What it looks like when we are doing our best work

Happier children
Safer families
An end to violence

Your ideas are needed!
Join us as we refine our Plan to End Violence in Two Generations
Raising support for CVIC’s services is about so much more than ending up with a budget in the black every year, according to Edie Dahlen, CVIC’s Director of Community Investment. “Every single gift we receive translates into a life changed,” Dahlen said.

“I love to connect our supporters with what they are passionate about—whether it’s helping children, preventing violence, or providing shelter—and then to show them how they can help to solve that problem and make a real difference in someone’s life. That, to me, is my best work.”

Our 14th annual Celebrity Night had a new location this past June: Sky’s on Demers Avenue. Thanks to owner John (Sky) Manske and his staff, our celebrity servers, diners, emcees, and musical entertainment, we raised $31,320 to support crisis and therapy services for adults and children and furnishings for our new shelter!

- CELEBRITY SERVERS: Listed below, they did not disappoint with their surprising talents!
- EMCEES: Dave Berger and Jonathan Holth
- MUSIC: Fallcreek and Higher Ground
- DINERS: 106 supporters

‘She shared that she finally felt safe.’
‘They can take back control over their lives.’
‘She no longer wanted to harm herself.’

— CVIC staff

It is no secret that you are a vital part of making our best work happen in Greater Grand Forks. So we wanted to share with you what our staff has said about their best work.

From our receptionists (our first responders for those who walk in our doors) to our court and shelter advocates, child visitation specialists, offender treatment group facilitators, and staff in charge of collaborative projects, you will see for yourself how passionate our staff is about helping adults and children stay safe, giving them a voice, and being a part of the amazing transformations they are able to make in their lives.

We truly couldn’t do it without you, and we are ever grateful for your partnership with CVIC and for what we together have accomplished!

— CVIC staff

Molly
RECEPTIONIST

“My best work happens when I have the opportunity to provide some comfort to people in need when they walk through our door. A mother came to CVIC with her son who was about 3 years old. She was distraught and crying. I directed her to our advocates, but she needed to catch her breath for a minute. I was able to offer her a tissue and some water. I found a coloring book and crayons for her son, and his face lit up. She was very appreciative, and I could see some relief on her face. These moments fulfill me.”

Michelle
COURT ADVOCACY

“My best work is meeting with victims whose offender is being prosecuted and discussing their fears, wishes, and concerns, and relaying that information to law enforcement and the states attorney’s office. Also explaining the court process, how long it can take, answering questions they may have, ensuring they understand the process, and that they are connected to needed services. The impact is that they can take back control over their lives.”

Shannon
EMERGENCY SHELTER

“My best day was when a long-time client, Gloria,* decided she was ready for a new life for herself and her kids. She was accepted into our transitional housing program and was brought to tears when she realized that her kids would have their own beds. She left shelter with a lot of goals—most of which she has already accomplished. Gloria is a great example of what can happen when our staff at CVIC works as a team to help people attain their dreams.”

Sheila
CHILD VISITATION

“There is a family with three little kids that visits us every week for supervised visitations. At first the kids were shy and afraid to be here, but now they come to Kids First with big smiles, laughing, and they run in to me and want to be picked up and hugged. It makes me feel like they know that I am there for them and that I am here to keep them safe. It touches my heart.”

* Name and photos changed to protect confidentiality.
We will invest in our future so our grandchildren can thrive! Our holistic approach will significantly reduce violence in Grand Forks County in two generations, creating safe, nurturing homes and relationships.

1 Safety for all people in danger and guidance toward positive relationships
By 2020, we will double our capacity to provide safe shelter. By 2025, we will expand options for long-term safety, helping 70 families toward self-sufficiency. By 2025, we will triple the number of men graduating our New Choices Program, reduce violence, and realize the significant 70% drop in 911 calls to their homes as well.

2 Healing for every child in dire need
By 2025, CVIC will hire 5 more specialized therapists and will host trainings for specialized, evidence-based therapy, equipping 11 additional local counselors to provide therapy that helps children to overcome trauma. By 2025, we will reach 1,700+ children and stop the compounding of trauma among generations.

3 Healthy relationship education for every child in K-12
By 2035, every child will receive education at three developmental levels – elementary, middle and high school – on bullying, dating violence and positive relationships. Our prevention strategy provides a cultural shift for an entire generation of children over 13 years of education, preparing them for healthy relationships.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CVICONLINE.ORG FOR UPCOMING LISTENING SESSIONS

Your ideas are needed!
We are at the point in the development of our Plan to End Violence where we need your ideas!
Thanks to a generous grant from the Bush Foundation, we will be hosting listening sessions in the upcoming months to gather community feedback. We want to know:
- What do you like about our plan?
- What additional ideas you have?
- What obstacles do you foresee?
- How you can see yourself getting involved?
Check our website for more about our plan and the dates of the listening sessions. We hope you will join us!
Farewell and welcome to members of CVIC’s board

We wish our very best to Marcia Kelley, former First Lady of UND, who served as CVIC’s president of the board in 2015 after years of service on our board of directors. Kelley resigned her position as she moved out of the area.

“Marcia brought such wisdom and grace to her service to CVIC and those we serve,” CVIC Executive Director Kristi Hall-Jiran said. “She has made such an impact on our board and organization as a whole, and we will miss her dearly.”

We are excited to welcome Will Kusler, Vice President of First State Bank, to CVIC’s board.

“Will is a great person who truly cares about this community and those who are disadvantaged,” Hall-Jiran said. “His experience on other boards such as The Dakota Foundation will make him a great addition to our board of directors!”