

## **NJCBW Statistical Summary – 2008**

### **Victims**

The number of women sheltered in 2008 (1,550) increased one percent from 2007 (1,530). Two male victims were sheltered in 2008.

Seventeen percent of women sheltered in 2008 were previously sheltered.

The average length of stay at shelters across the state was 40 days, an increase of five days from 2007.

More women and children were turned away from shelter for lack of space in 2008 (3,364) compared to 2007 (1,793).

There was a 5% decrease in victims who received non-residential services to in 2008 (8,354) from 2007 (8,789).

In 2008, 23,129 non-residential victims received legal advocacy services. This was a 26% decrease from 2007, (31,282).

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

There was a 31% decrease in the number of crisis calls from victims in 2008 (16,839) from (24,497) and a 15% increase in non-crisis calls from victims (40,506) vs (35,190).

The service provided most often to residential victims was individual counseling, followed by housing advocacy and other financial advocacy.

The service provided most often to non-residential victims was housing advocacy, followed by other financial advocacy and individual counseling.

Of the total number of women admitted to shelter 38% (538) were current welfare recipients and 23% were receiving emergency or temporary rental assistance. Thirty-two victims reached the twelve month life time limit for emergency assistance and no victims reached the 60 month limit for TANF. Six victims were sanctioned. Of those currently on welfare, 153 were granted a Family Violence Option waiver of requirements, and six were denied a waiver. Twelve percent of those admitted to shelter were referred by the County Welfare Agency.

Twelve percent of victims (814) admitted for non-residential services were current welfare recipients. Five percent received emergency or temporary rental assistance. One hundred and ten victims reached the 12 month life time limit for emergency assistance, one reached the 60 month limit for TANF, and 12 were sanctioned. Four hundred and six non-residential victims on welfare were granted a Family Violence Option waiver of requirements. One was denied a waiver. Nine percent of victims admitted for non-residential services were referred by the County Welfare Agency.

Programs provided transitional housing to 195 victims, 256 children and one man during 2008, staying an average of 47 months.

Of those victims admitted to shelter, 19% were identified as people with disabilities (1% with a mobility disability, .6% with a visual disability, .9% with a hearing disability and/or deaf, 16% with a mental health disability).

Of the victims admitted for non-residential services, 6% were identified as people with disabilities (.9% with a mobility disability, .2% with a visual disability, .3% with a hearing disability and/or deaf, 5% with a mental health disability).

Of women admitted to shelter, 15% disclosed substance abuse and 19% disclosed they were sexual assault survivors.

Of women admitted for non-residential services, 6% disclosed substance abuse and 9% disclosed they were sexual assault survivors.

In 2008 programs served victims who spoke Arabic, Creole/Haitian, Hindi, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish. The top four languages spoken by clients were Spanish, Hindi, Russian and Arabic.

## **Children**

Coalition member programs sheltered 1,836 children in 2008, a 6% increase from the 2007 total of 1,740.

The number of children receiving counseling and support services who were not shelter residents decreased 11% (1,730) in 2008 from 2007 (1,951).

Seventy-nine percent of sheltered children and 52% of non-residential children were under age ten.

Nineteen percent of sheltered children and 16% of non-residential children were active Division of Youth and Family Services cases.

Ten percent of sheltered children and 6% of non-residential children were classified as having a learning disorder.

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

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

## **Batterers**

Ten Coalition member programs provided counseling for batterers.

Calls from batterers increased two percent in 2008 (5,293) from 2007 (5,168).

There was a 13% decrease in services to batterers in 2008 (1,816) from 2007 (2,093).

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 individual counseling.

Of batterers admitted for services, 18% were identified as substance abusers and 4% were identified as having a mental health disability.

## **Domestic Violence Awareness and Community Education**

The Coalition and its member programs responded to 58,783 calls for domestic violence information in 2008, a decrease of four percent from 2007 (61,133).

The Coalition responded to 16,809 requests for general information in 2008, a 4% increase from 2007 (16,207).

There was a three percent decrease in total calls to domestic violence hotlines in 2008 with programs responding to 138,230 calls.

The Coalition offered 3,345 community education opportunities in 2008 reaching 127,083 people. Thirty-two percent of the community education presentations were to schools reaching 38,521 students, teachers, and staff.

There were 634 presentations to the general public and civic, community and faith based organizations reaching 35,279 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 (4) and lawyers (10).

Coalition member programs raised community awareness 1,708 times through contacts with the media including newspapers, radio, television, publications, and ad campaigns.