How to capture the essence of this year?

At AWARE, we have gained and lost, and we are still in the thick of learning new ways to provide support and care, while balancing safety and security against a backdrop of unpredictability and isolation. My current favorite poet, Ada Limón, says it best:

“Here it is: the new way of living with the world inside of us so we cannot lose it, and we cannot be lost. You and me are us and them, and it and sky.”

If you love that quote, I feel you. If it makes your head hurt, I feel that too. This year has seen so much change and upheaval. One day we feel secure, the next, we are on pins and needles: waiting to hear from loved ones, waiting on test results, waiting on public health guidance, waiting to understand if what we’ve done to protect ourselves is enough. No sugar coating or public relations spin can change the fact that this is HARD. What we have gained here at AWARE though, is a real lesson along the lines of Ada Limón’s words- there is no more us and them. We are all at risk, we are all worried, and we are all working to contain unruly feelings of fear and concern for ourselves and others. There is truly no difference for me if I’m talking to staff, shelter residents, or community partners. The common denominator is always hope for a more secure future. We cannot raise money for our mission in the same way we did before, but supports are still coming forward. We cannot gather in groups to provide solace, but we are working across all kinds of platforms to be together. We cannot promise safety, but we can work as a team to mitigate our collective risk.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who serves, which includes our survivors, our Board of Directors, our staff and our partners. We value the trust our community has in our ability to adapt, and are committed to increased communication in these difficult times. Thank you for your support.

MANDY COLE
AWARE Executive Director

ELIZABETH BAKALAR
Co-Chair

KATHERINE ERICKSEN
Co-Chair
AWARE IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA
Helping to keep Juneau and the nine other Northern Southeast Alaskan communities we serve in safer, stronger relationships.

More than 680 survivors of domestic violence were served by AWARE in FY20.

EMPOWERMENT FOR SURVIVORS

Betty Abbott-Brown first came to AWARE with her child in the early 90’s, seeking safety from her violent first husband. She came with a lot of fear and anxiety. Betty would come back every year around the 4th of July, when violence at home escalated. She strived to be a better parent for her children and end the cycle of violence. Each time Betty came back to AWARE, she felt a little stronger, a little more empowered. “It took time for me to deflate my balloon of powerlessness,” she said.

Now, years later, Betty is living one of her dreams—she is working at AWARE and giving back. She said it seemed impossible years ago, but now, through a work experience program offered through Polaris House, she is working as AWARE’s Commodities Intern. She provides a safe place for people to find comfort and strength. Betty says she had to “lay my foundation, pick myself up, and gain confidence in my dreams.”

"Every time I left [AWARE] with a little more strength, a little bit more stand up, and it really helped.”
**AWARE SERVICE DEMOGRAPHICS**

*All demographics are self-reported*

**Age (in years):**
- 60 & older: 5.7%
- 0-12: 18.9%
- 13-17: 4.3%
- 18-24: 8.3%
- 25-59: 62.8%

**Gender:**
- Female: 84.4%
- Male: 15%
- Transgender: 0.5%

**Ethnicity:**
- Native American/Alaska Native: 35.9%
- Caucasian: 35.7%
- Unknown: 13.2%
- Two or More/Other: 7.4%
- Hispanic/Latino: 3.6%
- African American: 1.6%
- Asian: 1.4%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 1.1%

**Special Classifications:**
- Experienced Disability
- Experienced Homelessness/Refugees
- Identified as LGBTQ+
- Veterans
- Limited English Proficiency

**Types of Victimization:**
- Adult Physical Assault
- Adult Sexual Assault
- Other
- Bullying
- Child Physical Abuse/Neglect
- Child Sexual Abuse/Assault
- Domestic/Family Violence
- Stalking/Harassment
- Two or More Types

**Types of Victimization Distribution:**
- Adult Physical Assault: 200
- Adult Sexual Assault: 150
- Other: 100
- Bullying: 50
- Child Physical Abuse/Neglect: 0
- Child Sexual Abuse/Assault: 0
- Domestic/Family Violence: 300
- Stalking/Harassment: 200
- Two or More Types: 300
SUPPORT WITHOUT JUDGEMENT

"STAYING AT AWARE INCREASED MY SELF-ESTEEM & GAVE ME STRENGTH."

One year after first thinking about calling AWARE, Kristina Benson made the call. When her family arrived, she said it didn’t feel like what she thought a shelter would feel like, but it felt more like a home. They felt safe.

During Kristina’s seven months at AWARE, she took full advantage of all of AWARE’s programming--she began counseling and took the healthy relationships class. Her children attended groups and counseling as well. She said that having the children’s program available was very helpful and allowed her to do the hard work she needed to do in order to heal and grow.

Over time, Kristina began to learn that she had rights. "Staying at AWARE increased my self-esteem and gave me strength."

After moving out of AWARE, Kristina and her children (all 6 of them) moved into Kaasei, AWARE’s transitional housing. Kaasei is secure, allows her more freedom, and is affordable as she works on stability for herself and her children. Just this week she applied for a Section 8 voucher to move into permanent housing. "I’m so glad I made that [first] call," she says as she thinks about how far she has come.

RECYCLING FOR A CAUSE

Bryce Mecum has been volunteering his recycling services to AWARE since 2017 when the #metoo movement was picking up speed. He wanted to do something active to contribute to the cause and so he reached out to AWARE. Bryce filled out a volunteer application and became AWARE’s much-needed and much-appreciated "Recycle Dude."

Every week Bryce comes to the shelter and sorts and gathers all of the recyclables, then takes it all in his own truck to the recycle center. It’s a stinky job, but his selfless commitment and solid reliability helps keep the shelter sparkly clean and smelling fresh! He’s not only helping AWARE but also helping the environment, too. It’s a win win!

Bryce says that volunteering with AWARE has been very rewarding and that he’s learned a lot. We are grateful for his consistent support to benefit AWARE and the community.
The following list includes donations of $100 or more that were received between 7/01/2019 and 6/30/2020. We also want to thank the many individuals and businesses who have contributed in-kind and volunteered their time, as well as donors who have given anonymously. Gunalchéesh. Thank you so much for your ongoing support. We couldn’t do it without you!

*If we’ve inadvertently failed to list your name or it’s listed incorrectly, please accept our sincere apology & email mandij@awareak.org.

**SUSTAINERS**
- BLOCK Foundation
- Fitzwilliams Charitable Fund
- Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines
- Sealaska Corporation

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- Marie Speegle
- Juneau Community Charter School
- Juneau Self Storage
- Management
- Rainforest Pediatric Care
- Cedar Communications
- Juneau Holiday Village
- Last Frontier Maintenance
- Legislative Skills, Inc.

**SPONSORS**
- Legislative Skits, Inc.
- Last Frontier Maintenance
- Juneau Holiday Village
- Cedar Communications
- Rainforest Pediatric Care
- Juneau Self Storage
- Management
- Rainforest Pediatric Care
- Cedar Communications
- Juneau Holiday Village
- Last Frontier Maintenance
- Legislative Skills, Inc.

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- Lenora Walker
- Corey Wall
- Cory Waits
- Cyril Wanamaker
- Gretchen & Scott Watts
- Brenda Weaver
- Sally Wilson
- Randall Wolfenberg
- Caleb Wylie
- Mind & Motion
- Physical Therapy
- Downtown Business Assoc.
- Devil’s Club Brewery
- Wilson Engineering

**In Memory of:**
- Joan Adler
- Alice Barrick
- Cathy Holland
- Obra Lou Eggers
- Phyllis Scanlon
- Roberta Spartz
- Gladys Tabachnick
- Kenneth Tabachnick
- Carla Timpone

**In Honor of:**
- Sarah Felix
- Elizabeth Figus
- Loren & LaRae Jones
- Danielle Lindoff
- Jasmine Mattson-Wolff
- Saralyn Tabachnick
- Great Aunt Ruth Tomsuden

**REMEMBERED IN MEMORY OF:**

AWARE honors the gifts made below in memory or spirit of your loved ones...
**AWARE FY20 BUDGET**

Juneau Choice & Accountability Program (JCAP)

$130,468.00

**Direct Services/Crisis Intervention**
(Includes advocacy, children’s programming, legal, counseling, groups & classes, facilities, Kaasei, 24-hour careline, rural outreach, & supplemental services during COVID-19)

$2,019,086.00

**Community Prevention Services**
(Includes Ha Tóoch Lichéesh, Equity programs, Girls on the Run, Boys Run I tooowú klatseen, & education in the schools)

$578,567.00

**TOTAL**

$2,728,151.00

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**UPCOMING AWARE PROJECTS**

**KAASEI PLAZA**

AWARE is very excited to be moving forward with Kaasei Plaza. AWARE commissioned Master Carver Wayne Price to create a healing totem pole and screens- Eagle and Raven on either side of the totem- for individual, family, and community healing from domestic & sexual violence and missing & murdered indigenous women. AWARE initially intended this as a private project, then envisioned community healing, inviting CBJ and CCTHITA to partner with us. Both enthusiastically have contributed funds for the totem/screens. CBJ donated land at Twin Lakes. We hope to begin construction in Spring 2021 and raise the totem pole and screens in late summer.

**PERMANENT HOUSING**

AWARE is working to establish more permanent housing in Juneau! We recently acquired property in West Juneau with the plan to develop additional office space and residential housing units. This project is in its exciting beginning phase, but we are so happy to work toward providing additional safe, stable housing and services for survivors.

**SHELTER MODIFICATIONS**

AWARE has also nearly finished some building modifications for COVID-mitigation. With funding from the Alaska and Juneau Community Foundations, we are converting some underutilized spaces in the shelter to accommodate socially-distanced meeting areas for advocates and residents, as well as an accessible room for emergency sheltering and/or isolation. We hope these new spaces help staff and survivors feel safe and appreciated as they learn, heal, and create new paths toward wellness.

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**AWARE FUNDING**

- Federal Support: 50%
- State Support: 40%
- Local/Foundations: 30%
- Donations: 20%
- In-kind: 10%
- Rental Income: 0%
- Fee for Service: 0%
- Investment Income: 0%
- Fundraising*: 0%

*AWARE is working to increase our fundraising efforts in order to remain responsive to the needs of the communities we serve as times become more financially uncertain.*
AWARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Co-Chair
Diana Paul
Treasurer
Amy Dressel
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Elizabeth Pisel-Davis
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AWARE is a United Way of Southeast Alaska partner agency.