FEATURES:
Letter From the CEO
Meet Cooper! (pictured)
With a New Day
What If Home Isn’t Safe?
The Annual Report - One More Thing!
A Legendary CABARET
How Will You Be Remembered?

Annual Report (INSERT):
2020 Impact Report
Financial Reports
Board of Directors

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.
Meet Cooper

At Rose Brooks Center, we’ve long understood that comprehensive care also includes the human-animal bond. Which is why in February, Rose Brooks added a four-legged member to the staff, a therapy dog named Cooper. Cooper is a three-year-old Beagle/Aussie mix acquired through a partnership with Warrior’s Best Friend, a local nonprofit providing trained canines to trauma survivors.

Cooper will spend most of his time in Rose Brooks’ emergency shelter; however, he will also be utilized for individual therapy or group settings, or when a survivor or staff needs added comfort. Most importantly, as victims and survivors come into shelter with severe trauma, Cooper will be a constant source of comfort, bringing healing and recovery.

Cooper has several commands that can be used for individuals in crisis or in need of support, and has already been demonstrating his incredible skills. By calming both children and adults in distress, Cooper has been the perfect addition to Rose Brooks’ crisis support team. Welcome Cooper!

To read more or to see Cooper in action, visit our newsletter online at https://inbloom.rosebrooks.org/.

Message From the CEO

Dear Friends,

Earlier this year I made the difficult decision to retire as Rose Brooks Center’s CEO, after 25 years of being part of its mission and work - and it has really allowed me to reflect on Rose Brooks’ impact throughout the community.

The first thing that comes to mind is the unwavering support of you, our friends and donors. We simply could not do this work without you! You continue to allow Rose Brooks Center the ability to meet the needs of victims and survivors of domestic violence, even during one of the most difficult years in recent history.

I’m also reminded of the barriers survivors face when attempting to leave their abusive and violent relationships. I will always be astounded by the strength of survivors and the resiliency that safety affords them in their darkest moments, as they begin to rewrite their stories.

Rose Brooks Center has helped create new stories for over 40 years, helping over 315,000 individuals, children and their pets escape domestic violence, providing them safety, security, and most of all, hope for a new life - a life without fear of violence. Because of that, I am left with the joy of knowing Rose Brooks will be here for as long as is needed to see a world without violence. . . all because of friends like you.

With sincere gratitude,

Susan Miller, CEO

Rose Brooks is here.
Our 24-hour Help Line is 816.861.6100.
With a New Day

With a new day comes new strength is a personal mantra for many at Rose Brooks Center, and one that encourages us to reflect on our commitments to you, those we serve, and our community.

We Know For Sure.
We know for sure that our commitment is strong and that every survivor’s voice matter.

We know for sure that we are committed to equity and inclusion through intentionally practicing and integrating it into every aspect of our work to ensure a safe, respectful and welcoming environment.

We know for sure that our work will continue to change the practices in Kansas City’s judicial system to keep victims safe, their voices heard, while holding offenders accountable.

We know for sure that we will continue to work with our judicial partners to increase the survivors’ access to economic justice and financial security.

We know for sure that as an agency we are resilient, creative, compassionate for those we serve, and are determined to remove barriers to the safety and long-term care survivors deserve.

Our commitment and focus on our mission will continue to guide us as we work side-by-side to overcome challenges, and welcome each new day with new strength.

What If Home Isn’t Safe?

For many of us during this past year, our home has become our safe place and our refuge. It has become the primary center of our entertainment, where we play games, spend more time cooking, and where we use the term ‘zoom’ as a verb for work and visiting with friends. In all, for many of us, our homes have become our sanctuary.

But what if home isn’t safe? Imagine for a minute, that during this past year your home was a dangerous place. That you and your children were trapped between four walls, 24-hours a day, with the person who emotionally, verbally and physically abused you. You were trapped with no place to go, and few opportunities to call out for help. Your home literally became a prison. This continues to be the reality of domestic violence and why Rose Brooks creatively addressed the needs of survivors and continues to be here for every domestic violence survivor that needs our help.

In Their Words

I was too embarrassed to tell my friends what was happening. My home had become a nightmare and I couldn’t believe it was happening to me.

I came to Rose Brooks with nothing, but had everything I needed to live another day. . . my safety.

My first impression of Rose Brooks was that I was safe. Nobody was going to hurt me. I was going to be able to sleep. And I was going to be able to heal.

This mural is the first thing you see as you enter Rose Brooks Center’s doors.
The Annual Report - One More Thing!

Safety concerns for domestic violence survivors increased because of COVID, and we thank you all for the continued support that allowed us to serve survivors throughout - as reflected in the annual report.

We’ve sustained, and in some areas, increased service by adapting, learning, and changing how we provided services to victims and survivors. We launched extensive remote opportunities for case management and therapy, and leveraged our strong community partnerships to offer telemedicine, virtual school-based support groups, and court advocacy. Not to mention the in-person adaptation of care, such as 1-on-1 job coaching sessions, serving thousands of individual meals, and safely housing 665 individuals fleeing violent homes.

Because of these adaptations, we have forever changed what it means to have access to safety - and ultimately access to a safe future. To view the annual report online: www.rosebrooks.org/about-rosebrooks/annual-reports/

A Legendary CABARET

This year’s virtual Cabaret on March 7th, brought people from all over the globe, quite literally, to see Broadway legend Patti LuPone! Cabaret raised over half a million dollars in critical funds in support of the families and pets escaping violence, seeking a bright and safe future at Rose Brooks. Thank you to all who made this possible!

How Will You Be Remembered?

Make 2021 your year to update or create your estate plan, allowing you to plan for the future. You can create the legacy you want to leave, ensuring your family is protected well into the future. Without these documents, the laws of your state will determine how your assets are divided after your lifetime. This may leave out people and organizations that are important to you.

Time for an Update?

If you have already created your estate plan, take time this year to make sure it is current, especially if you have experienced life events such as:

• A change in marital status for you or someone in your family
• A new child
• The loss of a loved one
• A move to a new state
• The desire to make an impact at organizations like Rose Brooks Center in the future

Make Rose Brooks Center Part of Your Legacy.

When you include a gift to Rose Brooks Center in your estate plan, you ensure your support for our work continues into the future. Contact Marla Svoboda, Rose Brooks Center Chief Development Officer at marla@rosebrooks.org or 816-605-7110 to learn more.