



# 2020 Community Impact Amid COVID-19



## Where violence ends and hope begins

Breaking the cycle of violence by providing safety, shelter and support for victims of domestic abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking and bullying.



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Executive Director  
Hon. Loretta K. Davis



# A Message of Strength In a Time of Crisis

While we can't change what's going on in the world, we can make a difference! For those who have suffered from abuse, the issues do not pause or take a break even during the declared National Emergency for COVID-19.

Domestic violence survivors may be experiencing increased isolation and danger caused by confinement during the pandemic. Likewise, as has been nationally reported, others are experiencing abuse for the first time, brought on by the sudden economic downturn and uncertainty. Many of these individuals were already vulnerable to financial and health insecurity, and are now experiencing additional challenges. The Retreat is ready to help.

We want to be clear that the agency is open. To ensure clients are supported we have taken specific steps to maintain access for those in need:

- The 24-hour Hotline is operational, with access to multiple languages. (631)329-2200 or Deaf Crisis Line (321)800-3323
- Counselors are available for phone sessions.
- Advocates will continue to educate clients on their rights.
- Our emergency shelter remains operational, with safety protocols in place.
- Educators are teaching via video-conferencing for middle and high schoolers learning remotely.
- And, administrative functions are being done by employees working from home.

During the past three decades, The Retreat has acquired outstanding experience implementing a full continuum of domestic violence services as well as prevention strategies. We believe this experience has provided us with outstanding connections and the leadership capacity to carry us through this crisis.

We will continue to be here, remotely or in-person, for anyone who reaches out for help.

Sincerely,

Loretta  
Loretta K. Davis  
Executive Director

Francesca  
Francesca Odell  
Board Co-Chair

Claudia  
Claudia Pilato  
Board Co-Chair



Comprehensive services include:



**24-Hour Hotline**  
Confidential and free, with access to 240 languages, including sign.



**Counseling**  
Individual, family and group counseling for adults and children.



**Legal Services**  
Attorney services and legal advocacy to assist with orders of protection, child custody/support, immigration and more.



**Stephanie House**  
Short-term emergency shelter for adults and their children.



**Violence Prevention Education**  
In-school and community based workshops addressing bullying, partner and sexual violence, healthy relationships, parenting,



**Fatherhood Initiative**  
Evidence-based, skill-building workshop, case management and coaching on healthy relationships, parenting and economic stability.



**S.H.A.R.P.**  
Abuser re-education program that provides opportunities to end abusive and violent behavior while building healthy and respectful alternatives.

## The Retreat in the News

March 20 - April 9, 2020

[Domestic Violence 'Even More Awful' During Coronavirus: Survivor](#) East Hampton Patch, April 9, 2020

[There's Still Help For Those Who Need It](#)  
The Independent, April 7, 2020

[Heroes Emerge](#) Letters, East Hampton Star, April 9, 2020

[The Retreat Adapts to Provide Service During Social Distancing](#)  
The Southampton Press, April 3, 2020

[The Retreat Provides Help, Hope and a Haven in All Times of Crisis](#) Dan's Papers, April 2, 2020

[Relationship Help for High Schoolers](#)  
East Hampton Star, April 2, 2020

[We're All Trapped With This Virus: Get Help Coping](#)  
East End Beacon, March 28, 2020

## National Headlines

[A New Covid-19 Crisis: Domestic Abuse Rises Worldwide](#)  
The New York Times

[Coronavirus Cases Rise Sharply, as U.S. Braces for Most Challenging Days Ahead](#) The Wall Street Journal

[In quarantine with an abuser: surge in domestic violence reports linked to coronavirus](#) The Guardian

[Domestic violence in the age of coronavirus: What happens when you're stuck at home, but home isn't safe?](#) USA Today

[As Cities Around the World Go on Lockdown, Victims of Domestic Violence Look for a Way Out](#) TIME

[The Collateral Damage Of Social Distancing: Experts Predict Uptick In Domestic Violence, Divorces](#) WGBH

[Coronavirus: I'm in lockdown with my abuser](#) BBC News

[For Abused Women, a Pandemic Lockdown Holds Dangers of Its Own](#) The New York Times

[How to Help DV Survivors During COVID Pandemic](#) In Style  
[DV & Child Abuse Will Rise During Quarantines](#) Pro Publica



The mission of The Retreat is to provide safety, shelter, and support to survivors of domestic abuse and to break the cycle of family violence.

# 2019 Community Impact



3476  
Hotline  
Calls

In addition to calls, The Retreat reaches out to survivors through referrals made by local police, religious organizations, medical and dental providers.



67%  
Multiple  
Services

Two-thirds of clients coming to The Retreat utilize more than one service.



4906  
Safe  
Nights

The Retreat's Stephanie House emergency shelter is a safe place for individuals and families in crisis. In 2019, 55% of residents were children.



116  
Group  
Sessions

The Retreat offers counseling for adults & children, in individual, family and group settings. In 2019, 2543 individual counseling sessions were provided.



1184  
Legal  
Services

The Retreat has one attorney on staff, two part-time attorneys and pro-bono support. In addition, Retreat Advocates made 744 trips to court.



630  
Resource  
Referrals

98 Clients received case management, expanding their support network through referrals to social services and community resources.



290  
Better  
Fathers

The Fatherhood Initiative is an evidence-based, skill-building workshop with case management & coaching on healthy relationships, parenting and economic stability.



1,100  
Safety  
Plans

A personalized plan to help clients remain safe while in a relationship, planning to leave, or after leaving.



181  
Public  
Programs

Retreat staff presented on panels, at career & community fairs, and service organizations reaching 8468 people.



5,087  
Students  
Educated

The Retreat teaches violence prevention in schools, grades 3-12, throughout the East End.



78  
Teen  
Leaders

Students taking a leadership role in violence prevention education. Projects include public service announcements, tabling, & community events.



2,756  
College  
Students

Equipped to recognize and prevent sexual assault, harassment, stalking, & intimate partner violence.