



## SUPPORT SB 31/HB 43: DV Appropriations

### Background

This appropriations bill was introduced by the Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence to address the increased demand for services to domestic violence victims and their children in NC.

### **SUMMARY**

- Increases state funding by \$2 million for domestic violence programs funded by the Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission (CFW/DVC).
- Reinstates TANF funding to support local domestic violence prevention and awareness initiatives in the amount of \$1 million.
- Appropriates \$2 million to the CFW/DVC to provide for matching grant funds for the construction of domestic violence shelters.
- Appropriates \$2 million to the Governor's Crime Commission to create new or continue existing supervised visitation and exchange centers.
- Expands the Family Court Pilot Program.
- Appropriates funding to the CFW/DVC to oversee Abuser Treatment Programs.

### **TALKING POINTS**

- ❖ Approximately 90 domestic violence programs in the state provide crisis intervention services for all 100 counties, including shelter, crisis counseling, court advocacy and support groups.
- ❖ At least **501** women, children, and men have been murdered as a result of domestic violence in NC from January 1, 2002 – June 4, 2008, according to information collected by the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- ❖ NC ranks **11th** in the nation for the number of per capita homicides committed by men against women in our state in 2005, according to the Violence Policy Center.
- ❖ Local domestic violence programs responded to over **119,000** crisis line calls and served over **47,000** victims in person in FY 2006, including **5,550 children** who received shelter services, according to the CFW/DVC.
- ❖ Over **1,100** victims were denied shelter at local domestic violence programs in FY 2006 because of a lack of capacity, according to the CFW/DVC.
- ❖ Over **31,000** domestic violence protective orders were filed in FY 2006, according to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

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