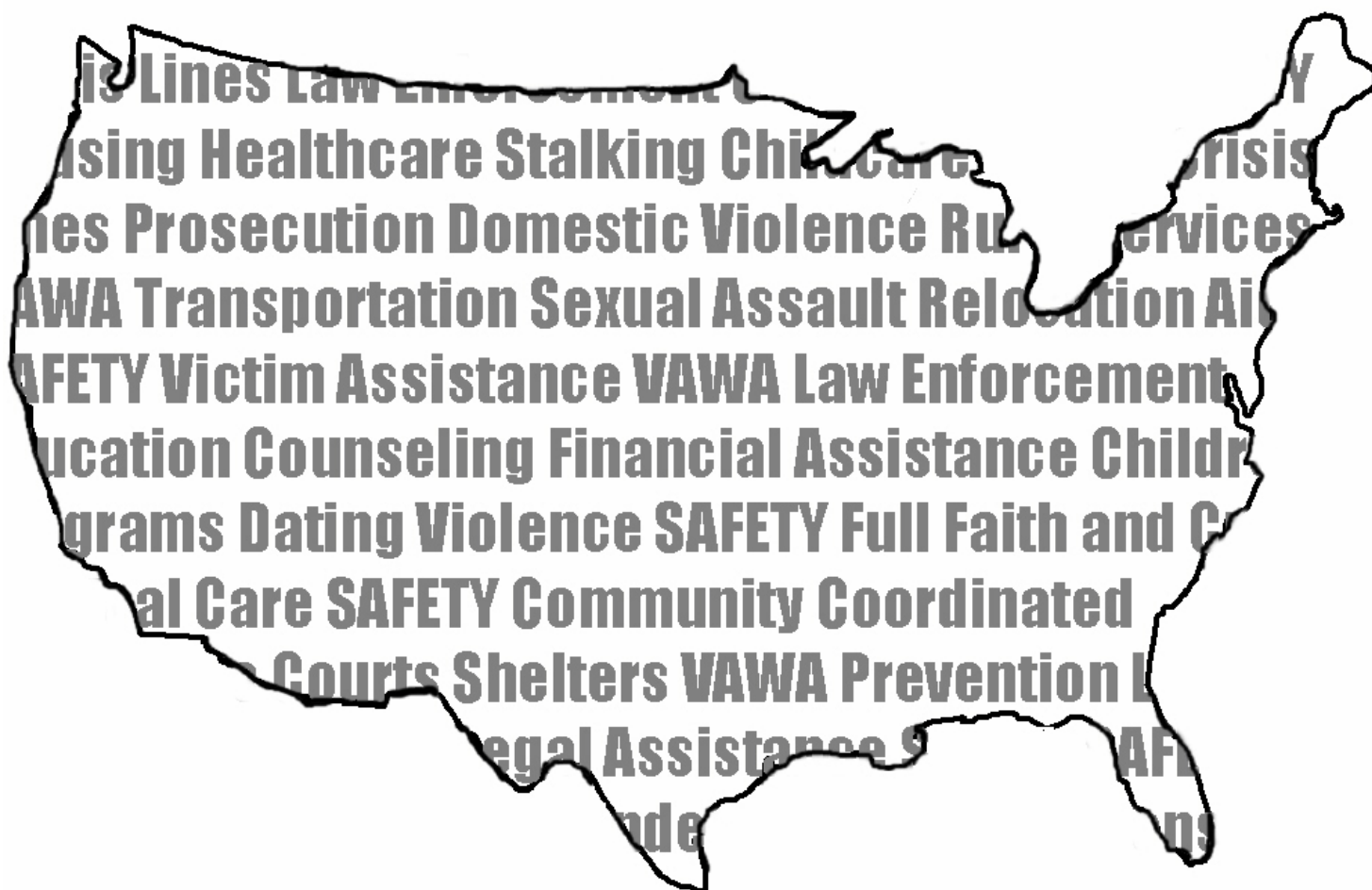

CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDING TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE



FY 2008 APPROPRIATIONS BRIEFING BOOK

Updated February 20, 2007



For more information, please contact:

Break the Cycle
Juley Fulcher * 202-824-0707

Family Violence Prevention Fund
Kiersten Stewart * 202-682-1212

Girls Incorporated
April Osajima * 202-463-1881

Jewish Women International
Tovah Kasdin * 202-464-4821

Legal Momentum
Lisalyn R. Jacobs * 202-326-0040

The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
Ellen Fern * 202-289-3903

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards
Dan Eddy * 703-780-3200

National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators
Steve Derene * 608-233-2245

The National Center for Victims of Crime
Susan Howley * 202-467-8722
Ilse Knecht * 703-732-2446

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Jill Morris * 202-745-1211

National Congress of American Indians
Virginia Davis * 202-466-7767

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Rob Valente * 202-558-0031

National Network to End Domestic Violence
Allison Randall * 202-543-5566

National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault
Luz Marquez-Benbow * 860-693-2031

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
Diane Moyer * 717-728-9740

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network
Evelyn Fortier * 202-544-5537

Sacred Circle National Resource Center To End Violence Against Native Women, a project of Cangleska, Inc.
Karen Artichoker * 605-341-2050
Brenda Hill * 605-341-2050 ext. 16

Stop Family Violence
Irene Weiser * 607-539-6856

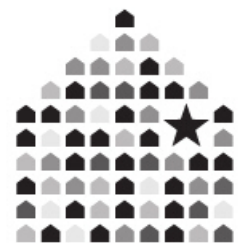


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INTRODUCTION

10 Years of Progress and Moving Forward

Over a decade ago, Congress made a historic commitment to addressing domestic and sexual violence when it passed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994. VAWA programs, funding, and legal reforms have changed federal, tribal, state and local responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and their effectiveness is evident in the progress made since VAWA's implementation. Local, state, and national laws have changed; programs, businesses, and communities are responding to victims' needs; and studies show that rates of violence and reporting of crimes have improved. Since VAWA was first passed in 1994:

- There has been a 51% increase in reporting of domestic violence;¹
- The rate of non-fatal intimate partner violence against women has decreased by 61%;²
- The number of women killed by an intimate partner has decreased 26%;³
- States have passed more than 660 laws to combat domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. All states have passed laws making stalking a crime and changed laws that treated date or spousal rape as a lesser crime than stranger rape; and
- Hundreds of companies, led by the model programs established by Altria, Polaroid, Liz Claiborne, The Body Shop, Aetna and DuPont, have created Employee Assistance Programs that help victims of domestic violence.

Furthermore, research estimates that VAWA saved nearly \$14.8 billion dollars in net averted social costs in its first 6 years.⁴

Overwhelming Needs Remain

Yet this violence remains pervasive—affecting not only victims, but also the wider community and the nation, without regard to age, economic, religious, ethnic, or educational bounds.

- The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$5.8 billion each year, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health care services.⁵
- One in every four women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime.⁶
- One in six women and one in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.⁷
- More than half of all rapes of women occur before they reach the age of 18.⁸
- Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.⁹
- In 2006, the National Domestic Violence Hotline received 215,244 calls, but 29,021 of those calls went unanswered due to lack of resources.

Congress Responds to the Crisis and Reauthorizes VAWA

Recognizing both the efficacy of VAWA and the need for further progress, Congress unanimously passed a second reauthorization in 2005. VAWA 2005 continues lifesaving programs and creates targeted new programs, building a spectrum of prevention and intervention efforts to support women, men, and children in living healthy and safe lives. These new remedies address gaps in prevention services, housing, health care, and employment issues

related to domestic and sexual violence. And they bring VAWA's effective services to new populations, including youth, Native women, and victims of sexual violence, through funding for rape crisis centers and other service providers not included in previous legislation.

Funding for VAWA

The modest funding increases in VAWA are a sound investment that will bring fiscal savings, but more importantly, will save lives and secure communities across the nation. The programs created in VAWA each serve distinct purposes – supporting a variety of entities that provide different targeted prevention and intervention services. Due to critical intersections between these programs, increased progress in one sphere leads to increased demand in another. For example, providing more violence prevention education to youth increases the number of youth coming forward for services.

Therefore, increased funding in each area must be matched by investment to meet the demands throughout programs. Funding this array of efficient, coordinated programs created in VAWA is essential to curbing domestic and sexual violence, protecting our youth, and creating a safer society. For this reason, the importance of full funding for new and existing VAWA programs cannot be overstated.

Congressional Intent to Increase Funding

Congress clearly saw the need for increased funding and responded by passing increases for VAWA programs in both the House and Senate Commerce, Justice, Science FY '07 appropriations bills. H.R. 5672 passed out of Committee in the House with a \$21.5 million increase for STOP Grants, due in large part to the removal of several earmarks. The separately authorized Transitional Housing program was given its own line item. The bill also included a \$2.8 million increase for Legal Assistance to Victims. During floor debate, several amendments were added that further increased funding: the Brown-Waite amendment added \$10 million for new VAWA programs generally, with an emphasis on children and youth and sexual assault services; the DeLauro amendment added \$5 million for the Sexual Assault Services Program; the Inslee amendment funded Services for Children Exposed to Violence, Services to Advocate and Respond to Youth, and Tracking of Violence Against Indian Women for a total of \$5 million; and the Nadler amendment added \$5 million for Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants, a purpose area within STOP Grants. The Senate bill, S. Rept. 109-280, was never brought to the floor for a vote. However, it did pass out of Committee with an additional \$6.6 million for STOP Grants, \$3 million for Transitional Housing, \$6.6 million for Legal Assistance to Victims, \$5 million for the Sexual Assault Services Program, and small increases for child abuse programs.

The President's FY '08 Budget Request

The President's FY '08 Budget Request proposes consolidating all these programs into one competitive block grant open to all eligible grantees, from state governments to rural shelters. This ignores the Congressional intent behind each program and creates inefficiencies as potential partners at the state and local level are pitted against each other in competition for these already stretched funds. Implementing this block grant would create a massive administrative burden on the Office on Violence Against Women and generate devastating chaos in the field as states and programs uncertain of their funding would be forced to cut programs and services. We urge Congress to reject this proposal and instead fully fund VAWA to strengthen the continuum of prevention and intervention programs that respond to victims' needs and help individuals and families live healthy lives.

This year Congress has the historic opportunity to help END domestic and sexual violence by fully funding the Violence Against Women Act. Help us fulfill the promise of VAWA and make every community in the United States a safer place to live.

Campaign for Funding to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

VAWA Appropriations for Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007, and Fiscal Year 2008 Requests

All numbers are expressed in millions. FY stands for Fiscal Year. All numbers are pre-rescission.

Revised 2/20/07

Name of Grant Program	FY '06 Budget	FY '07 Budget	President's Budget Request for FY '08**	FY '08 Campaign Request (VAWA Authorization)
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE APPROPRIATIONS				
Grants to Combat Violence Against Women:*	\$187.3*	185.4*	--	n/a*
➤ Transitional Housing (OVW)	-\$15.0*	-\$14.8*	--	\$40.0*
➤ <i>National Institute of Justice Earmark</i>	-\$5.1*	-\$5.0*	--	not authorized* ±
➤ <i>Safe Start/OJJDP Earmark</i>	-\$10.0*	-\$9.9*	--	not authorized* ±
➤ <i>Native Alaskan Liaison Office Earmark</i>	-\$6.7*	-\$0.0*	--	not authorized*
➤➤ STOP Grants	=\$150.5*	=\$155.7*	--	\$225.0*
Grants to Encourage Arrest	\$63.1	\$62.4	--	\$75.0
Court Improvements/Judicial Training	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Privacy Protections for Victims	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Center for Sex Offender Management	\$5.0	\$4.9	--	\$5.0
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$1.0
Tracking of Violence Against Indian Women	new for FY 07	\$0.0 [±]	--	\$1.0
Stalker Reduction Database	\$3.0	\$2.9	--	\$3.0
Federal Victim Assistants	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$1.0
Law Enforcement Training (Trafficking)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$10.0
Judicial Training (Child Abuse)	\$2.3	\$2.3	--	not authorized [±]
Televised Testimony (Child Abuse)	\$1.0	\$1.0	--	not authorized [±]
Sexual Assault Services Program	new for FY 07	\$0.0 [±]	--	\$50.0
Services for Rural Victims	\$39.2	\$38.8	--	\$55.0
Legal Assistance for Victims	\$39.2	\$38.8 [±]	--	\$65.0
Protections and Services for Elder Victims	\$4.5	\$4.5	--	\$10.0
Protections and Services for Disabled Victims	\$7.2	\$7.1	--	\$10.0
Combating Abuse in Public Housing	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$10.0
Resource Center on Workplace Responses	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$1.0
Services for Youth Victims (STARY)	new for FY 07	\$0.0 [±]	--	\$15.0
Training for Schools (STEP)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Access to Justice for Youth	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Campus Grants	\$9.1	\$8.9	--	\$15.0
Safe Havens/Supervised Visitation	\$13.9	\$13.8	--	\$20.0
Court-Appointed Special Advocates	\$11.9	\$11.7	--	\$12.0
Services for Children Exposed to Violence	new for FY 07	\$0.0 [±]	--	\$20.0
Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$10.0
Home Visitation Projects	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$7.0
Public Education/Awareness Grants	new for FY 07	\$0.0	--	\$2.0
Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program	n/a	n/a	\$370.0**	n/a
<u>CJS total</u>	\$386.7	\$382.5	\$370.0**	\$683.0

Name of Grant Program	FY '06 Budget	FY '07 Budget	President's Budget Request for FY '08**	FY '08 Campaign Request (VAWA Authorization)
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS				
FVPSA/Battered Women Shelters and Services (ACF)‡	\$124.6	\$124.7	\$125.0	\$175.0
National Domestic Violence Hotline (ACF)	\$3.0	\$3.0	\$3.0	\$3.5
Long-Term Stability/Housing for Victims	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10.0
Transitional Housing (ACF Program)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25.0
Training for Health Professionals (HRSA)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3.0
Public Health Responses to Abuse (CDC)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.0
Interventions in the Healthcare Setting (CDC/AHRQ)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.0
Rape Prevention and Education (CDC)	\$44.2	\$43.4 [Ⓜ]	\$43.4	\$80.0
Research on Effective Prevention (CDC)	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2.0
Community Initiatives to Prevent Abuse (CDC)	\$5.3	\$5.2	\$5.2	\$6.0
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.5
Greenbook/Collaboration on the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse	new for FY 07	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.0
<u>LHHS total</u>	\$178.5	\$175.0	\$176.6	\$320.0

Criminal Justice	Services & Interventions	Prevention
Earmarks	Children/ Youth Services	Healthcare

* Grants to Combat Violence Against Women are not authorized as a distinct category in VAWA. Rather, STOP Grants are authorized at \$225 million and Transitional Housing is authorized as its own line item for \$40 million. However, Congress traditionally appropriates an amount for Grants to Combat VAW and then deducts earmarks from it, leaving the remainder for STOP Grants. These earmarks, including the separately authorized Transitional Housing program, reduce the funding available for STOP formula grants to states. From FY '03 to FY '06, funding for STOP grants was cut by \$17.6 million due to earmarks. In the final FY '07 budget, STOP grants received an increase because the Native American/Native Alaskan Liason Office earmark was removed. **For this reason, the Campaign requests that NO EARMARKS be taken from STOP and that Transitional Housing be given its own line item, or that the total amount available for Grants to Combat VAW be increased to include funding for the earmarks.**

**The President's FY '08 Budget Request proposes to consolidate the grants in the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) into a competitive block grant program funded at \$370 million. This is approximately level funding, since several child abuse programs are moved to a similar block grant in OJJDP. However, new program areas would be included, creating an impossible administrative burden at OVW and chaos for victim service providers in the field.

± These programs provide valuable services and training. They should be authorized and funded in other areas of DOJ.

‡ The Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003 amended FVPSA to provide a portion of all appropriations above \$130 million to programs serving children who witness domestic violence. An increased appropriation for FVPSA would fund these critical programs, while also meeting the growing demand for services at battered women's shelters.

Ⓜ The FY '07 House SSJC bill (H.R. 5672) passed with \$21.5 million in increases to STOP grants and a \$2.8 million increase for Legal Assistance to Victims, as well as \$25 million in floor amendments to fund the Sexual Assault Services Program, children's programs, and a Tribal registry. In addition, the Senate bill included an additional \$6.6 million for STOP grants, \$3 million for Transitional Housing, \$6.6 million for Legal Assistance to Victims, and \$5 million in new funding for the Sexual Assault Services Program. (Please see the Introduction on page 2 and the STOP grant description on page 7 for more detail.)

STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grants FY 03-06

Updated 2/07

State/Territory	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Alabama	\$ 2,138,000	\$ 1,922,000	\$ 1,895,000	\$ 1,975,042
Alaska	\$ 784,000	\$ 758,000	\$ 759,000	\$ 769,820
Am. Samoa/N. Marina	\$ 644,000	\$ 638,000	\$ 639,000	\$ 638,362
Arizona	\$ 2,294,000	\$ 2,056,000	\$ 2,165,000	\$ 2,313,339
Arkansas	\$ 1,523,000	\$ 1,393,000	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 1,436,781
California	\$ 12,257,000	\$ 10,617,000	\$ 10,791,000	\$ 11,429,859
Colorado	\$ 2,080,000	\$ 1,872,000	\$ 1,907,000	\$ 1,998,733
Connecticut	\$ 1,780,000	\$ 1,614,000	\$ 1,603,000	\$ 1,660,831
Delaware	\$ 871,000	\$ 833,000	\$ 838,000	\$ 854,789
District of Columbia	\$ 798,000	\$ 770,000	\$ 758,000	\$ 766,364
Florida	\$ 6,137,000	\$ 5,358,000	\$ 5,577,000	\$ 5,972,025
Georgia	\$ 3,438,000	\$ 3,039,000	\$ 3,129,000	\$ 3,342,713
Guam	\$ 654,000	\$ 646,000	\$ 648,000	\$ 646,941
Hawaii	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 961,000	\$ 962,000	\$ 985,368
Idaho	\$ 1,044,000	\$ 981,000	\$ 995,000	\$ 1,027,307
Illinois	\$ 4,906,000	\$ 4,300,000	\$ 4,241,000	\$ 4,458,358
Indiana	\$ 2,708,000	\$ 2,411,000	\$ 2,387,000	\$ 2,496,508
Iowa	\$ 1,614,000	\$ 1,471,000	\$ 1,446,000	\$ 1,496,334
Kansas	\$ 1,526,000	\$ 1,396,000	\$ 1,378,000	\$ 1,424,317
Kentucky	\$ 2,002,000	\$ 1,805,000	\$ 1,788,000	\$ 1,862,688
Louisiana	\$ 2,144,000	\$ 1,927,000	\$ 1,890,000	\$ 1,963,393
Maine	\$ 1,041,000	\$ 979,000	\$ 976,000	\$ 998,454
Maryland	\$ 2,436,000	\$ 2,177,000	\$ 2,191,000	\$ 2,292,766
Massachusetts	\$ 2,802,000	\$ 2,492,000	\$ 2,438,000	\$ 2,534,683
Michigan	\$ 4,034,000	\$ 3,551,000	\$ 3,488,000	\$ 3,650,572
Minnesota	\$ 2,291,000	\$ 2,053,000	\$ 2,049,000	\$ 2,138,382
Mississippi	\$ 1,585,000	\$ 1,446,000	\$ 1,430,000	\$ 1,481,671
Missouri	\$ 2,536,000	\$ 2,264,000	\$ 2,246,000	\$ 2,350,770
Montana	\$ 894,000	\$ 853,000	\$ 849,000	\$ 865,673
Nebraska	\$ 1,190,000	\$ 1,107,000	\$ 1,097,000	\$ 1,128,287
Nevada	\$ 1,285,000	\$ 1,189,000	\$ 1,261,000	\$ 1,322,212
New Hampshire	\$ 1,028,000	\$ 968,000	\$ 972,000	\$ 996,233
New Jersey	\$ 3,518,000	\$ 3,107,000	\$ 3,091,000	\$ 3,235,426
New Mexico	\$ 1,172,000	\$ 1,092,000	\$ 1,093,000	\$ 1,126,475
New York	\$ 7,167,000	\$ 6,243,000	\$ 6,093,000	\$ 6,407,133
North Carolina	\$ 3,363,000	\$ 2,974,146	\$ 3,022,000	\$ 3,199,568
North Dakota	\$ 812,000	\$ 782,000	\$ 773,000	\$ 783,041
Ohio	\$ 4,538,000	\$ 3,984,000	\$ 3,884,000	\$ 4,068,301
Oklahoma	\$ 1,704,000	\$ 1,549,000	\$ 1,532,000	\$ 1,589,741
Oregon	\$ 1,773,719	\$ 1,608,000	\$ 1,618,000	\$ 1,689,162
Pennsylvania	\$ 4,862,000	\$ 4,263,000	\$ 4,157,000	\$ 4,362,339
Puerto Rico	\$ 1,919,000	\$ 1,734,000	\$ 1,715,000	\$ 1,750,825
Rhode Island	\$ 963,000	\$ 912,000	\$ 909,000	\$ 924,398
South Carolina	\$ 1,990,000	\$ 1,794,000	\$ 1,802,000	\$ 1,885,497
South Dakota	\$ 841,000	\$ 807,000	\$ 803,000	\$ 815,108
Tennessee	\$ 2,572,000	\$ 2,295,000	\$ 2,290,000	\$ 2,402,966
Texas	\$ 7,807,000	\$ 6,793,000	\$ 7,018,000	\$ 7,485,230
Utah	\$ 1,366,000	\$ 1,258,000	\$ 1,277,000	\$ 1,339,081
Vermont	\$ 811,000	\$ 781,000	\$ 778,000	\$ 788,219
Virgin Islands	\$ 638,000	\$ 632,000	\$ 631,000	\$ 632,934
Virginia	\$ 3,053,000	\$ 2,708,000	\$ 2,736,000	\$ 2,887,278
Washington	\$ 2,616,000	\$ 2,333,000	\$ 2,353,000	\$ 2,475,868
West Virginia	\$ 1,227,000	\$ 1,139,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,149,787
Wisconsin	\$ 2,448,000	\$ 2,188,000	\$ 2,168,000	\$ 2,263,114
Wyoming	\$ 768,000	\$ 744,000	\$ 742,000	\$ 750,724
TOTAL	\$ 131,412,719	\$ 117,567,146	\$ 117,783,000	\$ 123,291,790

GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Funding Need: \$225 million with no earmarks

The STOP Grant Program

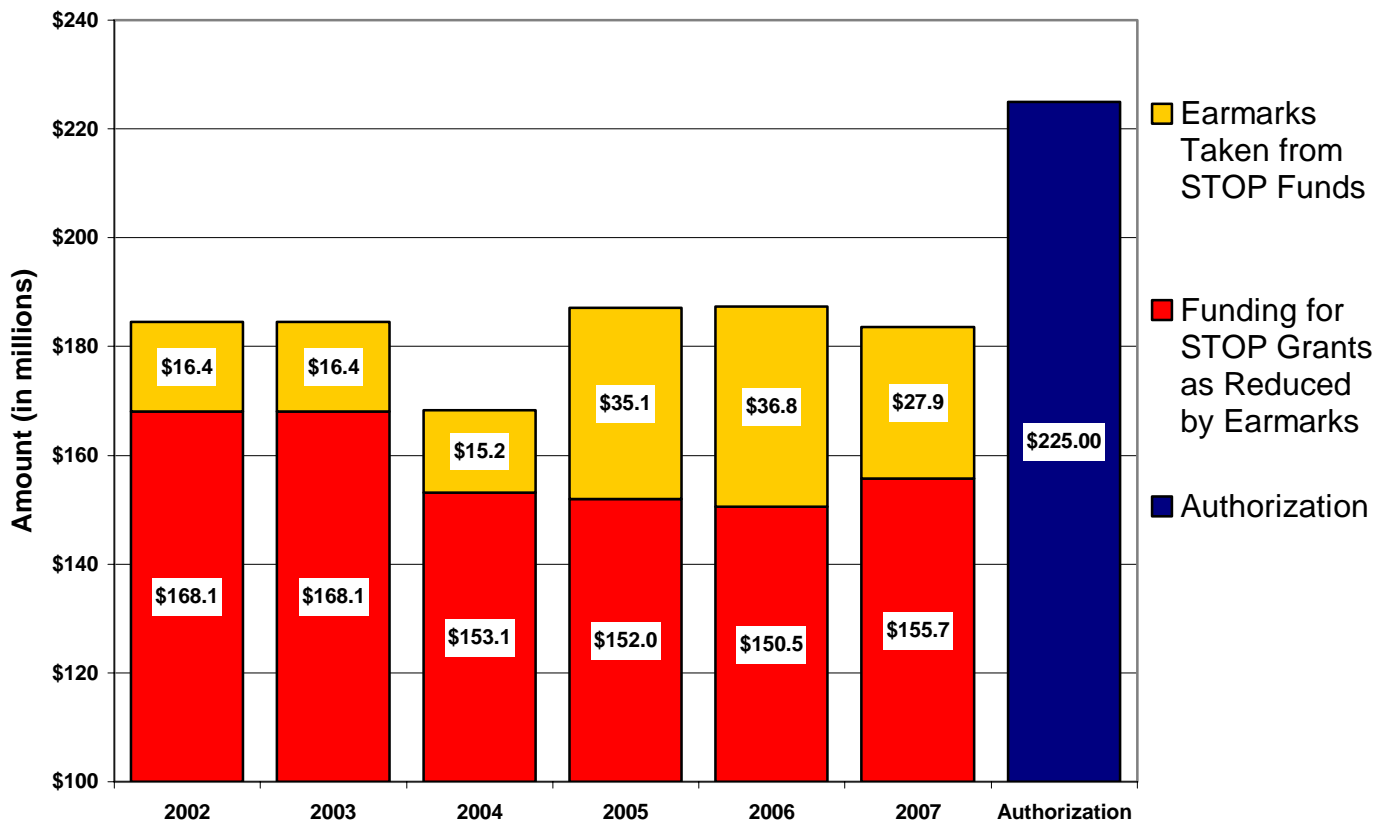
Grants to Combat Violence Against Women (VAW) fund the STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) Grant Program, the largest program authorized in VAWA and one of its cornerstones. STOP funds are awarded to every State and Territory in the nation through a formula grant based on population.

STOP emphasizes a coordinated community approach to reducing domestic and sexual violence on a local level. Many states have used these funds to establish protocols and special units in law enforcement agencies and prosecutors' offices. STOP funding has enabled victim service providers to create programs that are culturally competent and available to underserved communities. Because of the breadth and successful implementation of STOP, the criminal justice system and victims in thousands of jurisdictions around the country have experienced the positive impact of VAWA.

Earmarks Reduce Funds Available for STOP Grants

Though authorized at \$225 million annually with no subprograms, in the Congressional and President's Budgets, STOP is placed in a funding category called Grants to Combat VAW and receives the amount left after earmarks and other programs are removed. Between FY '03 and FY '06, earmarking cut the amount of funds available for STOP by \$17.6 million – from \$168.1 million to \$150.5 million.

STOP Grant Funding 2002-2007



Grants to Combat VAW were cut by \$16.2 million in the FY '04 Congressional budget, from \$184.5 million to \$168.3 million. The FY '05 and FY '06 Congressional budgets increased funding for Grants to Combat VAW to \$187.1 and \$187.3 respectively, but included as an earmark funding for the separately authorized PROTECT Act Transitional Housing program. This Transitional Housing program was reauthorized in VAWA 2005, again as a distinct program separate from Grants to Combat VAW. Additionally reducing the amount available for STOP Grants were over \$6 million for an unauthorized Native American/Native Alaskan Liaison Office, and two unauthorized yet valuable programs – for Safe Start/the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Institute of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics research and evaluation.

In FY '07, Congress increased funding for STOP by \$5.2 million when it removed the Native American/Native Alaskan Liaison Office earmark from Grants to Combat VAW. Both the House and Senate bills included additional increases. The FY '07 House SSJC bill (H.R. 5672) included a \$21.5 million increase for STOP and gave the Transitional Housing program its own line item. The Senate bill included an additional \$6.6 million for STOP.

In the FY '08 Congressional budget, these earmarks, particularly the separately authorized Transitional Housing program, should receive their own line items in the Congressional budget or be taken from more appropriate sources of funding. STOP is the single largest source of funds for states to respond to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, but it is stretched tightly from state to state. There is no room in STOP for state-specific earmarks, as all other states suffer as a result.

New Initiatives for States and Territories Authorized by VAWA 2005

In recognition of the success of STOP programs and the continued increase in demand for services, VAWA 2005 increased the authorization for STOP to \$225 million for each of fiscal years 2007-2011. Also included in the reauthorization were new purpose areas to address important unmet needs:

- Jessica Gonzalez Victim Assistants – victim assistants in law enforcement agencies whose primary purpose is to help develop protocols for those agencies to ensure adequate triage of the lethality and emergency nature of domestic violence cases and ensure that victims receive appropriate referrals for services in addition to police assistance; and
- Crystal Judson Brame Advocates – advocates who can help persons abused by law enforcement personnel and work with law enforcement agencies to develop protocols to respond to such abuse.

Amendments were also made to focus State efforts on underserved populations by:

- Emphasizing the requirement to address the needs of underserved communities in the State plan;
- Emphasizing the need to fund linguistically and culturally specific services; and
- Requiring that funds to address underserved populations be equitably distributed among those populations.

Finally, a new Culturally Specific Community-Based Organizations Set-Aside was created. This new program utilizes 10% of the victim services monies within STOP to fund culturally specific community-based organizations providing services that respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Increased funding is critical to fulfilling these new initiatives while continuing the progress already made through STOP.

The Solution: Fully Fund STOP Grants with No Earmarks

Funding Grants to Combat Violence Against Women at the authorized level of \$225 million without earmarks will enable us to continue the progress we have made toward ending domestic and sexual violence, and to accommodate new purpose areas within STOP Grants. As a separately authorized and vitally important program, **Transitional Housing should be given its own line item** (please see page 17 for details.)

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566, or Jill Morris, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, (202) 745-1211.

GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARREST AND ENFORCE PROTECTION ORDERS

Funding Need: \$75 million

The Need: Effective Criminal Justice Response to Domestic and Sexual Violence

Without responsive law enforcement and prosecution, crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking may be overlooked. Studies show that batterers who are not apprehended are more likely to become repeat offenders¹⁰ and that suspects who flee are less likely to be arrested unless law enforcement has sufficient specialized trained staff.¹¹

But this can be changed – studies also show that training for law enforcement officers about the dynamics of sexual and domestic violence improves officers' interactions with victims and enhances victims' participation with the justice system.¹²

With the help of better-trained law enforcement officers and prosecutors, perpetrators are being held accountable and victims are able to escape dangerous situations.

The Solution: Collaborations to Enhance Criminal Justice Response to Victims

The Grants to Encourage Arrest and Enforce Protection Orders (GTEAEP) Program encourages communities to treat domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law. It helps create a seamless and comprehensive criminal justice system response that enhances victim safety and holds offenders accountable. Criminal justice agencies not only need to collaborate with each other, but also with victim advocates in order to create and enforce viable safety plans. These grants support innovative cross-collaborations that make the criminal justice system more efficient and user-friendly for victims.

GTEAEP offers jurisdictions funding to establish programs and policies that favor arrest and prosecution of domestic and sexual violence. Of grantees:

- 82% funded domestic violence training – most related to training of law enforcement officers.¹³
- 70% reported new or improved victim services.¹⁴
- 67% developed law enforcement policies, including arrest and related procedures, and services for victims and child witnesses.¹⁵
- 52% developed new prosecution policies, including those related to evidence based prosecution and victim safety planning.¹⁶
- Approximately two-thirds created or enhanced either specialized law enforcement or prosecution units.¹⁷
- One study reports that warrantless arrests of domestic violence suspects—based on probable cause—increased from 4.1% of all arrests to 15.5% during the grant period.¹⁸

In 2003, the Bush Administration announced the Family Justice Center pilot program initiative, which has now been included as a GTEAEP Program purpose area. Family Justice Centers make a victim's search for help and justice less burdensome by bringing together advocates from domestic violence victim services organizations, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, probation officers, governmental victim assistants, forensic medical professionals, civil legal attorneys, chaplains, legal advocates and representatives from community-based organizations into one centralized location.

Funding this important program at \$75 million will continue improving law enforcement response and collaboration with victim services.

For more information, contact Jill Morris, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, (202) 745-1211 and Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

COURTS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Courts Are Seeing Increasing Numbers of Domestic and Sexual Violence Cases

The effects of domestic violence can be felt deeply in our society. One of the key ways of lessening these effects is ensuring that our justice system has the tools to deal with cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and prevent future violence.

- According to the 2005 Bureau of Justice Statistics Family Violence Statistics, of the total victims of violence between 1998 and 2002, 11% were victims of family violence.¹⁹
- Domestic violence is one of the most significant issues state courts face today,²⁰ and domestic violence cases are a large and rising portion of the domestic relations caseload in state courts.²¹

The Solution: Training and Technical Assistance for Court Staff and Judges on Domestic Violence

This important program, reauthorized in VAWA 2005, is crucial to ensuring that courts and all court personnel contribute effectively to the systemic change that VAWA 1994 and 2000 created. The training component, developed in collaboration with judges who are experts in domestic violence issues, will engage judges as key players in reducing family violence and will enhance judicial responses to domestic violence by teaching participants:

- How to identify and resolve issues that arise in court cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking for both adult and child victims;
- Exercise leadership to end and prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in the community; and
- Advance the state of knowledge about how the justice system can intervene in and prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

In addition, the Courts program will fund demonstration projects addressing obstacles to court access, such as the need for professional interpreting services in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Technical assistance provided under this funding program will also assist courts in developing effective enhancements, such as specialized dockets, dedicated calendars, and improved offender accountability mechanisms.

Judicial training and technical assistance results in more efficient dockets and reduced recidivism. When judges provide all of the relief that victims and their families need and engage the community in protecting victim and child safety, everyone benefits.

Funding this important program at \$5 million will improve the judicial response to victims of domestic and sexual violence.

For more information, contact Rob Valente, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, (202) 558-0031 or Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

PRIVACY PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL VIOLENCE, AND STALKING

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Protecting Victims' Private Information

Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking are especially vulnerable to having their private information tracked by persons who pose a high risk to their safety. Abusers use many forms of technology – old and new – to control, coerce, and intimidate victims during and after relationships.

In this digital age, where large community databases are becoming common and personal data is a hot-selling commodity, victims are in *more* danger than ever of being found by their abusers and stalkers. Even information that has been stripped of some identifying details can still be identifying, and deadly. Research has found that gender, location and date of birth alone are extremely identifying. For example:

- 87% of the population in the United States had reported characteristics that likely made them unique based only on 5-digit ZIP, gender, and date of birth.
- Over half of the U.S. population (53%) can likely be uniquely identified by only place, gender, and date of birth, where place is the city, town, or municipality in which the person resides.
- Even at the county level, county, gender, and date of birth are likely to uniquely identify 18% of the U.S. population.²²

In an age where stalkers and perpetrators can easily use search engines to track victims and more records are published to the Internet, agencies and government entities must be educated about the potential dangers to victims and the importance of notification and privacy options. It is vital that these agencies and government entities anticipate and minimize the potential for harm to survivors by securing the confidentiality of all communications, and reexamining and minimizing any data about survivors that is collected, stored, and shared.

The Solution: Ensuring Victim's Confidentiality and Safety in Databases

The Privacy Protections for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Violence and Stalking program creates grants and specialized funding for States, Indian tribes, territories, local agencies or nonprofits to develop "best practices" for victim privacy and confidentiality. VAWA provides new and badly needed protections for victim information collected by federal agencies and other national databases by prohibiting grantees from disclosing such information. This program is designed to support the implementation of these protections and replication of best practices.

These funds can be used to ensure victim confidentiality and safety when law enforcement information (such as protection order issuance) is included in federal and state databases. These funds could also be used to help grantees develop safe uses of technology, improve efforts to address technology issues such as stalking with electronic devices, and provide training for law enforcement on these high-tech electronic crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

In addition, this program would provide technical assistance to aid states and other entities in reviewing their laws and policies to improve safety, privacy, confidentiality, and technology to protect victims.

Fully funding this program at \$5 million will address this growing problem and enhance safety for victims.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

CENTER FOR SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Prevent Sex Offenders from Re-offending

The majority of sex offenders will be released from prison and return back to their communities of origin.

- Most sex offenders are eventually released to the community. Of these, approximately 60% are supervised in the community, whether directly following sentencing or after a term of incarceration in jail or prison.²³
- An estimated 24% of sex offenders serving time for rape and 19% of those serving time for sexual assault had been on probation or parole at the time of the offense for which they were in State prison.²⁴
- Of nearly 10,000 male sex offenders released from prisons in 15 States in 1994, more than 5% were rearrested for a new sex crime within 3 years of release.²⁵

Sex offenders – both juvenile and adult – must not only be supervised, but also managed effectively. In order to lower risks and allay the fears of concerned community members, elected officials and policy makers must be provided with the best research and access to training on best practices of sex offender management.

The Solution: Effective Management of Sex Offenders

The Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM), administered by the Office of Justice Programs, was created to enhance public safety by:

- Providing criminal justice practitioners and policy makers ready access to the most current knowledge about sex offenders;
- Providing information about effective practices for managing sex offenders in communities;
- Gathering and sharing lessons from communities around the country that have successfully employed strategies to effectively manage sex offenders; and
- Providing training and technical assistance to state and local jurisdictions to enable them to enhance their own practices and create similar results in their communities.

A key component of CSOM is the distribution of grants to states and local communities to develop multi-disciplinary coordinated approaches to sex offender management. These grants have launched successful programs such as Sex Offender Management Boards and similar endeavors throughout the country. Additionally, since its inception, CSOM has responded to 10,000 inquiries from the field, conducted 348 trainings, and provided technical assistance to over 65,000 participants and 105 grantee sites around the country. The CSOM web site has received approximately 47 million hits since 2001, with over 691,000 copies downloaded of CSOM documents on effective approaches to sex-offender management.

Efforts to prevent sexual victimization through the more effective management of convicted sex offenders have been continually supported by Congress at \$5 million per year. Community response to convicted and released sex offenders is a growing public policy issue in the United States. Sex offender management is a direct means to reduce sexual victimization among children and adults, and a critical approach to ending sexual violence.

Continued funding for this program at \$5 million will help more communities effectively manage sex offenders and prevent re-offending.

For more information, contact Ellen Fern, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, (202) 289-3900.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM

Funding Need: \$50 million

The Need: Services for Sexual Assault Victims

Rape crisis centers and other organizations serving the needs of sexual assault victims historically have been hampered by a significant lack of resources. A shortage of state-level funding caused by budget cuts in recent years has led many rape crisis centers to reduce staff size, cut services such as counseling to victims and hotline hours, and cut programs to underserved populations, some of which experience sexual assault at a very high rate. Many victims of rape and sexual assault are unsure of their options or afraid of navigating the criminal justice process, the medical system and psychological aftermath alone. However, rape crisis centers and other organizations help ease the confusion and fear by offering medical, legal, and psychological support to victims and their families and friends.

The Solution: Available, Comprehensive Services

The Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) is a new program created through VAWA 2005. This program provides the first federal funding stream dedicated entirely to the provision of *direct* services for victims of sexual violence. **Full funding for the Sexual Assault Services Program is crucial in order to begin implementation of the program.** It is imperative that rape crisis centers, state, territorial and tribal coalitions, and culturally specific organizations gain access to federal funds that can be used to provide services to sexual assault victims.

SASP funds are distributed to:

- **States, Territories and Tribes** to assist in their efforts to provide services to adult and minor sexual assault victims and their family and household members, as well as those collaterally affected by the crime.
- **State, territory and tribal sexual assault coalitions** whose assistance is invaluable to service providers nationwide.
- **Culturally specific organizations** that can provide intervention and related assistance for victims within their communities.

Grants can be used for general intervention and advocacy, including accompaniment through medical, criminal justice and social support systems, related assistance, and support services. SASP funds can also be used to provide training and technical assistance relating to sexual assault for various entities, including:

- Government and law enforcement agencies;
- Courts;
- Nonprofit organizations;
- Faith-based organizations; and
- Professionals working in legal services, social services, and health care.

Fully funding this program at \$50 million will address the critical needs of victims of sexual violence nationwide.

For more information, contact Ellen Fern, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, (202)289-3900; Ilse Knecht, National Center for Victims of Crime, (703)732-2446; Diane Moyer, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, (717) 728-9740; or Luz Marquez, National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault, (860) 693-2031, for questions relating to SASP's culturally specific grants.

RURAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING AND CHILD VICTIMIZATION GRANTS

Funding Need: \$55 million

The Need: Providing Services in Challenging Environments

Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in rural and remote communities face unique obstacles in their efforts to escape abusive and dangerous relationships. Social and cultural pressures are great, and the dynamics of small communities present challenges in the provision of confidential and safe services. Nonreporting of sexual assault in rural areas is a particular problem because of the high rate of nonstranger sexual assault. Additional barriers to domestic violence and sexual assault interventions in rural communities may include:

- Large geographic areas and harsh weather conditions that make travel difficult for victims;
- Gaps in the 911 emergency systems that delay responses to crimes in progress;
- Distances of more than 100 miles to the nearest emergency shelter or crisis center;
- Underfunded and understaffed law enforcement agencies that hamper the criminal justice response;
- Lack of legal representation for protective orders and other civil matters pertaining to domestic violence;
- Dearth of public and private funding sources for service development; and
- Lack of public transportation, child care and social services.

The Solution: Comprehensive Community Responses in Rural Areas

Funding for the Rural Grants program has led to the development of rural outreach services, the creation of domestic violence task forces and councils, enhanced coordination between law enforcement, prosecutors and victim services, and better enforcement of laws against domestic violence and sexual assault.

VAWA 2005 reauthorized \$55 million to address domestic and sexual violence in rural communities. The grants are designed to:

- Fund cooperative efforts between law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim services;
- Provide treatment, counseling and assistance to victims; and
- Work with rural communities to develop education and prevention strategies.

Starting in FY '07, many more communities in need were able to apply for Rural Grant funds: VAWA 2005 included eligibility for rural areas in non-rural states, such as profoundly rural areas in Alabama, West Virginia and Texas. In addition, VAWA 2005 specifies dedicated funding to address sexual assault.

The inclusion of sexual assault and new rural areas will mean significant demand for grant funds. If appropriations for the Rural Grant program are not increased, existing programs will lose funding and vital services will close their doors.

Increasing funding of this pioneering program to \$55 million will protect critical services and meet the overwhelming need for Rural Grant funds.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566, or Ellen Fern, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, (202) 289-3900.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS

Funding Need: \$65 million

The Need: Victims' Access to Civil Legal Remedies

Ultimately, to overcome the damage caused by the perpetrators of violence in their lives, victims may need civil legal remedies including civil protection orders, child support, child custody, immigration representation, and housing and public benefits assistance. Yet victims of domestic violence and sexual assault too often must appear in court by themselves in order to secure these desperately needed civil legal remedies.

Despite the availability of victim services, almost 70% of victims are without legal representation.²⁶ The retainers or hourly fees needed to hire private legal representation are beyond the means of most victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. To obtain these remedies, victims of domestic violence and sexual assault need knowledgeable legal assistance that helps them access the civil legal system.

The Solution: Legal Assistance for Victims

A host of recent academic research finds that increased provision of legal services is one of the most significant factors in explaining the decline of domestic violence. According to one report, "Because legal services help women with practical matters such as protective orders, custody, and child support they appear to actually present women with real, long-term alternatives to their relationships."²⁷

The Legal Assistance for Victims Program funds efforts to meet the multifaceted civil legal needs of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Programs that have been funded through this grant provide:

- Civil legal representation for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in family law, immigration, housing, and public benefits matters;
- Training to improve the delivery of civil legal services; collaborations between domestic violence victim services and legal assistance programs;
- Support to victims navigating the criminal justice system;
- Education for law students on how to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; and
- The improvement of pro bono civil legal assistance.

The Legal Assistance for Victims Program is the *only* federal funding program designed to meet all of these needs. The demand for these services in communities is high and this is one of the most requested grant programs. Recently, the Office on Violence Against Women has received almost 300 applications per year, less than a third of which have been funded.

Fully funding this program at \$65 million will help meet the demand for crucial legal services.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

GRANTS TO STOP ABUSE OF OLDER OR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS

Funding Need: \$20 million

The Need: Protect Extremely Vulnerable Victims

Abuse of the elderly and of disabled people is unique in that many times the victim's abuser is also the caretaker. Victims may not have the financial resources or the physical ability to remove themselves or otherwise seek help. This type of abuse can take many forms and is not always straightforward.

Victims with Disabilities

- One study found that almost two-thirds of women with disabilities reported abuse and violence; and, in cases of domestic violence, they reported staying with their batterers almost twice as long as women without disabilities.²⁸
- This may be because of increased physical, economic, social or psychological dependence on others and a fear of abandonment or institutionalization.²⁹
- Often service providers are not fully equipped to deal with the special circumstances facing victims with disabilities.
- Only 35% of shelters surveyed have disability awareness training for their staff and only 16% have a dedicated staff person to deliver services to women with disabilities.³⁰

Elderly Victims

- Reports show that victims of elder abuse are harmed primarily by family members (89.7%).³¹
- Women are the most likely victims of elder abuse (76.3%).³²
- Only 23% of elder abuse victims are able to care for themselves.³³
- Most victims of elder abuse (over 76%) are dependent on others for at least some of their care.³⁴
- As a result, most elder abuse goes unreported.

The Solution: Specialized Training and Services

For the past 5 years, Congress has nearly fully funded the Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities and the Training and Services to End Violence Against Women in Later Life grant programs – critical and groundbreaking programs that deal with abuse that is often the hardest to detect.

VAWA 2005 increased the authorizations for these programs to accommodate new purpose areas and eligible entities that will better assist elder and disabled victims. These grants:

- Provide training for first responders so that they recognize the signs of abuse and then take the necessary steps to ensure the victim's safety;
- Train service providers at facilities, such as centers for independent living, where elderly and disabled victims may be more likely to seek assistance; and
- Provide construction and personnel costs for shelters to better serve victims with disabilities.

The training provided by these programs helps protect very vulnerable members of society – those who by function of their age or physical or mental capacity cannot protect themselves. These grant programs are the only programs that offer this type of specialized training and protection.

Funding for these unique and essential programs at \$20 million will help protect extremely vulnerable victims of abuse.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING

Funding Need: \$40 Million

The Need: Help Victims Rebuild Their Shattered Lives

Victims of domestic violence struggle to find permanent housing after fleeing abusive relationships. Many have left in the middle of the night with nothing but the clothes on their backs, and now must entirely rebuild their lives. As long-term housing options become more scarce, battered women are staying longer in emergency domestic violence shelters. As a result, shelters are frequently full and must turn families away.

- The average stay at an emergency homeless shelter is 60 days, while the average length of time it takes a homeless family to secure housing is 6-10 months.³⁵
- Request for emergency shelter by homeless families with children increased in 56% of U.S. cities surveyed in 2005, with 87% of cities reporting an increase in the number of children in emergency shelter.³⁶
- In the same year, 29% of the requests for shelter by homeless families went unmet due to the lack of emergency shelter beds available.³⁷

Many domestic violence shelters have responded by limiting a family's length of stay to 30 days, as they must prioritize space for individuals in immediate danger.

As a result, victims who leave their abusers frequently lack adequate shelter options or must leave a shelter with nowhere to go, presenting a serious threat to their safety and the safety of their children.

The Solution: Transitional Housing

Transitional housing resources and services provide an essential continuum between emergency shelter and independent living. The majority of battered women in transitional housing programs state that had these programs not existed, they would have returned to their abusers.³⁸

The Transitional Housing Assistance Grants provide:

- Direct assistance for housing-related costs, including rent, security deposits, and utilities;
- Operational expenses to manage transitional housing programs; and
- Support services, such as childcare, transportation and counseling.

Emergency shelter programs are designed to provide crisis intervention services to victims in the most immediate danger. Transitional housing helps meet the ongoing need victims have for safe and affordable housing as they work towards safety and self-sufficiency. In addition, the support services that accompany transitional housing provide victims with the practical assistance they need to rebuild their lives. Transitional housing programs help victims move beyond emergency shelter and work towards securing permanent housing.

Fully funding this crucial program at \$40 million for FY '08 will help victims rebuild their lives. As a separately authorized program, transitional housing should be given its own line item, as it was in the FY '04 Congressional Budget and the FY '07 House Request.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN PUBLIC AND ASSISTED HOUSING

Funding Need: \$10 million

The Need: Enable Both Victims and Public Housing Projects to Stay Safe

Studies of populations comparable to public housing residents and Section 8 recipients (TANF recipients and homeless women) indicate that over 60% of adult female residents are likely to be victims of domestic violence.³⁹ Despite this overwhelming number, few subsidized housing providers have adequate responses to domestic and sexual violence.

Worse, victims of domestic violence and their families across the country have been discriminated against, denied access to, and even evicted from public and subsidized housing because of their status as victims of domestic violence or the abuse perpetrated against them.⁴⁰

- Landlords and public housing authorities often turn away victims who have protection orders or other indications of their status as victims of domestic violence.
- Housing providers often threaten victims with penalties or evictions or unfairly hold victims accountable for the behavior of their abusers.
- Consequently, victims express fear of calling law enforcement if they are in danger because they are concerned they will be evicted.⁴¹

The Solution: Support for Improved Policies and Practices

VAWA 2005 amended federal housing grant programs to prohibit the most egregious actions, such as evicting a victim because she has called the police or screamed for help. But housing providers struggle to comply with the new law and need resources to train staff and educate landlords.

Addressing this problem, Grants to Combat Violence Against Women in Public and Assisted Housing provide funds to help public and Indian housing authorities and other assisted housing providers respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in a manner consistent with best practices.

The grants will involve public housing authorities as partners, and can be used for:

- Education and training;
- Development of policies and practices;
- Collaboration with victim service providers; and
- Capital improvements designed to improve tenant safety.

Policies enacted will:

- Allow victims to call the police;
- Receive orders of protection;
- Move to a new housing unit when their safety is threatened; and
- Ensure that the housing agency or provider can evict perpetrators and keep their properties safe and well-managed.

Funding this innovative new program at \$10 million will enable victims to access the criminal justice system while maintaining their housing.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ON WORKPLACE RESPONSES TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Funding Need: \$1 million

The Need: Safer Workplaces for All

Domestic and sexual violence pervades all aspects of our society. In almost any workplace, there are likely to be individuals who have been or are currently dealing with domestic or sexual violence. This violence affects not only the victims, but the lives of those around them, including co-workers and employers. While it is very unusual for domestic violence to lead to violent incidents in the workplace itself, employees who are victims may need time off to take steps to address the violence in their lives and a variety of workplace accommodations to help protect themselves and their co-workers.

- Domestic violence costs U.S. employers an estimated \$3 to \$13 billion annually.⁴²
- 94% of corporate security and safety directors at companies nationwide rank domestic violence as a high security concern.⁴³
- Between one-quarter and one-half of domestic violence victims report that they had lost a job due, at least in part, to domestic violence.⁴⁴
- Almost 50% of sexual assault survivors either lose their jobs or are forced to quit in the aftermath of the crime.⁴⁵

The Solution: A National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to Assist Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Victims of sexual and domestic violence need steady jobs and employers committed to keeping their workplaces stable and safe.

The resource center will provide employers with information and assistance in developing and implementing proactive policies, guidelines and plans, thus enabling employers to make their workplaces safer and more productive while supporting victims.

After being trained on domestic violence:

- 91% of employees said they were more likely to know where to refer someone who is abused;
- 89% said they were more likely to be supportive of a colleague who is abused; and
- 86% said they were more aware of what to do if a coworker is threatened by domestic violence at work.⁴⁶

Access to research, best practices, and support will enable businesses to address domestic and sexual violence and increase safety, productivity and morale while decreasing turnover, retraining and other costs.

Fully funding the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to Assist Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence at \$1 million will allow businesses to effectively respond to domestic and sexual violence.

For more information, contact Lisalyn Jacobs, Legal Momentum, (202) 326-0040.

SERVICES TO ADVOCATE FOR AND RESPOND TO YOUTH (STARY)

Funding Need: \$15 million

The Need: Violence Intervention and Prevention for Youth

Domestic and sexual violence's prevalence in the youth population is a problem that deserves careful attention.

- One in three teens know a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or physically hurt by dating partners.⁴⁷
- One-quarter of high school girls have been the victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse or date rape.⁴⁸
- Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence.⁴⁹

Not surprisingly, this violence can have a traumatic effect on the lives of these young people that can last well into adulthood.

- Victims of teen dating violence are more likely to: use alcohol, tobacco, and cocaine; drive after drinking; engage in unhealthy weight control behaviors; commit sexually risky behaviors; and become pregnant.⁵⁰
- Over 50% of youth reporting dating violence and rape also reported attempting suicide.⁵¹
- Girls who are raped are about 3 times more likely to suffer from psychiatric disorders and over 4 times more likely to suffer from drug and alcohol abuse in adulthood.⁵²

Compounding the impact of violence on youth is the dearth of appropriate services and resources geared toward helping this underserved age group. Young victims of violence often must overcome additional obstacles to obtain help. Some of the barriers compounding the effects of domestic violence and sexual violence on young victims include confusion about the law; lack of access to transportation, shelter and money; and distrust of law enforcement and other authority figures. Young people who cannot access the proper support will find it almost impossible to change abusive patterns as adults. Victim service providers who focus on serving adults often lack resources and expertise to address the unique needs of young people, so support for programs specifically designed and targeted for teens and young adults is crucial.

The Solution: Specialized Direct Services for Youth

STARY supports advocacy, preventive education, mental health services and legal advocacy for youth between the ages of 12 and 24. This program specifically addresses dating and sexual violence committed by and against youth with an emphasis on early intervention. Grants under this program will enable teen victim service providers, tribal organizations, and community-based organizations specializing in violence intervention and prevention for youth to provide youth-centered services for dating and sexual violence. These funds promote collaboration among sexual assault and domestic violence service providers, community-based youth organizations, including those working with runaway and homeless youth, courts, prevention programs, and law enforcement, thus helping to create better recognition, more consistency, and more productive action within the areas of dating violence and sexual assault. This collaboration will help to create a trustworthy support system for the teens and young adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. The funds will also provide essential training for those that work closely with youth.

Fully funding STARY at \$15 million will help provide critical services for youth victims.

For more information, contact Juley Fulcher, Break the Cycle, (202) 824-0707.

SUPPORTING TEENS THROUGH EDUCATION AND PROTECTION (STEP ACT)

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Combat Domestic and Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking in School-Age Youth

Young people of middle and high school-age are at enormous risk for interpersonal violence and other forms of sexual assault.

- Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experienced physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year.⁵³
- More than half of teens between the ages of 13 and 18 know friends or peers who have been physically, sexually, or verbally assaulted.⁵⁴
- In 2000, girls 6 to 18 years of age reported almost 5,000 incidents of rape, attempted rape, or other sexual battery in public schools.⁵⁵
- Four in every five 13 to 14 year olds say they are personally concerned about sexual violence or other physical violence in relationships.⁵⁶

Unfortunately, as young people begin dating and enter into their early relationships, they have little information or guidance on what to expect and how treat their partner respectfully.

Teens spend a significant portion of their lives in school. Teachers, coaches and counselors have important roles in the lives of students, and for this reason the school setting could be the key to eliminating dating and sexual violence in the youth population. However, schools and school personnel currently don't have the knowledge or resources needed to address these issues effectively. Schools need effective policies and procedures to address this problem when it occurs among their students, and school staff must be taught the warning signs of abuse and resources available for students dealing with dating and sexual violence.

The Solution: Support for School Policies and Personnel Training to Address Violence

The STEP program seeks to help schools address domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and stalking to ensure that they create a safe place for young people and help them build violence-free lives. Grants under this program will aid public, charter, tribal and private middle and high schools to work in collaboration with local domestic violence and sexual assault service providers, law enforcement agencies, courts and other organizations addressing sexual harassment, bullying or gang related violence in school. Bringing the varying expertise of the local collaborators together, these grants will be used to:

- Provide training to all school personnel;
- Provide support services and referrals for students experiencing abuse;
- Develop and implement policies in the schools to foster appropriate, safe responses to affected students and hold any perpetrators accountable for their actions; and
- Provide educational programming regarding domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and stalking to students and develop strong mentoring programs to aid students in coping with and understanding these types of violence.

STEP helps schools better serve students and communities by addressing violence among youth and providing them with the services and tools needed to build violence-free lives.

Fully funding STEP at \$5 million will help reach out to youth to address the violence in their lives.

For more information, contact Juley Fulcher, Break the Cycle, (202) 824-0707.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR YOUTH

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Justice for Youth Victims and Accountability for Perpetrators

Too often, youth victims of dating and sexual violence have limited or no access to the justice system and youth perpetrators are not held accountable for the abuse they commit.

- In 2004, only 36% of victims of rape and sexual assault age 12 and over indicated that they reported the crime to the police. Rape and sexual assault were the violent crimes least often reported to law enforcement.⁵⁷
- 14 states do not include a dating relationship in their definition of domestic violence, and as a result, youth victims of dating violence cannot apply for a restraining order.
- Very few states actually allow minors to obtain protection orders on their own. Currently, only one juvenile domestic violence court in the country addresses the specialized needs of young victims.⁵⁸

The confusing, burdensome and discouraging legal system is a huge barrier for youth victims trying to deal with the violence they have experienced and find safety. Such intervention, however, is critical.

- A teen's desire for confidentiality and confusion about the law are two of the most significant barriers to young victims of violence seeking help.⁵⁹
- A study conducted by the American Bar Association found the onset of violent behavior often occurs between the ages of 12 and 18 and identified this age range as "a window of opportunity" for intervention.⁶⁰

There must be a comprehensive systemic response to cases involving youth domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in order to ensure justice is done.

The Solution: Coordinated Responses with Courts and Service Providers

The Access to Justice for Youth program will bring together systems, resources and experts within the community to develop a comprehensive response to youth domestic and sexual violence. Modeled on the success of VAWA programs addressing adult victims' needs, this program will create collaborations among:

- Criminal, family, tribal and juvenile courts;
- Domestic violence and sexual assault service providers;
- Youth organizations and violence prevention programs;
- Batterer intervention and sex offender programs;
- Health care providers; and
- Law enforcement agencies.

These demonstration projects will develop a comprehensive systemic response to youth domestic and sexual violence. These collaborations will develop effective protocols for a coordinated community response that will address the needs of victims for justice, safety and services and hold offenders accountable for their actions. Additionally, key actors in the system such as the staffs of courts, child welfare agencies, school personnel and health providers will be trained. Youth victims can no longer be ignored by the legal system.

Fully funding Access to Justice for Youth at \$5 million will help communities collaborate to bring justice to youth victims and perpetrators.

For more information, contact Juley Fulcher, Break the Cycle, (202) 824-0707.

GRANTS TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN ON CAMPUS

Funding Need: \$15 million

The Need: Safety on Campus

Campus communities must be educated about how to prevent sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, and how to meet the needs of victims. One in four college-aged women has been sexually assaulted.⁶¹ Research has demonstrated that women are most at risk of being victimized by someone known to them, as either a current or former intimate partner or a more casual acquaintance.⁶² Because of this, simply providing additional security on campus is not the answer.

According to the most recent research:

- 350 rapes are likely to occur on a campus with a student population of 10,000,⁶³
- Half of all stalking victims are between the ages of 18 and 29 years,⁶⁴ and
- Women between the ages of 16 and 24 years experience the highest rate of domestic violence victimization.⁶⁵

Without accurate education and sufficient services available, individuals on college and university campuses will continue to suffer high rates of sexual assault and dating violence.

The Solution: Campus-wide Victim Services and Security Programs

First authorized in the Higher Education Act of 1999, the Grants to Reduce Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus Program (Campus Program) was reauthorized in VAWA 2005 for \$15 million for fiscal years 2008-2011. In reauthorizing this program, Congress recognized the significant impact of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on students, faculty, and staff. The Campus Program is designed to help encourage institutions of higher education to adopt comprehensive, coordinated responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The program:

- Creates a unique balance between prevention, services, and training;
- Links campus victim services, law enforcement, health services, student organizations, administration, and disciplinary boards with local criminal justice agencies and service providers; and
- Requires colleges and universities to create prevention programs that work to change the attitudes and beliefs that perpetuate domestic and sexual violence.

To reduce the likelihood of violence against women on campuses, Congress must continue to support this program. In FY '06, the Office on Violence Against Women received 105 applications for campus based programs. Out of the \$9.1 million appropriation, 40 institutions of higher education received funding.

Funding the Campus Program at \$15 million will make more campuses safer for women.

For more information, contact Ellen Fern, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence at (202) 289-3900 or Juley Fulcher, Break the Cycle, (202) 824-0707.

SAFE HAVENS/SUPERVISED VISITATION CENTERS

Funding Need: \$20 million

The Need: Safe Places for Children and Their Parents

Family separation and divorce are difficult for children, but in cases of domestic violence, sexual violence, or child abuse these circumstances often endanger children and their non-abusing parents. Custody disputes during divorce often result in court-ordered visitation for non-custodial parents or abusive parents.

Maureen Sheeran of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges states that, “many battered women report threats against their lives during visitation and exchanges, and some, in fact, are killed in those contexts.”⁶⁶ In addition:

- According to one study, during visitations:
 - 5% of abusive fathers threaten to kill the mother;
 - 34% threaten to kidnap their children; and,
 - 25% threaten to hurt their children.⁶⁷
- It is estimated that 50% of men who frequently abused their wives also abused their children.⁶⁸

The Solution: Supervised Visitation Centers

Supervised visitation centers minimize these risks by facilitating safe contact between perpetrators of violence and their children. Safe Havens grants support states, local governments, and Indian tribal governments that partner with public or private nonprofit entities to focus on providing safe supervised centers for child visitation or monitored exchange of children.

To protect children during visitation, these centers provide services such as:

- One-on-one supervision – one supervisor assigned to a single family;
- Monitored exchanges – supervision of a child’s movement between the residential and the nonresidential parent immediately before and after unsupervised visitation;
- Group supervision – supervision of several families at a time;
- Telephone monitoring – monitoring phone calls from the nonresidential parent to the child; and
- Therapeutic supervision – mental health professionals providing therapy/counseling to the family during the visit.

In addition to protecting children from such trauma, this program can protect parents or caretakers who are victims of domestic or dating abuse from experiencing further violence, abuse or threats during child visitation exchanges. This program plays an essential role in breaking the cycle of domestic and child abuse.

Fully funding the Safe Havens/Supervised Visitation Centers at \$20 million will protect children and their non-abusing parents from violence.

For more information, contact Rob Valente, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, (202) 558-0031 or Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

STRENGTHENING HOME VISITATION PROJECTS

Funding Need: \$7 million

The Need: Protect Children and Break Intergenerational Cycles of Violence

For children exposed to domestic violence, the home is not a safe haven, but rather a place of fear and anxiety. Home visitation programs for pregnant women and families with young children are promising early intervention efforts that reduce rates of child abuse in families most at risk.

Homes visitation projects:

- Reach an estimated 550,000 children each year;⁶⁹
- Have been proven successful in improving children's health and well-being, and reducing rates of child abuse and neglect;⁷⁰ and
- Have been shown to be effective in educating parents while improving parenting behavior.⁷¹

However, the impact of home visitation programs in reducing child abuse is often limited by domestic violence. Those who visit homes to help new families are perfectly positioned to identify families where violence is taking place and link all family members with existing community services in order to reduce all forms of violence and abuse – both the domestic violence and the physical and sexual abuse of children.

The Solution: Train Home Visitation Service Providers

In order to effectively meet the needs of at-risk families, home visitation projects must develop and implement model policies and procedures to recognize and address domestic violence in addition to child abuse and neglect. VAWA 2005 recognized the value of home visitation as a cutting-edge strategy to reduce domestic and sexual violence and prevent future violence by creating new programs to develop curriculum, train providers, and coordinate services for families.

Funds will be used to train home visitation service providers on how to:

- Safely screen for violence;
- Understand the impact of this violence; and
- Link parents and children with existing community resources to address the violence and improve the safety of the children and non-abusing parent.

By supporting home visitation programs, these grant funds leverage existing community resources to better address violence in our nation's homes.

Fully funding the Strengthening Home Visitation Projects program at \$7 million will help ensure the safety of children in their homes and break the intergenerational cycle of violence.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

ASSISTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE

Funding Need: \$20 million

The Need: Help Children Witnessing Violence and Prevent Future Violence

Research now affirms what common sense told us long ago – that children who grow up witnessing domestic violence are themselves at much greater risk of becoming both victims and perpetrators of violence later in their own lives.

- Between 3.3 and 10 million children witness domestic violence every year;⁷²
- These children are more likely to exhibit cognitive and physical health problems like depression, anxiety, and violence toward peers.⁷³
- Children that are exposed to violence are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution, and commit sexual assault crimes.⁷⁴

The Solution: Services for Children Placed at Risk by Exposure to Violence

Fortunately, many children and youth can overcome the harm caused by witnessing abuse through effective interventions and developmentally appropriate mental health services. However, few children currently have access to these services. While successful interventions exist, without funding they remain limited and unable to reach most children who witness and experience violence. VAWA 2005 recognized this critical need by establishing a new program designed to mitigate the harmful effects of exposure to violence and reduce the risk of future victimization or perpetration.

This program would:

- Provide counseling, advocacy, and mentoring for children who witness violence;
- Provide training, coordination, and advocacy for programs that serve children and youth; and
- Work with child and youth-serving organizations on how to safely and confidentially identify children and families experiencing violence and refer them to programs offering direct services.

Fully funding the Children Exposed to Violence program at \$20 million will lead to the end of domestic and sexual violence by *preventing* violence before it occurs.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

ENGAGING MEN AND YOUTH IN PREVENTION EFFORTS

Funding Need: \$10 million

The Need: Helping Men Help End Violence

Just as awareness is growing about the need to strengthen girls' identity and help them reject violent relationships, we now know that boys and men must also have support systems and safe places to develop alternative, culturally specific concepts of manhood that include nonviolence.⁷⁵ Boys often encounter harmful messages – through television, movies, music, video games, and the actions of celebrities and sports stars – about what it means to “be a man” and what constitutes appropriate means of interacting with women. Men are leaders in helping shape young men's notions of violence and relationships and must be involved in any efforts to truly prevent and end violence against women and girls.

- Violent behavior starts early; a recent study of 8th and 9th graders found that 25% had been victims of nonsexual dating violence; 8% had been victims of sexual dating violence.⁷⁶
- Research demonstrates that men are willing to help prevent violence against women, particularly through shaping the attitudes of younger men and boys toward violence against women.⁷⁷
- Men are the perpetrators in at least 85% of domestic violence cases and prevention programs must be expanded to address their needs.⁷⁸

The Solution: Engage Men and Youth in the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence

As part of Congress' effort to bring new resources to the prevention of violence, VAWA 2005 included a new primary prevention program focused on engaging men and youth in the prevention of domestic and sexual violence. Funds would be used to:

- Create public education campaigns and community organizing to encourage men and boys to work as allies with women and girls to prevent domestic and sexual violence;
- Work with youth to help them pursue mutually respectful and nonviolent relationships; and
- Work with youth and youth-serving organizations to help them become informed about resources that are already available to address violence.

Fully funding this innovative and essential program to Engage Men and Youth in Prevention Efforts at \$10 million will help combat negative influences and allow men to become allies in prevention.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

RESEARCH ON AND TRACKING OF VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN WOMEN*

Funding Need: \$2.5 million

The Need: Address the Shocking Rates of Violence Committed Against Native Women

American Indian and Alaska Native women are battered, raped and stalked at far greater rates than any other group of women in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that:

- 1 of 3 Native women will be raped;
- 6 of 10 will be physically assaulted; and
- Native women are stalked at a rate at least twice that of any other population.⁷⁹
- 70% of American Indians who are the victims of violent crimes are victimized by someone of a different race.⁸⁰

The Solution: Enabling Tribal Governments to Address the Crisis

Recognizing the exceptional needs of Indian women, VAWA 2005 contained several provisions to fund research and tracking systems that will enhance the ability of tribal governments and tribal law enforcement agencies to respond to violence against Indian women on tribal lands.

The Solution: Understanding the Problem

VAWA 2005 authorized a National Institute of Justice baseline study of violence committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women that will shed greater light on the nature and extent of violent crimes perpetrated upon Native women. This information will be important for tribal governments as they work to develop comprehensive policies and programs at the local level.

Another study, authorized in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will look at the incidence of injuries and homicides of Indian women caused by domestic and sexual violence, and the cost of providing health care for those injuries.

The Solution: Stopping Serial Offenders

In addition, VAWA 2005 authorized appropriations for the Attorney General to create a tribal registry to track sex offenders and orders of protection. This database will enable law enforcement to better track and apprehend serial offenders who may travel between and among Indian nations, thus making the most of scarce resources.

Recognizing the urgent need for these funds, the House-passed FY '07 State, Science, Justice, Commerce Appropriations Bill included \$1 million for the tribal registries, which had been adopted as an amendment during floor debate.

Fully funding these programs at \$2.5 million will empower Tribal communities to address the shockingly high rates of violence against Native Women.

For more information, contact Virginia Davis, National Congress of American Indians, (202) 466-7767.

* Note that this funding need represents the total cost of three programs, two of which fall under the jurisdiction of the CJS Appropriations Subcommittee and one under the LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee.

PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Funding Need: \$2 million and full funding of other CJS programs

The Need: Services to Address the Needs of Communities of Color

In VAWA 1994 and 2000, Congress intended for all underserved communities to receive support to address domestic and sexual violence, and stalking. Yet all too often Communities of Color have not received an equitable share of the services funded or monies provided by VAWA grants. In VAWA 2005, Congress included language referencing culturally specific communities with the direct intent of addressing the needs of Communities of Color.

The complexities of addressing violence against women within cultural communities are vast and cannot be dealt with by merely setting up outreach programs or cultural competency trainings. The lives of Women of Color intersect with other issues including health care, immigration, disability and economics. Women of Color often do not seek services for fear of becoming isolated from their communities – in effect, forcing victims to choose their communities over their safety. No person should have to make that choice. Instead, we must provide services that both embrace a woman’s culture and her safety needs as a victim. To truly meet these needs, we must give Communities of Color the opportunity to develop and enhance culturally appropriate services addressing the myriad issues facing their communities.

The Solution: Designated Funding for Culturally Specific Programs and Organizations

VAWA 2005 has made a historic shift in service provision by broadening core services and expanding “who” is eligible to provide victim services. Culturally specific services, in a victim’s native language, from a service provider within the victim’s own culture, must be a core service offered to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Grants to Enhance Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking—The intent of this program is to provide resources for community-based programs and organizations that are specifically led by and for Communities of Color to work directly with their own communities to develop or maintain outreach and victims services addressing violence against women.

STOP Grant Improvements— Amendments were made to this existing program that focus state efforts on all underserved populations and also create a Culturally Specific Community-Based Organization Set Aside. This set aside is to provide resources for community-based organizations that are specifically led by and for Communities of Color that are often not able to access state funds.

Sexual Assault Services Program—This new program provides a 10% set aside for culturally specific organizations addressing sexual assault.

Grants for Outreach to Underserved Populations—Authorized for \$2 million annually, this new grant program provides funding to groups from underserved, tribal, or immigrant communities who have experience conducting public awareness campaigns addressing violence against women to implement public education and awareness initiatives focused on reaching their own communities. This funding is also open to government agencies that partner with the groups mentioned.

Fully funding all the VAWA grant programs and the \$2 million Grants for Outreach to Underserved Populations will empower Communities of Color to address the needs of victims.

For more information, contact Luz Marquez, National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA), (860) 693-2031.

Victims of Crime Act Fund FY 03-06

Updated 3/14/06

State/Territory	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Alabama	\$ 5,497,000	\$ 5,543,000	\$ 5,773,000	\$ 6,108,000
Alaska	\$ 1,217,000	\$ 1,224,000	\$ 1,260,000	\$ 1,311,000
Am. Samoa	\$ 264,000	\$ 264,000	\$ 267,000	\$ 271,000
Arizona	\$ 6,578,000	\$ 6,633,000	\$ 7,038,000	\$ 7,610,000
Arkansas	\$ 3,519,000	\$ 3,546,000	\$ 3,693,000	\$ 3,907,398
California	\$ 39,613,000	\$ 39,969,000	\$ 42,073,000	\$ 44,933,000
Colorado	\$ 5,520,000	\$ 5,565,000	\$ 5,831,477	\$ 6,190,000
Connecticut	\$ 4,354,000	\$ 4,390,000	\$ 4,581,000	\$ 4,837,000
Delaware	\$ 1,399,000	\$ 1,407,145	\$ 1,458,000	\$ 1,528,000
District of Columbia	\$ 1,136,000	\$ 1,142,000	\$ 1,160,000	\$ 1,185,000
Florida	\$ 19,116,000	\$ 19,285,000	\$ 20,439,000	\$ 22,036,000
Georgia	\$ 10,035,000	\$ 10,122,000	\$ 10,675,000	\$ 11,430,000
Guam	\$ 372,000	\$ 374,000	\$ 381,000	\$ 392,000
Hawaii	\$ 1,887,000	\$ 1,899,000	\$ 1,973,000	\$ 2,063,000
Idaho	\$ 1,994,000	\$ 2,007,000	\$ 2,101,000	\$ 2,225,000
Illinois	\$ 14,535,000	\$ 14,663,000	\$ 15,325,000	\$ 16,238,000
Indiana	\$ 7,360,000	\$ 7,423,000	\$ 7,759,000	\$ 8,221,385
Iowa	\$ 3,771,000	\$ 3,801,000	\$ 3,949,000	\$ 4,157,000
Kansas	\$ 3,525,000	\$ 3,553,000	\$ 3,691,000	\$ 3,886,000
Kentucky	\$ 5,059,000	\$ 5,100,000	\$ 5,324,000	\$ 5,632,000
Louisiana	\$ 5,493,000	\$ 5,538,000	\$ 5,768,000	\$ 6,090,000
Maine	\$ 1,942,000	\$ 1,955,000	\$ 2,030,000	\$ 2,131,000
Maryland	\$ 6,579,000	\$ 6,635,000	\$ 6,954,000	\$ 7,380,000
Massachusetts	\$ 7,660,000	\$ 7,725,000	\$ 8,037,000	\$ 8,443,000
Michigan	\$ 11,695,000	\$ 11,796,000	\$ 12,309,125	\$ 13,018,000
Minnesota	\$ 6,091,000	\$ 6,142,000	\$ 6,427,000	\$ 6,814,382
Mississippi	\$ 3,699,000	\$ 3,728,000	\$ 3,876,000	\$ 4,094,000
Missouri	\$ 6,818,000	\$ 6,876,000	\$ 7,183,000	\$ 7,624,000
Montana	\$ 1,513,000	\$ 1,522,000	\$ 1,575,000	\$ 1,647,000
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 277,000	\$ 278,000	\$ 281,000	\$ 286,000
Nebraska	\$ 2,426,000	\$ 2,444,000	\$ 2,538,000	\$ 2,663,000
Nevada	\$ 2,921,000	\$ 2,943,000	\$ 3,126,000	\$ 3,390,000
New Hampshire	\$ 1,920,000	\$ 1,933,000	\$ 2,009,000	\$ 2,109,000
New Jersey	\$ 10,068,000	\$ 10,155,000	\$ 10,621,000	\$ 11,268,000
New Mexico	\$ 2,566,000	\$ 2,585,000	\$ 2,696,000	\$ 2,856,000
New York	\$ 21,838,000	\$ 22,033,000	\$ 22,983,000	\$ 24,301,000
North Carolina	\$ 9,767,000	\$ 9,852,000	\$ 10,350,000	\$ 11,073,000
North Dakota	\$ 1,206,000	\$ 1,213,000	\$ 1,243,000	\$ 1,285,000
Ohio	\$ 13,221,000	\$ 13,337,000	\$ 13,898,000	\$ 14,685,000
Oklahoma	\$ 4,391,000	\$ 4,427,000	\$ 4,614,000	\$ 4,862,000
Oregon	\$ 4,422,000	\$ 4,458,000	\$ 4,670,000	\$ 4,950,000
Pennsylvania	\$ 14,239,000	\$ 14,364,000	\$ 14,987,000	\$ 15,858,000
Puerto Rico	\$ 4,798,000	\$ 4,837,000	\$ 5,044,000	\$ 5,321,359
Rhode Island	\$ 1,692,000	\$ 1,702,000	\$ 1,761,000	\$ 1,838,000
South Carolina	\$ 5,075,000	\$ 5,116,000	\$ 5,359,000	\$ 5,697,000
South Dakota	\$ 1,348,000	\$ 1,355,000	\$ 1,395,000	\$ 1,454,000
Tennessee	\$ 6,957,000	\$ 7,016,000	\$ 7,344,000	\$ 7,805,000
Texas	\$ 24,759,000	\$ 24,980,000	\$ 26,414,000	\$ 28,340,000
Utah	\$ 3,080,000	\$ 3,103,000	\$ 3,255,000	\$ 3,457,000
Vermont	\$ 1,187,000	\$ 1,193,000	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 1,269,000
Virgin Islands	\$ 621,000	\$ 622,000	\$ 627,000	\$ 634,387
Virginia	\$ 8,624,000	\$ 8,698,000	\$ 9,154,000	\$ 9,734,408
Washington	\$ 7,260,000	\$ 7,321,000	\$ 7,683,000	\$ 8,180,000
West Virginia	\$ 2,507,000	\$ 2,525,000	\$ 2,621,000	\$ 2,747,000
Wisconsin	\$ 6,561,000	\$ 6,616,000	\$ 6,911,000	\$ 7,320,000
Wyoming	\$ 1,055,299	\$ 1,061,000	\$ 1,087,000	\$ 1,127,000
TOTAL	\$ 353,027,299	\$ 355,994,145	\$ 372,806,602	\$ 395,918,319

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT FUND

Funding Need: One-time \$375 million Cap Increase

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund was created by Congress in 1984 to provide federal support to the many state and local programs that assist victims of crime. The VOCA Fund is derived entirely from fines and penalties paid by offenders at the federal level, not taxpayer revenues, and is largely distributed to the states through a formula grant. The state money funds both crime victim compensation programs, which pay many of the out-of-pocket expenses incurred by victims, and victim assistance programs such as rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters, victim assistants in law enforcement and prosecutor offices, and other direct services to victims of all types of crime.

The Need: Assistance for Victims of All Types of Crime

VOCA assistance grants are a key source of funding for programs that directly assist crime victims, including crisis intervention, assistance with the criminal justice process, safety planning, counseling, support, court accompaniment, and much more. Domestic violence, sexual assault, and general victim services programs all have pressing needs to expand their outreach and service components. The recent increase in crime across the country has meant an increased demand for victim services. Some 4,400 agencies rely on continued VOCA funding to serve 3.8 million victims a year. And yet, there are still too few services for disabled victims, rural victims, teen victims, elder victims, non-English speaking victims, and others.

The Solution: Protect the VOCA Fund

After two unsuccessful attempts to rescind the balance of the VOCA Fund, the President's FY '08 budget proposes to cancel the VOCA Fund, moving to a system of setting an annual appropriation from the General Fund to be offset by the amount collected through criminal fines. Such a system would eliminate the dedicated funding stream that has enabled steady support for crime victim services. Under the President's proposal, victim advocates would have to lobby for funding every year, competing against every other federal budget item. **We urge Congress to protect the existence of the VOCA Fund, maintaining a system whereby criminal offenders at the federal level support services to crime victims.**

We urge Congress to raise the VOCA cap by \$375 million one time only and extend the time in which states have to spend the money, from the current four years to six years, to provide additional stability. This increase in funding for FY '08 would help states respond to the current demand for services, ensure that the money collected from offenders was used for the purpose for which it was designed, and also allow for a modest Fund balance of approximately \$300 million to remain for future years to help guarantee stable funding.

Congress must also guard against the creation of new earmarks from the VOCA Fund. The VOCA Fund was created specifically as a non-taxpayer source of money to provide basic services and compensation to victims of crime. Congress should prevent the creation of any new earmarks from the VOCA Fund for federal administrative expenses, special projects or other purposes – even those that might benefit crime victims. Earmarks reduce the amount states will receive to support victim assistance efforts. In addition, a key to the VOCA Fund's success is the flexibility it affords states to address the specific assistance needs in each state. Diverting or earmarking money for specific projects undermines this important aspect of the Fund and depletes the funding available to meet future needs. **Congress should fund VOCA in FY '08 with no new or expanded earmarks.**

A one-time increase in the VOCA cap for FY '08 by \$375 million with no new or expanded earmarks will protect the VOCA Fund for the future and provide services for victims nationwide.

For more information contact Susan Howley, National Center for Victims of Crime, (202) 467-8700, or Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

FVPSA Grants to States and Territories FY 03-06

Updated 11/06

State/Territory	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Alabama	\$ 1,478,259	\$ 1,459,120	\$ 1,456,225	\$ 1,444,002
Alaska	\$ 724,900	\$ 723,849	\$ 723,880	\$ 722,895
American Samoa	\$ 126,403	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731
Arizona	\$ 1,644,095	\$ 1,665,286	\$ 1,685,611	\$ 1,699,821
Arkansas	\$ 1,129,607	\$ 1,120,294	\$ 1,120,260	\$ 1,114,636
California	\$ 7,387,302	\$ 7,373,404	\$ 7,384,094	\$ 7,290,846
Colorado	\$ 1,469,084	\$ 1,468,652	\$ 1,469,686	\$ 1,463,884
Connecticut	\$ 1,273,804	\$ 1,264,919	\$ 1,262,197	\$ 1,250,027
Delaware	\$ 756,627	\$ 756,046	\$ 756,943	\$ 756,201
D.C.	\$ 712,496	\$ 707,541	\$ 704,618	\$ 701,944
Florida	\$ 3,825,637	\$ 3,848,663	\$ 3,888,144	\$ 3,894,275
Georgia	\$ 2,249,342	\$ 2,257,771	\$ 2,268,794	\$ 2,280,033
Guam	\$ 126,403	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731
Hawaii	\$ 840,872	\$ 840,057	\$ 838,683	\$ 836,137
Idaho	\$ 859,878	\$ 860,811	\$ 863,333	\$ 864,636
Illinois	\$ 3,055,605	\$ 3,015,355	\$ 3,002,936	\$ 2,963,484
Indiana	\$ 1,802,935	\$ 1,782,647	\$ 1,778,929	\$ 1,761,426
Iowa	\$ 1,175,068	\$ 1,161,973	\$ 1,158,405	\$ 1,149,297
Kansas	\$ 1,130,109	\$ 1,119,873	\$ 1,117,023	\$ 1,108,253
Kentucky	\$ 1,399,805	\$ 1,386,026	\$ 1,383,598	\$ 1,372,819
Louisiana	\$ 1,478,471	\$ 1,458,277	\$ 1,453,501	\$ 1,437,672
Maine	\$ 853,123	\$ 849,242	\$ 848,967	\$ 844,712
Maryland	\$ 1,657,438	\$ 1,651,561	\$ 1,650,499	\$ 1,637,064
Massachusetts	\$ 1,854,981	\$ 1,828,035	\$ 1,812,749	\$ 1,784,901
Michigan	\$ 2,565,463	\$ 2,524,105	\$ 2,511,332	\$ 2,474,151
Minnesota	\$ 1,578,184	\$ 1,565,752	\$ 1,564,105	\$ 1,550,477
Mississippi	\$ 1,162,251	\$ 1,149,990	\$ 1,148,674	\$ 1,140,919
Missouri	\$ 1,707,515	\$ 1,688,893	\$ 1,687,649	\$ 1,674,085
Montana	\$ 777,926	\$ 775,159	\$ 775,182	\$ 773,265
Nebraska	\$ 937,040	\$ 932,002	\$ 930,232	\$ 925,687
Nevada	\$ 1,014,322	\$ 1,027,800	\$ 1,041,283	\$ 1,047,167
New Hampshire	\$ 847,715	\$ 845,798	\$ 845,612	\$ 842,571
New Jersey	\$ 2,269,117	\$ 2,248,929	\$ 2,244,128	\$ 2,214,360
New Mexico	\$ 959,842	\$ 957,833	\$ 959,730	\$ 957,093
New York	\$ 4,340,051	\$ 4,263,080	\$ 4,234,009	\$ 4,165,516
North Carolina	\$ 2,210,460	\$ 2,204,807	\$ 2,214,330	\$ 2,207,937
North Dakota	\$ 724,813	\$ 720,989	\$ 719,898	\$ 717,898
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 126,403	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731
Ohio	\$ 2,837,482	\$ 2,782,908	\$ 2,765,806	\$ 2,722,878
Oklahoma	\$ 1,280,694	\$ 1,270,294	\$ 1,265,968	\$ 1,256,987
Oregon	\$ 1,283,207	\$ 1,279,469	\$ 1,279,393	\$ 1,274,240
Pennsylvania	\$ 3,017,214	\$ 2,960,364	\$ 2,944,847	\$ 2,901,680
Puerto Rico	\$ 1,349,256	\$ 1,340,349	\$ 1,336,146	\$ 1,324,423
Rhode Island	\$ 808,318	\$ 805,422	\$ 804,244	\$ 799,286
South Carolina	\$ 1,399,304	\$ 1,391,624	\$ 1,393,454	\$ 1,387,944
South Dakota	\$ 748,844	\$ 745,894	\$ 745,700	\$ 743,685
Tennessee	\$ 1,729,217	\$ 1,715,095	\$ 1,715,309	\$ 1,704,203
Texas	\$ 4,795,207	\$ 4,822,063	\$ 4,850,718	\$ 4,833,142
Utah	\$ 1,046,529	\$ 1,048,857	\$ 1,051,539	\$ 1,057,311
Vermont	\$ 720,611	\$ 718,177	\$ 717,446	\$ 715,375
Virgin Islands	\$ 126,403	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731
Virginia	\$ 2,014,021	\$ 2,009,930	\$ 2,009,942	\$ 2,001,321
Washington	\$ 1,777,996	\$ 1,770,393	\$ 1,772,545	\$ 1,764,349
West Virginia	\$ 954,486	\$ 945,567	\$ 943,110	\$ 936,440
Wisconsin	\$ 1,662,701	\$ 1,644,573	\$ 1,641,231	\$ 1,625,178
Wyoming	\$ 697,266	\$ 695,679	\$ 695,741	\$ 694,306
TOTAL	\$ 88,482,102	\$ 87,953,789	\$ 87,940,898	\$ 87,311,763

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

Funding Need: \$175 million

The Need: Emergency Shelter and Services for Victims and their Families

Increased training for police, prosecutors, and court officials has greatly improved the response of the criminal justice system to victims of domestic violence. These programs have been so successful that many more victims are now referred for services and demand has steadily risen for the emergency shelter, hotlines and supportive services that victims need.

- Since 2006, calls to The National Domestic Violence Hotline have increased by 15%.
- In 2004, over a quarter of a million women and children were turned away from domestic violence centers due to lack of available resources.⁸¹
- Between 3.3 million and 10 million children witness abuse each year.⁸²

To respond to the needs of victims of domestic violence, there are over 2,000 community-based domestic violence programs for battered women and children, providing emergency shelter to approximately 300,000 women and children and providing services such as counseling, legal assistance, and preventative education to millions of women, men and children annually.⁸³

Over the past 20 years, shelters have evolved to provide a wide spectrum of residential and nonresidential services. These programs can only succeed in their goal of providing safety if they are also able to provide victims with practical assistance such as food, clothing, transportation, life-skills training and services for children.

The Solution: Funding to Support Local Battered Women's Shelters

The Family Violence Prevention and Service Act (FVPSA) supports the life-saving emergency shelters, crisis lines, counseling, victim assistance, and programs for underserved communities provided by local domestic violence programs. These programs are the heart of our nation's response to domestic violence.

Recognizing the need for specific services for children, Congress passed the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, which amended FVPSA to provide a portion of all appropriations over \$130 million to programs serving children who witness domestic violence.

In the FY '07 Congressional budget, FVPSA Programs/Shelters received \$124.7 million in appropriations – \$50.3 million below the authorized level of \$175 million. This funding simply does not meet the need for emergency services and has not allowed support for children's services. This year Congress has the unique opportunity to fund these children's services and take a crucial step toward preventing future violence.

When victims in life-threatening situations step forward, they must receive immediate assistance. Yet shelters overwhelmingly report that they cannot fulfill the growing need for these services.

Fully funding FVPSA at \$175 million will provide critically needed direct services to victims of domestic violence and their children.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566, or Jill Morris, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, (202) 745-1211.

THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

Funding Need: \$3.5 million

The Need: Crisis Response for Victims

In 2006, the National Domestic Violence Hotline celebrated its 10th Anniversary. This milestone commemorated the answering of more than 1.7 million calls. Located in Texas, this 24-hour, national toll-free hotline has received calls from increasing numbers of victims of domestic violence.

The Hotline receives more than 19,500 calls a month, a 15% increase from last year, and it provides services in more than 150 languages. A sophisticated system allows the Hotline operator to immediately link the caller to a service provider located in her or his area. The Hotline provides support, information, referrals, safety planning, and crisis counseling to hundreds of thousands of callers. Through its national database, the Hotline connects callers with more than 5,200 local programs providing a wide range of services that support and respond to victims' needs.

Over the last year the Hotline answered 215,244 calls, including 300 TTY calls a month. The majority of calls are crisis calls from victims of domestic violence or their concerned family and friends. More than 60% of callers report that this is their first call for help. Unfortunately, the increasing volume of calls is far greater than the Hotline's capacity to respond. In 2006, there were over 29,000 (14%) calls that the Hotline was unable to answer. In the last year, new technology has reduced the dropped call rate to 5.8%, but increased call volume means that thousands of calls still go unanswered. Funding for additional hotline advocates is crucial to meeting this need.

The Solution: Expanding the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the Teen Helpline

It is of great importance that the Hotline number continue to be publicized and available for victims across the United States. Recent Hotline innovations include a new caller application that better maps callers and available service providers and an updated online database for service providers. Hotline upgrades and expansion are needed as part of on-going service improvements each year to make sure every caller is brought into victim service networks that have been decades in the building. **The Hotline must be funded at the full authorized level in order to be able to answer every call and respond to the needs of all victims, as well as provide critical new services to reach teen victims of abuse.**

The Hotline continues the partnership with Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services (ADWAS) to raise awareness about the 1-800-787-3224 TTY crisis line and to provide appropriate services to victims of domestic violence who are deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing. With the sophisticated use of technology, the Hotline and ADWAS are able to provide services to victims who otherwise might not receive the help they need.

In 2007, recognizing the significance of the alarming trend of teen dating violence and the fact that few resources existed to address the problem, the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) and Liz Claiborne Inc. joined together to launch loveisrespect.org, The National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline (NTDAH). This national Web-based and telephone resource was created to help teens (ages 13-18) experiencing dating violence and is the only teen helpline in the country serving all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Based on its first weeks in service the Teen Helpline expects to receive an average of 5,500 calls a month and 5,000 online chats a year.

Congress recognized the valuable service provided by the National Domestic Violence Hotline, increasing the authorized funding level for the Hotline to \$3.5 million as part of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, reauthorized in the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

Fully funding the National Domestic Violence Hotline at \$3.5 million will help connect all victims – including teens – to services and support.

For more information, please contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566, or Sheryl Cates, National Domestic Violence Hotline, (512) 794-1133.

LONG-TERM STABILITY/HOUSING FOR VICTIMS

Funding Need: \$10 million

The Need: A Bridge to Stability

Beyond their need for emergency shelter and crisis intervention, victims need resources to help them stay safe and self-sufficient over time. Victims of domestic violence often must return to their abusers because they cannot find long-term housing,⁸⁴ while others are forced into homelessness.

- 38% of all victims of domestic violence become homeless at some point in their lives.⁸⁵
- 92% of homeless women have experienced severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives, and 63% have been victims of intimate partner violence as adults.⁸⁶

This is in part due to a lack of affordable and subsidized housing across the country.

- Over five million households in 2003 had “worst case” housing needs: living in substandard housing, doubled-up, or paying over one-half of their income for rent.⁸⁷
- There are not enough federal housing rent vouchers available to accommodate the number of people in need. Some people remain on the waiting list for years, while some lists are closed.⁸⁸

Without assistance obtaining and maintaining housing, many victims are forced to choose between life with an abusive partner and life on the street.

The Solution: Long-Term Stability for Victims

To enable survivors and their children to end the cycle of violence, families at risk for homelessness should be connected with long-term housing solutions.

VAWA includes an innovative grant program to bridge the gap between crisis services and long-term stability. When afforded residential stability, homeless persons are considerably less likely to return to emergency shelter.⁸⁹

Modeled after extremely successful affordable housing, community development, and “housing first” programs across the nation in urban, suburban and rural areas, the Long-Term Stability for Victims program would fund collaborative efforts to create permanent housing options that help develop communities and leverage private dollars. Funds could be used to:

- Place survivors into long-term housing as soon as is reasonable and safe;
- Help them remain housed;
- Collaborate with landlords and housing providers to accept victims into their properties or programs;
- Operate affordable housing units;
- Provide vouchers or subsidies to help victims rent or buy a home; and
- Create partnerships to purchase, build, renovate, repair, and convert affordable housing units.

Fully funding the Long-Term Stability for Victims program at \$10 million will help prevent homelessness and allow victims to escape abusive relationships.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Funding Need: \$3 million

The Need: Health Care Providers Trained to Identify and Address Violence Against Women

Most Americans seek health care services periodically, either for routine, emergency, perinatal or pediatric care, placing health care providers in a unique position to reach out to victims of violence, long before they may seek help from a domestic violence or rape crisis center, or turn to law enforcement. Domestic and sexual violence also have enormous health consequences, even beyond the immediate trauma caused by abuse. Specifically:

- Domestic violence contributes to a number of chronic health problems including depression, alcohol and substance abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS;
- Violence limits victims' ability to manage other chronic illnesses such as diabetes and hypertension;⁹⁰ and
- Domestic violence is connected to 8 of the 10 leading health indicators in the Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2010 Goals, including substance abuse, obesity and mental health.

Despite this, most health care providers do not ask patients about violence and often miss the signs of violence, thereby misdiagnosing patients and missing the opportunity to intervene.

- Fewer than 10% of primary care physicians routinely screen patients for domestic violence during new patient visits; fewer than 9% screen during periodic checkups.⁹¹
- 70 - 81 % of patients experiencing abuse would like to have their health care providers ask them privately about intimate partner violence.⁹²
- Clinical studies have proven the effectiveness of a 2-minute screening for the detection of abuse of pregnant women; additional studies have found a 10-minute intervention highly effective in increasing pregnant, abused women's safety.⁹³

The Solution: Training Health Care Professionals to Recognize and Respond to Domestic and Sexual Violence

Recognizing this critical need, VAWA 2005 established an innovative grant program designed to enhance health care providers' understanding of, and clinical skills pertinent to, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. This program would:

- Develop interdisciplinary training and education programs that provide health profession students with an understanding of, and clinical skills pertinent to, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence;
- Fund training projects for students and residents to identify and provide health care services, including mental or behavioral health care services and referrals to appropriate community services to victims;
- Offer community-based training opportunities, including distance learning networks, for students and residents in rural areas; and
- Address issues related to child and elder abuse as part of a comprehensive approach.

Fully funding the Training and Education of Health Professionals program at \$3 million will allow health care professionals to utilize their unique opportunity to help victims of domestic violence at an early stage.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

FOSTERING PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSES

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: A Coordinated Health Care Response to Domestic and Sexual Violence

The health care system has always played an integral role in identifying and preventing serious public health problems, from developing and distributing immunizations to acknowledging the grave dangers posed by tobacco. Now, the system must address the immense problems posed by domestic and sexual violence.

- 25-31% of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives.⁹⁴
- The health-related costs of intimate partner violence in the United States exceed \$5.8 billion each year; \$4.1 billion for direct medical and mental health services alone.⁹⁵
- Early identification and treatment of victims and potential victims not only addresses the victims' needs, but can financially benefit health care systems in the long run.⁹⁶

Health care systems must play a unique and pivotal role in preventing domestic and sexual violence and intervening when such violence does occur.

The Solution: Strengthen State and Local Health Care Systems

Given the magnitude of the problem, we need a public health response to domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and stalking that corresponds with the response to other grave challenges like tobacco and HIV/AIDS. It is long past time to increase collaboration and coordination between violence prevention advocates, health care providers and leaders, policy makers and public health officials in order to improve the quality and quantity of health care services available for victims of domestic and sexual violence. To accomplish this, VAWA 2005 established a new initiative aimed at strengthening the response of State, tribal, territorial and local health care systems to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Funds under the initiative could be used to:

- Implement, disseminate, and evaluate policies and procedures to guide health care professionals and behavioral and public health staff in responding to violence;
- Develop training and policies to address the overlap of child abuse, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and elder abuse, as well as childhood exposure to domestic violence;
- Enforce strategies to ensure that health information is kept confidential to ensure a victim's safety and prevent insurance discrimination;
- Develop on-site services to address victims' safety, medical, mental health, and economic needs;
- Create and implement public education campaigns concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking prevention;
- Develop and disseminate education materials to patients and staff;
- Promote the inclusion of intimate partner violence and sexual assault in health professional training schools;
- Integrate domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking into health care accreditation and licensing examinations.

Fully funding the program for Fostering Public Health Responses at \$5 million will help coordinate a public health response befitting the severity of the sexual and domestic violence crisis.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Helping Victims and Minimizing Health Care Costs

Screening for intimate partner violence in health care settings markedly increases identification of victims of abuse, and effective interventions by health care providers can make a real difference in the lives of victims of domestic and sexual abuse. These interventions can also help prevent enormous costs to the health care system caused by domestic and sexual violence.

- Even five years after abuse has ended, health care costs for women with a history of intimate partner violence remain 20% higher than those for women with no history of violence.⁹⁷
- New research shows that intimate partner violence costs a health plan \$19.3 million each year for every 100,000 women between 18 and 64 enrolled, justifying investment in intervention programs.⁹⁸
- Hospital-based domestic violence interventions can reduce health care costs by at least 20%.⁹⁹
- Clinical studies have proven the effectiveness of a 2-minute screening for the detection of abuse of pregnant women; additional studies have found a 10-minute intervention highly effective in increasing pregnant abused women's safety.¹⁰⁰
- Fewer than 10% of primary care physicians routinely screen patients for domestic violence during new patient visits; fewer than 9% screen during periodic checkups.¹⁰¹
- 70 – 81% of patients experiencing abuse would like to have their health care providers ask them privately about intimate partner violence.¹⁰²

The Solution: Understanding the Best Approach to Intervention

To improve rates of screening and identification, and determine the most effective interventions, research is needed. VAWA 2005 provided for new investigations in these areas, to be conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.

Funds would be used to:

- Research the effects of violence and childhood exposure to violence on health behaviors, conditions, and the health status of individuals, families, and populations;
- Test the best messages and strategies to mobilize public and health care provider action for prevention;
- Measure the comparative efficacy and outcomes of various efforts; and
- Evaluate the impact on the health care system, including utilization and costs.

Fully funding the Effective Interventions in Health Care Settings program at \$5 million will support life-saving research into the best means for health care providers to help victims of violence.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

EVALUATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION EFFORTS

Funding Need: \$2 million

The Need: Identifying Effective Interventions to Prevent Domestic and Sexual Violence

The tragic effects of violence on families are indisputable. In addition to the immediate trauma caused by abuse, domestic and sexual violence result in myriad health and behavioral problems, many of which can span a victim's lifetime. Witnesses of such violence are similarly affected, many carrying the legacy of abuse throughout their lives.

- A study of young adolescents in the Cleveland area found that “recent exposure to violence at home... was one of the most significant predictors of a teen’s use of subsequent violence at school or in the community.”¹⁰³
- A high percentage of the nearly half a million 14-24 year olds who leave the juvenile justice system, federal or state prisons or local jails annually have experienced or witnessed violence at home.¹⁰⁴

Given the enormous costs of violence it is essential that we start to systematically evaluate the effectiveness of programs to improve program success and efficiency.

The Solution: Understanding Successful Prevention and Intervention Strategies

In order to effectively identify, respond to, and ultimately prevent domestic and sexual violence, we must first improve our understanding of which prevention and intervention strategies work and why they are successful.

VAWA 2005 recognized this need and called on the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide grants for the evaluation of the best practices for reducing and preventing violence against women and children.

Funds could be used to:

- Support research to examine prevention and intervention programs;
- Further the understanding of sexual and domestic violence by and against adults, youth, and children; and
- Study strategies addressing underserved communities.

These studies will help us understand which programs are most effective, allowing us to target our future efforts and model future programs on current successes.

Fully funding the Evaluation of Violence Prevention and Intervention Efforts at \$2 million will help us understand the most effective ways to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

For more information, contact Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

Funding for Rape Prevention and Education FY 03-06

Updated 11/30/06

State/Territory	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Alabama	\$ 645,955.00	\$ 645,956.00	\$ 653,289.00	\$ 635,650.00
Alaska	\$ 91,064.00	\$ 91,064.00	\$ 94,159.00	\$ 91,617.00
American Samoa	\$ 9,616.00	\$ 9,506.00	\$ 11,979.00	\$ 11,655.00
Arizona	\$ 745,241.00	\$ 745,240.00	\$ 753,331.00	\$ 732,991.00
Arkansas	\$ 388,320.00	\$ 388,320.00	\$ 393,685.00	\$ 383,055.00
California	\$ 4,919,965.00	\$ 4,919,966.00	\$ 4,959,936.00	\$ 4,826,018.00
Colorado	\$ 624,772.00	\$ 624,772.00	\$ 631,943.00	\$ 614,881.00
Connecticut	\$ 494,669.00	\$ 494,670.00	\$ 500,847.00	\$ 487,324.00
Delaware	\$ 113,820.00	\$ 113,820.00	\$ 117,089.00	\$ 113,927.00
District of Columbia	\$ 83,093.00	\$ 83,094.00	\$ 86,129.00	\$ 83,803.00
Florida	\$ 2,321,491.00	\$ 2,321,492.00	\$ 2,341,620.00	\$ 2,278,396.00
Georgia	\$ 1,189,108.00	\$ 1,189,108.00	\$ 1,200,588.00	\$ 1,168,172.00
Guam	\$ 22,459.00	\$ 22,459.00	\$ 25,031.00	\$ 24,355.00
Hawaii	\$ 175,980.00	\$ 175,980.00	\$ 179,724.00	\$ 174,871.00
Idaho	\$ 187,951.00	\$ 187,950.00	\$ 191,785.00	\$ 186,607.00
Illinois	\$ 1,803,942.00	\$ 1,803,942.00	\$ 1,820,117.00	\$ 1,770,974.00
Indiana	\$ 883,210.00	\$ 883,210.00	\$ 892,354.00	\$ 868,260.00
Iowa	\$ 425,058.00	\$ 425,058.00	\$ 430,704.00	\$ 419,075.00
Kansas	\$ 390,501.00	\$ 390,502.00	\$ 395,884.00	\$ 385,195.00
Kentucky	\$ 587,080.00	\$ 587,080.00	\$ 593,963.00	\$ 577,926.00
Louisiana	\$ 649,132.00	\$ 649,133.00	\$ 656,490.00	\$ 638,765.00
Maine	\$ 185,187.00	\$ 185,187.00	\$ 189,001.00	\$ 183,898.00
Marshall Islands	\$ 9,896.00	\$ 9,896.00	\$ 12,372.00	\$ 12,038.00
Maryland	\$ 769,332.00	\$ 769,332.00	\$ 777,607.00	\$ 756,612.00
Massachusetts	\$ 922,227.00	\$ 922,226.00	\$ 931,668.00	\$ 906,513.00
Michigan	\$ 1,443,591.00	\$ 1,443,590.00	\$ 1,457,014.00	\$ 1,417,674.00
Micronesia	\$ 17,982.00	\$ 17,982.00	\$ 20,519.00	\$ 19,965.00
Minnesota	\$ 714,570.00	\$ 714,570.00	\$ 722,427.00	\$ 702,921.00
Mississippi	\$ 413,196.00	\$ 413,196.00	\$ 418,751.00	\$ 407,445.00
Missouri	\$ 812,722.00	\$ 812,722.00	\$ 821,328.00	\$ 799,152.00
Montana	\$ 131,047.00	\$ 131,046.00	\$ 134,447.00	\$ 130,817.00
Nebraska	\$ 248,566.00	\$ 248,566.00	\$ 252,864.00	\$ 246,036.00
Nevada	\$ 290,253.00	\$ 290,254.00	\$ 294,870.00	\$ 286,908.00
New Hampshire	\$ 179,502.00	\$ 179,502.00	\$ 183,273.00	\$ 178,324.00
New Jersey	\$ 1,222,210.00	\$ 1,222,211.00	\$ 1,233,944.00	\$ 1,200,627.00
New Mexico	\$ 264,222.00	\$ 264,222.00	\$ 268,640.00	\$ 261,387.00
New York	\$ 2,756,390.00	\$ 2,756,390.00	\$ 2,779,839.00	\$ 2,704,783.00
North Carolina	\$ 1,169,188.00	\$ 1,169,188.00	\$ 1,180,516.00	\$ 1,148,642.00
North Dakota	\$ 93,282.00	\$ 93,282.00	\$ 96,394.00	\$ 93,791.00
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 10,445.00	\$ 10,445.00	\$ 12,925.00	\$ 12,576.00
Ohio	\$ 1,649,080.00	\$ 1,649,080.00	\$ 1,664,073.00	\$ 1,619,143.00
Oklahoma	\$ 501,219.00	\$ 501,218.00	\$ 507,445.00	\$ 493,744.00
Oregon	\$ 496,969.00	\$ 496,970.00	\$ 503,165.00	\$ 489,579.00
Palau	\$ 2,726.00	\$ 2,726.00	\$ 5,147.00	\$ 5,008.00
Pennsylvania	\$ 1,783,862.00	\$ 1,783,862.00	\$ 1,799,884.00	\$ 1,751,287.00
Puerto Rico	\$ 553,213.00	\$ 553,213.00	\$ 559,838.00	\$ 544,723.00
Rhode Island	\$ 152,272.00	\$ 152,272.00	\$ 155,835.00	\$ 151,627.00
South Carolina	\$ 582,758.00	\$ 582,758.00	\$ 589,608.00	\$ 573,688.00
South Dakota	\$ 109,644.00	\$ 109,644.00	\$ 112,881.00	\$ 109,833.00
Tennessee	\$ 826,387.00	\$ 826,386.00	\$ 835,097.00	\$ 677,549.00
Texas	\$ 3,028,793.00	\$ 3,028,794.00	\$ 3,054,323.00	\$ 2,971,856.00
Utah	\$ 324,374.00	\$ 324,374.00	\$ 329,251.00	\$ 320,361.00
Vermont	\$ 88,434.00	\$ 88,434.00	\$ 91,509.00	\$ 89,038.00
Virgin Islands	\$ 17,564.00	\$ 17,564.00	\$ 20,098.00	\$ 19,555.00
Virginia	\$ 1,028,177.00	\$ 1,028,176.00	\$ 1,038,428.00	\$ 1,010,390.00
Washington	\$ 856,140.00	\$ 856,140.00	\$ 865,078.00	\$ 841,721.00
West Virginia	\$ 262,668.00	\$ 262,668.00	\$ 267,074.00	\$ 259,863.00
Wisconsin	\$ 779,091.00	\$ 779,091.00	\$ 787,440.00	\$ 766,179.00
Wyoming	\$ 71,723.00	\$ 71,723.00	\$ 74,671.00	\$ 72,655.00
TOTAL	\$ 41,521,329.00	\$ 41,521,222.00	\$ 41,979,891.00	\$ 40,711,425.00

THE RAPE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Funding Need: \$80 million

The Need: Prevent Rape and Sexual Assault

- In the U.S. 1 in 5 women and 1 in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.¹⁰⁵
- Rape survivors are also 13 times more likely to attempt suicide than non-crime victims, and 6 times more likely than victims of other crimes.¹⁰⁶
- The average cost per adult sexual assault is approximately \$87,000 (short-term medical care, mental health services, lost productivity, and pain and suffering).¹⁰⁷
- Annual victim costs for rape are estimated at \$127 billion, followed by \$93 billion per year for assault, and \$56 billion per year in child abuse.¹⁰⁸

While an obvious need for rape prevention education exists, community-based sexual assault programs are increasingly reporting that it is more and more difficult to meet the demand for these critical public awareness activities. The Rape Prevention and Education Grants in VAWA provide crucial funding for local rape crisis centers and campus sexual assault programs for prevention programs that are generating a positive response from schools, communities and the public-at-large.

A Kaiser Family Foundation study found that parents and students alike want school-based primary prevention programs to learn how to avoid sexually violent behavior and information on what to do if a friend or family member is sexually assaulted.¹⁰⁹

The Solution: Educate People to Prevent Sexual Violence Before it Starts

RPE funding provides formula grants to States and Territories to support rape prevention and education programs conducted by rape crisis centers, state sexual assault coalitions, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Many promising programs working with youth and communities have been supported with RPE funds over the past ten years, demonstrating the effectiveness and need for rape prevention programming.

Rape Prevention and Education funding assists rural, suburban and urban areas with programming such as:

- Outreach activities that are crucial in changing public attitudes and behaviors toward rape;
- Reaching sexual assault victims who have not previously sought help; and
- Training for allied professionals on issues related to sexual violence, enabling service providers to better understand victims and make more appropriate referrals for survivors.

Rape Prevention and Education funding also supports the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, a program of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. The Resource Center provides up-to-date information, materials, research data and resources regarding sexual violence to policy-makers, Federal and State agencies, college campuses, sexual assault and domestic violence coalitions, local programs, the media and the general public.

Funding the Rape Prevention and Education grant program at \$80 million is crucial to support ongoing efforts to address and stop rape and sexual violence in our country.

For more information, contact Ellen Fern, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, (202) 289-3900, or Ilse Knecht, National Center for Victims of Crime, (703) 732-2446.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES TO PREVENT ABUSE (DELTA)

Funding Need: \$6 million

The Need: Primary Prevention for Domestic Violence

In addition to meeting the needs of victims of domestic violence, attention must be given to preventing pervasive violence and its lasting impacts. From 25 – 31% of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives¹¹⁰ and from 3.3 to 10 million children witness that abuse each year.¹¹¹ Experiencing and witnessing abuse is shown to be a predictor for many short and long-term problems,¹¹² as well as increased healthcare utilization.¹¹³ Beyond the human costs, intimate partner violence has significant financial implications, in the immediate and long term. To address this, local communities must prevent violence before it starts.

The Solution: Community Based Programs Focusing on Primary Prevention

Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) integrates primary prevention principles, concepts, and practices into local coordinated community responses that address intimate partner violence, so that the incidence of intimate partner violence (IPV) is reduced. One of the few sources of funding for prevention work, DELTA program activities are guided by these principles:

- Preventing first-time perpetration and first-time victimization;
- Evidence-based program planning;
- Using behavior and social change theories in prevention program planning and evaluation; and
- Evaluating prevention programs and using results to inform future program plans.

DELTA funded programs are using innovative strategies to prevent domestic violence before it starts.

In Wisconsin, a community-based organization started a peer education program in the Hmong community that engages men in classes about family and relationships. Past participants of the class become facilitators. In March 2006 they hosted a conference that drew 250 people to discuss family issues in the Hmong community.

In New York, one community change initiative is focused on engaging men. “Northern New York Call 2 Men” meets monthly, shares leadership with women, and sponsors trainings and events that increase their knowledge and their capacity to mobilize the larger community to challenge men’s violence against women.

In California, advocates have recognized that youth bullying is often carried into adulthood. They created “Steps to Respect,” an 11-week curriculum confronting community attitudes that support violence and lack of tolerance. Piloted in several classrooms at the elementary and middle school levels, the program involves all school personnel, from the principal to bus drivers. In August 2006, the school and county board of supervisors adopted resolutions to fully support the anti-bullying efforts for the entire school district.

In Delaware, grantees have been working with youth in middle and high schools to promote healthy relationships. A group of young men and women at one high school formed “Teens Talking About Relationships” (TTAR), a volunteer club that uses skits, monologues, poetry, music, and pledge cards to change the culture of their school into one that promotes healthy, equal, and respectful relationships. TTAR was awarded the 2004 *Outstanding Youth Volunteer Service Award* by Delaware Governor Ruth Ann Minner.

Fully funding the Community Initiatives to Prevent Abuse program at \$6 million will help prevent domestic violence and its costs to communities.

For more information, contact Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

TRAINING AND COLLABORATION ON THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD MALTREATMENT

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Protect Non-abusive Parents and Children

Violence in the home is a devastating situation for families, and is often further compounded when non-abusing parents and children are separated due to conflicting strategies used by child welfare systems and domestic violence programs. By supporting agencies in cooperative efforts to provide services to victims, it is possible to keep families safe and united during the difficult process of ending abuse.

- Between 3.3 and 10 million children witness domestic violence every year.¹¹⁴
- Slightly more than half of female victims of intimate partner violence live in households with children under age 12.¹¹⁵
- Children who are exposed to domestic violence are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems including depression, anxiety, and violence towards peers.¹¹⁶
- They are also more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution, and commit sexual assault crimes.¹¹⁷

The Solution: Improve Cooperation between Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Advocates

Commonly known as the “Greenbook Project,” this program supports cross-training and collaboration between the child welfare and domestic violence systems to ensure that non-abusive family members receive the services they need to keep their families safe and intact. Previously a demonstration grant program supported entirely by federal funding, “Greenbook” was authorized in VAWA 2005.

In 1999, a manual known as the Greenbook was published. It contained training suggestions and guidance on collaboration. The partners in this project, the Family Violence Department of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Family Violence Prevention Fund, have distributed more than 22,000 copies of the Greenbook to various agencies working on violence in the home.¹¹⁸ These books have provided vital information to judges, child advocates and law enforcement nationwide. Only six counties, however, have been given federal funding to implement these suggestions. Without further support, the project cannot grow and these important collaborations cannot be developed in other areas of the country where there is demonstrated need and interest.

These grants would enable the development of collaborative responses, services and cross-training so that when a situation arises in the home where both domestic violence and child maltreatment occur, the response is better for all the victims. Law enforcement, courts, child welfare agencies, domestic and sexual violence service providers and other community organizations will be able to deal with both problems simultaneously, allowing for a better use of our limited resources. As the two problems often occur together, dealing with one problem and not the other is at the peril of our children.

By teaming child protection and domestic violence advocates, the “Greenbook” program can strengthen the effectiveness of both groups and decrease the adverse affects of domestic violence on children and families.

Fully funding Training and Collaboration on the Intersection Between Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment at \$5 million will help serve families experiencing violence.

For more information, contact Rob Valente, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, (202) 558-0031 and Kiersten Stewart, Family Violence Prevention Fund, (202) 682-1212.

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