I felt hopeful, powerless and destined to suffer for the rest of my life. The WISE advocates were comforting, supportive and encouraging. It didn’t take long for me to see there was hope.”

WISE About Town: Have you seen us at community events? Many local organizations designate WISE as their beneficiary. We are grateful to be nominated and recognized and supported for all the work we do. Quechee Music Festival, 1st Community Bank at Lebanon Opera House, The WAEV Awards, The Lebanon Soup Kitchen, the RVC Spin-a-thon. Join us for upcoming events: Flash Mob: First rehearsal 4/8 Quick Silver Improv Comedy Show: 4/12 Dan & What’s Who? Tasting Gala: 4/18 Covered Bridges Half Marathon: 6/7

Our unique curricula in healthy relationship skills and sexual violence prevention empower community members and educators as a vital part to an integrated response for future violence prevention. We are pleased to welcome our 4th school district – Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union. Our involvement in elementary school education continues to increase. We are increasing our presence at Dartmouth College. We are working with Greek houses, Undergraduate Advisers (UGAs) and Dartmouth staff to better support victims and prevent sexual assault. The student-run organization, WISEBRED, provides peer support and creative outreach within the college community.

Our Program Center continues to be a strong, vibrant and healing space for survivors. We offer a variety of support groups including yoga, Queer Gong, Women For Sobriety, Women Writers and support services to victims of this violence and focus on preventing violence.

The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) was developed to help law enforcement and medical professionals identify victims at high risk for homicide by intimate partners. When domestic violence is suspected, professionals ask a series of questions using the Lethality Screen for First Responders. If responses indicate an increased risk for homicide, victims are immediately put in contact with the WISE crisis line to begin safety planning and receive services. We continue to train police departments and hospital staff to use this very important tool.

Visit www.WISEover.org, our new web-site designed to provide community-based support, information and education. The new site elucidates how to identify intimate partner violence, increase safety and support victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking. Learn about our annual programs offered by WISE and how you can continue to make a difference.

With generous community support including contributions to the LAF, our endowment fund reached $250,000 in October. We are working to increase our 7th school district – Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union. Our involvement in elementary school education continues to increase.

Volunteer Advocate Training begins May 2. Our crisis line is available every hour, every day because of our dedicated volunteers. Join us and strengthen listening, support and crisis management skills. Develop a unique and critical lens of the experiences and cultural context of domestic and dating violence, sexual violence and stalking for your work as an advocate. www.chelseawilliams@wiseoftheuppervalley.com

How Can I Help WISE? People often ask us how they can best support us in our mission to end violence, share hope and save lives. We value community participation and there are many different ways that you can help.

Volunteer Advocates • Volunteer Professionals • Donation Drives • Benefit Events • WAEV • Donations • Planned Giving

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To see the quality and effectiveness of our work, we do. Quechee Music Festival, 1st Community Bank at Lebanon Opera House, The WAEV Awards, The Lebanon Soup Kitchen, the RVC Spin-a-thon. Join us for upcoming events: Flash Mob: First rehearsal 4/8 Quick Silver Improv Comedy Show: 4/12 Dan & What’s Who? Tasting Gala: 4/18 Covered Bridges Half Marathon: 6/7

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