YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

To the army of donors who provide us a firm foundation upon which to do our work: Your generosity with cash gifts and in-kind donations of goods and services for our clients is simply unbelievable! From diapers to gift cards, you help us fill the immediate needs of the families we serve every day.

Our wonderful friends from the Mandell Jewish Community Center showered us with love...and cute pajamas for our kids!

University of Saint Joseph Pharmacy School Class of 2022 tapped into their expertise and collected first aid items and diapers for clients.

Our pal Nice collects toys for the kids in our Safe House every Christmas.

Members of 100 Women Who Care - Farmington Valley voted at the end of 2019 to presented Interval House with their biggest donation yet—$18,200, proving there is power in numbers!

The congregation at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Manchester donated a car-full of cleaning supplies and diapers to our Safe House in March—it took four people to load everything up!

I will make a difference now!

Please accept my immediate gift of  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ Other _______

Card # ___________________________  Exp ___________  CVV _________

Name ____________________________

Address __________________________

City, State, Zip ____________________

Email/Phone ______________________

☐ Please direct this gift to the Father’s Day Men Make a Difference campaign.

NO VISIBLE BRUISES

On February 6 Interval House hosted breakfast with Rachel Louise Snyder, author of the acclaimed book No Visible Bruises: What We Don’t Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us, at The Hartford Club. Snyder spoke on the complex dynamics of domestic violence and her experience investigating the issue across the country. Sharing the story of one victim, Michelle Monson Mosure, she urged the audience to help erase the stigma of abuse by pushing for change in our communities. Snyder ended her talk with a quote by Mahatma Gandhi: “In a gentle way, you can shake the world.”

Interval House is grateful to event sponsor and valued partner Bank of America, which is a pioneer in providing specialized benefits to its employees who are dealing with domestic violence in their own lives.

Below: Mary-Jane Foster, Joseph Gianni, Snyder, Jill Huisensky

GIVING VICTIMS HOPE BEYOND FEAR

In July 2018 Interval House launched Project: Hope Beyond Fear, a program designed to address the complex needs of immigrant and refugee victims of domestic violence living in the City of Hartford. Funded by a federal grant, Hope Beyond Fear is the first program of its kind in the State and increases Interval House’s capacity to respond to the unique needs of immigrant victims, as well as address the stark cultural differences that exist among the immigrant community regarding violence against women.

Hope Beyond Fear offers special intervention and support services by two state-certified and specially trained, bilingual advocates. The program also brings a new coordinator tasked with targeted community outreach and devoted to fostering special partnerships with other nonprofit agencies that offer immigration services. The Hartford Public Library and the (continued, page 3)
A Message from Mary-Jane

Thank you.

Thank you for the support you've offered through these very strange and challenging weeks. On March 16, when I walked into the office, it was clear we needed to act swiftly in order to preserve the delivery of our services while also acting responsibly in the face of a public health crisis. I convened my senior staff and we quickly made the decision to send a significant portion of our team home. Within 24 hours we moved 28 employees to their new “offices” and devised a plan to ensure minimal exposure for the eight advocates we needed to keep in rotation to cover work at the Safe House, on the hotline, and in the courts. And we got to work.

We are so fortunate that the wonders of modern technology allow us to remain in constant contact with our clients. Through phone calls and text messages, we are available to them 24 hours a day. Our number one priority is their safety and the first bills we pay are those that meet their needs. That is why I am grateful to you. Your gifts to Interval House have kept us afloat. Your generosity will get us through this perilous time.

While the demands of our constantly changing landscape have my full attention, I do take time to look beyond. To dream. To envision what our world will look like in a few months. My hope is that we as humans will be more resilient and more compassionate. I am fortunate to already see those qualities in my team here at Interval House and in you, our supporters.

With heartfelt thanks,

Mary-Jane Foster
President & CEO

Have you heard the news?! Our annual Step Up & Stay In Gala is now Step Up & Stay In, a virtual gala in support of Interval House! From May 1 - 9, go to StepUp2020.givesmart.com to participate in our online appeal and auction. On the evening of May 9, put on your fanciest pajamas and join Mary-Jane and some of our biggest supporters and friends for a star-studded Facebook Live finale.

Please mark your calendars for this unique opportunity to Step Up for our clients by staying In the comfort of your living room and harnessing the miracles of your mobile device!

(Hope Beyond Fear, continued from front page)

Connecticut Institute for Refugee and Immigrants, among others, are working with Interval House on the project.

Advocacy Program Director Jennifer Lopez (pictured right) says: “For the past 30 years I have assisted hundreds of immigrant victims, learning along the way that they are often hindered in seeking help due to the thorny dynamics of their immigration status, language barriers, and cultural and familial pressures. As a result, immigrant victims suffer in silence and are forced to endure horrible acts of control and violence. This program gives victims and survivors the hope to thrive beyond their fears to a better life, free of control and violence.”

In Memoriam

Alice Kirkpatrick Kugelman, 1935 – 2020

It is with great admiration we remember Alice Kugelman—musician, author, antiques aficionado, real estate professional, avid dog lover, and community activist long before the term was trendy.

As co-founder of Interval House and one of its first board members, Alice helped to pave the way for Interval House to become the State’s largest domestic violence agency. She remained a dear friend to the organization until her passing in March at age 84.

“Interval House was born on Alice’s recognition of the domestic violence problem bound by the great wall of silence, fear and shame,” said Gloria Gery, former Interval House Board President. “Alice and her band of committed and powerful women broke through the barrier in the 1970s, convinced the power structure of Hartford of the need, raised money, developed a philosophy, and structure, hired staff and set up programs that have grown and become a part of society’s fabric. Forces of nature are to be contended with whether massive storms or tiny viruses that upend the world. Alice Kugelman was a human force that tore the status quo apart.”