



Hope • Healing • Safety • Social Change



## Letter from the Executive Director

Sue Chandler

Dear Friends of DOVE,

As summer comes to a close and we begin to pull out our sweaters in preparation for the cooler fall weather, activities at DOVE are in full swing. We are actively planning events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, as well as preparing for our annual fundraising gala Harvesting Hope, and beginning preparations for DOVE's annual Holiday Assistance Program in December.

Through the challenges and turmoil of the past number of months, locally, nationally, and globally, DOVE has remained hopeful and inspired by the resiliency we see each day from every survivor who comes through our doors in search of a better life.

For a victim of domestic violence suffering at the hands of a partner who is supposed to love, respect, and care for them, taking the first step to receiving help takes immense courage and strength. Whether it be calling the 24-Hour Hotline, meeting with a counselor, or attending a support group, hope and encouragement will always be found at DOVE.

We are currently planning for DOVE's 12th Annual Gala Fundraiser, Harvesting Hope, which will be held on October 27th at the Boston Marriott Quincy. With the help of our generous donors and supporters, Harvesting Hope donations help us secure the financial support needed to ensure DOVE's services remain available. Survivors who share their story remind us all of how much services such as those provided by DOVE make a difference in victim's lives.

We hope that you will join us this year in celebrating DOVE's accomplishments and that you find hope and inspiration in the success of our clients who, despite all the odds, are on the path to a more positive and healthy future.

All the best,

Sue Chandler  
Executive Director

### October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

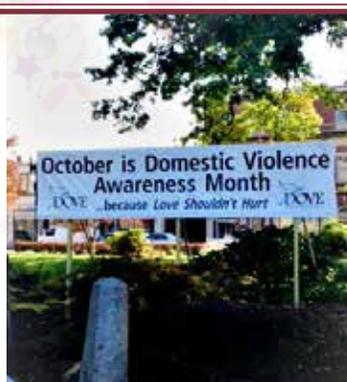
DOVE will hold two vigils to honor those who have lost their lives in incidents of domestic violence in Massachusetts this year. Vigils are free and open to the public.

#### Quincy Vigil

Thursday, October 12, 2017; 6:30pm  
United Methodist Church  
40 Beale Street, Quincy, MA 02170

#### Randolph Vigil

Wednesday, October 18, 2017; 6:30pm  
Jonathan Belcher House  
360 N Main Street, Randolph, MA 02368



## BOARD SPOTLIGHT



## New Board President

Lynn Bowman

For DOVE's newly appointed Board President, Lynn Bowman, leadership

is something that comes naturally to her, both in the workplace and in her philanthropic giving. Currently the Vice President of Member & Provider Service at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Lynn received the 2014 Distinguished Leadership Award and launched an innovative staff model to ensure team members are involved in the company's dynamic volunteer program. While working countless hours and managing over 700 employees, Lynn has remained a strong independent champion for causes in her community, including DOVE.

Having been on DOVE's Board of Directors since 2013, Lynn took her place as Board President in July 2017, bringing business, marketing, sales and strategic planning skills to lead the organization as it continues to grow and expand programs and services.

Originally introduced to DOVE by colleague and DOVE supporter, Patty Dillane, Lynn had already been contributing to DOVE through United Way at her former workplace, Harvard Pilgrim. She was immediately impressed by the crucial work being done to end domestic violence, in particular the focus on educating students in local schools.

"Taking care of victims of domestic violence is very important, however what drew me to DOVE was the emphasis on Education and Prevention. The focus on middle and high school students is the key to not just reducing incidents of domestic violence, but stopping it all together."

With a personal philosophy of "Go Big or Go Home," Lynn goes above and beyond when she commits to a cause. Moving into the Board President role,

*Continued on page 2*



## HARVESTING HOPE

October 27, 2017

6:00 pm

The Boston Marriott Hotel  
Quincy, MA

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For sponsorship and tickets visit  
[www.dovema.org](http://www.dovema.org) or for  
more information contact  
Dawn Hayes, Director of  
Development &  
Communications at  
[dawn.hayes@dovema.org](mailto:dawn.hayes@dovema.org)  
or call 617.770.4065 ext. 109.  
.....

### A Big Thank You to Our Harvesting Hope 2017 Sponsors!

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sponsors are updated daily on our website.*

## Marcy's Story

Marcy called DOVE in early 2015 looking to meet with a counselor and get support around an incident that had happened between her and her boyfriend. The referral came from her primary care doctor after she disclosed what had happened.

Marcy met her partner in 2013 and shortly thereafter they moved in together. Marcy talked about how his interest, care and worry for her made her think that he really loved her, but looking back his possessiveness was more about control. When he stopped being able to control Marcy's whereabouts he became abusive.

Marcy's partner had a history of being emotionally abusive, very controlling and had several incidents of physical abuse that left her in the hospital with head trauma. After the last physical incident, Marcy called the police and her boyfriend was arrested. She said he had put his hands on her one too many times. Hoping to finally end contact with him, Marcy filed for a restraining order. The order was granted but unfortunately this did not deter her partner, he violated the restraining order 3 times.

Looking to find safety, Marcy fled her home and moved to the south shore. She left her apartment, her friends and her job. She found herself homeless and living in her car. She struggled to find money for food and gas. She found some relief staying at a homeless shelter, but often preferred the safety and privacy of her car.

In a situation where so many people would have given up or lost hope, Marcy never slowed down. While living out of her car she set goals and had a vision of where she wanted to see her life. To her, giving up wasn't an option. She said "I knew there



was something better out there and I was going to go get it."

She reached out to DOVE, got connected with a community support person and finally found the support she needed. Jennifer, DOVE's Senior Manager of Prevention & Education and Marcy's Advocate, was a godsend Marcy said. "I couldn't have made it through all the setbacks without the support of DOVE and especially Jennifer."

Marcy kept her appointments religiously and didn't let minor setbacks discourage her. She was eventually granted housing in a rooming house and was able to get out of her car. Feeling she had a safe place to live, she returned to the work force. Marcy got a job in retail and excelled at it.

About a year later, Marcy was able to get her own apartment and around the same time began working full time. Shortly thereafter Marcy was promoted to a supervisory position and received a raise.

Those nights, sleeping in her car, alone and afraid, she never could have imagined that in 2 years she would be in her own apartment and working full time at a job she loves, where they need and appreciate her. Marcy continues to work on herself and her strength and resilience never cease to amaze and inspire those around her.

## New Board President - *continued*

### Lynn Bowman

Lynn feels her involvement with DOVE is coming full circle from her initial contributions at the start of her professional career. One of her main focuses will be to leverage all of the talented and passionate Board Members' skills to create a united front as DOVE embarks on a Capital Campaign.

The ambitious Capital Campaign will include new fundraising efforts with a goal of securing a new Community Office Building to house DOVE's growing staff and create more space for Advocates to meet with clients in counseling sessions.

Sue Chandler, DOVE's Executive Director

echoed thoughts from all DOVE staff who are thrilled to welcome Lynn as Board President and for all the leadership and enthusiasm she has shown for our mission.

"Lynn has the skill, experience, energy, and enthusiasm needed to guide DOVE to the next level. She will help us strengthen our effectiveness while supporting us to be bolder and more innovative. We are thrilled to have her in this leadership role."

With DOVE's 12th Annual Gala Fundraiser, Harvesting Hope right around the corner, Lynn has expressed excitement in meeting all of DOVE's donors and supporters.

"I look forward to leading DOVE forward and to seeing and meeting our generous supporters, October 27th at Harvesting Hope!"

## Siti, DOVE's New Emergency Shelter Advocate/Housing & Economic Empowerment Specialist

While most are fast asleep between the hours of 12am-8am, Siti, a former overnight Guest Advocate, could often be found working in DOVE's 24-Hour Emergency Shelter. Holding the position of Guest Advocate from 2010-2015, Siti recently accepted the full time role of Emergency Shelter Advocate/Housing & Economic Empowerment Specialist.

Having previously worked as a caseworker for Boston Health Care for the Homeless, as well as volunteering at Casa Myrna and Renewal House, Siti has gained a great deal of experience working with domestic violence victims, making her an ideal choice for the new and important role with DOVE.

Living in South Boston, without a car, made coming to DOVE's shelter sometimes difficult, but Siti always managed to make it in for her shifts. She often times covered multiple nights during the frequent New England snow storms, when roads were too dangerous for other Advocates to travel.

While picking up shifts at DOVE's shelter, Siti was also pursuing a college education, she graduated grad school in 2015 with degrees in both Human Services and Child Development.

"I not only wanted to study Human Services to better serve victims of domestic violence, but I also wanted to study Child Development since many victims have children."

During her overnight shifts at DOVE, Siti took on big projects, including helping to clean up and organize the donations room at the shelter, in particular, going through the many clothing donations received.

"I took on some big projects and I focused



on making my time at DOVE useful while all the residents were asleep."

Siti is also available to answer Hotline calls, which she describes as one of the most difficult parts of the job.

"I get regular callers who call in when they know that I'm working. A lot of them are not ready to leave their abusers yet, but they need someone to talk to. It's difficult to hear about some of the situations women find themselves in. I even remember talking with a woman and hearing her husband in the background yelling at her."

In her new role, Siti no longer works overnight shifts, but is able to work with residents during the week, allowing her more time to build relationships with the women and children in the shelter.

Despite having worked with DOVE for over 7 years, Siti still says one of the most challenging aspects of working with survivors of domestic violence is being patient and building trust.

"The women we work with are very complex and have layers of issues that they are working through. It can take them a while to open up and it is my job to motivate them, but also to not sugarcoat the difficulties they will face in recovery. You need to figure out what works for them and work with them at their pace. I tell the residents that they need to be flexible and that it will take time, but they are in a place where they can feel safe. This is what DOVE gives victims, a place to find themselves again."

## Tanya Buchanan Friend Raiser

A big thank you to Tanya Buchanan for hosting a Friend Raiser for DOVE at her Cohasset home in September. A group of Tanya's family, friends and neighbors joined DOVE staff to learn more about DOVE's programs and services and what they can do to support our mission. It was so great to meet a group of passionate and enthusiastic women, dedicated to making a difference in the community. The group asked great questions and we look forward to working with them and holding more Friend Raisers in the future!



## Your Support Helps!



The support we have received from donors and supporters has allowed DOVE to serve over 4,000 victims of domestic violence through our programs and services. Here are just a few statistics on what your generosity has allowed DOVE to accomplish.

In Fiscal Year 17:

- ◆ DOVE answered 2,608 calls on the 24-Hour Hotline.
- ◆ 2,092 students participated in the YouthSpeak program and 222 students were trained to be peer leaders in their high schools.
- ◆ 597 victims received legal assistance from DOVE.
- ◆ DOVE's emergency shelter operated at full capacity, providing 365 days and nights of safety for women and children forced to flee their homes due to violence.
- ◆ Served 491 victims through the Civilian Domestic Violence Advocacy Program in place at Quincy, Randolph, Dedham, Milton, Norwood, and Holbrook Police Departments.

### *Many Ways to Give*

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Organize a Workplace Drive

Donate your used cell phone or device

Use Goodsearch.com as your Search Engine

Shop online using Amazon Smile

Buy a Bracelet from Konectidy.com - \$2 from every purchase goes to DOVE

Holiday Assistance Program Visit our website to learn how you can adopt a family for the holidays. [www.dovema.org](http://www.dovema.org)

**DONATE TODAY AT:**  
[www.dovema.org](http://www.dovema.org)



## YouthSpeak Program

With statistics showing that 1 in 3 female high school students will report being physically assaulted by a boyfriend and females ages 16-24 at the highest risk to experience dating violence, educating young people about domestic violence has become a critical component of DOVE's programming.

YouthSpeak, DOVE's Teen Dating Violence Prevention Program, has grown from an initial 4 high schools, to currently serving 15 schools, including one middle school.

Through the role play exercises, videos, analyzing music lyrics and pop culture, as well as speeches from victims of domestic violence, students learn about the different types of abuse, healthy relationships, how to help a friend in an abusive relationship, as well as healthy breakups.

Last year, DOVE gave 52 presentations to 2,092 students and trained 222 peer leaders. Aside from just experiencing the YouthSpeak program, DOVE teaches

students to hold each other accountable for their actions. DOVE staff train students to become peer leaders allowing the information they receive to stay relevant moving forward.

While the YouthSpeak program serves young people, DOVE has always strived to treat the students with respect and empower them with the knowledge as they grow and pursue relationships. One student reflected on his experience with YouthSpeak saying, "I really enjoyed how we were talked to as people instead of kids. Everyone's opinions were valued and I felt comfortable and learned a lot."

While more victims of domestic violence are young women, DOVE hopes to also reach more young male students and encourage them to take a stand against gender based violence. Moving forward DOVE plans to continue the momentum of the YouthSpeak program, expanding to more schools, while keeping the peer lead model to change domestic violence statistics in the next generation.

## Walk Tall for DOVE Fashion Show

### Raised Over \$15,000 for DOVE!

On Sunday, September 10th, B.Boutique, a brow and makeup boutique in Milton, hosted the first annual Walk Tall for DOVE Fashion Show.

Over 100 people attended the show, which was held at Zef Cicchetti, a new restaurant in Quincy Center. Through generous donors and supporters giving their time and funds, as well as raffles and giveaways, the event was a tremendous success, raising over \$15,000 for DOVE. Elizabeth Hopkins, of Fox 25 News, hosted the event which showcased several talented designers and makeup artists, including India Hicks London Accessories, Danielle Scanlon-Hill & B.Boutique, J. Hillburn Luxury Menswear and ARUBY.



#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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## OUR MISSION

DOVE is committed to partnering with diverse communities, families, and individuals impacted by domestic violence. We promote hope, healing, safety, and social change by providing a broad range of preventive and responsive services.

DOVE's 24-Hour Hotline:  
 1.888.314.DOVE (3683)

Community Advocacy &  
 Prevention Services Office:  
 617.770.4065

P.O. Box 690267  
 Quincy, MA 02269-0267

email: [development@dovema.org](mailto:development@dovema.org)  
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