



## *What We Provide and How It Helps Victims Of Domestic Violence And Their Children...*

While emergency shelter is an important service that we offer communities, only about 15% of the victims of domestic violence and their children received emergency shelter last year. The remaining 85% of people we served last year received nonresidential services offered by domestic violence service providers in their communities. Services available at domestic violence agencies are described here.

- ✓ Emergency Shelter provides safe respite for survivors of domestic violence for themselves and their children, a place to go where they can feel safer from abuse suffered at home, where they can begin to plan their futures and hopeful about achieving a life with abuse.
- ✓ Counseling, therapy and support groups help survivors and their children better understand the dynamics of domestic violence and the effects it has had on their lives. Counseling, therapy and support groups provide them emotional support to help them heal after experiencing the trauma of domestic violence. Through counseling victims learn ways to keep themselves and their children safer and learn about other resources available to them in their pursuit of a safer life, helping them feel more hopeful about their futures.
- ✓ Legal advocacy helps provide survivors a better understanding of their rights under the Illinois Domestic Violence Act, ways to increase safety by seeking orders of protection, and support during criminal cases against their batterers. We help survivors understand that domestic violence is a crime, that they have legal rights and how to exercise those rights.
- ✓ Other supportive services we provide include helping survivors rebuild their relationships with their children because of the damage caused by domestic violence, providing a means of transportation and safe child care that helps survivors attend court hearings, job interviews, school, and other appointments. By helping survivors obtain job skills, education, housing, and increasing financial literacy skills, we are helping survivors increase economic sufficiency which is needed to successfully leave an abusive relationship and better support herself and her children.

## 2012 Outcomes Of Domestic Violence Services

*Last Year, We Served....*

**44,352**

Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence

and

**8,100**

Child Witnesses

## *Of Survivors asked in 2012...*

- **93% stated they knew more about community resources.**
- **96% stated they knew more ways to plan for their safety.**
- **92% stated they felt more hopeful about their future.**
- **97% stated they feel safer from abuse.**
- **99% stated they have a better understanding of their legal rights.**
- **99% stated they know they can report violations of their orders of protection.**
- **95% stated they feel better able to support themselves and their children.**

## **REMEMBER....8760**

**Domestic violence agencies are there...**  
responding and saving lives,  
much like the police and fire department.  
**...8760 hours per year.**

One Mission, One Voice

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