



LOVE
IS
FREEDOM

20

12

ANNUAL
REPORT

Break **the Cycle**

Empowering Youth to End
Domestic Violence

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Break the Cycle was founded in 1996 with a simple concept and ambitious goal: to end dating abuse. It is a horrific truth that too many young people are trapped in abusive dating relationships. In the United States, one in three teens will be a victim of abuse from a dating partner.

Dating abuse is too big of a problem to be handled on a case-by-case basis – the movement to end domestic violence needs a leader to succeed. Over the course of 2012, Break the Cycle's programs and dynamic achievements truly set us apart from other organizations and marked Break the Cycle us as a leader in the field. Here are just a couple highlights from the year:

- **Honored as a finalist in the 2012 American Giving Awards.** As a finalist, Break the Cycle was featured on national television while two million people watched from their homes.
- **Awarded the Love Is Not Abuse program from Fifth & Pacific Foundation.** Conceived by Liz Claiborne Inc. in 1991 to address domestic violence, Love Is Not Abuse contributes to the overall body of research on teen dating violence, creates and distributes educational resources to schools and holds events to raise public awareness of the issue.
- **Hosted Break the Cycle's first ever National Youth Advisory Board conference** in January of 2012, at which twenty young people discussed priorities for addressing teen dating violence and created an action plan for the upcoming year. There is no end to what this exceptional group of young people can do, and we are thrilled to work with youth who care so passionately about ending teen dating violence. They are the advocates of tomorrow.

This year, Break the Cycle's programs have surpassed expectations. Many of you already have helped in ways both large and small to bring about the achievements described in the following pages. On behalf of the Board, staff and youth we serve, thank you for your important contribution to end teen dating abuse. You have made a tremendous difference for teens who would have otherwise suffered in silence.

We look forward to collaborating with you for many years to come. We invite you to learn how we are addressing today's challenges and working tirelessly to build a world free from abuse.

Sincerely,



Mike Catalano
President
Break the Cycle Board of Directors

ABOUT BREAK THE CYCLE

Founded in 1996, Break the Cycle engages, educates, and empowers young people to build lives and communities free from domestic and dating violence.

OUR APPROACH

We believe everyone has the right to a safe and healthy relationship. We believe equality in relationships is achievable. And domestic violence is not inevitable or the natural order of things, in fact, it's preventable.

We **EDUCATE** teens so they can recognize, prevent and deal with abuse

We **SUPPORT** teens with the tools they need to stay safe and end abusive relationships

We **EMPOWER** teens to speak up and raise awareness in their own communities

We **ADVOCATE** so teens have the legal protection they need

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OUR DONORS

We would like to thank the countless individuals and organizations whose gifts in 2012 advanced life-changing programs and trained a new generation of youth dedicated to living lives free from abuse.

\$100,000 to \$1,000,000

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Fifth and Pacific Foundation
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EDUCATION:

The National Youth Advisory Board



In January of this year, twenty members of Break the Cycle's National Youth Advisory Board assembled for the very first time. Hailing from all over the country, these young people have taken the lead among the country's youth to end dating violence. Their efforts did not go unnoticed: they were recognized by the White House and included in major federal and nonprofit conferences throughout the country. The National Youth Advisory Board has far surpassed all expectations and we truly feel the possibilities are endless for this tenacious, passionate group of young people dedicated to creating a world free from abuse.

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EMPOWER:

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

It is sometimes a hard fact to digest for parents, but about 72% of eighth and ninth graders are "dating." More alarming is that one-third of children are subject to some type of abuse in their dating relationships. In 2011, President Obama declared February "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month." This month has become a rallying cry for parents and service providers who want to raise the level of awareness and end teen dating violence. In 2012 with support from Verizon, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services, Break the Cycle engaged youth, parents and service providers in a month-long drumbeat of awareness and education activities. We are grateful and greatly encouraged by those who came together to create a national conversation to end teen dating violence.

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1 / 3 of children are
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OUR DONORS (CONT'D)

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SUPPORT:

Break the Cycle's Washington, DC office helps young dating violence victims live safe, nonviolent lives by providing legal and other services. We are the only organization in the District providing free, comprehensive legal services exclusively to young people experiencing relationship violence. Break the Cycle attorneys also work closely with clients to ensure that their non-legal needs are met through safety planning, school advocacy and referrals to local domestic violence and social services. To date, Break the Cycle has assisted more than 850 young people who needed legal help to escape a violent relationship

“

For once,
I had
someone
to listen
to my story.

– Legal Client

”

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ADVOCACY:

Break the Cycle is committed to supporting and collaborating with other nonprofits to improve the laws that impact young survivors of dating abuse. In 2012, Break the Cycle played a leadership role in the efforts to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). We served on the Steering Committee of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (NTF), the VAWA Drafting Committee and co-chaired the Children & Youth, Campus, and LGBTQ subcommittees. We are proud to report that VAWA was signed into law in March 2013.

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“

I feel like our organization is truly making a difference with everything it does.

”



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Maggie Smith, Break the Cycle Intern

I originally heard about Break the Cycle from a friend who had done volunteer work with them a few years ago. When I told her I was looking for an internship with a nonprofit, she told me to check them out because they were well-organized and passionate about their work. It turns out she was right! Break the Cycle is an amazing organization, and each staff member is extremely excited about the work we are doing. I feel like our organization is truly making a difference with everything it does. The other day, I had the privilege of attending an educational training with a group of young adults, and it was so cool to see some of the work we do up close! These young people were actually engaged in the material, and they seemed to really care about the things we were talking about. Break the Cycle was created to prevent dating and domestic violence by empowering and educating young people to build the healthy relationships they deserve, and I can't think of a more important goal. I am so proud to be working here! Not only has it taught me about how to work for an outstanding nonprofit, it has taught me what it feels like to really care about the work I do.

OUR DONORS (CONT'D)

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Sam Pryor

I first became involved in Break the Cycle because I realized that it dealt with an uniquely insidious issue in our society, one that is far more common and damaging than is normally understood. Unlike diseases or accidents or random violence, the trauma of an abusive dating relationship often comes at the hands of those to whom a young person has intentionally given great emotional power over them, a power to shape their image of themselves at a crucial time in their development. The young victims of abusive dating relationships often feel they deserve the abuse, and they are reluctant to confide in their parents or other authority figures. These feelings can spiral into depression, alcoholism, violence and even suicide. Dating abuse affects one in three young people. When I first became involved, I thought that Break the Cycle had the expertise, the commitment and the caring to address this problem. My confidence in it—and in its staff—only grew over the years I was on the Board of Directors. It is now the preeminent organization in the country dealing with this issue.

“

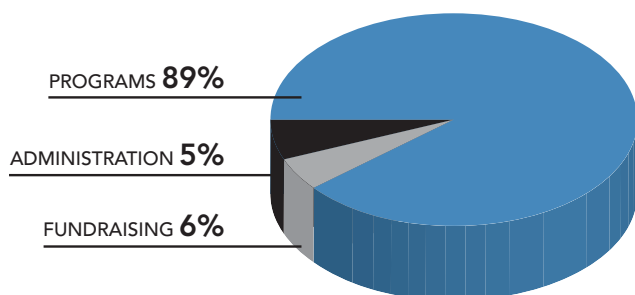
The young victims of abusive dating relationships often feel they deserve the abuse, and they are reluctant to confide in their parents or other authority figures.

”

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

	2012
ASSETS	
Current assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	124,349
Accounts receivable	10,694
Grants and contributions receivable	1,083,054
Contracts receivable	9,135
Prepaid expenses	11,595
Total current assets	<u>1,238,827</u>
Property and equipment – net	13,888
Deposits	135,031
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,387,746</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable	86,232
Accrued vacation and payroll	36,358
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>122,590</u>
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted net assets	182,102
Temporarily restricted net assets	1,083,054
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>1,265,156</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>1,387,746</u>



Statement of Activities

	2012
REVENUE	
Government contracts	618,846
Program service fees	15,580
Other income	12,883
Total Revenue	<u>647,309</u>
SUPPORT	
Individual contributions	83,250
Corporate and business	1,436,956
Foundations and trusts	361,563
Non-profit organizations	1,697
Special events	25,919
Less special event direct expenses	(45,812)
Total support	<u>1,863,573</u>
Total revenue and support	<u>2,510,882</u>
Donated facilities and services	219,287
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	<u>2,730,169</u>
EXPENSES	
Program Services	
Education and outreach	415,572
Systemic change	545,241
Intervention	198,314
Helpline Ptsp	407,105
Total Program Services	<u>1,566,232</u>
Supporting Services	
Supporting services	85,031
Fund raising	114,157
Total Supporting Services	<u>199,188</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>1,765,420</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>964,749</u>
NET ASSETS, Beginning of year	<u>300,407</u>
NET ASSETS, End of year	<u>1,265,156</u>

LOUDER THAN WORDS 2012

On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, Break the Cycle held a special celebrity musical event celebrating our partner program, Loveisrespect, and kicking off National Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month. Thanks to everyone for making the evening so memorable!

