



## Healing through music. One song at a time.

Every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted.

That's about **213,000** victims a year.

### **Those victims are:**

- **3 times** more likely to suffer from depression.
- **6 times** more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.
- **13 times** more likely to abuse alcohol.
- **26 times** more likely to abuse drugs.
- **4 times** more likely to contemplate suicide.

**Our mission:** to break the silence surrounding the issue of sexual violence while promoting healing for survivors through the power of music.

### **How it all came about:**

The inspiration for Angel Band Project came from an unthinkable tragedy. In July 2009, a young man crept through an open window in the middle of the night at the home of Teresa Butz and her partner. After repeatedly raping and stabbing both women, Teresa fought back. According to police, her actions saved her partner's life, but cost Teresa her own.

After witnessing the emotionally powerful singing at the funeral from Teresa's musically-talented family and partner, Teresa's lifelong best friends were inspired to record them. Teresa's brother, two-time Tony Award winner Norbert Leo Butz, and Teresa's surviving partner, Jennifer Hopper, joined their efforts. Their aim was simple: to capture the power in the music they heard to help others heal from the effects of sexual violence.

### **What we're doing today:**

Since the release of our first benefit album in 2010, we have expanded our vision and now use music to directly impact the lives of survivors. Music connects us all on a deep level. Our groundbreaking music therapy program, called "Songs of Survival," has been positively changing lives since 2014. Board-certified music therapists work with small groups of teen and adult survivors as part of their healing process. As of December 2015, we have helped over 200 survivors who are in counseling at four area agencies in St. Louis: Safe Connections, YWCA St. Louis Regional Sexual Assault Center, St. Martha's Hall, and A Woman's Place.

In 2016, we are expanding our program to St. Charles, MO and Seattle, WA.

Our Virtual Choir, which debuted in St. Louis November 2014 and traveled to Seattle in 2015, is uniting survivors of sexual violence all over the country. In 2016, we are poised to expand this “virtual” musical project via web submissions, which will create a global choir comprised of those who are standing up and taking their lives back while supporting all survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

We also hold live concerts and events to engage people with this issue. Music gets people talking about the fact that 1 in 5 women will be the victim of rape in her lifetime; 1 in 71 men will be victimized in his lifetime. So we use the power of live music to promote activism and action to put an end to sexual violence for good.

And lastly, we encourage universities and students to join our efforts. We have spoken at several campuses including Washington University, University of Kansas, University of Missouri-Columbia, Marquette University, Maryville University, and the University of Central Arkansas. Angel Band Project also presents our story at conferences from coast to coast, including the National Sexual Assault Conference in 2013, End Violence Against Women International 2014 and the American Music Therapy Association Conference in 2015.

Join the band. Help us break the silence.

Angel Band Project is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit based in St. Louis, MO.

**contact**

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