CCA DV

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACT SHEET
A CONNECTICUT PERSPECTIVE

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FACT: BATTERING IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN CONNECTICUT

In the last fiscal year (7/1/06 - 6/30/07) CCADV's 18 domestic violence shelter programs, listed on this sheet, provided services to **53,006** victims of domestic violence. The following is a breakdown of statistics.

- **Hotline Services – 23,973** contacts with victims in crisis were handled by the staff and volunteers of our member programs.
- **Shelter Services – 977** women and **949** children stayed in our emergency shelters because they were in serious physical danger and had no other safe options.
- **Non-Shelter Services – 13,687** adult victims and **810** 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 – 35,441** 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.
- **Police Department Based Services – 1,142** police department referred domestic violence victims received direct services from our staff advocates who are based in police departments. These services represent providing support, information and advocacy designed to enhance the safety of victims, as well as supporting and enhancing the efforts of the police department.
- **Community Education Services – 104,061** 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 relationships where one partner tries to control and dominate the other. The behavior may be physically, sexually, psychologically, or verbally abusive, with the victim left feeling scared, confused, dependent and insecure. The children of a battered parent must contend with these same fears and realities. According to the FBI, a woman is battered every 15 seconds in the US.

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 shelter programs located throughout the state. These programs provide safe accommodations for battered women and their children, and counseling and support services for victims.

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 battered women.