West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Three Year State Plan

1991 - 1994

For a Safer State of Family

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The purpose of WVCADV's State Plan FY 91-94 is to provide direction and focus for the Coalition's activities; development and expansion of services; legislative, public policy and resource development; community education and public awareness. The State Plan can assist members of the Coalition, legislators, state service and funding agencies, and community members to work in a cooperative way toward providing adequate protection/services for survivors of domestic violence and developing appropriate prevention programs that address the root cause of violence in the home.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A CRIME THAT HAPPENS IN STAGGERING PROPORTIONS in our country, in our state and in our towns. According to national statistics an estimated 3 to 4 million American women are battered each year by their husbands or boyfriends; every 15 seconds in the United States a woman is battered in her home. During FY90 the thirteen domestic violence programs in West Virginia served a total of 8,639 adults and 3,056 children; of the total number served 1,825 adults and 2,310 children required emergency shelter for protection from brutality within the home.

The hideousness of domestic violence crosses all socio-economic, age, race, religious and cultural lines since the root cause of violence is one person's belief in the arbitrary right to impose a pattern of power and control over another person or persons. Victims of domestic violence suffer a particular agony and experience an essential loss as the result of being abused by someone they love and trust in the one place where they should feel safe and secure - the home. All children who live in and witness violence in the home are victims of domestic violence.

Community support is an essential ingredient of an effective domestic violence program. In FY90 concerned citizens logged a total of 54,202 volunteer hours of service throughout the statewide network of domestic violence organizations. During this same time, the Coalition as a whole received in-kind donations valued at $327,125. These cooperative efforts enhance and extend domestic violence services available in local communities.

Domestic violence programs and other advocates for battered women's rights play an important role in heightening community awareness of the crime of domestic violence and improving the response of social and justice agencies to the problem. Therefore, in addition to creating and expanding a network of shelters and services for battered women and their children, WVCADV is entrusted with the task of promoting changes in the criminal justice system and other relevant institutions that hold abusers accountable for their violence.

Effecting systemic change, dispelling the myths about domestic violence, and promoting victims' rights remain on-going challenges for the battered women's movement in West Virginia.
PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW
THE WEST VIRGINIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (WVCADV) began twelve years ago as a support network of domestic violence service providers. Today that network includes fourteen programs serving the fifty-five counties of the state. By 1985, Coalition members recognized that decreased resources and increased needs mandated a stronger service base. A two year leadership development effort resulted in a clear and common understanding of mission, principles of unity, processes for decision-making, and a statewide service projection. During these years WVCADV had no central office and was staffed by already over-committed local program personnel. The need for a small staff and centrally located office fully committed to facilitation of local programs through statewide services resulted in the initiation of a central service office in mid-October, 1988.

The geography of West Virginia tends to isolate individuals and groups. The steady decline in employment and economic resources during the past decade - combined with a culture and heritage that often supports violence as a means of control, biblical fundamentalism that allows and even sacralizes unequal family relationships, educational and political policies that equate might with right - demands that grassroots programs join in a strong coalition committed to ending violence in the family. While individual programs work to provide immediate safe space, support, and resources for victim/survivors of domestic abuse, crisis intervention deals with only part of the problem. A concerted effort is critical in order to impact community awareness, public policy, criminal justice systems, and the educational system where abuse prevention is rooted.
WVCADV's central service office has four major goals:

1. providing greater voice and visibility to battered women and their children throughout West Virginia;
2. working to strengthen and implement public policies that name battering within the family as a crime,
3. mandating sanctions and offering help to victims of this crime by developing access to resources needed both for continued quality services and for outreach to unserved areas;
4. facilitating skill-sharing, leadership development, and technical assistance to member programs.

The Coalition as a whole has been energized by access to a central staff and service center. The increased potential for immediate and long-range services to battered women and children throughout the state is seen as a value, and determined efforts are being made to provide a solid base for the continued development of WVCADV.
MISSION

FORMED IN 1979, THE WEST VIRGINIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (WVCADV) is committed to the elimination of personal and institutional violence against women and their children. WVCADV's mission is to:

1. provide safe space and quality services to survivors of domestic violence,

2. work for systemic change that will insure victims' rights while holding perpetrators accountable for their behavior.

WVCADV is comprised of thirteen autonomous member programs who provide a variety of direct services to meet the immediate needs of survivors' safety and a statewide central service office responsible for coordinating social change work throughout the domestic violence coalition.
PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

We believe that abuse is a societal configuration and not an individual psychological dysfunction.

We concur that oppression such as racism, sexism, heterosexism, and classism contribute to the perpetuation of violence.

We commit ourselves to the work of building a non-profit coalition among domestic violence service providers by promoting communication, support, and networking that will ensure the availability of comprehensive quality services.

We advocate for social change at all levels.

We encourage the development of model programs.

We support implementation of projects with regional focus.

We agree that a priority of resources shall be to ensure that victims of domestic violence, both within and without shelters, shall have access to adequate direct and preventive services.

We recommend that abusive partners be referred to adequate and appropriate programs.

We recognize the autonomy of local programs.

We agree that WVCADV and its member programs shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual identity, national origin, handicap, age, marital status, or any other basis prohibited by law.

We agree that WVCADV will function as a member of the National Coalition Against Domestic violence.
At the core of the organization is the WVCADV mission statement and its supporting principles of unity. Primary to the implementation of this mission are active members: the Board of Directors composed of representatives from each direct service member program (13), task force chairs (Survivors of Abuse, Child Advocates, Lesbian), and committees (Coordinating, Finance, Personnel, Training, Legislative). Supporting members are any individual or organization committed to implementing in various ways the Coalition goals and providing financial support. Two full-time Team Coordinators staff the Coalition office. Local program staff/communities provide direct service in each of the state's fifty-five counties. In addition, the WVCADV mission statement is implemented by local survivor support groups; by staff/volunteers in outreach or satellite centers; by local/state support agencies (Department of Health and Human Resources, legal services, Department of Education, law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, medical and mental health agencies, housing authorities, job training centers); and by development resources such as foundations, corporate donors, in-kind and volunteer services and gifts, food pantries, church and fraternal groups, community service groups.
PROGRAMS and CATCHMENT AREAS

WVCADV MEMBER PROGRAMS EACH SERVE A MULTI-COUNTY AREA ENABLING the network to span the fifty-five counties of West Virginia, a state wholly within the thirteen state region known as Appalachia. The domestic violence network's regionalization plan includes the following programs, counties, and available beds:

**Beckley: Women's Resource Center**
- Five Counties: Fayette, Mercer, Nicholas, Raleigh, Summers
- Beds: 36

**Charleston: Resolve Family Abuse Program**
- Three Counties: Kanawha, Boone, Clay
- Beds: 14

**Elkins: Women's Aid In Crisis**
- Six Counties: Barbour, Braxton, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur, Webster
- Beds: 8

**Fairmont: HOPE, Inc.**
- Five Counties: Dodridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion
- Beds: 11

**Huntington: Branches**
- Five Counties: Cabell, Lincoln, Mason, Putnam, Wayne
- Beds: 12

**Keyser: Family Crisis Center**
- Five Counties: Grant, Hampshire, Pendleton, Hardy, Mineral
- Beds: 7

**Lewisburg: Family Refuge Center**
- Three Counties: Greenbrier, Monroe, Pocahontas
- Beds: 10

**Martinsburg: Shenandoah Women's Center**
- Three Counties: Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan
- Beds: 12

**Morgantown: Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center**
- Four Counties: Monongalia, Preston, Wetzel, Taylor
- Beds: 10
Parkersburg: Family Crisis Intervention Center
Eight Counties: Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, Wood
Beds: 15

Sutton: WVCADV Coalition Office
Central Service Office
Statewide service and policy coordination

Welch: Stop Abusive Family Environments (SAFE)
Two Counties: McDowell, Wyoming
Beds: none (Referrals for shelter made to WRC.)

Wheeling: Women's Abuse Program
Four Counties: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio
Beds: 6

Williamson: Tug Valley Recovery Shelter
Two Counties: Mingo, Logan
Beds: 10
SERVICES DESCRIPTION

The local programs which make up the statewide network of domestic violence services were created to meet the immediate needs of victims for safety and to provide them with support and information. Each program is unique, responding to the circumstances and resources of its particular catchment area in the state. Shelter programs provide comprehensive services including shelter, counseling, 24-hour hotline, advocacy, community education, and outreach; except for shelter, S.A.F.E. in McDowell County offers all the above services.

HOTLINE: The core service for every domestic violence program is 24-hour access for battered women to a telephone hotline. Trained staff or volunteers are prepared to provide crisis intervention counseling; to provide information and to make arrangements for victims to come to the shelter. The hotline serves as the link to other services offered by the program, such as legal advocacy or support groups.

COUNSELING: For most victims of domestic violence, it is no simple matter to seek an end to the violence in their homes. Victims must come to terms with their feelings and the effects of violence on the children. Domestic violence programs offer one-to-one counseling and support groups that sustain victims as they make choices about the future. Counselor advocates also provide information about and accompaniment and transportation to other services such as medical treatment, financial assistance and longterm housing.

LEGAL ADVOCACY: Legal advocacy activities include: assisting victims in filing for protection from abuse orders; advocating within the criminal justice system to ensure effective response for victims and implementation of domestic violence laws and educating law enforcement officers about domestic violence and their responsibilities under the law.

SHELTER: Shelters provide safety and refuge for battered women and their children. This enables a woman to take the time, in a safe and supportive environment, to make choices about her future and
take the necessary steps to carry them out. Shelters are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and provide a room and meals for adult victims of domestic violence and their children.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: Many children in shelters have witnessed violence at home or have been abused themselves. They have special needs that require counseling and activities that encourage expression of feelings, teach positive and non-violent ways to cope and restore self-confidence, trust and self-esteem.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION: Community education activities inform the public about the serious nature of domestic violence and its widespread occurrence. Domestic violence programs work to educate the public and dispel myths. Information is aimed at building awareness of individual behavior or attitudes that may encourage or tolerate family violence.

OUTREACH: The purpose of outreach activities is to ensure access for battered women. Outreach activities are designed to reduce obstacles and barriers that may hinder a victim from fully assessing services, thereby increasing a victim's accessibility to domestic violence services. Several programs operate satellite offices for this purpose and to reach rural women in particular.

PREVENTION: The prevention activities most frequently conducted by domestic violence programs are classes for school students on domestic violence. Intervention with children may be the best form of primary prevention of adult domestic violence and may also result in early identification of children who are being abused or witnessing violence in their homes.

TRAINING: Because domestic violence impacts many institutions and systems, professionals from various disciplines need training on how to respond to victims of domestic violence and how to refer them to appropriate resources. Domestic violence programs also conduct in-service training for their own staff and volunteers.
PART TWO:
POINT OF VIEW
FROM ONE PERSPECTIVE THE WORD POVERTY CAN BE DEFINED BY THE CONCEPT LACK of access. Although this is true wherever people are poor, it is especially evident in rural areas and forms an ever-present backdrop for efforts to meet the needs of battered women and their children who live in rural regions. The term 'rural' itself is generic, encompassing a wide range of diverse socio-economic, cultural, theological and political factors. In the United States alone rural realities vary dramatically—from remote islands and backwoods villages, to farms, agriculturally-based towns and migrant camps, from isolated hollows in the Appalachian coalfields to reservations, mountain enclaves, sea-coast and desert settlements.

Undergirding the varied textures of these 'rural realities' is a common denominator: lack of access to resources. The scarcity of goods, services, and relationships readily available in urban areas reinforces the sense of isolation and hopelessness battered women so often experience. And limited access to these resources profoundly shapes advocacy, support, and programs for battered women and their children living in rural areas.

Efforts to develop services and programs offering accessibility to rural women and their children evolve out of various combinations of at least some of the following factors.

Isolation is common to the rural scene. Women may not only live in remote places but may also be prevented from leaving the home or from contacting others. Phone service may be absent or economically unfeasible. Roads are often poor and rendered impassable by adverse weather conditions such as snow, ice, mud, or high water. If there is a vehicle, and it's 'legal,' the gas money and keys may not be available. Public transportation is usually non-existent, and neighbors may be either unwilling to get involved, or, more commonly, may be kin by marriage. Seasonal work, unemployment, or simple refusal to hold a job may mean long periods of time when a woman is constantly under the watchful control of her partner. Tools and hunting weapons are commonplace in rural homes; the damage they inflict may be 'easily explainable' or long-healed before a woman sees a friend, especially in winter.

Physical isolation is reflective of the deeper psychological distancing a battered woman may experience in rural areas. Fundamentalist religious teachings, deep-rooted cultural traditions, and commonly accepted sexual stereotyping can form a chorus of voices accusing her of causing what she perceives as battering. They accuse her of being unfaithful to her role as woman, wife, mother; they surround her with walls of guilt and self-abasement. Potential sources of support and strength — family, preachers, other women — often echo the accusations and further isolate her from the possibility of choosing alternatives to a battering situation.

If the woman does manage to find a way out of the violence and to connect with a host home, safehouse
network, or shelter program she still faces formidable problems. The act of leaving the homeplace and coming to a shelter can be emotionally wrenching. The land, the animals who often depend on her for their care, and her key position in the family economy can have magnetic power. The county seat or the "big city" where help is offered (and which may be relatively small) can seem complex, scary, and confusing. Legal and social service resources, where they exist, are limited. The political and criminal justice systems are all too often tied into the 'good old boy' network which makes law enforcement slow, arbitrary, ineffective. Unserved or unenforced restraining orders are useless papers, especially if the deputies are slow in responding. And men cannot be forced from a family farm if it is a source of income. Many rural areas depend upon a single-industry economy. When economic depression persists, factors which escalate domestic violence increase—stress, boredom, alcohol and drug abuse—and access to self-sufficient alternatives decreases. Jobs, housing, child care, health services, education and vocational training: these become dreams distant at every level.

Battered women in rural areas do have obstacles unique to their rural base; however they can also claim access to a heritage of strong women from many cultures, classes, and ages who have pioneered new ways of relating to the land, to the family, to the community. Gertie in Harriet Arnow's novel The Dollmaker images this strong rural spirit; Mary Harris, better known as Mother Jones, exhorted her West Virginia friends to work hard at building peace: "pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living." The rich diversity of rural women has birthed a heritage characterized by deep love of the land and its resources; a persistent commitment to life, to right relationship, to growth and rebirth; an uncanny skill in making do; a belief in the power of beauty and humor; a fierce willingness to struggle and suffer in order to find or create freedom and interdependence. These are some of the resources intrinsic to the rural heritage from which battered women find their strength, challenge, and support. And these are some of the characteristics undergirding rural programs and services which help give battered women and their children access to non-violent lives.

No simple or single model exists for facilitating the empowerment of battered women in rural areas. One norm of rural survival is to make-do with what is at hand and whatever works. Programs and services grow as the rural situation shapes them. But there are guidelines that have worked for some and that might prove helpful in sharing.

1. Know the truth from which battered rural women come: the roots of their heritage; the faces of violence which confronts them; the political, economic, educational, religious, cultural, and social ground on which they stand. Know with the heart as well as the head. Understand social analysis as well as social services.

2. Realize the critical need for networking and coalition-building—sometimes with strange bedfellows, sometimes swallowing a false sense of autonomy. Negotiate everything but vision, values, and principles.
3. **Make the connections.** Understand that the battered women's movement undercuts the deep-rooted structures of patriarchy that dominate the rural courthouse, schoolhouse, and pulpit. Walk carefully and tall. Expect to be condemned by the 'righteous right,' ridiculed by the 'liberal left,' and unnoticed by most as radically committed to systemic revolution.

4. **Celebrate small steps.** See the part as needed for the whole. Know that the paralyzing fact of global violence is touched directly in the woman and her child who find safe space and support, who choose alternatives to violent living, who see and understand new ways of relating, who create new life and peace.

5. **Build with deliberate efforts a strong group of people** — locally, regionally, nationally — who share the vision and the hope of a world where all persons can live in mutuality, equality, freedom, and interdependence. Laugh, love, dream, and dry tears with justice-seeking friends who enable one another to stay in the struggle.
PART THREE:
LICENSING OF PROGRAMS
FROM ITS INCEPTION WVCADV HAS WORKED TO PROVIDE QUALITY services to victims of domestic violence in West Virginia. Member programs share the belief that combined efforts enhance the ability to provide help to those in need of services throughout the Mountain State. The Coalition was established on the tradition of helping sister programs through technical assistance, in-service training, and networking. West Virginia shelters throughout the state have preserved despite limited resources and are as diverse as the areas they serve. By 1986 all thirteen domestic violence programs had reached the state of development that made the establishment of Program Standards viable in the process of assuring quality services throughout the Coalition network.

The Program Standards Steering Committee was called together by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and was comprised of representatives of that Department, the Governor's Office of Crime, Delinquency and Correction, and WVCADV. In FY 87-88 the completed standards were adopted by state and federal funding sources as a prerequisite for program support in West Virginia.

Assessment of Program Standards occurs through a Peer Evaluation Process in which each local program's quality of life, administration/organization, human resources and physical environment are reviewed and critiqued by another domestic violence program. Evaluation Summaries, including commendations and recommendations, are then sent to the Family Protection Services Board for review whereupon Certificates of Compliance are issued or withheld pending approved plans to implement Program Standards.
ON MARCH 10, 1979, HOUSE BILL NUMBER 743 WAS PASSED BY THE 59TH WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE AND BECAME KNOWN AS THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAW (WV CODE CHAPTER 48: ARTICLE 24A). THE PURPOSE OF THIS LAW WAS TO PREVENT CONTINUING ABUSE OF ONE FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AT THE HANDS OF ANOTHER FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER. THE LAW PROVIDED LEGAL RECOURSE TO ABUSED FAMILY MEMBERS THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTY DAYS.

ON APRIL 9, 1981, SENATE BILL NUMBER 117 WAS PASSED BY THE 60TH WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE AND BECAME KNOWN AS THE FAMILY PROTECTION SHELTER SUPPORT ACT (WV CODE CHAPTER 48: ARTICLE 2C). THE PURPOSE OF THIS LAW WAS TO ASSIST LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN MAINTAINING SHELTERS TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND TO HOUSE AND CARE FOR, ON A TEMPORARY BASIS, VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THEIR CHILDREN. THE SHELTER SUPPORT ACT ASSESSED A MARRIAGE LICENSE FEE AND CREATED A FAMILY PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE TO THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON CRIME, DELINQUENCY AND CORRECTION.

ON APRIL 8, 1989, THE 68TH WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE ENACTED THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT WHICH AMENDED CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT OF THE WV CODE. REVISION OF ARTICLE 2C DISSOLVED THE FAMILY PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE AND CREATED THE FAMILY PROTECTION SERVICES BOARD. THIS LAW REQUIRES THE FAMILY PROTECTION SERVICES BOARD TO ENFORCE STANDARDS FOR ANNUAL LICENSURE AND FUNDING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS AND PROVIDES FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR FILING DIVORCE ACTION.

ON MARCH 10, 1990, THE 69TH WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE ENACTED INTO LAW AN AMENDMENT OF THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAW OF 1979. THE REVISION OF ARTICLE 2A BROADENS THE DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ALLOWS ADVOCATES TO BE PRESENT AT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HEARINGS, LENGTHENS THE PERIOD OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS FROM 30 DAYS TO 60 DAYS, REQUIRES MAGISTRATES TO INFORM PERSONS SEEKING A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PETITION OF THE NEAREST RESIDENTIAL OR PROTECTIVE SERVICE AVAILABLE FOR ABUSED PERSONS, MANDATES THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CALLS.
PART FOUR:
PROJECTED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
GOAL ONE

ASSURE THAT THE NEEDS OF BATTERED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN IN UNSERVED OR UNDERSERVED COUNTIES ARE ADEQUATELY MET.

By 1994:

Each of West Virginia's fifty-five counties will have at least a part-time outreach worker present at a specific county location for a minimum of 20 hours a week.

Standards for outreach offices will be developed and incorporated into West Virginia's Domestic Violence Licensing Standards and the Domestic Violence Peer Review Process.

The Regional Plan for statewide domestic violence services will be evaluated and on this basis either affirmed or revised.

Guidelines for the development of new programs - outreach offices as well as shelters - will be established and promulgated.

Cost
$15,000 per Outreach Office
42 Outreach Offices

Minimum Cost: $630,000
GOAL TWO

ASSURE THAT THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS ARE ADEQUATELY MET.

By 1994:

Each domestic violence shelter program will have a minimum of one full-time staff position whose primary focus is children's needs and advocacy.

Standards for children's programs in the domestic violence network will be developed and incorporated into West Virginia Licensing Standards and the Domestic Violence Peer Review Process.

Stabilized and on-going funding for child advocates, children's programs and activities will become an integral part of each local shelter budget.

Cost
$18,750 per Child Advocate (This includes benefits.)
13 Child Advocates

Minimum Cost: $243,750
GOAL THREE

ASSURE THAT PERSONNEL WITHIN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM UNDERSTAND THE DYNAMICS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTING BATTERED WOMEN.

By 1994:

A law enforcement curriculum related to domestic violence will be developed for all law enforcement agencies throughout West Virginia.

A domestic violence curriculum for magistrates will be developed.

State, regional and local training will be provided to law enforcement agencies, magistrates, prosecutors, family law masters and related service providers.

Costs
$50,000 per year for statewide training
3 years

Minimum Cost: $150,000
GOAL FOUR

COLLECT DATABASE AND ANALYSIS REGARDING THE NEEDS OF AND SERVICES TO BATTERED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN.

By 1994:

A uniform process for collecting local service statistics will be implemented through the use of standardized forms and computer-assisted technology.

Data collected during the three-year period of this State Plan will be analyzed and developed into a comprehensive report for distribution to public and private agencies.

Cost
Grants to fund Project SafetyNet: Computer-assisted technology

Maximum Cost: $80,000
GOAL FIVE

ASSURE THAT ALL PROGRAMS IMPLEMENT PRACTICES IN THE WORKPLACE THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE BATTERED WOMEN'S MOVEMENT, NAMELY EMPOWERMENT AND EQUALITY.

By 1994:

The existing Affirmative Action Policies used by local programs will be reviewed and critiqued in an effort to include a greater diversity of persons within the Coalition network.

The existing Personnel Policies used by local programs will be reviewed and critiqued in an effort to develop organizational models that encourage long-time commitment through access to leadership development and decision-making.

Through research and analysis WVCADV will have developed criteria for setting equitable salary scales and benefits for use in all domestic violence programs.

Cost
Absorbed through WVCADV's Board of Directors' structure and budget.
GOAL SIX

ASSURE THAT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES ARE AT THE STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS ARE PROMOTED AND RESOLVED IN THE BEST INTEREST OF BATTERED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN.

In 1991:
To amend the Domestic Violence Act of 1991 as follows:

a. Remove the words "time not to exceed" regarding the time limit of protection orders;
b. Revise the section ordering uniform law enforcement policies and procedures to include all law enforcement personnel, not just the Department of Public Safety.
c. Include "at identified domestic violence or batterers' program."

By 1994:
To revise the Domestic Violence Act of 1991 by:

a. Allowing the victim of domestic violence to file a protection order petition in the county of choice and to enforce protection orders across all West Virginia county lines;
b. If granted to the perpetrator, assuring that child visitation be supervised;
c. Assessing all costs and services related domestic violence incidents to the perpetrator: filing fees, housing/shelter, medical costs, property damage, etc.

To implement federal guidelines such as those introduced in the Violence against Women Act (commonly refered to as The Biden Bill) during the 1990 United States Senate.
To introduce the Federal Child Custody Resolution into the West Virginia Legislature for adoption.

To support legislation that prohibits corporal punishment as a means of discipline in the West Virginia school system.

To revise the domestic violence laws to include probable cause arrest and mandatory jail time for the primary abuser in domestic violence situations.

To revise laws that will guarantee the custody of children in domestic violence situations to the non-abusive parent.

**Costs**

Costs absorbed through the Coalition's annual budget.
GOAL SEVEN

WORK TOWARD BREAKING THE GENERATIONAL CYCLE OF VIOLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION AND PREVENTION.

By 1994:

WVCADV will work with the WV Department of Education to mandate on a statewide basis the inclusion of a domestic violence curriculum component at all educational levels.

Local programs will increase and expand efforts to develop domestic violence prevention programs and materials for use with teachers, parents and youth, medical personnel, legislators, media, etc.

The central office and local programs will establish working alliances with ministerial associations and local churches and synagogues in order to strengthen theological and spiritual resources for survivors of violence.

Cost
$20,000 per program
14 programs

Minimum Cost: $280,000
PART FIVE:
APPENDICES
APPENDIX B

WVCA DV UNITS OF SERVICE
FISCAL YEAR 1989 – 1990
TOTAL SERVICE HOURS: 40,403

GROUP RECEIVING UNITS OF SERVICE

- Adult Residents: 16,315
- Child Residents: 3,518
- Non-Resident Adults: 18,019
- Non-Resident Child: 1,167
- Support Groups: 4,545

ONE UNIT OF SERVICE EQUALS ONE HOUR OF DIRECT OR COLLABORATIVE CLIENT CONTACT PROVIDED BY PROGRAM STAFF OR VOLUNTEERS

SERVICE HOURS ARE NEARLY EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PETITIONS
FILED WITH WVCA DV PROGRAM ASSISTANCE
FISCAL YEAR 1989 – 1990

MONTHS

- July: 78
- August: 78
- September: 118
- October: 118
- November: 105
- December: 117
- January: 117
- February: 123
- March: 116
- April: 167
- May: 151
- June: 151

TOTAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PETITIONS FILED THROUGH WVCA DV PROGRAMS IN 1989 – 1990: 1,340

TOTAL PERSONS SERVED
FISCAL YEAR 1989 – 1990
ADULT AND CHILD RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT

TOTAL PERSONS SERVED: 11,695

- Adult Residents
- Child Residents
- Non-Resident Adults
- Non-Resident Child

60% of shelter residents & 26% of all residents are children. Services to non-residents comprise 64% of total program services.

SHELTER NIGHTS PROVIDED
FISCAL YEAR 1989 – 1990
WVCA DV MEMBER PROGRAMS

SHELTER NIGHTS

- July: 3,076
- August: 3,101
- September: 3,255
- October: 3,418
- November: 3,117
- December: 2,823
- January: 3,179
- February: 3,415
- March: 3,395
- April: 3,549
- May: 2,928
- June: 2,866

TOTAL SHELTER NIGHTS: 38,872
TYPES OF CHILD ABUSE REPORTED THROUGH WVCADV PROGRAMS
FISCAL YEAR 1989 – 1990

TYPES OF ABUSE

- PHYSICAL: 24%
- EMOTIONAL/VERBAL: 47%
- SEXUAL: 7%
- USE OF WEAPON: 4%
- USE OF FISTS/HANDS: 9%
- OTHER: 8%
- MEDICAL ATTN. NEEDED: 2%

REPORTED INCIDENTS: 2265

78% of reported abuse consisted of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse. All children who witness domestic violence are abused in some way.

CHILD ABUSER RELATIONSHIPS
INCIDENTS REPORTED THROUGH WVCADV PROGRAMS
1989 – 1990 FISCAL YEAR

- FATHER
- MOTHER
- OTHER
- RELATIVE\IN-LAW

Abuse is not an incident. Abuse is a pattern of behavior. In 77% of reported abuse, the abuser was the father.
WVADV PROGRAM INCOME SOURCES
FISCAL YEAR 1989-1990
TOTAL INCOME: $2,387,000

FUNDING SOURCES
FY 1989 - 1990

STATE AND FEDERAL
LOCAL AND COMMUNITY
DONATIONS/VOLUNTEERS

WVADV PROGRAMS CASH INCOME SOURCES
FISCAL YEAR 1989-1990
TOTAL CASH INCOME: $1,853,000

CASH INCOME SOURCES

- FAMILY PROTECTION
- TITLE XX
- VOCA
- FAMILY VIOLENCE PRE
- OTHER FED/STATE
- LOCAL/COMMUNITY
- FOUNDATIONS
- UNITED WAY

CASH INCOME AMOUNTS
IN-KIND COMMUNITY DONATIONS: $327,125
VOLUNTEER LABOR: 54,202 HOURS = $216,808

STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS: $1,075,000
LOCAL AND COMMUNITY FUNDS: $768,000
VOLUNTEER LABOR/IN-KIND DONATIONS: $544,000