



# Your impact

Together, we made so much happen last year.  
RESPOND Impact Report: July 2021-June 2022 Edition

## 1. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As our world continued to open up, RESPOND has ramped up outreach and engagement activities, reaching more than **4,500 members of our community**.

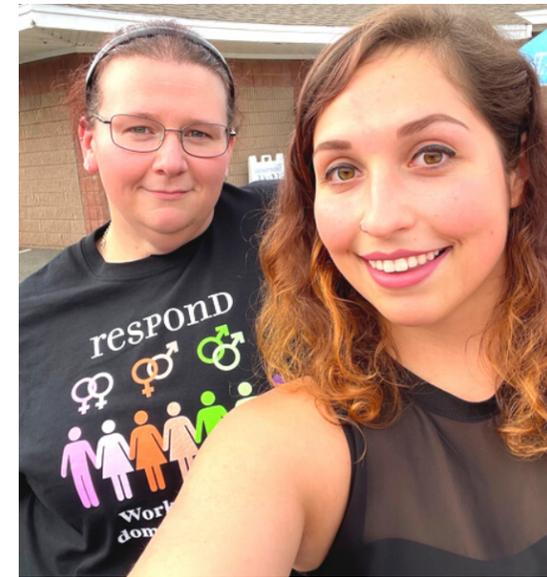
We tabled at farmers markets, healthy living expos, and Somerville's Big Gay Dance Party, among other gatherings. More events are on the books as we head into the fall. Through partnerships with community organizations like the Reading Public Library and the Stoneham Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Community, we trained parents and guardians with tools to support their tweens and teens as they navigate their first relationships. Once again, in partnership with the City of Somerville and the Somerville Women's Commission, we honored those lives taken by domestic violence.



## 2. EMERGENCY SHELTER

Emergency shelter remains the cornerstone of RESPOND's programs, and is designed to provide an immediate, temporary option so survivors do not have to choose between abuse and homelessness. Despite the twin emergencies of the pandemic and Boston's affordable housing crisis, **85% of RESPOND's shelter residents** left our shelter and scattered residential sites within 3-4 months.

Not only did this mean a safe, independent next step for these families, but it also made it possible for another family to find refuge with RESPOND after fleeing violence.



## 3. CIVILIAN ADVOCACY

RESPOND's civilian advocates reached **1,700 survivors** following domestic violence calls made to police stations in six cities and towns: Malden, Melrose, Wakefield, Woburn, Wilmington, and Reading.

As our nation wrestles with the role of police in our communities, RESPOND is serving as a bridge between survivors and law enforcement, offering survivors support as they seek justice, whatever that looks like for them.

## 4. SAFE HOUSING SOLUTIONS

**40 families** found safe, independent housing with support from RESPOND's Housing Team. RESPOND was able to leverage support from our community to administer public funding that went directly to clients or to landlords, moving companies, storage facilities or other vendors in service to those clients.

Thanks to partnerships with furniture banks and supporters like you, these families had what they needed to start fresh.



## 5. SURVIVORSHIP BEHIND BARS

RESPOND is proud to work with those at the intersection of incarceration and survivorship. Those behind bars have been some of the most vulnerable during the pandemic, in terms of infection rates and increased isolation. Our counselors provided trauma-informed support groups, one-on-one counseling support, and comprehensive case management advocacy to **130 survivors** at the Suffolk County House of Correction. This spring, we launched a support group in the community for formerly incarcerated and justice-involved survivors, and membership is growing.