

# Annual Report



**July 1, 2010 –  
June 30, 2011**

SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc. exists "to improve the quality of life for youth and families by providing safe living environments, crisis support, and community intervention."

Celebrating 40 years of Service to Racine Families

Prepared By: Pamala Handrow, Executive Director  
Denise Sierra, Director of Finance

# The Year In Review

SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc. founded in 1971, celebrated its fortieth anniversary by improving services and reaching out to an even greater number of community members. SAFE Haven stays true to its mission by providing services geared toward the enhancement of life for youth and families. Four major programs continue to provide safe living environments, crisis support and community intervention. The SAFE Haven Youth Shelter continues to shelter 10 – 17 year old youth who have run away or are in crisis situations and need temporary shelter. SAFE Passage offers transitional shelter to 18-21 year old youth who are homeless and are working toward becoming self-sufficient. The SAFE Streets program reaches out to youth and families who are engaged in street life and who are suffering as a result. Numerous emergency services are provided by SAFE Streets staff who dispense food, clothing, bedding, referrals for shelter, medical and mental health services. The Truancy Abatement Program (TAP) provides supportive services to youth and families who are experiencing truancy from school and related difficulties. A lack of funding resulted in the discontinuation of the Gang/Crimes Diversion Taskforce last October. It is hoped that GCDTF staff can find sufficient funding to continue similar services in the community. Detailed information on these programs is provided in this report.

SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc. was fortunate to be supported in a variety of ways in fiscal year 2010-2011. During the year, SAFE Haven continued to reap the benefits of a grant issued by the University of Wisconsin Parkside CAN Works program. The database was completed and launched for data input while work continues on the reporting features of the database. All staff were trained in the use of the database. Additionally, money was provided through the grant for a new website platform and e-mail provider. See our updated web site at [www.safehavenofracine.org](http://www.safehavenofracine.org).

SAFE Haven has always portrayed itself as an agency that engages in positive youth development. Although this is our shared belief, it was unclear if staff actually understood what this meant and whether it was being practiced on a regular basis in the programs. Positive youth development requires that staff work with youth to find their strengths and help youth to build upon those strengths. This means discovering what's right with youth, and not where they are wrong. It requires taking the youth as we find them, without judgment, treating them with respect and allowing them dignity. One way to ensure that we are engaging in positive youth development is to practice what is known as "Strengths-based Case Management." As a result of our CAN Works grant, seven of our staff were able to attend, at no cost to SAFE Haven, a six week

Strengths-based Case Management course. Additionally, classes on worker self-care, and recognizing signs of drug and alcohol use were added to the initial six week session. All staff who attended this training found it worthwhile and they were able to use the skills immediately. This training was worth thousands of dollars. Clearly, the increase in numbers of youth benefitting from services is evidence that this change in approach to youth and families is making a difference and is reflected in the ever changing culture at SAFE Haven.

The United Way of Racine County continued to provide funding to three of SAFE Haven's programs at the same level as in the previous year. SAFE Passage, the Youth Shelter and SAFE Streets all receive United Way funding and use this to strengthen services and provide the match for government funding. The staff at SAFE Haven demonstrated their appreciation for this support through 100% participation in the United Way campaign last year.

We were fortunate to receive funding from the Dominican Mission Fund to continue to provide quality services to the residents of SAFE Passage. Ever-shrinking funding from the State of Wisconsin's Emergency Shelter Grant (now known as Emergency Solutions Grant) program left SAFE Passage with no funding to provide SAFE Passage program participants with stipends for escrow or rent upon successful completion of the Bridge to Independence Service. The Dominican Mission Fund grant allows each successful participant to receive a \$600 stipend so that the transition to independent living is possible.

The Racine County Human Services Department continues to look upon the TAP program favorably and continued funding it for the past year and seeks additional funding for the future. SAFE Haven is pleased to have this opportunity to partner with the Racine County Human Services Department once again.

S.C. Johnson Childcare Center employees working through the Bright Horizons Foundation completed a Bright Space at the Youth Shelter and provided some ongoing support. Living areas used by Youth Shelter residents were given a makeover and outfitted with new and attractive furnishings and electronics. These additions clearly provide a Bright Space for our youth and were celebrated with an open house last Fall. Area professionals and citizens toured the facilities and learned about the updates and changes to our programs.

Once again the SAFE Haven Annual Golf Outing was a great success, despite the economic climate. This event was the work of the SAFE Haven Board of Directors, spearheaded by Treasurer Tammy Rosenberg. The outing raised a total of \$13,035.

The annual Holiday Campaign was a success raising, \$18,694 as compared to \$10,814 the previous year. The Racine Journal Times permitted SAFE Haven to use a photograph to adorn our holiday cards that was used in a story that featured a former resident and pictured SAFE Haven.

For the first time since its purchase, the SAFE Passage property at 1600 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street was removed from the tax rolls. As of March 1, 2011 SAFE Haven will be exempt from paying taxes on this property, saving about \$2500.00 next year and a similar amount in subsequent years. Additionally the deeds to both properties were updated to reflect the present legal name of the agency, SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc., preventing difficulties in the future.

As indicated in the financial section below, there was continued support from a variety of other funders. We received funding from the State Emergency Shelter Grant, although the emphasis of this funding is changing to the prevention of homelessness and away from programs offering services to those already homeless. Subsequently, state funding decreased. We received funding from the City of Racine Emergency Shelter Fund, and the County Emergency Food dollars continued but again decreased.

SAFE Haven remains an active member of the Wisconsin Association of Homeless and Runaway (WAHRS) youth services. We receive a small amount of funding through the State through this membership and are also provided funding from the Federal Government based on a formula that allocates funding to all State Runaway and homeless youth programs. WAHRS provides assistance to its membership and advocates for our programs at all levels of the government. During 2010-2011, SAFE Haven enjoyed its first experience with hosting an AmeriCorps Member, another opportunity offered through WAHRS. As a result of the efforts of the AmeriCorps volunteer, many youth and families became aware of the services and programs offered by SAFE Haven. Our AmeriCorps Member provided many additional hours of direct services to youth and families. A successful first year in this program allowed us to enlist an AmeriCorps member for the upcoming year.

SAFE Haven also remained an active member of the Homeless Assistance Coalition (HAC) and works with all other members to ensure that the needs of the County's homeless and at-risk individuals are addressed.

SAFE Haven remains grateful to the volunteers who provide a variety of services. Both shelters rely upon the help of volunteer nurses to complete health assessments for each resident. Volunteers also work with the youth and complete needed projects around the houses.

# Program Information

## Youth Shelter

Shelter Programs Director: Melissa Robinson

Case Manager/Supervisor: Jason Escobar

The Youth Shelter provides emergency shelter, food, clothing, case management and referral services to youth, ages 10-17, who have runaway, are homeless, abused or otherwise in crisis. The Youth Shelter is an eight bed, State licensed, group foster home. Youth may reside at the shelter for up to two weeks while they work with their families and staff to resolve the issues that brought them into shelter. Parental consent is required for youth who stay at the shelter. Resident youth attend school when possible, abide by rules and assist with household chores. Youth establish individual action plans, work in groups and learn ways to develop their strengths. Upon leaving the shelter, youth are welcome to return alone or with their families for additional services and groups. Families are also referred to other community services and programs. All services are confidential and offered at no cost.

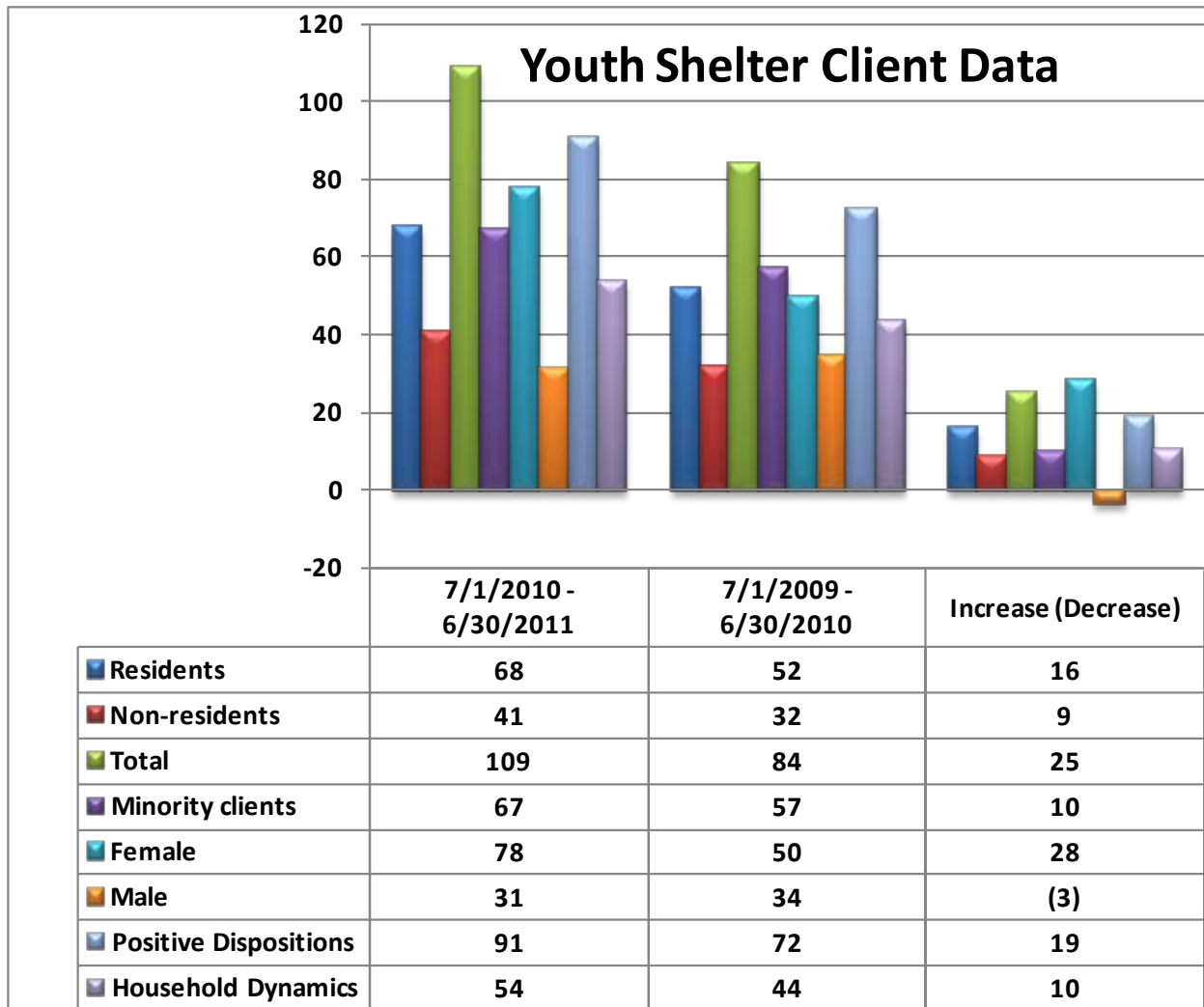
During the past year, SAFE Haven made every effort to create a positive and welcoming environment for the youth and families who use our services. Staff work with youth individually, in family sessions and in groups to address the goals that youth establish for themselves. Youth are often provided a family-style home cooked evening meal and opportunities to participate in conversations and activities. Youth are assisted in their efforts to make stronger connections with home, school and the community. Each youth and family receives an aftercare plan that provides information about specific agencies and programs that will assist them in their efforts to strengthen their relationships.

The S.C. Johnson Childcare Center staff worked with the Bright Horizons Foundation to create a Bright Space in the living and kitchen areas, making those spaces warm and inviting and contributing to the positive environment.

Staff selection and training is providing an emphasis on youth centered services requiring employees to be well trained professionals with a passion for serving youth. Previous part-time relief staff are now called Youth Specialists. The Case Manager and several Youth Specialists were trained in Strengths-based Case Management. New

training practices include hands on work and shadowing of experienced staff. This change indicates the value placed on the youth we serve and professionals who serve them.

As indicated in the data section below, numbers of residents increased during the past year, a trend that is continuing into the present.



Funding for the Youth Shelter is provided by United Way of Racine County, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, the City of Racine and private donations.

# SAFE Passage

Shelter Programs Director: Melissa Robinson

Case Manager/Supervisor: Yolanda Windham

SAFE Passage, located at 1600 W. Sixth Street in Racine, is an eight bed, community-based program for homeless young adults, ages 18-21, who need housing, education and life-skills training. Bridge to Independence, a service of SAFE Passage, offers \$600.00 rent/escrow stipends to those who complete the course, have employment, and find suitable housing. Residents may live at SAFE Passage for up to 18 months while they develop skills and find employment. While residing at SAFE Passage, food, clothing, and confidential case management are provided. Aftercare is available to former residents who desire it

Each resident is assigned a case manager. The case manager works with the youth to establish an individualized plan that addresses the needs and desires of the youth. Plans spell out the action steps need to obtain or complete educational goals, employment goals, finance goals, health and fitness goals, or anything that the youth determines will assist him or her in becoming a self-sufficient and productive member of the community.

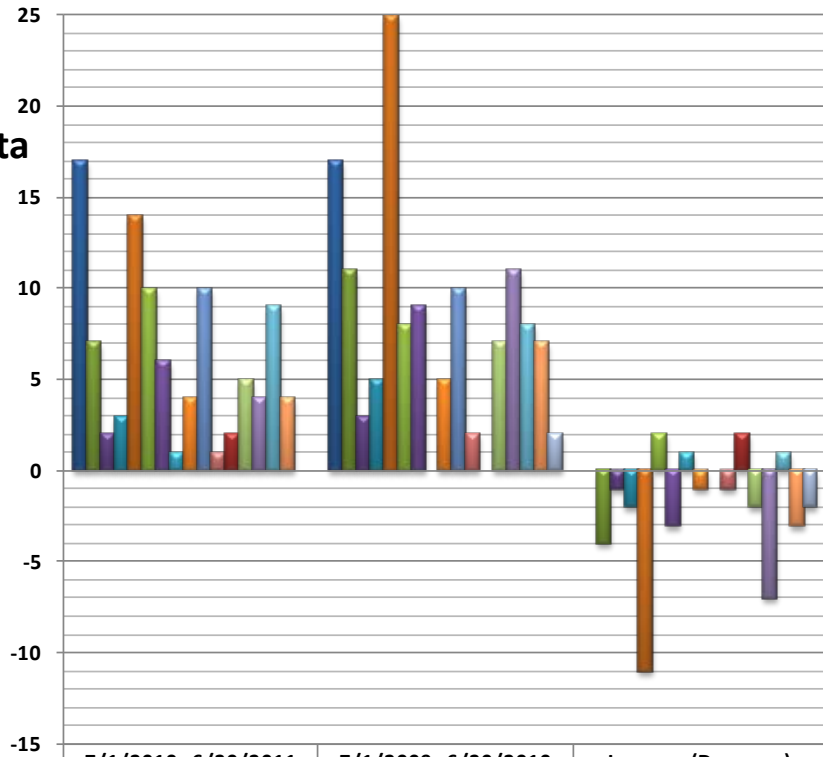
Grant money from the Dominican Mission Fund the previous year resulted in an updated heating system this year that is far more efficient and does a better job of heating the house. The resident kitchen was updated by the Rotarians and is efficient, clean and attractive. Work by staff and volunteers was completed to improve the overall appearance and safety of SAFE Passage. SAFE Passage needs additional improvements, but staff are taking pride in the building and are creating a nicer environment for the residents. Staff recognize that unless the environment is inviting, residents will not feel valued.

Staff at SAFE Passage are taking advantage of training opportunities and increasing their knowledge about the residents they serve. Both SAFE Passage case managers took advantage of the Strengths-based Case Management training and have found numerous ways to put it into practice.

SAFE Passage staff continue to collaborate with numerous agencies to obtain services for their residents. The Hopes Center, Workforce Development Center, Gateway Technical College, U.W. Extension Nutrition Specialists and others offer services to SAFE

Haven residents. Additionally, SAFE Passage continues to work closely with HALO and looks to them to make appropriate referrals.

### SAFE Passage Residential Client Data



	7/1/2010 - 6/30/2011	7/1/2009 - 6/30/2010	Increase (Decrease)
■ Residents	17	17	0
■ Non-residents	7	11	(4)
■ Bridges to Independence Service completions - Residents	2	3	(1)
■ Bridges to Independence Service completions - Non-residents	3	5	(2)
■ Total number of unduplicated clients	14	25	(11)
■ Male residents	10	8	2
■ Female residents	6	9	(3)
■ Transgender resident	1	0	1
■ Caucasian	4	5	(1)
■ African American:	10	10	0
■ Hispanic	1	2	(1)
■ Multiracial	2	0	2
■ Employed time of intake	5	7	(2)
■ Employed during their residency	4	11	(7)
■ Residents with High School Diploma or equivalent at intake	9	8	1
■ Residents enrolled and regularly attending school during stay	4	7	(3)
■ Residents Completed High School or its equivalent during stay	0	2	(2)

Funding for SAFE Passage is provided by United Way of Racine County, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Sisters of Saint Dominican and private donations.

## SAFE Streets

Coordinator: Sammy Rangel

Program Assistant: Denise Rangel

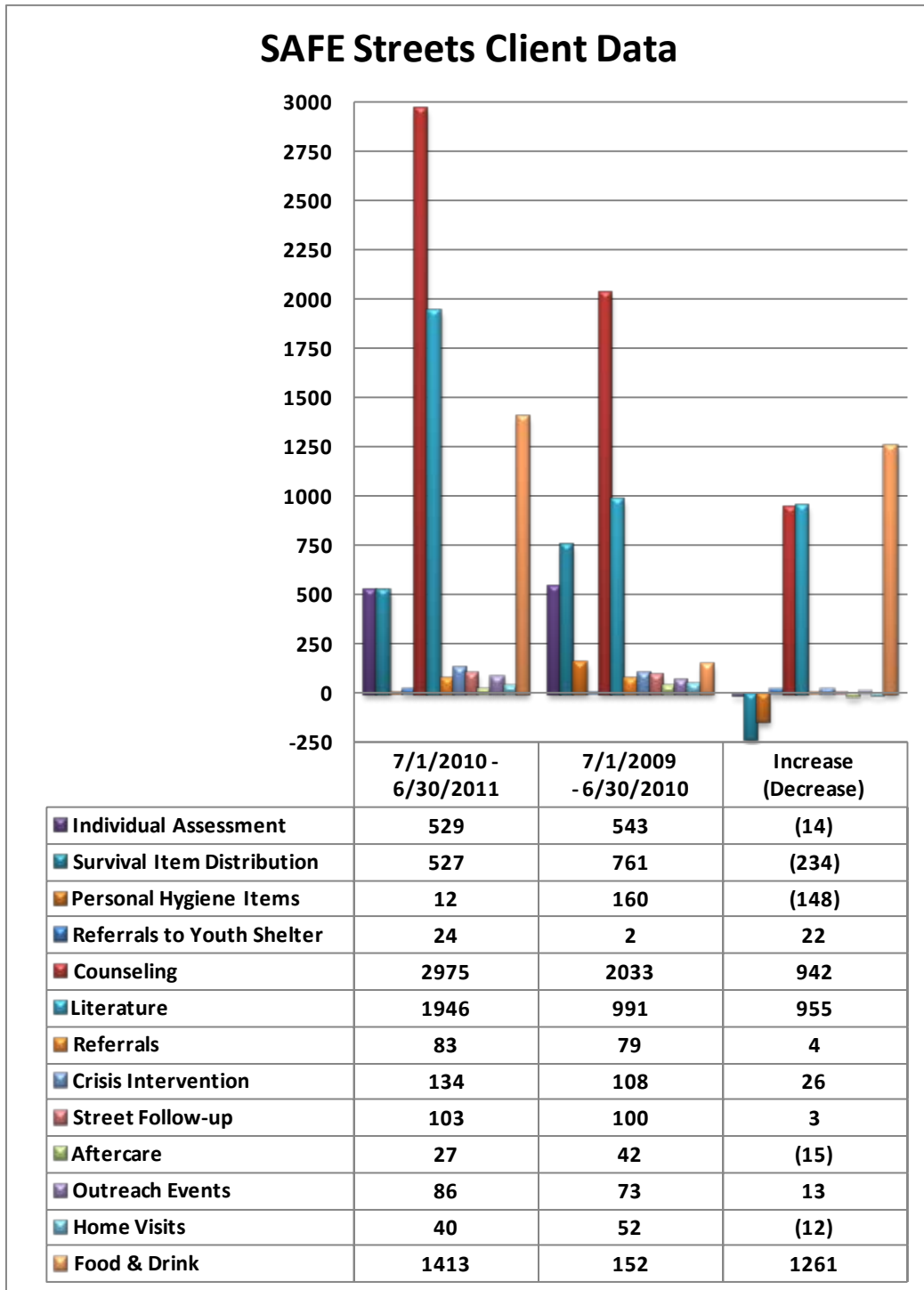
SAFE Streets provides services to youth and young adults, who are living on the streets, are in unsafe environments or are in otherwise unsafe situations that place them at risk for sexual abuse and/or exploitation. SAFE Streets staff provide street-based outreach, individualized assessment of personal health and safety, food, emergency assistance, prevention education, information and referral, crisis intervention and follow-up support. Trained personnel are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no cost for services.

In addition to the day-to-day services to homeless youth, SAFE Streets Staff offer programming to schools and organizations that address issues of safety and well-being including bully prevention, gang awareness, self-protection and any topics related to navigating adolescence safely and securely.

Last year as in past years, SAFE Streets staff selected families to receive Thanksgiving Baskets and Holiday Gifts who were known to them through their program and who were using services to make a positive impact on their lives. Staff work to develop relationships with many of the families they encounter. Staff additionally, serve many people anonymously and seem tireless in their efforts to provide families with what they need to become safer and more secure.

During the past year, Sammy Rangel has been expanding his relationships with individuals and organizations who promote peace and strive to protect youth. Work done with "Life After Hate" has done much to put SAFE Haven and SAFE Streets in the spot light. Arno Michaels, founder of Life After Hate, is a former skinhead who now promotes peace and tolerance. Arno also volunteers for SAFE Streets and joins Sammy in offering presentations to local schools trying to convince young people to refrain from bullying, gang involvement and violence of any kind. The union of SAFE Streets and Life After Hate generated national and international attention during 2010-2011 that continues.

Sammy also completed his own autobiography during 2010-2011. His book, *Four Bears: The Myth of Forgiveness* follows his journey from being an abused child, imprisoned gang leader, to the man he has become today.



Funding for SAFE Streets is provided by United Way of Racine County, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and private donations.

# Truancy Abatement Program

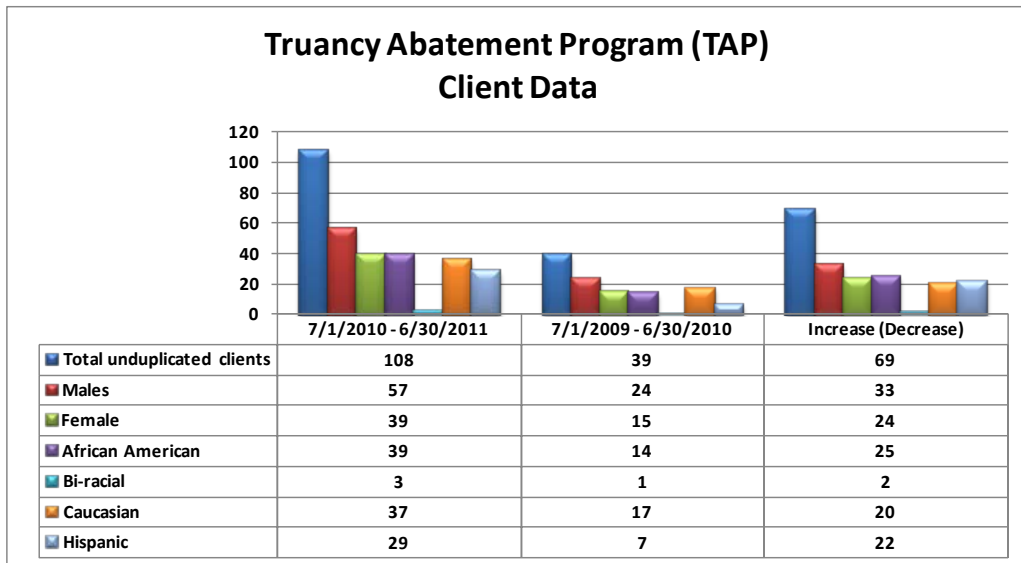
## TAP

Attendance Specialist/Supervisor: April Harris-Kyle

SAFE Haven offers this program in partnership with the Racine County Human Services Department and Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin. Staff assist parents and caregivers in engaging and motivating their children to achieve success at school. TAP staff work with students, parents/caregivers and school personnel to develop plans and approaches to get and keep youth in school.

During the past year, over a hundred new families were referred to the program for intervention. Staff offer families home visits, school visits, referrals to additional services, emotional support, parental support through groups provided by Children’s Service Society at SAFE Haven and other services that may provide the family with what they need to turn things around. When appropriate, TAP students and families are referred to other SAFE Haven programs and services.

Outreach to Middle and High Schools have done much to familiarize school district personnel with the services being offered. Racine County Human Services Department as a partner in this program supports it by providing brochures, materials for families, referrals and professional support.



Funding for the Truancy Abatement Program is provided County of Racine.

# Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force

Program Director: Maurice Horton

The Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force offered a variety of programs designed to assist youth and families in addressing the consequences of gang involvement. Many of the youth attending the program were already involved with the criminal justice system. Youth referred to the program were expected to attend a twelve week program designed to assist them in understanding the dangers of gang involvement while teaching them new ways to think and to find alternatives to violence. Youth who attended the program for the full twelve weeks and who had done well in their homes and schools celebrated graduation from the program.

Truethought, the curriculum used with these youth, was designed to help youth change their gang mentality to constructive thinking while helping them improve their self-esteem. Programs were offered at the Thelma Ohr C.O.P. House and the Geneva Street C.O.P. House.

Funding opportunities for the Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force were limited. Efforts to obtain funding with the City of Racine failed and other funding was not available to continue the program. The program was discontinued as of November 1, 2011.

Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force	7/1/2010 - 10/31/2010	7/1/2009 - 6/30/2010
<b>Client Data</b>		
Participants in twelve-week Truethought program	69	47
<b>Referring Sources:</b> Racine County Human Services, Volunteers Intensive Sanctions, SAFE Street Out Reach Program and The Community Panel.		

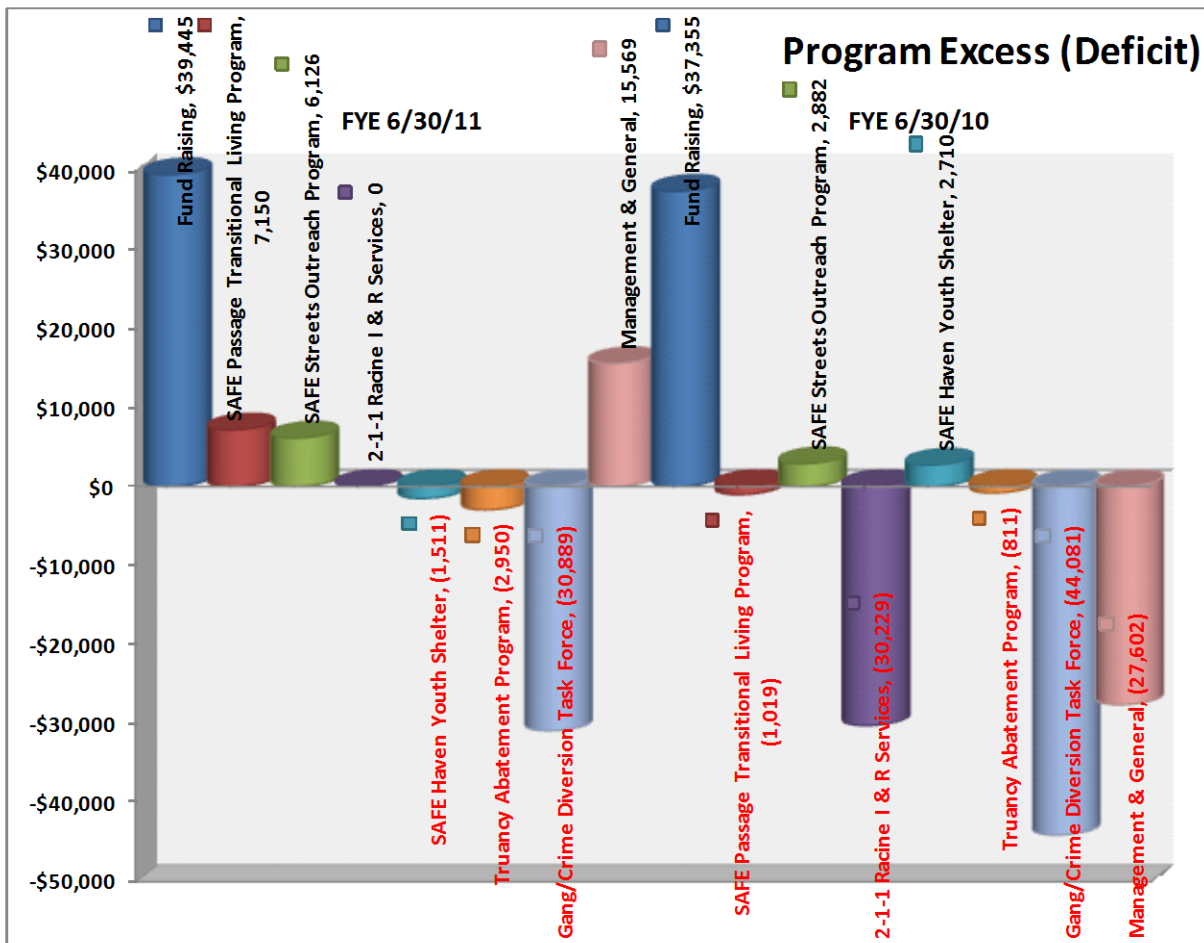
Funding for Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force was provided by the City of Racine.

# Fiscal Outcomes

## Fiscal Statistics for Programs as of June 30, 2011 & 2010

### Program Excess (Deficit)

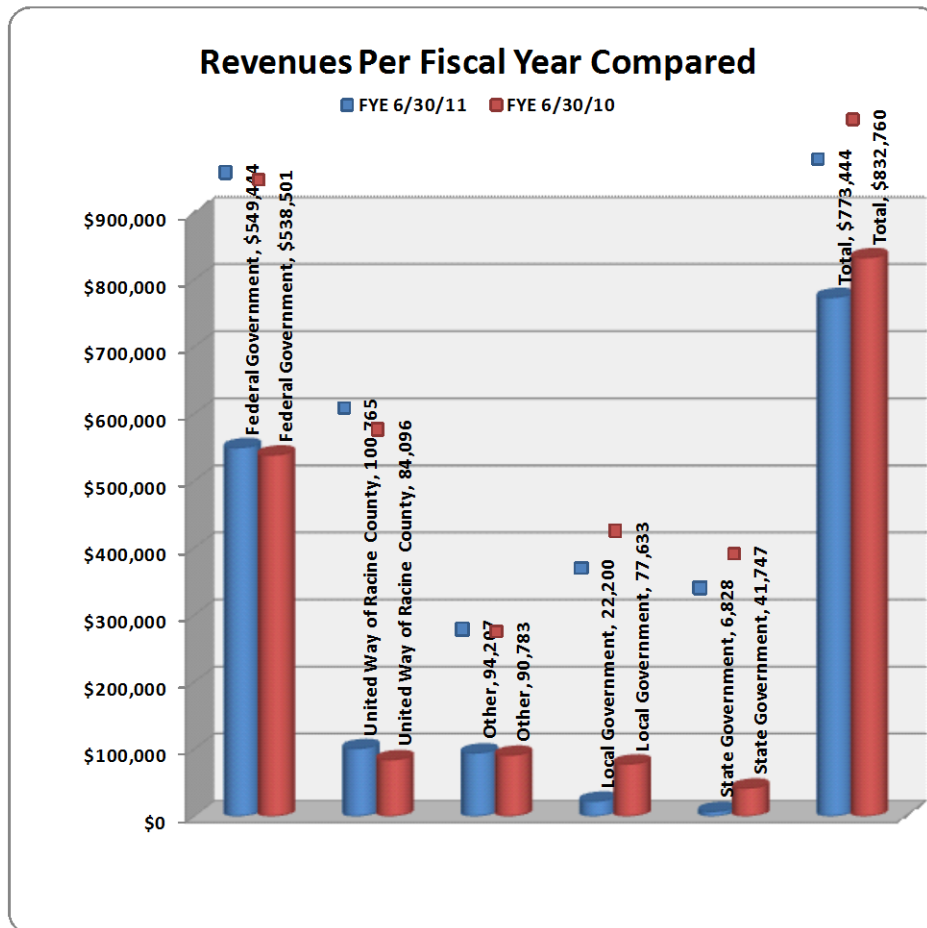
	FYE 6/30/11	FYE 6/30/10	Change	2010 to 2011 % of Change
Fund Raising	\$39,445	\$37,355	\$2,090	6%
Management & General	15,569	(27,602)	43,171	156%
SAFE Passage Transitional Living Program	7,150	(1,019)	8,169	802%
SAFE Streets Outreach Program	6,126	2,882	3,244	113%
2-1-1 Racine I & R Services	0	(30,229)	30,229	100%
SAFE Haven Youth Shelter	(1,511)	2,710	(4,221)	-156%
Truancy Abatement Program	(2,950)	(811)	(2,139)	0%
Gang/Crime Diversion Task Force	(30,889)	(44,081)	13,192	30%
<b>Total Excess (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$32,940</b>	<b>(\$60,795)</b>	<b>\$93,735</b>	<b>154%</b>



## Fiscal Statistics for Total Agency - Programs and Administration as of June 30, 2011 & 2010

### Revenues

	FYE 6/30/11	% of Total	FYE 6/30/10	% of Total	2011 to 2010 % of Change
Federal Government	\$549,444	71%	\$538,501	65%	2%
United Way of Racine County	100,765	13%	84,096	10%	20%
Other	94,207	12%	90,783	11%	4%
Local Government	22,200	3%	77,633	9%	-71%
State Government	6,828	1%	41,747	5%	-84%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$773,444</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$832,760</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-7%</b>



Expenses	2011 to 2010				
	FYE 6/30/11	% of Total	FYE 6/30/10	% of Total	% of Change
Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$554,471	75%	\$683,553	76%	-19%
Supplies	31,253	4%	40,541	5%	-23%
Occupancy	27,046	4%	31,566	4%	-14%
Telephone	21,569	3%	24,299	3%	-11%
Professional Fees	21,148	3%	34,967	4%	-40%
Travel	18,381	2%	18,978	2%	-3%
Depreciation	17,228	2%	16,393	2%	5%
Insurance	11,425	2%	17,278	2%	-34%
Miscellaneous	11,330	2%	16,204	2%	-30%
Equipment Rental/Maintenance	11,067	1%	11,105	1%	0%
Printing/Publications	6,435	1%	5,876	1%	10%
Event Expenses	5,052	1%	14,276	2%	-65%
Assistance to Individuals	3,103	0%	4,995	1%	-38%
Interest	612	0%	409	0%	50%
Endowment Administrative Fees	384	0%	337	0%	0%
Extraordinary Item	0	0%	-27,222	-3%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$740,504</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$893,555</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-17%</b>
<b>Total Excess (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$32,940</b>		<b>-\$60,795</b>		<b>-154%</b>

