



VICTIM SERVICE CENTER  
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

# HEAL HERE

ANNUAL REPORT • FY 2022-23



MISSION

To provide individualized services and resources to victims of sexual assault, violent crime, and traumatic circumstances, through crisis response, advocacy, therapy, and community awareness.

VISION

To transform victims' lives and prevent violence in our community.

2022-23  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

- Bobbie Deverall
- Amy DeYoung  
Secretary
- Adela Hathaway  
Vice Chairperson
- Allen Johnson
- Josh Kolbert  
Treasurer
- Isabelle Owens
- Kendra Presley-Van  
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Chairperson
- Craig Swygert

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our grantors and donors we continued to have the resources to help those in need and our team members have worked hard to deploy those resources to make the greatest impact possible. And this year, despite soaring inflation, shifting attitudes surrounding work, societal divisiveness and a changing climate, our team has remained committed as never before. That is because we are driven by a common unifying mission of transforming lives by providing individualized healing services and resources for those that have been impacted by sexual assault, violent crime, and other traumatic circumstances. In this report you will see how we channeled our efforts to better serve the underrepresented in our community, be more inclusive, retain our best people, increase opportunities for people to get involved, and expand our services.

In our therapeutic program we continued to diversify and expand our team with trauma informed bilingual therapists and hybrid session offerings to provide the greatest scheduling flexibility for our clients which resulted in us providing more than 3,000 free therapy sessions for the second consecutive year!

We also created a community-based accessibility committee to help us evaluate and find new opportunities to better serve the disabled community. Through this focused approach we were able to more than double our impact in serving persons with disabilities in just one year.

We continued to grow our volunteer program by expanding our use of college interns from across Florida and other states, and we provided more opportunities for our volunteers to directly aid in helping our clients in their healing journey. These combined efforts resulted in more than 4,100 hours of volunteer service in support of those we serve.

You'll also learn how we've exceeded our benchmarks for prevention education and outreach with newly developed community partnerships for trainings, a monthly television program, webinars, podcasts, and CEU courses. Through our efforts, we have been recognized as a Top-Rated Nonprofit and have been awarded the GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency. Further, we were honored to have been selected to host and present to groups of international leaders and one of our team members was recognized nationally for her visionary leadership.

At VSC, we understand that our people are at the heart of our ability to deliver on our mission. That is why one of our organizational goals is to become an employer of choice where great talent can use their skills to help our clients overcome the trauma they have endured and regain control of their lives. To that end, we focused our energies on the wellbeing of our staff by providing a supportive work environment that values and encourages diversity, equity, inclusion, self-care, and a proper work-life balance. We are grateful for your continued support, and we understand that none of our success is possible without you. Together with our incredible staff, Board of Directors, grant funders, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and community partners who share our passion, the VSC continues to be an essential and extraordinary resource in our community.

Sincerely,  
*A.J. Stanton*  
Chairperson

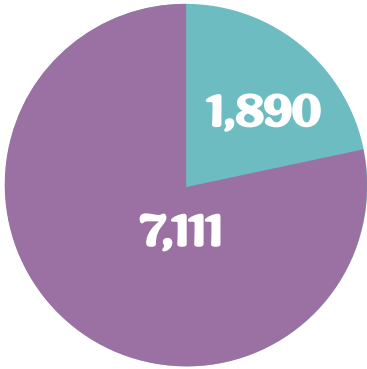
*Lui Damiani*  
Executive Director

2022 -2023

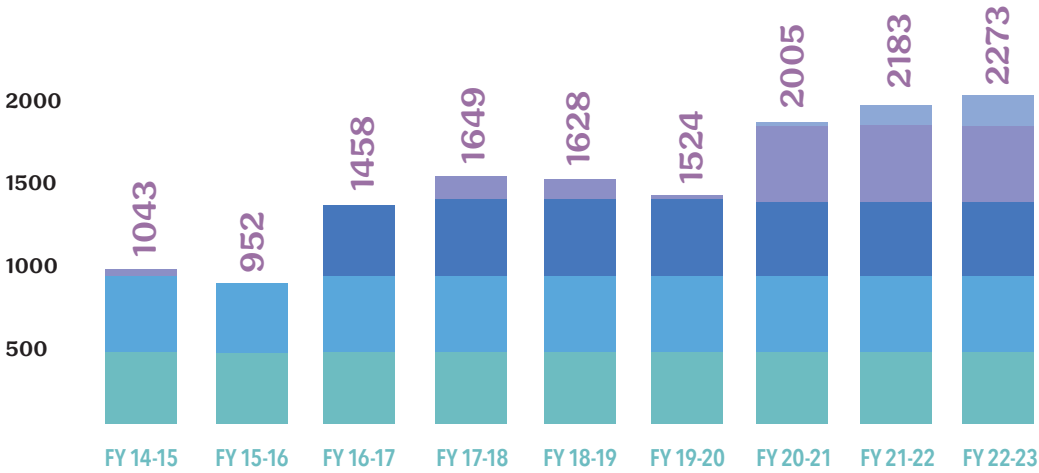
IMPACT

9,001 CLIENTS HELPED

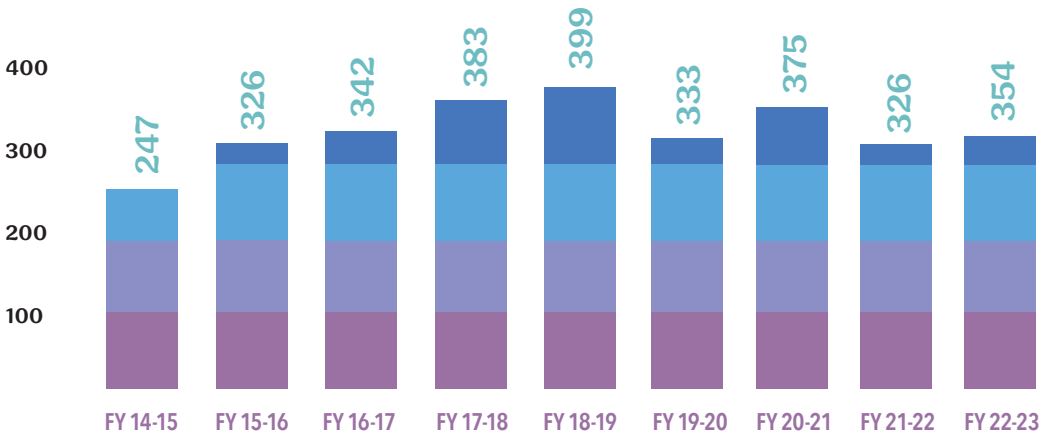
79% Sexual Violence  
21% Non-Sexual Violence



HELPLINE CALLS PER YEAR



IN-PERSON  
CRISIS RESPONSE & FORENSIC EXAMS



3,255  
THERAPY  
SESSIONS

2,273  
24/7  
HELPLINE  
CALLS

354  
CRISIS  
RESPONSE  
& FORENSIC  
EXAMS

5,079  
CLIENTS  
ASSISTED  
(BEYOND HELPLINE)

244  
OUTREACH  
EVENTS



# CRISIS COUNSELING & ADVOCACY

Our Advocacy Department continued to serve clients and their families on a 24/7 basis and at no cost. This year we provided 31,629 services that included criminal/civil justice navigation, accompaniment at forensic exams and court cases, crisis counseling, emotional support, support groups, personal advocacy, victim compensation filing, sexual battery relocation aid, and information and referrals.

## TYPES OF VICTIMIZATION

- Adults abused as children
- Sexual assault
- Stalking/harassment
- Physical assault
- Robbery
- Home invasion
- Human trafficking
- Homicide survivors
- Domestic violence
- Secondary victims
- Drunk driving victimization
- Mass shootings
- Other traumatic events

## EMPOWERING INCLUSIVITY: THE IMPACT OF THE ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

This year we created the VSC Accessibility Committee with the goal of creating fully accessible, competent, and effective care for all survivors regardless of their abilities. The committee is a voluntary stakeholder group made up of both VSC staff and community partners such as UCF that collaborate and focus on improving policies, procedures, and practices to better serve persons with disabilities who experienced sexual violence. Thanks in part to the work of the committee, we were able to secure a grant to help us continue to focus on accessibility to sexual assault services. As a result of these focused efforts we were able to expand and develop new ways for individuals with disabilities to feel safe and welcome at VSC resulting in a significant increase in services provided to individuals with disabilities; from 12% last fiscal year to 27% this year.

*"I couldn't find words good enough to convey how much VSC helped me. They really got me out of a very dark place. Thank you!"*



ADVOCACY



OUTREACH



CRISIS COUNSELING



SAFETY PLANNING



VICTIM COMPENSATION



THERAPY



24/7 CRISIS HELPLINE



PREVENTION & EDUCATION



INFORMATION & REFERRAL



INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION



MEDICAL & FORENSICS



SEXUAL BATTERY RELOCATION



COURT ACCOMPANIMENT



# THERAPY

Again this year, our therapeutic program has continued to be an extraordinary resource in our community. With our team of trauma-informed and skilled clinicians, we were able to provide more than 3,000 free therapeutic sessions for the second consecutive year. This was due in large part to the fact that we have a diverse team, with bilingual capabilities and flexible schedules that were

available for both in-person and virtual sessions. We helped trauma survivors heal using therapy treatments designed to alleviate the distress associated with traumatic memories and we provided numerous different types of support group opportunities designed to help our clients through their individual healing journey.

## SUPPORT & THERAPY GROUPS

- Women's Sexual Trauma (daytime, virtual, evening)
- Men's Sexual Trauma
- Men's Domestic Violence
- Rainbow Resilience LGBTQ+ Sexual Trauma
- Black/African American Women's Healing
- Spanish Speakers' Support
- Healing Through Movement Yoga
- Passionflower Project Gardening & CBT
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT Skills)
- Surviving the Holidays Workshop

LIVES TOUCHED THROUGH THERAPY

3154 INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS

101 GROUP SESSIONS

37% HISPANIC

19% LGBTQ+

28% BLACK COMMUNITY

29% DISABLED

32 AVERAGE CLIENT AGE



## EXPANDING OUR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Our education program saw remarkable progress this year as we added a new webinar series and formed new collaborative training partnerships with organizations including SALT Outreach, the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Mexican Consulate. We also developed a brand-new curriculum entitled, "How Gender Bias Leads to Gender-Based Violence" and launched it at a sold-out workshop that we organized at the Orlando Public Library. Plus, we enhanced our VSC YouTube channel by introducing podcasts with video and participant video testimonials which led to a substantial increase in our

online "watch time." In addition to our commitment to provide education in our community, we also developed a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) training video that is now shared with all new VSC employees, reflecting our commitment to education and cultural humility within our organization. Through these combined efforts and initiatives, we were able to engage wider and more diverse audiences and continue to drive positive change in our community.



## TARGETED OUTREACH

Through our continued focus on underserved and under-represented populations, we made new strides in breaking barriers to care. In addition to our efforts to better serve individuals with disabilities, we raised LGBTQIA+ sexual violence awareness through various college presentations, formed new partnerships with organizations including the Hope Community Center and Central Florida HIV Council, and provided specialized staff training on gender-affirming surgeries for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.

In another example, we also worked collaboratively with our partners at the Department of Health to develop a brochure for them about the impact of sexual assault on the homeless population. As a result of these ongoing targeted outreach efforts, we continued to make positive progress serving individuals and communities facing various barriers.



## VOLUNTEERISM

This year, we took our volunteer program to new heights by expanding our internship network and building greater capacity within our volunteer ranks. We cultivated new relationships that resulted in us training and utilizing several interns in our practice from higher education institutions including: University of Central Florida (UCF), Rollin's College, University of North Florida (UNF), Ana G. Mendez University (AGMU), and Rutgers University. In addition to our expanded use of interns, we also continued to add other volunteers to help us meet our mission. Then,

with our more experienced, passionate, and seasoned volunteers, we created a new category of Lead Volunteers. This new category of Lead Volunteers is comprised of individuals that have demonstrated leadership, reliability and drive and they now have the responsibility of running small teams of volunteers on various projects and tasks. For example, this year, we assigned a Lead Garden Volunteer to manage workdays for our onsite garden and to work with our Passionflower support group facilitators.





# PHILANTHROPY



## MARY I. JOHNSON ENDOWMENT

Thanks to a generous donation by the family of our founder, the late Commissioner Mary I. Johnson, we were able to establish the Commissioner Mary I. Johnson Endowment Fund in her honor. The fund was created with the intent of giving donors the ability to make gifts that would live on in perpetuity while allowing our organization to utilize the interest generated to help support our operations. Shortly after its inception, the fund attracted two additional donors that contributed \$20,000 each and began laying the foundation for our goal of growing the fund to an amount equivalent to three times our operating budget.

## CHEERS TO CHANGE

Guests at our Annual Cheers to Change benefit event blasted Back to the Future with 500 other people and helped VSC raise the most money yet; over \$100,000. Attendees were treated to great food provided by Dubsdread catering while they danced the night away to live music by the Nerd Ranger band. The evening also featured a fantastic silent auction with more than 100 items, a special aerial performance and powerful short video depicting a client receiving our services as seen through their own eyes. The powerful video which was produced courtesy of our friends at Orange TV temporarily brought the event to a silence as the audience followed the point of view of a recent sexual assault survivor entering our facility for the first time and receiving compassionate professional care from our crisis intervention team.



## STILL NOT ASKING FOR IT

Each year VSC participates in a fundraising and awareness event we call "Still Not Asking for It." During the one-day event, local tattoo shops help raise awareness about sexual violence by donating all the proceeds from their artistry for that day to the VSC. One shop that has been particularly supportive is Built 4 Speed tattoo which has raised funds for us for the past 5 years. And, this year, their shop raised \$10,000 for survivors in the community and the shop owner, Canada, was recognized at our annual Supporter Appreciation event for her dedication to sexual assault survivors.

## DENIM (DANCE) DAY

Denim Day is an annual sexual violence awareness campaign against victim blaming in which individuals are encouraged to wear denim. Adding a twist this year, we asked teams to do a video dance challenge while wearing their denim. In response, 60 groups produced online dance videos that engaged over 10,000 participants! Plus, our marketing team created a TikTok video about Denim Day that went completely viral with over 100,000 views!

## CORPORATE SUPPORT

Each year the Target corporation chooses a small number of regional nonprofits to compete in an in-store fundraiser in which shoppers can vote for their favorite nonprofits with each purchase they make. This year, we were selected as one of the lucky participants and were honored to garner 207,877 votes from shoppers in support of our mission and the impact we have on the community. Plus, we raised \$4,753 in the process! In another great example of corporate support, the 4Rivers Smokehouse corporation hand picked us for a "round-up" campaign during the month of April which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). During the campaign, customers were given the option to round-up their bill to the next dollar which resulted in another nearly \$2,000 donation. And finally, also during SAAM, the local cookie company, Phat Ash Bakes, donated \$1 for every cookie that they sold! support our mission and the impact we have on the community.

# OTHER NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS



## NATIONAL AWARD RECOGNITION

Victim Service Center of Central Florida's Program Director, JoEllen Revell, was recognized as Florida's recipient for The National Sexual Violence Resource Center's Visionary Voice Awards. The Visionary Voice Awards are presented annually by NSVRC, the leading nonprofit in providing information and tools to prevent and respond to sexual violence, in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

## ADVENT HEALTH ALGORITHM

VSC Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), Corrine Phillips, created the sexual assault algorithm as a project to advance her career as an ER nurse in March 2022. The intent was to make a decision tree for the ER nurses to aid in making the process smoother when a patient presents stating he/she has been sexually assaulted. Once the administration looked at the algorithm it was made available for all Advent Health campuses across Central Florida to include Orange County, Osceola County, Seminole County, Lake County, and Sumter County. Over a year and many revisions later with the help of multiple disciplines, the algorithm was approved by Advent Health administration and risk management to be added to their policy and procedures in April 2023. This marks an amazing step in streamlining the Emergency Room sexual assault identification and procedure.

## VSC HOSTS WORLD LEADERS

VSC was requested by the Department of State to host the International Visitor Leadership Program focused on Rule of Law in the US Judicial System. On two occasions, VSC hosted World Orlando participants including judges, attorneys, advocates, and prosecutors from both the Middle East and Africa. Participants were informed of VSC services to victims of crime. The intent of the program was to examine the underlying principles of the U.S. judicial and legal systems and their basis in the Constitution and the rule of law; study the interaction of the legal system between law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and courts; and explore measures to protect victims.

## VICTORY CUP

Each year, 10 nonprofits are selected to compete in the Victory Cup Initiative (VCI) storytelling showcase in front of in front of 500 community philanthropists. This year, we applied for and were selected as a finalist to participate in the VCI. In fact, out of more than 100 applicants, our application was ranked #1 by a community panel of judges! Once selected, VSC Board Member, Isabelle Owens volunteered to be our designated storyteller to share her personal story of how her family was impacted by sexual violence. Thanks to her amazing and emotional performance during the breakfast showcase, the VSC was granted an incredible \$89,000 in unrestricted revenue.

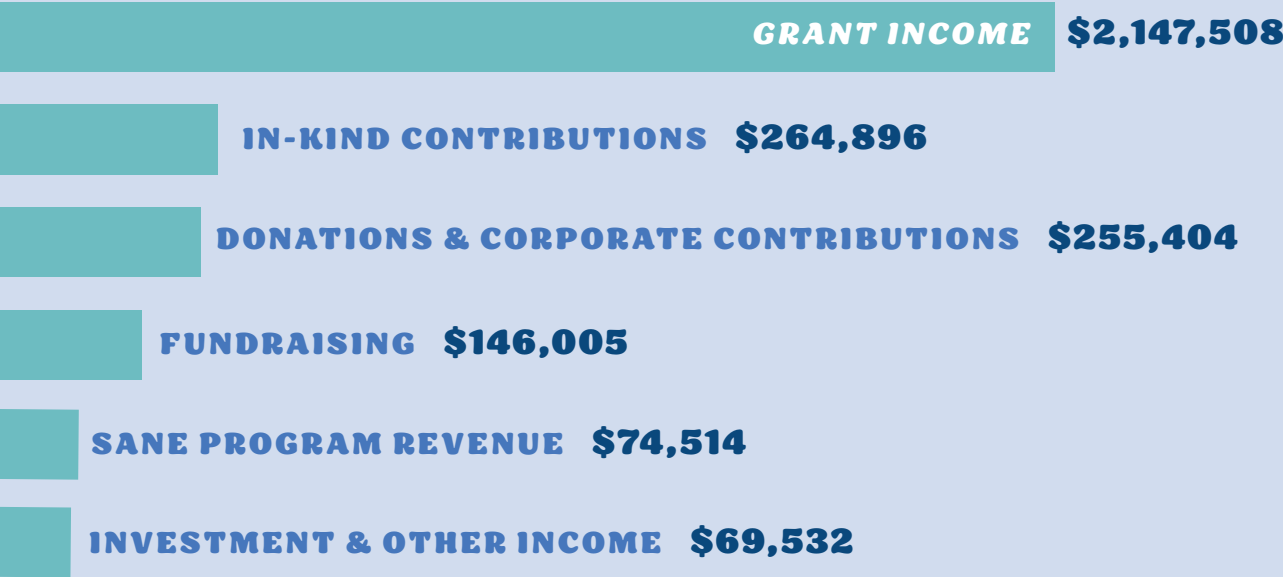




2022-23

# FINANCIALS

## REVENUE



## EXPENDITURES



# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS

## CONTRIBUTIONS

4 Rivers Smokehouse Andres Acosta Jonathan & Becky Lou Alper An Infinite Mind Jason Apfel Hunter Azme Sheri Baeza Michelle Ball Maryann Barry Sadie Battle Judith Bednar Cassandra Bell Christine Bemis Francisco Bermudez Gina Bernadini Frank Berzanskis Craig Borkon Dana Brown Built 4 Speed Tattoo Karla Burke Jennifer Burton Robert Butcher Garry Capton Andrew Capuano Allison Cares Keith Carlson Arnold Castellanos Sergio Cesareo Katuska Chavez Chi Phi Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Audrey Chisholm Christina Suarez Counseling Services, LLC City Beverage City of Apopka City of Kissimmee Clear Channel Outdoor Cogent Bank Lena Combs Communicate 360 Congruity Counseling Tom Cook The Honorable Bill Cowles Joyce Curtis Lisa & Lui Damiani	Gino & Maureen Damiani Sharon Darin Dean, Mead, Edgerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth, PA Denise Demps Tamara Dempster Amy DeYoung Emma DiAntonio Pamela Dionne Avery Donaudy Ed Dore Donna Dowless Edward Johnston Group Jan Edwards Christine Elias Jared Engler Israel Erazo Terry GriffinErn Brian Evander Michael Fields Aerson Figueiredo Mary Figueroa Angel Ortiz Flores Florida Legal Services, Inc. Foley & Lardner LLP Jeffrey Forrest Jeff Forte Jacques Fu Gasdick, Stanton, Early, P.A. Vickie Gayle Dianne Gieske Matt Gilbert Give Lively Foundation Katie Glenn Brandi Godbee Biff & Kathy Godfrey Jorge I Calel Gonzalez Carmen & Justin Graham Justin Graham Tracey Greene Edward Guindi Maria Guthrie Ruoa Hafid Barbara Hahn Elisabeth Hall Erik Halluska	Sonja Haltiwanger Robert Hansell Susan Harris Benita Harrison Adela & Dave Hathaway Luke Haynes Heart of Florida United Way Grady Hendrix Alexander Hernandez Jeremy Hileman Hired by Matrix, Inc. Mark Holmes Jaimie Homan Alicia Homrich Holly Horton Cristina Jarquin Huete Lawrence Hug Molly Hug Dan & Wanda Brewer Ickes Jerry & Graciela Jacoby Juli Simas James Allen Johnson Charles Johnson David Johnson Johnson Family Trust Kendra Scott LLC Rodney Kincaid Jr. Kelsey Kiser Kristopher Klingler David Klos Stephanie Kobrin Ryan Koch Jordan Kolbert Joshua Kolbert Johnnie Kramer Renee Krieger Eva Krzewinski Law Enforcement Technology, Training & Research Suzanne Lawe Melissa Leamon Penny & Steve Leggett Jordan Leventhal Robert Lipscomb Ian Longhorn Melissa Lozano Garth Lurvey	Diana Massari Lisa Matarese Erin McCaulley McGriff/Truist Insurance Cathy McKenna Despina McLaughlin Irene McNutt Fred Metz Betty Mittleman Brent Moore Nicole Morman Sage Morris-Webster Nancy Moskyok Leah Moyer Michael Mulhall Bob Mund Elizabeth Mustaine Boutros Nakhle Nona Wealth Advisors Shelby Norwich Justin Okimi Tim O'Leary Evan Olzerowicz Mark M O'Mara Orange County Sheriff John Mina Orange County Sheriff's Office Orlando Health Adolfina Ortiz Ybeth Ortiz Isabelle Owens Robert Owens Owens Realty Services Owens, Renz & Lee Co. Inc John Page Kaylyn Palmer Paul/Knopf/Bigger Trial Lawyers Andrew Petty Corrine Phillips Robert Pickren Jaime Pollack Ken & Melissa Polsinelli Chanda Postell Mauricio Prada Kendra Presley Nicola Prichard Eamon Quinn	Denise Ramos-Diaz Robert Rayborn Joel Rayburn Linda Rebadow Amy Reckdenwald Rehmann Michael Reilly Ralph Reinert JoEllen Revell David Riccardi Estifani Rodriguez Laura Rodriguez Jose & Ana Tangel Rodriguez Rachel Romano Lisa Rowell Rotary Club of Horizon West Inc Charlie Salazar Ashley Santus Rosemary Schmidt Faisal Sheikh Shuffield Lowman Kathleen & Chris Skambis Balraj Sokhi Orialis Sosa Leah Spano Philip Stachowski AJ Stanton Elizabeth Stanton Eric Summers Natalee Summers Ashley Sweat Craig & Judy Swygert Target Circle Abdullah & Mumtaz Tharoo The Martin Andersen-Gracia Andersen Foundation, Inc. The Urban Dog Real Estate Group Delsa Thomas Kimberly Thomas Margaret Thomas Jacqueline Thompson Janice Thompson Connie & Rob Thornton Michael Tipton Priscila Torres Kassandra Corderoz Treston	Truist Truist Investment Services Jacob Tuma Carolynn Turneur UCF College of Business UCF Fashion Society Universal Orlando Resort Valencia College Foundation John Valentino Jessica Van Heyde Bob VanderWeide Vanguard Charitable Alliyah Veilleux Erika Velasquez Meghann Vevera Victory Cup Initiative Jiancarlo Villa Walgreens Giving Fund Alexandra & Jose Walle Suzanne Weinstein Katrina Wiesenthal Rhonda Wilson Steven Wilson Winter Park Construction (WPC) Withum, Smith & Brown Jackie Woerner Sophia Wolf Womencare of Baldwin Park Linda Woods Tom Young Tracy Zboril Randall Ziegler
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## IN-KIND

Advent Health City Beverage ClearChannel Outdoor	Covenant Cleaning Services Dubsdread Catering Gabe Gonzalez, Crunchy Tech	Jen Marion, Quantum Leap Winery Kucinda Esenam Kjerulff, MD	Michael Coon Mike Davies Photography Orange TV	Scott Maxwell, The Orlando Sentinel The Peaceful Peacock Withum, Smith & Brown, PC	Ybeth Bruzual, Spectrum News 13
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## GRANTORS

AdventHealth - Support Group Room City of Kissimmee City of Orlando	City of St. Cloud Dept. of Justice- Office of Violence Against Women	Florida Council Against Sexual Violence Orange County Government Osceola County Government	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) administered by Florida Office of the Attorney General
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AVAILABLE 24/7  
**(407) 500-HEAL**

APPOINTMENTS  
**(407) 254-9415**

**ORANGE COUNTY**

2111 East Michigan Street, Suite 210  
Orlando, FL 32806

**OSCEOLA COUNTY**

201 Hilda Street  
Kissimmee, FL 34741

**SEMINOLE COUNTY\***

400 W. Airport Blvd.  
Sanford, FL 32773

*\*Office located at the Seminole County Department of Health*

**HealHere.org**  
**VictimServiceCenter.org**  
**@VSCFlorida**

