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Wait! Did you just say global?!?!
Dear Friends,

It is around this time of year that we take a look back on the previous months and feel such gratefulness for our friends and supporters. This year is no different.

Like so many of you reading this today, we are also remembering some very unpredictable times. But it is because of those unpredictable times that we at Rose Brooks Center feel **extra grateful** to you.

Because of you, we were able to provide uninterrupted care and safety to victims and survivors of domestic violence. You reached out to us to ask how you could help. You offered your homes to foster pets from our pet shelter. You made masks and sent words of encouragement. You gave of your resources of every kind to help us continue to save lives.

You, along with the incredible Rose Brooks staff, have proven that together we can make great change and create better, safer tomorrows. This is a gift we, and the families we serve, will never forget.

With a grateful heart,

Susan Miller, CEO

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**A Message From the CEO**

**More Pets, More Healing**

Within hours of opening Rose Brooks Center’s onsite pet shelter in 2012, it was full. We knew then that one day we may have to expand as more survivors with pets needed a safe place to stay. We are happy to announce that because of a grant from the **Office for Victims of Crime**, the PAWS Place Expansion project is moving forward.

This expansion will directly help provide supportive service resources for domestic violence victims with companion animals and increase the levels of training and advocacy in order to improve the community’s response to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and pet abuse. Ultimately, this project will create a coordinated community response to improve resources available to victims and their pets, expand the community’s understanding of the connection between domestic violence and animal abuse, and improve the community’s response when faced with pet owners who may be experiencing this crisis.

Not to mention Rose Brooks will be able to expand the cat shelter, and provide supplies to retrofit shelter bedrooms to be pet-friendly.

As victims and survivors come into shelter with severe trauma, pets are a constant source of comfort, bringing healing and recovery. These funds will not only ensure more pets can find safety, but allow more healing along the way for the entire family.

To read more about the history and mission of our pet shelter, please visit us online at [www.rosebrooks.org/services/pet-shelter](http://www.rosebrooks.org/services/pet-shelter).
A Blueprint for Safety

For the past three years, Rose Brooks Center has led an effort to address domestic violence crime in Kansas City - a first for its kind. And for the past three years, entities like Rose Brooks Center, the Kansas City Police Department, Municipal Court, Probation and Parole, and the Detention Center have all met monthly to review and create new policies and practices to ensure that Kansas City’s response to domestic violence crimes keeps victims safe and holds offenders accountable.

At a press conference on September 28th, announcing the launch of this incredible achievement, Annie Struby, Rose Brooks Center’s Blueprint Coordinator, thanked those who made this Blueprint for Safety possible: “To the many brave domestic violence survivors who shared their stories with us and participated in focus groups, thank you. Your stories will make the system work better for future domestic violence survivors.”

The end result is a single document with a chapter for each agency within the criminal justice system. Next, Rose Brooks will lead training efforts across each agency to ensure complete implementation - further solidifying its role of victim advocacy.

The following are just two of the highlights of the policy and procedure changes:

- KCPD - Patrol officers will now ask the victim additional risk questions at the scene. These risk questions will help others in the system understand the context and seriousness of the violence occurring in the relationship.

- The bench within Kansas City Municipal Court will have access to more information about each case, which will help make appropriate decisions for offenders and help keep victims safer.

To read more about the Kansas City Blueprint for Safety: www.rosebrooks.org/about-rosebrooks/news-headlines

CABARET

A global live streaming event!
Sunday, March 7, 2021

Virtual CABARET
A global live streaming event!
Sunday, March 7, 2021

you can invite anyone, from ANYWHERE, from all over the world!

enjoy the event safely from your home or home away from home.

drumroll please...

With a performance by a star from stage or screen... to be announced soon!

Visit us at rosebrooks.org/cabaret
or contact Kerry Schmittling at kerrys@rosebrooks.org, 816.605.7112.
The Holiday Store
Inside Ward Parkway Center
8600 Ward Pkwy
Kansas City, MO 64114

Wish List

Gifts of Warmth
• Children’s Coats/Hats/Gloves
• Women’s Coats
• Socks and Underwear
• Blankets, Sheets, and Pillows

Gifts for Her
• Visa Gift Cards
• Textured Haircare Products
• Curling Irons/Blow Dryers
• Bath Gel/Body Lotion Sets

Gifts for Children and Teens
• Target, Wal-Mart, Amazon GCs
• Barbie/baby dolls and other toys of color
• BIPOC books
• Sports Equipment

For more information and gift-giving options: www.rosebrooks.org/holiday-store

Gifts of Peace can save lives all year long.

Visit the “giving tree” inside the Holiday Store, select an ornament with an amount, and make a lasting impact.

Or give online today and designate your gift for the Holiday Store.
Donate at www.rosebrooks.org/how-to-help/donate/

**COVID-related policies will be in place for volunteers and donors**

A Strong Finish

It’s been said that what people remember is the beginning and the end -- how we start and how we finish. Well, if 2020 has taught us anything, it’s that we have lived each day with new experiences and challenges that we will not soon forget.

With the close of 2020, each of us are also faced with decisions concerning our futures. Here at Rose Brooks Center we are constantly planning for tomorrow. We do this because we know the families we serve depend on it. But we also do it because we know we have friends and supporters who have made an investment in our mission . . . and we thank you.

As you consider your year-end gifts or planned giving options, remember there are several ways to help. 1) Making a gift of securities to support our mission is as easy as instructing your broker to transfer the shares. 2) Rose Brooks also accepts grants from your Donor Advised Fund, appreciated stocks or bonds. 3) You can gift through your will or trust allowing you to save money for the future and ensure you take care of your loved ones first.

Thank you for helping Rose Brooks Center have a strong finish and create safe futures.

P.S. And don’t forget the coronavirus relief bill has three key charitable tax benefits for you. Are you taking advantage? Visit www.rosebrooks.planmygift.org/ or contact Marla Svoboda, Chief Development Officer at marla@rosebrooks.org for more information.