



someplace safe
SAFETY. OPTIONS. HOPE.

SAFER FAMILIES. SAFER COMMUNITIES.

FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



SOMEPLACE SAFE ENSURES SERVICES ARE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL IN NEED

Crime and victimization can happen to anyone, anywhere, at any time. Sometimes, it can occur when least expected. Someplace Safe is here to serve all survivors in these times of crisis, stress, and uncertainty.

Someplace Safe services are trauma-informed, meaning our agency focuses on providing options that are best for each individual client's situation. This approach helps to ensure that survivors are not retraumatized in the aftermath and are treated with respect and dignity. Our advocates provide nonjudgmental, compassionate services, ensuring that every person feels heard, supported, and respected.

While we are here in moments of crisis, our work extends far beyond immediate safety needs.

Our advocacy services include: emotional support during and after a crisis; safety planning for individuals and families; guidance and advocacy through the court and legal processes; emergency housing and resources; assistance navigating complex systems, including housing, healthcare, and family services; and connections to community resources that can help rebuild safety and stability.

Accessibility is at the heart of what we do. All Someplace Safe advocacy services are free and confidential, ensuring that cost does not become a

barrier to accessing help. The agency provides services to people of all genders, ages, backgrounds, and circumstances. We tailor our approach to respect cultural traditions, values, and beliefs — meeting people where they are, both emotionally and culturally.

If a client is unable to visit one of our office locations due to transportation or safety issues, our advocates are able to provide mobile advocacy, meeting with clients in an alternate safe location. Another option is for advocates to provide services over the phone, if preferred. The agency also offers services via text via message, as well as virtually. Multiple staff speak a variety of languages. Translators are available (foreign language and DHH) as well as live web chat.

Every story is different, but the agency's goal remains the same: to empower individuals to move forward with safety, dignity, and confidence. Someplace Safe advocates walk alongside survivors and community members every step of the way, knowing that healing and hope are possible when compassionate support is within reach.

If you or someone you know need help, call Someplace Safe 24/7 at 800-974-3359, text 844-980-0169, or chat online at www.someplacesafe.info.



2025 EVENTS



FALL & WINTER

SEPTEMBER 18

MEAT RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

SILVERMOON LOUNGE & STEAKHOUSE
Perham, MN

Begins at 5:30pm. \$1 meat raffles, \$1 horse & pig races. Silent auction. Cash bar and food available for purchase.

For more info contact Alison at alison.f@someplacesafe.info or Ashley at ashley.z@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 1-18

'HOPE SHOWS' ART EXHIBIT

REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTER
New York Mills, MN

A show about survival and hope. Exhibit dates October 1 - 18. All mediums of art will be showcased.

To submit artwork, or for more info, contact the Regional Cultural Center at 218-385-3339 or Alyssa at 218-631-3311 or alysa.g@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 3

MEAT RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

SHORE LINE
Battle Lake, MN

Begins at 6pm.
\$1 meat raffles. Cash bar and food available for purchase.

For more information contact Olivia at 218-739-2853 or olivia.z@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 8

SELF DEFENSE

ROOSEVELT EDUCATION CENTER
Fergus Falls, MN

6pm to 8:30pm.
Free class for women and girls ages 10+.

Pre-registration required with Community Education at 218-998-0544 ext. 9200.

OCTOBER 13-18

PERKS COFFEE & TEA "COFFEE FOR A CAUSE" FUNDRAISER

ALL 4 PERKS LOCATIONS

- 202 W Washington Ave, Fergus Falls
- 1311 E Fir, Fergus Falls
- 416 S Lake Ave, Battle Lake
- 111 W Vernon Ave, Fergus Falls (Lake Region Healthcare Clinic Lobby)

A portion of sales from Oct 13-18 will be donated to Someplace Safe.

For more information contact Robyn at 218-7392853 or robyn.h@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 13

14TH ANNUAL CHILI & SOUP FUNDRAISER

BRECKENRIDGE SENIOR CENTER
Breckenridge, MN

Serving from 11am-1pm. Chili with fixings, chicken with rice soup, desserts and beverages. Dine-in and take out available. Free will donation

For more information contact Alisha at 218-643-3109 or alisha.v@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 14

19TH ANNUAL TAKE A STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Alexandria, MN

Begins at 5pm. Speakers: Josh & Niki Sakry, parents of domestic homicide victim, Ariel. Free event with t-shirts and food for participants.

For more info call Someplace Safe at 320-762-1995 or email UCAN at peaceinalexandria@gmail.com

OCTOBER 15

CHILI & SOUP FUNDRAISER

ORTONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
Ortonville, MN

Serving from 11am-1pm. Chili, potato soup with fixings, desserts and beverages. Free will donation.

For more information contact Jennifer at 320-839-2331 or jennifer.h@someplacesafe.info

Visit our event calendar at someplacesafe.info/events



Find more event details on our social media!



OCTOBER 15

25TH ANNUAL DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS LUNCHEON

BROADWAY BALLROOM
Alexandria, MN

11:45am-1pm. Speaker: Rhonda Martinson. Advance tickets are \$25 (individuals) or \$200 (table of 8) and are available at Glenwood State Bank in Alexandria. For more info call Someplace Safe at 320-762-1995 or email UCAN at peaceinalexandria@gmail.com

OCTOBER 16

DAY OF PURPLE TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Share your #dayofpurple photos on social media!

OCTOBER 16

7TH ANNUAL SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON

HANS HOUSE
Elbow Lake, MN

Serving from 11am-1pm.
\$14 per person.
Take-out lunches available.

For more information contact Alison at 218-685-4203 or alison.f@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 16

11TH ANNUAL CHILI FEED FUNDRAISER

WADENA VFW
Wadena, MN

Serving from 3pm - 7pm. Chili with fixings, cornbread, and desserts. Take out available. Free will donation.

For more information contact Alyssa at 218-631-3311 or alysa.g@someplacesafe.info

OCTOBER 18

'HOPE SHOWS' ART EXHIBIT RECEPTION & CLOSING CEREMONY

REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTER
New York Mills, MN

A show about survival and hope. Reception from 3pm - 5pm. Drinks and snacks available. Brief program, speaker & award ceremony. Free will donations accepted. For more information contact Alyssa at 218-631-3311.

OCTOBER 22

4TH ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WALK

WESTERN PRAIRIE HUMAN SERVICES
Glenwood, MN

Begins at 11:30am. Program and free lunch for participants. Walk begins and ends at Western Prairie Human Services.

For more information contact Jazmin at jazmin.a@someplacesafe.info

NOVEMBER 1

VFW BINGO FUNDRAISER

VFW POST 612
Fergus Falls, MN

Begins at 1pm.
Featuring \$1 raffles and bingo!
Cash bar available.
Must be 18+ to play.

For more information contact Olivia at 218-739-2853 or olivia.z@someplacesafe.info

DECEMBER

STEVENS COUNTY CALENDAR RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Morris, MN

\$20 per ticket. Featuring cash prize drawings each weekday throughout the month of December! \$3,000 total cash prizes will be awarded. Raffle tickets will be available at the Someplace Safe Stevens Advocacy Office and Morris Thrift Store, or by calling 320-589-3208.

Receive exclusive store sales and deals via text message to redeem throughout the month!

Store Hours at ALL LOCATIONS
Monday-Friday
9am-6pm
Saturday & Sunday
10am-5pm



Text "morristhrift" to 855-947-0070



Text "ffthrft" to 855-947-0070



Text "alexthrft" to 855-947-0070

Donation Hours at ALL LOCATIONS
Monday-Friday
9am-5pm
Saturday
10am-4pm
Sunday - Closed



A Grateful Farewell After 18 Years



After more than 18 years of service, I am stepping into retirement with a heart full of gratitude. My time at Someplace Safe has been more than a career—it has been a calling. The work of crime victim advocacy is not easy, but it is deeply meaningful. I have

been blessed to walk alongside individuals and families during their most vulnerable moments, offering support, resources, and hope.

I began my work shortly after Someplace Safe launched its advocacy services in Douglas County. From the start, our team built strong relationships with criminal justice partners, United Communities Advocating Non-Violence, and many other nonprofits. Together, we helped to bring survival, healing, and hope for a better future.

I want to express my sincerest appreciation for the unwavering support from our partners, the churches, the businesses, the service clubs, the volunteers, community members and countless others. The investment our community has made in this work is phenomenal. **It takes all of us—yesterday, today, and tomorrow—to continue helping those in need.**

Many thanks to my coworkers and leadership team who shared their support, knowledge, and friendship over the years. This team continues to serve our communities with compassion and integrity. I am proud to have been part of such a remarkable group.

I treasure the time I've had as a crime victim advocate. The survivors I've met, the stories I have heard, and the strength I've witnessed have left a lasting imprint on my heart. This work has shaped me in ways that will impact me forever.

As I retire, I carry with me countless memories, lessons, and relationships that will remain close to my heart. Thank you to my colleagues, community partners, and especially to the survivors who trusted me to be part of their journey. You have taught me more than I could ever express.

As for what's next, I'm not entirely sure. But I move forward with deep appreciation for each new day of exploration, and for every person I had the privilege to connect with. The future may be uncertain, but my gratitude is constant.

With appreciation,

Susan Keshn

Crime Victim Advocate, Someplace Safe

Susan has been an integral part of Someplace Safe since 2006. Her dedication and impact will be deeply missed by Someplace Safe and throughout Douglas County communities.

—Sheila Korby, Someplace Safe Executive Director

Your steadfast leadership and collaborative spirit have left a lasting impact on our community, significantly advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and support survivors.

- Deputy Nicole Swanson, Douglas Co. Sheriff's Office

While deeply moved by the plight of others and the suffering she has witnessed, she remains positive, full of hope, and determined to expose the problem of domestic violence bring it to an end. Thank you, Susan for caring so much.

- Pastor Pete Reishus, Secretary of UCAN

Thank you, Susan, for your nearly 20 years of service. There have been many improvements to the local domestic violence response because of your leadership, drive, enthusiasm, and determination. On behalf of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, thank you for your service and enjoy your retirement!

- Sergeant Ron Boyden, Douglas Co. Sheriff's Office



Additional well wishes for Susan can be found at:
<https://someplacesafe.info/gratefulfarewell/>

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AGENCY CONTACTS

Sheila Korby
Executive Director
sheila.k@someplacesafe.info

Ashley Zach
Director of Development
& Communications
ashley.ze@someplacesafe.info

Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie
Safe Harbor
Regional Navigator
anne.lr@someplacesafe.info

Lori Hanson
Director of Operations
lori.h@someplacesafe.info

Emilyn Wahl
Director of
Parenting Time Centers
emilyn.w@someplacesafe.info

Johanna Bolte
Director of Crime
Victim Advocacy
johanna.b@someplacesafe.info

Anna McArdle
Director of
Thrift Stores
anna.m@someplacesafe.info

Get involved during Domestic Violence Awareness Month

#DAYOFPURPLE



Day of Purple

OCTOBER 16, 2025

-  **WEAR PURPLE**
-  **HONOR SURVIVORS**
-  **PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT**

Free posters & stickers available!

To request Day of Purple materials
contact newsletter@someplacesafe.info

For more information, and to make
your Day of Purple Pledge,
visit us online at:
www.someplacesafe.info/day-of-purple

\$31 For 31



Daily \$1 Pledge

THROUGHOUT OCTOBER

Here is what your \$31 gift can accomplish:

- A gas gift card for a family who needs to travel to work, school, counseling, medical or advocacy appointments.
- A meal to a family staying in emergency safe housing.
- About 1 hour of supervised parenting time to a family at Someplace Safe Parenting Time Centers.
- A prepaid cell phone card to a victim, allowing them to stay in touch with their advocate and other support systems.

TO MAKE YOUR \$31 GIFT, VISIT OUR DONATION PAGE AT WWW.SOMEPLACESAFE.INFO/DONATE. BE SURE TO SELECT \$31 FOR 31 AS THE DESIGNATION.

SAFER FAMILIES. SAFER COMMUNITIES.



SOMEPLACE SAFE WORKS TO CREATE SAFER COMMUNITIES IN WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA BY PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY CRIME VICTIM SERVICES. SOMEPLACE SAFE IS A NONPROFIT AGENCY OFFERING A MYRIAD OF SERVICES TO VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES IN A NINE-COUNTY REGION IN WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA. NEARLY 4,000 UNDUPLICATED LOCAL VICTIMS OF CRIME ARE PROVIDED SERVICES EACH YEAR THROUGH ELEVEN ADVOCACY OFFICES, FIVE PARENTING TIME CENTERS, AND THREE THRIFT STORES, LOCATED IN: BIG STONE, DOUGLAS, GRANT, OTTER TAIL, POPE, STEVENS, TRAVERSE, WADENA, AND WILKIN COUNTIES. SOMEPLACE SAFE WORKS TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND EXPLOITATION, HUMAN AND LABOR TRAFFICKING, AND OTHER CRIMES AS THEY NAVIGATE THE SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS FACED AS VICTIMS ON THE PATH TO BECOMING SURVIVORS.



Someplace Safe is funded in part by the MN
Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs
- Crime Victim Services; Minnesota Department of
Health - Safe Harbor Program; and United Way.



info@someplacesafe.info



24-Hour Crisis Hotline
800-974-3359



Text
844-980-0169



www.someplacesafe.info



PO Box 815
Fergus Falls MN 56538

Newsletter questions or comments?
Please contact newsletter@someplacesafe.info

