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“I am honored by the opportunity to lead this well-respected and vital agency,” noted Pascale, “and to build on the incredible legacy of Deb Mozden. Coming out of COVID, it’s clear that domestic violence and sexual assault have not abated in Sullivan County, and our direct services and prevention education are needed more now than ever. I look forward to working with our dedicated staff and board to support victim-survivors where they are and to develop innovative approaches to reducing violence throughout our communities.”

To contact Pascale, you can email her at: pascale@turningpointsnetwork.org.

SAVE THE DATE: Oct 12



Broad Street OPEN HOUSE



This fall, Turning Points Network looks forward to inviting our friends, neighbors, and partners to experience the new facility, meet the staff and executive director, and celebrate the amazing legacy of Deb Mozden. We will be sending out more information over the summer, but for now, please pencil in October 12 from 3-6 pm to join us at 231 Broad Street in Claremont.

Turning Points Network

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Turning Points Network

Preventing Violence • Promoting Respect • Strengthening Lives

JUNE 2023

midyear milestones



SETTLING IN ON BROAD STREET

Through the early weeks of 2023, Turning Points Network staff packed up the 11 School Street office in Claremont and transitioned into our new headquarters at 231 Broad Street. Moving or salvaging nearly 40 years of equipment and files was a major feat, especially since we accomplished this transition while keeping services uninterrupted in both Claremont and our Newport office. Below are some highlights of the past six months.

New Address, New Director

Pascale Graham, PhD, MPA, joined Turning Points Network in May 2021 as assistant director. In late fall 2022, she was named the new executive director, shortly before the move to TPN’s new headquarters.

Coming on as the new executive director at a major milestone for the organization, Pascale has quickly established herself as a capable administrator with an eye toward the future. And, with a spacious new facility, TPN will have plenty of options for future endeavors.

The increased capacity comes at a critical time. Statistics from the recent Youth Behavior Risk Assessment Survey indicate that Sullivan County youth, particularly girls



PASCALE GRAHAM
TPN EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

and members of LGBTQ+ communities, are at higher risk than elsewhere in the state for experiencing unwanted sexual advances and assault. TPN will be looking to respond to these trends and creating strategies to assist youth throughout the county.

Fortunately, Pascale has an extensive background in sexual assault prevention from both the ground level, working as the director of public policy on gender-based violence in the New York City’s Mayor’s Office, and academically from teaching at the Institute of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies at McGill University in Canada and brings her varied experience to the table.

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SHELTER ON THE MEND

Following an accidental fire in December, TPN was heartened by a strong show of community support. Through quick action by staff and generous donors, affected survivors were able to find safe alternative housing and have their belongings restored in time for the holidays.

The building, however, needed extensive cleanout and repairs which took considerable time and expertise. Contractors worked through the spring and early summer to bring the building back to its former state. Final renovations and painting should be completed within the next month, and with luck, the shelter should be available for emergency housing by late August. Survivors continue to be housed by TPN in alternative secure locations.



Increasing TPN's Presence in Schools

Teachers, counselors, and school administrators in Sullivan County reached out to TPN this winter and spring requesting we strengthen our presence in their schools. They reported witnessing a rise of interpersonal violence problematic boundary-crossing behaviors, and sexual harassment in schools. During this critical time, our educators provided in-depth information to schools throughout the county on our programming and shared tools to help reduce interpersonal violence. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

Among those they presented to were the Fall Mountain Regional School Board and SAU6 administrators. Educators completed training for all of Claremont's elementary schools on healthy boundaries and the signs of potential sexual abuse.

This year brought a greater recognition of the need for social and emotional skills. TPN programming is grounded in

those skills, and we were able to train seven local school counselors to be able to implement and co-teach the Healthy Relationships Project curriculum. This increased TPN's capacity to work with more schools and more counselors. Two of the trained counselors had TPN co-teach lessons for grades K-2.

Additionally, TPN educators worked with students in the classroom on various aspects of the prevention education curriculum. We saw an addition in requests for middle school programming—with empathy and boundaries being top-requested lessons.

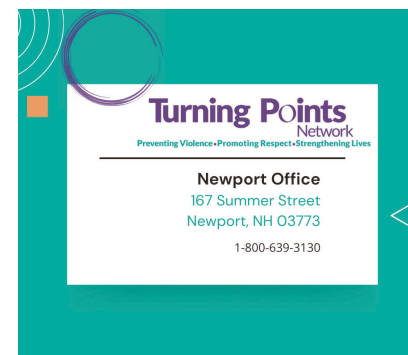
We increased our work with high schools through outreach and awareness tabling during lunch blocks. Interactive games and discussion prompts as well as fun giveaways brought students to our table to learn more about healthy relationships. For January's Stalking Awareness Month, our prevention educators met with students in our local

Newport Office Provides Close-By Support

An advocate was working out of the Newport office this winter when Kay (not her real name), a survivor at the Newport District Court, requested assistance with paperwork. The survivor had been assaulted by her husband. Kay was understandably in shock, in addition to being angry, hurt, and confused.

It took the advocate only three minutes to get to the court, and after helping Kay turn in her petition, our advocate met with Kay to support her through the legal process. She also ensured Kay had access to a gas card so she could get to her appointments. For all of this, Kay was incredibly grateful.

With support provided from our Newport advocate, Kay's protective order petition was approved for a year. Kay suddenly had legal protection, financial and emotional relief, and encouragement to move forward.



Having an advocate so close to the court and home helped this survivor in so many ways. From immediate assistance at the court to shorter travel to receive emotional support, and crisis-related financial support, Kay was able to find her way and get back on her feet so much faster.

The Newport office is supported in part by a grant from the Newport Charitable Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

Honored Guest

Senator Shaheen visits and highlights support for survivors

The move to Broad Street was heralded by U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), a long-time supporter of TPN as well as champion of domestic violence and sexual assault legislation.

Senator Shaheen, who recently spearheaded a \$162,000 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant that allowed TPN to invest in security and infrastructure upgrades at Broad Street, decided to kick off her "Invest In NH" tour at the new facility on Tuesday, January 10.

Senator Shaheen and her staff toured the new location that morning and held a Q&A with Executive Director Pascale Graham, Retired ED Deb Mozden, TPN Treasurer Zach Haines, and Claremont Mayor Dale Girard, as well as TPN staff in the quickly configured new conference room.

"When I think of this facility and I think of the funding that you helped us secure,



Later, I joined domestic & sexual violence victim advocates at @TurningPointsNH to discuss how their \$162K award will support technological improvements at their Claremont facility. These updates will improve access to services for survivors.



(L-R) Claremont Mayor Dale Girard asks Senator Jeanne Shaheen and TPN Excutor Director Pascale Graham a question.

I realize that we can work with survivors in ways we couldn't have before." Deb said to Shaheen at the meeting.

Some of the uses for the Congressional funding will support technology and internet resources that will enhance not only our day-to-day operations, but also improve our ability to file remote orders of protection and restraining orders from our secure offices.

Filing remotely has many benefits. It gives the survivor more privacy by allowing them to come to our office versus filing from a public space, such as the court. It also helps the survivor to feel safer. If a survivor needs to escape a scary situation at home, abusers will often know the court where the survivor has to go to file a protective order. Survivors who do not have transportation or have limited transportation opportunities can file electronically at our offices, saving them travel expenses, and they can meet with an advocate to get access to other services while also filing a protective order.

high schools and shared information on stalking warning signs and what students could do if they were being stalked. Students learned that along with millions of people in the US who experience stalking, their age group (18- to 24-year-olds) was the most affected by stalking behaviors. One student remarked, "I can't believe that actually happens to people our age! Thank you for being here."

High school seniors also attended three healthy relationships workshops led by our educators that dealt with boundaries, unhealthy and healthy relationship signs, and how to help a friend in an abusive or unhealthy relationship. One high school also participated in the Bringing in the Bystander program, in which emerging student leaders in grade 10 learned positive bystander strategies on how to intervene safely when witnessing concerning abusive or sexual harassing behaviors. These students who elect to continue next year join the previous year's leaders in forming a student group focused on improving school culture and bystander action.



As part of the Healthy Relationships Project, 3rd and 4th grade students have been learning about self-esteem, recognizing feelings in themselves and others, as well as identifying trusted adults. *(Courtesy of Croydon Village School)*