

Elizabeth Freeman Center Gala:

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF IMPACT

Thursday, May 14, 2026
Barrington Hall
426 Stockbridge Rd, Great Barrington, MA



Sponsorship Opportunities





Elizabeth Freeman Center, Inc.
413-499-2425
66 Allen St., Pittsfield, MA 01201
ElizabethFreemanCenter.org

Executive Director

Divya Chaturvedi

Board of Directors

Leslie Ioffredo, President
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Mark Lipton
Marie Paradise
Jackie Sadera
Tess Sorrentino
Sabrina Tan

Gala Planning Committee

Divya Chaturvedi
Pamela Czach
Diane DeGiacomo
Laurie Gallagher
Deborah Gallant
Liliana Gutierrez
Oskar Hallig
Kimberly Kirchner
M. Christine Macbeth
Hillery Maxymillian
Marie Paradise
Sabrina Tan
Michelle Thorpe
Terri Wilbur

Join us as we honor EFC's past — and support its future.

Dear Community Partners,

On behalf of the Elizabeth Freeman Center 50th Anniversary Gala Committee, we are honored to invite you to partner with us as a sponsor of this historic celebration.

Elizabeth Freeman Center (EFC) has been Berkshire County's only comprehensive domestic and sexual violence services agency for fifty years providing free, confidential, and life-saving services to thousands of survivors and their families each year. With a comprehensive array of programs and services EFC's work reaches every corner of Berkshire County ensuring that help is available whenever and wherever it is needed.

Our milestone 50th Gala honors five decades of resilience and progress, while also acknowledging the urgency of the moment we are in and the growing funding uncertainties. The need for survivor services continues to escalate, particularly in our rural region, where isolation, housing insecurity, and limited resources can compound risk. Your sponsorship helps ensure that EFC can continue to provide lifesaving services to survivors and help them attain long-term stability.

As a sponsor, your organization becomes part of EFC's enduring legacy and future impact, signaling that violence has no place in Berkshire County and that survivors deserve to be believed, supported, and empowered.

We would be honored to celebrate this milestone with you and to recognize your organization as a valued partner in EFC's next fifty years of impact.

*With sincere appreciation,
The Elizabeth Freeman Center
50th Anniversary Gala Committee*

Our Story: A Grassroots Movement

- **1974:** Responding to dramatic changes in the social, political, and economic climates, Women's Services Center incorporates as a resource for women seeking financial independence and entering the workforce for the first time.
- **1976:** Rape Crisis Center incorporates, with a volunteer staff providing counseling and hotline services.
- **1982:** WSC formally launches the Displaced Homemaker's Program, serving 8,000 clients across multiple counties in its first four years.
- **1989:** WSC opens a Battered Women's Shelter in Pittsfield. RCC brings child sexual abuse prevention programs to area schools and daycares.
- **1990s:** Both agencies experience drastic cuts in funding.
- **1997:** WSC and RCC merge to form Elizabeth Freeman Center, Berkshire County's only comprehensive domestic violence and rape crisis agency.
- **2000-10s:** Services expand rapidly over the following years to include specialized programs for vulnerable communities, child counseling, and in-school prevention education.
- **2015:** Money School, an award-winning economic empowerment course, graduates its first class of survivors.
- **2020:** COVID-19 results in soaring rates of domestic and sexual violence. EFC's shelter is one of few programs to remain open, every day, through the entire pandemic.
- **2024:** EFC moves from its long-time but decidedly outgrown home on Francis Avenue into its new headquarters at 66 Allen Street in Pittsfield.



Our Services

24/7 hotline for emergencies and support:
866-401-2425

In-person emergency response to hospitals and police stations following an attack

Temporary and long-term safe shelter

Advocates stationed in all Berkshire County courts to help with protection orders

Money School financial independence program

Youth healthy relationship and violence prevention education

Community education and awareness programs

Specialized counseling for:

- LGBTQ+ survivors
- Immigrant survivors
- Survivors with disabilities
- Homeless survivors
- Children experiencing domestic violence

Services are provided in English and Spanish - translation and interpretation services are available

Our Impact

In 2025, EFC

served **1,937** survivors and their **2,136** children

answered **3,491** calls and messages to our 24/7 hotline

provided **388** nights of emergency shelter for survivors fleeing immediate violence

graduated **71** participants from our Money School financial empowerment program

Our Challenges

Growing Need: Despite 50 years of progress, the demand for services is at an all-time high.

The Rural Reality: Isolation, lack of transportation, and the shortage of safe housing in the Berkshires create unique barriers that require intensive, localized support.

Reliance on Public Funds: For decades, the majority of EFC's work has been funded by state and federal grants. But those sources have serious limitations:

- **Restrictive:** Government money often comes with "red tape" that limits who we can help and how.
- **Unpredictable:** Shifts in political cycles and budget cuts put life-saving programs at risk.

The Shift: This 50th anniversary marks our commitment to becoming a community-sustained organization, ensuring we are never at the mercy of a distant budget line.

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Celebrating 50 Years of Impact

Thursday, May 14, 2026 - Barrington Hall, Great Barrington, MA

The Event: A landmark celebration of our history and a fundraiser for our future.

The Audience: 160+community leaders, business owners, and change-makers gathered to ensure the next 50 years are defined by safety and justice.

Sponsor Opportunities

| Sponsor Benefits | | TITLE: \$50,000 | GOLD: \$25,000 | SILVER: \$10,000 | BRONZE: \$5,000 | SUPPORTER: \$2,500 |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Pre-Event | "Title sponsor" on all materials | x | | | | |
| | Included in invitation*, press release, poster | x | x | x | x | x |
| | Name and logo on email blasts/web page | Featured | x | x | x | x |
| | Social media posts | x | x | x | | |
| At Event | Public recognition from podium | Speak | x | x | x | |
| | Preferred seating | 8 seats | 8 seats | 6 seats | 4 seats | 2 seats |
| | Commemorative Program | logo on front, full page ad | full page | ½ page | ¼ page | business card |
| | Included in event poster | Featured | x | x | x | x |
| Post-Event | Inclusion in post-event press release | x | x | x | x | x |
| | Post-event social media | x | x | x | | |
| Rise Together | RISE TOGETHER with EFC: Sponsors at the Title, Gold, and Silver levels will also be included as sponsors for our Rise Together community campaign in September, featuring three engaging events across Berkshire County: Pittsfield: September 15 - Lenox: September 24 - North Adams: October 1 | | | | | |
| | Rise Together 2026 Sponsorship | Top level | x | x | | |

Deadline of inclusion on invitation: 3/6/26

Elizabeth Freeman Center 50th Anniversary Gala Sponsorship Agreement

Organization

Contact person

Phone number

Email address

**Sponsorship
Package:**

- ☐ Title (\$50,000)
- ☐ Gold (\$25,000)
- ☐ Silver (\$10,000)
- ☐ Bronze (\$5,000)
- ☐ Supporter (\$2,500)

Total

Please return this form to Elizabeth Freeman Center
with your tax-deductible contribution:

Elizabeth Freeman Center, Inc.
66 Allen St., Pittsfield, MA 01201
kimberlyk@elizabethfreemancenter.org
Fax: 413-443-3016 • ElizabethFreemanCenter.org

To complete this form and contribute online, visit:

ElizabethFreemanCenter.org/50Gala

or scan the QR code.

