

NJCBW Statistical Summary – 2004

Victims

The number of women sheltered in 2004 (1,670) increased .5% from 2003 (1,662). Two male victims were sheltered in 2004.

Twenty-three percent of women sheltered in 2004 were previously sheltered.

The average length of stay at shelters across the state was 31 days, a decrease of four days from 2003.

Fewer women and children were turned away from shelter for lack of space in 2004 (1,916) compared to 2003 (2,233).

There was an 11% increase in non-residential services to victims in 2004 (7,802) over 2003 (7,049).

In 2004, 30,992 non-residential victims received legal advocacy services. This was a 13% increase over 2003 (27,320).

The legal advocacy services provided most often to residential victims in descending order were other legal advocacy, legal options sessions, and family court accompaniment.

Legal advocacy services provided most often to non-residential women victims in descending order were legal options sessions, family court accompaniment, and other legal advocacy.

There was a slight decrease in the number of victim crisis calls in 2004 (22,603) from 2003 (23,209).

Non-crisis calls from victims increased 7% in 2004 (42,267) from 2003 (39,393).

The service provided most often to both residential and non-residential victims was individual counseling followed by group counseling. The third service provided most often to shelter residents was housing advocacy and to non-residents was other financial advocacy.

Of the total number of women admitted to shelter 16% (256) were current welfare recipients and 11% were receiving emergency or temporary rental assistance. Three victims reached the twelve month life time limit for emergency assistance. Three victims were sanctioned. Of those currently on welfare, 126 were granted a Family Violence Option waiver of requirements, and 9 were denied a waiver. Four percent of those admitted to shelter were referred by the County Welfare Agency.

Six percent of victims (381) admitted for non-residential services were current welfare recipients. Three percent received emergency or temporary rental assistance. Six victims reached the 12 month life time limit for emergency assistance, two reached

the 60 month limit for TANF, and seven were sanctioned. Seventy-nine non-residential victims on welfare were granted a Family Violence Option waiver of requirements. None were denied a waiver. Four percent of victims admitted for non-residential services were referred by the County Welfare Agency.

Programs provided transitional housing to 123 victims and 204 children during 2004, staying an average of nine months.

Of those victims admitted to shelter, 13% were identified as differently abled (2% mobility impaired, less than 1/2% visually impaired or hearing impaired, 10% mental health disability).

Of the victims admitted for non-residential services, 7% were identified as differently abled (1% mobility impaired, .2% visually impaired, .2% hearing impaired, 5% mental health disability).

Of women admitted to shelter, 9% disclosed substance abuse and 20% disclosed they were sexual assault survivors.

Of women admitted for non-residential services, 5% disclosed substance abuse and 15% disclosed they were sexual assault survivors.

In 2004 programs served victims who spoke Arabic, Creole/Haitian, Hindi, Korean, Polish, Portugese, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish. The top four languages spoken by clients were Spanish, Arabic, Hindi, and Portuguese.

Children

Coalition member programs provided shelter to 2,001 children in 2004, a 2% increase from the 2003 total of 1,954.

The number of children receiving counseling and support services who were not shelter residents increased 5% (1,828) in 2004 from 2003 (1,745).

Seventy-four percent of sheltered children and 56% of non-residential children were under age ten.

Twelve percent of sheltered children and 7% of non-residential children were active Division of Youth and Family Services cases.

Five percent of sheltered children and 4% of non-residential children were classified as having a learning disorder.

Services provided most often to sheltered children were recreation/child care, education support, and individual counseling.

Services provided most often to non-residential children were adjunctive therapy, educational support, and recreation/childcare.

Batterers

Fourteen Coalition member programs provided counseling for batterers.

Calls from batterers increased 15% in 2004 (9,010) from 2003 (7,839).

There was a 9% decrease in services to batterers in 2004 (2,453) from 2003 (2,715).

Sixteen percent of the batterers participated voluntarily and 84% were court ordered.

Services provided most often to batterers in descending order were group counseling, court monitoring, and assessment.

Of batterers admitted for services, 28% were identified as substance abusers and 5% were identified as having a mental health disability.

Domestic Violence Awareness and Community Education

The Coalition and its member programs responded to 30,106 calls for domestic violence information in 2004, a decrease of 31% from 2003 (43,404).

The Coalition responded to 52,688 requests for general information in 2004, a 119% increase over 2003 (24,039).

There was a 14% increase in total calls to domestic violence hotlines in 2004 with programs responding to 156,674 calls.

The Coalition offered 3,080 community education opportunities in 2004 reaching 111,736 people. Forty-four percent of the community education presentations were to schools reaching 45,787 students, teachers, and staff.

There were 611 presentations to the general public and civic, community and faith based organizations reaching 38,214 people, indicating a continued interest on the part of citizens to understand and respond to this societal problem.

The fewest presentations were made to elected officials (10) and lawyers (24).

Coalition member programs raised community awareness 532 times through contacts with the media including newspapers, radio, television, publications, and ad campaigns.