

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

July 30, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO ERIC LUI

From: Courtney Gregoire

Subject: Domestic Violence Hotline

ORIGIN AND BUDGET

The National Domestic Violence Hotline was created by a provision within The Violence Against Women Act, part of President Clinton's 1994 Crime Bill. The Department of Health and Human Services was authorized to provide a \$1 million grant to establish the hotline, with an additional \$400,000 in annual funding to maintain the service for the next five years.

The announcement of the available grant was published in the Federal Register of March 1995. Following the closing date for submission of applications, June 5, 1995, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) examined all applications in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services' competitive review process. The Texas Council on Family Violence was awarded the grant funding and the Hotline became operational in 1996. The Texas Council is a statewide association that has supported battered women's shelters and other domestic violence programs for the over twenty years now.

During the first year of operations, 1996, the Domestic Violence Hotline exceeded the appropriated budget of \$400,000 by approximately \$800,000. As a result, the Hotline began utilizing private donations and set up an intergovernmental funding package. For example, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) contributed funding in exchange for demographic info. The following year, 1997, Congress appropriated a total \$1.2 million for the Hotline. Funding has remained at this level for the following years of operation. Original legislation only authorized the Hotline for five years, ending at the conclusion of fiscal year 2000. However, Senator Biden introduced the Violence Against Women Act II during the 1999 Congressional session which would extend the life of the Hotline.

OPERATIONS

The Domestic Violence Hotline provides 24 hour a day, 365 days a year help to domestic violence victims across the country. The service is toll-free. When someone calls the hotline, they will speak to a trained advocate, who can offer them crisis intervention, support, and referrals to local services in their communities. Typically, the Hotline receives between 8,000 and 10,000 phone calls a month.

ATTACHED

- Federal Register Notice
- Domestic Violence Hotline Q&A
- 1998 Report to Congress on the Hotline
- The Violence Against Women Act II: Biden's floor statement and fact sheet

produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices." Any request for a hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Comments regarding the application must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than March 20, 1995.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
(James A. Bluemle, Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690:

1. *Sidell Bancorp, Inc.*, Sidell, Illinois; to engage *de novo* in making and servicing loans, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(1) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 28, 1995.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 95-5362 Filed 3-3-95; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families and the Public Health Service

[Program Announcement No. OCS 95-12]

Family Violence Prevention and Services Program

AGENCY: Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Service; and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Public Health Service; in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of the availability of financial assistance and request for applications to establish a National Domestic Violence Hotline.

SUMMARY: The Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families, in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,

announces the availability of funds in fiscal year 1995 for the award of one cooperative agreement on a competitive basis to operate a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence. This announcement contains all of the application materials needed to apply for this cooperative agreement.

The purpose of the national domestic violence hotline is to provide information and referral services, counseling, and assistance to victims of domestic violence, their children and other family members, and others affected by such violence and to enable them to find safety and protection in crisis situations. The successful applicant will be required to provide telephonic assistance on a 24 hour-per-day, seven day-a-week basis throughout the continental United States, and in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

DATES: The closing date for submission of applications is June 5, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Applications may be mailed to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families/Division of Discretionary Grants, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., 6th Floor, (OCS 95-12) Washington, DC 20447.

Hand delivered applications are accepted during the normal working hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, on or prior to the established closing date at:

Administration for Children and Families, Division of Discretionary Grants, 901 D Street, SW., 6th Floor (OCS 95-12), OFM/DDG, Washington, DC 20447.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William D. Riley, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Division of State Assistance, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, DC 20447. Telephone (202) 401-5529.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This program announcement consists of four parts. Part I provides information on the legislative authority applicable to this announcement and background information on the proposed national domestic violence hotline. Part II describes the minimum requirements for the design of the hotline that the applicant must address in its application. Part III describes the evaluation criteria. Part IV provides information and instructions for the development and submission of an application.

The forms to be used for submitting an application follow Part IV. Please

copy and use these forms in submitting an application under this announcement. No additional application materials are available or needed to submit an application.

Applicants should note that the cooperative agreement to be awarded under this program announcement is subject to the availability of funds.

Part I: General Information

A. Legislative Authority

Title III of the Child Abuse Amendments of 1984, (Pub. L. 98-457, 42 U.S.C. 10401, et seq.) is entitled the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (the Act). The Act was first implemented in FY 1986, was reauthorized and amended in 1992 by Pub. L. 102-295, and was reauthorized and amended for fiscal years 1996 through 2000 by Pub. L. 103-322, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Crime Bill), signed into law on September 13, 1994.

One part of the Crime Bill, the Violence Against Women Act, added section 316 to the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to authorize a grant award for up to five years to provide for the operation of a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence.

B. Conceptual Framework and Scope of Services

The prevalence of family violence is widespread and its effective prevention and treatment requires coordination and collaboration among a broad range of legal, justice system, health, and social service providers, and advocates at the Federal, State and local levels.

To serve the wide range of expected calls effectively, the hotline must have expertise about domestic violence and services to victims of domestic violence. The staff also must understand the importance of using appropriate linkages with State and local resources to serve callers to the hotline. The benefits of a highly visible national hotline to victims and others will be directly related to the productive working relationships and coordinated provision of services between and among the hotline and State and local hotlines and other services and resources.

Calls to the hotline may range from the urgent and life-threatening to calls for general reference information. The target population to be served by the hotline is specified in the statute as "victims of domestic violence." The hotline should be prepared to respond to the broad range of violence that

occurs in the context of family and intimate relationships, domestic violence, spouse abuse, partner abuse, battering of women, sexual assault, date rape, and acquaintance rape. The hotline also will serve those less directly affected by such abuse, e.g., relatives, children of victims and other family members, friends, neighbors, perpetrators and batterers, other concerned individuals, and the general public.

In terms of the scope of the services provided by the hotline, the statute requires the provision of "information and assistance" and "counseling and referral services." Therefore, the applicants' proposed design and plan for operating the hotline and responding to callers is important. However, the hotline is not expected to provide extended or long-term counseling or therapy services. The fuller discussion of a problem and consideration of options is done most appropriately at the local level, given the variation in laws and services available among the States and localities.

Finally, because domestic violence often contributes to isolation, helplessness, loss of self-esteem, and dependence, a self-help and empowerment model of services is needed. Such a model:

- Protects and assures safety for all victims and other family members;
- Builds on the strengths and resources of individuals and families;
- Offers options and support for independent decision-making based on specific individual and family needs and circumstances; and
- Assists individuals and families to obtain protection and needed services that are respectful of cultural and community characteristics.

Finally, we recognize that there is an inter-relationship between alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health (ADM) problems and domestic violence. Alcohol abuse has been demonstrated to contribute to violent behavior. Moreover, the abuse of alcohol coupled with other drugs is even more likely to be associated with severe battering incidents than is alcohol by itself. Victims of and or witnesses to domestic violence also may experience psychological consequences or turn to substance to ameliorate their pain. In addition to physical trauma resulting from acts of physical abuse, battered women suffer from a number of mental health consequences, including higher levels of depression, drug and alcohol abuse, suicide attempts, and low self-esteem. Many of the mental health consequences of spousal violence result from chronic intimidation and fear,

which are often as significant as the actual, acts of physical aggression. Witnessing spousal violence contributes to the cycle of violence outside the home. There is an increased likelihood of child abuse in homes where there has already been spouse abuse.

C. Eligible Applicants

Any private nonprofit agency, organization, institution, Tribal organization, or combination thereof, is eligible to apply for these funds. Any nonprofit organization submitting an application must submit proof of its nonprofit status in its application at the time of submission. The non-profit agency can accomplish this by providing a copy of the applicant's listing in the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) most recent list of tax-exempt organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code or by providing a copy of the currently valid IRS tax exemption certificate, or by providing a copy of the articles of incorporation bearing the seal of the State in which the corporation or association is domiciled.

D. Availability of Funds

As authorized by section 316 of the Act, the Office of Community Services will award one cooperative agreement in FY 1995 of a maximum of \$1 million for the implementation of the toll-free national domestic violence hotline. The source of these funds will be the Crime Bill Trust Fund.

Non-competitive continuation grant awards for each of years two through five (FYs 1996-1999) will be a maximum of \$850,000, subject to the availability of funds. This total represents \$400,000 from the Crime Bill Trust Fund for the operation of the hotline and \$450,000 to be used to carry out additional statutory and programmatic activities on behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the Office of Community Services (OCS).

Because the national hotline is viewed as a viable mechanism to achieve a number of specific aims, in each of years two through five CDC plans to provide \$250,000 under section 393 of the Public Health Services Act to provide additional support for State and local domestic violence hotlines in response to the demand generated by the national public awareness campaign; SAMHSA plans to provide \$100,000 under appropriate FY 1996 statutory authorities to enhance the hotline database to include ADM resources, support the training of

hotline staff to assure that they are knowledgeable about ADM involvement in incidents of domestic violence and can make appropriate referrals to ADM services, and, to the extent possible, collect such information from callers; and OCS plans to provide \$100,000 under section 305 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to support additional compilation and reporting of information based on calls to the hotline. These supplemental activities are described in greater detail as grantee requirements in Part II of this announcement.

Section 316 of the Act also states that funds appropriated and awarded from the Crime Trust Fund will remain available until expended, i.e., the \$1 million in FY 1995 and \$400,000 in FYs 1996-1999. This provides additional flexibility to the grantee in the timing and use of these funds. The funds for additional purposes in FYs 1996-1999 (\$450,000 in each of years two through five) must be expended by the end of the fiscal year following receipt of the funds.

E. Duration of Project

The Office of Community Services, in cooperation with CDC and SAMHSA, will award one grant, as a cooperative agreement, for up to five years (60-month project period). The initial grant award, to be made on a competitive basis, will cover a 12-month budget period. Application for continuation funding beyond the initial 12-month budget period, but within the 60-month project period, will be considered in subsequent years on a non-competitive basis, subject to the approval of the Secretary, the availability of funds, the satisfactory performance of the grantee, and the determination that the continued funding and support of the project would be in the best interest of the government.

F. Cooperative Agreement

The Office of Community Services intends to support the national toll-free hotline through a cooperative agreement. A cooperative agreement is Federal financial aid in which substantial Federal involvement is anticipated. The responsibilities of the Administration for Children and Families and of the successful applicant will be identified and incorporated into the cooperative agreement during pre-award negotiations. It is anticipated that ACF responsibilities will not change the project requirements found in Part II of this announcement.

The grantee will outline a plan of interaction with OCS for implementation under a cooperative

agreement including, as appropriate, activities involving Federal staff. The plan under the cooperative agreement will describe the general and specific responsibilities of the grantee and the grantor as well as foreseeable joint responsibilities. A schedule of tasks will be developed and agreed upon in addition to any special conditions relating to the implementation of the hotline.

G. Grantee Share of the Project

The grantee must provide at least 25 percent of the total approved cost of the project. The total approved cost of the project is the sum of the Federal share and the non-Federal share. The non-Federal share may be met by cash or in-kind contributions, although applicants are encouraged to meet their match requirements through cash contributions. Therefore, a project requesting \$1,000,000 in Federal funds for the first year budget period must include a match of at least \$333,333 (25 percent of total project cost). If approved for funding, the grantee will be held accountable for commitments of non-Federal resources, and failure to provide the required amounts will result in a disallowance of unmatched Federal funds.

Part II: Project Requirements

Requirements for Project Implementation

The following requirements must be met by the grantee and addressed in the application:

1. All funds received by the grantee pursuant to Section 316 of the Act must be used to establish and operate a national toll-free, telephone hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence.

2. In establishing the hotline, the private, nonprofit entity shall—

- Contract with a carrier for the use of a toll-free telephone line;
- Employ, train, and supervise personnel to answer incoming calls and provide counseling and referral services on a 24-hour-a-day basis;

- Assemble and maintain a current database of information relating to services for victims of domestic violence to which callers may be referred throughout the United States, including information on the availability of shelters that serve battered women and their children; and

- Publicize the hotline to potential users throughout the United States.

3. To be approved by the Secretary, the application must include a complete description of the applicant's plan for the operation of a national domestic

violence hotline, including description of—

- The training program for hotline personnel;
- The hiring criteria for hotline personnel;
- The methods for the creation, maintenance, and updating of a resource database;
- A plan for publicizing the availability of the hotline;
- A plan for providing service to non-English speaking callers, including hotline personnel who speak Spanish; and
- A plan for facilitating access to the hotline by persons with hearing impairments.

4. The applicant must demonstrate that it has:

- Nationally recognized expertise in the area of domestic violence and a record of high quality service to victims of domestic violence, including a demonstration of support from advocacy groups, such as domestic violence State coalitions or recognized national domestic violence groups; and
- A commitment to diversity, and to the provision of services to ethnic, racial, and non-English speaking minorities, in addition to older individuals and individuals with disabilities.

5. The applicant must demonstrate knowledge of the field, including the range of services and the resources available for domestic violence victims, their children and family members, perpetrators and batterers, and other concerned individuals, including services and resources relating to substance and mental health problems; State and Indian tribal domestic violence laws, including the availability of legal protection; and the barriers affecting access to such services, resources and protection.

6. The applicant must demonstrate experience in providing high-quality crisis intervention, information and referral, and counseling services and support to battered women, their children, other domestic violence victims, their family and friends, batterers, and the general public.

7. The applicant must demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health (ADM) problems to incidents of domestic violence and the ability to make appropriate referrals to callers.

8. The applicant must demonstrate an understanding of the need for a national hotline for domestic violence victims, including a description of the function and limitation of the current network of national and State crisis hotlines,

information lines, and State victims referral services.

9. The applicant must provide a plan and demonstrated ability to build, maintain, and keep current a comprehensive database of resource information, including the full range of services available in local communities, the types of legal protection and services available in different States and localities, and the capability to access information.

10. The applicant must provide a detailed description of:

- The telecommunications and computer technology that will be employed to establish and support the hotline, including all management functions, referral functions, resource database management functions, monitoring functions, and overall project administration and quality control, including periodic reporting to HHS;
- The design and operation of the telephone system that will be used to provide the service; its capacity and its limitations, including information such as the capacity to facilitate the number of incoming calls, call conferencing, automatic call referral to local providers, and service integration with computers.

- The methods that will be used to ensure that the national hotline is a confidential crisis intervention and the specific provisions that will be in place to safeguard the confidentiality of callers and ensure the proper handling of confidential or sensitive information;

- The personnel recruitment, hiring, and training program (i.e., a description of an initial and ongoing training plan for staff and volunteers should be included in this section) that will ensure the delivery of quality crisis intervention, information and referral, assistance, and counseling services to diverse populations;

- The specific emergency response and crisis protocol to be used, the ability to conference call (or "patch") a caller to a local domestic violence, legal services, or mental health or substance abuse program when appropriate, and the plans for minimizing such problems as crank/obscene calls and busy signals; and

- The methods the applicant will use to provide for the development, maintenance, and updating of a comprehensive resource database (distributed to the maximum extent appropriate); the technical capacity to link with other State and local databases in order to maintain an extensive and current resource locator or listing; the ability to facilitate communication among service providers to assist the

provision of services; and how the information on best practices gathered through the inventory being conducted by CDC will be used to assist victims.

11. The applicant must demonstrate an understanding of the technological requirements of such a project and include a detailed timeline to provide the following services nationally:

- 24-hour/365 days per year access;
- Direct access to English and Spanish-speaking personnel at all times and provision for services to other non-English speaking callers and the hearing impaired;
- Personnel (paid staff and volunteers) trained in crisis intervention, information and referral, and counseling skills;
- Comprehensive database of current information;
- The ability to connect callers directly to local programs or services when appropriate;
- Emergency response protocol for callers in immediate danger; and
- Appropriate confidentiality safeguards; and data collection and data management capability sufficient to support program administration, reporting, monitoring, and an ongoing quality assessment of the hotline service.

12. The applicant must provide a plan to coordinate, work with, and provide hotline services and data resource and referrals that make maximum use of existing domestic violence programs and resources, including, but not limited to, local and State-wide domestic violence hotlines, State Domestic Violence Coalitions, shelter programs, emergency services, legal services programs, national domestic violence resource centers, other existing national hotlines, and other national organizations; resources related to child abuse and youth endangerment, ADM problems, and perpetrators and batterers programs, the national domestic violence media campaign coordinated by the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and the various activities of the Centers for Disease Control under its campaign to prevent violence against women. The applicant must provide support to State and local domestic violence hotlines in response to the demand generated by the national public awareness campaign.

13. The applicant must provide a description of the quality assurance system it will use to assess regularly the quality of the services being provided by the hotline and the extent to which the goals and objectives of the service are being met. The quality assurance system also must include actions to address identified problems.

14. The applicant must provide a comprehensive plan to publicize the hotline to a wide national audience, including efforts to ensure promotion through the national media and through targeted outreach to racially and ethnically diverse communities, older individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

15. The applicant must demonstrate the ability to staff, financially support, and programmatically administer a national project of this scope.

16. The author(s) of the application must be clearly identified together with a description of his or her current relationship to the applicant organization and any future project role he or she may have if the project is funded.

17. The applicant must provide an assurance that any information collected as a part of this grant will become the property of the Federal Government.

18. The applicant must provide an assurance that it will work with the Federal Project Officer to identify the information that will be compiled based on incoming calls including compilation of information on both maternal and child victims of domestic violence and individual and situational factors characterizing violent and abusive behavior.

19. The applicant must provide an assurance that it will comply with the grant administration requirements in 45 CFR part 74.

Part III: Evaluation Criteria

The five criteria that follow will be used to review and evaluate how each application has addressed the requirements stated in Part II and should be used in developing the program narrative. The point values following each criterion heading indicate the maximum numerical weight that each section will be given in the review process.

1. Need for the Project (10 Points)

Provide a detailed discussion of the need for a national domestic violence hotline of the scope being proposed. Provide a detailed analysis of the available data related to the problem being addressed (both domestic violence in general and the specific lack of a national domestic violence hotline); the strengths and limitations of other national and local crisis intervention and victim services hotline/referral services available, and the "state-of-the-art" relative to the problem being addressed by the proposal.

2. Goals and Objectives (10 Points)

Clearly state the project goals and objectives. Objectives should be stated in concrete, measurable terms which clearly identify the population(s) to be served, the type, quality, and level of service to be provided, the timeline for the establishment and delivery of services, and other project benchmarks. The anticipated demand for hotline services during the initial start-up period and a projection of the demand on an ongoing basis should be discussed, with supporting documentation. Describe the precise location of the project.

3. Approach (30 Points)

Provide a sound workable plan of action (approach) which details: how the proposed work will be accomplished; how each task relates to the project's goals and activities; identifies the key staff member responsible for the specific tasks; provides a chart indicating the timetable for completing each task, the phasing in of the tasks over time, the lead staff person, and the time committed to the task; cites factors which might accelerate or decelerate the work; justifies the approach selected over other approaches; makes maximum use of existing facilities and resources and off-the-shelf technology; describes and supports any unusual features of the project, such as design or technological innovations, reductions in cost or time, or extraordinary social or community involvement; and provides projections of the accomplishments to be achieved and identifies the activities for which Federal technical assistance, advice, or guidance as the project is implemented is anticipated and would be acceptable.

4. Results and Benefits Expected (20 Points)

Identify, in specific terms, the results and benefits to be derived from the project and relate each result and benefit to a specific objective. Indicate the aggregate number of calls expected to be received and individuals to be assisted on an annual basis, e.g., the expected volume of calls in such service areas as crisis counseling, immediate referrals to shelters, or the number of referrals made in response to non-English speaking callers. Indicate the anticipated impact on and the subsequent benefit of the national hotline to victims of domestic violence and on the existing network of State and local shelters and services. Identify the kinds of data to be collected, maintained, and updated, and discuss

the criteria to be used to assure the quality of the services provided.

5. Level of Effort (30 Points)

Expertise, Commitment, and Support. The extent to which the applicant has nationally recognized expertise in the area of domestic violence and a record of high quality service to victims of domestic violence, including a demonstration of support from advocacy groups, such as State Domestic Violence Coalitions or recognized national domestic violence groups; the extent of the applicant's commitment to diversity, and to the provision of service to ethnic, racial, and non-English speaking minorities, older individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

Staff Background and Organizational Experience. The adequacy of the staffing pattern for the proposed project, how the individual responsibilities are linked to project tasks, and the contributions to be made by key staff. Each collaborating or cooperative organization, individual consultant, or other key individuals who will work on the project should be listed along with a description of the nature of their effort or contribution.

Competence of Staff. The background and experience of the project director and key project staff and the history and accomplishments of the organization; the qualifications of the project team including any experience with similar projects; the variety of skills, relevant educational background, and the ability to effectively manage the project and to coordinate activities with other agencies. One or two pertinent paragraphs on each key member are preferred to vitae/resumes. However, vitae/resumes may be included.

Adequacy of Resources. The adequacy of the available resources and organizational experience with regard to the tasks of the proposed project. List the financial, physical, and other resources already committed by other public and private agencies and institutions, if any. Explain how these organizations will participate in the day to day operations of the project. Letters from these agencies and organizations identifying and discussing the specifics of their commitment and participation must be included in the application.

Budget. Relate the proposed budget to the level of effort required to obtain the project objectives. Demonstrate that the project's costs are reasonable in view of the anticipated results.

Collaborative Efforts. The additional anticipated private sector resources that may be available to support or enhance the overall program. Discuss in detail and provide documentation for any

proposed collaborative or coordinated efforts with other public and private agencies or organizations. Identify these agencies or organizations and explain how their participation will enhance the project. Letters from these agencies and organizations must be included discussing their interest and/or commitment in supporting this project, the stage of the planning and decision-making, and the expected level of resource commitment.

Part IV: Instructions for the Development and Submission of Applications

This Part contains information and instructions for submitting applications in response to this announcement. Application forms are provided as part of this publication along with a checklist for assembling an application package. Please copy and use these forms in submitting an application.

Potential applicants should read this section carefully in conjunction with the information describing the proposed project under which the application is to be submitted. The project design requirements are found in Part II.

A. Required Notification of the State Single Point of Contact

This program is covered under Executive Order 12372, (E.O.) "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," and 45 CFR Part 100, "Intergovernmental Review of Department of Health and Human Services Program and Activities." Under the E.O., States may design their own processes for reviewing and commenting on proposed Federal assistance under covered programs.

All States and territories, except Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, American Samoa, and Palau, have elected to participate in the E.O. process and have established Single Points of Contact (SPOCs). Applicants from these nineteen jurisdictions need take no action regarding E.O. 12372. Otherwise, applicants should contact their SPOCs as soon as possible to alert them of the prospective applications and receive any necessary instructions. Applicants must submit any required material to the SPOCs as soon as possible so that OCS can obtain and review SPOC comments as part of the award process. It is imperative that the applicant submit all required materials, if any, to the SPOC and indicate the date of this submittal (or the date of contact if no

submittal is required) on the Standard Form 424, item 16a.

Under 45 CFR 100.8(a)(2), a SPOC has 60 days from application deadline to comment on proposed new or competing continuation awards.

SPOCs are encouraged to eliminate the submission of routine endorsements as official recommendations. Additionally, SPOCs are requested to differentiate clearly between mere advisory comments and those official State process recommendations which may trigger the "accommodate or explain" rule.

When comments are submitted directly to ACF, they should be addressed to: Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Division of Discretionary Grants, (OCS-95-12) 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20447.

A list of the Single Points of Contact for each State and Territory is included at the end of this announcement.

B. Deadline for Submittal of Applications

The closing date for submittal of applications under this program announcement is found at the beginning of this program announcement under **DATES**. Applications shall be considered as meeting the announced deadline if they are either:

1. Received on or before the deadline date at the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Division of Discretionary Grants, (OCS-95-12) 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20447, or
2. Sent on or before the deadline date and received by OCS in time to be considered during the competitive review process.

Applications must be postmarked no later than the date to be found at the beginning of the Program Announcement under **DATES**. When mailing application packages, applicants are strongly advised to obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier (such as UPS, Federal Express, etc.) or from the U.S. Postal Service as proof of mailing by the deadline date. Private metered postmarks are not acceptable as proof of timely mailing.

Late applications. Applications which do not meet the criteria under "Deadlines" are considered late applications. The ACF shall notify each late applicant that its application will not be considered in the current competition.

Extension of deadlines. The ACF reserves the right to extend the deadline

for all applicants due to acts of God, such as floods, hurricanes or earthquakes; if there is widespread disruption of the mail; or if ACF determines a deadline extension to be in the best interest of the Government. However, ACF will not waive or extend the deadline for any applicant unless the deadline is waived or extended for all applicants.

C. Instructions for Preparing the Application and Completing Application Forms

The SF 424, SF 424A, Page 2, and the required certifications have been reprinted for your convenience in preparing the application. You should reproduce single-sided copies of these forms from the reprinted forms in the announcement, typing your information onto the copies. Please do not use forms directly from the **Federal Register** announcement, as they are printed on both sides of the page.

In order to assist applicants in correctly completing the SF 424 and SF 424A, instructions for these forms are included below.

Where specific information is not required under this program, N/A (not applicable) has been preprinted on the form.

Please Prepare Your Application in Accordance With The Following Instructions:

1. SF 424 Page 1, Application Cover Sheet

Please read the following instructions before completing the application cover sheet. An explanation of each item is included. Complete only the items specified.

Top of Page: Enter designation "HTL."

Item 1: "Type of Submission"—Preprinted on the form.

Item 2: "Date Submitted" and "Applicant Identifier"—Date application is submitted to ACF and applicant's own internal control number, if applicable.

Item 3: "Date Received By State"—State use only (if applicable).

Item 4: "Date Received by Federal Agency"—Leave blank.

Item 5: "Applicant Information" "Legal Name"—Enter the legal name of applicant organization.

"Organizational Unit"—Enter the name of the primary unit within the applicant organization which will actually carry out the project activity. Do not use the name of an individual as the applicant. If this is the same as the applicant organization, leave the organizational unit blank.

"Address"—Enter the complete address that the organization actually uses to receive mail, since this is the address to which all correspondence will be sent. Do not include both street address and P.O. box number unless both must be used in mailing.

"Name and telephone number, including the area code, of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application"—Enter the full name (including academic degree, if applicable) and telephone number of a person who can respond to questions about the application. This person should be accessible at the address given here and will receive all correspondence regarding the application.

Item 6: "Employer Identification Number (EIN)"—Enter the employer identification number of the applicant organization, as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service, including, if known, the Central Registry System suffix.

Item 7: "Type of Applicant"—Self-explanatory.

Item 8: "Type of Application"—Preprinted on the form.

Item 9: "Name of Federal Agency"—Preprinted on the form.

Item 10: "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number and Title"—Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number assigned to the program under which assistance is requested and its title. The CFDA number for this program is 93.671.

Item 11: "Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project"—Enter the project title. The title is generally short and is descriptive of the project.

Item 12: "Areas Affected by Project"—Enter the governmental unit where significant and meaningful impact could be observed. List only the largest unit or units affected, such as State, county, or city. If an entire unit is affected, list it rather than subunits.

Item 13: "Proposed Project"—Enter the desired start date for the project and projected completion date.

Item 14: "Congressional District of Applicant/Project"—Enter the number of the Congressional district where the applicant's principal office is located and the number of the Congressional district(s) where the project will be located. If statewide, a multi-State effort, or nationwide, enter "00."

Items 15: "Estimated Funding Levels"—

In completing 15a through 15f, the dollar amounts entered should reflect, for a 17 month or less project period, the total amount requested. If the proposed project period exceeds 17 months, enter only those dollar amounts needed for

the first 12 month budget period of the proposed five year project period.

Item 15a: Enter the amount of Federal funds requested in accordance with the preceding paragraph. This amount should be no greater than the maximum amount specified in the project description.

Items 15b-e: Enter the amount(s) of funds from non-Federal sources that will be contributed to the proposed project. Items b-e are considered cost-sharing or "matching funds." The value of third party in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines as applicable. For more information regarding funding and "matching" requirements, see Part I, Grantor Share of the Project.

Item 15f: Enter the estimated amount of income, if any, expected to be generated from the proposed project. Do not add or subtract this amount from the total project amount entered under item 15g. Describe the nature, source and anticipated use of this income in the Project Narrative Statement. If not applicable, enter N/A.

Item 15g: Enter the sum of items 15a-15e.

Item 16a: "Is Application Subject to Review By State Executive Order 12372 Process? Yes."—Enter the date the applicant contacted the SPOC regarding this application. Select the appropriate SPOC from the listing provided at the end of Part IV. The review of the application is at the discretion of the SPOC. The SPOC will verify the date noted on the application. If there is a discrepancy in dates, the SPOC may request that the Federal agency delay any proposed funding until September 30, 1995.

Item 16b: "Is Application Subject to Review By State Executive Order 12372 Process? No."—Check the appropriate box if the application is not covered by E.O. 12372 or if the program has not been selected by the State for review.

Item 17: "Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt?"—Check the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include audit disallowances, loans and taxes.

Item 18: "To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application/preapplication are true and correct. The document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is awarded."—To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for signature of this

application by this individual as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office, and may be requested from the applicant.

Item 18a-c: "Typed Name of Authorized Representative, Title, Telephone Number"—Enter the name, title and telephone number of the authorized representative of the applicant organization.

Item 18d: "Signature of Authorized Representative"—Signature of the authorized representative named in Item 18a. At least one copy of the application must have an original signature. Use colored ink (not black) so that the original signature is easily identified.

Item 18e: "Date Signed"—Enter the date the application was signed by the authorized representative.

2. SF 424A—Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs

This is a form used by many Federal agencies. For this application, Sections A, B, C, E and F are to be completed. Section D does not need to be completed.

Sections A and B should include the Federal as well as the non-Federal funding for the proposed project covering (1) The total project period of 17 months or less; or (2) the first 12 month budget period, if the proposed project period exceeds 17 months.

Section A—Budget Summary. This section includes a summary of the budget. On line 5, enter total Federal costs in column (e) and total non-Federal costs, including third party in-kind contributions, but not program income, in column (f). Enter the total of (e) and (f) in column (g).

Section B—Budget Categories. This budget, which includes the Federal as well as non-Federal funding for the proposed project, covers (1) The total project period of 17 months or less or (2) the first 12 month budget period if the proposed project period exceeds 17 months. It should relate to item 15g, total funding, on the SF 424. Under column (5), enter the total requirements for funds (Federal and non-Federal) by object class category.

A separate budget justification should be included to explain fully and justify major items, as indicated below. The types of information to be included in the justification are indicated under each category. For multiple year projects, it is desirable to provide this information for each year of the project. The budget justification should immediately follow the second page of the SF 424A.

Personnel—Line 6a. Enter the total costs of salaries and wages of applicant/grantee staff. Do not include the costs of

consultants, which should be included on line 6h, "Other."

Justification: Identify the project director, if known. Specify by title or name the percentage of time allocated to the project, the individual annual salaries, and the cost to the project (both Federal and non-Federal) of the organization's staff who will be working on the project.

Fringe Benefits—Line 6b. Enter the total costs of fringe benefits, unless treated as part of an approved indirect cost rate.

Justification: Provide a break-down of amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs, such as health insurance, FICA, retirement insurance, etc.

Travel—Line 6c. Enter total costs of out-of-town travel (travel requiring per diem) for staff of the project. Do not enter costs for consultant's travel or local transportation, which should be included on Line 6h, "Other."

Justification: Include the name(s) of traveler(s), total number of trips, destinations, length of stay, transportation costs and subsistence allowances.

Equipment—Line 6d. Enter the total costs of all equipment to be acquired by the project. For State and local governments, including Federally recognized Indian Tribes, "equipment" is tangible, non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. For all other applicants, the threshold for equipment is \$5,000 or more per unit. The higher threshold for State and local governments became effective October 1, 1988, through the implementation of 45 CFR Part 92, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments."

Justification: Equipment to be purchased with Federal funds must be justified. The equipment must be required to conduct the project, and the applicant organization or its subgrantees must not have the equipment or a reasonable facsimile available to the project. The justification also must contain plans for future use or disposal of the equipment after the project ends.

Supplies—Line 6e. Enter the total costs of all tangible expendable personal property (supplies) other than those included on Line 6d.

Justification: Specify general categories of supplies and their costs.

Contractual—Line 6f: Enter the total costs of all contracts, including procurement contracts (except those which belong on other lines such as equipment, supplies, etc.) and contracts

with secondary recipient organizations. Also include any contracts with organizations for the provision of technical assistance. Do not include payments to individuals on this line.

Justification: Attach a list of contractors, indicating the names of the organizations, the purposes of the contracts, and the estimated dollar amounts of the awards as part of the budget justification. Whenever the applicant/grantee intends to delegate part or all of the program to another agency, the applicant/grantee must complete this section (Section B, Budget Categories) for each delegate agency by agency title, along with the supporting information. The total cost of all such agencies will be part of the amount shown on Line 6f. Provide backup documentation identifying the name of contractor, purpose of contract, and major cost elements.

Construction—Line 6g: Not applicable. New construction is not allowable.

Other—Line 6h: Enter the total of all other costs. Where applicable, such costs may include, but are not limited to: Insurance; medical and dental costs; noncontractual fees and travel paid directly to individual consultants; local transportation (all travel which does not require per diem is considered local travel); space and equipment rentals; printing and publication; computer use; training costs, including tuition and stipends; training service costs, including wage payments to individuals and supportive service payments; and staff development costs. Note that costs identified as "miscellaneous" and "honoraria" are not allowable.

Justification: Specify the costs included.

Total Direct Charges—Line 6i: Enter the total of Lines 6a through 6h.

Indirect Charges—6j: Enter the total amount of indirect charges (costs). If no indirect costs are requested, enter "none." Generally, this line should be used when the applicant (except local governments) has a current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another Federal agency.

Local and State governments should enter the amount of indirect costs determined in accordance with HHS requirements. When an indirect cost rate is requested, these costs are included in the indirect cost pool and should not be charged again as direct costs to the grant.

Justification: Enclose a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement. Applicants subject to the limitation on the Federal reimbursement of indirect costs for training grants should specify this.

Total—Line 6k: Enter the total amounts of lines 6i and 6j.

Program Income—Line 7: Enter the estimated amount of income, if any, expected to be generated from this project. Do not add or subtract this amount from the total project amount.

Justification: Describe the nature, source, and anticipated use of program income in the Program Narrative Statement.

Section C—Non-Federal Resources.

This section summarizes the amounts of non-Federal resources that will be applied to the grant. Enter this information on line 12 entitled "Totals." "In-kind contributions" are defined in title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 74.2, as "the value of non-cash contributions provided by non-Federal third parties. Third party in-kind contributions may be in the form of real, property, equipment, supplies and other expandable property, and the value of goods and services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the project or program."

Justification: Describe third party in-kind contributions, if included.

Section D—Forecasted Cash Needs. Not applicable.

Section E—Budget Estimate of Federal Funds Needed for Balance of the Project. This section should only be completed if the total project period exceeds 17 months.

Totals—Line 20: For projects that will have more than one budget period, enter the estimated required Federal funds for the second budget period (months 13 through 24) under column "(b) First." If a third budget period will be necessary, enter the Federal funds needed for months 25 through 36 under "(c) Second." Columns (d) and (e) are not applicable in most instances, since ACF funding is almost always limited to a three-year maximum project period. They should remain blank.

Section F—Other Budget Information.

Direct Charges—Line 21: Not applicable.

Indirect Charges—Line 22. Enter the type of indirect rate (provisional, predetermined, final or fixed) that will be in effect during the funding period, the estimated amount of the base to which the rate is applied, and the total indirect expense.

Remarks—Line 23. If the total project period exceeds 17 months, you must enter your proposed non-Federal share of the project budget for each of the remaining years of the project.

3. Project Summary Description

Clearly mark this separate page with the applicant name as shown in item 5 of the SF 424, and the title of the project

as shown in item 11 of the SF 424. The summary description should not exceed 300 words. These 300 words become part of the computer database on each project.

Care should be taken to produce a summary description which accurately and concisely reflects the proposal. It should describe the objectives of the project, the approaches to be used and the outcomes expected. The description should also include a list of major products that will result from the proposed project, such as software packages, materials, management procedures, data collection instruments, training packages, or videos (please note that audiovisuals should be closed captioned). The project summary description, together with the information on the SF 424, will constitute the project "abstract." It is the major source of information about the proposed project and is usually the first part of the application that the reviewers read in evaluating the application.

4. Program Narrative Statement

The Program Narrative Statement is a very important part of an application. It should be clear, concise, and address the specific requirements mentioned under the project description in Part II. The narrative should also provide information concerning how the application meets the evaluation criteria using the following headings:

- (a) *Need for the Project*
- (b) *Goals and Objectives*
- (c) *Approach*
- (d) *Results and Benefits Expected*
- (e) *Level of Effort*

The specific information to be included under each of these headings is described in Part III, Evaluation Criteria.

The narrative should be typed double-spaced on a single-side of an 8½" x 11" plain white paper, with 1" margins on all sides. All pages of the narrative (including charts, references/footnotes, tables, maps, exhibits, etc.) must be sequentially numbered, beginning with "Need for the Project" as page number one. Applicants should not submit reproductions of larger size paper, reduced to meet the size requirement. There is no page limit on the length of the narrative.

The length of the remainder of the application, including the application forms and all attachments, should not exceed 60 pages. A page is a single side of an 8½" x 11" sheet of paper. Applicants are requested not to send pamphlets, brochures or other printed material along with their application as these pose photocopy difficulties. These

materials, if submitted, will not be included in the review process if they exceed the 60-page limit. Each page of the application will be counted to determine the total length.

5. Organizational Capability Statement

The Organizational Capability Statement should consist of a brief (two to three pages) background description of how the applicant organization (or the unit within the organization that will have responsibility for the project) is organized, the types and quantity of services it provides, and/or the research and management capabilities it possesses. This description should cover capabilities not included in the Program Narrative Statement. It may include descriptions of any current or previous relevant experience, or describe the competence of the project team and its demonstrated ability to produce a final product that is readily comprehensible and usable. An organization chart showing the relationship of the project to the current organization should be included.

6. Assurances/Certifications

Applicants are required to file an SF 424B, Assurances—Non-Construction Programs, and the Certification Regarding Lobbying. Both must be signed and returned with the application. In addition, applicants must certify their compliance with: (1) Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; and (2) Debarment and Other Responsibilities; and (3) Certification Regarding Environmental Tobacco Smoke. These certifications are self-explanatory. Copies of these assurances/certifications are reprinted at the end of this announcement and should be reproduced, as necessary. A duly authorized representative of the applicant organization must certify that the applicant is in compliance with these assurances/certifications. A signature on the SF 424 indicates compliance with the Drug Free Workplace Requirements, the Debarment and Other Responsibilities, and the Environmental Tobacco Smoke certifications.

D. Checklist for a Complete Application

The checklist below is for your use to ensure that your application package has been properly prepared.

- _____ One original, signed and dated application, plus two copies.
- _____ Applications for different priority areas are packaged separately;
- _____ Application is from an organization which is eligible under the eligibility requirements defined

in the priority area description (screening requirement);

Application length, excluding the narrative, does not exceed 60 pages, unless otherwise specified in the project description.

A complete application consists of the following items in this order:

Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424, REV 4-88);

A completed SPOC certification with the date of SPOC contact entered in line 16, page 1 of the SF 424 if applicable.

Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (SF 424A, REV 4-88);

Budget justification for Section

B—Budget Categories;

Table of Contents;

Letter from the Internal Revenue Service to prove non-profit status, if necessary;

Copy of the applicant's approved indirect cost rate

agreement, if appropriate;

Project summary description and listing of key words;

Program Narrative Statement (See Part III);

Organizational capability statement, including an organization chart;

Any appendices/attachments;

Assurances—Non-Construction Programs (Standard Form 424B, REV 4-88); and

Certification Regarding Lobbying.

E. The Application Package

Each application package must include an original and two copies of the complete application. Each copy should be stapled securely (front and back if necessary) in the upper left-hand corner. All pages of the narrative (including charts, tables, maps, exhibits, etc.) must be sequentially numbered, beginning with page one. In order to

facilitate handling, please do not use covers, binders or tabs. Do not include extraneous materials as attachments, such as agency promotion brochures, slides, tapes, film clips, minutes of meetings, survey instruments or articles of incorporation.

Applicant should include a self-addressed, stamped acknowledgment card. All applicants will be notified automatically about the receipt of their application. If acknowledgment of receipt of your application is not received within eight weeks after the deadline date, please notify ACF by telephone at (202) 401-5529.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 93.671, Family Violence Prevention and Services.)

Dated: March 1, 1995.

Donald Sykes,

Director, Office of Community Services

BILLING CODE 4184-01-P

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE
TDD for the Hearing Impaired: 1-800-787-3224

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Questions and Answers

In early 1996, President Clinton announced a new, nationwide, 24-hour toll-free domestic violence hotline. The voice number is 1-800-799-SAFE, and the TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-787-3224.

Q: How did this hotline come about?

A: The Violence Against Women Act, part of President Clinton's 1994 Crime bill, contains a provision to establish a national domestic violence hotline. The Department of Health and Human Services was authorized to provide a \$1 million grant to establish the hotline, with an additional \$400,000 in annual funding to maintain the service for the next five years. Private donations are also helping to fund the hotline.

Q: What exactly does this hotline do?

A: The hotline provides help for domestic violence victims across the country -- 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. The service is toll-free, operating throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

When someone calls the hotline, they will speak to a trained advocate, who can offer them crisis intervention, support, and referrals to local services in their communities. The hotline will help create a more seamless system among local, state, and national service providers. (In emergencies, the hotline is equipped to connect callers to their local police, but calling "911" directly for immediate help is always the best course of action.)

Q: Why do you need a national hotline when so many cities and states have their own local hotlines?

A: Although we've made progress over the last few years in recognizing domestic violence as the criminal and public health epidemic that it is, many areas in this country still lack a comprehensive response system, and many victims still fall through the cracks because they lack access to the help they need. The national hotline is especially important for victims who live in rural or isolated areas which may lack their own local hotlines or other comprehensive domestic violence services. This hotline is also toll-free and can be accessed from anywhere at anytime.

This hotline is a crucial step towards creating a seamless system of domestic violence prevention and intervention. Other components of the Violence Against Women Act -- training for prosecutors and police, funding for shelters, and educational campaigns in our schools and communities -- will work in conjunction with the hotline to treat

domestic violence as the serious crime that it is, and to prevent domestic violence before it starts.

Q: Is this the first national domestic violence hotline?

A: This is the first Federal government-funded hotline. Some states and communities do have their own local hotlines, but there is currently no comprehensive system for linking domestic violence victims across the country to the help they need. (A national hotline was operated by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Washington, D.C., but escalating costs, coupled with increasing demand for hotline services, eventually led to its closing.)

Q: Why the Texas Council? How were they chosen for the grant?

A: The Texas Council was chosen in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services' competitive review process. The applicants were required to meet stringent criteria and submit their proposals for review by a panel of experts. The Texas Council is a statewide association that supports battered women's shelters and other domestic violence programs in the state and has been helping domestic violence victims for the past 18 years.

Q: What happens when a person calls the hotline?

A: When a caller phones into the hotline, she will speak to a trained domestic violence advocate. The advocate has access to a national database that contains the most current information on emergency shelters, legal advocacy, social services, and other programs in communities across the country. Help is offered in English or Spanish and to the hearing impaired. Translators are also available in other languages.

Q: How many calls can the hotline handle?

A: The national hotline anticipates that it will receive about 10,000 calls a month. The hotline has 40 lines that will be taking calls. (Twenty-four of which are directly incoming, and 16 that can be used to accommodate peaks and overflow.) Again, it is important to note that callers who need help in an emergency should always call "911" directly for immediate assistance.

Q: Is the funding of the hotline in jeopardy, given the current budget situation?

A: No. The hotline was authorized \$1 million in start-up funding from the Department of Health and Human Services last year. For FY 1996 to 2000, the hotline is authorized to receive \$400,000 in annual maintenance funding. This funding is included under the current Continuing Resolution, although many other domestic violence programs are being shortchanged.

Q: What about other Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs? Have they been fully funded?

A: Most VAWA programs are administered by the Justice Department and the Department of Health and Human Services. While some programs are funded under the current Continuing Resolution, many are not. For example, HHS's CDC-administered programs have received funding through September 30, 1996. Other programs such as the hotline, which received funding in FY 1995, are funded through March 15, 1996, under the current Continuing Resolution at a pro-rata amount based on FY 1995 funding. Still other HHS and Justice Programs which didn't receive funding in FY 1995 are not funded under the current Continuing Resolution.

HHS Programs: Overall, Congress has authorized \$96.9 million for VAWA programs administered by HHS, but has appropriated only \$31.6 million. The programs that are currently funded are the hotline and those programs administered by CDC: the Education and Prevention grants and the Community Partnership grants.

Justice Programs: Justice's STOP program, which gives grants to states to improve law enforcement and prosecution of domestic violence, has received \$130 million for FY 1996. Congress has authorized the following funding for these other Justice VAWA programs: \$500,000 for victim counselors, \$1 million for training programs, \$28 million to encourage mandatory arrest policies, \$7 million for rural domestic violence programs, \$1.5 million for national stalker reduction programs, and \$200,000 for a study on campus sexual assault. However, since these programs were not funded in FY 1995, they are not funded under the current Continuing Resolution.

Q: What else is the Administration doing to address domestic violence?

A: President Clinton's 1994 Crime bill included the Violence Against Women Act, an historic piece of bipartisan legislation. The Violence Against Women Act is authorized to provide \$1.6 billion over five years to hire more prosecutors and improve domestic violence training among prosecutors, police officers, and health and social services professionals. It provides for more shelters, counseling services, and research into causes and effective public education campaigns. In addition, VAWA establishes new laws that enable victims to sue in federal court and allow law enforcement officers to pursue perpetrators across state lines. The President also appointed Bonnie Campbell to head the Violence Against Women Office at the Justice Department, which coordinates the Federal Government's efforts in this area.

In addition, the Justice Department has given grants to states to help strengthen law enforcement and prosecution of domestic violence, and to improve victim services in these cases. Justice is also using the COPS program to apply community policing strategies to fight domestic violence, and the Department will soon be releasing guidelines to help states create effective registration systems for people convicted of sexually violent crimes.

HHS also administers other domestic violence programs outside of the Violence Against Women Act. These include the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act which supports battered women's shelters, information and referral services, and public education prevention campaigns. CDC has a new initiative to research the prevalence of domestic violence, and the Administration on Aging and the National Institute of Mental Health have joined to fund the National Center on Elder Abuse to research the causes and impacts of domestic abuse on seniors.

In addition, the President has called on all federal agencies to institute employee awareness campaigns on domestic violence. Attorney General Janet Reno and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala have also created an Advisory Council on Violence Against Women. The Council consists of 46 experts -- representatives from law enforcement, media, health and social services, victim advocacy, and survivors -- working together to prevent violence against women.

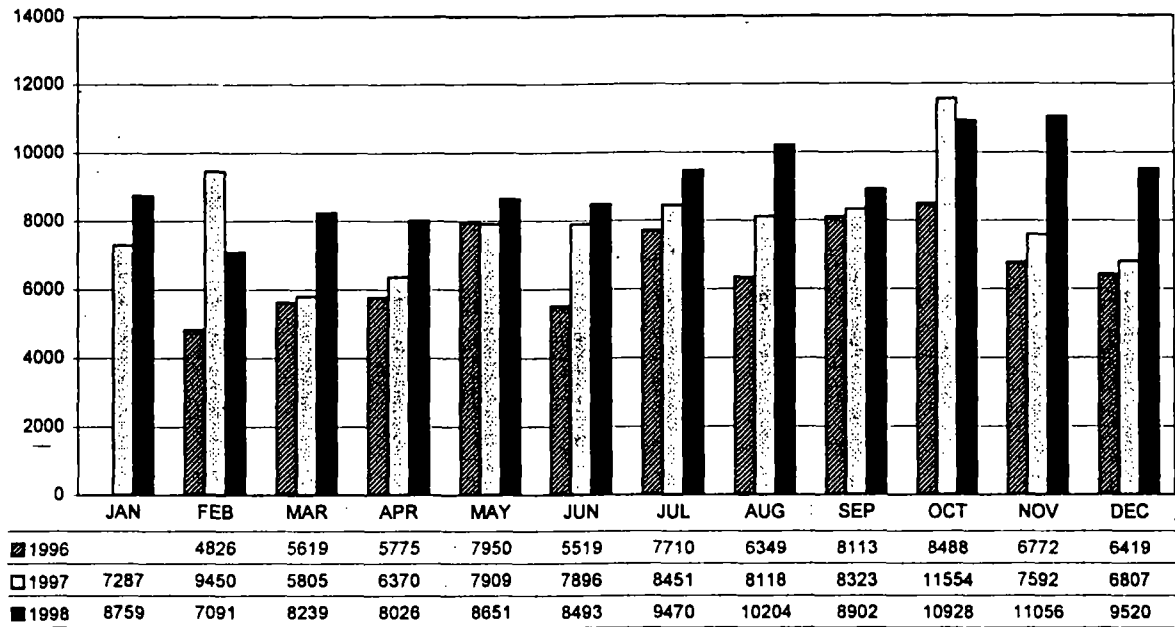
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National Domestic Violence Hotline

Through a competitive grant process, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) solicited applications to operate its National Domestic Violence Hotline (Hotline). ACF sought applications in 1995, and the Hotline became operational in 1996. This Hotline, authorized by Section 316 of the FVPSA, is a project of the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) and serves as a critical partner in the prevention and resource assistance efforts of the National Domestic Violence Resource Network. The toll-free, 24-hour Hotline provides:

- Crisis intervention to help callers identify problems and possible solutions, including arranging emergency safety plans;
- Information about sources of assistance for individuals and their families, friends, and employers wanting to learn more about domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, intervention programs for batterers, maneuvering through the criminal justice system, and related issues; and
- Referrals to battered women's shelters and programs, social service agencies, legal programs, and other groups and organizations willing to help.



The Hotline is committed to meeting the needs of diverse communities by providing bilingual staff in Spanish and English, text telephones for callers who are hearing impaired, access to translators in 139 languages, and materials in a variety of formats and languages. The toll-free hotline number is 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), TTY: 1-800-787-3224.

The Hotline first began answering calls on February 21, 1996, and receives an average of 8,000 calls each month from all across the United States and its territories with the majority of these calls reportedly from domestic violence victims. Between February 21, 1996 and March 31, 1998, the Hotline received a total of 193,191 calls. The following graph depicts the distribution of calls for each month since the Hotline's inception.

As a component of the National Domestic Violence Resource Network, the Hotline routinely collaborates with the other network centers to systematically develop and enhance individual as well as joint resources and projects. These collaborative efforts help to reinforce the natural alliance among all the components of the National Domestic Violence Resource Network in working toward the collective goal of building a society in which safety and justice for all women and children are not a priority but a reality.

In an effort to assess the effectiveness of this Hotline, ACF funded studies to evaluate the Hotline's progress and activities. The University of Texas at Austin and Macro International, Inc. conducted individual evaluations of the Hotline.

University of Texas Study

In April 1996, TCFV contracted with the University of Texas at Austin's Center for Social Work Research (CSWR) to conduct a 6-month review of the Hotline. The evaluation yielded an impact assessment of the Hotline, an analysis of the Hotline's

information systems, feedback from the Hotline workers, and plans for future Hotline research.

Impact Assessment

CSWR designed and distributed survey instruments to 54 State coalitions, 69 Texas shelters, 106 domestic violence programs throughout the United States, 40 domestic violence programs with a high number of referrals by the Hotline, and 40 domestic violence programs with a low number of referrals by the Hotline during its first 4 months of operation.

Of those receiving the survey, 36 of the 54 State coalitions, 36 of the 69 Texas shelters, and 89 of the 186 domestic violence programs throughout the United States completed and returned it. A service provider or coalition in each State and three territories is represented in the survey results. Results indicate that respondents, for the most part, were aware of the Hotline, had a positive impression of the Hotline, and felt that the Hotline was meeting their expectations of providing information and referrals to callers. However, the consensus was that it was too soon to determine if the Hotline had an impact on their respective organizations.

Noted areas of improvement include increasing the public awareness of the Hotline and sending information on the Hotline callers and the Hotline to other agencies so that victims could receive better services.

Survey respondents also noted a number of barriers to victims and gaps in social services. Inadequate legal services, lack of affordable housing, and fear of retaliation by the batterer were noted as the greatest barriers to victims of domestic violence and the most salient gaps in social services.

CSWR recommended that future impact assessments of the Hotline include sending surveys to all agencies in the Hotline provider database, emphasizing feedback questions about the Hotline and referrals, and conducting telephone interviews with Executive Directors and other State coalition and domestic violence program personnel.

Hotline Information Systems

The Hotline employs three major database collection systems: the electronic phone tracking system, which monitors the number of incoming and answered calls, average call length, and busiest call times; the telephone bill, which outlines the number of calls per area code; and the database information system hotline workers use to input information on callers. For the first 6 months of operation, the Hotline received 61,677 calls—94 percent of which were first time users, 50 percent of which were victims, 14 percent of which were family or friends of victims, and 35 percent of which identified themselves as part of an ethnic minority. The Hotline gave 24,441 referrals, 89 percent of which were to battered women's shelters.

Based on its analysis of the Hotline's information systems, CSWR generated three categories of recommendations.

General Suggestions

- Develop a reporting system that clearly distinguishes between information from the phone systems and reports from the Hotline database system.
- Request an electronic copy of the phone bill.
- Create worker groups in the electronic phone tracking system based on job titles and duties within the Hotline.
- Evaluate and modify categories in the database system.
- Expand access to the Hotline for callers that have special needs.

System Management Suggestions

- Implement a data management system.
- Establish a mechanism for regular provider contact.
- Train workers to collect more data.
- Encourage workers to use the note feature to document as much of each call as possible.

Research Suggestions

- Add demographic and other pertinent variables to the data entry form.
- Have the data in electronic phone tracking system analyzed.
- Develop relationships with providers to exchange information on clients.
- Develop an Internet presence that provides data from the information system.

Hotline Worker Feedback

QUESTIONNAIRES

As part of the evaluation, CSWR had Hotline advocates and program staff members complete surveys about training, work conditions, and coping strategies used at the NDVH. Personnel also participated in interviews about taking calls at the Hotline. Twelve staff members completed the survey, and seven participated in the interviews. Overall, staff members were pleased with the training they received before starting work at the Hotline, with half indicating that they felt "very prepared for their work" and 83 percent reporting that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the training at the Hotline.

Staff members identified the most helpful and least helpful training subjects and noted subject areas on which they would like additional training. Among the subjects for which workers requested more training are:

- Batterer Intervention/Prevention Programs
- Immigration
- Stalking Issues
- Lesbian Issues
- Elder Abuse
- Time Management
- Domestic Violence and the Military
- Chronic Call Management
- Legal Issues
- Role Plays Regarding Confidentiality

Many of the workers indicated that they did not receive adequate debriefing or emotional support after difficult calls and that they did not receive regular feedback regarding their work at the Hotline. Moreover, staff suggested that increased e-mail and shift book use, and a check-in/check-out period between shifts would improve communications among the Hotline workers. It was also noted that increased secretarial help, an outside evaluation of the most frequently used shelters, and information on legal issues would be helpful in the operations of the Hotline.

INTERVIEWS

The general sentiment among the interviewees was that the Hotline meets the need of most callers. They expressed confidence in their abilities to handle calls and noted that their most difficult calls are from angry callers taking out their aggressions on staff members or expecting Hotline workers to resolve their issues.

Interviewees also expressed a general negative sentiment regarding the criminal justice systems' response to domestic violence victims, often characterizing the response as "minimal, at best." Workers also indicated that drug and/or alcohol abuse is a prevalent issue for callers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on questionnaires and interviews with workers, the following list of recommendations for Hotline improvements was generated:

- Hire more staff.
- Increase communication with the media so workers know in advance when the Hotline's toll-free number is broadcast to a large audience.
- Improve communication between the various types of workers at the Hotline, e.g., advocates and administrative staff.
- Purchase faster computers.

- Maintain a wider, more comprehensive database of referrals.
- Obtain additional resource books for Child Protective Services calls.
- Provide more supervision, debriefing sessions, stress management training, and support groups.
- Have advocates help with administrative tasks during slow Hotline times, just as administrative staff answers the Hotline during busy caller times.
- Make sure that advocates do not feel completely responsible for solving all the callers' problems and understand their limitations so that the stress of the work does not overwhelm them.

Plans for Future Hotline Research

Based on findings from all of the survey instruments, CSWR outlined specific recommendations—both short-term and long-term—for research on data collected at the Hotline.

Short-term Research and Evaluation Recommendations

- Continue impact assessment of the Hotline on State coalitions and local service providers.
- Conduct a caller satisfaction evaluation of the Hotline.
- Continue ongoing analysis of types of calls received.
- Develop State and area code profiles.
- Conduct an analysis of data regarding criminal justice response to domestic violence.
- Conduct a trend analysis of caller demographics, needs, and referrals.

Long-term Research and Evaluation Recommendations

- Assess public awareness of the Hotline.
- Assess the effects of different media promotions on the volume of Hotline calls.
- Monitor the appropriateness and completeness of referral database.
- Continue assessment of Hotline staff and volunteers.

General Research Recommendations

- Consider targeting those research studies that will enhance and broaden the perception of the usefulness of the Hotline among local service providers, State coalitions, and other national organizations.
- Consider adding new questions to the Hotline protocol on a rotating basis that will enable the Hotline to collect information of a timely issue.
- Consider developing contracts with local communities or States for the collection and analysis of information of specific interest to that community or State.

Macro/CDC Study

Macro conducted a 4-day site visit at the Hotline's home base in Austin, Texas. While at the Hotline, members of the evaluation team had open-ended, one-on-one discussions with managers, staff, and TCFV board members. The evaluation also entailed telephone and in-person interviews with the Federal grant program administrator and stakeholders in the Hotline at the national level to obtain their perspectives on the Hotline.

Perceptions of the Hotline

Macro reported that during the time of the evaluation, the overall perception of the Hotline was that it is "a well organized and effective service." Everyone involved with the Hotline had positive things to say, and there was a general sentiment that the services provided by the Hotline are needed and that the Hotline has been effective in providing the appropriate services to the callers. At the time of the evaluation, no complaints had been received regarding the Hotline.

Future of the Hotline

In addition to providing services to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, the Hotline assists researchers. Data collected from the callers could be used to influence policies at all levels of government to help combat the existence of domestic violence.

One suggestion emerging from the evaluation was that the Hotline expands its services to include sexual assault, as it is recognized that women experience violence in many ways. A possible means of addressing this issue is by teaming a national sexual violence hotline with the existing Hotline.

Recommendations

Based upon the site visit and follow-up interviews, Macro identified the strengths of the Hotline and noted some areas where change is needed to foster growth and development. The following is a list of recommendations for various components of the Hotline's operations.

DATABASES

- Initiate a process by which the information in the provider database is regularly checked and verified.
- Use the information in the provider database to locate areas that do not have representation in the database.
- Ensure that all persons who answer calls get the necessary information about the callers regardless if they are at a computer.
- Utilize down time to enter information into the database.

DRAFT

- Obtain updated information to be included in informational and educational packages sent to callers.

RESEARCH

- Determine a way to ensure that information and services provided to callers are meeting their needs.
- Devise a system in which the advocates can be more involved with the research by allowing them to make suggestions as to research agendas.

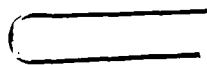
ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

- Evaluate the effects of promoting the Hotline uniformly across the United States with respect to the growth of the Hotline.
- Use the information available from the databases so that the Board can have the necessary facts to make informed decisions regarding the growth of the Hotline.

Indeed, the University of Texas and Macro studies demonstrate the overall effectiveness of the Hotline in meeting the needs of the public it serves. Both studies note areas for improvement in Hotline operations, but characterize it as a success nonetheless. However, continued success and the expansion of services are contingent upon funding. The VAWA authorized \$3 million in funding over 6 years for the Hotline. The following outlines the Hotline's funding history:

1995.....	\$1,000,000
1996.....	\$400,000
1997.....	\$1,200,000
1998.....	\$1,200,000
1999.....	\$1,200,000

Few would argue that the funding levels to date have provided adequate monies to sustain the Hotline's existing level of activity. However, additional funding may be required for TCFV to be responsive to the recommendations delineated in the Macro and University of Texas studies.





Washington, Tuesday, January 19, 1999

Vol. 145, No. 8

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT II

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Violence Against Women Act II. I am pleased to be joined by several of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who are co-sponsoring this legislation. My colleagues joining me today include Senators Specter, Boxer, Murray, Mikulski, Landrieu, Feinstein, Lincoln, Snowe, Lautenberg, Reid, Reed, Dodd, Inouye, Kerry, Robb, Kennedy, Wellstone, and Schumer.

Nearly 9 years ago when I first introduced the Violence Against Women Act, it was by no means a given that this body would consider it, let alone pass it. Although it may seem hard to believe now, at that time--less than a decade ago--few thought it either appropriate or necessary for national legislation to be enacted to confront the very serious problem of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The road to enactment was a long one. As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee in the early 1990's, I convened several hearings on the bill and released many reports on the problem of violence against women. Three times I convinced the Judiciary Committee to favorably report the bill to the full Senate. Twice, I had to re-introduce the bill.

Nearly 4 years passed from the original Violence Against Women Act's first introduction before the Senate fully considered it. But at last--in September of 1994--the Violence Against Women Act became the law of our land. And, it did so with substantial support from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, clearing demonstrating what I have always known to be the case--that the fight to combat domestic violence and sexual assault is not a partisan issue, but a serious problem that affects our constituents in every one of our States and in every one of our home towns across this country.

But even this bipartisan support to pass the act into law did not resolve the dispute as to whether the problem of violence against women merited a national response. As many of my colleagues will recall, throughout the summer of 1995, the Congress debated whether or not we should actually fund the Violence Against Women Act.

Fortunately, by the fall of that year, the Congress finally reached a consensus that the Federal Government both can and should provide significant resources and leadership in a national effort to end the violence women suffer at the hands of men, many of who they live with or have children with. That consensus continues to this day.

Let me provide just a few statistics and examples to show how successful the initiative to fight violence against women has been, but how far we still have to go:

On the one hand, the number of women killed by someone with whom they are in an intimate relationship--such as a current or former spouse, a cohabiting partner, or a current or former boyfriend--had decreased markedly--by 60 percent--in 1996 as compared with where it was 20 years earlier.

And, the total number of women victims of domestic violence is decreasing as well. In 1993, the year before the Violence Against Women Act became law, 1.1 million women reported being the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. By 1996, the last year for which we have complete statistics, the number had fallen by 25 percent to about 840,000. This is still far, far too many, of course--even one victim is too many--but it represents an encouraging trend nonetheless that I believe we can attribute in part to the successes of this national effort.

However, the news is not all good. One-fourth--25 percent--of women responding to a nationwide survey in late 1995 and early 1996 said that they had been raped or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, cohabiting partner, or date in their lifetimes. And demonstrating that violence against women is primarily domestic partner violence, 76 percent of women who have been raped or physically assaulted since age 18 were attacked by a current or former husband, cohabiting partner, or date. These are troubling statistics. But the successes of the Violence Against Women Act are combating these trends in a variety of ways, such as:

Putting thousands of trained police officers on the streets to arrest abusers before they can victimize again; supporting police officers as they work to help victims; adding trained prosecutors who put these abusers where they belong--in jail--or enforce protective orders to keep them away from those they have abused; tens of thousands of women and their children have access to shelters that provide a safe haven; victims of domestic violence and sexual assault have access to a wide array of support services from counseling to legal assistance; and a national domestic violence hotline handles hundreds of thousands of calls for help.

Our consensus in the Congress reflects a fundamental agreement across our Nation: The time when a woman had to suffer--in silence and alone--because the criminal who is victimizing her happens to be her husband or boyfriend is on its way to becoming ancient history.

Today, we must build on this consensus and deliver on its promise--because for all the strides we have made, there remain far too many women and their children who are still vulnerable. The statistics I reported just now reflect that reality. Just because we have had some success does not mean we can become complacent and abandon the fight against domestic violence now. And so, the legislation I am introducing today--the Violence Against Women Act II--has one simple goal: make more women and their children more safe.

This legislation builds on the tremendous successes of the original Violence Against Women Act in three key ways--it continues what is working; it seeks to improve what could work better; and it expands the national fight into new areas where the need is clear.

There are many other ideas and proposals in addition to those contained in this bill that deserve serious consideration before the full Senate debates this legislation. And, I am sure there are ways to refine and improve this bill. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make this bill the best it can be. There are many Senators who are deeply committed to combating violence against women, and many of them have joined me today, for which I am grateful. I encourage all of my colleagues to review this legislation, offer their insights and lend their names as co-sponsors and leaders in the fight against domestic violence. I believe they will find that it offers comprehensive, sensible, workable, and cost-effective responses to combating violence against women.

Before I describe some highlights of this legislation, let me first emphasize what I believe to be the key,

core element of the violence against women II. That central factor is a simple one--the money. We need to ensure that there continues to be dollars for cops, courts, prosecutors, judges, shelters, and all the elements which are working. Keeping the money flowing to where it works requires one simple yet crucial step--extending the violent crime reduction trust fund to 2002. The trust fund is due to expire in 2000. This is perhaps the most significant provision in the act I introduce today, and without it we will fail in the future to replicate our past successes in combating violence against women.

Beyond this fundamental step--and I cannot overemphasize the importance of the trust fund--there are four key policy areas addressed by the Violence Against Women Act II: strengthening law enforcement's tools; improving services for the victims of violence; reducing violence against children; and enhancing and supporting training and education efforts to enlist many more professionals in our shared fight.

On the law enforcement front, the bill introduced today starts with needed improvements to promote inter-state and inter-jurisdictional enforcement of 'stay-away,' or protection, orders. This is also known as giving 'full faith and credit' to valid protection orders from any jurisdiction where they were issued. It often happens that the cops in one State may not know that there is a valid protection order issued by another jurisdiction. It is not their fault--it is often a matter of training to recognize valid orders or the means of communicating and sharing information across state lines. This is a mobile society, and victims of domestic violence often find they must flee the place they live and where they previously obtained a protection order so that they can keep themselves and their children safe. For these situations, we propose today a few simple fixes: Permitting state and local cops to use their 'pro-arrest' grants for this kind of information sharing; encouraging states to enter into the cooperative agreements necessary to help interstate enforcement; and calling on the Justice Department to help develop new protocols and disseminate the 'best practices' of State and local cops.

These are all simple and common sense solutions, but very necessary nevertheless. This bill will help these fixes become reality.

Other initiatives in this bill are to: Enhance and expand the resources available for courts to handle domestic violence and sexual assault cases; target the 'date-rape' drug with the maximum federal penalties; continue funding for police, prosecutors, law enforcement efforts in rural communities, and for anti-stalking initiatives; and extend the support of local police 'pro-arrest' efforts.

Of course, a comprehensive effort to reduce violence against women and lessen the harm it causes must do more than just arrest, convict and imprison abusers--we must also help the victims of violence. This legislation proposes to assist these crime victims in three fundamental ways: Providing a means for immediate protections from their abusers, such as through access to shelters; easier access to the courts and to the legal assistance necessary to keep their abusers away from them; and removing the 'catch-22s' that sometimes literally compel women to stay with their abusers--such as discriminatory insurance policies that could force a mother to choose between turning in the man who is beating her or keeping health insurance for her children. Another 'catch-22' affects immigrant women who are sometimes faced with a similar insidious 'choice.' In 1994, we worked out provisions so battered immigrant women--whose ability to stay in the country was dependent on their husbands--would not have to choose between staying in this country and continuing to be beaten, or leaving their abusers, but in doing so have to also leave our country (perhaps even without their children). This bill fixes aspects of this problem that leave an abused woman with such a horrible, unfair and immoral choice.

Those are this bill's three general policy goals. Let me outline more specifically just how our legislation proposes to boost the protections for the victims of violence.

First and foremost, we must build on our successful effort to provide more shelter space for battered women and their children. There have been significant efforts already to fund shelters for women who are victims of domestic violence and their children. However, the unmet need for shelter remains significant. For example, data from six states, which together have about 16 percent of the nation's population had to turn away more than 45,000 battered women who were seeking shelter because they simply did not have the space. Extrapolating these figures to the entire nation suggests that about 300,000 battered women and their children are turned away from shelters every year.

Current appropriations for shelter space stands at about \$89 million. This legislation boosts this amount to \$500 million over the the next three years. The additional money will help close the 'shelter-gap' and bring us closer to the day when all battered women will have a safe, secure haven when they need it most.

We must also provide women with the Assistance necessary so that they can get access to help from our justice system. This bill does so in some clear and common sense ways, such as: Re-authorizing the expiring program to provide about \$1 million per year for victim and witness counselors in court; continuing and expanding the highly successful national domestic violence hotline at a cost of about \$4 million a year); and developing a coordinated approach to connecting victims of domestic abuse with trained, volunteer attorneys who can provide critical legal assistant.

To them at this very vulnerable time in their lives. I urge my colleagues to support--and even build upon--our efforts to put an end these real problems.

A third area where this legislation seeks action is on reducing violence against children. As my colleagues know, households where a woman is beaten are much more likely to also be home to child abuse and neglect. Moreover, we know that children who witness violence are much more likely to repeat the cycle when they are adults.

Here, our legislation proposes to continue two longstanding programs by providing: Resources to serve runaway and homeless youth who are victims of sexual abuse; and resources for court-appointed special advocates and special child abuse training for court personnel through the victims of child abuse act (originally cosponsored by Senator Thurmond and myself in 1990.)

The remaining area targeted by the Violence Against Women Act--two includes several efforts to help train and educate those already on the front-lines of the battle against violence against women.

Over the past few years, I have worked with several corporations who have begun their own workplace initiatives--everything from 24-hour assistance hotlines for their employees, training to help managers better recognize domestic violence, and even comprehensive employee assistant efforts.

Helping other companies start or improve--on their own initiative--such anti-violence efforts is why this legislation includes a national workplace clearinghouse on violence against women. The clearinghouse will provide technical assistance and help circulate best practices to companies interested in combating violence against women.

Another problem in the field involves the complex nature of criminal investigations into sexual assault cases. To assist the cops in the field who conduct these investigations, this legislation calls on the Attorney General to evaluate and recommend standards of training and practice of forensic examinations following sexual assaults.

Finally, this legislation continues the authorization for rape prevention and education programs. These programs provide public awareness and education efforts to teach young women how to protect themselves from rape and attack.

I have just offered the most general outline of the contents of the Violence Against Women Act II. I introduced this legislation in the last session of Congress. My colleagues and I worked diligently and productively on it last year and made substantial progress. This year, I am determined that we will complete the work we started last year and pass the Violence Against Women Act II.

I urge my colleagues to review this legislation carefully. This is not just a bipartisan effort--it is a non-partisan effort in which I hope every one of my colleagues will join me. I am confident they will find this bill a comprehensive and practical response that will help us meet a goal I believe is shared by every member of this Senate--making more women and more children more safe now and in the future.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record.

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Civil legal services
Included

expand database
to include atty. contacts

Biden's Office
224-5042



FACT SHEET:

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT II

PROVIDES A TOTAL OF \$1.6 BILLION IN ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM 1999 TO 2002 FOR MORE POLICE, PROSECUTORS, COURTS, VICTIMS' SERVICES, SHELTERS, AND RAPE PREVENTION EFFORTS

FUNDS ADDITIONAL SHELTER SPACE FOR 1.5 MILLION BATTERED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS

STRENGTHENS THE INTERSTATE ENFORCEMENT OF "STAY AWAY ORDERS"

ENDS INSURANCE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST BATTERED WOMEN

EXTENDS THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT TO COVER COURT APPEARANCES BY BATTERED WOMEN

ESTABLISHES A NATIONAL WORKPLACE CLEARINGHOUSE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

TRAINS DOCTORS AND NURSES TO IDENTIFY THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

TARGETS "DATE RAPE" DRUG WITH MAXIMUM FEDERAL PENALTIES

CONTINUES FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

DEVELOPS A NETWORK OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS TO HELP VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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