Dear Friends,

In 1975, five “founding mothers” began our work by forming a 24-hour rape and sexual assault counseling hotline from their homes. From these humble beginnings, we have evolved and enriched Social Justice Services in Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Human Trafficking, Displaced Homemakers, Fatherhood, Early Childhood Education, and our Dismantling Racism Initiative. Diversity is Our Strength and today we acknowledge the expansive and diverse client base as we seek to engage and empower individuals from the broadest community. We strive to serve individuals of all races, ethnicities, national origins, ages, genders, socioeconomic statuses, religions, sexual orientations, and physical and intellectual abilities.

As our work has evolved, so must our identity. In an effort to be a beacon to the full community we are excited to announce our new brand:

![Avanzar Logo]

Our vision is to strive to be the premier Social Justice Agency focused on equitable inclusiveness and our mission remains:

To empower individuals and families by working to secure their physical safety, emotional well-being, individual freedom and economic equality.

With your help Avanzar will continue to provide vital services to victims/survivors while providing safety, working for just causes, and empowering individuals, families and communities.

Sincerely,

Claudia Ratzlaff, CEO

India Karavackas, Board President
Our Mission

Empowering individuals and families by working to secure their physical safety, emotional well-being, individual freedom and economic equality
Did You Know?

♦ One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime by someone they knew.
♦ An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.
♦ Most cases of domestic violence are not reported to the police.
♦ 1 in 6 females and 1 in 33 males will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.
♦ About 84% of survivors know their perpetrators.
♦ 65% of survivors are assaulted before the age of 18.
♦ Only 15% of sexual assaults are reported to the police.
♦ Lesbian, gay, and bisexual people are at the same risk for sexual assault as people who identify as heterosexual and at greater risk to be targeted for recruitment in to sex trafficking.
♦ Transgendered individuals are at a greater risk for sexual victimization.
♦ Over 50% of women receiving inpatient mental health services are sexually assaulted while receiving care.
♦ People with developmental disabilities are 4 to 10 times more likely to be sexually assaulted.
♦ US Department of Labor has identified 136 goods from 74 countries made by forced child labor.
Violence Intervention Programs

Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking

Our Violence Intervention Programs work to reduce the physical, psychological and emotional trauma and recurrence of domestic violence, sexual assault and incest experienced by victims and their families.
The staff made me feel comfortable and treated me with respect.

- VIP Client
Statewide Human Trafficking Program

“You guys gave me hope in the darkest moments, strength in my weakest and courage when I most needed it”
- anonymous survivor

We provide a holistic program that addresses all forms of Human Trafficking. Through utilization of the four P’s: Prevention, Protection, Partnership and Prosecution, this program will reduce both victim vulnerability and exploitation demand. While respecting fundamental human rights of all persons, we will ensure adequate protection and support to those who do fall victim; and efficient prosecution of the criminals involved.

In 2017 our Statewide Human Trafficking Program:

- Engaged 151 survivors of Human Trafficking throughout New Jersey, 40% of the under the age of 18
- Provided 531 crisis responses to survivor at police departments, hospitals, and in the community
- Relocated 11 survivors back to their home state and linked them with services for continuation of support
- Provided 1458 therapeutic counseling sessions to survivors of all forms of Human Trafficking
- Supported local, state and federal law enforcement on 31 operations around the state of New Jersey
- Referred 87 survivors for legal representation through volunteer lawyers across New Jersey
Peace: A Learned Solution (PALS) is a therapeutic program for children and their families who have experienced or witnessed domestic violence. It works through the Creative Arts to restore the individual control that many children lose when they experience violence first-hand. Creative Arts Therapy can include play therapy, art therapy, music therapy, and dance and movement therapy.

In addition, PALS focuses on the family as a whole system, providing case management and counseling services for the non-offending parent and/or adult.

I am so thankful for your program and the support and guidance you have given me and my son. We are absolutely better equipped to handle our situation and to understand our feelings. This experience has helped us out tenfold.

- Anonymous  PALS Client
The PALS program helped me to understand domestic violence and become a better parent.

- Kiara - PALS Client
Displaced Homemaker
and
Self Sufficiency Services

These services empower displaced homemakers and unemployed or underemployed individuals with the personal support, education, and job training necessary to become independent and self-sufficient.

— Jennifer W—HTW Client

After receiving my great new resume, interview coaching, and job search support, I ended up with three offers of employment and am now working at a job I love. I couldn’t have done it without you!
Displaced Homemaker Services

Job Placements..........................28
Training Program Placements......4
Job Readiness............................102
Client Assistance.......................13
Professional Career Closet.........40
Total Clients Served....................131
Fatherhood Services

The Fatherhood Services Program is designed to strengthen the role fathers have in the lives of their children and promotes healthy communication between co-parents. Fathers Ending Abuse is a batterers’ intervention program designed to improve the well-being of children through involved, responsible and committed parenting.

- Batterers’ Intervention groups held........188
- New clients initiated into program.........63
- Clients graduated from program...........29
- Ongoing clients engaged.....................453
- Individual counseling sessions............119
South Region Technical Assistance
Center for Grow New Jersey Kids & First Steps

The South Region Technical Assistance Center houses the region’s two quality initiatives aimed at improving the quality of early childhood education; Grow NJ Kids (GNJK) and NJ First Steps (FS). Grow NJ Kids, New Jersey’s Quality Rating Improvement System, is New Jersey’s program to raise the quality of child care and early learning. GNJK provides resources that help raise quality and continuously improve early childhood education programs.

The Women’s Center was awarded the NJ First Steps (FS) grant for the south region in April of 2017. FS is an initiative created to assist early educators in offering the very best possible care for infants and toddlers. Our FS programs provides invaluable professional development classes through the NJ Workforce Registry to ensure providers have the most up-to-date, research based infant/toddler care.

Both the GNJK and FS programs offer onsite technical assistance, coaching, mentoring and creates opportunities for early childhood education professionals to network.

“My Technical Assistance Specialist is very patient. She is cheerful, informative and helpful. She has a great connection with my staff and has been amazing at meeting our needs.”
- Childcare Center Director

Grow NJ Kids- South Region TA Center

Number of Centers enrolled: 70
Number of Family Child Care Providers: 11
Number of Program Site Visits: 145
Number of Webinars offered: 5
Number of Participants: 123
Number of Networking Sessions: 40
Number of Participants: 197

NJ First Steps
(South Region TA Center; April 2017-September 2017)

Number of Trainings Provided: 145
Number of Professionals Trained: 5
Affiliations

- Atlantic County Board of Social Services
- Atlantic County Human Services Advisory Council
- Atlantic County Family Courts
- Atlantic County Office of Victim Witness
- Atlantic County Protective Services Coalition
- Atlantic County Youth Services Advisory
- Displaced Homemakers Network of New Jersey
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence
- New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
- New Jersey Department of Human Services
- New Jersey Department of Health
- New Jersey Department of Education
- New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- New Jersey Commission on Human Trafficking
- New Jersey Human Trafficking Taskforce
- Stockton University of NJ
- South Jersey Legal Services
- United Way of Greater Philadelphia & Southern New Jersey
- Volunteer Lawyers for Justice
Corporate Donors

♦ ACUA
♦ Adams-Perfect Funeral Home
♦ Atlantic Beauty and Spa Academy
♦ AtlantiCare Foundation
♦ Bank of America Employee Giving Programs
♦ Capaldi Reynolds Accounting
♦ Charity League
♦ D’ Amato Law Firm
♦ Exchange Club of Ocean City
♦ Foster Karney Trust Fund
♦ GRC Wireless Fundraiser
♦ Hafetz and Associates
♦ Margate Community Church
♦ NJ Association of Childcare
♦ NJ Association of Tech Assistants
♦ Scrap Away Get Away
♦ Sisters Ripping the Runway
♦ Thomas H. Hamilton Foundation
♦ United Way of Greater Philadelphia & South NJ
♦ WAWA
FINANCIALS

Major Funders

♦ NJ Department of Human Services
  Division of Family Development

♦ NJ Department of Children & Families
  Division on Women

♦ NJ Department of Law & Public Safety
  Division of Criminal Justice
  Office of Victim Witness Advocacy

♦ Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office

♦ County of Atlantic

♦ Charity League

♦ United Way of Greater Philadelphia & Southern NJ
**Financial Report FY 2017**

**Total Income** $5,507,587
- **Government Grants** $5,111,338
- **Corporate Grants** $25,025
- **Fundraising Events** $31,386
- **Annual Fund/Donations** $70,235
- **Donated Services** $240,800
- **Annual Fund/Donations** $70,235
- **Other** $20,192

**Total Expenses** $5,340,099
- **Program Expenses** $4,877,627
- **General and Administrative** $462,472

**Total Assets** $1,516,578
- **Current** $969,180
- **Fixed** $502,867
- **Other** $44,531

**Total Liabilities** $1,516,578
- **Current Liabilities** $681,866
- **Long Term Liabilities** $129,500
- **Unrestricted Net Assets** $613,274
- **Temporarily Restricted Net Assets** $91,938

**Program Expense 2016-2017** $5,340,099
- **Violence Intervention Program** $2,584,526
- **Home to Work** $113,794
- **Technical Assistance** $2,117,817
- **First Steps** $61,490
- **General and Administrative** $462,472
Board of Directors

Board President: India Karavackas, Esq.

Vice President: Robert D’Augustine, MA, MBA, Esq.
Attorney at Law and Financial Advisor

Second Vice President: Michele Ginieczki, Esq.

Secretary: Dr. Bernice VanSteyn-Weiss

Sergeant at Arms: Captain Frank X. Balles
Pleasantville Police Department

Mark Adelung, MSN, RN
Assistant Professor, Nursing – Stockton University

The Honorable Valerie Armstrong

Kristina Carr

Frederick A. Coville, M.D.

Jerry Kanefsky, Wells Fargo

Francies Kraus, Charity League

Manish Madan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Criminal Justice – Stockton University

Mary Rixey, MBA Real Estate and Urban Land Studies
I am extremely grateful to The Women's Center for all that you have done for me and my family.
THANK YOU!

Natalie—Client

I just wanted to say thank you. I don't know where I would be right now without the help of The Women's Center and transitional housing...I thought I couldn't do it, I thought I was alone--but I wasn't...they helped me every step of the way...I leave the transitional housing program with a job and a new place to call my own.

Antoinette—Safe Home Program Client
24 Hour Hot-line serving Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence & Human Trafficking

1-800-286-4184 * 609-646-6767
Text line: 609-569-5437

* 1201 New Road, Suite 128
Linwood, NJ 08221
609-601-9925
www.acwc.org

* New future site:
927 North Main Street, Heritage Square, Bldg. D
Pleasantville, NJ 08232