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Website:  
[www.sablehouse.org](http://www.sablehouse.org)



**Sable House Shelter Needs**

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Fabric Softener Sheets
- Laundry Baskets
- Ziplock Bags
- Flash Lights
- Band Aids
- Baby Wipes
- New Pillows
- Air Freshner
- Tylenol

**Sable House  
Core Values**

**Safety** - Promote safety in our work everyday to ensure clients, staff, and community feel safe when working with us.

**Compassion** - Treat all those who come into contact with the organization with loving kindness.

**Respect** - Honor each other by respecting individual choices and beliefs.

**Good Intent** - Keep close the mission of the organization by remembering why we are here and act every day from that understanding.

**Advocacy** - Be advocates by listening, supporting, and empowering.

# Sable House

Increasing the safety of domestic and sexual violence victims in Polk County through crisis intervention and community education services.

Spring/Summer 2012  
PO Box 783 Dallas, OR 97338 (503) 623-6703

## 2011 Statistics

Clients Served  
833

Shelter Nights  
1,791

Crisis Calls  
5,437

Support Groups  
124

Educational  
Presentations  
34



### Sable Volunteers Make Huge Impact!

We have a network of committed volunteers that make it possible for us to provide life saving services 24-hours a day. Volunteers like Carolyn, who provides support and educational sessions to women every week all year long. Like Scott, who repairs just about everything at the shelter facility whenever we need him to, and who helps our staff with educating youth about anti-violence in the schools. And Sue, who works the hotline multiple shifts every month and participates on the board of directors. There is Caprice, who has worked the hotline since 2007, and Krista, who has worked it since 2006 and is our primary volunteer sexual assault responder. And we can't leave out Teresa, who resides at the shelter facility and provides 24-hour safety, creative crafting, and lots of tender loving care to the clients and their children residing there. All of the hotline volunteers and board members, giving their time and dedication, are what make our services possible.

*We Appreciate Our Volunteers!*

### Polk County's Threat Advisory Team

We were invited to participate on this team due to our commitment to safety. We collaborate with law enforcement, the court, the DA's office, mental health, corrections, and other agencies to enhance the safety of Polk County.

### Water Heater Woes!

We had to replace one of the water heaters at shelter recently, and it cost \$1,800. We have two units at the shelter because of high traffic use. The other water heater was replaced about a year ago. They lasted about 16 years! Not bad!

### The Sable House Jeep Needs a New Windshield! Can you help?

We've been driving around for a *long* time with a broken windshield in our Sable House Jeep. If you can help, please contact us at the office. Those of us who drive it everyday will greatly appreciate your support.

**Crisis Hotline: (503) 623-4033**

**Toll Free: (866) 305-3030**

### We Want Your Old Cell Phones!

With your help we have raised: \$3,218  
Sable House partners with Shelter Alliance to recycle cell phones because in their program, no cell phones or parts are ever sent to landfills.

**Incarceration: New Math Redux?**

Imagine that you are the victim of a violent crime. The perpetrator (“John Doe”) is arrested, and accepts a plea deal that places him on probation. John violates his probation multiple times, and contacts you several times despite a restraining order. The court revokes his probation and sentences him to one year in jail.

During his second day in jail, John punches another inmate in the throat. For this assault, he accepts a plea deal and is sentenced to 15 days in jail.

Before his probation was revoked, John broke into a small, family owned business and stole their petty cash. After a trial, John is found guilty of Burglary 2, Criminal Mischief 2, and Theft 3. He is sentenced to 60 days, 240 days, and 30 days in jail, respectively.

John is released after spending a total of 237 days in jail.

Let's take a look at the math:

$$365 + 15 + 60 + 240 + 30 = 237?$$

There are two factors that cause this surprising result:

**Factor 1: Concurrent v. Consecutive Sentencing**

When a defendant is convicted of multiple crimes, their jail/prison time can be served concurrently (each day of incarceration counts toward the sentences for all of the crimes) or consecutively (each day counts only towards the sentence of one crime). So if sentences are concurrent, the inmate will be released after they've served the longest sentence; whereas with consecutive sentences, each sentence must be served before the inmate is released. In general, the judge decides which to apply – but if the judge doesn't specify, the default is concurrent sentences.

It is very common for sentences to be concurrent when all of the crimes occurred in one incident – as when John robbed the small business. A problem arises when the defendant is convicted of crimes from one incident while incarcerated for crimes from another incident. If the judge doesn't specify that the new

sentences are to be consecutive to the old sentences, the defendant essentially receives a free pass, and serves no time for the new crimes.

**Factor 2: Incentive Credits**

Jails and prisons use reductions in sentences as an incentive to encourage certain behaviors. The “Good Time Credit” was created by the legislature and gives inmates approximately three to six days credit per 30 days of sentenced time. The name can be deceiving, as inmates do not earn this credit; it is automatically applied to their sentence and taken away only rarely. The lower end of the credit range applies to shorter (less than three months) sentences, and the upper end applies to sentences of nine months or more. So an inmate sentenced to one year in jail will receive good time credit of 73 days.

Inmates also receive credit for working while incarcerated. This credit is also authorized by statute, although the amount of credit varies by facility - in Polk County, one day of credit for every three days of work. This credit is added to the good time credit.

Let's take another look at the math in John's case:

$$\begin{aligned} &(365 + 15 + 60 + 240 + 30) \\ &- 73 \text{ (good time credit)} \\ &- 55 \text{ (work credit)} \\ &= 237 \end{aligned}$$

Note that John worked sometimes while in jail, but if he had worked the whole time, he would have earned an additional 32 days of credit. He also did not lose any of his “good time credit” for the assault on the other inmate.



While John's name has been changed, the remaining details of this story are true. The victims of his various crimes are, understandably, frustrated by the entire situation. They do take comfort in knowing that when John is released from the Polk County Jail, he will be transferred to the Marion County Jail to face drug possession charges – and receive more “good time” credit.

Board of Directors

- Rachel Greco • Linda Jennings • Carol Dare
- David Fullerton • J.P. Braun • Laurice Riddell • Stephen Bowles
- Debbie McIntosh • Susan Morrill • Thomas Braun • Sue Burge

**Did You Know?**

70% of our services are non-shelter

we operate on about \$325,000 per year

we have only four paid staff members

two of our board members have been with us since we opened

**Special Thanks to the community organizations and businesses who help support us!**

- Birch Landscape
- Grandma's Attic
- Citizens Bank
- Mid Valley Quilters Guild
- Dallas Chamber
- Allied Waste of Dallas
- Dallas FFA
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Grace Church
- Church of Jesus Christ of LDS
- St Phillip Catholic Church
- Girl Scout Troop 10197
- Dallas Aquatic Center
- Salt Creek Baptist Church
- Perrydale FFA & Pork for People
- Starbucks
- Great Harvest Bread Co
- Western Oregon University
- Walts Print & Copy
- A-Team Locksmiths
- Van Well Building Supply
- West Valley Housing Authority

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**Have You Visited Our New Website Yet?**

Check it out at: [www.sablehouse.org](http://www.sablehouse.org)

The website has information about domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and the important services Sable House provides in our community.

**Combined Grant Funds to Increase Volunteer Participation**

Thanks to the Oregon Community Foundation and the Collins Foundation we will be hiring a volunteer coordinator at Sable House. The coordinator will be responsible for increasing volunteer participation by developing and implementing a formal volunteer program over three years.

The program will include improved recruiting, training, scheduling, supervision, evaluation and long-term, self-sustaining volunteer participation. Our expanded volunteer program will provide 24-hour crisis services to the clients we serve including safety planning, 24-hour hotline, sexual assault services, educational sessions for adults and children, and assistance with fundraising and awareness events.

We are very fortunate to receive these grant funds at a time when the economic climate would make it impossible for us to add a position without them.

**Sable House Launches New Legal Services Program**

Our two year grant from Meyer Memorial Trust ends June 30th. The grant provided free emergency legal services to more than 160 clients over two years and gave us the opportunity to develop a new program intended to sustain emergency legal services for clients.

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new legal advocacy services program. The new program will provide low cost legal services for anyone seeking help in the following areas: divorce, custody, child support, restraining and stalking orders, and crime victims rights.

The program uses a sliding fee scale based on income and you do not need to be a current client or in an abusive relationship in order to qualify.

The program is coordinated by Beverly West, a licensed attorney who filled the grant funded position/program over the last two years and has agreed to stay on as coordinator of the new program. For more information or a presentation about our new program, please contact Beverly at the office.