

AWARE



Annual Report

October 2016 - September 2017

“AWARE empowers survivors of domestic and sexual violence by providing, shelter, services and programs.”

P.O. Box 1526
Jackson, MI 49204-1526



www.awareshelter.org

(517) 783-2861 Shelter Crisis Line
(517) 783-2660 Shelter Fax Line

(517) 783-1638 Administration Business Line
(517) 990-6769 Administration Fax Line

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/awareshelter



2018 marks 40 years that AWARE, Inc. acquired its first building and opened its doors to families seeking safety from violence.

Donors 2016-17

Between \$1,000 - \$2,999

Northwest Community Schools
 Pittelkow, Amy M
 Advance Turning & Manufacturing Inc.
 Gunn, Angelita
 Ferguson, Kerry
 Rappaport, Leighanne
 The Natalie Field Foundation
 Advance Turning & Manufacturing, Inc.
 Michigan Community Credit Union
 Truist

Between \$3,000 - \$5,000

Comerica Bank
 Gaynell Fausell Charitable Trust
 Morgan Stanley
 Dawn Food Products, Inc.
 Mabel Harris Trust Charitable Foundation
 Dawn Food Employee Giving program
 Anonymous
 Seymour Ford Lincoln
 Richard and Lisa Fairbanks
 The Hurst Foundation
 Jackson Community Foundation

Between \$5,001 - \$20,000

Bill and Vi Sigmund Foundation
 Anonymous
 Allan B. Copley Charitable Foundation
 Speckhard-Knight Foundation
 Weatherwax Foundation

Thank you to all of the individuals and businesses in the region who contributed items to both the live and silent auction held during "Lights, Camera, AUCTION!" this year.

Donors 2016-17

Between \$400 - \$500

Queen Of The Miraculous Medal Parish
Home Depot
MACI - Michigan Automotive Compressor Inc.

Between \$400 - \$500

Myers, Margaret
Retired Eagles Activities Club
AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign
Sargent, Richard and Marilyn
Fraternal Order Of Eagles
American 1 Credit Union
Lynk, Patricia
Walton Insurance Group
Dwight A. & Lucille S. Aldrich Charitable Trust

Between \$501 - \$999

Presbyterian Church
Jackson Calvary United Methodist Church
Rivera, Osvaldo
Spring Arbor University Students
Turner, Erma

Between \$1,000 - \$2,999

Gerdau Social Responsibility Committee
Jackson Host Lions Club
Marian Inc.
Allegiance Health
Curtis, Curtis & Brelinski, P.C.

Between \$1,000 - \$2,999

Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
Diversified Precision Products
Eaton Corporation
Jack V. Butterfield Investments Co.
Bell and Stapleton, Steve and Phoebe
Young Professional Network –Jackson Area Association of Realtors

AWARE, Inc. Board President Report

Greetings,

I would like to thank our large corporate donors and single supporters, each volunteer, and extraordinary staff members for contributing to another successful year at AWARE, Inc.

In 2017 the Board, working in concert with our Executive Director, focused on developing our strategic plan, strengthening administrative policies, and concentrating on fundraising opportunities for the agency. The Board and staff participated in a Strategic Planning session to pave the direction for the future of AWARE, Inc. and ensure we can meet our community's needs. We developed goals for the next five years to continue services while we deepen our social change work through collaboration.

I look forward to another great year and vibrant events that support such important work. It is the participation and support of our community that enable the staff at AWARE, Inc. to be able to provide these valuable services. It will be through broader and deeper partnerships that will change views and behaviors regarding domestic violence and sexual assault in this community.

Sincerely,

Stacey Phelps

Amber McKee

Stacey Phelps

Amber McKee

AWARE, Inc. Board President

AWARE, Inc. Board Vice-President

Board of Directors

Stacey Phelps, President
Amber McKee, Co Vice-President
Lindsey Edwards, Secretary
Kathy Davis , Treasurer
Ama Agyemang-Larsen, Member at Large
Desiree Hughes, Member at Large
Terry Langston, Member at Large
Steve Morrison. Member at Large
Elizabeth Raduazo, Member at Large
Ashley Zuzelski, Member at Large

On-call Volunteers & Student Interns

Kelly Barson
Carly Dehmel
Jennifer Hill
Molly Kennedy
Kristen Onofri
Tracey Schoepke
Sally Shaw
Kathryn Snyder
Danna Woolsey

Donors 2016-17

Between \$200 - \$249

Harvey Slager
Guernsey, Lynn
Wolf, Joe and Judy
CP Federal Credit Union
Fojtasek, Travis and Georgia
Filip, Deborah
Bullen, Lawrence & Valerie
Stapley, Colleen
Shelby, Jack
Raduazo, Elizabeth and Anthony
Gorczyca, Christi
Pascal, Walter and Shirley

Between \$250 - \$350

Value Pay Services LLC
Dillon & Associates
Spring Arbor Free Methodist Church
State Employees Retirees Association
Zuzelski, Ashley
Short, Patricia
Southeastern Dispute Resolution Services
Weeks, Karen
Vandercook Lake Lions Club
Huff Auto Group
Ambs, Richard & Joan
O'Shea, Colleen
Levy, Bernard and Kathleen
Riter, Karen L
Poynter, Jennifer
Drake, Susan M
The CMS Club
Justin, James

Between \$400 - \$500

Kiwanis Club Of Jackson
Grand River Brewery
Hanover-Horton Community Church Inc.

Donors 2016-17

Between \$100 - \$109

North Jackson Lions Club
Jerry Bower Farms
Schultz, Lawrence

Between \$110 - \$199

Neubecker, Eva
Spring, Traci L
Jackson High School Key Club
Bendele, Laura
Center For Family Health, Inc.
Leutz, Michelle M
Seekell, Christina H
Humayun, Naseer
Omnisource Michigan Employees
Vista Grande Villa
Consumer's Energy Foundation Matching Gifts program
Jones, Ronald and Marvel
Sheppard, Michael & Kelly
Brown, James and Terralyn
Signor, Shannon R
Bradley, David
Savage, Tessa

Between \$200 - \$249

Laponis, Jane
Women's Association Presbyterian Church
Commercial Exchange
Northwest Tool & Machine
Lincoln, Kathleen
Osborn, Janet
Hoover, Christopher & Susan
Fitch, Jennifer J
CP Federal Credit Union
Jackson FOP
Lammers Heating & Air Conditioning
Walton Insurance Group
Leutz Electric, Inc.
Mattson, Brittney

Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings Friends of AWARE,

Fiscal year 2017 marked my second full year as executive director for AWARE, Inc. This year I became more familiar with the community initiatives and collaborative activities occurring in Jackson County .

We have become more active in several community-wide initiatives such as the Financial Stability Network, Clinical and Community Linkages Workgroup, Human Services Coordinating Alliance, and Jackson County Continuum of Care. Through these efforts, we are developing common goals and strategies towards creating a community where all families will thrive.

The AWARE, Inc. Board of Directors completed a strategic plan in July. Through this process, board members recommitted to the agency social change goals, and board leadership to our greater mission. While we continue to be challenged financially, we enter 2018 with a clear vision of areas for financial growth.

We thank our friends for your continued support of our mission and investment in our work.

Sincerely,

Angelita Velasco Gunn

Angelita Velasco Gunn, Executive Director

Staff

Executive Staff

Angelita Velasco Gunn, Executive Director
SeQuita Brown, Shelter & Facilities Manager
Leighanne Rappaport, Resource Director
Karis Tripp, Counseling & Community Services Manager
Alyssa Duhr, Visitation Center Program Manager
Nina Thomas, Administrative Assistant/Advocate

Residential Services Advocates

Chelsea Baxter
Evon Beavers
Shannon Davis
Courtney Fleming
Sofia Johnson
Badrina Kuhl
Sandra McPherson
Alma Morgan
Kristian Oeschle
Tracy Schoepke
Catherine Williams
Rahmecia Wilmer
Joanne Wimple

Legal Advocates

Heather Hunter
Sue Griswatsch

Visitation Center Monitors

Evelyn Mercer
Loraine Smith
Neva Wenman

Counselors

Valerie Daft, LPC
Terri Schempf, LPC

Donors 2016-17

Between \$100 - \$109

Wolfe, Joe and Judy
Hoffbauer, Brian and Elizabeth
Herbert, Shane and April
Medlar, Robert & Christina
Herlein, David
Divine "Wings" Fellowship Spiritualist Church
North Parma United Methodist Women
Fountain, Jeffrey & Margaret
DeWolfe, David M
Purvis, Randy
Phelps, Joyce W.
Laughlin, Jean
Porter, Mark and Michelle
VanSchoick, Dr. Timothy & Mrs. Cynthia
Snyder, Gerald and Anita
Grass Lake Lions Club
Morrison, Steven and Bunee
Rogan, James & Linda
Tassie, Donald R
Swartout, Stephen and Patricia
Laughlin, Jean
Scheppelman, Alan and Amy
Whitmore, Craig and Susan
Brown, Anne & Grant
Stack, Richard and Susan
Rozensky, Linda A and Anthony A.
Craft, Margaret H.
Pung, Charlene A
Meschke, Brent
Mrocza, Margaret
Filip, Deborah
Wright, Jill
Short, Patricia
Osmond, Stephen and Melissa
RW Mercer Company
Herndon, Heather

Donors 2016-17

Up to 50.00

Dunkelberg, John and Miguelina
Vieta, Joanne
Schmittlein, Ken & Sharon
Kott, Rebecca Liss
Ennis, Alek and Cheryl
Lent, Carol
Strang, Helen L
Walton, Eric B
Zion United Methodist Church
Walker, Beverly

Between \$51 - \$99

Rogers, Jennifer N
Griwatsch, Susan M
Hillside United Methodist Women
Wells Fargo Advisors
Lapinski, David
Unity Church of Jackson
Baker College
Schauffler, Gary and Pamela
Lapinski, David
Lefere, Carlene
Berkemeier, Thomas and Maryrose
Zachary W Gillette

Between \$100 - \$109

Reiniche, Donna and Larry
Schultz, Larry and Marie
Emmons Service, Inc.
Beiswenger, Ronald and Jane
Robidoux, Robert and Nancy
Cooper, Gary
Conklin, Morris and Linda
Nelson, Jan
Vinton, Gregory
Hanchett, Michelle and James
Desnoyer, David and Karen
Swartout, Erin

Core Values

Collaboration

We recognize that our mission requires working successfully with clients, funding units, donors, the community, the court system, and other non-profit agencies. We encourage staff initiative, innovation and leadership. We promote teamwork with our clients as we strive for excellence in facilitating the best possible results for the survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Impact

We are committed to making a difference and effecting change in our community. We will do this by supporting and empowering survivors, and being leaders in the movement to eliminate domestic and sexual violence. We take advantage of as many opportunities as possible to educate residents of all ages in Jackson County about our mission, services and programs.

Empowerment

We believe in the right of everyone to live a violence-free life. Our dedicated staff and volunteers use all available resources to improve the lives of survivors and empower them to create an independent life free from violence and fear.

Commitment

We are dedicated to and passionate about our mission of empowering survivors of domestic and sexual violence. We treat our clients with compassion and acceptance. We will always exhibit professional and personal integrity, and adhere to high ethical and professional standards in our work.

Agency Goals

Provide quality housing and support services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Enhance resources to enable staff and volunteers to carry out the agency's mission.

Evaluate and coordinate preventative programs designed to eliminate domestic and sexual violence.

Help individuals cope with crisis and empower them to achieve violence-free lives.

Facilitate education and collaboration within the community to promote social change.

Program Services

Jackson County Family Visitation

Jackson County Family Visitation Center (JCFVC), a collaborative project of AWARE, Inc. and Jackson County, provides supervised visitation and exchanges to families where domestic violence has occurred and parenting time has been ordered by the court system.

The Center provided 605 supervised visits, and 644 exchanges, serving 36 families a month on average.

Residential Services

AWARE, Inc. provided 6,917 nights of shelter to 147 adults and 81 children during this fiscal year. While in our shelter, advocacy staff work with survivors on self-identified goals such as, employment, childcare access, education and training, to facilitate rebuilding a foundation toward healing and self-sufficiency.

Our residential services provide families in crisis with temporary respite from violence, and are funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Jackson Area United Way, the Jackson Community Foundation and other private sources.

Transitional housing program, funded by the Community Action Agency, bridges the gap between short-term crisis shelter and long-term housing. Survivors of domestic and sexual violence may live in transitional housing for up to two years.

4 families received supportive services such as rental assistance, transportation assistance, help with utilities, clothing and food vouchers while in transitional housing.

24-hour Crisis Line Services

During this fiscal year, 973 crisis calls were received by our advocacy staff who provided supportive listening, intake for shelter, and referrals for other services.

Donors 2016-17

Up to 50.00

Halsey, Betty
Women of The Moose #389
Stachowiak, Elaine
Fowler, Yonnie
Buckner, Kay
Schumacher, Michelle
Romain, Donald
Chipman, Patricia
Koch, Donna
Oman, R. Nels and Margaret
Pienkos, Rich and Julie
Loveland, Rebecca L
Moon, Carolyn
Geisman, Denise
Lefere, Carlene
Ennis, Rebecca
Eicholtz, Cynthia
Parks, Diana
Gammon, Tina M.
Shuberg, Martha
Kops, Herbert and Mary
Rozensky, Linda A and Anthony A.
Tassie, Donald R
Little, Lynda and Mark
Irvine, Sharon A
Spring Arbor Church Of The Nazarene
Townsend, Mona R
Cataline, Chandra L
Hornbeck, Norris
Walker, Beverly
Medlar, Robert & Christina
Beiswenger, William
Anonymous
Maes, Marcia
Hoover, Jonathan and Susan
Jukuri, Kathryn
Cobbs, Emily
Holtzman, Scott

Donors 2016-17

Up to 50.00

Eden, Marillyn and Edward
Dixon, Dawn and Daniel
Terrill, Kelly
McCormick, David & Sheryl
Freese, Brian
Devine, Emma and Michael
Gabbara, C and H
Hughes, Desiree
Grinnell, Loree
Eastmead, Jody and Lewis
Herder, Sharon
Brown, Justin and Akiko
Townsend, Mona R
Weaver, Teresa
Todd, Kenneth
Fagin, Sheryl L
Legault, James and Cassandra
Crider, Nancy
Turk, Rebecca and Dave
Rider, Betty and Roy
Vandercook Lake Public Schools
Liechty, Diana
Howell, Lola
Brown, Craig and Glenda
Bradley, Valerie
Strickrodt, Beverly J
Spring, Kathy
Schrader, Victoria and Douglas
Olah, Julie
Case, Doreen
Chipman, Patricia
Godlewski, Stan
Lent, John L
Parker, John & Delores
Moorehead, Richard and Penelope

Program Services

Counseling Services

127 survivors of domestic and sexual violence received crisis support through individual counseling services, and support groups.

Our counselors provide support to survivors shortly after a traumatic event, and focus on building the individual's capacity to heal.

With staff transition, we experienced a gap in ongoing Kids Club programming. Groups resumed in the latter part of the fiscal year, reaching 6 children.

Kids Club is designed to enhance the child's sense of safety, and create a common vocabulary of emotions for making sense of violent experiences.

Individual and Systems Advocacy

147 adults and 103 children received individual advocacy such as assistance with housing, employment, economic empowerment skills, childcare resources, transportation, and referral to other community resources through residential services.

207 adults and children seeking remedies through the courts received legal advocacy services, including court accompaniment, victim notification, outreach, safety planning or referrals.

AWARE received 15 calls from Henry Ford Allegiance Health and provided support to nine survivors seeking medical care or forensic exams.

100% of victims who completed surveys reported that the counselors treated them with respect and dignity.

100% of victims reported gaining increased understanding about the natural responses to trauma.

93% of victims reported gaining coping skills for managing stress responses to trauma.

Program Services

Education and Outreach

AWARE, Inc. provides community awareness on domestic and sexual violence issues to area schools, colleges, community centers, service groups, churches, and other professionals. We reached 300 adults and 269 students through 12 presentations, and responded to an additional nine requests from media.

Collaboration

AWARE is active in numerous collaborative activities to address the broader goals of social justice, supporting families in crisis and ending poverty and homelessness in Jackson County. We are the lead agency for the Jackson County Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordinating Council and participate in the following:

- Jackson County Continuum of Care
- Human Services Coordinating Alliance
- Emergency Needs Coalition
- Legal Services of South Central Michigan Jackson Advisory Board
- Financial Stability Network
- Supervised Visitation Network
- Clinical and Community Linkages
- Business and Professional Women

AWARE is an active member of the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Professional Development

Staff attended 56 training events for a combined total of 375 hours of training on criminal justice response to domestic violence, alcohol and sexual aggression, sexual assault comprehensive services, trauma and grief, victim safety and batterer intervention services, firearms and surrender orders, media advocacy, evaluation, fundraising, board roles and responsibilities, and conceptual training on poverty and collective impact for social change. All direct service staff received CPR/First Aid Certification training this year.

Financial Information 2016-17

Government Grants

U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women	
Safe Havens Grant (Jackson County sub recipient)	\$ 75,773
U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	\$ 8,663
(Community Action Agency sub recipient)	
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	
• Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board	
Domestic Violence Comprehensive Services	\$188,402
Domestic Violence Emergency Services	\$ 75,645
(MSHDA and Salvation Army)	
STOP (Services, Training, Officers & Pros.)	\$ 38,479
• Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission (VOCA)	\$188,489

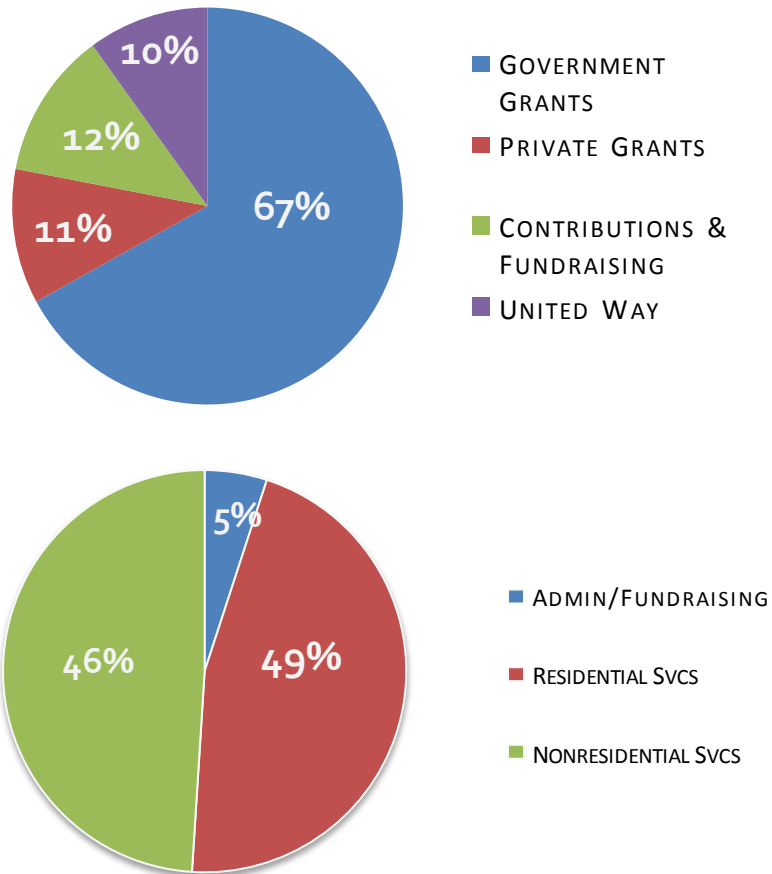
Private Grants

• Weatherwax Foundation	\$ 20,000
• Speckhard-Knight Foundation	\$ 15,000
• Anonymous donors	\$ 12,463
• Allan B. Copley Charitable Trust	\$ 8,000
• Bill and Vi Sigmund Foundation	\$ 7,500
• Jackson Community Foundation	\$ 5,000
• The Hurst Foundation	\$ 5,000
• Mabel Harris Charitable Trust	\$ 4,000
• Gaynell Fausell Charitable Trust	\$ 3,000
• Comerica	\$ 3,000
• The Natalie Field Foundation	\$ 2,000
• Eaton Corporation	\$ 1,000

Contributions & Fundraising

• United Way	
Community Solutions Fund	\$ 63,474
Contributions (designated)	\$ 8,280
FEMA	\$ 7,500
• Fundraising/Events	\$ 54,825
• Contributions/Appeals	\$ 31,116
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$ 756,340

Financial Information 2016-17



Program Services

AWARE



Ever wonder what to say
if a friend discloses they've
been sexually assaulted?

24-hour crisis line

**“I Believe
You”**

Sexual Assault Awareness Month
2017 Campaign Coaster

Events

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

AWARE Inc., held its annual Volunteer Recognition event on April 25, 2017 in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Over 60 people attended the luncheon held at the Commonwealth Commerce Center. Professor Antonia Abbey from Wayne State University was the featured keynote speaker.

Thank you to the Commonwealth Commerce Center—Mr. Donald Finnelli, CCC Catering, Walton Insurance Group, Kerry Ferguson-Edward Jones, Advance Turning & MFG Inc., J. Alexander's, Grant & Anne Brown, Joan & John Cummings, Heather Herndon, Realtor, and Patricia Lynk for their contributions in support of the event.

The following individuals and corporate/businesses were recognized for their work in furthering the mission of AWARE, Inc.

Individual honorees:

Lindsey Edwards
Margaret Cunningham
Patricia Lynk

Corporate/Business honorees:

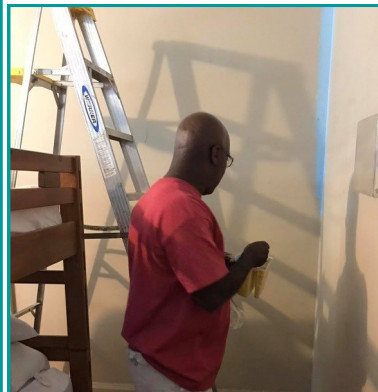
JAAR/YPN (Jackson Area Association of Realtors/Young Professionals Network)
UPS (United Parcel Service)



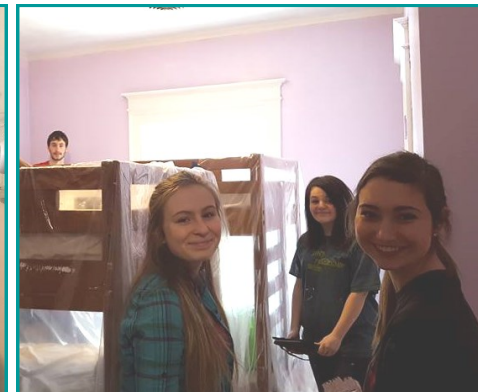
(L-R) JAAR/YPN members Ben Latocki and Cory Latocki, and individual honorees Lindsey Edwards and Margaret Cunningham receive awards for their contributions to AWARE, Inc.

Program Services

Volunteerism



UPS employee prepares to paint a bedroom in the shelter



Students from Northwest High School brighten up a second room with fresh paint.



Participants in the annual JAAR/YPN Putt Putt Golf fundraiser to benefit AWARE, Inc.



Program Services

Volunteerism

Over 80 volunteers and interns provided 3900 + hours of service to AWARE, Inc. to support crisis services, special events and fundraising efforts, grounds keeping, maintenance, training and administration.

Agyemang-Larsen, Ama	Lynk, Patricia
American 1 Credit Union employees	McEldowney, Deb
Barson, Kelly	McKee, Amber
Best, Michelle	Merritt, Joe
Boulter, Chris	Mierzwa, Barbara
Consumer's Energy employees	Morrison, Steve
Cunningham, Margaret	Northwest Schools Students
Davis, Kathy	Onofri, Kristian
Dehmel, Carly	Phelps, Stacey
Diggers Club	Prichard, Trey
Edwards, Lindsey	Raduazo, Elizabeth
Erb, Jason	Schoepke, Tracey
Faust, Deb	Shaw, Sally
Gage, Janet	Shelby, Jack
Gancsos, Chris	Smjada, Mike
Gerding, Davan	Snyder, Kathryn
Hawley, Bart	Spring Arbor University Students
Hill, Jennifer	Stachowiak, Elaine
Hoffbauer, Elizabeth	Stanley, Marc
Hughes, Desiree	UPS employees
JAAR/YPN	Vohlken, Cara
Jarzynka, Jerry	Woolsey, Danna
Kennedy, Chad	Zuzelski, Ashley
Kennedy, Mandy	
Kennedy, Molly	
Kutyna, Steve	
Langston, Terry	
Latocki, Ben	
Latocki, Cory	
Lindahl, Jennifer	

THANK YOU!

Events

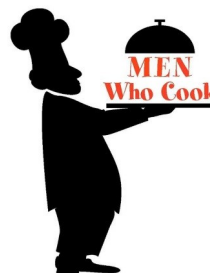
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

AWARE, Inc. held our 6th annual "Lights, Camera, AUCTION!" October 26, 2017 during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Bart Hawley served as Master of Ceremonies again this year.

The Men Who Cook who prepared and served a signature dish included:

Mike Smajda, Superintendent, Western Schools
Jason Erb, AT&T
Jerry Jarzynka, Jackson County Prosecutor
Tim McEldwoney, Fire Chief, Spring Arbor
Steve Morrison, AWARE, Inc. Board Member
Chad Kennedy, Walton Insurance Group
Adam Soper, Bond and Company
Davan Gerding, CCC Catering
Frank Slaby, Bone Island Grill & Deer Run
Giuliano Costantino, Gerdau Special Steel

Thank you to the following event sponsors: Advance Turning & Manufacturing, South Central Credit Union, DBI, Gerdau Special Steel, Michigan Community Credit Union, Jack V. Butterfield Investment Co., Commonwealth Commerce Center, Jackson Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #70, Leutz Electric, Great Lakes Graphics, Lammer's Heating & Air, AllSkate, Walton Insurance Group, American 1 Credit Union, Eaton Corporation, Jackson Host Lions Club, CP Federal Credit Union, and Louis Glick Memorial Trust/Alro Steel.



The annual event, which was held in the new City View Ballroom of the Commonwealth Commerce Center, raised \$14,000 in unrestricted funds for crisis services and operations.