

## BUTTE SAFE SPACE

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



### THE PAST MONTHS

These past months have been busy, but mostly with work behind the scenes as we work towards a better Safe Space for our communities.

We cannot wait to share and announce these implementations, some of which will be announced in this newsletter and as always we appreciate and cherish your support as a community in changing the lives of our clients.

As we have worked towards these changes and improvements we have focused more on community outreach and helping those around us.

### IN LOVING MEMORY

We at Safe Space are deeply saddened by the passing of Mike Henrich.

Mike holds a special place in our hearts as not only an amazing donor to our program but an amazing human with our advocates. Mike always had a kind word for us here when he would wander in during our bad days and would never fail to make a room light up with his easy smile and warm heart.

While Mike often brought us necessities for the shelter and clients, he always made a point to bring something fun for the children and something sweet for the advocates. No one was exempt from his kindness. You will be missed Mike Henrich. May you rest in peace.



### VOLUNTEER TRAINING

In both June and August Safe Space hosted a volunteer training for anyone over the age of 18 who was interested in becoming a volunteer advocate. The 8 hour training, held both Online and in person, is a brief but strong introduction into what advocacy is and how you can help Safe Space and your community but becoming volunteers.

Both trainings were successful with attendees and retention of volunteers. It was amazing for us advocates who presented to be able to speak about our passion with community members and see that passion returned. If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming a volunteer advocate, watch our social media for announcements or call us at (406)782-9807 to get in contact!



## BUTTE HIGH OUTREACH

This May, Safe Space advocates were blessed to be invited into Butte High to host a class on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and who Safe Space is.

Advocates Winchester and Skeeter spent over an hour in Mrs. Bryant class with her students breaking down the myths and stigmas that surround the work safe space does. We discussed the different forms of Domestic Violence, the stigma surrounding Sexual Assault, what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault. We spent the last few minutes answering questions.

We want to thank Mrs. Bryant and Butte High for inviting us in, and say how proud we are of the students we interacted with for treating this topic with the seriousness it deserves. We hope our message spread some light on the issues our community faces and made it easier for those who need us to reach out.

If you would like us to do a presentation at your school, workplace, or group or know someone or some place that would benefit from our outreach, please reach out either by phone or email at (406)-782-9807, [assistantdirector@safespaceonline.org](mailto:assistantdirector@safespaceonline.org) Or [volunteercoordinator@safespaceonline.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@safespaceonline.org).



## DONATION WISH LIST

To anyone looking to donate physical items to Safe Space but not sure what to give, this is a list of our current and most pressing needs here! If you have any questions or want to donate something outside this list, please give us a call at (406)-782-9807

- Laundry Baskets
- Laundry Detergent
- Everyday Household items such as:
  - o Disinfectant,
  - o Room spray,
  - o Hand soap,
  - o Swiffer duster,
  - o Batteries,
  - o Light bulbs,
  - o Mops and brooms,
  - o Garbage bags,
  - o Paper towels,
  - o Kleenex, etc.
- Deodorant
- Chap-stick
- Shower Curtains & Hangers
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Cell Phones
- Full Sized Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, and Lotion
- Sunscreen
- Towels and Wash Cloths
- Infant Items such as: Pacifiers, Bottles, Sippy Cups, Baby Wipes
- Diapers of all sizes
- Maternity Clothing
- Food Donations
- Air Purifiers
- Strollers, single and double



## JOB OPENINGS

We are looking for a part time relief advocate to join our team to assist in advocacy services. If you are interested in advocacy and looking for a job with flexible hours, find us on Indeed to apply!



## POWELL COUNTY ROUND TABLE

Safe Space was invited this May to speak with our granters and other service providers in Powell County at a round table meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss our strengths and weaknesses and how to improve our communication and cooperation to better serve our communities. With this meeting we were able to form deeper connections with the BSB Womens Pre-release, the Deer Lodge Prison, Powell County Police Department, Powell County Victim's Witness, Members of MTLA, and Powell County District Attorneys and Judges.

As a team we were able to embrace our unique and interwoven strengths and identify our weaknesses as well as how to fix those weaknesses. Safe Space was beyond grateful for this opportunity to collaborate and get to know each other. We look forward to the developments discussed in that meeting coming to fruit across all of our service area.

## Safe Space INC





### MONTANA TECH ORIENTATION

Its officially college season! And we here at Safe Space were up at Montana Tech as part of their orientation to help the new (and current) students be more aware of sexual assault, domestic violence, and what they can do to help!

Safe Space attended the orientation on the 15th and 17th of August to speak to student leaders and freshmen about being safe in relationships in collaboration with the Sex Signals Sex Education performing group. We are beyond grateful for this opportunity and we hope our words and literature will help this new generation of students to know more about safety, and where they can go if the worst does happen.

We hope all the students have an amazing year! Go Ore Diggers!



### LOOKING FORWARD

As we move into the fall season, Safe Space is looking forward to attending more events, and stepping out into the community more. As always be sure to look out for us at the Tech Wellness Fair, Montana Tech Career Fair, East Middle School, Treat Street, and various other events in town, but also keep an eye out for a potential return of our old event Take Back The Night this October! As always stay safe and if you would like us to do a presentation at your school, workplace, or group or know someone or some place that would benefit from our outreach, please reach out either by phone or email at (406)-782-9807, [assistantdirector@safespaceonline.org](mailto:assistantdirector@safespaceonline.org) or [volunteercoordinator@safespaceonline.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@safespaceonline.org).



### SAFE SPACE STATS

This past year we have been fortunate enough to continue helping our clients despite the turmoil in the political, financial, and general world. In the past year we served 104 primary victims and 74 secondary victims inside the shelter and 41 primary victims and 40 secondary victims outside the shelter for a total of 259 victims served. We were able to provide 1,372 nights of shelter to our clients, 48 individual instances of financial aid ranging from bus tickets to cell phones, and received 1,348 crisis calls. It was a busy year, but we are always here, 24/7, ready to help anyone in need. If you are in crisis or have any questions, feel free to call us at our crisis line at (406)-782-8511 or at our office line at (406)-782-9807. We are happy to help!

### SAYING GOODBYE

It is with great sadness that I am announcing that our Executive Director Tonya Geraghty has retired. Tonya joined Safe Space in 1997 as an advocate and throughout the years has passed through almost every position available in the building. Volunteer Coordinator, Program Director for Suited for Success and the Exchange Club Parent Aide Program. Woman's Group Program Support Facilitator.

In 2004 she was accepted as Executive Director and became a wonderful group leader, continuing in that position until 2010 when she resigned. The Board of Directors asked for her return a year later; in 2011, as the Interim Director, until a new Director could be hired and trained. She was with the Program for four months. Another call from the Directors in 2015; Tonya again returned to help with the program that she truly loves and believes in - just for the "Interim" and stepped down again two years later. However, Tonya returned.... again....as the Executive Interim Director in 2021, at the request of the board to help the program again.

This July 2023, Tonya stepped down as Executive Director, hopefully for the last time. We wish Tonya well in her retirement with many thanks and warm hugs. We hope you fully enjoy your freedom and your food forest after 29 years of service. We Love You Tonya!!!





# SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT GROUP

FRIDAY EVENINGS  
BEGINNING MAY 19TH  
AT 5 PM

Women Ages 18 & Up

For more information, please contact  
Safe Space at (406) 782-9807.

## WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUPS

Speaking out about one's abuse or assault can be difficult, especially with such an isolating ordeal. We at Safe Space welcome survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault with compassion and understanding. Every Tuesday from 5pm to 6pm, domestic violence victims are welcome to attend the domestic violence support group. Also at this time, victim's children and children experiencing any secondary victimization can attend the children's support group. If you or you know someone who is a victim of sexual assault, the sexual assault support group takes place on Fridays from 5pm to 6pm.

The groups run by Marci (domestic violence), Rylie (sexual assault), and Winchester (children's) are a safe place to meet people who may understand the ways you're feeling. As the group facilitators meet each member with passion and empathy, this gives survivors room to grow through shared stories and healthy coping mechanisms. It's critical to us that survivors have a supportive and confidential space to share their thoughts and experiences during such a challenging time.

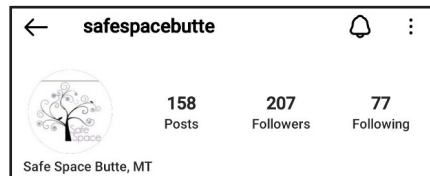
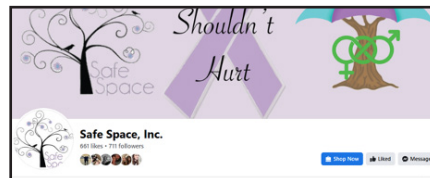


## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

A shout out to our amazing volunteers over the past few months! Thank you so much for the time and effort you have put into this program!

Mary Petre  
Debra Robbins  
Heather Taylor  
Theresa Renouard  
Taylor Sewell  
Dan Murphy  
Trevor Scott  
Debra Robbins  
Ellen Donohue  
Amy Schulte  
Candra Robbins  
Belinda Lopez

If you are interested in volunteering to help sort donations and clean the shelter, call Skeeter at our office line (406)-782-9807



## DONATION SHOUT OUT

Thank you to all the beautiful people who have donated to our program! Your donation makes a difference in the lives of our clients and the communities they live in! To

Michael Provost  
Heidi Kessler  
Ellie Hoffenbacker  
Nitro Green  
Summit Surgery Center  
Root A Bloom  
Catherine Shea  
Network for Good  
MAK Charitable

who left their names in the donation box, we appreciate you! If you are interested in donating, please give us a call at (406)-782-9807.

## A NEW FACE

Heather Thatcher has joined our little team here at Safe Space as our chipper Relief Advocate! Heather loves changing up her hair, softball and her kid and is always down for a good (or bad) joke. Heather is an amazing addition to our team as we aim to make Safe Space a better organization and help our community more than ever before. We are glad to have you Heather!

## CLOSING NOTES

### Thank You to our Board Members:

Dan Murphy	Tim Dick
Amy Schulte	Gretchen Geller
Janet Downey	Ellen Donohue
Theresa Renouard	Taylor Sewell
Jorey Thatcher	Jen Murphy

### and our Staff:

Rachael Weaver	Skeeter Lingle-Scott
Winchester Kessler	Chelsi Thrasher
Rylie Gonzalez	Dan Huerta
Brenda Beardslee	Heather Thatcher

### Together we serve:

Silver-Bow County  
Deerlodge County  
Powell County  
Jefferson County  
Granite County  
Maddison County