Dear Friends,

SBRCC is proud to present our 2016 Outcry! newsletter. In these pages, you will find the highlights of our engagement with the community over the past year. We are working hard to empower sexual assault survivors and to eliminate sexual violence in our society through community education, training, and activism. We are profoundly grateful for the support of our generous donors and the dedication of our volunteers. Thank you for your commitment to inspiring change in our community.

Warm regards,

Our SBRCC Staff 2016–2017

(SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH)

Raise the Bar

This year we improved upon our Raise the Bar campaign, making it more interactive, and incentivizing participation through giveaways and community recognition. Our work with local bars was even featured on the cover of the Santa Barbara News-Press!

We have continued to build strong partnerships with local bar owners, and seek to hold additional trainings throughout the remainder of the year. We are particularly grateful to Asaf Dimant and Bob Stout for being such vocal advocates for this training among their fellow bar owners.

In addition to coasters and campaign posters, businesses completing our training receive a window decal recognizing their efforts to create a safer drinking environment. We hope that by serving as a reliable training resource for these establishments, we can make it clear to patrons that sexual assault will not be tolerated in Santa Barbara’s nightlife scene.

(SUMMER 2016)

433 East Cañón Perdido St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Office (805) 963-6832
www.sbrapecrisiscenter.org
sbrc@sbrcc.net
24-Hour Hotline: (805)564-3696
Teaching Healthy Masculinity

In April, SBRCC held a free film screening and panel discussion on masculinity in our society. The film, *The Mask You Live In*, identifies the ways in which our culture promotes a very narrow masculine ideal, and examines how this can hinder the development of boys and facilitate interpersonal violence.

Our discussion featured representatives of *The ManKind Project*, who shared their own experiences and remarked upon the need to create spaces for men to heal, and learn to redefine masculinity on their own terms. We also heard from *Sia​vash Zo​hoori*, a survivor of the Isla Vista shooting who has since become an advocate for healthy masculinity in the UCSB community.

We need more men to take ownership of prevention efforts in our area, and are grateful for our existing allies in the fight to end gender-based violence. By making this issue more visible, we aim to build a better model for young men and promote a culture of sensitivity and respect, independent of gender.

Speaking Out Against Street Harassment

When the issue of sexual assault enters into the public eye, the focus of the conversation rarely extends beyond rape. Other acts of sexual violence are often seen as less severe, and therefore less worthy of community activism, despite their prevalence and effect on survivors. This is especially true of street harassment, a behavior so commonplace as to be seen as harmless. Although this behavior can leave someone feeling degraded, ashamed, or unsafe, many survivors feel that their experience will not be taken seriously. People affected by street harassment are told to ignore it, lighten up, or “take it as a compliment”, reactions that further invalidate their experience.

Street harassment is more than a minor annoyance: it is indicative of a culture that breeds disrespect and normalizes the treatment of its citizens as sexual objects. Not only is this behavior demeaning and inappropriate, but it can quickly escalate into physical violence. We must speak out against sexual assault in all its forms, knowing that these acts exist on a spectrum. Street harassment is rooted in the same attitudes that stigmatize rape survivors and enable perpetrators to evade consequences.

With the help of *Westmont’s Feminist Society*, SBRCC covered the sidewalks in downtown Santa Barbara with messages protesting street harassment and advocating for respect in our city’s public spaces. Although chalk is temporary, our commitment to changing norms in our community is not.

Announcement

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center is partnering with local youth-serving organizations to hold a screening of *Audrie & Daisy*, a 2016 film about the devastating effect that modern technology and social media can have on teen survivors of sexual assault.

Stayed tuned for more information on this upcoming event!
On Valentine’s Day, SBRCC hosted our 2nd Annual One Billion Rising event, bringing together community members and local service organizations to raise awareness of the global epidemic of violence against women and girls. This campaign takes its name from the fact that 1 in 3 women will experience sexual assault or domestic violence in her lifetime, totaling more than 1 billion women worldwide.

One Billion Rising uses music, dance, and art to speak out against gender-based violence and build strength through unity.

This year, we partnered with the Isla Vista Recreation & Park District to bring this event to beautiful Anisq’o yo’ Park. In preparation for this event, local non-profit World Dance for Humanity taught the choreography to Break the Chain to its members and to youth from Girls Inc. We also expanded our event to include free food and drinks, courtesy of Woodstock’s Pizza, Peet’s Coffee & Tea, and the Isla Vista Food Co-Op. Among the main attractions of this event were the free massages offered by Santa Barbara Bodyworks, and the on-site hair services provided by Paul Mitchell the School Santa Barbara.

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assemblymember Das Williams introduced the event and spoke about their commitment to promoting the safety and well-being of our women and girls. They even broke out some impressive dance moves! Our event concluded with some poignant words from Santa Barbara’s Poet Laureate, Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, and a call to action from SBRCC’s new Board President, April Howard.

We are grateful for the support we have received in putting on this event, and we hope you will join us again in February 2017!

Campaign Merchandise

As part of our commitment to raising awareness of sexual assault in Isla Vista, we have produced a range of promotional products to be distributed at our outreach events.

These items are branded with our campaign logo and include information about our services. In addition to pens and buttons, popular new items include stickers, cell phone wallets, and compact reusable grocery bags.

Pick one up at our next event!
Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center presented its 8th Annual Chocolate de Vine at Rincon Events in Carpinteria. Exquisite California wines were abundant, and ten local chocolatiers created some fantastic chocolate desserts.

The evening was supported by many elected officials in our community: District Attorney Joyce Dudley passionately told a story of a survivor of sexual assault to whom SBRCC provided services. County Supervisors Salud Carbajal and Janet Wolf sponsored the event. Not to be outdone, Carpinteria City Council Member Fred Shaw poured delicious wine from Vinemark Cellars. Santa Barbara City Council Member Cathy Murillo, led the evening’s program and invited guests to stroll through the beautiful venue and fill their tummies with scrumptious food. City Council Member Gregg Hart wowed the crowd with his impeccable auctioneering skills.

The live auction featured a freshwater pearl bracelet, a sojourn in Spain, a four-night stay in Las Vegas, and a trip via private plane to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. For Dodgers fans, a package included 4 game tickets and a case of a Dodger-approved wine, provided by Qupé Winery. The most sought-after item, a trip for two to Montego Bay, Jamaica, was won by M. Harrah.

The evening ended with awards given in the chocolatier competition, in the following categories: Best Tabletop Presentation: Lelé Patisserie; Outstanding Flavor: Renaud’s Patisserie & Bistro; and for the third year in a row, the coveted People’s Choice Award went to Stafford’s Chocolates. The judging was performed by chocolate experts Chef David Rosner of Wine Cask; Chef Jessica Foster, owner of Jessica Foster Confections; and Chef James Siao of Finch and Fork.

Chocolate de Vine benefits the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center’s work in support of survivors of sexual assault by providing a 24-hour hotline, crisis and long-term counseling, self-defense programs, and sexual assault prevention education programs, all of which are available in English and Spanish.

Chocolate de Vine 2016 was a great success, thanks to generous donors and helpful volunteers. Guests walked away with commemorative wine glasses, full stomachs, and bright smiles knowing they supported a vital cause in our community!

Thank You to our Generous Chocolate de Vine Sponsors!