

This Month at

PROJECT SAGE

*Support • Advocate • Guide • Educate
to end relationship violence*

May 2023

Trade Secrets

Once again, another Trade Secrets weekend has come and gone! Project SAGE experienced one of the best Trade Secrets events in its long 23-year history, with over 2100 guests in attendance. Inspired by world renowned interior designer Bunny Williams and her Head Gardener, Naomi Blumenthal, along with guidance by horticulturist Deborah Munson, Trade Secrets has supported the valuable work of Project SAGE since 2001, raising a quarter of our agency's annual operating support.



A first in Trade Secrets history, this year's rare plants and garden antiques event took place on Sunday, May 21st at Lime Rock Park, with garden tours and community events hosted on Saturday the 20th. Our deepest appreciation goes to our amazing community of supporters whose unwavering dedication made this year a success! Special thanks also go to our Honorary Chair, Bunny Williams, and this year's garden hosts – Bunny Williams and John Rosselli, Christopher Spitzmiller and Anthony Bellomo, Michael Trapp, Hollister House Garden, and Innisfree Garden for opening their homes and gates for everyone to enjoy. We are also thankful for the support of Lime Rock Park, the Falls Village Fire Department, the Stratford Eagle Squadron, and our many third-party fundraisers.

THANK YOU also to our underwriters, ticket buyers, volunteers, vendors, and supporters for being such an important part of our story as we work to create happier and safer futures.

We look forward to seeing you next spring!

Spotlight on Project SAGE

A is for Advocate

SAGE is an acronym standing for Support-Advocate-Guide-Educate. This article is the second in a four-part series highlighting each letter in the Project SAGE acronym and sharing how we as an organization fulfill our mission of creating social change to end interpersonal relationship violence.

We at Project SAGE support clients as they navigate challenging personal circumstances. Providing court support services to victims involved in criminal or civil matters is a crucial part of assisting our clients in feeling validated and heard. **Lisa** is our Family Violence Victim Advocate working with Project SAGE clients whose cases are being heard in Torrington Superior Court. Lisa addresses the specific needs of clients as they negotiate the intricacies of the legal system.

Our clients arrive at court after experiencing acute trauma. Court processes are often complex and unfamiliar. Without an advocate to help navigate the system, the experience can easily become overwhelming. As a Family Violence Victim Advocate, Lisa educates clients on judicial processes and acts as their liaison to the State's Attorney's Office. Lisa also assists with the often emotional process of writing and presenting a victim impact statement in court.

Throughout the court proceedings, Lisa serves as a voice that amplifies the voice of the victim. To the client, Lisa is a resource, advisor, champion, and shepherd through what otherwise might be a daunting ordeal. According to Lisa, "As an advocate, I hope to be a beacon for victims of domestic violence as they work to reclaim their power."



Project SAGE is hiring!

Join us in our mission to create social change to end interpersonal relationship violence.

We are adding a full-time **Community Program Facilitator** to our committed and creative team.

Do you have a background in **social work, gender studies, education / training, or a related field**? Then click below for details and to apply.

**APPLY
HERE**

CALLING ALL CARS!



Due to our rural setting and lack of public transportation, cars are a critical need for many of our clients. Make a life-changing difference by donating your car to Project SAGE. A big thanks to Art, of [Art's Automotive Repair](#), for partnering with us on this important program!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Upcoming Events

VISIT PROJECT SAGE AT KENT FARMERS MARKET

LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH
STARTING IN JUNE



CLICK FOR DETAILS



Resource Roundup

ARTICLE

Hotlines aren't just for people who are looking for a safe escape from domestic violence. Trained advocates are ready to provide information and resources to a wide range of callers. Whether you are in a relationship that feels problematic, facing a tough breakup, or worried about someone else, calling a hotline might help answer some of your questions. Read how here:

[You Can Call a Hotline](#)

The 24/7 Project SAGE hotline number is 860-364-1900.

BOOKLIST

Social justice means equal rights and equitable opportunities for all. True social change relies on actions and efforts at multiple levels, and it can begin with introducing youth to social justice books to

WEBINAR - JUNE 7

Online harassment is difficult to manage because victims must often rely on technology platforms to stop the abuse, which often falls short of expectations. This free webinar details how online harassment is carried out and who is targeted, breaks down strategies for responding, and outlines steps for prevention. Register here: [Strategies to Address Online Harassment](#)

ARTICLE

Apps like Life360, Find my Friends, and Find My Phone are meant to give families peace of mind by allowing them to know where each member is at all times. Now, sex traffickers are using these tools as

help them better understand different cultures, people, and situations. Teaching youth what equity is and why it is crucial for the social and emotional well-being of the community gives them the opportunity to create equity in the world around them.

[Social Justice Booklist for Youth](#)

APP

The Aspire News App allows anyone to send an SOS text to trusted contacts at the touch of a button. Powered by Yahoo and disguised as a news feed, the app hides in plain sight on both iPhone and Android.

[Aspire News App](#)

digital "leashes" to monitor and coercively control their victims. Read more about this disturbing trend here: [Sex Traffickers Used America's Favorite Family Safety App To Control Victims](#)

RESOURCE GUIDE

Deepfakes use technology to transfer a person's face onto someone else's body, creating a realistic image or video that to the naked eye is indistinguishable from the real thing. Over 95% of deepfakes are pornographic, and almost all of the targets are women. This guide includes resources, tools, and strategies for anyone who has been targeted by a deepfake or similar technology. [Deepfakes: A Victim Resource Guide](#)

LET'S BE FRIENDS



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VOLUNTEER



ARE YOU A CURRENT PROJECT SAGE VOLUNTEER?

Remember to record your volunteer hours [here](#).

NOT A VOLUNTEER BUT THINKING OF BECOMING ONE?

Email Linda at lindac@project-sage.org for more information.

We want your feedback!

CLICK HERE

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