
CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDING TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE



FY 2009

APPROPRIATIONS BRIEFING BOOK

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Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and boldSM



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Funding the Violence Against Women Act, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and the Victims of Crime Act: Saving Lives, Saving Money

Authorized in 1994 and reauthorized in 2000 and 2005, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs, administered by the Departments of Justice (DOJ) and Health and Human Services (HHS), have changed federal, tribal, state and local responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), also administered by HHS, is the lifeblood of core domestic violence programs, including shelters and outreach programs. The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund, a non-taxpayer-derived fund, provides funding for immediate assistance for victims of crime. Together, these three distinct funding streams create and support comprehensive, cost-effective responses to these pervasive and insidious crimes.

Since VAWA first passed in 1994:

More victims report domestic violence to the police: There has been a 27% to 51% increase in reporting rates by women and a 37% increase in reporting rates by men.¹

The rate of non-fatal intimate partner violence against women has decreased by 63%.²

The number of individuals killed by an intimate partner has decreased by 24% for women and 48% for men.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.

Hundreds of companies, led by the model programs established by Altria, Polaroid, Aetna, Liz Claiborne, The Body Shop, and DuPont, have created Employee Assistance Programs that help victims.

VAWA saved nearly \$14.8 billion in net averted social costs in its first six years alone.⁴

Overwhelming Needs Remain

Despite the successes fueled by VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA funding, an overwhelming need for services, education and training still remains:

- 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
- One large study found that men exposed to physical abuse, sexual abuse, and adult domestic violence as children were almost 4 times more likely than other men to have perpetrated domestic violence as adults.⁹
- In 2007, a 24-hour survey of domestic violence programs across the nation found that 53,203 victims were served in one day. Unfortunately, due to a lack of resources, there were 7,707 unmet requests for services.¹⁰
- In 2006 the National Domestic Violence Hotline received 236,907 calls, but over 29,000 of those calls went unanswered due to lack of resources.

Saving Lives and Money

Modest funding increases to VAWA, FVPSA and the VOCA cap are sound investments that will bring fiscal savings, but more importantly, will save lives and secure communities across the nation. The programs funded by VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA each serve distinct purposes – supporting a variety of entities that provide different targeted prevention and intervention services. **Due to critical intersections between these programs, however,**

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 reducing domestic and sexual violence, protecting our youth, and creating a safer society. For this reason, the importance of fully funding VAWA and FVPSA programs and raising the VOCA cap cannot be overstated.

VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA in the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget

Congress worked very hard in 2007 to support VAWA programs, increasing VAWA funding by \$17.3 million overall. The increases provide funding for established programs and essential, innovative new programs. This funding will greatly improve our nation's efforts to prevent and end domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

In order to pass a spending bill, however, Congress cut over \$12 million from established, cornerstone VAWA programs and FVPSA. Congress also fought to raise the VOCA Fund cap in the FY 2008 budget and to protect the VOCA Fund from complete elimination. While Congress saved the VOCA Fund from elimination, \$35 million was cut from the FY '08 the VOCA cap.

Cuts to VAWA, FVPSA and the VOCA cap jeopardize victims' lives because, due to a lack of resources, programs will have to curtail specialized services, lay off staff, and turn victims away. Some programs will even close.

By opposing such cuts, fully funding VAWA and FVPSA, and raising the VOCA cap, Congress can take strides toward eliminating these terrible crimes in our country.

The President's FY '09 Budget Request

The President's FY '09 Budget Request proposes consolidating all DOJ VAWA programs into one competitive block grant, cutting a devastating \$120 million from the overall DOJ VAWA budget, and completely eliminating the VOCA Fund. In the proposed HHS budget, FVPSA and the National Domestic Violence Hotline are level funded, however funding for the Rape Prevention and Education program is cut.

The President's proposals would be decimating. VAWA and the VOCA Fund sustain thousands of victim service organizations serving millions of victims each year. If enacted, the President's proposals would incapacitate the crucial network of victim services providers across the country. Many organizations would be forced to close their doors, leaving victims with nowhere to turn as they desperately and bravely attempt to escape life-threatening situations.

Standing with Victims in 2009

An increasingly efficient, comprehensive and lifesaving response to victims, created and sustained by VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA funding, has begun to make our country a safer place for families, victims and communities.

Now, however, this phenomenal progress is in jeopardy. The President's Budget Request, compounding the shocking FY '08 Congressional Budget cuts, would undercut this progress and needlessly endanger millions of victims across the United States. We are beginning to see a reduction in homicides and the incidence of these heinous crimes. Yet as cuts force shelters and rape crisis centers to close, real victims face traumatic and life-threatening situations with no support. They face trauma, terror and death.

This year, Congress has the historic opportunity to counteract the results of the FY '08 cuts and the President's proposals by fully funding VAWA and FVPSA, raising the cap on the VOCA Fund, and protecting the balance of the VOCA Fund in FY '09. By prioritizing these vital, cost-effective funding streams, Congress will help to END domestic and sexual violence and the United States will be a place where perpetrators are held accountable and victims are supported.

Campaign for Funding to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

VAWA Appropriations for Fiscal Years 2007, 2008 and 2009

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

Revised 02/20/08

Name of Grant Program	FY '07 Budget	FY '08 Budget	President's Budget Request for FY '09^	FY '09 Campaign Request (VAWA Authorization)
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE APPROPRIATIONS				
➤ STOP Grants*	\$155.7*	\$161.7*	--	\$225.0*
➤ Transitional Housing (OVW)	\$14.8*	\$17.4*	--	40*
➤ National Institute of Justice ‡	\$5.0 ‡	\$1.9 ‡	--	not authorized ‡
➤ Safe Start/OJJDP	\$9.9	<i>moved to OJJDP</i>	--	not authorized
➤ Native Alaskan Liaison Office Earmark*	\$0.0*	\$2.8*	--	not authorized*
Grants to Combat Violence Against Women Total*	\$185.4*	\$183.8*	--	\$265.0*
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	\$62.4	\$59.2	--	\$75.0
Court Training and Improvements	\$0.0	\$2.8	--	\$5.0
Privacy Protections for Victims	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Training to Assist Probation and Parole Officers (CSOM)	\$4.9	\$3.3	--	\$5.0
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	\$0.0	\$0.9	--	\$1.0
National Tribal Sex Offender Registry	\$0.0	\$0.9	--	\$1.0
Stalker Reduction Database	\$2.9	\$2.8	--	\$3.0
Federal Victim Assistants	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$1.0
Law Enforcement Training (Trafficking)	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$10.0
Training for Judicial Personnel (Child Abuse)±	\$2.3±	\$2.4±	--	authorization pending±
Closed Circuit Television Grants (Child Abuse)±	\$1.0±	\$0.9±	--	not authorized±
Sexual Assault Victim Services Program (SASP)	\$0.0	\$9.4	--	\$50.0
Services for Rural Victims	\$38.8	\$40.4	--	\$55.0
Civil Legal Assistance for Victims	\$38.8	\$36.7	--	\$65.0
Elder Abuse Grant Program	\$4.5	\$4.2	--	\$10.0
Protections and Services for Disabled Victims	\$7.1	\$6.6	--	\$10.0
Combating Abuse in Public Housing	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$10.0
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses	\$0.0	\$0.9	--	\$1.0
Advocates for Youth/Services for Youth Victims (STARY)	\$0.0	\$2.8	--	\$15.0
Training for Schools (STEP)	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Access to Justice for Youth	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$5.0
Violence on College Campuses (Campus Grants)	\$8.9	\$9.4	--	\$15.0
Safe Havens Project (Supervised Visitation)	\$13.8	\$13.6	--	\$20.0
CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates)	\$11.7	\$13.2	--	\$12.0
Services for Children/Youth Exposed to Violence	\$0.0	\$2.8	--	\$20.0
Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention	\$0.0	\$2.8	--	\$10.0
Home Visitation Projects	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$7.0
Outreach to Underserved Populations	\$0.0	\$0.0	--	\$2.0
Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program^	n/a	n/a	\$280.0	n/a
CJS Total°	\$382.5	\$399.8	\$280.0	\$683.0

Name of Grant Program	FY '07 Budget	FY '08 Budget	President's Budget Request for FY '09^	FY '09 Campaign Request (VAWA Authorization)
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS				
FVPSA/Battered Women Shelters and Services (ACF)	\$124.7	\$122.6	\$122.6	\$175.0
National Domestic Violence Hotline (ACF)	\$3.0	\$2.9	\$2.9	\$3.5
Long-Term Stability/Housing for Victims	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10.0
Transitional Housing (ACF Program)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25.0
Training for Health Professionals (HRSA)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3.0
Public Health Responses to Abuse (CDC)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.0
Interventions in the Healthcare Setting (CDC/AHRQ)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.0
Community Initiatives to Prevent Abuse (CDC)	\$5.2	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$6.0
Rape Prevention and Education (CDC)	\$42.8	\$42.1	\$41.8	\$80.0
Research on Effective Prevention (CDC)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.00	\$2.0
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.00	\$0.5
Greenbook/Collaboration on the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.00	\$5.0
LHHS Total	\$175.7	\$172.6	\$172.3	\$320.0

Criminal Justice	Prevention	Services & Intervention
Earmarks/ Unauthorized	Healthcare	Children/ Youth Services

* 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 unrelated programs and earmarks from it, leaving the remainder for STOP grants. These deductions, 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 such deductions.

‡ This is a crucial source of funding for research on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. These funds should be restored to FY '07 levels, but funded from another source rather than as a deduction from the STOP Grant program.

± These programs provide extremely valuable services and training. They should be authorized and funded in other areas of DOJ. Authorization of the Training for Judicial Personnel (child abuse) is pending in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the House and Senate.

^The President's FY '09 Budget Request proposes to consolidate the grants in the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) into a competitive block grant program funded at \$280 million. His proposal cuts VAWA programs by \$120 million, a devastating cut which would seriously endanger adult and child victims as programs would be forced to close due to a lack of funding.

° While there was no rescission applied to FY '08 CJS funding, a rescission was applied to the Office of Violence Against Women to seize yet unspent funds and give them to the Treasury. This rescission totaled \$14.7 million.

Victims of Crime Act Fund FY 04-08

Updated 2/05/08

State/Territory	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08 (estimated)
Alabama	\$ 5,543,000	\$ 5,773,000	\$ 6,108,000	\$ 5,694,000	\$ 4,465,000
Alaska	\$ 1,224,000	\$ 1,260,000	\$ 1,311,000	\$ 1,257,000	\$ 1,078,000
Am. Samoa	\$ 264,000	\$ 267,000	\$ 271,000	\$ 265,159	\$ 250,000
Arizona	\$ 6,633,000	\$ 7,038,000	\$ 7,610,000	\$ 7,298,000	\$ 5,689,000
Arkansas	\$ 3,546,000	\$ 3,693,000	\$ 3,907,398	\$ 3,670,000	\$ 2,920,000
California	\$ 39,969,000	\$ 42,073,000	\$ 44,933,000	\$ 41,785,000	\$ 32,014,000
Colorado	\$ 5,565,000	\$ 5,831,477	\$ 6,190,000	\$ 5,825,000	\$ 4,565,000
Connecticut	\$ 4,390,000	\$ 4,581,000	\$ 4,837,000	\$ 4,498,000	\$ 3,551,000
Delaware	\$ 1,407,145	\$ 1,458,000	\$ 1,528,000	\$ 1,461,000	\$ 1,234,000
District of Columbia	\$ 1,142,000	\$ 1,160,000	\$ 1,185,000	\$ 1,165,000	\$ 1,007,000
Florida	\$ 19,285,000	\$ 20,439,000	\$ 22,036,000	\$ 20,790,000	\$ 15,988,000
Georgia	\$ 10,122,000	\$ 10,675,000	\$ 11,430,000	\$ 10,929,000	\$ 8,461,000
Guam	\$ 374,000	\$ 381,000	\$ 392,000	\$ 377,000	\$ 335,000
Hawaii	\$ 1,899,000	\$ 1,973,000	\$ 2,063,000	\$ 1,954,000	\$ 1,610,000
Idaho	\$ 2,007,000	\$ 2,101,000	\$ 2,225,000	\$ 2,132,000	\$ 1,746,000
Illinois	\$ 14,663,000	\$ 15,325,000	\$ 16,238,000	\$ 15,077,000	\$ 11,627,000
Indiana	\$ 7,423,000	\$ 7,759,000	\$ 8,221,385	\$ 7,655,000	\$ 5,962,000
Iowa	\$ 3,801,000	\$ 3,949,000	\$ 4,157,000	\$ 3,886,150	\$ 3,085,000
Kansas	\$ 3,553,000	\$ 3,691,000	\$ 3,886,000	\$ 3,638,000	\$ 2,895,000
Kentucky	\$ 5,100,000	\$ 5,324,000	\$ 5,632,000	\$ 5,265,000	\$ 4,137,000
Louisiana	\$ 5,538,000	\$ 5,768,000	\$ 6,090,000	\$ 5,647,000	\$ 4,429,000
Maine	\$ 1,955,000	\$ 2,030,000	\$ 2,131,000	\$ 2,005,000	\$ 1,649,000
Maryland	\$ 6,635,000	\$ 6,954,000	\$ 7,380,000	\$ 6,883,000	\$ 5,372,000
Massachusetts	\$ 7,725,000	\$ 8,037,000	\$ 8,443,000	\$ 7,846,154	\$ 6,108,000
Michigan	\$ 11,796,000	\$ 12,309,125	\$ 13,018,000	\$ 12,034,000	\$ 9,305,000
Minnesota	\$ 6,142,000	\$ 6,427,000	\$ 6,814,382	\$ 6,354,000	\$ 4,969,000
Mississippi	\$ 3,728,000	\$ 3,876,000	\$ 4,094,000	\$ 3,821,000	\$ 3,035,000
Missouri	\$ 6,876,000	\$ 7,183,000	\$ 7,624,000	\$ 7,121,000	\$ 5,554,000
Montana	\$ 1,522,000	\$ 1,575,000	\$ 1,647,000	\$ 1,567,000	\$ 1,315,000
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 278,000	\$ 281,000	\$ 286,000	\$ 279,000	\$ 260,000
Nebraska	\$ 2,444,000	\$ 2,538,000	\$ 2,663,000	\$ 2,508,000	\$ 2,033,000
Nevada	\$ 2,943,000	\$ 3,126,000	\$ 3,390,000	\$ 3,255,000	\$ 2,603,000
New Hampshire	\$ 1,933,000	\$ 2,009,000	\$ 2,109,000	\$ 1,992,000	\$ 1,639,000
New Jersey	\$ 10,155,000	\$ 10,621,000	\$ 11,268,000	\$ 10,438,000	\$ 8,086,000
New Mexico	\$ 2,585,000	\$ 2,696,000	\$ 2,856,000	\$ 2,699,000	\$ 2,179,000
New York	\$ 22,033,000	\$ 22,983,000	\$ 24,301,000	\$ 22,557,000	\$ 17,337,000
North Carolina	\$ 9,852,000	\$ 10,350,000	\$ 11,073,000	\$ 10,403,000	\$ 8,060,000
North Dakota	\$ 1,213,000	\$ 1,243,000	\$ 1,285,000	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 1,053,000
Ohio	\$ 13,337,000	\$ 13,898,000	\$ 14,685,000	\$ 13,599,000	\$ 10,499,000
Oklahoma	\$ 4,427,000	\$ 4,614,000	\$ 4,862,000	\$ 4,546,000	\$ 3,589,000
Oregon	\$ 4,458,000	\$ 4,670,000	\$ 4,950,000	\$ 4,655,000	\$ 3,672,000
Pennsylvania	\$ 14,364,000	\$ 14,987,000	\$ 15,858,000	\$ 14,666,000	\$ 11,313,000
Puerto Rico	\$ 4,837,000	\$ 5,044,000	\$ 5,321,359	\$ 4,967,000	\$ 3,910,000
Rhode Island	\$ 1,702,000	\$ 1,761,000	\$ 1,838,000	\$ 1,726,000	\$ 1,436,000
South Carolina	\$ 5,116,000	\$ 5,359,000	\$ 5,697,000	\$ 5,350,000	\$ 4,202,000
South Dakota	\$ 1,355,000	\$ 1,395,000	\$ 1,454,000	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 1,175,000
Tennessee	\$ 7,016,000	\$ 7,344,000	\$ 7,805,000	\$ 7,301,000	\$ 5,691,000
Texas	\$ 24,980,000	\$ 26,414,000	\$ 28,340,000	\$ 26,683,000	\$ 20,486,000
Utah	\$ 3,103,000	\$ 3,255,000	\$ 3,457,000	\$ 3,344,000	\$ 2,671,000
Vermont	\$ 1,193,000	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 1,269,000	\$ 1,211,000	\$ 1,043,000
Virgin Islands	\$ 622,000	\$ 627,000	\$ 634,387	\$ 624,000	\$ 595,000
Virginia	\$ 8,698,000	\$ 9,154,000	\$ 9,734,408	\$ 9,138,000	\$ 7,094,000
Washington	\$ 7,321,000	\$ 7,683,000	\$ 8,180,000	\$ 7,685,000	\$ 5,984,000
West Virginia	\$ 2,525,000	\$ 2,621,000	\$ 2,747,000	\$ 2,572,000	\$ 2,081,000
Wisconsin	\$ 6,616,000	\$ 6,911,000	\$ 7,320,000	\$ 6,812,000	\$ 5,318,000
Wyoming	\$ 1,061,000	\$ 1,087,000	\$ 1,127,000	\$ 1,081,000	\$ 944,000
TOTAL	\$ 355,994,145	\$ 372,806,602	\$ 395,912,319	\$ 370,600,463	\$ 289,308,000

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT FUND

Funding Need: \$717 million VOCA cap to restore victim assistance grants

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund was created by Congress in 1984 to provide federal support to 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 prosecutors' 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. **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

Due to substantial fluctuation in Fund deposits, in FY 2000 Congress began limiting the total amount of the VOCA Fund that could be spent each year. Congress established this cap to ensure stable funding. Unless, however, the annual cap on total VOCA spending is set high enough, grants to states for victim assistance are reduced as funding for other VOCA programs increases. Between FY '06 and FY '07, the VOCA cap was cut by \$25.3 million. Compounding the FY '07 cut, in FY '08, not only did the other programs increase, but the cap was lowered to \$590 million and substantial new administrative costs were assessed against VOCA. As a result, state VOCA assistance grants will be about \$107 million less than in FY '06, which destabilizes the funding stream and jeopardizes victims.

In order to restore state VOCA assistance grants to the level they received in FY '06, the FY '09 VOCA cap must be increased to \$717 million. This amount does not include funding to expand services, to serve more victims or cover increases in operating costs.

After three unsuccessful attempts to rescind the balance of the VOCA Fund, the President's FY '09 budget proposes to cancel the VOCA Fund. Without the VOCA Fund, victim advocates would have to fight for funding annually and Congress would likely have to use taxpayer funds to maintain victim services and victim compensation. **We urge Congress to protect the existence of the VOCA Fund to maintain a system whereby criminal offenders at the federal level support services to crime victims.**

Congress must also guard against the creation of new earmarks from the VOCA Fund for federal administrative expenses, special projects or other purposes – even those that might benefit crime victims. The VOCA Fund was created specifically as a non-taxpayer source of money to provide basic services and compensation to victims of crime. Earmarks reduce the amount states would 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 victim 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.

A VOCA cap of \$717 million for FY '09 with no new or expanded earmarks will restore victim assistance funding while protecting the VOCA Fund for the future and provide services for victims nationwide.

For more information contact Steve Derene, National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators, (608) 233-2245; Susan Howley, National Center for Victims of Crime, (202) 467-8700, or Allison Randall, National Network to End Domestic Violence, (202) 543-5566.

STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grants FY 04-07

Updated 02/05/08

State/Territory	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07
Alabama	\$ 1,922,000	\$ 1,895,000	\$ 1,975,042	\$ 1,759,835
Alaska	\$ 758,000	\$ 759,000	\$ 769,820	\$ 742,912
Am. Samoa/N. Marina*	\$ 638,000	\$ 639,000	\$ 638,362	\$ 614,647*
Arizona	\$ 2,056,000	\$ 2,165,000	\$ 2,313,339	\$ 2,086,653
Arkansas	\$ 1,393,000	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 1,436,781	\$ 1,307,435
California	\$ 10,617,000	\$ 10,791,000	\$ 11,429,859	\$ 9,732,429
Colorado	\$ 1,872,000	\$ 1,907,000	\$ 1,998,733	\$ 1,791,425
Connecticut	\$ 1,614,000	\$ 1,603,000	\$ 1,660,831	\$ 1,485,199
Delaware	\$ 833,000	\$ 838,000	\$ 854,789	\$ 815,440
District of Columbia	\$ 770,000	\$ 758,000	\$ 766,364	\$ 746,908
Florida	\$ 5,358,000	\$ 5,577,000	\$ 5,972,025	\$ 5,165,183
Georgia	\$ 3,039,000	\$ 3,129,000	\$ 3,342,713	\$ 2,966,180
Guam	\$ 646,000	\$ 648,000	\$ 646,941	\$ 643,342
Hawaii	\$ 961,000	\$ 962,000	\$ 985,368	\$ 924,658
Idaho	\$ 981,000	\$ 995,000	\$ 1,027,307	\$ 966,563
Illinois	\$ 4,300,000	\$ 4,241,000	\$ 4,458,358	\$ 3,842,155
Indiana	\$ 2,411,000	\$ 2,387,000	\$ 2,496,508	\$ 2,195,754
Iowa	\$ 1,471,000	\$ 1,446,000	\$ 1,496,334	\$ 1,353,244
Kansas	\$ 1,396,000	\$ 1,378,000	\$ 1,424,317	\$ 1,293,968
Kentucky	\$ 1,805,000	\$ 1,788,000	\$ 1,862,688	\$ 1,663,793
Louisiana	\$ 1,927,000	\$ 1,890,000	\$ 1,963,393	\$ 1,679,862
Maine	\$ 979,000	\$ 976,000	\$ 998,454	\$ 933,080
Maryland	\$ 2,177,000	\$ 2,191,000	\$ 2,292,766	\$ 2,018,676
Massachusetts	\$ 2,492,000	\$ 2,438,000	\$ 2,534,683	\$ 2,226,739
Michigan	\$ 3,551,000	\$ 3,488,000	\$ 3,650,572	\$ 3,143,430
Minnesota	\$ 2,053,000	\$ 2,049,000	\$ 2,138,382	\$ 1,894,303
Mississippi	\$ 1,446,000	\$ 1,430,000	\$ 1,481,671	\$ 1,334,299
Missouri	\$ 2,264,000	\$ 2,246,000	\$ 2,350,770	\$ 2,074,222
Montana	\$ 853,000	\$ 849,000	\$ 865,673	\$ 824,092
N. Mariana Islands*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 620,898*
Nebraska	\$ 1,107,000	\$ 1,097,000	\$ 1,128,287	\$ 1,043,933
Nevada	\$ 1,189,000	\$ 1,261,000	\$ 1,322,212	\$ 1,223,728
New Hampshire	\$ 968,000	\$ 972,000	\$ 996,233	\$ 932,446
New Jersey	\$ 3,107,000	\$ 3,091,000	\$ 3,235,426	\$ 2,804,235
New Mexico	\$ 1,092,000	\$ 1,093,000	\$ 1,126,475	\$ 1,045,534
New York	\$ 6,243,000	\$ 6,093,000	\$ 6,407,133	\$ 5,466,441
North Carolina	\$ 2,974,146	\$ 3,022,000	\$ 3,199,568	\$ 2,816,203
North Dakota	\$ 782,000	\$ 773,000	\$ 783,041	\$ 752,594
Ohio	\$ 3,984,000	\$ 3,884,000	\$ 4,068,301	\$ 3,502,472
Oklahoma	\$ 1,549,000	\$ 1,532,000	\$ 1,589,741	\$ 1,433,922
Oregon	\$ 1,608,000	\$ 1,618,000	\$ 1,689,162	\$ 1,525,237
Pennsylvania	\$ 4,263,000	\$ 4,157,000	\$ 4,362,339	\$ 3,747,289
Puerto Rico	\$ 1,734,000	\$ 1,715,000	\$ 1,750,825	\$ 1,592,179
Rhode Island	\$ 912,000	\$ 909,000	\$ 924,398	\$ 868,932
South Carolina	\$ 1,794,000	\$ 1,802,000	\$ 1,885,497	\$ 1,691,189
South Dakota	\$ 807,000	\$ 803,000	\$ 815,108	\$ 780,944
Tennessee	\$ 2,295,000	\$ 2,290,000	\$ 2,402,966	\$ 2,126,242
Texas	\$ 6,793,000	\$ 7,018,000	\$ 7,485,230	\$ 6,518,239
Utah	\$ 1,258,000	\$ 1,277,000	\$ 1,339,081	\$ 1,237,918
Vermont	\$ 781,000	\$ 778,000	\$ 788,219	\$ 757,565
Virgin Islands	\$ 632,000	\$ 631,000	\$ 632,934	\$ 627,524
Virginia	\$ 2,708,000	\$ 2,736,000	\$ 2,887,278	\$ 2,530,925
Washington	\$ 2,333,000	\$ 2,353,000	\$ 2,475,868	\$ 2,194,506
West Virginia	\$ 1,139,000	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,149,787	\$ 1,060,009
Wisconsin	\$ 2,188,000	\$ 2,168,000	\$ 2,263,114	\$ 1,995,022
Wyoming	\$ 744,000	\$ 742,000	\$ 750,724	\$ 727,448
TOTAL	\$ 117,567,146	\$ 117,783,000	\$ 123,291,790	\$ 108,614,455

*These figures were combined until 2007, when American Samoa and N. Marina Islands received separate funding.

GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN/STOP

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.

It may be that every domestic violence arrest, starting with the misdemeanor, is a homicide prevention.

– Klein, A. 2004. *The Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence*. p. 113. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth.

Thanks to STOP grant funding, in 2004:

- 630,000 victims received services such as advocacy, crisis intervention, hotline call advocacy, counseling and support, victim-witness notification, shelter, and civil legal assistance;
- 209,000 new charges of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking were filed by prosecutors;
- 303,306 professionals were trained on victim safety, perpetrator accountability, and victims' health needs;
- 7,600 offenders were supervised by probation officers;
- STOP-funded staff helped victims obtain more than 240,000 criminal and 17,335 civil protection orders;
- 3,200 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners were trained; and
- Judges monitored 3,329 offenders and held 8,031 judicial reviews.¹¹

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 – ensuring that police respond quickly to lethal emergencies and that victims receive referrals for services in addition to police assistance; and
- Crystal Judson Brame Advocates – helping persons abused by law enforcement personnel and working with law enforcement agencies to develop protocols to respond to such abuse.

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

- Strengthening the requirement to address the needs of underserved communities in the State plan;
- Emphasizing the need to fund linguistically and culturally specific services;
- Requiring that funds addressing underserved populations be equitably distributed among those populations; and
- Setting aside 10% of victim services' funds to provide resources for community-based organizations led by and for Communities of Color that may not be otherwise able to access state funds.

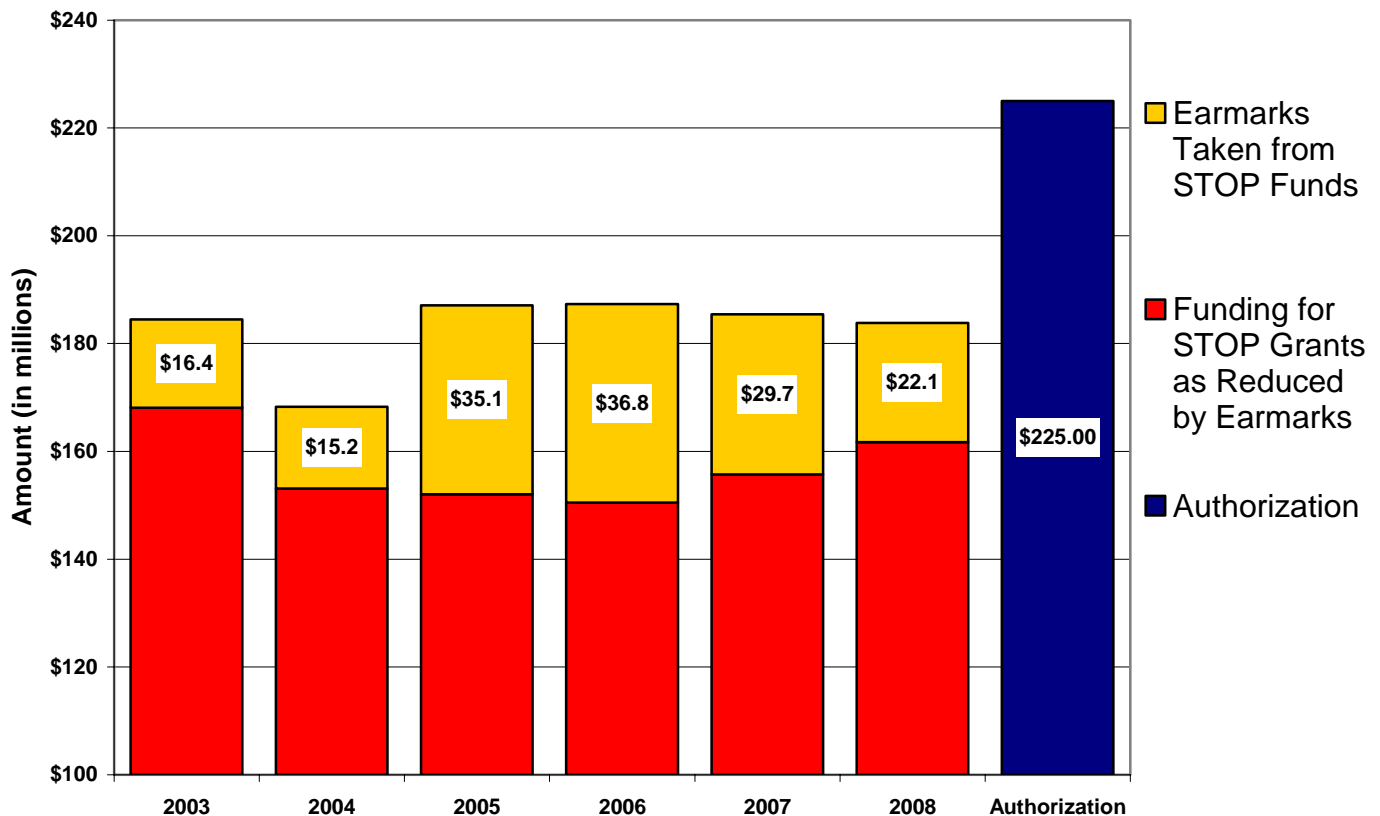
(over for funding chart)

Earmarks Reduce Funds Available for STOP Grants

Though STOP is authorized at \$225 million annually with no subprograms, Congress places it in a funding category called Grants to Combat VAW. STOP receives the amount left after earmarks and other programs are deducted from Grants to Combat VAW. 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.

In FY '07 and FY '08, funds available for STOP grants increased thanks to Congress reducing earmarks and moving the “Safe Start” program to the Office of Justice Programs. In FY '08, \$161.7 million was available for STOP – a significant improvement, but still \$6.4 million less than FY '03 levels.

STOP Grant Funding 2003-2008



In the FY '09 Congressional budget, these earmarks, particularly the separately authorized Transitional Housing program and funds for the National Institute of Justice research and evaluation, should receive their own line items 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.

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 20 for details.)

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

GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARREST AND ENFORCE RESTRAINING 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, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking may be overlooked. Studies show that batterers who are not apprehended are more likely to become repeat offenders¹² and that suspects who flee are less likely to be arrested unless law enforcement has sufficient specialized, trained staff.¹³

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.¹⁴

The (GTEAEP) funding has allowed us to retain a domestic violence prosecutor who aggressively charges and prosecutes domestic violence cases. Having a DV prosecutor has increased our ability to hold abusers accountable, increased the number of court orders issued and reduced repeat offenders.

– City of Mountlake Terrace, Washington

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, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law. It helps create a seamless and comprehensive criminal justice 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. The grants also support the innovative Family Justice Centers, which provide a comprehensive response to domestic violence by bringing together domestic violence advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, probation officers, government victim assistants, forensic medical professionals, civil legal attorneys, chaplains, legal advocates and representatives from community-based organizations into one centralized location.

GTEAEP offers funding for jurisdictions 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 law enforcement officers;¹⁵
- 70% reported new or improved victim services;¹⁶
- 67% developed law enforcement policies, including arrest and related procedures, and services for victims and child witnesses;¹⁷
- 52% developed new prosecution policies, including those related to evidence based prosecution and victim safety planning; and¹⁸
- Approximately two-thirds created or enhanced either specialized law enforcement or prosecution units.¹⁹

Despite the need for the GTEAEP program and the program's successes, GTEAEP was cut by a devastating \$3.2 in million the FY '08 Congressional Budget. Funding this important program at \$75 million will continue improving law enforcement response and collaboration with victim services.

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

COURTS TRAINING AND IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Courts are Seeing Increasing Numbers of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Cases Impacting Both Adults and Youth

The justice system is key to lessening the societal effects of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This is only possible if justice system professionals have the appropriate tools and training.

- 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.²⁰
- Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking are some of the most significant issues state courts face today,²¹ and domestic violence cases are a large and rising portion of the domestic relations caseload in state courts.²²
- Changes in federal law regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking increasingly require state courts to take on stronger protective and enforcement roles in these cases.

The Solution: Training and Technical Assistance for Court Staff and Judges

This important VAWA 2005 program ensures that courts will hold offenders accountable, protect victims, and support community-based work to respond to these crimes. This is achieved through the provision of court training on family violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, as well as the development of practical tools, such as benchcards and checklists that will help courts to:

- Identify and resolve issues in cases involving these crimes;
- Exercise leadership in response to these crimes in the community;
- Understand the interplay between federal, state and tribal laws addressing these crimes;
- Develop demonstration projects addressing linguistic and cultural obstacles to court access;
- Develop specialized dockets and improved offender accountability mechanisms; and
- Support effective responses to these crimes in Indian country.

Congress funded this program for the first time in FY '08 Congressional Budget, but only for \$2.8 million.

Funding this important program at the full \$5 million will ensure even, effective and far-reaching judicial responses to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

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

TRAINING FOR JUDICIAL PERSONNEL (CHILD ABUSE)

Funding Need: \$3 million

As part of the VAWA appropriations package, Congress funds the Victims Act Model Courts Project (Training for Judicial Personnel), which is focused on improving court practice in handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Continuation of this project will have significant impact on judicial practice and on the over 510,000 children in the nation's foster care system. Reauthorization of this program is pending in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

For more information, contact Rob Valente, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, (202) 558-0031.

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 have characteristics that likely make them unique based only on 5-digit ZIP, gender, and date of birth.
- Over half of the U.S. population (53%) can be uniquely identified by only place (city, town, or municipality in which the person resides), gender, and date of birth.
- At the county level, county, gender, and date of birth are likely to uniquely identify 18% of the U.S. population.²³

It is vital that agencies and government entities anticipate and minimize the potential for harm to survivors by securing the confidentiality of all communications 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 and nonprofits to develop "best practices" for victim privacy and confidentiality. In fact, VAWA provides new and desperately needed protections for victim confidentiality by prohibiting service providers from disclosing victim information to federal agencies and other national databases. 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 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.

We didn't know how to help a woman whose abuser kept tracking her down by accessing credit, insurance, and government databases. She was terrified and we didn't know what to tell her.

– Domestic violence program in Massachusetts

TRAINING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICERS (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.

- Of sex offenders released into the community, approximately 60% are supervised, whether directly following sentencing or after a term of incarceration in jail or prison.²⁴
- 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.²⁵
- 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.²⁶

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 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.

Since its inception, CSOM has responded to over 11,000 inquiries from the field and provided 385 instances of training and technical assistance to over 66,000 participants and 118 grantee sites around the country. The CSOM web site has received approximately 56 million hits since 2001, with over 878,000 copies of CSOM documents downloaded 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.

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.²⁷
- 70% of American Indians who are the victims of violent crimes are victimized by someone of a different race.²⁸

Indian Tribes need the authority and resources to protect Native Women.

– Jo Garcia, President, NCAI

Indian women are dying and we need VAWA resources to provide services.

– Tilly Black Bear, Director, White Buffalo Calf Woman Society, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota

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.

Understanding the Problem

VAWA 2005 authorized the Research on Violence Against Native Women grant, allowing the National Institute of Justice to conduct a 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. (CJS Appropriation)

Another Research on Violence Against Native Women 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. (LHHS Appropriation)

Stopping Serial Offenders

In addition, VAWA 2005 authorized appropriations for the Attorney General to create a National Tribal Sex Offender 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. The Tribal Registry must respond to the unique needs of Native communities and should be administered as a distinct registry, separate from other state and federal registries. (CJS Appropriation)

In the FY '08 Congressional Budget for the Department of Justice, Research on Violence Against Indian Women and the National Tribal Sex Offender Registry were both funded at \$940,000 each. The Research on Violence Against Indian Women received no funding in the FY '08 Congressional Budget for Health and Human Services.

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.

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM (SASP)

Funding Need: \$50 million

The Need: Support for Sexual Assault Victims

- In the United States, a staggering 191,670 people were raped or sexually assaulted in 2004.²⁹
- Only 38% of rape and sexual victims say they reported the crime to the police.³⁰

Rape crisis centers and other organizations serving the needs of sexual assault victims historically have been hampered by a significant lack of resources. State budget cuts in recent years have 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 are afraid of navigating the criminal justice process, the medical system and psychological aftermath alone. 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 Victim 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. Since it is a formula grant program distributed to all states, territories and tribes, **full funding for the SASP is necessary to comprehensively implement 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 Communities of Color.

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

[SASP] will be a lifeline for many of our struggling rape crisis centers as they face the largest state and federal funding cuts in years. Without the funds provided by SASP, some of our programs would have to begin to consider closing their doors, leaving those traumatized by sexual assault with no one to help them.

– Florida Council Against Sexual Violence

In the FY '08 Congressional Budget, this program was funded for the first time at \$9.4 million. Fully funding this formula grant 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 related civil matters;
- Dearth of public and private funding sources for service development; and
- Lack of public transportation, child care and social services.

Prior to receiving these funds, no victim service agency existed in this area, let alone an agency which addressed the intersection of domestic violence and child abuse in a community response model.

– Iowa Dept. of Justice, Crime Victim Assistance Division

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 because 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 significantly increased 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.**

In response, Congress increased Rural Grant appropriations from \$38.8 million to \$40.4 million in the FY '08 Congressional Budget. This was an excellent first step but not sufficient to protect rural victims.

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.

CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS

Funding Need: \$65 million

The Need: Victims' Access to Civil Legal Remedies

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.³¹ 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.

Legal Assistance for Victims funding allows me to provide services to victims/survivors so that they can gain independence. Without this grant, victims/survivors in a seven county area would be denied advocacy services.

– Legal Services of South Central Tennessee

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.”³²

The Civil 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, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking 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 Civil 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. The Office on Violence Against Women has received almost 300 applications per year, less than one-third of which have been funded. **Despite the overwhelming need for civil legal assistance funding, this program was cut by a \$2.1 million in the FY '08 Congressional Budget.**

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, or Rob Valente, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (202) 558-0031.

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 people with disabilities is unique in that the victim's abuser is also often the caretaker. Victims face numerous financial, physical and communication barriers to seeking assistance and support. This type of abuse can take many forms and is not always straightforward.

When we started training police about elder abuse, they told us if they had known this information before, it might have changed how they responded to certain calls. They just weren't identifying cases of elder abuse.

– Educator, Vera House, New York

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.³³
 - This may be because of increased physical, economic, social or psychological dependence on others and a fear of abandonment or institutionalization.³⁴
- 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 victims with disabilities.³⁵

Elderly Victims

- Reports show that victims of elder abuse are harmed primarily by family members (89.7%).³⁶
- Women are the most likely victims of elder abuse (76.3%).³⁷
- Only 23% of elder abuse victims are able to care for themselves.³⁸
- Most victims of elder abuse (over 76%) are dependent on others for at least some of their care.³⁹
- As a result, most elder abuse goes unreported.

The Solution: Specialized Training and Services

For the past five 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 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 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING VICTIMS

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 increasingly scarce, battered women are staying longer in emergency domestic violence shelters. As a result, shelters are frequently full and must turn families away.

I came here a year ago with nothing. I did not even have myself. You showed me that I have a future, and there is always hope.

– Pennsylvania Transitional Housing Client

- In just one day in 2007, 3,587 adults and 5,053 children were housed in domestic violence transitional housing programs.⁴⁰
- On that same day, 1,753 requests for transitional housing were denied due to lack of capacity.⁴¹
- 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.⁴²

As a result of this lack of interim housing, victims who leave their abusers frequently lack adequate shelter options or must leave a shelter with nowhere to go, jeopardizing victims and 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.⁴³

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.

Transitional housing helps meet the ongoing need victims have for safe and affordable housing after they leave emergency shelter and work towards safety and self-sufficiency. The transitional housing support services provide victims with the practical assistance they need to rebuild their lives. These programs help victims move beyond emergency shelter and work towards securing permanent housing.

In the FY '08 Congressional Budget, Congress recognized the importance of transitional housing and increased funding for the program by \$2.6 million – from \$14.8 million to \$17.4 million.

Fully funding this crucial program at \$40 million 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.⁴⁴ 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.⁴⁵

Linda's husband assaulted her in their New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) apartment. He was arrested, and Linda obtained a criminal court order of protection excluding him from the residence. She informed NYCHA of what had happened, and NYCHA subsequently moved to evict Linda from the apartment because of the assault.

- 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.⁴⁶

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 are affected by 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 bothtime 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.⁴⁷
- 94% of corporate security and safety directors at companies nationwide rank domestic violence as a high security concern.⁴⁸
- Between one-quarter and one-half of domestic violence victims report that they have lost a job due, at least in part, to domestic violence.⁴⁹
- Almost 50% of sexual assault survivors either lose their jobs or are forced to quit in the aftermath of the crime.⁵⁰
- Of the 30% of workplaces in the U.S. that have some sort of formal workplace violence policy, only 44% have a policy to address domestic violence in the workplace. Only 4% of all establishments train employees on domestic violence and its impact on the workplace.⁵¹

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.⁵²

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.

In the FY '08 Congressional Budget, this program was funded for the first time at \$940,000.

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.

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. Therefore, in VAWA 2005, Congress included language referencing culturally and linguistically specific communities with the full intent of addressing the needs of Communities of Color.

The complexities of addressing violence against women within Communities of Color are vast and cannot be addressed by merely translating brochures or providing 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. So that no Woman of Color is forced to make that choice, we must provide services that embrace a woman’s race, culture, and her safety needs as a victim. To truly meet these needs, we must ensure that Communities of Color receive resources 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 these crimes.

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 within their own communities to develop or maintain outreach and victim services addressing violence against women.

STOP Grant Improvements— Sets aside 10% of STOP victim services’ funds to provide resources for community-based organizations that are specifically led by and for Communities of Color and may not be otherwise able to access state funds.

Sexual Assault Services Program—This new program allows organizations led by Communities of Color to develop or enhance services addressing sexual assault by providing a 10% set aside for culturally specific organizations.

Fully funding all the VAWA grant programs will empower Communities of Color to address the diverse needs of victims.

OUTREACH TO UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Funding Need: \$2 million

Authorized for \$2 million annually, this new grant program provides funding to implement public education and awareness initiatives focused on reaching underserved communities. Funding is open to organizations from underserved, tribal, or immigrant communities who have experience conducting public awareness campaigns addressing violence against women, and to government agencies that partner with such organizations.

Fully funding this program at \$2 million will end the silence surrounding violence against women in many underserved populations.

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

ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH/SERVICES FOR YOUTH VICTIMS(STARY)

Funding Need: \$15 million

The Need: Violence Intervention and Prevention for Youth

Domestic and sexual violence are prevalent in the youth population and deserve careful attention.

- One in three teens knows a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or physically hurt by dating partners.⁵³
- One-quarter of high school girls have been the victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse or date rape.⁵⁴
- Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence.⁵⁵

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.⁵⁶
- Over 50% of youth reporting dating violence and rape also report attempting suicide.⁵⁷
- 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.⁵⁸

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, including 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.

In Fiscal Year '08, STARY was funded for the first time at \$2.8 million. 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)

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.⁵⁹
- More than half of teens between the ages of 13 and 18 know friends or peers who have been physically, sexually or verbally assaulted.⁶⁰
- 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.⁶¹
- Four in every five 13 to 14-year-olds say they are personally concerned about sexual violence or other physical violence in relationships.⁶²

School safety is a complex issue that demands thoughtful, careful and comprehensive solutions...Creating a safe and positive school environment...free of drugs, violence, intimidation, fear – encompasses a wide range of physical, social and academic factors that involve a number of different agencies and individuals... and getting everyone working together – is essential to our success.

– District of Columbia Chief of Police

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 partners 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 do not 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 to recognize the warning signs of abuse and to identify 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 helps 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.⁶³
- 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.⁶⁴

The confusing, burdensome and discouraging legal system is a huge barrier for youth victims trying to find safety and deal with the violence they have experienced. 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.⁶⁵
- 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.⁶⁶

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.⁶⁷ 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.⁶⁸ Because of this, simply providing additional security on campus is not the answer.

Not only can we provide an advocate initially, we can provide “vertical advocacy” – connecting with survivors immediately and continuing to work with them depending on need.

– Ohio State University
Research Foundation

According to the most recent research:

- 350 rapes are likely to occur on a campus with a student population of 10,000,⁶⁹
- Half of all stalking victims are between the ages of 18 and 29 years;⁷⁰ and
- Women between the ages of 16 and 24 years experience the highest rate of domestic violence victimization.⁷¹

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 each of 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 PROJECTS (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.

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges states, “many battered women report threats against their lives during visitation and exchanges, and some, in fact, are killed in those contexts.”⁷²

- 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.⁷³
- It is estimated that 50% of men who frequently abused their wives also abused their children.⁷⁴

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;⁷⁵
- Have been proven successful in improving children's health and well-being, and reducing rates of child abuse and neglect;⁷⁶ and
- Have been shown to be effective in educating parents while improving parenting behavior.⁷⁷

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.

SERVICES FOR 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.

Children are waiting 4 weeks or longer to see a counselor due to the limited hours of our children's counselor. Our counselor can't increase her hours because of limited funding.

– Pennsylvania Domestic Violence Program

- Approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year;⁷⁸
- On just one day in 2007, 13,485 children were living in a domestic violence shelter or transitional housing facility. Another 5,526 sought services at non-residential programs.⁷⁹
- These children are more likely to exhibit cognitive and physical health problems like depression, anxiety, and violence toward peers.⁸⁰
- 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.⁸¹

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.

The FY '08 Congressional Budget included \$2.8 million for Assisting Children and Youth Exposed, a small but significant first step. Fully funding this 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.⁸² 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.

Due to funding, we are only able to provide the basic, core services. We would like to be able to do more prevention activities.

– North Dakota Domestic Violence Program

- 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.⁸³
- 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.⁸⁴
- Men are the perpetrators in at least 85% of domestic violence cases and prevention programs must be expanded to address their needs.⁸⁵

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.

By including \$2.8 million for the Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention Efforts program in the FY '08 Congressional Budget, Members of Congress demonstrated their commitment to stopping abuse before it starts.

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.

FVPSA Grants to States and Territories FY 04-07

Updated 02/05/08

State/Territory	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07
Alabama	\$ 1,459,120	\$ 1,456,225	\$ 1,444,002	\$ 1,443,200
Alaska	\$ 723,849	\$ 723,880	\$ 722,895	\$ 722,850
American Samoa	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731	\$ 124,731
Arizona	\$ 1,665,286	\$ 1,685,611	\$ 1,699,821	\$ 1,730,552
Arkansas	\$ 1,120,294	\$ 1,120,260	\$ 1,114,636	\$ 1,115,354
California	\$ 7,373,404	\$ 7,384,094	\$ 7,290,846	\$ 7,284,240
Colorado	\$ 1,468,652	\$ 1,469,686	\$ 1,463,884	\$ 1,471,499
Connecticut	\$ 1,264,919	\$ 1,262,197	\$ 1,250,027	\$ 1,242,583
Delaware	\$ 756,046	\$ 756,943	\$ 756,201	\$ 756,479
District of Columbia	\$ 707,541	\$ 704,618	\$ 701,944	\$ 706,620
Florida	\$ 3,848,663	\$ 3,888,144	\$ 3,894,275	\$ 3,916,656
Georgia	\$ 2,257,771	\$ 2,268,794	\$ 2,280,033	\$ 2,316,814
Guam	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731	\$ 124,731
Hawaii	\$ 840,057	\$ 838,683	\$ 836,137	\$ 835,687
Idaho	\$ 860,811	\$ 863,333	\$ 864,636	\$ 868,866
Illinois	\$ 3,015,355	\$ 3,002,936	\$ 2,963,484	\$ 2,952,653
Indiana	\$ 1,782,647	\$ 1,778,929	\$ 1,761,426	\$ 1,757,540
Iowa	\$ 1,161,973	\$ 1,158,405	\$ 1,149,297	\$ 1,146,745
Kansas	\$ 1,119,873	\$ 1,117,023	\$ 1,108,253	\$ 1,106,774
Kentucky	\$ 1,386,026	\$ 1,383,598	\$ 1,372,819	\$ 1,371,155
Louisiana	\$ 1,458,277	\$ 1,453,501	\$ 1,437,672	\$ 1,386,133
Maine	\$ 849,242	\$ 848,967	\$ 844,712	\$ 842,301
Maryland	\$ 1,651,561	\$ 1,650,499	\$ 1,637,064	\$ 1,629,605
Massachusetts	\$ 1,828,035	\$ 1,812,749	\$ 1,784,901	\$ 1,780,215
Michigan	\$ 2,524,105	\$ 2,511,332	\$ 2,474,151	\$ 2,450,966
Minnesota	\$ 1,565,752	\$ 1,564,105	\$ 1,550,477	\$ 1,547,352
Mississippi	\$ 1,149,990	\$ 1,148,674	\$ 1,140,919	\$ 1,133,627
Missouri	\$ 1,688,893	\$ 1,687,649	\$ 1,674,085	\$ 1,671,221
Montana	\$ 775,159	\$ 775,182	\$ 773,265	\$ 773,192
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731	\$ 124,731
Nebraska	\$ 932,002	\$ 930,232	\$ 925,687	\$ 924,211
Nevada	\$ 1,027,800	\$ 1,041,283	\$ 1,047,167	\$ 1,057,538
New Hampshire	\$ 845,798	\$ 845,612	\$ 842,571	\$ 841,077
New Jersey	\$ 2,248,929	\$ 2,244,128	\$ 2,214,360	\$ 2,199,588
New Mexico	\$ 957,833	\$ 959,730	\$ 957,093	\$ 958,362
New York	\$ 4,263,080	\$ 4,234,009	\$ 4,165,516	\$ 4,139,655
North Carolina	\$ 2,204,807	\$ 2,214,330	\$ 2,207,937	\$ 2,223,779
North Dakota	\$ 720,989	\$ 719,898	\$ 717,898	\$ 716,582
Ohio	\$ 2,782,908	\$ 2,765,806	\$ 2,722,878	\$ 2,704,413
Oklahoma	\$ 1,270,294	\$ 1,265,968	\$ 1,256,987	\$ 1,256,224
Oregon	\$ 1,279,469	\$ 1,279,393	\$ 1,274,240	\$ 1,278,508
Pennsylvania	\$ 2,960,364	\$ 2,944,847	\$ 2,901,680	\$ 2,880,902
Puerto Rico	\$ 1,340,349	\$ 1,336,146	\$ 1,324,423	\$ 1,320,131
Rhode Island	\$ 805,422	\$ 804,244	\$ 799,286	\$ 795,739
South Carolina	\$ 1,391,624	\$ 1,393,454	\$ 1,387,944	\$ 1,392,271
South Dakota	\$ 745,894	\$ 745,700	\$ 743,685	\$ 743,359
Tennessee	\$ 1,715,095	\$ 1,715,309	\$ 1,704,203	\$ 1,707,173
Texas	\$ 4,822,063	\$ 4,850,718	\$ 4,833,142	\$ 4,909,990
Utah	\$ 1,048,857	\$ 1,051,539	\$ 1,057,311	\$ 1,067,536
Vermont	\$ 718,177	\$ 717,446	\$ 715,375	\$ 714,389
Virgin Islands	\$ 125,648	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,731	\$ 124,731
Virginia	\$ 2,009,930	\$ 2,009,942	\$ 2,001,321	\$ 2,001,270
Washington	\$ 1,770,393	\$ 1,772,545	\$ 1,764,349	\$ 1,772,625
West Virginia	\$ 945,567	\$ 943,110	\$ 936,440	\$ 933,404
Wisconsin	\$ 1,644,573	\$ 1,641,231	\$ 1,625,178	\$ 1,618,747
Wyoming	\$ 695,679	\$ 695,741	\$ 694,306	\$ 694,424
TOTAL	\$ 87,953,789	\$ 87,940,898	\$ 87,311,763	\$ 87,311,700

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT (FVPSA)

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.

It is an unfortunate reality that there are more women in danger in our community than there are beds for them to sleep in.

– Domestic Violence Program in Ohio

- On September 25, 2007, 53,203 victims were served by 1,346 domestic violence programs.
- Of the 16,681 victims in emergency shelter that day, more than 50% were children.
- Those programs answered 20,582 hotline calls – more than 14 every minute.
- On that same day, 7,707 requests for services went unmet.⁸⁶

To respond to the needs of victims of domestic violence, there are over 2,000 community-based domestic violence programs for victims and their children, providing emergency shelter to approximately 300,000 victims and offering services such as counseling, legal assistance, and preventative education to millions of women, men and children annually.⁸⁷

- Shelter programs are among the most effective resources for women with abusive partners.⁸⁸
- Staying at a shelter or working with a domestic violence advocate significantly reduced the likelihood that a victim would be abused again and improved the victim's quality of life.⁸⁹

Over the past 30 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. Additionally, if FVPSA appropriations reach \$130 million, a portion will be dedicated to serving children exposed to domestic violence.

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

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 '08 Congressional Budget, FVPSA Programs/Shelters were cut by \$2.1 million to \$122.6 – \$52.5 million below the authorized level of \$175 million. This funding simply does not meet the need for emergency services and does not allow support for children's services. To prevent homicides and intervene early in the lives of children, Congress must increase FVPSA funding.

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.

THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

Funding Need: \$3.5 million

The Need: Crisis Response for Victims

In 2006, the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) celebrated ten years of service to victims of domestic violence. This milestone marked the answering of over one million calls from individuals in need of support and assistance. To date, this 24-hour, confidential, toll-free hotline, located in Texas, has received 1.8 million calls.

The Hotline averages 19,500 calls a month and provides services in more than 170 languages. A multifaceted telecommunications system allows Hotline advocates to connect the caller immediately to a service provider in his or her area. Highly trained Hotline advocates provide support, information, referrals, safety planning, and crisis intervention to hundreds of thousands of domestic violence victims and perpetrators. Through a national database, advocates can link up callers to more than 5,000 local programs across the country that offer a wide range of services that support and respond to victims' needs.

In 2007, the Hotline received 236,907 calls, including over a thousand calls a month from Spanish-speaking persons across the nation. This number is a 10% increase from 2006, when the number of calls received was 215,224, and continues a trend in increased calls since the inception of the Hotline. Crisis calls account for a majority of the incoming telephone traffic. More than 60% of callers report that this is their first call for help. The increased call volume is far greater than the Hotline's current capacity to respond efficiently. There were over 29,000 calls (14%) that Hotline advocates were unable to answer due to increased demand and promotion of the telephone number in print media, on television (Oprah, Dr. Phil, Lifetime and Sabado Gigante) and other referrals. New advanced technology has reduced the dropped call rate to 5.9%, but increased call volume means that thousands of calls still go unanswered. Funding for additional trained hotline advocates is crucial to meeting the escalated demand by an ever expanding ethnically and culturally diverse population.

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

The Hotline and Helpline telephone numbers must continue to be widely publicized through diverse media outlets and thus made available to a growing number of victims, family, and friends across the United States. An increase in funding would enable Hotline staff to respond to increased call volume directly tied to a proposed increase in publicity efforts.

Recognizing the alarming and increasing trend of teen dating abuse and the realization that few resources existed to address the problem, the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) and Liz Claiborne Inc. collaborated in 2007 to launch the loveisrespect National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline (NTDAH). This toll free telephone resource was created to help teens (ages 13-18) experiencing dating abuse and is the only teen dating abuse helpline in the country serving the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Helpline offers a unique, confidential one-on-one live chat for teens. Trained peer advocates provide chat support from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. (CST). To date the Helpline has received 5,455 calls and engaged in 3,026 chats. With one in five teen girls reporting incidents of dating abuse, an increase in funding will permit the Helpline to expand the chat hours of operation, enhance training opportunities for peer advocates and staff, aggressively recruit volunteers and enhance its public awareness efforts.

Fully funding the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the loveisrespect National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline at \$3.5 million will provide all victims – including teens – access to valuable 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,⁹⁰ while others are forced into homelessness.

We have had numerous occasions where women and children returned to their batterers because of lack of housing or room in a shelter.

– Domestic Violence Program in Maine

- 38% of all victims of domestic violence become homeless at some point in their lives.⁹¹
- 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.⁹²

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.⁹³
- 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.⁹⁴

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.⁹⁵

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:

- In addition to injuries, domestic violence contributes to a number of chronic health problems including depression, alcohol and substance abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS and chronic pain;
- Domestic and sexual violence have significant reproductive health implications, including an increased risk for unintended pregnancy, poor birth outcomes and maternal depression; and
- Violence limits victims' ability to manage other chronic illnesses such as diabetes and hypertension.⁹⁶

Despite this, most health care providers do not ask patients about domestic 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.⁹⁷
- 70 - 81% of patients experiencing abuse would like to have their health care providers ask them privately about intimate partner violence.⁹⁸
- 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.⁹⁹
- In their 2002 report, the Institute of Medicine found that education on family violence is incomplete and that students in the health professions find training to be inadequate.¹⁰⁰

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 for 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 Public Health 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 is the time for a major public health initiative that addresses 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.¹⁰¹
- 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.¹⁰²
- Domestic violence is associated with 8 out of 10 leading health indicators in the Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2010 goals including substance abuse and obesity prevention, and mental health goals.
- 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.¹⁰³

Public health 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 public 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 childhood exposure to domestic violence and the overlap of child abuse, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and elder abuse;
- 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 domestic violence and sexual assault in health professional training schools; and
- Integrate these issues 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.

RESEARCH ON EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

Funding Need: \$5 million

The Need: Helping Victims and Minimizing Health Care Costs

Studies indicate that screening for intimate partner violence in health care settings markedly increases identification of victims of abuse, and emerging research suggests that 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.¹⁰⁴
- 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.¹⁰⁵
- Hospital-based domestic violence interventions may reduce health care costs by at least 20%.¹⁰⁶
- 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.¹⁰⁷

However, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force found that there was insufficient evidence to recommend for or against screening for domestic violence – citing the lack of data in the field about the impact of health care based interventions. More research on the impact of these interventions on the health and safety of victims of abuse is critical. In their 2002 report, the Institute of Medicine found that funding for research is fragmented and that no consistent federal sources of support for education research appear to exist.

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 Research on 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.

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. Between 25-31% of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives¹⁰⁸ and approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to that abuse each year.¹⁰⁹ Experiencing and witnessing abuse is shown to be a predictor for many short and long-term problems,¹¹⁰ as well as increased healthcare utilization.¹¹¹ Beyond the human costs, intimate partner violence has significant financial implications, both 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.

Funding for Rape Prevention and Education FY 04-07

Updated 02/05/08

State/Territory	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07
Alabama	\$ 645,956	\$ 653,289	\$ 635,650	\$ 616,593
Alaska	\$ 91,064	\$ 94,159	\$ 91,617	\$ 87,884
American Samoa	\$ 9,506	\$ 11,979	\$ 11,655	\$ 10,185
Arizona	\$ 745,240	\$ 753,331	\$ 732,991	\$ 711,008
Arkansas	\$ 388,320	\$ 393,685	\$ 383,055	\$ 373,470
California	\$ 4,919,966	\$ 4,959,936	\$ 4,826,018	\$ 4,681,150
Colorado	\$ 624,772	\$ 631,943	\$ 614,881	\$ 596,573
Connecticut	\$ 494,670	\$ 500,847	\$ 487,324	\$ 472,583
Delaware	\$ 113,820	\$ 117,089	\$ 113,927	\$ 110,483
District of Columbia	\$ 83,094	\$ 86,129	\$ 83,803	\$ 81,311
Florida	\$ 2,321,492	\$ 2,341,620	\$ 2,278,396	\$ 2,210,068
Georgia	\$ 1,189,108	\$ 1,200,588	\$ 1,168,172	\$ 1,133,207
Guam	\$ 22,459	\$ 25,031	\$ 24,355	\$ 22,032
Hawaii	\$ 175,980	\$ 179,724	\$ 174,871	\$ 169,715
Idaho	\$ 187,950	\$ 191,785	\$ 186,607	\$ 181,166
Illinois	\$ 1,803,942	\$ 1,820,117	\$ 1,770,974	\$ 1,717,858
Indiana	\$ 883,210	\$ 892,354	\$ 868,260	\$ 842,236
Iowa	\$ 425,058	\$ 430,704	\$ 419,075	\$ 406,639
Kansas	\$ 390,502	\$ 395,884	\$ 385,195	\$ 373,864
Kentucky	\$ 587,080	\$ 593,963	\$ 577,926	\$ 560,640
Louisiana	\$ 649,133	\$ 656,490	\$ 638,765	\$ 619,634
Maine	\$ 185,187	\$ 189,001	\$ 183,898	\$ 178,402
Marshall Islands	\$ 9,896	\$ 12,372	\$ 12,038	\$ 11,765
Maryland	\$ 769,332	\$ 777,607	\$ 756,612	\$ 733,990
Massachusetts	\$ 922,226	\$ 931,668	\$ 906,513	\$ 879,343
Michigan	\$ 1,443,590	\$ 1,457,014	\$ 1,417,674	\$ 1,375,166
Micronesia	\$ 17,982	\$ 20,519	\$ 19,965	\$ 18,083
Minnesota	\$ 714,570	\$ 722,427	\$ 702,921	\$ 681,856
Mississippi	\$ 413,196	\$ 418,751	\$ 407,445	\$ 395,227
Missouri	\$ 812,722	\$ 821,328	\$ 799,152	\$ 775,214
Montana	\$ 131,046	\$ 134,447	\$ 130,817	\$ 126,910
N. Mariana Islands	\$ 10,445	\$ 12,925	\$ 12,576	\$ 14,134
Nevada	\$ 290,254	\$ 294,870	\$ 286,908	\$ 278,344
New Hampshire	\$ 179,502	\$ 183,273	\$ 178,324	\$ 172,998
New Jersey	\$ 1,222,211	\$ 1,233,944	\$ 1,200,627	\$ 1,164,639
New Mexico	\$ 264,222	\$ 268,640	\$ 261,387	\$ 253,586
New York	\$ 2,756,390	\$ 2,779,839	\$ 2,704,783	\$ 2,623,663
North Carolina	\$ 1,169,188	\$ 1,180,516	\$ 1,148,642	\$ 1,114,206
North Dakota	\$ 93,282	\$ 96,394	\$ 93,791	\$ 91,000
Ohio	\$ 1,649,080	\$ 1,664,073	\$ 1,619,143	\$ 1,570,728
Oklahoma	\$ 501,218	\$ 507,445	\$ 493,744	\$ 478,955
Oregon	\$ 496,970	\$ 503,165	\$ 489,579	\$ 474,913
Palau*	\$ 2,726	\$ 5,147	\$ 5,008	\$ -
Pennsylvania	\$ 1,783,862	\$ 1,799,884	\$ 1,751,287	\$ 1,698,785
Puerto Rico	\$ 553,213	\$ 559,838	\$ 544,723	\$ 527,470
Rhode Island	\$ 152,272	\$ 155,835	\$ 151,627	\$ 147,100
South Carolina	\$ 582,758	\$ 589,608	\$ 573,688	\$ 556,691
South Dakota	\$ 109,644	\$ 112,881	\$ 109,833	\$ 106,574
Tennessee	\$ 826,386	\$ 835,097	\$ 677,549	\$ 788,206
Texas	\$ 3,028,794	\$ 3,054,323	\$ 2,971,856	\$ 2,882,720
Utah	\$ 324,374	\$ 329,251	\$ 320,361	\$ 310,771
Vermont	\$ 88,434	\$ 91,509	\$ 89,038	\$ 86,396
Virgin Islands	\$ 17,564	\$ 20,098	\$ 19,555	\$ 18,991
Virginia	\$ 1,028,176	\$ 1,038,428	\$ 1,010,390	\$ 980,115
Washington	\$ 856,140	\$ 865,078	\$ 841,721	\$ 816,518
West Virginia	\$ 262,668	\$ 267,074	\$ 259,863	\$ 252,243
Wisconsin	\$ 779,091	\$ 787,440	\$ 766,179	\$ 743,230
Wyoming	\$ 71,723	\$ 74,671	\$ 72,655	\$ 70,601
TOTAL	\$ 41,521,222	\$ 41,979,891	\$ 40,711,425	\$ 39,616,511

*Palau did not submit a request for funding in FY 07.

THE RAPE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Funding Need: \$80 million

The Need: Prevent Rape and Sexual Assault

- 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men in the U.S. have experienced an attempted or completed rape.¹¹²
- Rape survivors are 13 times more likely to attempt suicide than non-crime victims, and 6 times more likely than victims of other crimes.¹¹³
- The average cost per adult sexual assault is approximately \$87,000 (short-term medical care, mental health services, lost productivity, and pain and suffering).¹¹⁴
- 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.¹¹⁵

Students have opened up to teachers and counselors about situations they may not have had the courage to bring up prior to [RPE] programs.

– Guidance Counselor, PA

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 to provide prevention programs. These programs 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.¹¹⁶

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.

EVALUATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION EFFORTS

Funding Need: \$2 million

The Need: Identifying Effective Efforts 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 a myriad of 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.”¹¹⁷
- 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.¹¹⁸

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.

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 – both children and their non-abusive caretakers – it is possible to keep families safe and united during the difficult process of ending abuse.

- Approximately 15.5 million children witness domestic violence every year.¹¹⁹
- Slightly more than half of female victims of intimate partner violence live in households with children under age 12.¹²⁰
- Children who are exposed to domestic violence are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems including depression, anxiety, and violence towards peers.¹²¹
- 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.¹²²

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

Building on what was 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. Previously a demonstration grant program supported entirely by federal funding, the “Greenbook” program was formally authorized in VAWA 2005.

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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