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TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM
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TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Karl R. Amylon, City Manager

DATE: November 9, 2020

RE: **Women in Safe Homes Quarterly Activity Report – July Through September 2020**

Pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 14 of the 2020 Community Agency Funding Agreement between the City of Ketchikan and Women in Safe Homes, attached for City Council review is a copy of the agency's quarterly activity report for July through September 2020. Should Councilmembers have questions regarding the report, staff can attempt to respond accordingly.

**Women In Safe Homes**  
**Prevention and Education Department**  
**Activity Report for July – September 2020**

Prepared for the City of Ketchikan  
October 2020

Women In Safe Homes received funding from the City of Ketchikan Community Grant program to support primary prevention programs and violence prevention education in the community and schools. This funding supports full-time violence prevention specialists that coordinate primary prevention programs including Let Me Run, Girls on the Run, Coaching Boys Into Men, Athletes as Leaders, and the Green Dot Bystander Intervention program. Additionally, these violence prevention specialists spend a significant amount of time in-class, providing education on topics including child sexual abuse prevention, healthy and unhealthy relationships, and teen dating violence prevention programs. With this funding we have been able to greatly expand school-based programs that support students, educators, and parents. We have also been able to provide training to the community that continues to move our community towards one where every person has an equal opportunity to live free of violence.

**COVID-19 Impact on Primary Prevention**

WISH prevention and education services that are the focus of our grant application have already been drastically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we had to adapt our programming to new mediums. Girls on the Run and Let Me Run were both cancelled for 2020. However, we assembled resource packets, including materials from the program, clothing, rec center passes, water bottles, and healthy snacks that we delivered to participants. Additionally, we partnered with Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District's free lunch program to hand out resource packets to families. These packets included information on local resources, information on healthy and unhealthy relationships, how to talk to children and youth about unhealthy relationships, coloring pages and rec center passes.

Number of adults trained in bystander intervention skills.....	10
Number of bystander intervention trainings held.....	3
Number of youth engaged in prevention activities.....	8
Resource packets given out to families impacted by COVID-19.....	300
Resource packets given to Girls on the Run and Let Me Run participants.....	40

## **Project Goals**

### **Goal 1: Inspire community engagement in intimate partner violence and sexual violence prevention**

WISH continues to support community engagement in violence prevention. We have shifted our Green Dot bystander intervention training to a digital format and held three online trainings that were attended by local Ketchikan residents and residents in Southern Southeast Alaska. We supported the annual Stomp the Stigma event, since substance misuse shares many of the same risk and protective factors as violence. It also allowed us to informally connect community members with WISH and other local resources. We began planning Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities, in partnership with KIC.

### **Goal 2: Expand youth and male engagement in intimate partner violence and sexual violence prevention.**

We have been collaborating with the Ketchikan Wellness Coalition on a youth coalition that is engaging young people in addressing issues they identify as being significant to youth in Ketchikan. The newly developed Ketchikan Youth Alliance has the mission of “Youth betterment through youth leadership”. Many of the issues they have identified are linked to violence, such as healthy relationships, mental health, and privilege and oppression. We have also received funding to hire a peer educator who will work directly with other young people to educate them on healthy and unhealthy relationships and how to seek help. The peer educator will also help WISH create messaging about healthy relationships for young people in Ketchikan. We have also created and began advertising a youth bystander intervention training that will be held twice in the coming months. This will instruct young people on how to speak up and seek help if they witness violence in the community.

### **Goal 3: Implementation of primary prevention programs**

We have adjusted many of our class presentations to COVID-19 restrictions, presenting in person while adhering to social distancing guidelines or via Zoom. . We have scheduled out presentations for Point Higgins Elementary, Ketchikan Charter School, and Ketchikan High School. We also began our Enhanced Services program, which stations a licensed counselor in the high school for students to be able to receive mental health services easily. This program also supports a full-time Behavioral Health Aid, that provides increased access to culturally-responsive healing and therapy activities at the direction of student interests. We are excited to update on the progress of this program next quarter. More information can be found at <https://www.wishak.org/youth-counseling>.