



What Touches One **Touches Many**

CAWC Annual Report FY2011

The Ripple Effect

What starts with one shove or one angry word can have devastating consequences. Abuse escalates slowly, insidiously, behind closed doors. It isolates victims, erodes their confidence and compromises their health. But it doesn't stop there.

Domestic violence takes a toll on the entire community, from employers facing absenteeism to teachers experiencing behavioral issues in the classroom. This year's report profiles four people who each feel the impact of domestic violence in a different way. Their experiences underscore the need for far-reaching solutions — solutions that go beyond providing safe refuge and immediate support.

Of course, it's critical to make help available in crisis situations. That's how CAWC got its start 34 years ago — with a hotline for victims to call when they had nowhere else to turn. A few years later, we opened Greenhouse Shelter for women who have taken the courageous step of escaping their abusers. These and other lifesaving services remain a pillar of CAWC's mission.

But we're also focused on education and prevention. For example, CAWC not only trains medical professionals at JHS Cook County Hospital on abuse-related issues, but our onsite counselor is integrated into the hospital's process; she attends trauma staff meetings every morning to act as a resource for the team. CAWC also continues to advocate for public policy aimed at stemming the tide of domestic abuse. From decisions affecting funding for services to debates on child care and housing, we use our voice when victims aren't able to.

Thanks to our generous supporters, CAWC has been able to continue important work like this across the city. Proceeds from our Sounds of Silence benefit grew to \$175,000+ this year, despite the financial challenges many donors face themselves. You came forward to help, and we are truly grateful. For hundreds of women and families, you have replaced violence and despair with security and hope for the future.

Yours truly,



Margaret Jones
President



Cordelia Ryan
Executive Director



The Need Grows, **CAWC Responds**



In lean economic times, domestic violence hits even harder. This statistic says it all: In FY2011, 95% of the women and children we served lived below the poverty line. And our hotline fielded 3,055 calls — 3% more than in FY2010. Financial troubles can exacerbate already abusive relationships, and without resources, victims are less able to help themselves. At CAWC, we stretched every dollar to make sure we were there for those who needed assistance and information.

DIRECT SERVICES

- In FY2011, CAWC's Greenhouse Shelter provided safe refuge to 113 women and 167 children forced by domestic violence to leave their homes. They also received legal assistance, housing advocacy, and financial and career support.
 - Through our Humboldt Park Outreach Program, we provided individual and group services to 201 women and 37 children to increase their safety and self-sufficiency.
 - Our Hospital Crisis Intervention Project served 248 victims of domestic violence after they sought health care at JHS Cook County Hospital.
 - CAWC provided education and support for 128 female patients being treated for alcohol and/or drug addictions at Haymarket Center. These women have few resources to assist them in overcoming these serious issues simultaneously.
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EDUCATION, TRAINING AND OUTREACH

- CAWC hosted "Domestic Violence Hotline" on Chicago Access Network Television, giving people the chance to call in and speak with our counselor/advocate.
 - We conducted domestic violence training for more than 2,200 healthcare providers at JHS Cook County Hospital, for 55 resident physicians at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and for over 400 professionals from other service agencies and the community.
 - Through the World Learning Project and the U.S. Department of State, CAWC hosted educational meetings on domestic violence service and prevention for groups from Russia and the Middle East.
 - "Just Because They Don't Say It," a public service announcement produced by CAWC, was shown on local television stations and posted on our Facebook page.
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» *For more on who we are and how we can help, visit www.cawc.org.*



A Far-Reaching **Issue**

Domestic violence may occur sight unseen, but its impact reverberates far and wide, as these perspectives show.

In the Community | **Senator Iris Martinez**



Illinois State Senator Iris Martinez learned at an early age how insidious domestic violence can be. Having witnessed family members being abused by their husbands, she vowed never to endure that herself.

“It’s more prevalent in the community than you would think,” Martinez says. “Many women just accept it and don’t talk about it.” In fact, despite the senator’s vigilance, her teenage daughter came home one night having been hit by her boyfriend.

“I was shocked,” Martinez says. “My daughter tried to brush it off, but I marched her right down to the police station. They found the guy and arrested him and it never happened again.” This is how the problem starts, she adds. “It happens once or twice, and then it snowballs. Young women need to know that this is not acceptable treatment.”

The senator has made it a priority to educate people about domestic violence. She speaks to high school groups and advocates for organizations like CAWC. “These programs are critical in getting the word out,” Martinez says. “It’s a community issue: What affects one person, one family, affects us all.”

The Next Generation | **Beth Enterkin**



CAWC Family Trauma Therapist Beth Enterkin sees the most innocent victims of domestic violence every day. She works with children, individually and in groups, to help them process and heal.

“Witnessing abuse affects children in profound ways,” Enterkin says. “Not only does it scar them emotionally, but the stress can biologically slow their development.”

One way this can come out is in school. “Kids are in a state of hyper-vigilance, waiting for something bad to happen,” Enterkin explains. “This naturally affects their ability to focus.”

Children can also become aggressive, as they model their parents’ behavior or act out from neglect. “A woman being abused is in survival mode, which makes it almost impossible to parent effectively,” Enterkin says.

In her therapy sessions, she listens to children, guides them in expressing their feelings through art and writing, and helps them learn positive behaviors. “They’ll always have scars,” she says, “but scar tissue comes out stronger than before.”

A Healthcare Challenge | Dr. Kimberly Joseph

As division chair of Trauma ICU and Prevention at JHS Cook County Hospital, Dr. Kimberly Joseph has treated her fair share of injuries from domestic abuse.

“There’s no typical scenario,” she says. “It might be a contusion from a crowbar, or it might be someone who’s been pushed down the stairs.” And it’s not only victims who come in. “We often see men with gunshot or stab wounds from a partner who was defending herself,” Joseph says. “It shows how deep the impact is.”



Joseph and her colleagues often go beyond healing these patients physically. CAWC’s Hospital Crisis Intervention Project (HCIP) trains the team — from clerical staff to clinicians — to recognize the signs of domestic violence and act accordingly. Sometimes this means referring patients to a CAWC counselor on site at the hospital; other times, it’s simply helping them identify the problem.

“The key is to intervene early before things escalate,” Joseph says. “Resources like HCIP are so important.”

In a Family | Jacqueline Herrera

For college student Jacqueline Herrera, it started verbally. “You’re stupid,” her boyfriend would tell her, or “What’s wrong with you?” Then came shoving and hair pulling, and soon, all-out slapping and punching.

“I was shocked at first,” Herrera says, “but I wrote it off to his mood swings. I was a straight-A student with a job and a close family — I couldn’t be a domestic violence victim. I was in denial.”

For eight months, Herrera “lived two lives,” going about her daily routine and not revealing her pain. But her boyfriend began abusing her at work, and her employer noticed her losing focus. Her grades at school were suffering.

After a particularly severe altercation required Herrera to get stitches in her lip, her family discovered the truth. “It was really hard on them,” she says, “but they knew I had essentially been brainwashed. They were really supportive.”

Herrera went through counseling at CAWC and after only 18 months is sharing her story. She also changed her major to psychology and now plans to counsel children.

“My father offered to pay for surgery to fix the scar on my lip,” she says, “but I want a reminder of my experience. I want other girls to know that they are not alone, and that people are here to help them.”



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CAWC is grateful to all of our loyal donors who supported us so generously in FY2011. Thanks to your commitment, thousands of women and their children have a new chance at life.

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Financials

Statement of financial positions as of June 30, 2011

ASSETS	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	FY11
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	655,897	318,730		974,627
Investments	16,573		1,026,805	1,043,378
Grant and contract receivable	67,266			67,266
Accounts receivable—other	4,816			4,816
Prepaid and deposits	56,727			56,727
Total Current Assets	801,279	318,730	1,026,805	2,146,814
Fixed assets—at cost				
<i>(net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$673,986)</i>	27,007			27,007
Total Assets	828,286	318,730	1,026,805	2,173,821
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Current Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	3,447			3,447
Accrued expenses	61,644			61,644
Deferred revenue	61,192			61,192
Total Current Liabilities	126,283			126,283
Net Assets:				
Unrestricted net assets	702,003			702,003
Temporarily restricted		318,730		318,730
Permanently restricted			1,026,805	1,026,805
Total Net Assets	702,003	318,730	1,026,805	2,047,538
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	828,286	318,730	1,026,805	2,173,821



CAWC

Connections for Abused
Women *and their* Children
Rebuilding Lives. Renewing Hope.

1116 N. Kedzie, 5th Floor
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www.cawc.org

CAWC is committed to ending domestic violence. Using a self-help, empowerment approach, we provide a shelter for women and children, and counseling, advocacy and a 24-hour hotline for people affected by domestic violence. We work for social change through education, service collaboration and institutional advocacy.

“Bodies are not for being violent.
I use my body to move and dance.
My body is healthy.”

» *Excerpt from poem by child in
CAWC Family Therapy program*

