transportation barriers to victims of domestic violence through the purchase of bus passes and cab fares. Increasing the number of Opt For Change gift cards passed out as well as the dollar amount given on each card has assisted victims in purchasing work-ready items, such as steel-toed boots necessary for factory and manufacturing jobs. We have been able to use Gimbel funding to supplement four staff salaries associated with economic empowerment and financial literacy that we wouldn't have been able to focus on otherwise with other grant funding. The community rallies around the victims we serve and assists us in job placements, sometimes overlooking work histories or poor credit because of their association with the agency.

Page 3: Budget

Q14 Please provide a budget expenditure report of the approved line items. Include a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

Through the S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund, the agency was able to provide partial salaries in relation to financial and economic empowerment case management for 4 staff members. The agency was also able to purchase 1,000 bus passes to utilize in transportation for job related needs, as well as paid for 125 cab vouchers when the agency vehicle or bus public transportation was unavailable. We were also able to purchase 60 Opt For Change gift cards that were used to assist victims of domestic violence in purchasing job-related attire (such as steel toed boots, khakis, button down shirts).

Page 4: Success Stories

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q15 Please relate a success story:

DP, age 30, entered the emergency shelter after her most recent altercation with her abuser. In this violent episode, he grabbed her, slapped her across the face multiple times and threw her outside their shared residence. DP called our agency from a neighbor's phone and entered emergency shelter that day. Unfortunately, this was not our first interaction with DP or this abuser as she had entered multiple times before. In the time sheltered, the abuser called the crisis line, her family, and her place of employment trying to harass DP into returning. However, this time, we were able to assist DP in filing for and receiving an EPO and DVO, obtaining steady employment while sheltered, parenting classes, safety planning, counseling, and providing assistance in rapid re-housing to protect herself and her young child. Through the Gimbel grant funding we were able to provide multiple services to DP, including access to job applications and job searches, transportation to and from work, financial literacy classes, credit counseling, financial advocacy (including securing w2's from former positions to appropriately file taxes) and economic empowerment. DP has successfully been able to maintain steady employment, remain in stable housing, and provide financially for herself and her young child since leaving the shelter.

Q16 Please relate a success story here:

na

Q17 Please relate a success story here:

na

Page 5: Organizational Information

Q18 Which category best describes the organization. **Shelter**
Please choose only one.

Q19 What is the organization's primary program area of interest? **Other**

Q20 Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%

African American	27
Asian/Pacific Islander	1
Caucasian	68
Native American	1
Hispanic Latino	3
All Ethnicities	0
Other	0
Unknown	0

Q21 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.

Children Birth-05 years of age	21
Children ages 06-12 years of age	18
Youth ages 13-18	3
Young Adults (18-24)	11
Adults	45
Senior Citizens	2

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q22 Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.

No clients served with disabilities	45
Physically Disabled	12
Blind & Vision Impaired	0
Deaf & Hearing Impaired	0
Mentally/Emotionally Disabled	15
Learning Disabled	5
Speech Impaired	1
Other Disability	102

Q23 Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.

At/Below Poverty Level	90
Homeless/Indigent	100
Migrant Worker	0
Working Poor	100
Other	0

Q24 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Single Adults	60
Families	40
Single Parent Families	40
Disabled	42
Ethnic Minority	32
LGBTG	1
Abused Women/Children	100
Homeless/Indigent	100
Immigrants	5
Military	1
Parolees	0
Students	3
Elderly	2
Children/Youth (those not included in Family)	0
