Allocations for Domestic Violence

FY 10 Allocations mark an 11% reduction from FY 09. FY 11 Allocations mark a 9% reduction from FY 10.

Allocations for FY 12 should remain at current level. Domestic violence general revenue line item has been reduced already by 20% in two years. Another reduction would be an unfair cut to domestic violence survivors and their children.

The combinations of late payments and reduced state contracts have left the programs with no choice but to cut back staff and services to emergency safety response.

In FY 09, programs provided 574,000 hours of service.

In FY 10, programs provided 521,600 hours of service.

What services have already been cut? Emergency beds, counseling for adults and children, prevention education in the schools, public education in the community.

What does this mean? It means a family fleeing a violent home may have no place to go; if they get to a domestic violence agency, they have no one to talk to about their trauma; we have no ability to inform the community about what domestic violence means to public safety, to recruit volunteers or to raise private dollars for services.

Domestic violence services are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, just like the fire department. And just like the fire department, if the domestic violence services response is not available, crisis will not be averted.

In order for domestic violence victims to begin to build a life free from violence, the first thing they need is a safe place to plan. If these programs continue to be reduced, there will be no place for many victims to flee. How many more victims are you willing to leave with no safety services? How many more children will you leave in harm’s way?