

Katie Brown

Crisis Center for South Suburbia

Position: Impact and Innovation Director

Time at Agency: 3 years

Commitment to advocacy on behalf of those affected by domestic violence:

Katie's dedication to advocating for domestic violence victims is truly commendable. She tirelessly pursues various funding opportunities, including partnerships, grants, and community support, to enhance the resources available to clients. Her efforts ensure that a comprehensive network of care and empowerment is always accessible to those in need. Her passion and commitment make a significant impact in the lives of many.

Personal qualities that reflect an ongoing commitment to ethical, peaceful, and respectful work with others:

Katie is a model of ethical and respectful work, characterized by her strong sense of accountability and transparency. She consistently delivers on her promises and navigates diverse environments with cultural sensitivity, ensuring every voice is heard and valued. Collaboration is central to her approach, fostering partnerships and teamwork to achieve common goals. Integrity guides her decisions and interactions, reflecting her honesty and ethical principles. These qualities together make Katie a dedicated and inspirational leader.

Ways in which they still instill a spirit of advocacy in others:
Katie's dedication to advocacy is truly inspiring. Her commitment to the rights and well-being of others paves the way for positive change. By regularly sharing resources like articles, books, and other materials, she informs and inspires those around her. Her passion motivates others to engage in community service and participate in discussions, demonstrating a collective dedication to ending domestic violence.

Experience that demonstrates a broad commitment to social justice:
Katie's commitment to social justice shines through her dedication to staying updated on new laws and policies. Her thorough research ensures she has accurate and informed knowledge, empowering her to contribute effectively to the movement to end violence against women and advocate for lasting change.

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Creativity in building the domestic violence movement within a social change framework:

When it comes to grant writing and non-profit funding, Katie brings a refreshing perspective. While data, program reporting, and financial transparency are essential, Katie infuses creativity into the process. She prioritizes new ideas and opportunities over the usual checklist of metrics. Instead of just following the money, Katie follows the story, asking insightful questions and balancing the big picture with the finer details.

Where others see challenges as obstacles, Katie sees them as opportunities, often asking "what if" or "why not." She isn't afraid of being wrong, believing that the right answer is simply yet to be found. Whether she's analyzing trends in Hotline calls and shelter exits or listening to departmental needs for better utilizing Empower, Katie's constant curiosity drives her to seek more so she can achieve more.



Katie Brown (left) with Crisis Center for South Suburbia Executive Director and ICADV Program Council Convenor, Pam Kostecki (right)