



# WELCOME TO THE SAFE Newsletter

JANUARY 5, 2024



## New beginnings in the New Year

Last month, a community member donated a vehicle to a SAFE family in need. The survivor, a mother of three with one more on the way, is a participant in SAFE's Transitional Housing Program and has struggled to meet her family's growing needs without having access to transportation.

Just a couple of weeks before the end of 2023, her wish came true when she was notified that SAFE had a vehicle for her, not just on a temporary basis, but to keep. The donors, who will remain anonymous, have made a vehicle donation to SAFE in the past when they upgraded cars. The donor said that they were considering selling their older model car before purchasing a new one this time, since the car was still in such good shape; however, after watching the Netflix series "Maid," a story about a young mother fleeing domestic violence, they decided that they wanted to donate their vehicle to a SAFE survivor again.

SAFE Program Staff are working with the participant on updating her driver's license, registering the vehicle and obtaining auto insurance, all things that are common needs when survivors come to SAFE. The lack of accessible public transportation in Ravalli County, along with the geographic distance that many survivors are facing when working with a variety of service providers, serve as major obstacles that this family no longer has to worry about, thanks to our generous donors.

If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation of a well-running vehicle to SAFE, please give us a call at 406-363-2793.

# January is Stalking Awareness Month

TAKE A LOOK AT THESE SOBERING STATISTICS ABOUT STALKING

**61%** OF FEMALE VICTIMS

**44%** OF MALE VICTIMS

WERE STALKED BY A CURRENT OR FORMER INTIMATE PARTNER

2011 NISVS

ONLY

**41%** OF FEMALE VICTIMS

**37%** OF MALE VICTIMS

REPORTED THEIR STALKING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

2009 BJS

STALKING IS A CRIME IN ALL 50 STATES

NEARLY **1/3** OF STALKERS HAVE STALKED BEFORE

REVIEW BY POLONY OF STALKING 2008

**76%** OF FEMALE HOMICIDE VICTIMS KILLED BY A CURRENT OR FORMER INTIMATE PARTNER WERE STALKED BY THEIR MURDERER PRIOR TO THEIR DEATH

STALKING AND INTIMATE PARTNER FEMICIDE 1999

NEARLY **75%** OF VICTIMS KNEW THEIR STALKER

BY STALKING VICTIMSADON 2009

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS A VICTIM OF STALKING, SAFE CAN HELP.

# Construction Updates



## A MESSAGE FROM MAINTENANCE MARK

*The completion of another year is often accompanied by the natural reflection of major life events or experiences that have brought us to where we are today. Looking back at 2023, I am amazed at the inspiring progress that was made through each aspect of the planning and implementation of our facility expansion. So much has been invested by so many people and we are now witnessing the fruit of that labor. Though sometimes it feels like the process moves much slower than we would like it to, it is important to remember that properly performing every little detail is critical to a successful plan. We will soon watch as the skeletal structure of our new building arises from the foundation, as the floor joist supports are nearing completion, making ready for the laying of subfloor material and then walls to begin taking shape! Yes, there is still a lot to be done. But looking back, we are so grateful for all who are a part of this incredible project, for the progress that has already been made...and now, looking forward, we are equally grateful and so very excited to see this dream become a reality through the year ahead.*

-Mark Warner, SAFE Facilities Maintenance

## “What does ‘empowerment’ mean to you in your work?”

SAFE STAFF WERE RECENTLY ASKED THIS QUESTION AND HERE ARE SOME OF THE RESPONSES THEY GAVE

“giving voice”

“the power to choose”

“meeting needs and getting out of survival mode”

“allowing space for growth and next steps”

“voluntary services”

ADD YOUR THOUGHTS HERE ON OUR FACEBOOK POST!

## City of Hamilton publishes local community support list



### ONLINE NON-EMERGENCY RESOURCE AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE

As of December 11, 2023, the City of Hamilton has provided an updated free, easy-to-access online resource list for community members in the Bitterroot Valley seeking non-emergency support. The list is broken down into the following 15 categories:

Clothing and Furniture | Disability Services  
Emergency Housing Assistance | Food Pantries  
Fuel and Propane | Hot Meals | Medical  
Mental Health Care | Pet Assistance  
Public Assistance Program | Resource Referrals  
Senior Services | Showers and Laundry  
Veteran Services | Youth Services

These are many of the resources that SAFE advocates provide to survivors and others who call our crisis line, and we are so glad that the public now has another easy way of accessing this information.

# SAFE Event Calendar

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING DATES  
stay tuned for more details

## JANUARY 2024

2024 SAFE  
business & individual  
sponsorship  
opportunities open

11th @6pm:  
Eagles Lodge Bingo  
Night, proceeds  
donated to SAFE

## FEBRUARY 2024

Teen Dating  
Violence Awareness  
Month

21st @ 7pm: 'Holding  
Fire' author reading  
& presentation  
benefitting SAFE

## MAY 18, 2024

SAFE Spring  
Fundraiser

details TBD!

## SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Farm to  
Table  
Gathering



**BINGO**

**January 11**  
Cash Prizes - Food & Drinks

**50/50 RAFFLE BENEFITS**

**Supporters of  
Abuse  
Free  
Environments**

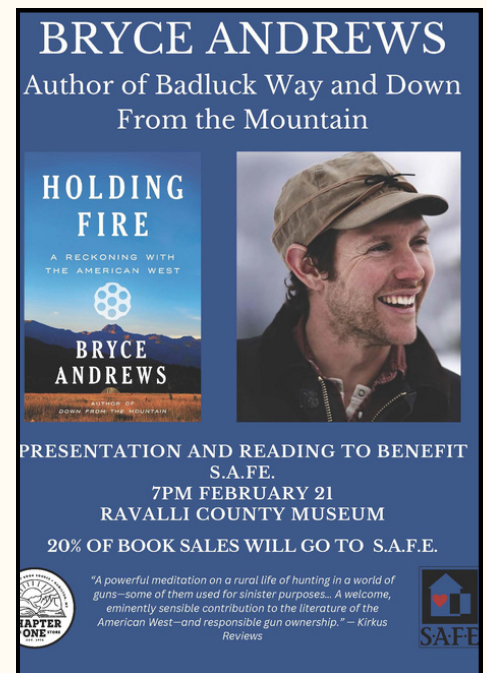
**AT THE HAMILTON EAGLES LODGE**  
125 N. 2nd St, Hamilton MT 59840  
On the Corner of N. 2nd & Pickney  
Doors open at 5pm | Bingo at 6pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT (406) 838-4118



**TEEN DATING  
VIOLENCE  
IS SERIOUS.**

**60%**  
OF TEENS  
know a victim  
of either  
dating  
violence  
or  
sexual  
assault



**BRYCE ANDREWS**  
Author of Badluck Way and Down  
From the Mountain

**HOLDING  
FIRE**  
A RECKONING WITH  
THE AMERICAN WEST  
BRYCE  
ANDREWS

**PRESENTATION AND READING TO BENEFIT  
S.A.F.E.**  
7PM FEBRUARY 21  
RAVALLI COUNTY MUSEUM

20% OF BOOK SALES WILL GO TO S.A.F.E.

"A powerful meditation on a rural life of hunting in a world of  
guns—some of them used for sinister purposes... A welcome,  
eminently sensible contribution to the literature of the  
American West—and responsible gun ownership." — Kirkus  
Reviews

## Come work with us today!

As we have experienced some internal shifting within our organization and received word about receiving additional funding for our Community Programs office, SAFE is still hiring for a couple of positions, listed to the right.

Check out our website for the full job descriptions and details!

### Afternoon/Evening/Weekend Advocate

PART-TIME: 20 HOURS PER WEEK

### Coordinated Community Response (CCR)

#### Coordinator

FULL-TIME: 40 HOURS PER WEEK

**OPEN ROLES**

@safe\_in\_the\_bitterroot | safe@safeinthebitterroot.org

**WWW.SAFEINTHEBITTERROOT.ORG**