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2026 SPRING **NEWSLETTER**



Rydell's giving drives hope & freedom for area families



Cydney, CVIC Client

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Platinum  
Transparency  
2026

Candid.

## Platinum Seal of Transparency

We're proud to share that we've once again earned the **Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency** — the highest level of recognition available to nonprofits! You can review our profile by searching "Community Violence Intervention Center" on the Candid website. We remain committed to being thoughtful stewards of your generosity on behalf of those we are honored to serve.



# Creating Safer Tomorrows together

*Dear Friends,*

We begin another year both grateful and determined as we consider how many partners and friends have agreed to walk alongside our clients and their families, particularly during such turbulent financial times. Although we made the difficult decision to cancel our signature event (see back for additional context), we owe our private community a great deal of appreciation for standing by us, especially throughout the past eight years as we've advanced our Safer Tomorrows Road Map, a long-range plan to end interpersonal violence. Thanks primarily to private support, our visionary plan has touched thousands of lives as you'll see (at right) from the progress in all three pillars of safety, healing and prevention & education. That level of support is not only motivating, it is living proof of transformation that can touch more than one generation.



In 2025, Kyle, a former client whose next stage of life is an example of the Safer Tomorrows Road Map in motion, shared his joy of becoming a dad when his daughter Gwendolynn was born. Kyle and his mother and brother were introduced to CVIC nearly 20 years ago when they were attempting to leave a violent home. Determined to pave a different path for his own family and invest in the very plan that has helped shape his future, today Kyle gives tirelessly to CVIC through his support of our Survivor Advisory

Panel, which helps shape and enhance services for CVIC clients. He also partners with our development team to share his experience with area friends who want to learn more about CVIC.

For Kyle's family, your impact touches future generations, like his daughter Gwendolynn, who will learn about strong relationships not only through a healthy family but through prevention education in area schools. We met Kyle through our partnerships with rural schools. You can learn more about your transformational support of other rural neighbors, along with the community behind them, on pages 4-5.

We are grateful for your continued support, engagement and introductions as we face significant headwinds, particularly with federal funding, which comprises nearly one-third of our budget and continues to show little signs of certainty (see page 11).

With you, we know Safer Tomorrows are possible. Kyle, his wife Mariah and Gwendolynn (pictured above), who just turned 1 in March, are living proof.

With Gratitude,

*Coiya Tompkins Inman*

Coiya Tompkins Inman  
President/CEO

## Together, from 2018-2025 we have:



### SAFETY

- Provided **28,829**, nights of shelter for adults and children, helping make sure no survivor must choose again between being safe and being housed.
- Worked with law enforcement to establish the Lethality Assessment Program, which has connected more than **500** victims to an advocate on-scene.
- Helped launch the state's first domestic violence court in 2018, and supported **10,314** crime victims through the criminal justice process.



### HEALING

- Provided **17,797** therapy sessions for **1,830** youth and adults, giving survivors the tools and support to heal. Our therapy program is now on track to be self-sustaining through insurance revenue.
- Launched restorative therapy for those who use violence in their relationship, working to break cycles of violence through accountability and change.



### PREVENTION & EDUCATION

- Provided **3,916** education sessions to youth on healthy relationships, and partnered with Grand Forks Public Schools to create a district-wide relationship violence prevention curriculum, giving all students the knowledge and skills they need to be a good friend and a good partner.

# Rydell's giving game changer

**Rydell's generosity touches lives, engages partners, transforms a community**



When Joleen Gonzalez slips behind the wheel of her highly reliable sport utility vehicle, her rear-view mirror is just one reminder of the abusive relationship a generous family business has enabled her to leave behind. What's important now, Joleen says, is what's in front of her and how much freedom she has found, thanks to Rydell's Angels on Wheels program, which has gifted a vehicle to several CVIC clients for the past four years.

"I don't think Rydell and the other donors realize how much this has done for me and my family," Joleen said. "My other vehicle was constantly breaking down and needing expensive repairs. Right before I was given this new car, my truck needed new tires. I only had \$600 in my checking account and was having a hard time deciding what to do because I needed the little money I did have for rent.

*Now, I can drive to medical appointments and work without having to worry. It's changed my life."*

In the past year, especially, Joleen has come to learn more than she's really wanted to about tough choices, loss and starting over. Not only was she raised in an abusive home as a child, she experienced verbal, physical and emotional abuse later as an adult. Shortly before working with CVIC to file a restraining order against her ex-partner, Joleen lost her beloved Siberian Husky to parvo.

"I've had that dog since she was a pup and I like to say I rescued her from the pet store. When I looked into her eyes, I just knew we were connected," Joleen said.

Since filing the restraining order with help from CVIC's advocacy team, Joleen has also sought evidence-based counseling services and emotional support from CVIC's therapy team. She said it's helped her process many of the complexities that people experience when leaving an abusive relationship. Joleen, who endured not only physical abuse, also processed the high and low emotions that often follow a decision to finally leave.

"I really saw a lot of what I was going through as my fault," Joleen said. "I learned to deal with the affliction because he would always come back and apologize. It would get better for a little while, but then something would trigger him and he'd snap. I just thought if I apologized, he would stop. It's hard as you're healing because you think about all of the beautiful moments you had but you can't rely on that. You have to focus on yourself and the power you have within yourself. I still have a long way to go, but I don't get scared of being scared anymore. I am finding solitude and peace, and I don't go to bed anymore wondering: what did I do wrong?"

Joleen credits her work with her CVIC therapist as one of the key reasons she can keep moving forward with hope. Their weekly conversations give her space to share her troubles as well as an expert resource who helps her identify ways to cope and heal.

**"It's a journey and a process, but I know now that I didn't deserve what happened to me. Nobody does. I hope sharing my story helps others who may be thinking of leaving."**



*"I also don't view what Rydell, CVIC and so many others have done for me as a handout, it's a hand up. I hope my story helps others reach out to CVIC and stick to a path that leads them away from abuse, too. For me, this time with CVIC and Rydell has been a hand up for my soul. I am truly thankful."*

**SAVE THE DATE**

20th Annual



*Sept. 20, 2026 | 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2700 S. Washington St., Grand Forks*

**FREE TO ATTENDEES** (at-will donations  
will exclusively benefit CVIC)

Interested in registering your car to show?  
Visit: [RydellCars.com](http://RydellCars.com)

## Car show creates roadways to hope

Rydell owners Brian and Mara Rydell, & Greg and Jodi Sorum, who also serves as chair of the CVIC Board of Directors, may never know how far and wide their generosity will reach, but for many area survivors and their families, the roadways to hope are bountiful.

They have not only gifted several vehicles to individuals impacted by domestic and sexual assault, they've also invested in one to support CVIC's rural outreach efforts. Last year, the Rydell team also gifted a vehicle used by our advocates to reach rural neighbors trying to flee abusive situations, identify safety resources and safety plans through CVIC and connect to healing and transitional services such as therapy, housing, transportation and employment assistance.

"It's been a game changer for us," said Sheila Morris, vice president of advocacy and 24-year CVIC veteran. "Many clients may not want to seek support in their hometown because they fear those who are harming them may identify their vehicle or location. This program enables our advocates to meet them where they are in a secured place, identify the best safety plan and connect them to valuable resources, both within CVIC and through our various partnerships."

In addition to Rydell, CVIC's connection to the Angels on Wheels Program, enabled clients who received vehicles to also benefit from Rydell gift cards, gas cards from Northdale Oil, car seat services from Safe Kids (Altru Health), and many other in-kind donations such as Darcy's Cafe, L&M Meats, Happy Joe's Pizza and HudSun.

"Rydell's generosity has not only opened doors literally, for area clients and their families, it's filled a significant gap in transportation services, which can be a lifeline for families who not only need resources to get to safety, but the vehicles also serve as conduits to freedom for people like Joleen (see adjacent article) who often had to choose between basic needs like food and rent and car repairs," said President & CEO Coiya Tompkins Inman. "This type of giving is changing lives in so many ways, not only for survivors, but their families and future generations, too. The past several years, they've also engaged other business partners and donors in their efforts, which truly puts the meaning of COMMUNITY behind our name."

Earlier this year, Rydell also awarded CVIC with an opportunity to benefit from the dealership's annual car show, which donates proceeds to local charities. Greg said directing this year's proceeds toward CVIC was an easy decision.

"It's a purpose and a mission we believe in both personally and professionally and it aligns well with our business philosophy and Wes Rydell's vision which was: 'to be so effective that we are able to be helpful to others.' We feel fortunate that we can support such an important need such as transportation and self-sufficiency for families who are not only overcoming tremendous trauma but working toward rebuilding their lives."



*Rydell and CVIC leaders at the 2025 Angels on Wheels event.*



## Safety

### More than an apartment: Pure North provides safety and a fresh start

In 2023, Pure North business partners Kevin and Courtney Ritterman, owners of Dakota Commercial; Craig and Dolly Tweten, owners of Community Contractors; and Kristi Magnuson-Nelson and Bob Nelson, owners of Hugo's Family Marketplace came together to do their part to fill a tremendous need for CVIC clients: providing a fully furnished two-bedroom apartment for use exclusively by a CVIC client. Since then, these partners have continued to step up, supporting CVIC's Transitional Housing Program two additional times, including a third one-year placement that began this January.

For Emily\*, the current resident of the apartment, this placement through CVIC's Transitional Housing Program — which provides short-term, stable housing and supportive services as survivors move from emergency shelter to permanent housing — has offered a safe place to begin again without the added stress of housing costs. After leaving an unsafe situation, Emily and her children arrived with few belongings and a great deal of uncertainty about what came next. Having a fully furnished home allowed her to focus on stability, healing and planning her next steps, rather than worrying about where she would sleep or how she would afford rent.

"Clients enter our Transitional Housing program in different ways — through shelter or directly from our crisis line, which received 387 calls last year — but what stays consistent is the support that follows," said Aubrey Malnourie, director of transitional housing. "Our wraparound assistance like housing, therapy and legal services work together to help survivors move beyond the initial point of crisis and begin again."

Beyond providing the apartment itself, these partners continue to support CVIC clients in meaningful ways. Dakota Commercial works with survivors who face credit challenges tied to financial abuse, helping remove barriers to long-term housing. Community Contractors assist with safety modifications like additional locks and security cameras when needed, ensuring CVIC clients feel at peace in their new homes. Hugo's Family Marketplace regularly rallies the community through fundraisers, including the annual Taste of the Holidays event each December, generating critical support for CVIC services.

Together, these partners demonstrate how a community can come together to support survivors by offering flexibility, safety and ongoing care that help clients move forward with confidence.

Of the  
1,531 clients  
served by our  
advocacy team in  
2025, 15 adults and  
18 children went on  
to participate in the  
Transitional  
Housing program.

## 2025 Safer Tomorrows Progress



### SAFETY



### HEALING



### PREVENTION & EDUCATION

- **996** adults were supported through times of crisis.
- Crisis line advocates answered **385** calls.
- **109** people were sheltered for **4,328** nights at Mary's Place.
- **109** adults received healing services.
- **162** children impacted by violence received therapy to address trauma.
- **8,855** youth were reached through **880** presentations
- **7,112** adults were reached through **114** presentations
- **1,361** professionals were reached through **48** presentations.



# Healing

## Complexity of healing from abuse

It's not uncommon for clients who are attempting to leave an abusive home to experience substance use. When Beth\* decided to leave a harmful relationship and simultaneously begin her journey toward sobriety after years of self-medicating, the road ahead felt overwhelming. With the support of our community, CVIC was able to wrap Beth and her three children in comprehensive safety services, including a safe place to live as they began rebuilding their lives.

When she was ready to focus on healing, CVIC's therapy team was there to meet Beth where she was. CVIC recently became licensed in North Dakota to practice substance use treatment, allowing clients to address trauma and recovery at the same time and receive more comprehensive care in one place.

"When I am able to work through and tackle all the areas of concern for a client, it helps relieve stress for them along with allowing me to work through everything at once," said Sammy, CVIC adult therapist and licensed addiction counselor. "It's hard enough to open up to someone once about things, imagine having to open up to multiple providers about the same trauma just to work on feeling better."

CVIC continues to adapt services to meet the evolving needs of survivors, including providing iPads when transportation or distance makes in-person therapy difficult. These tools help ensure clients can access virtual telehealth appointments when their circumstances would otherwise prevent consistent care. By reducing barriers and offering flexible, trauma-informed support, CVIC helps survivors stay connected to healing and move forward with greater stability and confidence.



*CVIC's therapy team provided 1,209 individual therapy sessions for adults in 2025.*

\*Names changed to protect confidentiality.



# Prevention & Education

## Valuing prevention work on campus

CVIC Prevention & Education Campus Coordinator Allison Maygra oversees "Prevention Peers", which are roles filled by students who help coordinate presentations and trainings to other students around the University of North Dakota campus – bridging the gap and reinforcing CVIC's message through peer-to-peer outreach. However, at a conference in 2023, she heard a keynote that stopped her in her tracks. The message was clear: unpaid prevention work on college campuses essentially means students are paying, through their tuition, to help prevent violence in their own community.

Fresh off her flight home, Maygra connected with Donna Smith in UND's Civil Rights & Title IX office to ask what it would take to make CVIC's "internship-style" Prevention Peers paid. With thousands of students reached through this office each year – and with other peer roles on campus already compensated – the need for change was clear.

By the following semester, Prevention Peers became paid student jobs through the university. The shift during the 2024-25 academic year made the roles more competitive, fair and sustainable for students balancing coursework and employment. Since then, CVIC at UND has seen less turnover in Prevention Peers, more reliable peer support, and a broader pool of applicants. The 2025-26 academic year marks an additional milestone: CVIC at UND welcomed its first male-identifying Prevention Peers at UND.



*Pictured left-to-right: CVIC at UND Prevention Peers Edward Tortorelli and Jackson Doyle*

"Being a prevention peer means I am able to make my campus and community safer," said Jackson Doyle, a current CVIC at UND prevention peer. "Additionally, it being a paid position means I can contribute more of my time and focus on peer education as I can financially support myself more easily."

This change appropriately values prevention work and strengthens CVIC's presence on campus.

*The Prevention & Education team reached more than 17,000, youth, adults and professionals in 2025, 3,834 of whom were on the UND campus.*

*Record-breaking year!*



# Giving Hearts Day



*Collective generosity of 409+ donors raised more than*  
**\$130,000** *for CVIC programs and services!*

During a year when it was desperately needed, CVIC donors stepped up in spades (and hearts) to break a CVIC fundraising record on Giving Hearts Day, a statewide giving day recognized in North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

In honor of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, this year's campaign had a \$100,000 goal and was focused on the emotional, physical and psychological impacts of the dating abuse 1 in 3 teens in the US experience. Dollars raised will support all CVIC services, including the extensive training CVIC offers in area schools designed to change that figure for our community – teaching our youth about healthy relationships and propelling them toward Safer Tomorrows.

## CHAMPION Partners



**Tom & Brenda  
Rosendahl**

**Brian & Mara  
Rydell\***

## VISIONARY Partners



**Craig & Dolly Tweten**

## PROTECTOR Partners

Alerus  
Bank Forward  
Mark & Marlys Brown  
Sandy & Tim Dittus\*  
EAPC Architects Engineers  
Mary & Larry Eliason  
Emerado Arvilla Lions Club  
ICON Architectural Group  
Marsh McLennan Agency

Kevin & Courtney Ritterman\*  
Simply Maid  
Greg & Jodi Sorum\*  
South Forks Lions Club  
Swanson & Warcup  
Vilandre Heating AC,  
Plumbing, Electrical &  
Seamless Gutter

## SUPPORTER Partners

Advanced Business Methods  
Avant Hair & Skin Care Studio\*  
Rich & Karen Axvig\*  
Badger Dental Group\*  
Angie & Barry Bjorgaard  
Kevin Buettner\*  
Crary Real Estate

Culvers  
Becky & Jay Mindeman\*  
Modern Auto Body  
Morgan Printing  
Kay & Dan Schraeder\*  
Wendy's

*Thank you  
to the businesses and  
friends who joined us as  
Challenge Partners  
— helping to amplify our  
voice and inspire giving*

# GRACIOUS Donors

## \$5,000+

Anonymous (2)\*

## \$1,000+

Jeff & Dawn Eickman

Sue Fristad\*

Dan Hinnenkamp

Mark & Elizabeth Jackson

Nathan & Heidi Jess

Justin & Heather Johnson

David & Jan McNair

James Morley

Dan Mulroy

John & JoAnn Muus

Jo Noel

Mark & Gloria Sanford\*

Anonymous\*

## \$500+

AJ Anesthesia

Sharon & Archie Ellwood

Teri & Dave Holt\*

Angie & Josh Kunz

Mac & Karen McLennan\*

Marlene Miller\*

Holland & Stephen Slick\*

Randall Slominski

Katrina & Chris Smaaladen

Bruce & Jodie Storhaug\*

Peggy & Jordan Varberg

Hayley Svedjan Walz & Joel Walz

Teresa & Steve Wasvick

Anonymous (1)

## \$100+

Paul and Dr. Vinita Ackerman

Acme Tools

Todd & Tina Adams

Advanced Engineering &

Environmental Services, Inc.

American Lutheran Church

Debbie & Thomas Anderson

Josh & Sarah Anderson

Mark Anderson

Paula Anderson

Phyllis Andersen

Andrew & Kathleen Armacost\*

Laurie Bakke

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Beau & Kristin Bateman

Dr. Phillip & Brittany Berg\*

Terry Bjerke

Ginny Bollman\*

Pamela Jones Borho & Alan Borho

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Elaine Brinkman

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Mitch & Karen Byrne

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Casey Cartier

Scott & Laurie Charette

Dianna & Douglas Cockerham\*

Doris & Kevin Cooper

Yvonne Cronquist

Precious Dada

Richard Dafoe

Ruann Deschene

Marcy & Chris Douglas\*

Amy Driscoll

Janet Dvorak

Eagles Club Dacotah Aerie 350

Capistran

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Kathy & John Fick\*

Carol & Doug Fosse\*

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Grand Forks Lions Club

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Tracy & Scott LeDuc\*

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Karna Loyland\*

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Kelly McLean\*

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Gayle & Dave Robertson

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Donna & Wayne Roede

Sue Russell

Casey & Beverly Ryan

Rod & Joan Schanilec

Theresa Schroeder

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St. Jude's Knights of Columbus

Marjorie and Robert Stocker

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Megan Thorson

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Reed and Sheryl Tinkham

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Jim & Cindy Twedell

Carol Weber

Donnabelle Weston

Brad & Yvonne Westrum

Twyla Wick

Russell & Pat Wilber

Randy & Lori Wolff

Susan Zelewski

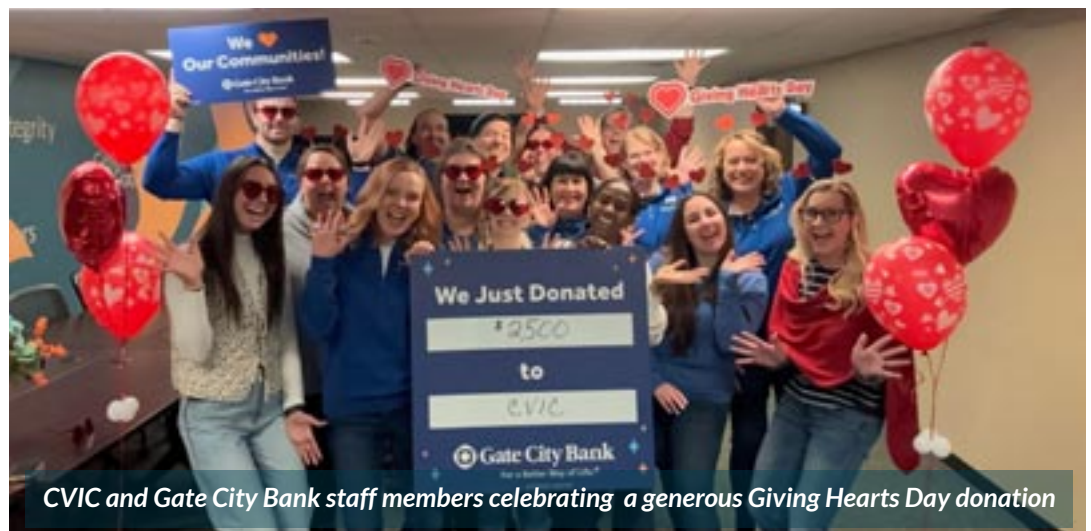
Roberta Zick

Claudette & Tom Zimney

Wayne Zink &

DeAnna Carlson Zink\*

Anonymous (10)



CVIC and Gate City Bank staff members celebrating a generous Giving Hearts Day donation



# SAFER TOMORROWS TOUR & TALKS

Our Safer Tomorrows Tour & Talks provide a closer look and conversation through a one-hour experience that covers CVIC’s mission, services and impact as well as a guided tour. Please join us on your own or coordinate with friends, coworkers, faith groups, or civic organizations. Tours are held on the third Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Upcoming dates are listed below, and specialty tours can be coordinated outside of these options.

## CVIC domestic violence court model to set statewide standard



For the past seven years, CVIC’s Domestic Violence Court has been the only court of its kind in North Dakota. The court is a collaboration led by CVIC’s Coordinated Community Response team and includes representatives from CVIC, the court, the State’s Attorney Office, Public Defender Office, North Dakota Parole and Probation, and North Dakota Job Service. "Since we began DV court in 2018, we've been able to track over 700 men and women after their sentencing, with many of them participating in our New Choices program,"

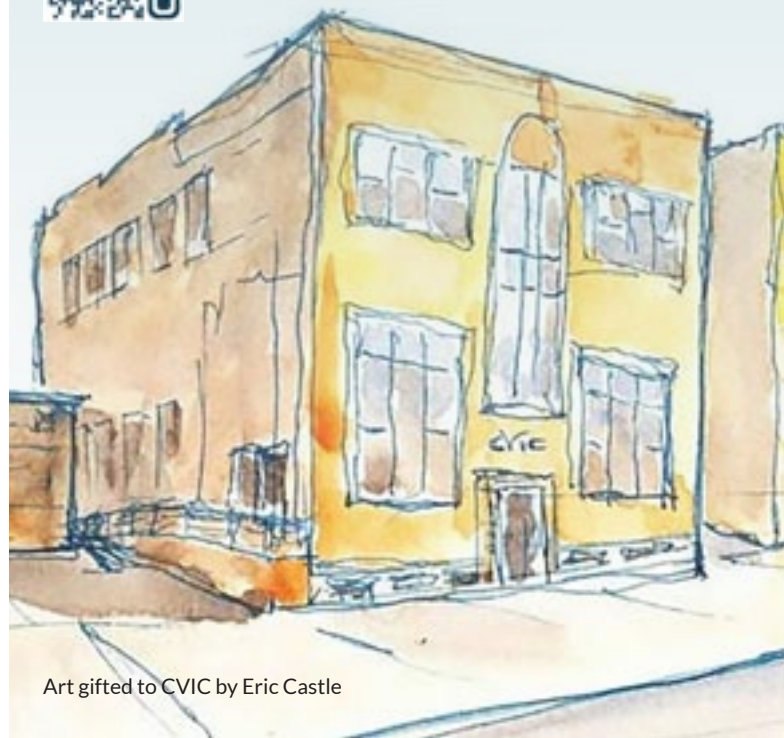
said AJ Buntrock, director of community response. "Because there is now a higher level of accountability for completing the conditions of their sentencing, we're better able to ensure these requirements are being met. It's really improved the entire system and makes a big difference in case processing efficiency."

Later this year, a sister Domestic Violence Court is expected to launch in Bismarck following recent funding approval. The expansion reflects the proven success of CVIC’s collaborative model, which keeps key agencies connected with a person post-sentencing, improving continuity and increasing safety for survivors impacted by their behavior.

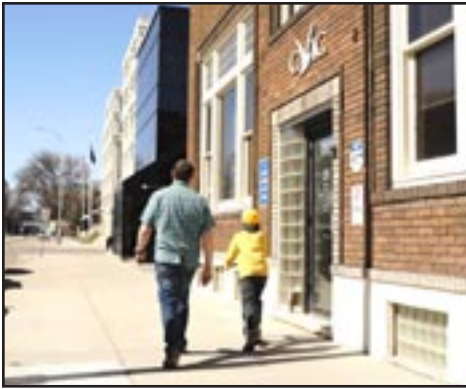
Building on this success, Buntrock’s team plans to develop best-practice guidance in collaboration with the North Dakota Supreme Court for future Domestic Violence Courts in the state. This effort will provide communities across North Dakota with a clear, survivor-centered roadmap for establishing courts that improve safety, strengthen coordination and create lasting change for years to come.

|                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| APRIL<br><b>16</b> | MAY<br><b>21</b>    | JUNE<br><b>18</b>  |
| JULY<br><b>16</b>  | AUGUST<br><b>20</b> | SEPT.<br><b>17</b> |
| OCT.<br><b>15</b>  | NOV.<br><b>19</b>   | DEC.<br><b>17</b>  |

**Scan QR code to sign up today!**



Art gifted to CVIC by Eric Castle



## CVIC faces unprecedented funding threats

CVIC currently has a funding deficit of \$500,000 that could affect area neighbors. In response to this shortfall, we have made the difficult decision to reduce our staffing by 4.6 full-time equivalent positions, in addition to applying significant expense management efforts. While we maintain a healthy reserve, we want to continue identifying ways to close this funding gap through private fundraising and grant efforts. We're also working with our US congressional representatives to procure answers to anticipated federal grant award notices, which reflect another \$600,000-plus of uncertainties.

## Deficit of \$500,000 could impact area neighbors



### SAFETY

**725**

victims of domestic violence/sexual assault who wouldn't have a helping hand in their darkest moment, and

**552**

nights spent in an unsafe environment rather than in Mary's Place Shelter.



### HEALING

**306**

sessions of evidence-based therapy could not take place, meaning youth & adults won't begin their healing journeys.



### PREVENTION & EDUCATION

**4,274**

youth, adults & professionals could miss out on learning what healthy friendships and communication look like, how to recognize signs of abuse in relationships, and best practices for responding.



Scan QR code to donate today!

Your help can close the gap and open doors to critical needs for clients facing interpersonal violence.

*We invite you to make a donation, introduce us to someone new or register for a tour (see dates on page 10).*

 [facebook.com/cvicgf](https://facebook.com/cvicgf)

 [youtube.com/@cvicgf](https://youtube.com/@cvicgf)

 [instagram.com/cvicgf](https://instagram.com/cvicgf)

## 2026 Judd Sondreal Memorial Rise & Shine for Peace Breakfast Postponed

Throughout the past 15 months, CVIC has navigated unprecedented financial uncertainty, including delayed federal funding and growing pressure on private grant support. To leverage highest and best use of staff resources, we made the difficult, yet critical decision to postpone this year's Judd Sondreal Memorial Rise & Shine for Peace breakfast. This is a moving, inspiring and meaningful event for our team, partners and community. To create a well-organized event experience, requires months of event-planning focus. Moving forward, we want to direct this time toward individual donor conversations, small-group gatherings and monthly tours.

We are deeply grateful to Lisa Sondreal's longstanding contributions as well as her late husband Judd's legacy throughout the past several years, and plan to revisit alternative large-scale event fundraising when conditions are more stable. In the meantime, our development team (see page 2) welcomes any introductions or ideas you might have to enhance private giving.



Scan the QR code to learn more about your impact, explore additional ways to support CVIC, and find contact information if you have questions or would like to connect with someone on our team.