

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. resume	re: Connie Trujillo (partial) (1 page)	09/22/2000	P6/b(6)
001b. list	re: SSN and DOB (partial) (1 page)	09/22/2000	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Heather Howard (Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 21198

FOLDER TITLE:

VAWA [Violence Against Women Act] New Mexico Event Connie Trujillo

2012-0254-S

rc679

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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06/22/00 FBI 10.41 FAX 505 410 4110 SANCHEZ/THAKO 5 001

heather

RESUME

CONNIE R. TRUJILLO,
PHONE

P6/(b)(6)

[oolal]

EMPLOYMENT

4/81 To Present-Executive Director of Esperanza, Shelter for Battered Families. I have the authority and responsibility necessary to operate the agency as delegated by the Board and therefore have wide discretionary powers. I am responsible for the daily operation of the agency through decision making, authorization of expenditures and the implementation of policies and procedures by performing the following duties: recruit and hire staff. Coordinate and oversee all agency activities. Develop and implement policies and procedures in conjunction with the Board. Attend Board Meetings and present Board with budgets, financial reports, long range plans and goals, update of services and reports of any personnel actions. Serve as liaison between Board and Staff. Regularly assess the programs effectiveness and staff performance.

2/76 to 4/81-Counselor for Esperanza, Shelter for Battered Families

6/76 to 10/74-Claims Representative for Social Security Administration

EDUCATION

BILINGUAL: English/Spanish

1976-Bachillerar, Licenciatura from La Universidad de Chihuahua, Mexico

1971 to 1974-Law Enforcement/Criminology and Social Welfare, College of Santa Fe

1971-Graduated from St. Katherine's Indian School

1985-Certified Domestic Violence Counselor

1994-Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor

Post graduate Professional Training-842 hours

Clinical Supervision-642 hours

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

4/81 to 4/85-Served on the Recovery of Alcoholic Inc. Board

1990-Honored as one of 10 who made a significant contribution to the quality of life in Northern New Mexico

1992-Appointed to the Governor's Commission on Rape Prevention and Prosecution

1994-Received a Distinguished Service Award from the Santa Fe Association of Realtors for services above and beyond the call of duty to the County of Santa Fe

1995-1997-Appointed to the Domestic Violence Task Force Board by Attorney General

1997-Received a Distinguished Award from Aileen Adams, U.S. Department of Justice

Past President of the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

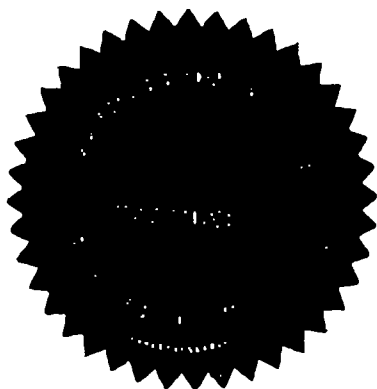
Train Police Officers, District Attorneys, Courts, Hospitals, and the General Public

Certificate of Recognition

*W*HEREAS, THE NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IS COMMITTED
TO SECURING THE RECOGNITION OF WOMEN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO; AND

*W*HEREAS, THE RECIPIENT OF THIS CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION HAS PERSONALLY MADE
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO HER COMMUNITY AND TO THE STATUS OF
NEW MEXICO WOMEN; AND

*N*OW, THEREFORE, IN APPRECIATION, THE NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON THE STATUS
OF WOMEN PRESENTS THIS CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO:



NEW MEXICO COMMISSION
ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Connie R. Trujillo

Darlene Smart-Herrera
Darlene Smart-Herrera, Chair of the NMCSW

03-07-00
Date

R. J. Dakota
Rebecca Jo Dakota, Executive Director

3/7/00
Date

Esperanza;
Shelter for Battered Families



Leyba founded the Aztec Street Theater to help youngsters face down the demons in their lives.

Sam Leyba's Aztec Theatre:
Front: Carmella Roybal, Middle (Left to Right): Frank Cox, Annetto Madrid, David Edwards (Director & Producer), Carmen Sandoval, Sam Leyba, Jennifer Sandoval,

Marcos Kelly. Back Row (Left to Right): Raul Gallegos, Jessica Rodriguez, Janice Sandoval, Mamie Edwards (Stage Manager & Production Manager), Rachel Trujillo, Adine Sandoval, Devina Garcia, & Tony O'Brien

OPINION

Domestic-violence threat pervasive

October is Domestic Violence Prevention Month, a timely occasion for reporting to our community on the difficult issue of domestic violence.

We at Esperanza are in our 23rd year of coping with domestic violence in the Santa Fe area and in north-central New Mexico. In recent years, we've noted an increasing willingness of our overall community to directly address this problem, and because of

**CONNIE TRUJILLO
 RUTH OSWOOD**

Commentary

that deepening involvement, everybody is winning — the families concerned, their neighbors, the schools, the police, the courts, the human services agencies and the taxpayers.

This is not to say that all is well. The incidence of domestic violence remains pervasive. Domestic violence calls to law enforcement authorities in our service area totaled an estimated 3,380 last year. Very often the one who calls 911 is the child. In the 1997-98 year, we at Esperanza, in close collaboration with other agencies, provided shelter, counseling and other support services to an unduplicated total of 1,953 clients — 1,054 victims, 485 children, and 414 abusers (who are ordered in for counseling). That's up from 1,908 the previous year. We are seeing more disabled victims, more seniors, more gays and lesbians. We expect to provide assistance to a minimum of 2,000 clients in 1998-99.

Esperanza's clients are 69 percent Hispanic, 27 percent Anglo, 2 percent native American, and 2 percent other. Eighty-five percent live in poverty, with incomes less than half the median level for the region. Esperanza serves Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, San Miguel and Mora counties and has outreach offices in Santa Fe, Española, Las Vegas and Mora.

Esperanza's future plans focus on strengthening its support and counseling services for victims and their family members. We aim to work even more closely with law enforcement, the courts, medical and human services providers to improve services for victims. Right now we are seeking new sources of funds to: provide a full-time child therapist at each of our four service locations; set up computer-networking and van transportation capabilities at those outreach centers; pay off the balance due on the mortgage loan for purchasing our shelter property; hire an administrative aide to answer the large number of business phone calls received by our Santa Fe headquarters.

Intensifying our outreach to rural areas is critical. The tragic death of an Edgewood



woman murdered by her ex-husband last Christmas Eve underscores the need for in-person emergency assistance beyond the urban setting.

When a society seeks to change its values about the use of force, an undercurrent of opposition is to be expected. But progress is being made. We at Esperanza thank our financial supporters, our donors, our volunteers, our colleagues, and all the others who are working together to make it happen. Esperanza remains in severe need of additional support and we welcome all the help the community can give us.

And now a few words of advice to those who find themselves in a domestic violence relationship. Under the law, it is a crime for anyone to hit, push, shove, grab or physically attack you in any way, or even threaten you with bodily harm. If in immediate danger, call 911 for police assistance. The police can

take you to a hospital for medical care or to the Esperanza shelter where you can be safe. You can call Esperanza at any time 24 hours a day at 473-5200 or 1-800-473-5220. The point is, you are not alone. Don't wait. Domestic violence does not go away by itself.

And a word to the victimizer. If you are abusing a loved one or fear you might lose control of your behavior, don't wait. Seek counseling now.

Timely help makes all the difference. In the words of Maria (name changed), a recent client: "I'm grateful that Esperanza exists because without the staff and the shelter, I would not have been able to continue with my life. They helped me find myself, discover my strength, and seek a new life away from the abuse."

Connie Trujillo is executive director and Ruth Oswood is direct-service supervisor of Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families.

147th YEAR

THURSDAY

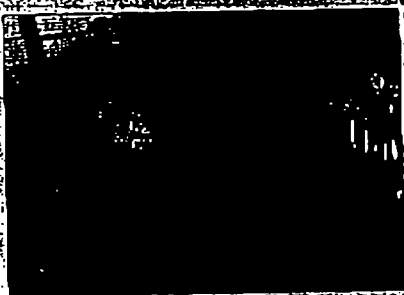
NOVEMBER 28, 1996

50 CENTS



THE SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

Conale Trujillo, executive director of Esperanza Shelter, has worked there for 20 years.



Awaiting a blessing

Director who survived near-deadly spousal abuse prays for Esperanza shelter's life

By MONICA SOTO
The New Mexican

Conale Trujillo will bow her head today and deliver Thanksgiving prayer amongst family and friends.

And in that prayer, she might say that she is thankful that Esperanza, the battered women's shelter she has run

since 1980, still is afloat after almost 20 years. She might say that she is thankful for the alacrity this community has afforded her. There is an added, however, that has gone unspoken.

Eighteen years ago, her abusive husband shot her twice and left her for dead and on this day she is thankful to be alive.

Trujillo has been a pioneer in the fight to bring domestic violence issues to the forefront in Northern New Mexico. Her shelter has served more than 50,000 men and women since it opened in 1978, and she has been instrumental in getting most of the state domestic violence laws passed.

Still, not many know what Please see BLESSING, Page A-2

BLESSING

Continued from Page A-1

drives her cause.

Trujillo delivered her first congressional testimony in 1978, when the warrantless arrest law was being considered for the first time.

She was asked to speak because the Santa Fe battered women's shelter was one of the first to open in the country. And she was one of their first victims.

Trujillo walked into the shelter in 1974 after enduring years of abuse.

She met her husband in college. He was a police officer and she was from a law enforcement family. Her grandfather and uncles all were police officers so she applied to the State Police Academy with dreams of becoming one, too.

She and her husband moved to El Paso, Texas, instead, and this is when the abuse began.

Trujillo speaks in a calm, even tone as she talks about how he would pull out big chunks of her hair and kick her in the stomach. How she lived in fear because on top of the beatings, he repeatedly warned her that death was next.

"He used to come home beat me up, rape me, tell me he was going to kill me and chop me up in little pieces and drop me down the well where no one would find me," she said. "He also said he would drive in the (police) unit real fast and let my body roll down a hill where I would be hard to find."

Trujillo was almost eight months pregnant when she lost the first of two sons after a beating.

"He would love to kick me," she remembered, shaking her head. "I remember I was bleeding and was rushed to the hospital. The baby died. The story was I had fallen down some stairs."

The last incident put her husband in prison. She had given birth to another boy, just a few months old, when he hit the baby and killed him. He beat her, raped her, the same routine, but this time was a little different. Her dog had just had puppies

and he ran over them with his car.

"I said, 'Look, I'm really tired. Why don't you just finish it off?'"

She ran from him and he shot her once in the stomach and the second time, the bullet grazed her face. She should have died, but she didn't.

"I feel so guilty," she said. "If I had known what I know now. As a woman, you can maybe live through it, but your children won't. It's a deep feeling I have and I can't get over that."

For many years, Trujillo kept her scars, like the abuse, a secret.

Her striking appearance is somewhat of a shield. Since several patches of her hair were pulled out by her husband, she wears a wig. With makeup, she covers the scar from the bullet that grazed her face.

"This is the first year that I've disclosed that," she said. "I think if I could get the story out, it might help others understand what we do."

Trujillo said this has been one of the worst years for the shelter. Their 20th anniversary is on Dec. 5, but it is somewhat overshadowed by the fact that they lost \$81,000 in funding from state and federal resources.

Private donations also have dipped. At this time of year, food is usually donated to the shelter in massive amounts. This year, they received two turkeys for Thanksgiving.

"I've been real depressed this year," she said. "I'm scared I feel like disappearing sometimes. After we worked this hard, it doesn't seem real. But it's not only us — it's all nonprofits."

"I don't have the heart to tell a client, we cannot serve you," she said.

District Attorney Henry Valdez said he understands the significance of Trujillo's work. His domestic violence diversion

program could not operate without Esperanza because his program refers offenders to counseling there in lieu of prosecution.

Valdez said Trujillo's testimony was instrumental in getting legislation passed, such as the Family Violence Protection Act, which made it easier for victims of domestic violence to get orders or protection from the civil courts.

"Connie has been a pioneer in the area of domestic violence," Valdez said. "Many times, I think the only voice expressing any concern over domestic violence was coming from Esperanza."

Rep. Patsy Trujillo, D-Santa Fe, has known Connie Trujillo on many levels. As a legislator, Patsy Trujillo has worked to push domestic violence and stalking issues and served on the Esperanza board of directors for eight years.

On a personal level, she met Trujillo many years ago after she sought help at Esperanza as a victim.

"We see people on a different level and sometimes don't ever realize that they had a personal life or that something devastating happened to them," she said. "It just happens to a lot of us. This is so widespread. It's not just one type of woman."

The shelter was just renovated after the state Legislature appropriated \$260,000 to revamp the dilapidated building. An anonymous New York donor also gave the shelter a pre-fabricated home, plus enough money to have it set in concrete, with the walls covered in adobe.

The shelter has offices in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Española, Mora and Las Vegas, but with budget constraints, the board already has decided to let employees in the satellite offices go on Jan. 1 if it cannot find extra funding.

Trujillo is thinking of running for state representative in two

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For People Who Don't Deserve it?
Bandelier's Truly Final Blowout**

Please Help Me Get this Stuff Out of Here

years so that she is able illustrate how important the need is.

She is an advocate of counseling the offenders and teaching the victims how to fend for themselves.

"If we can make the adults stronger, than the kids can be OK," she said.

Trujillo walked down a hallway in the shelter and a 10-year-old girl popped out of a room to show her the stickers a worker bought her at Toys 'R Us.

The children, who were abused when they were younger, have been in the shelter before. Their mother was leaving her

husband for a second time.

"Our wish list is longer than Santa Claus can give," Trujillo said, flicking off the hallway light. "We have to strike one or two things off the list each year but we don't give up."

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Esperanza Teaches Clinic Signs of Abuse

By Cynthia Müller
SUN Staff Writer

The Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families has partnered with Las Clinicas del Norte and the Rio Arriba Sheriff's Office to enhance its ability to serve rural residents of Rio Arriba County.

Las Clinicas employees were trained in September by Esperanza officials on what steps to take when faced with a client abused by a household member, and county sheriff's officers will be trained today (11/5) on how to respond to emergency calls involving domestic violence.

Service Supervisor Ruth Oswood of Esperanza's Santa Fe headquarters said, "It's really a wonderful project." She explained Las Clinicas staff and sheriff's officers will now be able to help the agency screen and serve both victims and offenders.

In rural areas the problem is difficult to identify, she said.

Unless victims personally seek out assistance, police reports and court orders are the only way to determine who the victims are, "but a lot of people don't call the police or go to court," she said.

She added, "I wish there was a domestic violence office in every community, but there isn't."

Oswood felt the alternative solution to aiding victims was a co-operative effort among agencies

"I wish there was a domestic violence office in every community, but there isn't."

Ruth Oswood
Esperanza Service
Supervisor

likely to encounter them.

Esperanza counselor Orlando Arellano said Las Clinicas applied for a Universal Screening for Domestic Violence Grant to train its employees on how to screen victims.

"Because the doctor sees the whole body," Arellano said.

Health care providers often witness the effects of a domestic dispute, and patients sometimes reveal the cause to their doctors, he added.

Michael Hill, Las Clinicas director of social services, said his staff attended a week-long training session in Albuquerque in May through the state branch of the National Medical Initiative on Domestic Violence.

He said Esperanza was asked to join Las Clinicas, and the agency provided an additional training session for clinic staff Sept. 24.

Hill said national statistics show 26 percent of health care patients are involved in domestic violence, and he estimated Las Clinicas' three offices in El Rito, Ojo Caliente and Abiquiu witness 24 cases per year.

"I think we tend to see people in crises," Hill said.

But the goal is to identify problems before they explode into crises, he said, and clinic counselors will help victims develop personal solutions before they reach their crisis points.

Following the training programs, Las Clinicas created a protocol on how to handle domestic violence cases, Hill said, as it previously had no policy dictating staff members' actions when faced with a victim.

Hill said with training provided by Esperanza officials, clinic employees now understand how to identify signs of domestic abuse and how to approach the issue with a patient.

He said all Las Clinicas offices have counselors who can deal with domestic violence victims and refer them to Esperanza for further counseling or shelter, if needed, and all cases are kept confidential.

Ruby Montoya, an Esperanza counselor in Española, said she is pleased with the participation of Las Clinicas and the sheriff's department in her agency's effort to serve domestic violence victims and offenders.

If an individual gets the message from several different sources, "it's going to make an impact," she said.

"We need to join forces," Montoya said. "We can't do it alone. They can't do it alone."

Montoya, who mainly counsels offenders, said domestic violence is a vicious cycle. "I find that most of the offenders are victims first."

They learn the behavior, she said, which makes them feel they have permission to hurt others. "The one main thing that we try to do is interrupt the cycle."

Montoya said she helps her 80 to 100 Rio Arriba County clients learn how to manage anger and deal with loss of dignity. "They lose that dignity at a very early age."

Although Esperanza's current load of clients is "more than we can meet," Montoya said, the assistance of local health care clinics and police departments will help strengthen the agency's capabilities.

Montoya said, "We need to make a collaborative effort to make a difference."



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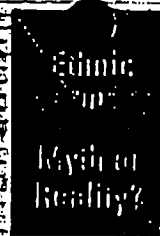
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THE SUNDAY JOURNAL

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Melting Pot Simmers

*Scarred by Racial and Ethnic Battles,
State Brags of Multicultural Harmony*

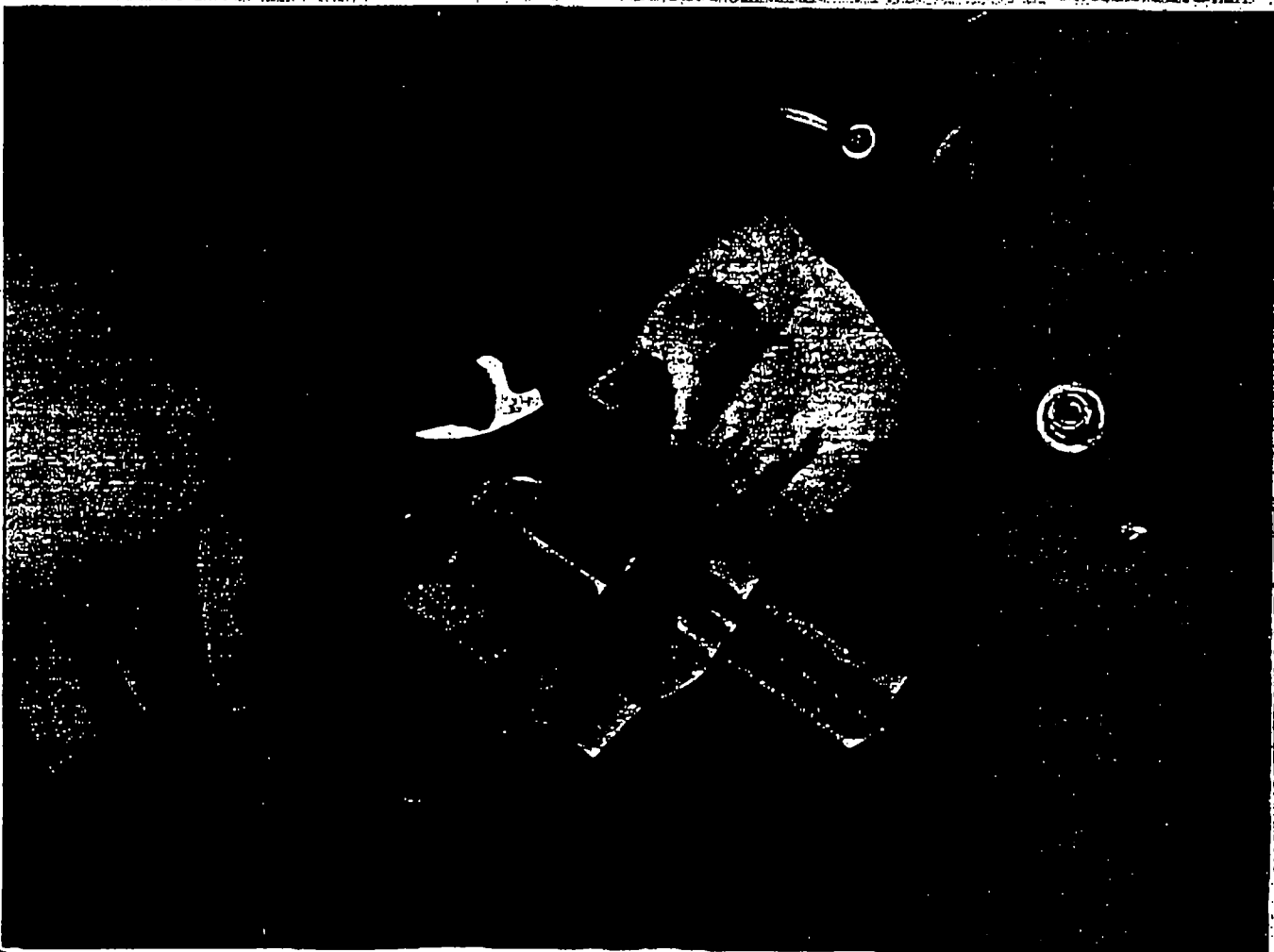


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New Weapon Against STALKERS



GREG SORBER/JOURNAL

ARMED: A woman who says her ex-boyfriend is stalking her holds a .38-caliber handgun and a can of pepper spray she has

Law Prompted by Santa Fe Woman's Death Starts This Week

Stories by S. U. MAHESH
Of the Journal

Obsession stalked Gloria Zamora for more than two decades, pursuing her to her death in the parking lot of a Santa Fe grocery store.

For two years, Zamora was stalked by a man she briefly dated in college 25 years earlier. Despite her objections, the man hid outside her workplace, drove by her house daily, stood outside her church on Sundays, phoned her and sent her flowers and love letters.

But it wasn't until Jack Adams fatally shot her a year ago that the criminal and legal issues of stalking came to the forefront.

In a fitting tribute to Zamora, a new and tougher stalking law goes into effect Tuesday — almost two weeks before the anniversary of her death.

Tough new law

The Harassment and Stalking Act passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Gary Johnson this year mandates longer prison terms for repeat offenders and protects the rights of stalking victims.

"The new stalking law has much more muscle and teeth to it than the first stalking law," said Carol Vigil, special commissioner for the domestic violence and mental competency program in 1st Judicial District Court in Santa Fe.

It has muscle in terms of going after repeat stalking offenders without obtaining arrest warrants and teeth in

terms of allowing prosecutors and judges to seek and impose longer prison terms. Vigil said.

Under the old law, stalking was a misdemeanor until the third conviction, which was a fourth-degree felony. But under the new law, a second conviction is considered aggravated stalking, a fourth-degree felony.

The first stalking conviction under the new law remains a misdemeanor.

If a person already convicted of aggravated stalking again stalks his or her victim, subsequent convictions will be treated as third-degree felonies, which carry a maximum prison term of three years.

However, after the second aggravated stalking conviction, the courts can impose additional prison terms under the habitual offender-sentencing laws, 1st Judicial District Attorney Henry Valdez said.

The additional prison terms for being a habitual offender would be one year for a second aggravated stalking conviction, four years for a third conviction and eight years for a fourth conviction, Valdez said.



ZAMORA: Shot and killed in July 1996 by man she dated 25 years before

Two Women Trapped By Terror

For some women, the nightmare never ends.

But for Gloria Zamora of Santa Fe, when it ended, she was dead.

Other women — and men — live with the same fear — that someone whose obsession goes unchecked will stalk them to their deaths.

After being stalked for 10 years, one woman married the man who was obsessed with her, hoping life would change for the better. Now she always carries a restraining order in an effort to keep her ex-husband away.

Another woman broke up with her boyfriend 13 years ago, but he's still not out of her life. She carries a gun for protection.

Both women say their alleged stalkers already have written the final chapters to the women's nightmarish lives.

"He told me, 'Nobody will ever stop me, no matter what I'll do whatever I damn please,'" one says of her ex-husband's alleged threats.

"Do whatever you want. I will always find you. Nobody will have you," the other woman recalled her former boyfriend saying.

Zamora's daughters have said their

See **TOUGH** on **PAGE 6**

See **WOMEN** on **PAGE 6**

SOUTHWEST LIVING

Art, History Meld at Antiquities Show

BY JEANNIE JOHNSON
Journal Staff Writer

Fifteen years ago, an airplane from Boston touched down in Albuquerque. Rose Gibbs walked off that plane to begin a vacation, unaware her visit to New Mexico would inspire a love of all things Native American and an eventual move here.

Walking through Albuquerque's Old Town, she came across the Adobe Gallery and bought several antique Native American items.

Now her Santa Fe home is full of antique

Indian rugs, baskets, pottery, Kachina dolls, beadwork and more.

On Friday she was looking to add to her collection at the Antique American Indian Art show in the Sweeney Center. The show is one of three Antiquities Week '97 shows in Santa Fe.

The second show, scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, focuses on antique tribal art from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Oceania.

The final show, Friday and Saturday, will feature antiques and folk art including 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century furniture, paintings, glass, ceramics and more.

As the nation's interest in the Southwest continues to grow, so does the trend in decorating styles.

"There are two kinds of people buying a show like this — collectors and decorators," said Robert Gallegos, a vendor the show. "The Native American look is becoming popular with the decorators as all the promotion of New Mexico as a cultural state."

"When people move to New Mexico they want to be New Mexicans and decorate like New Mexicans. Depending

See **ANTIQUITIES** on **PAGE 6**

'ough New Stalking Law Takes

PAGE 1

ting repeat offenders

July 13, 1996, Zamora was ng out of the Jewel Osco on los Road when Adams fatally er in the head and chest, then himself.

April 1996, Adams, 48, had arrested on a charge of sment by Santa Fe police Zamora, 50, filed a complaint st him.

was released a month later on 100 cash bond, but Zamora ever informed of his release. der the new law, stalking vic- are entitled to information t their perpetrators' where- ts — information such as bond ings, place of incarceration, se dates and conditions of the se.

other significant change in the law is the deletion of the cred- hreat requirement. Under ing law, police and prosec- must prove that a stalker's it is real and credible.

hat's a real difficult thing to rtain," Valdez said. "The new doesn't include the credible at language and is more ed with the rest of the ult statutes we have in New ico.

you intend to commit the act that causes a person to a fear, and it's reasonable for person to be in fear, then you fy the intent requirement, h I think is lot easier for both ecutors and law enforcement age when the law has been ated," Valdez said.

ne creation of the felony crime aggravated stalking gives off- s a new tool to deal with repeat nders.

These are the most dangerous us of stalking, where somebody mmitting stalking in spite of rder of protection, in spite of ng released on conditions of

ase, in spite of being in proba- or parole," Valdez said.

nder the new law, a police off- is only required to develop able cause to make an arrest, varrant is required, he said.

They'll be able to make the est on the spot," he said.

he old law required an arrest- rant even if a stalker had mul- e prior stalking convictions.

What to watch for

Common behavior of a stalker:

- Makes several phone calls each day to both work and home.
- Initially sends flowers and love notes, sometimes left on the victim's car.
- Calls victim's home or work to see who answers and if any noises are heard in the background.
- Seeks help of friends or relatives to check up on the victim's activities and whereabouts.
- Drives by the victim's residence to see if other vehicles are parked outside, or has someone else do it.
- Parks 100 feet away, if the victim has a legal protection order, and watches the house or workplace.
- Uses the system to get information about the victim by filling a missing person's report and checks with the victim's doctor, credit card company, banks, etc.
- Goes through the victim's garbage to see if there are any unusual items.
- Tries to manipulate counseling services to deliver messages or make contact with the victim or tries to intimidate counselors to disclose victim's whereabouts.
- Uses child visitation to get information about the victim's activities and whereabouts and sends messages to the victim through children.
- Goes to places where the victim is known to frequent and claims any meeting was accidental.

What to do

Tips for stalking victims:

- File a police complaint after the first stalking incident.
- Keep records of all stalking and harassing behavior.
- Maintain a diary and document dates, times at locations events took place, items received and names of any witnesses.
- Keep all letters, envelopes and packaging materials.
- Keep phone records. Use caller ID or "call trace" system.
- Always go out in pairs or with a group; don't go alone.
- Change daily habits. Take different routes to home and work.
- Let family members, friends and co-workers know you are being stalked.
- Secure windows and doors to your house and always look around your home.
- Avoid all personal contact with the stalker.
- Don't let personal information be released. Remove home address from personal checks and business cards.
- Go to the nearest police station, fire station or well-populated area if you feel you're in danger or being followed.
- Remember, a threat doesn't require words.

— Source: Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families in Santa Fe

The new law still requires a warrant for the arrest of a first-time stalking offender. It also requires convicted stalkers to receive professional counseling at their own expense.

Community push

Since Zamora's killing, the community, prosecutors and law enforcement agencies have pressed for tougher stalking laws, said Connie Trujillo, executive director for Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families in Santa Fe.

The shelter organized several community meetings after Zamora's death and used input from those meetings to draft the new

law, Trujillo said.

"The community is more aware of this issue now," she said. "Primarily, what I can say is (the new law) will save a lot of lives."

Special Commissioner Vigil agrees. She said Zamora's death has heightened public awareness of the seriousness of stalking as a crime.

"Our community has been touched by a death as a result of stalking," Vigil said. "So I think there's going to be a lot of community support, which means enforcement would be easier."

Valdez said several law enforcement agencies were involved in drafting the new law.

"In fact, one of the critical ques-

tions that was asked before even proposed this legislative "What do you feel you all need," he said.

Valdez said he was impressed law enforcement represented a recent stalking conference in Santa Fe.

"It shows that the law enforcement in this area is taking crime seriously and these cases will be treated as serious crimes," he said.

Santa Fe County Sheriff E. Montano said his deputies have been apprised of all the provisions in the new stalking law, which says is a good one.

"Stalking is a very serious crime," Montano said. "I think

Law Takes Effect This Week

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Women Trapped by Terror

from PAGE 1

mother did everything she could to protect herself.

"What good is pulling a copy of a restraining order out of your purse against a handgun?" one of her daughters asked last July at a community meeting after her mother's death.

For some, obsession knows no bounds.

One woman says her ex-husband became infatuated with her after seeing her in a tavern with a friend 13 years ago.

For about 10 years after that, she says, he stalked her constantly, sending her flowers and love notes, calling her on the phone 30 to 40 times a day, and following her to work, home and grocery stores.

The woman says she decided to marry him "so he would change."

But, she says, four months after their wedding, she left him when he became physically and sexually abusive.

Since then, she says, her ex-husband's behavior hasn't changed and he continues to stalk her. As recently as last month, she says, he broke into her house. When police arrived, she couldn't find her restraining order and he was let go.

The very next day, she says, she obtained another restraining order, which she carries in her purse whenever she leaves home.

The second woman says she filed several complaints against her former boyfriend and has obtained several restraining orders against him over the past 13 years; but to no avail.

She says she has changed her phone number at least 10 times over the years, but somehow he obtained all the numbers.

As recently as this past week she says, he followed her in his vehicle while she was driving.

She says one chilling incident stands out in her mind. He broke into her vehicle and left a butcher knife with a note on the driver's seat. The note read, "I love you to death," she says.

Tired of the constant harassment, the woman says she confronted him and pleaded with him to end her misery.

"I told him, 'Kill me and get it over with it.' But he said, 'I won't. I will make you suffer,'" she says, tears running down her face.

Recently, the woman says, she decided to arm herself because she was tired of living in fear.

"I live in constant stress so much so (that) I don't even know what stress is now," she says. "I haven't slept normally. I don't know in how many years."

Even though both women hope the new stalking law will make it tough on their alleged perpetrators, they seem to have lost faith in the system.

"Another restraining order is like putting a gun in their hand if (the police) don't catch them soon," says one woman, suggesting the restraining order would just infuriate the stalker.

"I don't know much about the new law, but I hope (it will) put a stop to this kind of behavior," she says.

The other woman hopes her former boyfriend will be charged under the new law and put away for a long time.

Otherwise, she fears her nightmare will never end — "Not unless one of us is dead."

The two women spoke to the Journal North on condition of anonymity to protect themselves from further retaliation by their alleged perpetrators.

new law gives us more teeth to do more — hopefully before something violent happens."

Valdez said he has assigned six trained prosecutors to handle

stalking and domestic abuse cases.

"I think it's one of the better laws in the country," Valdez said. "I think we need to give it a chance."

10 • Las Vegas OPTIC • Thursday, July 23, 1998

Esperanza open house



J.M. SNIDER

Esperanza staff celebrate a new location at 321 Grand with an open house, Wednesday. From left, educator Orlando Arellano, child therapist Lucille Tarr, service supervisor Ruth Oswood, therapist Rosalie Regensberg, executive director Connie Trujillo and volunteer coordinator/peer counselor Deborah Garcia.

Obituaries

Angeles, Calif.: one grand- brother, Cl...

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001b. list	re: SSN and DOB (partial) (1 page)	09/22/2000	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Heather Howard (Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 21198

FOLDER TITLE:

VAWA [Violence Against Women Act] New Mexico Event Connie Trujillo

2012-0254-S
rc679

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Esperanza; Shelter for Battered Families
Staff Information

Connie R. Trujillo, Executive Director, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Ruth Oswood, Direct Services Supervisor, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6) 00167
Bernice Kennedy, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Lidija Saenz, Shelter Manager, DOB: [REDACTED]
Angie Martinez, Shelter Staff, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Margaret Trujillo, Shelter Staff, DOB: [REDACTED]
Virginia G. Moench, Shelter Staff, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Rosalie Regensberg, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Sam Leyba, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Steve Barela, DOB: [REDACTED]
Karen M. Cain, Child Therapist, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Gerry L. Bushrow, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Mary A. Griffo, Counselor, DOB: [REDACTED]
John F. Moreau, Counselor, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
Larry M. Garcia, Jr., Victim Advocate, DOB: [REDACTED]
Teresa Holle, Office Aide/Counselor, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
David E. Garcia, Counselor, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)
David C. Zerst, Office Manager, DOB: [REDACTED] P6/(b)(6)

08/22/00 PRI 18.57 FAX 505 475 2115 Santa Fe, NM 87505

ESPERANZA; Shelter for Battered Families In Action Against Domestic Violence Annual Report Summary 1999-00

"Our mission is to be there to care when caring makes the difference between despair and hope."

-- Connie R. Trujillo, Executive Director, Esperanza

The outstanding programmatic improvement for Esperanza in the past year has been its selection as recipient of major federal grants for the first time in agency history. This funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is enabling us to significantly strengthen our staffing for providing direct services, particularly in the rural localities of our service area. HUD funds also underwrite the placement of a part-time Counselor/Advocate at each Esperanza Outreach Center in order to provide homeless victims with psycho-educational counseling and leased transitional housing. We especially thank Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico for his active support of these funding requests.

Other advances include: the hiring of our first counselor trained in sexual abuse counseling; the publication of new informational brochures in English/Spanish on Esperanza services to victims and abusers, courtesy of a *New Mexican* Charitable Foundation grant; and the initiation of a modern computerized system at our Santa Fe Outreach Center to improve programming productivity.

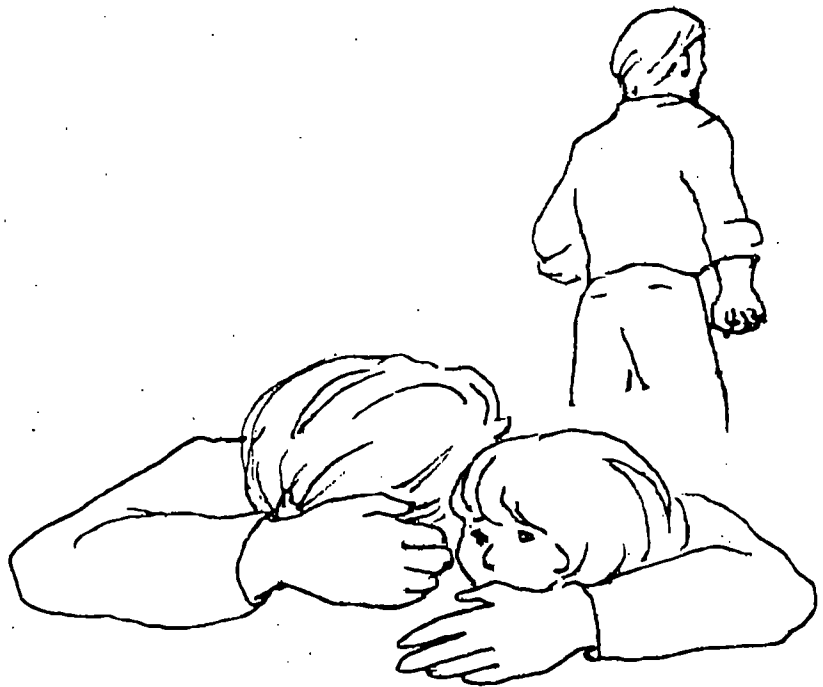
Family violence is difficult to measure because it most often occurs in private, and victims may be reluctant to come forth because of shame or fear of reprisal.

CALLS CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	1999	1998	1997
<i>Santa Fe Police Department</i>	869	885	746
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* In 1998 this office took all Rio Arriba calls.

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**In Action
Against
Domestic
Violence**



Art by Rose Mary Stearns



P.O. Box 5701
Santa Fe NM 87502
(505) 474-5536

**Annual Report
1999-00**

**ESPERANZA; Shelter
for Battered Families**

08/22/00 FAX 18:50 FAX 18:50 410 1110
"Finally we're talking openly about the public health issue of domestic violence. More than ever before, victims realize that abuse is unacceptable and that services exist to help them. But the need is still there to strengthen victim assistance, deter abusive behavior, empower women and girls, reach out to men, involve youth, and change community attitudes."

-- Connie R. Trujillo, Executive Director, Esperanza

The Issue of Violence: Terrorism in the home is a vicious plague for women in America. According to the Surgeon General, domestic violence is the single most common cause of severe injury for women aged 16 to 43. A survey by the Commonwealth Fund found that nearly one in every three U.S. women reported being abused by an intimate partner. Worse, such violence killed 1,320 women in 1998, according to the latest F.B.I. report. A recent study by UNM reports that 36% of female homicide victims in New Mexico were killed by their intimate male partners during the 1993-96 years. Nationally, the rate is 32%. The study noted that on the average in New Mexico, one woman is murdered every month in a domestic violence incident. To many, reaching a haven such as Esperanza's is a matter of life and death.

And for each victim who seeks help, there are countless others who suffer in silence. Research indicates that in only one of six battering episodes are the police called and in only six percent of severely violent episodes does the batterer end up in the criminal justice system (Guttman, 1998). This area of public health has been described as "an unacknowledged epidemic." Violence was singled out as the leading concern of New Mexico women in a series of town hall meetings conducted in 1998 by the NM Commission on Status of Women.

Statistics show that about 50% of all homeless women and children in America are fleeing domestic violence. According to the NM Mortgage Finance Authority, the leading cause of homelessness for New Mexico women is domestic violence. When these most desperate of the homeless seek Esperanza for help, they need it now. They're at risk for severe injury or even death. They must reach a safe shelter. And once there, they need the supportive services essential to helping them out of their predicament. Even when its shelter is full, Esperanza never turns anyone away. Our mission is to be there to care when caring makes the difference between despair and hope.

From experience, Esperanza knows that immediate face-to-face contact with a supportive human being is the most essential factor in enabling a domestic violence victim to cope with her situation and move forward. **In the words**

of one victim of domestic violence, "That's what someone needs in a situation like this -- for people to help you, support you, and greet you with a smile."

Domestic violence is enormously costly to the home community. It is a complex social problem that adversely affects the home, family, and workplace. It exacerbates homelessness, poverty, the school dropout rate, gang involvement, substance abuse, juvenile delinquency and teenage pregnancy. It brings higher taxpayer burdens for providing law enforcement, medical care, and social services.

Agency Description: Esperanza (named for the Spanish word for hope) is a very early activist on behalf of domestic violence victims. It was founded in Santa Fe in 1976, the historic year when the first shelters for battered women were established in the United States. We now serve much of north-central New Mexico through a multi-faceted program of round-the-clock hotlines, crisis intervention, emergency shelter housing, and counseling, therapy, language interpreting, and advocacy for victims and their children. Esperanza provides counseling to male victims (national statistics indicate that about five percent of all domestic violence victims are male). The Santa Fe Community Foundation recently provided grant support to expand our group counseling program for lesbian and gay victims of domestic violence, and their abusers.

Esperanza also offers counseling and therapy to abusers, with special priority to those who indicate potential for engaging in lethal acts. Our mission includes working closely with law enforcement and the courts, and helping to broaden community awareness of the problem of domestic violence. Our goals are to give timely and effective assistance and to reduce the incidence of domestic violence in north-central New Mexico.

Esperanza is a nonprofit corporation governed by a volunteer board. Its employees and volunteers include both former victims and offenders. Esperanza's veteran Executive Director is herself a former victim of domestic violence. We have developed an impressive level of expertise in this field, the continuity of which is ensured by the longevity of significant staff (8 to 23 years), many of whom are licensed and certified.

Once a fledgling agency serving 150 adult clients yearly, Esperanza is now a tested and trusted resource offering comprehensive and cost-efficient services. We operate a shelter in Santa Fe and outreach centers in Santa Fe, Espanola and Las Vegas. Since inception, we have served more than 36,000 clients. Our five-county service area includes Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, San Miguel and Mora -- 14,529 square miles (an area larger than nine of the 50 states), with a population of 214,000. We are one of the

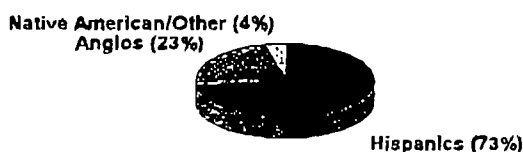
few programs in our field that serves both extensive rural areas and small cities -- Santa Fe, 68,000; Los Alamos, 20,000; Las Vegas, 16,500; and Espanola, 9,000.

Esperanza provides family violence intervention and treatment services: shelter, crisis intervention, counseling for all family members, and education and advocacy as remedies for domestic violence. **The Esperanza Shelter telephone (505) 473-5200 and toll-free line 1-800-473-5220 are both 24-hour crisis lines, as are (505) 753-5142 for Rio Arriba and (505) 425-9383 for San Miguel/Mora.** In addition, residents of northern Rio Arriba County can call our 1-800 Number or (505) 756-2327 for assistance, by special arrangement with Las Clinicas del Norte in El Rito, Abiquiu and Ojo Caliente, and with North Central Community Based Services in Chama.

Esperanza began as a program of the Sangre de Cristo Mental Health Agency in 1976. It was incorporated as an autonomous agency in 1983 and received its tax exempt status from the IRS that same year. Since then Esperanza's case load has grown substantially. In the 1999-00 year, Esperanza served an unduplicated total of 2,532 clients -- 1,233 victims, 696 children and youth, and 603 abusers. That's up 24% from the 2,034 clients served in the previous year. Not only are more north-central New Mexicans seeking Esperanza services, but our records show that more victims are coming in crisis and more are seriously injured.

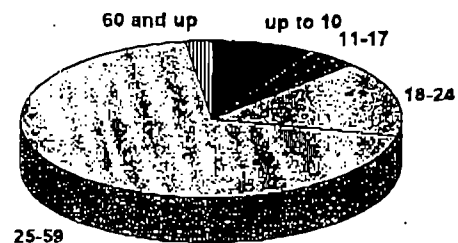
Ethnic/Cultural Breakdown

1999-00 Year



Age Distribution-New Clients

1999-00 Year



Client Profile: Our clientele comprises a community that is largely underserved by reason of ethnicity, language, geography, and poverty. Residents of our service area are primarily Hispanic -- 51% in Santa Fe County, 74% in Rio Arriba, 80% in San Miguel, and 86% in Mora. Los Alamos County, by contrast, has an 12% Hispanic population. Justice Department surveys show that domestic violence is closely associated with poverty. Eighty-six percent of our clients have few financial resources, with incomes well below the median level for the region. Rates of poverty are high -- 24% in Rio Arriba, 29% in San Miguel, 30% in Mora.

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In the 1999-00 year, 54% of our clients came from Santa Fe County, 22% from Rio Arriba, 20% from San Miguel, and 4% from Mora. The population Esperanza serves exhibits the following profile, as shown by our agency records:

- Victims:** *88% reported being punched, kicked or shoved; 19% reported being assaulted with a weapon
 *76% reported a frequency of abuse ranging from daily to monthly
 *60% reported 2-5 contacts with police; 12% reported 5-9 contacts
 50% witnessed abuse in the home as a child
 40% suffered child abuse
 28% have engaged in substance abuse as a way of self-medicating for domestic violence
- Children:** 86% presented 3-5 problems (clinging, aggression, trouble eating & sleeping, nervous habits)
 23% presented 6-9 problems (poor school performance, truancy, depression, suicidal ideation, gang involvement, criminal activities)
- Offenders:** 72% admitted having a substance abuse problem
 68% witnessed abuse in the home as a child
 50% suffered child abuse

* Asterisks signify a significant percentage increase since our intake analysis of three years ago, indicating that victims are reporting higher levels of abuse.

Three of the five counties in our service area -- Mora, Rio Arriba and San Miguel -- have an incidence of domestic violence, child abuse and poverty that is significantly above the state and national averages.

Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse: Many who abuse their intimate partners are also drug users and/or heavy drinkers. Researchers estimate that one in three men who commit acts of domestic violence also have a substance-abuse problem. Heroin addiction, in particular, is a major public health problem in our service area. It includes Rio Arriba and San Miguel Counties, where per-capita rates of drug-related deaths are among the highest in the nation. The inter-related problems of substance abuse and domestic violence have been identified by the Rio Arriba Maternal Child Health Council as the leading threats to the health of County residents. Esperanza routinely identifies substance abuse problems among its clientele and refers users for appropriate treatment. For many, this is their first referral for such treatment.

Rate of Violence: Family violence is difficult to measure because it most often occurs in private, and victims may be reluctant to report it because of shame or fear of reprisal from the offender. Area police records list the following numbers of domestic violence calls:

CALLS CONCERNING

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	1999	1998	1997
<i>Santa Fe Police Department</i>	869	885	746
<i>Santa Fe County Sheriff</i>	441	522	457
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TOTAL	3,255	3,777	3,381

* In 1998 this office took all Rio Arriba calls.

The total of all calls was 3,882 in 1996.

(Note: According to the Justice Department, only 53% of women victims reported domestic violence to law enforcement authorities, 1993-98. Often, the one who calls 911 is a child.)

Since 1988, the year they were instituted by state law, annual filings of Family Violence Protection Orders (requiring that the offender be removed and banned from the home) have increased eightfold in the First and Fourth Judicial Districts. In 1999 the total was 1,405.

Extrapolating from these figures, and allowing for duplication and the fact that many incidents are never reported, we estimate that our Shelter and Outreach Centers currently serve only about 50% of the families in need.

"We ought to do everything we can to reduce domestic violence and help victims move on with healthy lives," Senator Jeff Bingaman has said. Domestic violence is "a problem that people don't want to talk about, that is swept under the rug, that is ignored," adds NM Attorney General Patricia Madrid. "This situation is as serious in this state as DWI." She added that as a district judge, she saw firsthand cases that were "harrowing and terrible...not only to the victim but to the children in those households."

Henry Valdez, District Attorney (1st) said, "Domestic violence is a very serious problem in this area. We appreciate Esperanza's hard work in addressing domestic violence. Without its involvement, we would not be

able to deal with this issue in a serious manner." Chris Najar, Sheriff of San Miguel County, agrees. "We are seeing an ever increasing problem in the area of domestic violence," he said, "through the numbers of calls that we respond to and the restraining orders that we serve. Without the safe haven and counseling services provided by Esperanza, we are certain that the severity of domestic violence attacks would become more serious than what they are."

Mora County Sheriff John L. Sanchez said, "Esperanza is a much needed agency in our community. Our department works closely with Esperanza. Its staff is on call 24 hours a day. They not only respond to crisis calls but make sure that victims and their children are safe." Las Vegas Mayor Matt C. Martinez added, "Esperanza is a much needed program in our community."

The services that Esperanza provided during 1999-00 are:

	Clients Served	Units of Service
Adult Residential	337	2,410 days
Child Residential	410	2,084 days
Counseling I	()	2,740 hours
Clinical Counseling	(2,443)*	1,980 hours
Life Skills/Social Devlpmnt	()	1,956 hours
Client Svcs Mgmnt	1,924	1,587 hours
Crisis Intervention	366	358 contacts
Assessments	511	511 completed
System Networking	2,112	914 hours

* The 2,443 figure represents the total number of clients who received any one of the three levels of counseling.

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New Mexican Charitable Foundation grant; and the initiation of a modern computerized system at our Santa Fe Outreach Center, which is improving the productivity of victim services and case management, and is expected to eventually link all our facilities by e-mail and internet and to upgrade our communications with other agencies.

The Esperanza Shelter: Our 10-bedroom shelter, with a capacity of 44 to 60 persons, provides services 24 hours a day, every day of the year. It is the largest such facility in north-central New Mexico. Besides giving safe haven, shelter services include: crisis intervention; individual and group counseling; therapy; training in assertiveness, self-advocacy and parenting skills; educational activities for children; medical referrals; transportation; legal advocacy; and assistance in securing transitional housing and employment.

In 1999-00 the Esperanza Shelter served an unduplicated total of 337 adults and 410 children. That's up 58% from the previous year. Average monthly occupancy was 28 adults and 34 children. Total days of care provided were 2,410 for adults and 2,084 for children. A client and family may stay in residential treatment for a maximum of 90 consecutive days per year.

"The core of a shelter service," says a report to Congress by the National Institute for Justice, "is providing a safe haven during the high-risk period in the immediate aftermath of a domestic violence incident." Jay G. Harris, Chief Judge in Las Vegas, has said, "Without the Esperanza shelter, many victims would have to endure abuse because they have no place else to go. That is one of the main reasons why so many victims have to remain in an abusive relationship."

Despite all the well-intentioned and well-designed protections and remedies for domestic violence victims, the shelter is their safest place. Security is enhanced by the presence of two law enforcement officers who live on opposite ends of the premises.

Assisting Victims: Justice Department surveys show that women are the victims in 85% of cases of intimate partner violence in the United States. Young women aged 20 to 24 experience the highest rates of such violence. Research indicates that it takes an average of seven violent incidents before a woman leaves her abuser.

During the 1999-00 year, Esperanza conducted 500 group counseling sessions for domestic violence victims. The emphasis is on processing trauma, building self worth, and encouraging self reliance. Topics covered include understanding the cycle of violence and how to break that cycle, safety planning, self-esteem issues, coping and communication skills and goal setting. Esperanza's philosophy is to offer victims unconditional,

positive regard and to communicate to them an uncompromising expectation that they can and will rebuild their lives.

In its continuing effort to assess the results of its programming, Esperanza reviewed discharge summaries and client feedback forms for 151 victim clients of the 1999-00 year, both female and male. This analysis elicited the following:

Comment	Times Mentioned
Glad to Be Safe at Shelter	44
Better Understanding of Domestic Violence	56
Admit Own Substance Abuse Problem	11
Increase in Self-Esteem	74
Know How to Set Boundaries	42
More Self-Reliant, Assertive	35
Will No Longer Tolerate Abuse	48
Implementing Plan for Future Safety	84
Taking Legal Action	39
Ending Relationship	75
Will Try Again with Former Abuser	22

Sampling of victim comments: *"I learned a lot. I don't feel so bad about myself anymore. I'm not crying. I have confidence. I'm pretty again...I liked being able to talk things out and getting feedback, as well as the sense of really being listened to. Most helpful was feeling like I wasn't the only person going through this kind of problem...Esperanza services are very professional, honest and efficient... My entire life has changed since I've been coming here...The counseling helped me realize that it's my responsibility to see that my kids are protected from any kind of abuse...I feel I can move forward...Most helpful was the warmth and compassion shown by staff...I got my dignity back...Staff was helpful to me and always concerned and ready to listen at any hour...I have become a stronger person. I am able to assert boundaries and to identify potential dangerous situations...I don't know what I would have done without the counselors being there when I needed them. Esperanza has made me stronger and better able to deal with things...Since Esperanza, I've been able to stop the tape and change it, so that I may explore a new future...I did not realize the extent of abuse until now...."*

"Los cambios en mi vida han sido verdaderamente buenos, porque en este lugar he aprendido a valorarme sola y aprender a seguir con mis problemas. Quiero salir adelante por mi sola y no permitir que ninguna persona este viviendo abusada. Gracias por todo lo bueno que aprendi aqui, todas, las consejeras me han tratado con mucho carino. Esto que aprendi nunca lo voy a olvidar..."

Transitional Housing: Domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness for U. S. women. During the past year, we assisted 10 adult victims and 12 child victims in finding transitional housing. As mentioned above, new HUD financing is enabling us to significantly expand this service. Also, by a collaborative effort of the two agencies, eight transitional living units are available for clients of both Esperanza and St. Elizabeth's Shelter, at an apartment building at Tierra Contenta in Santa Fe.

Legal Assistance: Victims often are not aware of their options for protecting themselves and their children and for bringing charges against their batterers. In 1999-00, Esperanza assisted an estimated 745 clients in obtaining legal remedies (police reports, applications for victim reparation, custody and divorce proceedings). That's nearly double the number assisted in the previous year. Staff spent more than 1,200 hours in court and in other legal settings, accompanying clients, providing support, and in some cases, testifying. Clients were helped in filing 338 Family Violence Protection Orders. Under a grant from the District Attorney (1st), our Court Victim Advocate works with the Domestic Violence Unit of the D.A. Office on a day-to-day basis, providing immediate assistance to victims and coordinating case management. During the 1999-00 year in the court setting, she assisted 409 domestic violence victims in obtaining 77 protection orders.

Deborah Potter, Director of the Family Violence Unit of the District Attorney's Office (1st) said, "Our Unit has been recognized nationwide as a preeminent example for combating domestic violence. This is largely due to the close working relationship with Esperanza. Esperanza is making real change in northern New Mexico and giving hope to survivors of domestic violence, and the First Judicial District Attorney's Office is proud to partner with them in their efforts." Chief Judge Eugenio S. Mathis in Las Vegas has said that his Fourth Judicial District Court "would be unable to fulfill its statutory duty to these individuals were it not for Esperanza." Domestic relations lawyer Nancy Ann Richards, also in Las Vegas, adds, "Esperanza serves the vast majority of persons in this low economic area who simply cannot afford any attorney."

Under the new Statewide Advocacy for Survivors of Abuse (SASA) program, Esperanza cooperates with Northern NM Legal Services in helping domestic violence victims achieve personal safety and economic stability. In the first six months of this program, Esperanza has referred 40 clients for legal assistance in gaining divorce, child custody, child support, housing, unemployment benefits, and debt management.

Esperanza also provides cellular phones to high-risk victims, in cooperation with the Air-Touch Cellular company.

Fred T. Hensley, 9th District Court Judge, who rules on domestic violence cases in Las Vegas, says of Esperanza staffer Orlando Arellano, "I have been truly blessed to ...work with him. He knows most of the people, all of the language, and he shares my desire to help people...His help to me has been invaluable."

Child Counseling: Children who see and hear abuse may not bear bruises or broken bones, but they are hurt in ways that affect us all. Witnessing violence causes children to feel anxiety, fear of abandonment, helplessness, anger, depression, a shattered sense of safety and security, and often, guilt. Eventually, the experts say, the effects will surface -- in the form of school dropout, addiction, teen pregnancy, running away, becoming gang members and criminals, committing suicide and homicide. Children whose mothers are abused are 50% more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol than children from nonviolent homes. They are six times more likely to attempt suicide.

Children are the most innocent of the victimized. In 1999-00, Esperanza provided services to 696 children and youths. All those of appropriate age received counseling and therapy. Children are resilient. When removed from their abusers and given hope, they can go on to build new lives. **"In receiving treatment, they begin to relate to other people again," said Esperanza Executive Director Connie R. Trujillo. "That blank hollow stare in their eyes starts to fade."**

Studies show that one of every three abused children grows up to be either a victim or an abuser. **"Domestic violence is at the center," said Dr. Victor La Cerva, medical director with the NM Health Department. "When you have domestic violence occurring, you have incredibly bad modeling to the next generation about resolving conflict, how to treat women, how to deal with anger."** Nationally, 80% of the male prison population witnessed domestic violence during childhood.

Child abuse is highly concurrent with domestic violence. Surveys indicate that most men who abuse their partners also abuse children in the home. Battering actually increases during pregnancy. According to the March of Dimes, it is the leading cause of infant mortality and birth defects.

"If we look at nothing else except the number of children entering shelters because of domestic violence," wrote Brenda Newell in the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence newsletter, "then it seems imperative that we recognize who these children are, what they have survived, and

what it is they need from us." Esperanza seeks to help these younger victims stay alive, have a childhood, be able to grow and develop, and succeed in breaking the intergenerational chain in which the abused becomes the abuser.

Counseling Abusers: Battering behavior is more prevalent in males under 45 years of age, and particularly so for those in the 25-29 age bracket. Esperanza is one of the few agencies in New Mexico that provides abusers with ongoing education, counseling and therapy. The aim is to convince batterers to accept responsibility for their abuse and to end their obsession with controlling victims. Abuser treatment is largely done through group counseling, which diminishes isolation and enhances relationship skills. In 1999-00, we conducted 680 group sessions for male abusers. A total of 50 group sessions were also held for women identified by legal systems as domestic violence offenders.

Esperanza also works closely with the Coordinated Community Intervention Program Services (CCIPS) of the Family Violence Unit of the District Attorney's Office (1st). The goal of CCIPS is to hold domestic violence offenders accountable for their violent behavior by monitoring their compliance with court-ordered treatment and other legal requirements. In the past year through CCIPS, the Family Violence Unit has referred more than 100 abusers to Esperanza's anger management program. **"We consider CCIPS the prototype for providing rapid, coordinated treatment, along with intensive monitoring, for all court-mandated abusers,"** said Ruth Oswood, Direct Service Supervisor.

Of 85 offenders mandated by the CCIPS Program in the 18 months ending 6/30/00, 43 successfully completed counseling. 17 are still in treatment, and 25 were remanded for noncompliance.

Client feedback forms and discharge summaries for 43 abusers, male and female, were reviewed for the 1999-00 year. Improvements noted were as follows:

Comment	Times Mentioned
Increased Comprehension of Battering Attitude	23
Improved Anger Control/Use of "Time Outs"	32
Improved Self-Expression/Self-Esteem	29
Setting Appropriate and Safe Boundaries	21
Has Ceased Abusive Behavior	4
Will Deal with Substance Abuse	8

Sampling of abuser comments: *"...I liked the ability to talk openly with the group. I learned to avoid potential violence, take 'time outs,' and talk things over to resolve problems...Most helpful was the patience and empathy with my situation and the comprehension...I liked sharing with others who have the same problem. This has opened my eyes about a lot of things... I've learned how to communicate and recognize red flags. Just being here was most helpful...It helped with my marriage. I can talk to my wife with understanding, not fighting...I'm happy now, facing the day with no problems. It was an excellent education and a very good experience, learning how to deal with one's self and others...I liked the input I got from everybody. My relationship is better and I've learned to control my temper...Since Esperanza, I've been setting boundaries, taking responsibility for my actions...I liked every minute of the classes. I feel I have learned a different perspective on handling relationships -- very helpful to my future...I'm now able to control my anger. I'm sitting with my wife and talking more..."*

Evaluation: In recent years, with the help of the NM Children Youth & Families Dep't and United Way/Santa Fe, we have instituted a new and improved system of tracking measurable outcomes of client behavior, thus increasing our capacity to document results and enhance agency services. The Performance Outcomes system involves identifying and tracking specific steps toward treatment success for clients. An Outcomes analysis of an unduplicated total of 560 cases closed during the 1999-00 year shows that Esperanza helped 215 victims move into a safer environment, 254 to implement a safety plan, 341 to decrease family violence, and 247 to increase social, living and thinking skills. So far the Outcomes system shows that about 85% of our child clients have manifested significant benefit from treatment, and 60% have returned to normal.

In our evaluations, we also rely on client satisfaction surveys completed by clients, discharge summaries, and counselor appraisals of client outcomes. We make extensive use of professional psychological testing tools, such as State Trait Anger Expression Inventory (STAXI-2), Social Adjustment Scale, and appropriate Child Assessment such as CFARS. Independent input is also sought from the entities Esperanza works with -- law enforcement, the judicial system, human services agencies, health care providers, and others.

Broadening Public Understanding: Esperanza engages in ongoing community outreach, providing presentations and information on the need to take action against domestic violence. We staff information booths at health fairs and other community events. We join the state Health Department and the D.A. Office (1st) in presenting special educational programs on the domestic violence issue to students in the public schools. At the behest of Esperanza staffer Rosalie Regensberg, the Mora County Commission recently launched

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a year-long effort to raise community awareness about the issue of domestic violence -- a first in the area.

In Santa Fe, our Prevention Through the Arts component, directed by award-winning artist and youth counselor Sam Leyba, presented a 13-week program on violence and abuse prevention to two classes at Ortiz Middle School, and worked with 30 at-risk Santa Fe High students on a visual arts project with a similar theme. Under a grant from the Santa Fe Rotary Foundation, Esperanza provided experience and training in theater arts for 12 at-risk youths. In cooperation with Santa Fe's Community Youth Mural Program, we worked with 15 additional youths in painting murals at the new Geneveva Chavez Community Center and at the Santa Fe Community College.

Strengthening Laws: Esperanza is a persistent advocate for stronger statutes and other law enforcement mechanisms that protect victims and allow communities to contain offenders with a combination of legal consequences and mandated treatment. In recent years, Esperanza has played a significant role in the successful effort to strengthen state laws on domestic violence and stalking. Together with the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Esperanza is currently seeking state government certification of Domestic Violence Specialists.

Collaborative Efforts: Esperanza strongly believes that collaboration is essential to providing an in-depth continuum of care for those in need. Esperanza is active with the NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Homelessness, and the Santa Fe Human Services Coalition.

The Santa Fe Domestic Violence Task Force, reconvened by Esperanza and the D.A. Office, met quarterly during 1999-00. Its overall aim is to develop coordinated strategies for addressing domestic violence. Current goals include strengthening coordinated containment and treatment responses to domestic violence, collaborating with the Rape Crisis Center in Santa Fe, implementing the Esperanza picture-taking service, and instituting standardized procedures for court cases involving domestic violence.

Esperanza is currently collaborating with E.R. personnel at St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe in an effort to establish emergency psychiatric services for domestic violence victims. In past years, Esperanza has helped St. Vincent and Las Clinicas del Norte at Abiquiu in setting up screening procedures to identify and assist E.R. patients who've been subjected to domestic violence. A U.S. Justice Department survey showed that 37% of all women seeking E.R. care were injured by an intimate partner. A study by the Commonwealth Fund reports that 92% of women who were abused by

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their partners did not discuss these incidents with doctors; 57% did not talk about them with anyone.

Under a Violence Against Women Act grant, Esperanza joined with the Crisis Center of Northern New Mexico in presenting two training workshops in Rio Arriba County for law officers and human services professionals, concerning family violence, sexual assault, addiction, suicide, client advocacy (with special attention to client recantation), and outreach to rural and Native American communities. The workshops were entitled "Teamwork to Stop Violence Against Women."

Budget: Our total organizational budget for 1999-00 was \$1,054,942. Given that 2,532 unduplicated clients were served via standard program components, the average cost per client was \$417. This figure is cost effective, inasmuch as Esperanza provides a wide range of social services to clients and the average time in treatment per client is nearly six months. Esperanza is audited annually by an outside CPA firm. Copies of audits are available on request. Sources of funding are primarily local and state governmental agencies, but substantial support also comes from foundation grants, individual donors, and fund-raising events.

Esperanza's organizational sources of funding, in order of magnitude, are:



U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
NM Children, Youth & Families Department
City of Santa Fe
Buckaroo Ball



United Way of Santa Fe County
NM Mortgage Finance Authority
NM Crime Victims Reparation Commission
Santa Fe Civic Housing Authority



S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
Frost Foundation Ltd.



Office of the District Attorney (1st)
NM Human Services Department
Philip Morris Companies Inc.
Santa Fe Community Foundation



The New Mexican Charitable Foundation
Santa Fe Rotary Foundation
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Churches and Synagogues
Individual Donors



Caliber of Personnel: Esperanza's Executive Director, **Connie R. Trujillo**, has been with our program almost from its inception. She has a B.A. in Sociology and Social Welfare and more than 800 hours of additional professional training in domestic violence and counseling. She is a Master Domestic Violence Specialist and has served three terms as president of the NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She received the 2000 Governor's Award as one of New Mexico's Outstanding Women, and was invited to be keynote speaker at the 2000 National Conference on Domestic Violence sponsored by the National College of District Attorneys. Our Direct Service Supervisor for the past 20 years is **Ruth Oswood**, B.A.. She is both a Master Domestic Violence Specialist and a Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor. She has 750 hours of professional training in domestic violence and counseling, and 59 credits toward a Master's degree in the field. She has written four research papers that are used in our agency training program. **Dr. Richard T. Fink**, Ph.D. Psychologist, has been our Clinical Director for 10 years. He has 23 years of experience in testing and treatment of victims and offenders. The director of our Prevention Through The Arts component is **Sam Leyba**, who has four years of college, 260 hours of training in domestic violence and counseling, 24 years of experience as a counselor, and extensive achievements in the arts.

The majority of our clients (60%) and staff (62%) are female, due to the nature of Esperanza's program. Esperanza's 32-member staff is 67% Hispanic, 30% Anglo, and 3% Native American. Two staff members are openly gay. The range of educational level includes two Ph.D.'s, ten M.A.'s, six B.A.'s, and one Associate Degree. Our staff includes one Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, six Licensed or Registered Mental Health Counselors, two Certified Domestic Violence Counselors, two Licensed Educators, three Licensed M.A.-level Social Workers, one Licensed B.A.-level Social Worker, and one Licensed Drug & Alcohol Abuse Counselor. Our personnel is trained and experienced in utilizing culturally sensitive approaches. More than half our staff speaks Spanish as well as English, and bilingual capacity is available at all our locations. We also have seven direct service volunteers.

Esperanza Board membership is currently 66% Hispanic and 34% Anglo, as well as 55% female. Two of our nine Board members are former clients. The Board continues to broaden its diversity and representation.

Current Year Objectives: Esperanza aims to: maintain current programs and expand where feasible; secure full representative board membership and produce a manual for board members; establish an e-mail address, explore instituting a website for Esperanza, and implement an internet linkage among all Esperanza facilities; strengthen Friends of Esperanza as an ongoing fundraising arm, with special emphasis on staging events and on

acquiring gifts from estates and trusts; and intensify our collaborations with sister agencies involved with the issue of domestic violence.

Proposed New Initiatives: Esperanza is seeking added funding for the following urgent projects:

-- Constructing an apartment building of four two-bedroom units, at the rear of the 3.4-acre Esperanza Shelter property in Santa Fe County. Each year this facility will serve an estimated 20 domestic violence victims and their children, who are in high-risk situations and need protected transitional housing. Most will be from our Shelter. Esperanza will provide transitional housing and support services, including assistance and advocacy in securing public services, employment and permanent housing. For cost of construction, architect/project manager fee, required permits, and administration overhead; operational and supportive services, \$550,000.

-- Paying off the \$127,000 balance due on our mortgage loan to buy our Shelter property. The purchase price was \$235,000. Our shelter, land and buildings on the site are valued at \$842,000.

-- Seeking seed money funding for relocating our Espanola Outreach Center to the former Pinon Hills Hospital site, expected to be acquired by the Rio Arriba County Commission as a treatment and training center for substance abuse and domestic violence. We seek also to establish our second shelter facility in an existing building there. \$60,000.

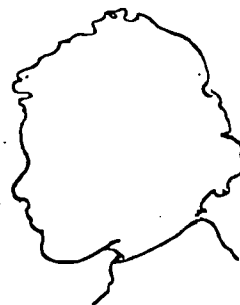
-- Instituting a special public school curriculum for young people ages 13-18, focusing on "Skills for Violence-Free Relationships." To reinforce this project for high-schoolers, we will utilize the "Aztec Street Theatre," the Prevention Through the Arts program sponsored by Esperanza. Funding needed, \$75,000.

-- Providing a van or light truck for each of Esperanza's four service centers, to enable staff to serve clients in rural areas with counseling, advocacy, and aid in moving to independent living quarters. \$60,000.

-- Helping shelter clients pay medical costs that are not eligible for coverage by charitable agencies. In an Esperanza survey, 30% of our clients reported seeking medical attention for health problems related to domestic violence. At least half of our clients have no insurance coverage for health care, and often defer treatment. They come to Esperanza with long histories of untreated injuries and illnesses, particularly those caused by stress. \$5,000.

PROFILES OF TYPICAL ESPERANZA CLIENTS (names changed):

Anita, a 34-year-old mother of five, came to Esperanza in the 19th year of her marriage. The impetus was a holiday incident in which her husband held a rifle to her head and threatened to "blow her brains out" in front of the children. He had already forced them to stand outside in their underwear in freezing winter temperature and had hit his daughter in the head with the rifle butt. Anita was finally impelled to gather up her children and escape. She related a long history of physical injury and psychological abuse. Exhibiting enormous determination, she reclaimed her life by pursuing legal remedies and by receiving two years of Esperanza counseling for herself and her five children. Anita has managed remarkably well and for several years has been raising her family on her own.



Jose arrived at our shelter with his mother, both physically abused. He had been locked up for long periods by his father. Curly-haired, brown-eyed, small for a five-year-old, he looked like a ragamuffin. He was angry, defiant, refused to listen and called everyone names. In playing with the shelter's stuffed animals, he had them biting and attacking each other. After receiving therapy from Esperanza staffers, he calmed down and gradually emerged as a super-bright little boy who then set up the stuffed animals as a family taking care of one another. He and his mother have left their abuser and are living independently. He is doing well in public school.

Mark, 37, an alcoholic, and a repeated abuser of his wife Charlene and four children, finally threw them out of the house. Somehow Charlene found her way to the Family Violence Protection Court, which alerted Esperanza to the case. With Esperanza's help, she filed for a protection order and for divorce and moved into independent living quarters. At the hearing, the judge ordered the whole family to Esperanza for counseling. After months of denial during counseling sessions, Mark now says he realizes how much his anger has hurt his family and has apologized for it. He is going to AA for his substance abuse problem, and is often the one

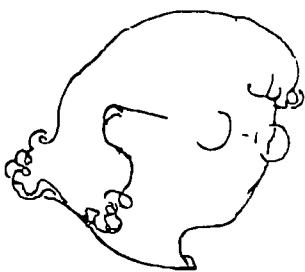


who gives their three sons a ride to Esperanza. The family has a good chance of reuniting.



Juanita, 35, was a victim of chronic domestic violence, battered throughout her eight-year marriage. "I thought I was used to it," she said, "but one particular day, when he began beating me and choking me, something snapped." She left, called the police and was taken by ambulance to the hospital. The emergency ward staff referred her to the Esperanza shelter. There she received counseling, therapy, and help in filing a restraining order against her husband. She has since landed a job, and is filing for divorce. "I know I can survive on my own," she said, "and I can always count on Esperanza to listen when I need to talk."

A blonde blue-eyed three-year-old, Cynthia came to our shelter, both physically and sexually abused. Lost, angry, like someone whose soul was dead, she screamed for an hour at a time. She and her battered mother stayed with Esperanza for several months, and after going out on their own, returned often for support. Again, therapy helped Cynthia especially. She confused her Headstart teacher (who could not find it on the map) by saying she "was born in Esperanza." She added that all the Esperanza staffers were "doctors." At Headstart, she achieved the highest IQ score for her age in Rio Arriba County. Now 14, she is healthy, happy, and assertive. Her school mates have elected her class president.



Linda, 28, found refuge in the Esperanza shelter, along with her 7-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son, after experiencing the latest physical assault from her partner, who is in the military. She escaped from the military base with the help of a friend and returned to her home state of New Mexico. She reports an eight year history of domestic violence – including frequent beatings, having her head smashed against the floor and being humiliated with verbal abuse in front of others. She and her family are currently living with her parents in crowded quarters and she is badly in need of her own rental apartment. She comes in regularly for Esperanza's counseling services, has marketable employment skills, and is making every effort to becoming a self-reliant family provider. "All I want," said Linda, "is a chance to have a peaceful life for myself and my children."

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The Santa Fe New Mexican

November 28, 1996, Thursday

SECTION: Main; Pg. A-1

LENGTH: 1122 words

HEADLINE: Awaiting another blessing Director who survived near-deadly spousal abuse prays for Esperanza shelter's life

BYLINE: Monica Soto with photo by Chuck Wing

BODY:

Connie Trujillo will bow her head today and deliver a Thanksgiving prayer amongst family and friends.

And in that prayer, she might say that she is thankful that Esperanza, the battered women's shelter she has run since 1980, still is afloat after almost 20 years. She might say that she is thankful for the altruism this community has afforded her.

There is an aside, however, that has gone unspoken.

Eighteen years ago, her abusive husband shot her twice and left her for dead and on this day, she is thankful to be alive.

Trujillo has been a pioneer in the fight to bring domestic violence issues to the forefront in Northern New Mexico. Her shelter has served more than 30,000 men and women since it opened in 1976, and she has been instrumental in getting most of the state domestic violence laws passed.

Still, not many know what drives her cause.

Trujillo delivered her first congressional testimony in 1978, when the warrantless arrest law was being considered for the first time.

She was asked to speak because the Santa Fe battered women's shelter was one of the first to open in the country. And she was one of their first victims.

Trujillo walked into the shelter in 1974 after enduring years of abuse.

She met her husband at Santa Fe Community College, where she was taking courses. He was a police officer and she was from a law enforcement family. Her grandfather and uncles all were police officers so she applied to the State Police Academy with dreams of becoming one, too.

She and her husband moved to El Paso, Texas, instead, and this is when the abuse began.

Trujillo speaks in a calm, even tone as she talks about how he would pull out big chunks of her hair and kick her in the stomach. How she lived in fear because on top of the beatings, he repeatedly warned her that death was next.

"He used to come home beat me up, rape me, tell me he was going to kill me and chop me up in little pieces and drop me down the well where no one would find me," she said. "He also said he would drive in the (police) unit real fast and let my body roll down a hill where I would be hard to find."

Trujillo was almost eight months pregnant when she lost the first of two sons after a beating.

"He would love to kick me," she remembered, shaking her head. "I remember I was bleeding and was rushed to the hospital. The baby died. The story was I had fallen down some stairs."

The last incident put her husband in prison. She had given birth to another boy, just a few months old, when he hit the baby and killed him. He beat her, raped her, the same routine, but this time was a little different. Her dog had just had puppies and he ran over them with his car.

"I said, 'Look. I'm really tired. Why don't you just finish it off?'"

She ran from him and he shot her once in the stomach and the second time, the bullet grazed her face. She should have died, but she didn't.

"I feel so guilty," she said. "If I had known what I know now. As a woman, you can maybe live through it, but your children won't. It's a deep feeling I have and I can't get over that."

For many years, Trujillo kept her scars, like the abuse, a secret.

Her striking appearance is somewhat of a shield. Since several patches of her hair were pulled out by her husband, she wears a wig. With makeup, she covers the scar from the bullet that grazed her face.

"This is the first year that I've disclosed that," she said. "I think if I could get the story out, it might help others understand what we do."

Trujillo said this has been one of the worst years for the shelter. Their 20th anniversary is on Dec. 5, but it is somewhat overshadowed by the fact that they lost \$ 81,000 in funding from state and federal resources.

Private donations also have dipped. At this time of year, food is usually donated to the shelter in massive amounts. This year, they received two turkeys for Thanksgiving.

"I've been real depressed this year," she said. "I'm scared. I feel like disappearing sometimes. After we worked this hard, it doesn't seem real. But it's not only us it's all nonprofits."

"I don't have the heart to tell a client, we cannot serve you," she said.

District Attorney Henry Valdez said he understands the significance of Trujillo's work. His domestic violence diversion program could not operate without Esperanza because his program refers offenders to counseling there in lieu of prosecution.

Valdez said Trujillo's testimony was instrumental in getting legislation passed, such as the Family Violence Protection Act, which made it easier for victims of domestic violence to get orders or protection from the civil courts.

"Connie has been a pioneer in the area of domestic violence," Valdez said. "Many times, I think the only voice expressing any concern over domestic violence was coming from Esperanza."

Rep. Patsy Trujillo, D-Santa Fe, has known **Connie Trujillo** on many levels. As a legislator, Patsy Trujillo has worked to push domestic violence and stalking issues and served on the Esperanza board of directors for eight years.

On a personal level, she met Trujillo many years ago after she sought help at Esperanza as a victim.

"We see people on a different level and sometimes don't ever realize that they had a personal life or that something devastating happened to them," she said. "It just happens to a lot of us. This is so widespread. It's not just one type of woman."

The shelter was just renovated after the state Legislature appropriated \$ 260,000 to revamp the dilapidated building. An anonymous New York donor also gave the shelter a pre-fabricated home, plus enough money to have it set in concrete, with the walls covered in adobe.

The shelter has offices in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Espanola, Mora and Las Vegas, but with budget constraints, the board already has decided to let employees in the satellite offices go on Jan. 1 if it cannot find extra funding.

Trujillo is thinking of running for state representative in two years so that she is able illustrate how important the need is.

She is an advocate of counseling the offenders and teaching the victims how to fend for themselves.

"If we can make the adults stronger, than the kids can be OK," she said.

Trujillo walked down a hallway in the shelter and a 10-year-old girl popped out of a room to show her the stickers a worker bought her at Toys 'R Us.

The children, who were abused when they were younger, have been in the shelter before. Their mother was leaving her husband for a second time.

"Our wish list is longer than Santa Claus can give," Trujillo said, flicking off the hallway light. "We have to strike one or two things off the list each year but we don't give up."

GRAPHIC: Photo by Chuck Wing: **Connie Trujillo**, executive director of Esperanza Shelter, has worked there for 20 years.

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The Santa Fe New Mexican

October 22, 1997, Wednesday

SECTION: Local; Pg. B-1

LENGTH: 491 words

HEADLINE: Battered families shelter, Santa Fe groups re-form violence task force

BYLINE: Richard Chang with mug

BODY:

Connie Trujillo kept a secret to herself for many years.

The executive director of Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families did not reveal to friends, co-workers and the public that she herself was a victim of domestic violence until last year. She has been with the shelter for 21 years.

"Not a morning goes by when I don't think about it," said Trujillo, who revealed to The New Mexican last Thanksgiving that she was abused by her police officer husband, and shot twice by him in 1974. "It's a difficult thing to talk about."

Now Trujillo, Esperanza and other groups are taking on a new spirit of openness and collaboration.

"We can't do it alone, guys," she told a group of co-workers, Esperanza board members, police officers, politicians and attorneys Tuesday night. "That's why we need the help of all of you."

Esperanza, the district attorney's office, St. Vincent Hospital, police and other groups are teaming up to restart the Santa Fe County Domestic Violence Task Force. The task force originally began in 1985, but stopped working together in the early 1990s.

Now the groups are organizing again, meeting in committees and planning a county-wide education program.

"I think we do a lot in the community within the first judicial district," District Attorney Henry Valdez said. "But it has not been formalized. Information-sharing that needs to occur maybe always wasn't occurring between all the different entities regarding domestic violence."

In addition to educating the public and stressing prevention, the groups will work together to assist a victim of domestic abuse immediately after an incident. Police officers will assure safe passage to St. Vincent's emergency room, where doctors and nurses will treat the victim.

After treatment, police officers and representatives from the district attorney's office will discuss with the victim the details of an incident, take pictures and begin to build a case.

From the moment victims arrive at the hospital, Trujillo said they need to be assured their statements can be given in private.

"We want to screen out (spouses and partners) for safety," Trujillo said. "They usually want to make sure they stay with them so their wives never say what happened. We will screen them and say, you need to wait."

According to Trujillo, 90 percent to 95 percent of domestic abusers are men. But some women also

abuse their husbands and boyfriends, she added.

Task force organizers are discussing the possibility of setting up a police substation at St. Vincent Hospital by the end of the year, Trujillo said.

They also are planning on starting a Domestic Assault Response Team, or DART. That team will consist of volunteers who have trained with women's advocates to respond quickly to domestic violence.

"I think the message is domestic violence will not be tolerated," Trujillo said. "We want a community free of domestic violence and abuse."

GRAPHIC: Mug of **connie Trujillo**

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