



# Domestic Violence Services 2009

## We are more than emergency shelter...

Reduced and stagnant funding resulted in fewer survivors of domestic violence, including child witnesses, receiving services. Due to lack of resources, the number of survivors to whom we have **provided shelter decreased by 8%**, while the **number of victims we turned away increased by 24%** over the last three years.

While safe shelter is a crucial part of what survivors need to escape the violence in their lives, only about 16% of survivors served by domestic violence programs last year received emergency shelter or transitional housing. 84% of all survivors we served received nonresidential services, but no shelter. Domestic violence programs provide a wide variety of services for adult survivors of domestic violence and their children:

- ✓ Counseling and therapy help survivors and their children better understand the dynamics of domestic violence and provide them emotional support to help them heal after experiencing the trauma of domestic violence.
- ✓ Legal advocacy helps provide survivors and their children 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.
- ✓ 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.

SURVIVORS  
RECEIVED  
**574,000 HOURS**  
OF SERVICE



## As a Result of Our Services...

- 96% of survivors served by domestic violence programs reported knowing more strategies for enhancing safety.
- 94% of survivors served by domestic violence programs reported knowing more about available community resources.

## Who We Served...

**44,044**  
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence  
and  
**8,706**  
Child Witnesses

