



City Manager  
334 Front Street  
Ketchikan, AK. 99901

Phone (907) 228-5603  
Fax (907) 225-5075

TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM
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TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Karl R. Amylon, City Manager

DATE: April 28, 2021

RE: **Women in Safe Homes Quarterly Activity Report – January Through March 2021**

Pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 14 of the 2021 Community Agency Funding Agreement between the City of Ketchikan and the Women in Safe Homes, attached for City Council review is a copy of the agency's quarterly activity report for January through March 2021. Should Councilmembers have questions regarding the report, staff can attempt to respond accordingly.

**Women In Safe Homes**  
**Prevention and Education Department**  
**Activity Report for January – March 2021**

Prepared for the City of Ketchikan  
April 2021

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, Green Dot Bystander Intervention and Safe Bars programs. Additionally, these violence prevention specialists spend a significant amount of time in the KGBSD classrooms, providing education on topics including child sexual abuse prevention, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sexual assault, and teen dating violence prevention. With this funding we have been able to greatly expand school-based programs that support students, educators, and parents or caregivers. We also provide training accessible to all community members that enables us to create a community where every person has an equal opportunity to live free of violence.

Student presentations facilitated.....	76
Number of KGBSD students attended presentations.....	378
Individual interactions with students during groups and presentations.....	1,322
Youth involved in Ketchikan Youth Alliance leadership program.....	10
Youth involved in WISH's Peer Education Program.....	3
Hospitality Industry Professionals trained to facilitate bystander intervention lessons.....	3

**Project Goals**

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

WISH continues to support community engagement in violence prevention. This quarter, we introduced a new bystander intervention program called Safe Bars. This program engages with hospitality staff to help them better understand red flags preceding sexual violence and utilize bystander intervention skills to safely intervene before violence can escalate. Hospitality workers are in a unique and important position to prevent sexual violence since fifty percent of sexual assaults involve alcohol. An important hallmark of the Safe Bar program is recruiting hospitality staff to train other hospitality staff. WISH recruited three members of the local hospitality industry and they trained to be facilitators of the program alongside WISH staff. These industry professionals have connections with many restaurants and bars in the community, hopefully

allowing WISH to disseminate this program into many local establishments. We are currently planning our community-wide roll out of the program for this summer.

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

WISH continued collaboration with the Ketchikan Wellness Coalition, supporting and facilitating the **Ketchikan Youth Alliance**. The youth involved in this group have been working on a project to make Ketchikan High School a more inclusive space for all students, and focusing on strategies aimed at increasing the emotional safety of their classmates. Emotional safety in school settings is linked to decreasing truancy and supports connection to the community, which in turn decreases violence.

WISH rolled out our **peer education program** this quarter. We hired three high school students who work as peer education interns. They have helped WISH staff better understand what local youth believe about healthy and unhealthy relationships. The peer educator interns have begun tailoring healthy relationship lessons to be more engaging and informative for high school freshmen while still following the requirements of Bree's Law. The interns will begin presenting healthy relationship lessons in the high school in April. Funding for this program has been provided by the GCI Suicide Prevention Fund and from the Ketchikan Community Foundation. We are grateful to all our partners that are supporting this program.

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

As the vaccine rolls out and COVID-19 risk levels fall in our community, WISH staff have been able to present in person in more classrooms than the previous quarter. We are still offering Zoom options to present virtually to classrooms that remain closed to outside agencies. We have been able to be in person in Ketchikan High School, Schoenbar Middle School, Revilla Alternative Middle School, and Houghtaling Elementary School, and virtually in Fawn Mountain. WISH completed a total of 76 classroom presentations this quarter, with a total of 378 students participating. We educated students from kindergarten through high school about body safety, healthy relationships, teen dating violence and how to seek help.

WISH has unfortunately been unable to host Girls on the Run and Let Me Run for the past year due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. However, WISH is collaborating with RYC to bring these programs back to the community this summer. Keep an eye on the WISH Facebook page for more information!