



Stepping Up

Stepping Stones Agencies Newsletter

JANUARY 2025

MORE THAN JUST A NEW YEAR

Welcome to 2025! Stepping Stones Agencies is excited to celebrate 45 years of providing 24/7/365 services to local families who need safety and healing because of domestic violence and abuse.

Throughout this year, we plan to celebrate the families who changed their lives, the friends who provided support along the way, and our awesome associates who have helped ensure that our services happen day and night. Please watch our newsletters, social media, and website for updates and details!

Thank you to all who have supported the families we serve in West Yavapai County. Because of you, they are able to find futures that are free from abuse and filled with safety and hope.

ADVOCATES AVAILABLE 24/7/365 ON THE HELPLINE: 928-445-4673

WWW.STEPPINGSTONESAZ.ORG

**2651 N. INDUSTRIAL WAY SUITE A
PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ
928-772-4184**

**STEPPING STONES THRIFT STORE:
928-499-3260
DONATION PICK-UP:
928-759-0225**



Stepping Stones' original safe shelter (left) to our present day safe campus (right).

THEN & NOW: 45 YEARS OF 24/7/365 ADVOCACY SUPPORT

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity. It turns problems into gifts, failures into success, the unexpected into perfect timing and mistakes into important events. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.”

- author, Melody Beattie

In 1980, the Prescott Chapter of the American Association of University Women worked hard to help Stepping Stones (then known as Faith House) open its doors to serve women and children who needed safety from domestic violence. Our first shelter had 10 beds plus five cribs where women and children could come to find freedom from abuse.

Fast forward 45 years, Stepping Stones still provides the same outstanding around-the-clock advocacy and support services, including safe shelter. In 2000, the

shelter campus moved to a new, bigger location with 16 beds plus 5 cribs, and four transitional housing apartments on site. As of 2025, we have added FIVE more transitional apartments for a total of nine! Because of our amazing team of advocates, Stepping Stones is able to provide 24/7/365 support on our helpline and in-person to meet the needs of families experiencing violence.

We couldn't do this without the support of so many people who make sure that our advocates are available day and night. This includes our awesome staff and volunteers, our thrift shoppers and donors, our community friends, the amazing businesses in the quad-cities, and most of all, YOU - our friends who support us and show up to help families through donating, serving, and lending a hand. We are grateful for you and are able to still have our doors open 45 years later because of you. Thank you for making a difference for local families! We are UNBELIEVABLY grateful!



SAFETY, HEALING, AND HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Because of YOU, the holidays were full of joy and gratitude for 45 adults and children at Stepping Stones this year!

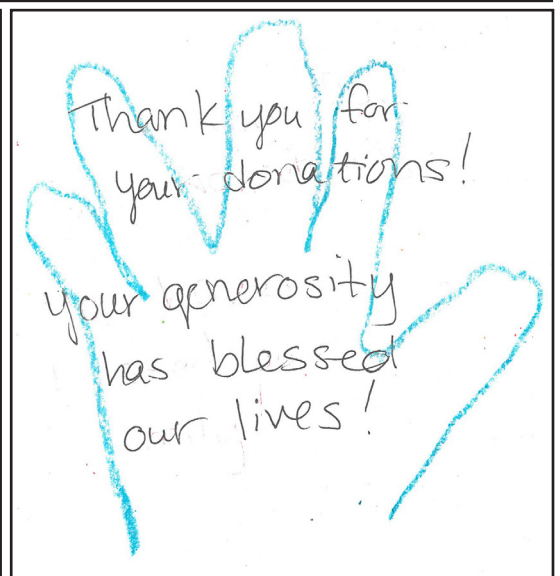
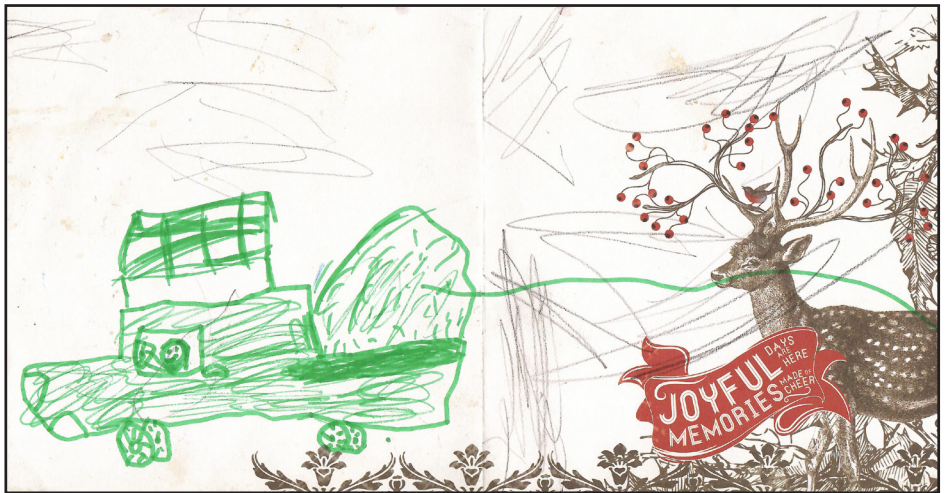
Our safe emergency shelter and transitional housing have all been full with families in need of safety and support. With all of these families working hard to change their lives, your support with gifts, gift cards, and special surprises mean so much during the holidays.

Moms were able to shop for their kids, wrap gifts, and celebrate together in safety because of you.

Thank you for helping bring joy to families in shelter this holiday season by remembering them while they are living in with us. We are grateful for you!

Photo above: This is the amazing display of gifts and stockings representing all of the families living at Stepping Stones during the holidays this year. Thanks to the efforts of our awesome community, volunteers, and advocates, families were able to celebrate in a big way!

Artwork: A few drawings and notes from adults and children who celebrated the holidays with Stepping Stones this year.





GIVE BACK WHEN YOU SHOP AT FRY'S

Grocery shop with purpose! You can choose to support Stepping Stones with each purchase made at Fry's Food Stores through their Community Rewards program.

It's easy to sign up!

Go to www.frysfoods.com/communityrewards

Follow the instructions to create/log in to your account

Search: Stepping Stones Foundation or enter our number HN881

Use your rewards card each time you shop at Fry's!

Questions? Let us know and we can help - 928-772-4184! Thank you for supporting local families with us, even when doing your regular grocery shopping!

NEW BEGINNINGS FILLED WITH SAFETY AND SUPPORT

The new year brings about opportunities to reflect and show gratitude in our lives. The families at Stepping Stones often share how their hard work with our advocates allow them to find the safety and support they need to live free from abuse. Adults complete an anonymous survey upon exit to provide feedback. From January 1 through December 31, 2024, they reported:



100% reported they know how to plan for their continued safety.

100% reported they have an increased understanding of their legal rights.

97% reported they felt their safety planning sessions were helpful.

100% reported they felt confident they would be free from abuse even after leaving Stepping Stones.

NEW YEAR, MORE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT



While 2024 is over, there is still an opportunity to give your 2024 Arizona Qualified Charitable Tax Credit donation to support families at Stepping Stones. You can give a donation until April 15, 2025 and still claim it on your 2024 Arizona state tax return.

Arizona offers a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on your AZ state return by making a monetary donation to a qualified charitable organization of any amount (NEW for 2024 - give up to \$470 filing single or \$938 filing joint). When you claim the credit using Arizona form 321, you will reduce your tax liability or increase the amount you receive in a refund.

Learn more about tax credits: <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits/credits-contributions-qcos-and-qfcos>.

To give, visit www.SteppingStonesAZ.org/Donate.

Please check with your tax professional for info regarding donations for your specific tax situation. You can also learn more about the tax credit by visiting azdor.gov. Stepping Stones' official Qualifying Charitable Tax Credit code from the State of Arizona is: 20034.

STEPPING STONES' BOOK OF THE MONTH: MOUNTAIN AIR

Each month we'll feature a book or item from our 12-step recovery and inspirational bookstore! These items will be available for purchase inside our Administration Office in Prescott Valley located at: 2651 N. Industrial Way, Suite A, Prescott Valley 86314. Open Mon - Thurs 9 am - 4 pm, and Friday by appointment. Call Savannah at 928-772-4184 to learn more.

MOUNTAIN AIR: RELAPSING AND FINDING THE WAY BACK BY HOLLI KENLEY, M.A.

"Another reward of recovering is the uncovering of ourselves. Once we are out from underneath the blanket of shame that has weighed us down, we are free to become and to be our true selves." - pg 73

The beginning of a new year often allows people a moment to reflect on what went well and what they want to work on in their lives. For some, the fresh start is another chance to walk in recovery after relapse.

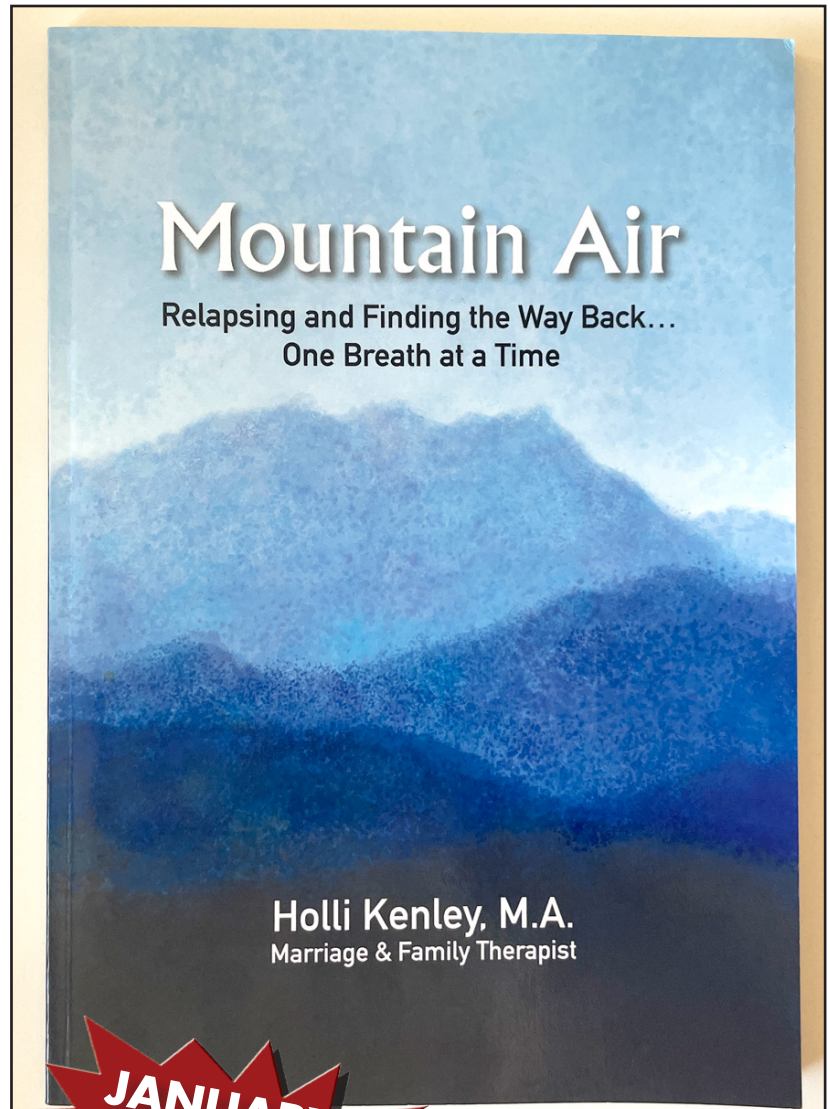
Mountain Air: Relapsing and Finding the Way Back...One Breath at a Time by Holli Kenley is a short memoir-style book taking a look at relapse and the journey back to recovering.

The book says, "Mountain Air is for any individual who has experienced relapse and who is fighting to find his way back by inviting readers to take a journey with the author as she shares time-tested lessons in the recovering process."

If you or someone you know is starting the new year by working their way back to recovery, this book is an inspiring read. As the author says, "I believe that life is about recovering and rejoicing."

This book is available for purchase in our 12-Step Recovery Bookstore located inside our office at 2651 N. Industrial Way in Prescott Valley.

Questions? Please contact Savannah at 928-772-4184.



**JANUARY
PRICE:
\$15.95**

**LOOKING FOR OTHER
12-STEP RECOVERY
AND SUPPORT GROUP
MEDALLIONS, BOOKS,
GIFTS, AND MORE? CALL
US - 928-772-4184**

STEPPING STONES ADVOCATES AVAILABLE ON OUR 24/7/365 HELPLINE 928.445.4673

Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI and VII) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Stepping Stones Agencies prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability. Stepping Stones must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For example, this means that if necessary, Stepping Stones Agencies must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that Stepping Stones Agencies will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy please contact: Cori Burke at 928.772.4184. Para obtener este documento en otro formato o obtener información adicional sobre esta política, por favor llamar a Cori Burke, 928.772.4184