

# BRANCHES

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER, INC

## To Our Friends,

For nearly four decades, Branches Domestic Violence Shelter has been providing life-saving services to survivors of domestic violence. Daily, we see the evidence of this work as victims find the resilience to become survivors and live a life free from abuse. We continue to grow our services, evolving our agency to include legal advocacy, crisis counseling, and most recently housing advocacy. The simple fact remains, though, that there is still a rising need for emergency shelter.

To celebrate our upcoming 40th anniversary, Branches is undertaking a new goal, and we need your help. **All proceeds raised from “The Branches Gala: Roaring Into the Twenties” will be designated for the purchase of a brand new shelter.** In 2018, 188 people sought refuge in our 22 existing beds, and another 145 individuals had to be turned away due to the shelter being at capacity, no available male beds, or our handicap accessible spaces being full. This new shelter would allow us to add 22 additional beds, effectively **doubling** the amount of people we can serve fleeing immediate danger.

Forty years ago, community leaders just like you pooled their resources, expertise, and passion to make Branches a safe place for a change. Now, we are asking you to do it again, joining forces to empower survivors to rebuild healthy, happy lives in our community. We know that you have the power to be a game-changing factor for those experiencing domestic violence, so we invite you to join us in the fight to make our neighborhoods safer. Together, let's move into a new decade with hope for a better, safer community and a passion to meet its needs in the 2020s.

Please give notice of your sponsorship by returning this form no later than Friday, **January 24th, 2020.** We cannot do it without you.

**Sincerely,**

**Sara Blevins**

**Director of Development**

**Branches' vision aims to change the way the community thinks about Domestic Violence, encourage and support domestic peace, and set the boundary that there is no excuse for abuse.**