



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACT SHEET

A CONNECTICUT PERSPECTIVE

FACT: BATTERING IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN CONNECTICUT

In the last fiscal year (7/1/09 - 6/30/10) CCADV's 18 domestic violence agencies, listed on this sheet, provided services to **53,247** victims of domestic violence. The following is a breakdown of statistics.

- **Crisis Services** – **17,835** contacts with victims in crisis were handled by the staff and volunteers of our member programs.
- **Safe Home Services** – **1,495** adults and **734** children stayed in our emergency safe homes because they were in serious physical danger and had no other safe options.
- **Community Services** – **13,128** adult victims and **552** child victims who did not need emergency shelter received support services from our programs. These services included individual counseling, support groups, community and legal advocacy, information and referral, and assistance with developing safety plans.
- **Criminal Court Based Services** – **37,338** court referred domestic violence victims received direct services from our staff and volunteer advocates who are based in the criminal courts. These services included counseling, court advocacy, assistance with orders of protection, information and referral to community services and assistance with developing safety plans.
- **Community Education Services** – **118,772** people attended our community education programs. These programs included training for police officers and other professional groups; presentations to religious, civic and business organization; and domestic violence prevention programs to elementary through college-age students.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is a crime involving a pattern of abusive behavior in intimate and familial relationships where one partner or person controls and dominates the other. The behavior may be physically, sexually, psychologically, financially or verbally abusive, with the victim left feeling powerless, afraid, confused, dependent and insecure. The children of a battered parent must cope with these same fears and painful realities.

WHO IS CCADV?

The *Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence* is a membership organization whose purpose is to work together to end domestic violence by changing the social conditions, beliefs and social actions that perpetuate abuse against victims of domestic violence.

The Coalition's membership includes the 18 domestic violence agencies located throughout the state. These programs provide counseling, support services and safe accommodations for victims and their children.

Founded in 1978, the Coalition's work focuses on providing state-wide public policy advocacy, legislative reform and education on the issue of domestic violence and, as such, has successfully established itself as a strong and credible voice for victims of domestic violence.