"...the world is enormous and full of unimaginable pain, but I do not feel hopeless. I am empowered with strength, compassion, and determination to make this world a better place for all of us."

-Fran, Volunteer Crisis Counselor
A NEW PAGE FOR SAN FRANCISCO SUICIDE PREVENTION

Our 56th year of providing on-demand crisis intervention to the community was one filled with heartfelt goodbyes and immense opportunities for growth.

With the retirement of SFSP’s Executive Director, Eve R. Meyer, and the step down of our Board President, Helen Rosen, the opportunity arises for new leadership for the agency. Recognizing the emotions that can be felt by such a dramatic change, we stand together to ensure that SFSP’s crisis line remains the stable core of the agency’s work, sustaining the mission that Bernard Mayes established. As we mark this significant transition in our history, over the next year we stand committed to ensuring that our programs and services continue to recognize and address the gaps in suicide and mental health and offer quality, low-barrier, on-demand care to those in crisis.

Sadly, we only see the increased need in our communities --something we long suspected through the crisis calls we receive. In June of 2018 the Center for Disease Control & Prevention reported that in a majority of states suicide rates continue to rise making suicide the 10th leading cause of death in 2016. While the California average (14.8%) falls below the national average (25.4%) the report along with two high profile suicides of Anthony Bourdain and Kate Spade, are reminders that there is much work to be done in continuing the conversation to destigmatize suicide and mental health, so we may work to empower the community in taking proactive steps to help one another through moments of crisis.

This past year SFSP’s 200 volunteer crisis counselors answered over 55,000 calls across our crisis line, drug line and HIV/AIDS Nightline. Of these calls 605 were marked as, ‘high risk,’ with emergency services called 10 times showing the effectiveness of SFSP’s peer based model of crisis support and de-escalation.

We saw incredible growth in our Youth Risk Reduction program. To meet the demand for our trainings we on-boarded our first cohort of youth volunteers who helped to deliver our trainings to more schools and community centers across San Francisco. SFSP held 215 trainings at 40 locations,empowering 6,000 of our communities youth to recognize the warning signs of suicide and depression and how to help those in crisis. SFSP also launched training programs at various youth community centers ensuring that all of our community’s youth had access to critical mental health resources.

The 2017-18 annual report speaks directly to the work that happens here at SFSP, but most importantly it speaks to the impact and pivotal role that each of our individual donors and contributors, community and corporate partners and volunteers play in ensuring that SFSP continues to be a leading organization in the field of crisis intervention.

Best regards,

Lina Sheth, MPH, CPCC
Interim Executive Director

Peter Rojo
President,
Board of Directors

Lina Sheth, MPH, CPCC
Peter Rojo - President
THE MISSION OF SAN FRANCISCO SUICIDE PREVENTION IS ...

to provide emotional support, education, assistance, and intervention as necessary to all persons in crisis and those impacted by them, with the goal of reducing suicides and self-destructive behaviors.
“This service is really important because it allows me a chance to have someone to talk to that’s always there -- without having to go some place or make an appointment!” Caller, December 2017

**STATS**

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- HIV NIGHTLINE: 11,507
- DRUG LINE: 9,735
- CRISIS LINE: 34,549
- CALL CONCERN

- Anxiety/Stress: 58%
- Depression: 20%
- Mental Illness/Emotional Problem: 18%
- LGBTQ Issues: 4%

- 55,791 Calls Answered

6,000 Youth Served | From 40 School and Community Sites.

Referrals Offered: 1,845 | Community Members Trained: 850 | From 25 Organizations 400 Police Officers Trained in Crisis Negotiation Tactics.

**FINANCIALS**

**Total Income:** $997,487.00
- Government Grants: $562,456 (56%)
- Private Giving & Non-Government: $233,353 (23%)
- Special Events: $109,190 (11%)
- Program Income: $92,488 (10%)

**Assets:** $436,877.00
- Liabilities: $122,977.00
- Net Assets: $313,900.00

Total Liabilities & Net Assets: $436,877.00

**Total Expenses:** Net Assets Released $1,104,937.00
- Program Services & Personnel: $857,317 (78%)
- Management & Administration: $121,103 (11%)
- Fundraising: $126,517 (11%)
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GET INVOLVED
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

San Francisco Suicide Prevention could not exist without the dedication of more than 100 community volunteers every year. Most of our volunteers assist the community on our hotline and internet chat services. However, we also have community outreach, fundraising and event volunteer opportunities available.

For more information on our SFSP’s volunteer opportunities visit:

http://www.sfsuicide.org/volunteers-and-interns/

MAKING A DONATION

San Francisco Suicide Prevention continues to rely on the support of our donors to provide on-demand care to those in crisis. We depend upon individuals, corporations & family foundations to ensure that we remain a thriving organization.

Online at: www.sfsuicide.org/onlinedonation

By mail - send check payable to: San Francisco Suicide Prevention P.O. Box 191350 San Francisco, CA 94119

“You have helped me, saved me, for many decades now and you’re a major part of why I’m alive today.” Caller, December 2017
San Francisco Suicide Prevention would like to thank the following donors for their investment in SFSP and the community we serve.

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San Francisco Suicide Prevention is grateful to those who provided in-kind donations for our Travel Raffle, Laughs for Life and many other special events.
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