

Stop Street Harassment 2017 Annual Report



SSH supporters at the Women's March, Jan. 21, 2017

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 efforts largely consist of the work done by volunteers, including our board of directors, blog correspondents, the hundreds of people who submit their stories to the website each year, the scores of groups who take part in International Anti-Street Harassment Week, 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 person!

Thank you also to everyone who donates to SSH, every single dollar is important and makes the work possible!

We hope that everyone who donated, joined our programs, attended our events, took part in our Tweekchats, volunteered, or was part of our work in some other way in 2017 is pleased by our collective achievements.

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

Thank YOU!,

Holly Kearn
SSH Founder and Executive Director
Dec. 27, 2017



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

Patrick Ryne McNeil

Lindsey Middlecamp

Layla Moughari

Maliyka Muhammad

Lani Shotlow-Rincon

Daljit Soni

Volunteer Staff:

Holly Kearl, Executive Director

Contract Part-Time Staff:

Britnae Purdy

Anti-Street Harassment Week Volunteer:

Elisa Melo

PROGRAMMING

International Anti-Street Harassment Week

Stop Street Harassment oversaw the 7th annual [International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). Groups in 40 countries and 20 U.S. states and D.C. [participated](#) through organizing street demonstrations, flyering, wheatpasting, sidewalk chalking, tweet chats, and workshops.

You can read highlights from each day (with photos) on our blog: [Day 1](#) | [Day 2](#) | [Day 3](#) | [Day 4](#) | [Day 5](#) | [Day 6](#) | [Day 7](#)

People all over the world joined the Global Tweetathon on April 4 ([see the Storify](#)) and the various tweet chats. We partnered again with [Stop Telling Women to Smile](#) for an International Wheatpasting Night.



Argentina



Romania



Guatemala



Indonesia



Nepal



France

National Street Harassment Hotline

SSH continued to partner with the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) to run the first-ever [national street harassment hotline](#) in the USA! Callers receive free 24/7 support and advice, in English and in Spanish, via phone or secure IM chat.

In August 2017, we reached the one-year mark for the hotline. Across the first year, people had used 3,466 minutes on the phone hotline and 1,776 on the online hotline. There is usually an average of 30 people per month who utilize the hotline in one form or the other. While this is a small usership, we are proud to be able to offer a unique service to those who really need it, when they need it.

Thank you to our donors who made launching the hotline possible and to everyone who continues to donate, including Alan Kearl and Beckie Weinheimer, who make monthly contributions.



WHISTLE STARE YELL STALK GRAB STREET ABUSE IS A CRIME.

CALL THE NATIONAL STREET HARASSMENT HOTLINE

855-897-5910

Services in English & Spanish
24/7
Free: Help. Support. Advice.

Brought to you by:

defend yourself STOP STREET HARASSMENT RAINN

Timeline of Incidents:

- 2:10 PM: Coworker for grocery store, someone says, "HEY DARYL," as she walks by. She ignores it.
- 2:23 PM: Stares & gropes at chest. Coworker tries to avoid eye contact by searching through cartons bag.
- 2:52 PM: Stares at the corner of store where store clerk stands. No harm.
- 3:15 PM: Asks local store clerk where she can find flour. Clerk looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, I don't know."
- 3:52 PM: Walks by a different store. Someone says, "HEY DARYL," as she walks by. She ignores it.
- 4:43 PM: Asks local store clerk where she can find flour. Clerk looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, I don't know."



LÍNEA DE AYUDA NACIONAL PARA EL ACOSO CALLEJERO

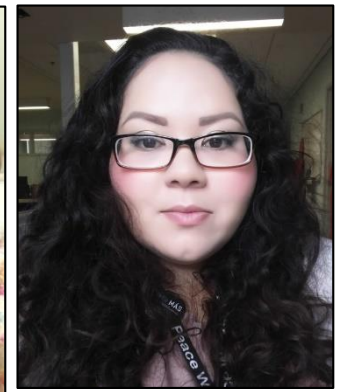
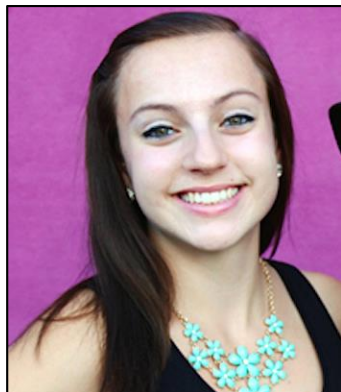
Llamé gratis: 855-897-5910

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

Mujer: la calle es nuestra que acoso no te deje sin respuesta

Blog Correspondents

SSH recruited and worked with two cohorts of nine [blog correspondents](#) from eight countries (Brazil, Indonesia, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Philippines, Romania, UK and USA). They each [wrote monthly articles](#) about street harassment and/or activism in their communities across their four month term.



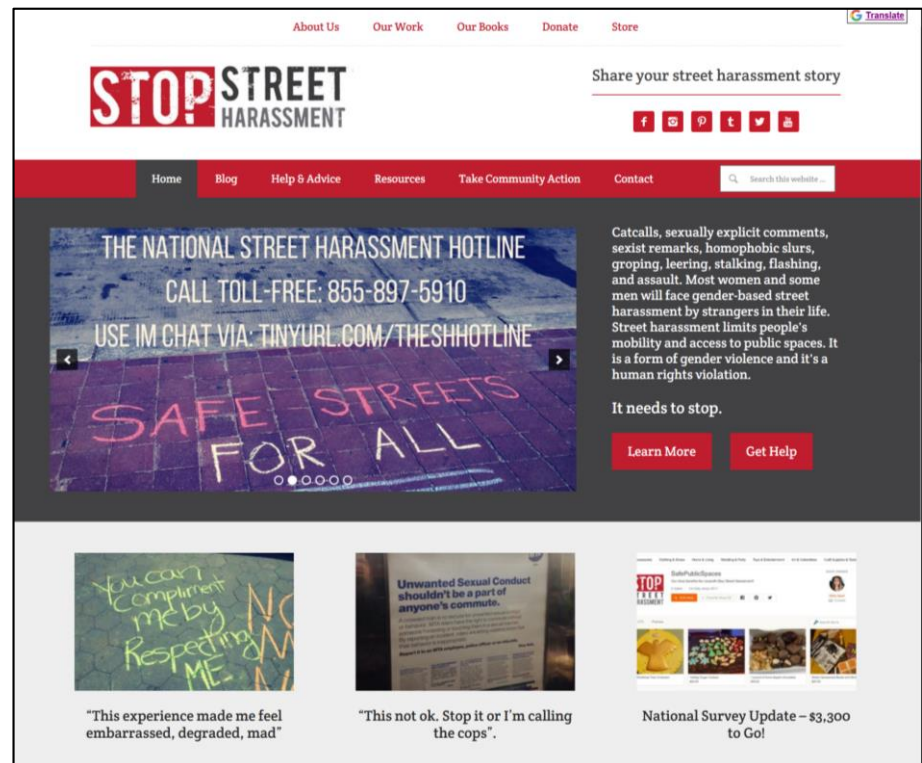
Sharing Stories, Social Media & Website Resources

Anyone in the world can submit their street harassment story to the SSH [blog](#). Across 2017, around 200 people did so.

People also shared their stories on social media. SSH has more than 39,000 people on our [Facebook page](#), 13,600 people who follow us on [Twitter](#), and 1,700 people who follow us on [Instagram](#).

The SSH website continues to serve as a valuable place for people who need resources and information on street harassment. This year, nearly 245,000 people visited the site, and there were more than 417,000 page views.

The most popular pages, aside from the homepage, include the various statistics and studies pages, the “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.



New National Research Project

To date, there is no nationally representative survey to document the pervasiveness of sexual harassment and other forms of abuse across all the places it occurs in the U.S., including public spaces, schools, campuses, workplaces, places of worship and private homes. There's no better time than now to collect these data to back-up the recent outpouring of #MeToo stories about sexual abuse experiences.

Starting in late November, we began partnering with [Raliance](#), which works on sexual violence issues (it is a coalition comprised of [National Alliance to End Sexual Violence \(NAESV\)](#), the [National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#), and [California Coalition Against Sexual Assault/PreventConnect](#)), and survey firm [GfK](#) to work toward conducting this timely survey.

Thanks to the generosity of our #GivingTuesday donors, PinPoint Foundation and Raliance, a nationally representative sample of 2,000 people will be surveyed in mid-January 2018! We are excited for this forthcoming project and thank Raliance, our advisory committee and our pro bono data analyst Dr. Anita Raj, Director of [UC San Diego's Center on Gender Equity and Health](#), for helping us make it possible.

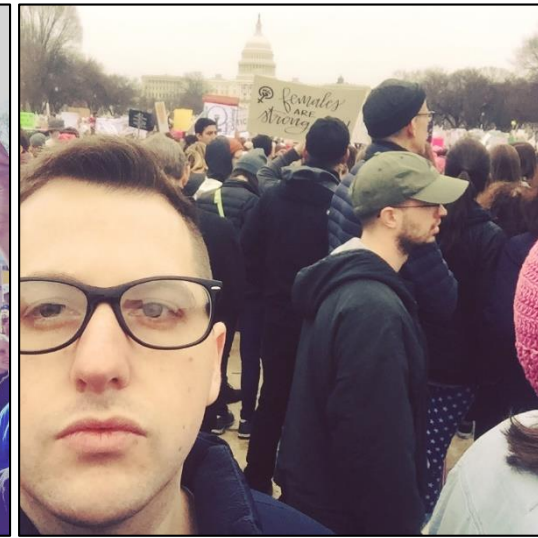
Stay tuned for the report release in March or April of 2018.



COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Marches

Because of the harmful political and cultural climate brought on by the new presidential administration in January 2017, there were many opportunities for SSH board members to join our allies in marching in favor of safety, respect and equality for all. The biggest march, of course, was the Women's March on January 21, the largest protest in our country's history. Board members attended the marches in Washington, D.C., Minneapolis and Los Angeles. It was so crowded in Washington, D.C. that not everyone from SSH could march together, but a highlight for one contingent was marching alongside superstar Katy Perry! Our youngest marcher, 5-year-old Susie, is a fan and handed her a SSH sticker!



Marches (cont.)

Our board members also joined marches across the year that were held in support of issues like immigrants' rights, transgender folks' rights and Title IX protections and against white supremacy. Shout-out to D.C.-based board member Patrick McNeil who attended many of these important events! He also spear-headed efforts like SSH's letter of support for Gavin Grimm and transgender people across the country.

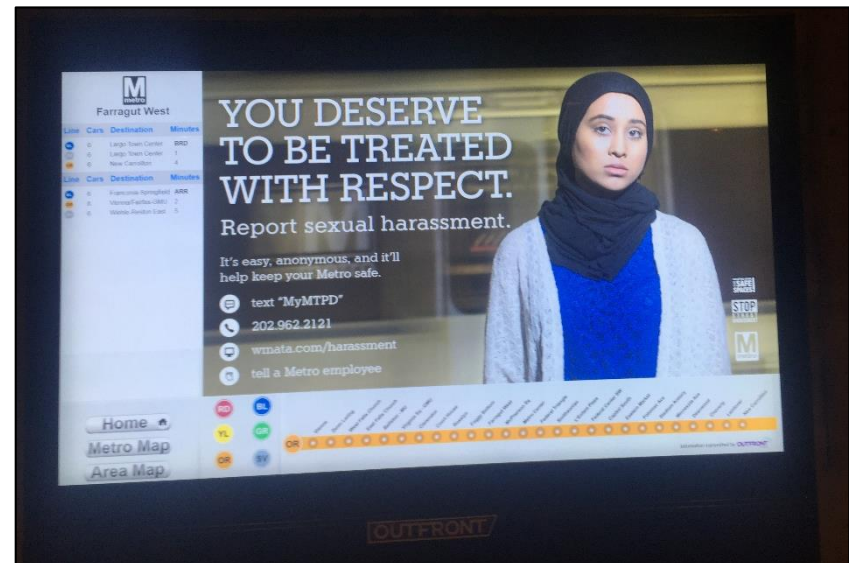


Safe Transit Campaign in Washington, D.C.

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

It was a quieter year with no new major new initiatives, in part because WMATA's resources and attention were so focused on SafeTracks, but the [third wave of anti-harassment ads](#) continued to be visible across the whole system, both as print and digital ads.

The message on the ads is needed now more than ever!



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

This year SSH and CASS continued the annual tradition of holding an outreach day at five Metro stations during [International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). Our board member D. Soni was one of the volunteers and gave an excellent media interview for the local NBC TV station!



United Nations Events

Through a consultancy with UN Women, SSH Founder Holly Kearl went to Mexico City, Mexico, to attend and give three presentations at the Global Forum: Safe Cities and Public Spaces. She shared the stage with persons from countries like Morocco, the Philippines, Ecuador, Pakistan and Egypt and also had the chance to connect personally with people in countries like India, Vietnam, Guatemala, Canada, and the Dominican Republic.



With Elsa D'Silva, director of [Safecity](#), Kearl spoke at a side event of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York City. Attendees hailed from places like Zimbabwe, Ghana, Nigeria, India, Philippines, Turkey, New Zealand, Taiwan, Australia & USA, and they shared their ideas on post-it notes about what individuals can do when facing harassment and what can be done at a community level to stop it.

Supporting Other Groups' Efforts

SSH supported various groups' efforts this year, including:

[Free Women Writers'](#) fundraiser event to print booklets with resources for survivors of violence (including street harassment) to distribute in Afghanistan. While the [booklet is also available online](#), many women in need lack access to the Internet.



The 5th annual Rally against Rape in Arlington, Virginia.

[Sydnie L. Mosley Dances'](#) Window Sex Project Community Workshops during which Harlem women and genderqueer folks ages 18-40 engaged in movement, storytelling and discussion about street harassment and related topics.

[Stop Telling Women to Smile's](#) 5th anniversary event.

A [street harassment roundtable](#) organized by state lawmakers in Pennsylvania that was held in Philadelphia.

A [conference on gender-based violence](#) at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Kearl also gave advice to many entities spearheading new campaigns and efforts, including the New York City Parks Dept., lawmakers in Philadelphia, and activists in St. Louis, Missouri.

Supporting Other Groups' Efforts (cont.)

SSH board member Lani Shotlow-Rincon worked with the Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center on a campaign aimed at eliminating sexual harassment at their facility. They adapted her personal anti-street harassment artwork "Hello, My Name is NOT HEY BABY" as part of their campaign. Each person featured in the campaign is a veteran.



MEDIA EVENTS FINANCIALS

Media Mentions

International Anti-Street Harassment Week was cited in 50 articles in April. Across the year, SSH received more than 65 [media mentions](#), including in the AP, BBC, Guardian, Washington Post, NPR, Shape Magazine, Women's Running Magazine, Women's Health Magazine, U.S. News, The Atlantic's City Lab, Teen Vogue and Bustle.

www.theguardian.com/inequality/2017/oct/11/paying-to-stay-safe

Feeling forced to use transport instead of walking makes safety a privilege, according to [Stop Street Harassment](#) founder Holly Kearl. Women can only choose not to walk if they have the financial means to access transport - which means for teenage girls in particular, cost can be a barrier to safety.

<https://www.shape.com/lifestyle/>

Unfortunately, street harassment is something that 65 percent of women have experienced, according to a study from the nonprofit [Stop Street Harassment](#). It can cause women to take less convenient routes, give up hobbies, quit jobs, move neighborhoods, or simply stay home because they can't face the thought of one more day of harassment, according to the organization. (Related: [How Street Harassment Makes Me Feel About My Body](#))

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/parenting/wp/2017/11/22/my-daughter-got-her-first-ca>

Also, strategize as a family. [Stop Street Harassment](#) is a nonprofit that offers advice and resources, including a [tool kit](#) that covers how and when to report harassment. It provides information about state harassment laws, which are important to know as you develop your family plan.

Media

If you'd like to interview SSH staff or a member of the [SSH Board](#), contact

Media Coverage:

- [Teen Vogue](#) (12/17)
- [Bustle](#) (12/17)
- [Splinter News](#) (12/17)
- [Washington Post](#) (11/17)
- [WHYY](#) (11/17)
- [Coast Report Online](#) (11/17)
- [BBC](#) (10/17)
- [Guardian](#) (10/17)
- [Washington Post](#) (10/17)
- [City Lab](#) (10/17)
- [Teen Vogue](#) (10/17)
- [Shape Magazine](#) (10/17)
- [Huffington Post](#) | 2 (10/17)
- [Bustle](#) | 2 | 3 (10/17)
- [Kansas City Star](#) (10/17)
- [Arizona Daily Sun](#) (10/17)
- [Women's Health Magazine](#) (9/17)
- [Women's Running Magazine](#) [online](#) (9/17) and print Oct. 2017 issue.



Media Mentions (cont.)

For much of the year, the media coverage of street harassment was the lowest it's been across SSH's nine years of existence... this may be due to the media's focus on each nearly daily catastrophe that occurred under the new presidential administration.

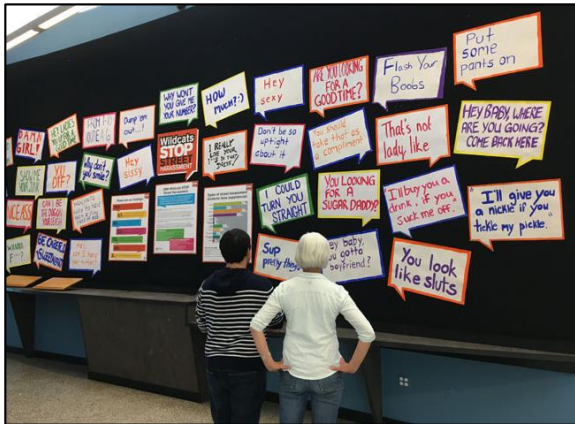
However, there were a few media blitzes that addressed street harassment, including the #MeToo hashtag in October 2017, and in August 2017 when singer Taylor Swift went to court in Denver, CO, for two lawsuits stemming from a former DJ allegedly groping/assaulting her. During the Denver court hearing, Swift took a [strong stance](#) against victim-blaming. Her subsequent [win](#) was a win for abuse survivors everywhere. Kearl gave an interview about the lawsuits for the [Associated Press](#) that was picked up by a dozen outlets and two TV [interviews](#) for the [Morning Dose](#) (which each aired in six major cities). She also penned a [piece for Huffington Post](#).



Speaking Events

Board members spoke at 12 [events](#) in CA, DC, MD NH, NY, VA and Mexico City. These events included talks to high school students, college students, community members and global safe cities leaders.

The talks at the University of New Hampshire came about thanks to the efforts of a student named Jordyn Haime. She conducted a campus street harassment survey and created a bulletin board with information from the findings for Anti-Street Harassment Week. Within hours, the dean told her to take it down due to the “offensive” content (printing what harassers said!). The [campus SHARPP office](#) stood behind her, SSH issued a statement of support, SSH board member Patrick McNeil interviewed Haime for a HuffPost article and her story also received local media attention. When the campus’s SHARPP office invited Kearn to speak at a campus-wide event a few months later, she invited Jordyn to speak about her experiences, too, and she did, with eloquence and passion. Haime is an inspiration! Holly also spoke to a class on campus during her visit.



Haimes's display at the University of New Hampshire in April 2017



*Kearl's Fall 2017 UNH visit with
Connie DiSanto of the SHARPP office
and student Jordyn Haime*



Fall 2017 UNH visit – classroom talk

Financials

Income: SSH received \$1,500 in funding from the PinPoint Foundation and nearly \$9,000 in donations from individuals.

Expenses: SSH's work is largely done on a volunteer-basis. This year, \$750 was used for part-time help for work relating to International Anti-Street Harassment Week. Approximately \$5,000 was spent on the monthly expenses of running the National Street Harassment Hotline. Other administrative costs were around \$200.

Balance: Much of the 2017 expenses were covered by the 2016-end-of-year fundraiser. Going into 2017, SSH has a balance of more than \$15,000 that will fund a nationally representative survey on sexual abuse, a project inspired by the #MeToo movement.

Those who wish to help fund the National Hotline in 2018 can make a tax-deductible donation:

www.stopstreetharassment.org/donate



The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a blue top section and a yellow bottom section. The top section contains the text "Today is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women" in white. To the right of this text is a small orange and white logo that says "Orange the World" and "LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS". The bottom section contains the text "Help fund national research on sexual harassment & abuse when you donate to Stop Street Harassment!" in blue. At the very bottom, there is a blue bar with the URL "http://tinyurl.com/GivingTuesSSH17" and the "STOP STREET HARASSMENT" logo.

Today is the
International Day
for the Elimination of
Violence against Women

Help fund national research on
sexual harassment & abuse
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Stop Street Harassment!

<http://tinyurl.com/GivingTuesSSH17>

STOP STREET HARASSMENT



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@StopStHarassmnt (Twitter & Instagram)

hkearl@stopstreetharassment.org

