

Stop Street Harassment

2016 Annual Report



Who We Are & Thank You

Stop Street Harassment (SSH) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Reston, VA, near Washington, D.C. It is dedicated to documenting and ending gender-based street harassment worldwide. It started as a blog in 2008 and became incorporated as a non-profit in 2012.

Each year, our work is largely funded through volunteers, including our board of directors, 20+ blog correspondents, the hundreds of people who submit their stories each year, the scores of groups who take part in International Anti-Street Harassment Week each spring, and the many other people who donate their time and expertise by helping with social media, graphic design, helping organize and host events, and more. Thank you so much to each and every one of them.

Thank you also to everyone who donates, whether it's \$5 or \$1,500, every bit is important and makes the work possible!

We hope that everyone who donated, joined our programs, attended our events, joined our Tweetchats, volunteered, or was part of our work in some other way in 2016 feels proud by our achievements.

The Annual Report includes highlights from our programming, our collaborations, and our events and financial information.

Thank YOU!,

Holly Kearl
SSH Founder and Executive Director
Dec. 22, 2016



Board Members & Volunteers

Our work this year is possible thanks to our SSH community:

Board Members:

Manuel Abril

Maureen Evans Arthurs

Elizabeth Bolton

Holly Kearl

Dr. Laura S. Logan

Erin McKelle

Patrick Ryne McNeil

Lindsey Middlecamp

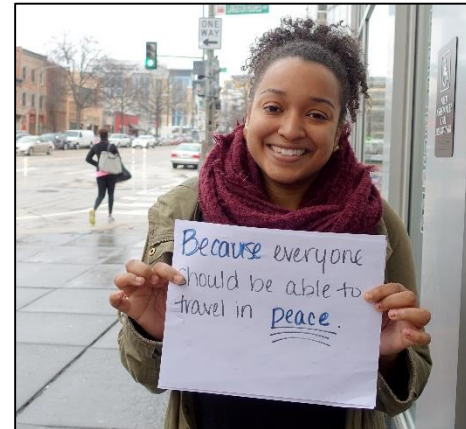
Layla Moughari

Maliyka Muhammad

Lani Shotlow-Rincon

Contract Part-Time Staff:

Lauren McEwen



Volunteers:

Social media: Jill Santos and Julie Summerford Pearson

Language translations: Carla Avenia, Mariana Diaz Fernandez, Yuriana Sobrino, and Rebecca Smyth

Special projects: Colleen Hodgetts

Graphic design: Noorjahan Akbar

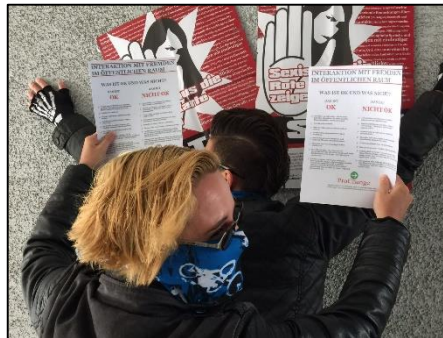
PROGRAMMING

International Anti-Street Harassment Week

Stop Street Harassment oversaw the 6th annual [International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). Groups in 36 countries and 18 U.S. states and D.C. [participated](#) through organizing street demonstrations, flyering, wheatpasting, sidewalk chalking, tweet chats, and workshops.



Guatemala



Germany



Nepal



South Africa

A few highlights of the week included:

- The [release](#) of the first-ever street harassment study in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which showed that 100% of women had faced street harassment.
- A law amendment to [criminalize street harassment](#) was [passed](#) unanimously in the Chilean Chamber of Deputies.
- A member of parliament in Victoria, Australia, made a statement on the Parliament floor.
- UN Women Safe Cities and the Quezon City local government in the Philippines worked with the Tricycle Drivers Association to train 100 tricycle drivers (tuk-tuk drivers) on gender sensitivity and to come up with joint solutions for addressing street harassment.

National Street Harassment Hotline

There has never been a national street harassment hotline in any country, yet many people who experience harassment may not have people in their lives they can turn to for advice and emotional support and could benefit from a hotline. For this reason, this year, SSH partnered with the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) and Defend Yourself, to launch the first-ever [national street harassment hotline](http://www.stopstreetharassment.org) in the USA!

RAINN already runs a national sexual assault hotline. SSH and Defend Yourself trained their staff on street harassment issues and provided them with resources to share with callers. RAINN staff take the calls and SSH finances the RAINN staff members' time for those calls.

In late July 2016, the hotline launched! Callers can receive free 24/7 support and advice, in English and in Spanish. On August 10, a secure IM chat option became available, too.

YOU DESERVE TO FEEL SAFE IN PUBLIC SPACES.

Contact the National Street Harassment Hotline
for free, 24/7 support, advice and information
by trained staff in English and Spanish by phone and online.

Call toll free: (855) 897-5910 or visit www.stopstreetharassment.org



LÍNEA DE AYUDA NACIONAL PARA EL ACOSO CALLEJERO

Llamé gratis: (855) 897-5910,
o visita www.stopstreetharassment.org

Ayuda, consejería e información gratis,
disponible en inglés y español 24/7.



National Street Harassment Hotline (Cont.)

The hotline is funded through the generous support of individual donors. Several volunteers assisted in translating the materials into Spanish and designing postcards & social media graphics.

A donor to the hotline said:

"As a victim of sexual harassment I really appreciate what you guys are doing!"

A volunteer who translated materials into Spanish for the hotline said:

"Happy to be helping for this amazing hotline. I work myself in a domestic violence hotline and knowing there is going to be an street harassment hotline makes me so happy."

Carmen (pictured on the right) is the RAINN staff member who took the first call. She helped support a woman who was harassed and kissed by a man she did not know at a bus stop. Carmen assured her that what happened wasn't her fault, and she talked her through possible responses she can have if she is harassed again. Carmen said the caller sounded very grateful.

More than 110 people have used the service so far.

Here's what one caller shared:

"I spent days searching the Internet before I found this program and it is a beautiful thought. There isn't much support for people who experience street harassment and even friends can have a difficult time coming up with words to say. I hope the program receives enough funds to keep going and growing forever."



Blog Correspondents

SSH recruited and worked with three cohorts of 24 total [blog correspondents](#) from 10 countries. They each [wrote monthly articles](#) about street harassment and/or activism in their communities across their four month cohort.

One correspondent wrote after her cohort ended:

"I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be a Blog Correspondent for SSH. I have learned so much from this experience, and it has opened so many doors for freelance writing in the future. Thank you for giving us a platform to use our voices."

In her application, another correspondents wrote:

"Reading the stories and articles posted on the SSH website has helped me understand that women do not need to put up with harassment as a part of life and that we have as much right to share the public spaces, as men do. I have had discussions, at length, with my family members and friends, my husband and sister in particular, and I believe that by discussing these topics, we are on the right tract to create safer environment for women and LGBTQ people. Therefore, I would love contribute to the discussion on a larger scale through SSH blog."



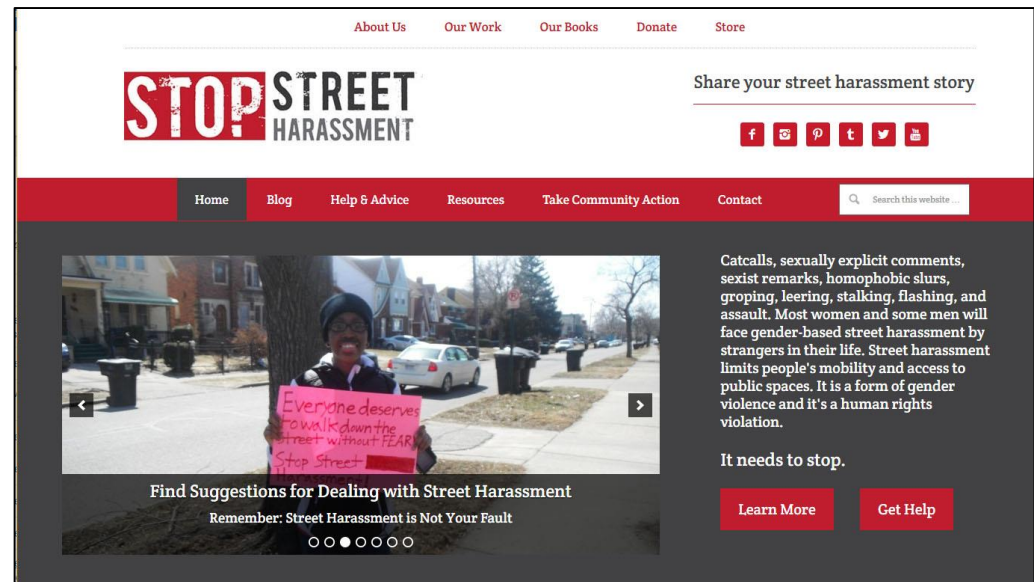
Sharing Stories, Social Media, and Website Resources

Anyone in the world can submit their street harassment story to the SSH [blog](#). Across 2016, more than 200 people did so.

People also share their stories on social media. SSH has more than 39,000 people on our [Facebook page](#), 13,100 people who follow us on [Twitter](#), and 1,350 people who follow us on [Instagram](#).

The SSH website continues to serve as a go-to place for people who need resources and information on street harassment. This year, nearly 300,000 people visited the site and there were more than 532,000 page views.

The most popular pages, aside from the homepage, include the statistics page, “what is street harassment” page, and pages that provide suggestions for responding to street harassers in the moment, advice for dealing with the problem in general, and the Know Your Rights legal toolkit.

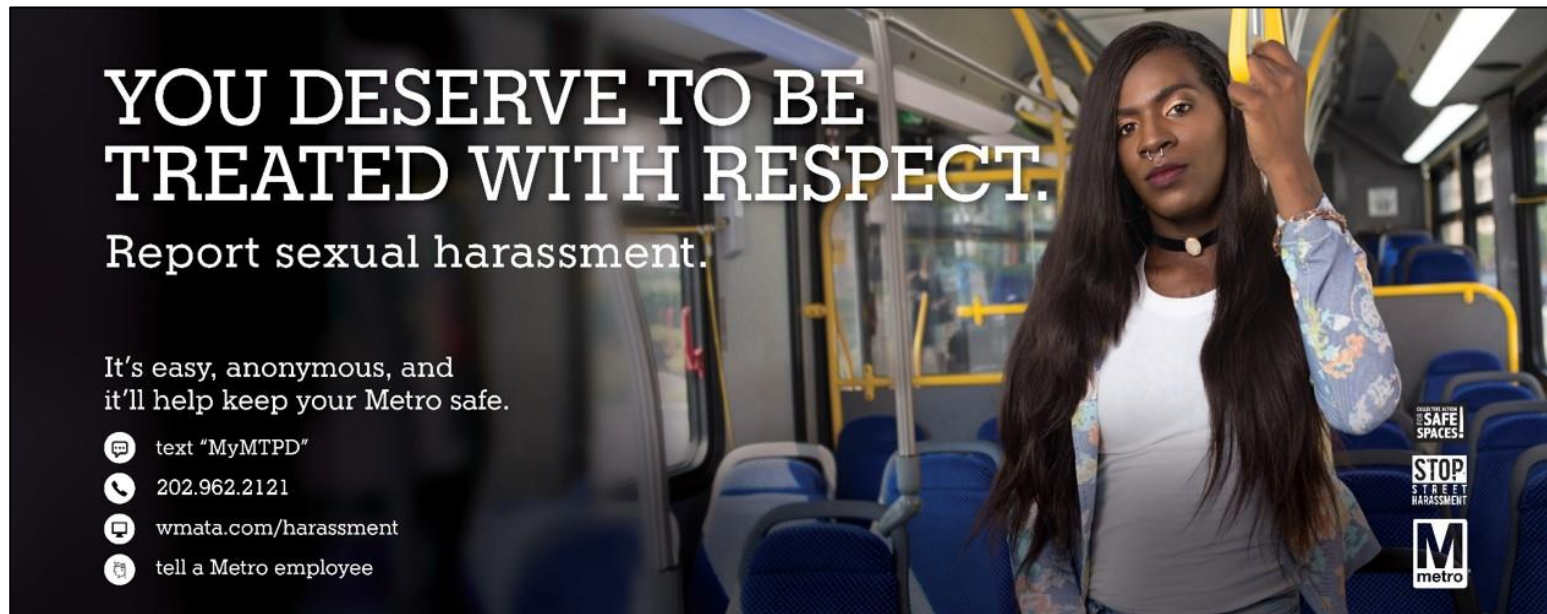


COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Safe Transit Campaign in Washington, D.C.

This was the fourth year of our joint anti-harassment transit campaign with the [Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority](#) (WMATA) and [Collective Action for Safe Spaces](#).





One of our big successes was designing and launching our [third wave of anti-harassment ads](#). One goal for this round of ads was to bring more attention to demographics that face the most harassment, such as trans women of color and Muslim women wearing hijab.



**YOU DESERVE TO BE
TREATED WITH RESPECT.**

Report sexual harassment.

It's easy, anonymous, and
it'll help keep your Metro safe.

-  text "MyMTPD"
-  202.962.2121
-  wmata.com/harassment
-  tell a Metro employee

CREATE THE SAFEST SPACES!

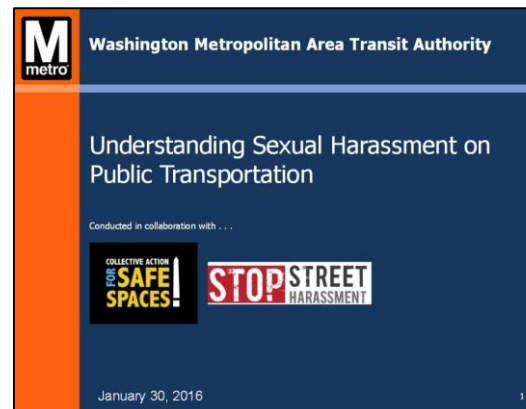
STOP
STREET
HARASSMENT

M
metro

Safe Transit Campaign in Washington, D.C. (Cont.)



This year SSH and CASS also worked with WMATA on the first-ever transit-wide survey on sexual harassment ([results](#)) and an outreach day at five Metro stations during [International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). At our encouragement, WMATA also began holding sexual harassment training for their bus operators.



Safe Cities - HABITAT III

Through a consultancy with UN Women, SSH Founder Holly Kearl went to Quito, Ecuador, for [HABITAT III](#), the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. Tens of thousands of people from around the world convened to discuss issues relating to cities.

Elsa D'Silva of [Safecity](#) invited Holly to speak at her workshop, along with Rosy Mondardini of [Open Seventeen](#) in Switzerland. The panel focused on crowdsourcing and community engagement and how to create concrete changes in communities with those data. Holly spoke about the anti-harassment transit campaign in Washington, D.C. Despite the 8 a.m. start time, the workshop was well attended.

The conference provided the opportunity to meet with people working on street harassment all over the world, including in Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, India, and Italy!



Harassment and Women Runners

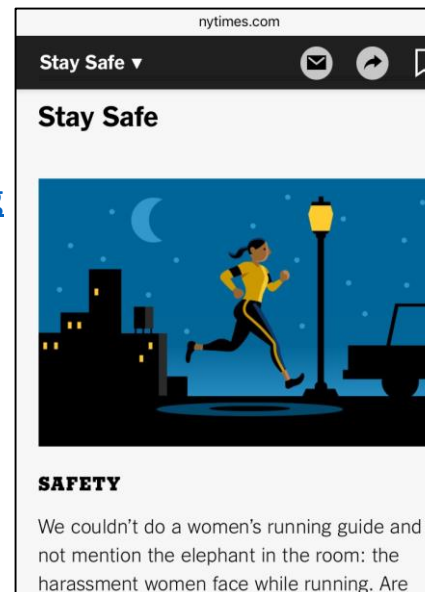
After three women runners in three different states were murdered in a month, a [blog post](#) about it at *Runner's World* (RW) became the site's most popular post to date. Editor Meghan Kita followed it up with a post, "[The Problem is Not Women Running Alone](#)," which also generated a lot of discussion.

From there, Kita spearheaded an informal survey about runner safety and street harassment, the first of its kind. SSH gave input on the [survey](#) instrument and 4,670 runners took it. 43% of women runners have faced street harassment "at least sometimes," compared with 4% of men.

SSH supporter Michelle Hamilton wrote an article about the survey and street harassment + running that is in the magazine's December issue. SSH is mentioned. SSH also joined the RW [Podcast #28](#) on the subject.

SSH founder Holly Kearl wrote [an article](#) on the topic for *TIME* Magazine, which led to an [interview for CNN's affiliate station HLN](#).

The New York Times released a [Women's Running Guide](#) the same week, and the section on "Safety" features SSH's resources.



Public Art Grant

The D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) Vision Zero Initiative, and Age-Friendly DC partnered to issue a call to DC artists and designers to propose a ["Zero Street Harassment Project."](#) This is the first time a U.S. has offered a public art grant on street harassment.



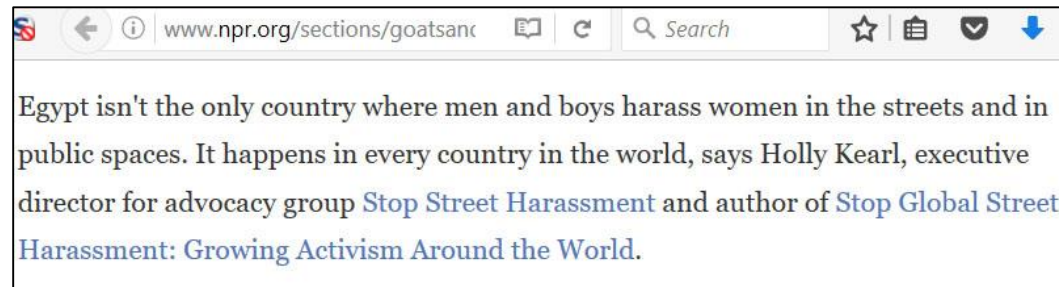
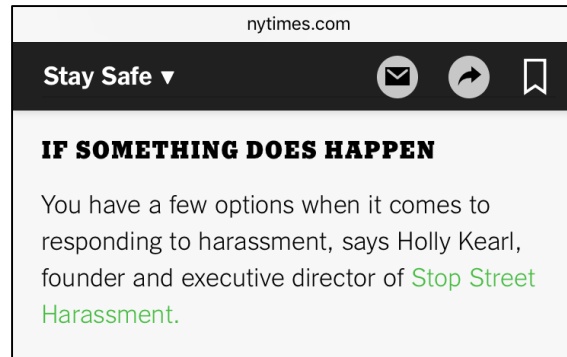
SSH gave input on the call for proposals and served on the review panel to select the finalists.

MEDIA EVENTS FINANCIALS

Media Mentions

International Anti-Street Harassment Week was cited in more than 65 article and news stories in April.

Across the year, SSH received more than 100 [media mentions](#), including in the New York Times, BBC World News TV, Washington Post, USA Today, Upworthy, Runner's World, HLN TV, NPR, and Teen Vogue.



Media Coverage:

- BBC World News TV (12/16)
- Fresno City College Student Paper The Rampage (12/16)
- Mic (12/16)
- New York Times (11/16)
- Kansas City Star (11/16)
- CNN's HLN TV station (YouTube video) (11/16)
- Runner's World Magazine (Dec. 2016 issue and online 10/16)
- The State Press (11/16)
- Greater Greater Washington (11/16)
- WZVN-TV (11/16)
- Southwest Journal (11/16)
- Runner's World Podcast (11/16)
- WGN Radio (11/16)
- el Periodico (11/16)
- Revelist (11/16)
- Mic (11/16)
- Shape Magazine (11/16)
- Yes! Magazine (11/16)
- New York Times (10/16... this time named!) and syndicated by
- Bustle (10/16)
- Revelist (10/16)
- New York Times (10/16... SSH is not named but there is a link to
- Bustle (10/16)
- USA Today (9/16)
- Indianapolis Recorder (9/16)

Board Members Speak

Board members spoke at 12 [events](#), including campus and community talks in DC, MD, MN, NE, NY, and OH. This also includes speaking at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, International Summit to End Sexual Violence, and the Global Girl Media National #GirlsGovern Town Hall.



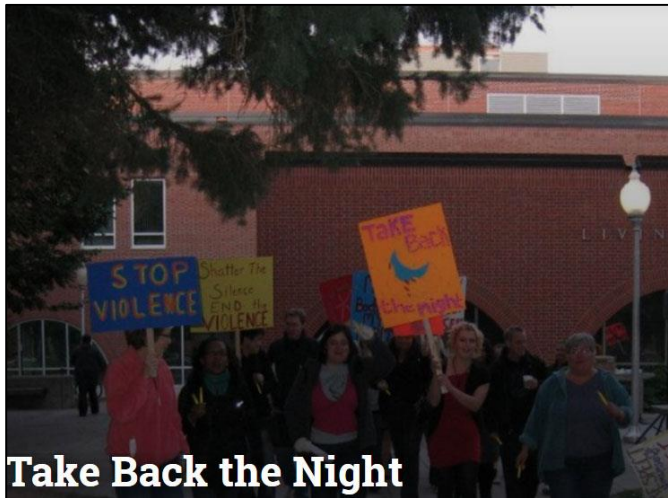
#GirlsGovern Town Hall in Washington, D.C.



University of Nebraska – Lincoln talk

Board Members Speak (Cont.)

A Women's and Gender Studies professor at Minnesota State University of Moorhead invited Lindsey Middlecamp to give a presentation on street harassment to the whole department. Lindsey did and was part of the 100-person Take Back the Night Rally as well as held a brownbag lunch event for 50 people on street harassment activism. There were a lot of questions about how to have a career or volunteer in the feminist activist field.



Holly Kearl gave a Women's History Month keynote address at Mount Union University in Ohio. She then spoke to two classes taught by Dr. Jennifer Martin and had lunch with her and a few students. Across the day, she distributed SSH stickers to the students.

Dr. Martin wrote afterward, *"It warmed my heart today to see so many of my students with Stop Street Harassment stickers on their phones and laptops. One student shared that he interrupted an incident of street harassment on campus today."*

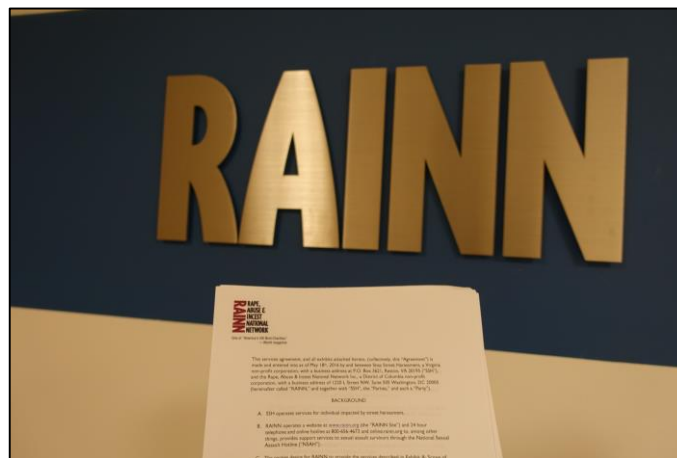
Financials

Income: SSH received \$1,500 in funding from the PinPoint Foundation and \$12,500 in donations from individuals.

Expenses: SSH's work is largely done on a volunteer-basis. This year, \$1,000 was used for part-time help for work relating to International Anti-Street Harassment Week. Approximately \$13,775 was spent on launching the National Street Harassment Hotline in July and covering the cost of running it for five-and-a-half months. Other administrative costs were under \$200.

Balance: Much of the 2016 expenses were covered by the 2015-end-of-year fundraiser. Going into 2017, SSH has a balance of more than \$10,000 that will help fund the hotline and other expenses in 2017. Those who also wish to help fund the 2017 programs can make a tax-deductible donation:

www.stopstreetharassment.org/donate



Our contract with RAINN – they staff the hotline and SSH pays for the staff members' time.



www.StopStreetHarassment.org

www.facebook.com/StopStreetHarassment

@StopStHarassmnt (Twitter & Instagram)

hkearl@stopstreetharassment.org

