

# ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2023-2024

Our mission is to end domestic violence in the moment and for all time.

### A message from our Executive Director

This past year, we were reminded every day why our work matters. Survivors across Santa Clara County called our hotline, met with advocates, participated in our healing groups, and took courageous steps toward safety and freedom.

At Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence, we make sure anyone facing domestic or intimate partner violence has a place where they are seen, heard, and believed. A place that is safe, well-resourced, and equipped to offer pathways to greater stability, healing, and hope.

In 2023—2024, we provided emergency shelter, housing support, legal advocacy, and crisis intervention to survivors across the County. We offered 17 ongoing healing groups grounded in the lived experiences of those we serve. We reached youth through education on healthy relationships and communication. And we worked with community partners like hospitals, neighborhood groups, cities, the County and the State.

Our effort to end domestic violence in the moment and for all time cannot be done without a deep investment in diversity, cultural awareness, and our survivor-centered commitment to inclusion and justice. And it cannot be done without love. Love of survivors, of family, of the pursuit of a healthy community where everyone is welcome and can thrive.

The survivors we work with, our team, and our community are of all backgrounds, identities, circumstances, cultures, and statuses. We are for and of everyone.

For more than 53 years, we've stood with survivors—and with everyone working toward a world where violence has no place in our homes or relationships.

Thank you for standing with us.

and you for ocurrently with ao.

In community, love, and solidarity,

**Colsaria Henderson** She/Her or They/Them Executive Director

## Meet our Associate Directors

**PATRICIA NAÑEZ** 

#### Professional Development & Training

Patricia Nanez has been an activist in the anti-gender-based violence movement in Santa Clara County for over 25 years. Ms. Nanez is passionate about survivor-centered and trauma-informed programs and services for adult and children survivors of domestic violence at Next Door Solutions, and she has been a voice and advocate in support of survivors in our community.

#### **Community Partnerships**

Being part of the NDS team for over 10 years, Erica has spearheaded community prevention programming that includes community health workers/promotorx, youth initiatives, and healthcare partnerships using a public health approach to address complex issues, including violence, disinvestments in the community, and re-establishing trust and building relationships in and with communities.



**ERICA VILLA** 



MILLICENT FYNN

#### **Employee Engagement**

With over five years of administrative experience, Millicent has proven her adeptness in talent acquisition, onboarding, and fostering staff engagement through surveys and strategic planning sessions. Her unwavering passion for empowering underserved communities resonates in her belief that every achievement, no matter how modest, contributes to an individual's wellness and stability.

#### Impact and Program Design

Aparna has dedicated over 25 years to the field of Domestic Violence. Her experience spans from direct service, program management, development, team leadership, and program evaluations. Aparna has overseen programs supporting survivors and their children, facilitating their path to independence through support groups, case management, therapy, employment programs, and teen programs.



**APARNA DHORAJE** 

# Our Program Achievements



#### 24/7 EMERGENCY HOTLINE

Often the first step people take to get help. Bilingual Hotline Advocates provide immediate crisis intervention, help get callers into safe housing, and connect them to

counseling, risk assessment, and referrals to both NDS and community services. We offer translation services to multiple languages to ensure access.

13,778 HOTLINE AND COMMUNITY OFFICE CALLS



#### - 24/7 CRISIS SHELTER

Our confidential shelter provides a safe, culturally sensitive place to find respite, food, necessities and a chance to create next steps out of the struggles of facing exposure to

domestic violence. 100% of responding shelter surveyed clients stated that they were now aware of legal, economic, and social resources in the community.

6,424 BEDNIGHTS WERE PROVIDED AT OUR SHELTER



#### **HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

Through a self-sufficiency case management model, immediate and long term housing needs are addressed. Advocates assist in decreasing or eliminating barriers to

immediate and permanent housing in collaboration with survivors.

110

CLIENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN RECEIVED HOUSING ASSISTANCE



#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Outreach is both a prevention and advocacy strategy. Providing awareness on the definition and impacts of domestic violence with individuals, groups, and

systems is core to social change. Presentations are made to community groups, schools, agencies, faith communities, and organizations to build collaboration and allyship.

66

OUTREACH EVENTS WERE PROVIDED TO OVER



#### THERAPY SERVICES

Therapy Services, provided by LMFTs, assist participants and their children in addressing trauma and other impacts from exposure to domestic violence.

Therapy services were provided virtually with 100% reporting what they learned from therapy led to positive changes in their lives.

94

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVED 1,083 SESSIONS OF THERAPY SERVICES



## EL COMITÉ DE MUJERES FUERTES

A survivor-led group of Community Health Workers (Promotorx) providing education, outreach, and training on the effects of domestic violence on individuals, families.

and community. They are the bridge between service and health providers and the community.

23

PRESENTATIONS WERE PROVIDED BY EL

# Our Program Achievements



#### LEGAL ADVOCACY

Advocates provide bilingual help with restraining orders, legal referrals, criminal justice advocacy, and follow-up services. NDS works with several partners and contracted attorneys

to support clients who need additional legal assistance, consultation or representation. 85% report having a greater understanding of their legal rights, and the legal process.

664 SURVIVORS RECEIVED LEGAL ADVOCACY FOR



#### **HEALING GROUPS**

NDS addresses psychological and emotional needs of DV survivors through in-person and virtual healing groups with trained facilitators,

including groups in English and Spanish, a quilting group, a men's group, and an LGBTQIA+ group. 85% of participants say they can better manage stress when it occurs.

421

SURVIVORS ATTENDED SUPPORT GROUPS THAT HAD 4,290 SESSIONS



#### YOUTH PROGRAMS -

Youth in Action Conferences, youth education activities, and teen support groups were offered to support healthy communication and violence prevention. The Conferences were

provided for youth 14-18 years of age and addressed safe relationships, technology safety, and youth activism to build confidence rooted in equity and wellness.

34

TEENS PARTICIPATED IN THE YOUTH IN ACTION CONFERENCE, WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS AND GROUPS



## DV AND HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIPS

This initiative builds awareness among healthcare providers around the importance of universal domestic violence education, shared best

practices, and models. NDS manages partnerships with 8 medical service providers within the community providing training in improving their screening process for intimate partner violence.

352

HEALTH PROVIDERS IMPROVED THEIR DV SCREENING PROCESS FROM ATTENDING 22 PRESENTATIONS



#### - HEALING SERVICES

This program provides long-term stability services like financial literacy workshops, peer counseling, mobile and in-house case management, and employment assistance. These services

developed based on survivor-identified needs to address life-generated domestic violence risks (housing, employment, income, food, health, and wellness). 87% now know more about valuable resources they may need.

258

**SURVIVORS ATTENDED 1,590 SESSIONS** 



## WALK-IN CRISIS COUNSELING

Advocates and clients work together to assess risk and safety plan. Crisis and Community Support Advocates offer emergency services and counseling, and get survivors to safe shelter.

They also refer survivors to NDS programs and that address longer-term housing, health, hunger, legal and support needs. 97% share they can identify a way to increase their and their children's safety.

1.158

SURVIVORS MET WITH CRISIS ADVOCATES FOR 3,451 SESSIONS.



- Oneness and Connectedness
- Equity and Justice
- Compassionate Accountability
- Inclusion and Liberation
- Survivor and Community-Centered

# THANK YOU

to our volunteers who gave

354 HOURS

to support events, outreach, support groups, legal accompaniment, food pantry, and more!

Thank you to all of our supporters!

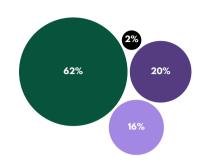


### **OUR YEAR IN REVIEW: FY 2023-24**

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

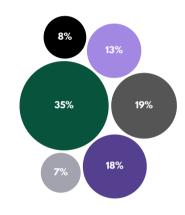
#### INCOME: \$4.451.944

- Government Grants
- Individual Donors
- Foundations/Corporations
- Other & In-Kind



#### **EXPENSE: \$4,809,493**

- Community Partnerships/Prevention
- 24 Hour Emergency Services
- Community and Systems Advocacy
- Healing services
- Administration
- Fund Development



#### 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hillary Weingast BOARD CHAIR

Shannon Power **SECRETARY** 

Michelle Puma SECRETARY

Dennis Coonan

Harmony Downs

Kriti Garg

Melissa Hollatz

Erika Muhl-Schwarz

James K. Murphy

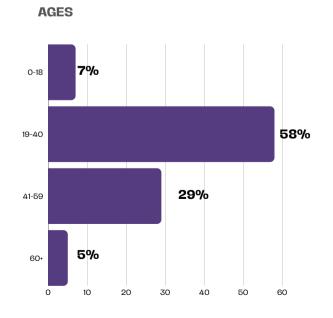
John Radford

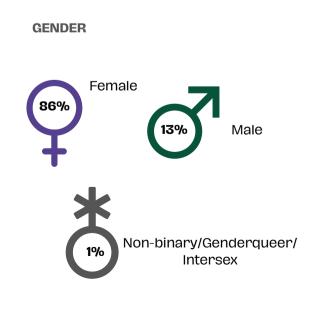
Cris Paden

Michelle Pezanni

Lisa Villarreal

#### **DEMOGRAPHICS SERVED**





## **Client Success Story:**

## Celia



When Celia reached out to NDS, she had done everything she could to keep her family afloat. Her partner, the primary income earner, had left the home abruptly following a violent incident— leaving Celia and her two children without support, income, or housing stability.

She was months behind on rent and at risk of losing her home. Like many survivors, Celia was caught in the gaps between caregiving, job loss, and systems that were not designed to meet the realities of domestic violence.

At NDS, she was met with a team who listened, responded, and actively supported her. Through our Housing First program, Celia received immediate financial assistance for rental support, help accessing public benefits, utility support, and expert guidance towards affordable housing options. She was connected to our support and healing groups that offer invaluable opportunities to know others who have faced or are facing similar challenges.

The path forward wasn't easy. Celia searched for steady work as she struggled to care for her children and flee from her the person causing her harm. NDS stayed with her — offering continued rental support, child care referrals, counseling, and legal advocacy. These efforts prevented Celia's family from becoming homeless.

In time, Celia secured full-time employment, stable housing, and purchased a vehicle. These changes resulted in a more safe and peaceful life for Celia and her children.

Reflecting on her journey, Celia shared, "As a single mother going through domestic violence, my challenges would've been far more severe if it wasn't for NDS. I appreciate all the help and patience the advocates gave me throughout my process."

Her story reminds us: when we meet survivors with trust, flexibility, and long-term commitment, they help create the safe future they deserve. NDS was there not just in the moment of crisis, but through every step forward. Today, Celia and her children are living a life free from violence.





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**f**) /NextDoorSolutions

@next door solutions

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