



HAVEN is the merged 501c3 nonprofit organization of A Safe Place and Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS). These organizations officially merged on July 1, 2015 becoming HAVEN, the largest violence prevention and support services organization in NH, serving 48 cities and towns with a population of almost 400,000 people.

HAVEN is dedicated to addressing public health through violence prevention and improving the well-being of children and families. Our mission is to prevent sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking and to support and empower women, men, youth and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives.

Unlike most nonprofits, HAVEN's operations don't close at five o'clock: our crisis hotline never goes to voicemail and our trained staff and volunteers are available whenever and wherever a crisis arises. We do this for our neighbors as well as yours, for coworkers and relatives, adults and children. This is our community and it is our goal to End Violence and Change Lives.

One of the ways HAVEN accomplishes this goal is through its K-12 Safe Kids Strong Teens violence prevention education programs which aim to prevent child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, bullying, sexual assault and teen dating violence. The goal of this program is to influence attitudes and behavior and thereby reduce the likelihood of youth becoming victims of sexual or relationship violence, and to help young women and men to build self-esteem and improve their lives.

HAVEN also provides a residential emergency shelter exclusively for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. In order to ensure their future success, HAVEN provides all shelter residents with case management services that focus on overcoming obstacles to securing safe, permanent housing. Residents receive financial literacy training, and assistance in securing transportation, employment, health care and child care resources. The Housing Specialist works on developing a community housing network through work with landlords, public housing authorities and other housing programs.

These programs are further supported by a comprehensive client services program that includes:

- 24-hour confidential crisis and support hotline [1-603-994-SAFE](tel:1-603-994-SAFE) (7233)
- 24-hour accompaniment to police stations and hospital emergency rooms
- Accompaniment to courts and assistance obtaining restraining orders
- Safety planning
- Support and accompaniment for families at the Rockingham and Strafford County Child Advocacy Centers
- Support groups for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and Trauma Sensitive Yoga

Working in the violence prevention field for over 30 years, HAVEN understands these links and witnesses in the clients we work with and in the stories of those who are never able to seek help, the co-occurrence of these issues. Now, research has confirmed the observations made in our work.

Since children and youth are the most at risk for sexual and relational violence, HAVEN's Safe Kids Strong Teens school-based program is critical to reaching out to current and potential victims. Raising awareness, preventing violence and providing support for those impacted can lead to healthier and more secure children and adults.