

# DAiSDIGEST



Dear Friends,

In a world that often feels ever more turbulent, I witness the timeless impact in the simple, powerful action of showing up.

At DAIS, we aim to show up every hour of every day for survivors in crisis. This year as in years past, there were thousands of calls answered, thousands of nights of safe shelter provided, hundreds of hours of legal advocacy, prevention initiatives, and community trainings, and most importantly: connection for survivors, their children, and their loved ones in our community. These were thousands of moments where someone felt seen, supported, and safer than they were the day before.

We can continue to show up like this because *you* show up for us.

As we report to you on last year, we continue forward with the belief that showing up — with consistency, with care, and with conviction — can change lives. Thank you for standing with us, day after day. Your steady support, especially in uncertain times, reminds us that we are never alone in this work.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Shannon Barry".

Shannon Barry,  
MSSW Executive Director



Dear Fellow DAIS Ally,

At DAIS, we are always moving: toward safety, toward healing, toward hope. That momentum doesn't come from one person or one program, it comes from advocates, survivors, donors, volunteers, and partners all moving in the same direction.

Carrying this mission forward means adapting to the needs of our time while holding fast to our values. It means responding with compassion, acting with intention, and staying rooted in the truth that everyone deserves to be safe.

I have watched DAIS grow in ways that honor our foundation while boldly embracing the future. I witness how we build new community relationships while deepening the bonds with our longtime partners. I see how we continue to meet people where they are while planning intentionally so DAIS can remain a trusted resource for years to come. That growth is made possible by your belief in what's next and in what's possible, together.

Thank you for being part of this movement. Your support is the momentum behind everything we do.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Heather Crowley".

Heather Crowley,  
President, Board of Directors



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION SERVICES

### Our Mission

Empower those affected by domestic violence and advocate for social change through support, education, and outreach.

### 2024 Board of Directors

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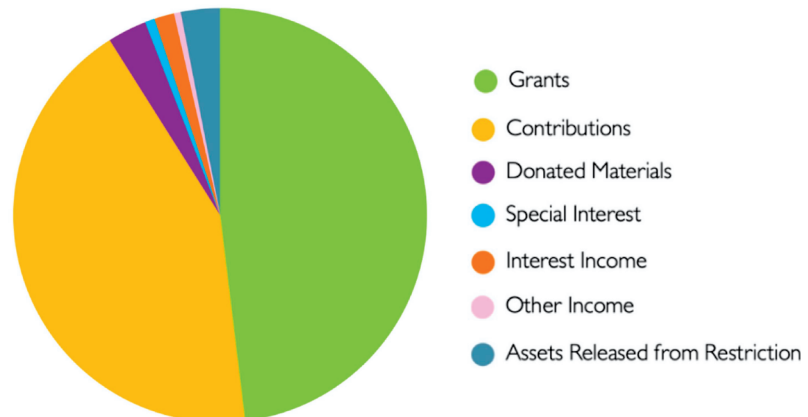
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Help Line (608) 251-4445  
Text Line (608) 420-4638  
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## 2024 Financial Statements

### DAIS Revenue Sources

DAIS' revenue is provided by individual and corporate donors, foundation grants, the Dane County Department of Human Services, the City of Madison Community Development Division, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, and the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance.



### Statement of Activities for Fiscal Year 2024

#### Support & Revenue

Grants	\$1,914,714
Contributions	\$2,453,215
Donated Materials	\$142,169
Special Events	\$28,804
Interest Income	\$59,426
Other Income	\$813

**TOTAL REVENUE** **\$4,599,141**

#### Expenses

##### PROGRAM SERVICES

Shelter and support	\$1,270,606
Community services	\$797,247
Legal advocacy services	\$300,755
Prevention, training, and education	\$244,546
Children's services	\$114,106

##### Supporting Activities

Administrative	\$910,093
Development	\$398,376

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$4,035,729**

**Net Assets - Beginning of Year** **\$6,383,738**

**Net Assets - End Of Year** **\$6,947,150**

**Change in Net Assets** **\$563,412**



## Shelter Program

As the only homicide prevention shelter in Dane County, the DAIS Shelter remains a vital lifeline for survivors in immediate danger.

In 2024, our Shelter delivered 8,259 safe bed nights and provided not just a secure place to stay, but time, space, and support to begin healing. Shelter residents received personalized support, with 85% reporting help in planning for future safety and 64% receiving assistance in securing long-term housing. Alongside safety planning, residents had access to legal advocacy, case management, and emotional support. Those with children were also connected with Parent Child Advocacy. Together, these services affirm that healing from violence requires more than just shelter—it takes coordinated, comprehensive, and compassionate care.



## Help Line & Crisis Intervention



We know that leaving abuse is a process, not a single moment, and that every step is an act of bravery. Often the *first* courageous step begins with a text or a call, and DAIS is there to answer twenty-four hours

a day and seven days a week. In 2024, our Help Line and Text Line continued to serve as a critical gateway to support, receiving a total of 8,733 calls and texts.

What is especially striking is that nearly one in three contacts came from individuals reaching out for the very first time. That number tells a powerful story: people are continuing to choose to take that first step on the journey to a life free from intimate partner violence. It also shows us that the pathways we've built, from voice to text, are working.

Text-based advocacy grew by 44% this year, with 1,107 conversations taking place. For many survivors, texting offers a safer, more discreet way to ask for help. Whether someone is at home, at work, or simply not ready to speak aloud, this option allows us to meet them where they are in their journey.

## Parent Child Advocacy



Photo from a Kids' Space group activity.

In 2024, the DAIS Parent/Child Advocacy program supported 77.3% of the families who found refuge in our Shelter — a testament to its essential role in helping children and caregivers begin healing together. Beyond individual support, the program created joyful moments of connection through community-wide celebrations. If there's a holiday, you can count on DAIS celebrating it in Shelter! From seasonal crafts to shared meals, games, and treats, each event brought moments of comfort and fun to families navigating the process of rebuilding their lives.

In addition, hundreds of hours were spent in "Kids' Space," where children engaged in thoughtfully designed programming and activities tailored to their needs. Together, these experiences remind our shelter residents of all ages that even in the face of hardship, there is room for joy, connection, and belonging.



Pictured is Rebecca Lovell, Shelter Coordinator, at the Shelter Easter Celebration

## Case Management

In 2024, DAIS restructured our Case Management program to improve coordination, streamline services, and deliver stronger outcomes for survivors. This transformation included merging Case Management with Legal Advocacy under one unified team, now known as the Community Advocacy Department.

With this new structure, both programs are now fully staffed and working in tandem to provide wraparound, survivor-centered support. Whether it is navigating housing, employment, legal systems, or basic stability, clients can now access a coordinated team equipped to respond to the full breadth and depth of their needs. This integrated model reflects our commitment to walking alongside survivors to help identify clear, personalized pathways to safety, stability, and long-term healing.





## Legal Advocacy

In 2024, the DAIS Legal Advocacy team supported 675 unique clients as they navigated some of the more intimidating and complex systems they might ever face. Our advocates provided education, safety planning, emotional support, and referrals for those pursuing restraining orders, custody arrangements, and other legal protections. Importantly, 98.3% of clients reported that they left with a clearer understanding of their legal options, empowering them to make informed decisions.

DAIS Legal Advocates work hard to ensure that support is accessible to all. In 2024, 83 clients spoke a language other than English, and our team met that need through language access resources and trauma-informed, culturally responsive care.

In addition to one-on-one support, DAIS remains committed to system-level change. This year saw the release of our Court Watch Report, which is a community-based initiative that monitors how restraining order cases move through the legal



system. By identifying trends and advocating for improvements, the report helps ensure that justice is equitable and survivor centered. You can read the executive summary of the report or the full report at <https://abuseintervention.org/publications-materials/>

## Prevention

DAIS continues to invest in the next generation of change-makers through our MENS Club (Men Encouraging Nonviolent Strength) youth programming. Across seven clubs at local middle and high schools — including East, Memorial, LaFollette, Monona Grove, Whitehorse, and Blackhawk — we connected with 149 students through consistent, semester long curriculum-based engagement focused on healthy relationships, gender equity, and nonviolent leadership.

This year also marked a major milestone: the first-ever MENS Club Summit, which brought together 70 students from all participating schools for a day of community-building, leadership development, and inspiration from national speakers. It represented



a moment of momentum, reminding us of what's possible when young people are empowered to lead change in their own communities.

## Training & Education

In 2024, our Prevention and Outreach team expanded its reach across Dane County, delivering 114 unique presentations — a 22% increase over the previous year. Offered both in person and virtually, these sessions engaged approximately 2,200 participants in critical conversations about domestic violence, healthy relationships, and community responsibility.

From classrooms to conference rooms, our training and education team is devoted to increasing awareness and equipping people with the tools to recognize abuse and intervene early. Whether speaking at a school, staffing a table at a local event, or leading a training for professionals, DAIS ensures that domestic violence remains part of the public dialogue, because we believe that education is one of the most powerful ways to engage the community to be a part of the solution.



## Administration

At DAIS, we recognize that our mission is carried forward every day by a team of deeply committed, compassionate professionals. In 2024, we undertook a thoughtful revision of our personnel policies to better support, retain, and honor the value of our staff. These updates were grounded in our belief that those who care for others deserve to be cared for in return. By aligning our policies with staff feedback and best practices in the field, we are working to create a more sustainable, equitable, and supportive workplace, one where our team members can thrive and continue making a difference for survivors in our community.





## Development & Communications



In 2024, DAIS raised nearly 2 million through individual giving, grants, and two major annual events: the *Celebrate Strength Luncheon* and the *Raise for DAIS Golf Outing*. These events not only supported our mission financially, they created powerful platforms to bring domestic violence out of the shadows and into the public conversation.

At the *Celebrate Strength Luncheon*, attendees heard from voices across sectors, including Leigh Mills of NBC15, Executive Director Shannon Barry, long-time Shelter Coordinator Rebecca Lovell, and M3 Insurance's Mike Victorson. The program also featured a video highlighting the transformative work of our MENS Club, paired with remarks from keynote speaker Howard Hayes, a MENS Club co-facilitator and one of the program's original architects. His reflections reminded us how investing in youth prevention today builds safer communities tomorrow.

The *Raise for DAIS Golf Outing* welcomed Dane County Sheriff Calvin Barrett as the keynote speaker. Sheriff Barrett offered a timely message about the very real, everyday impact domestic violence has on our community and the critical role organizations like DAIS play in prevention and response.







DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION SERVICES

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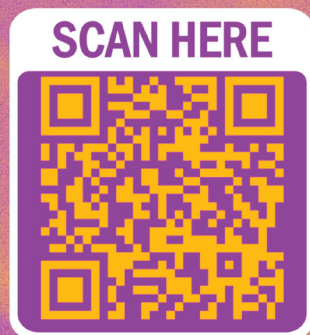
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DAIS DIGEST

2024 Annual Report

# DAIS Shelter Wish List



*Your contributions provide comfort and support to our Shelter residents and help DAIS make the most of our resources. Thank you for your support!*

**Help Line:**  
(608) 251-4445

**Text Line:**  
(608) 420-4638

**Email:**  
[crisisline@abuseintervention.org](mailto:crisisline@abuseintervention.org)