



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*The mission of the Women's Rural Advocacy Programs is to provide supportive services including crisis intervention, advocacy and safe-housing. The priority population, work and dedication is to provide services for women and their children victimized by domestic violence. Assisting to protect battered women and their children from further violence. Committed to bringing women's strengths together in creating empowerment where domestic abuse exists. Educating communities and systems about the realities of violence in the home. Assisting communities in planning and organizing to end domestic violence. The ultimate goal is to work for the major societal changes necessary to eliminate both personal and societal violence against all women and their children. The management team is based on equality, honesty and an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect. Its structure is non-hierarchical and non-bureaucratic. The group as a whole share decision making and responsibilities.*

## Drastic Funding Cuts to Crime Victim Service Programs

FY13, 10/1/12-9/30/13, was the first year that the State of Minnesota, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), changed its grant award process from set allocation dollar amounts to organizations to a competitive application process. The results of the selection of programs to be funded, along with the dollar amount of their awards, were announced in mid-July.

OJP knew it would have decreased funding to allocate for FY13-about \$1.5 million less than the previous year. 151 organizations applied for a total of almost \$40 million in funds, including requests from 12 new agencies. OJP had only ~\$30.7 million to grant out and considered past performance issues, equitable geographical distribution of organizations, and funding priorities to ensure more access for crime victim services across the State. 126 of the 151 programs/applications were funded, 3 of them were new applicants and 16 current grantees were not selected for funding at all.

The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women (MCBW) is quite worried about the impact of these extensive cuts to domestic violence shelters and Community Advocacy Programs in Minnesota. Programs in the southern tier of Minnesota suffered substantial cuts. Sexual Assault, Abused Children, and General Crime victim service programs were included in these pronounced financial "hits."

In addition to state funding, many of these nonprofit organizations also rely on corporate and charitable contributions. Donations from these sources have also decreased over the past few years due to the significant decline in the U.S. and State of Minnesota's economies. (continued on Page 6)

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Summer



2012

### WRAP-Lyon/Lincoln County:

700 N. 7th St. ~ PO Box 1193 ~ Marshall, MN 56258

Business Line: 507-532-9532 ~ Fax Line: 507-532-7361 ~ CRISIS LINE: 507-532-2350 or 1-800-639-2350

E-mail address: [lyon@letswrap.com](mailto:lyon@letswrap.com)

### WRAP-Redwood County:

164 E. 2nd St. ~ PO Box 183 ~ Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Business Line: 507-637-3056 ~ Fax Line: 507-637-3610 ~ CRISIS LINE: 507-637-3040 or 888-637-3040

E-mail address: [redwood@letswrap.com](mailto:redwood@letswrap.com)

### WRAP-Yellow Medicine County:

650 Prentice ~ PO Box 87 ~ Granite Falls, MN 56241

Business Line: 320-564-2524 ~ Fax Line: 320-564-2388 ~ CRISIS LINE: 320-564-2422 or 800-295-2422

E-mail address: [yellowmedicine@letswrap.com](mailto:yellowmedicine@letswrap.com)



**The Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project Presents:  
2012 Session of New Laws-Marshall!**

The New Laws training began nineteen years ago in response to the request of battered women's advocates for concise, accurate information on the changes in domestic violence law each year. This training program is designed for those who want to be kept informed about the most recent changes to state and federal statutes and case law that affect battered women and their children in Minnesota.

**When:** Thursday, September 20 & Friday, September 21, 2012 8:00AM-5:00PM each day

**Where:** First Lutheran Church (ELCA), 100 Church Street, Marshall, Minnesota

**Where to Stay:** For your convenience, a block of rooms has been reserved for the attendees under "New Laws Training" at the Ramada Marshall. Rates will be \$80.00/night.

Ramada Marshall  
1500 East College Drive  
Junction Highway 19 and 23  
Marshall, Minnesota 56258  
Phone: 1-507-532-3221  
Fax: 1-507-532-4089

<b>Cost of this training is by profession</b>	<b>One Day/Both Days</b>
BW Programs, Law Enforcement, GALs and other Direct Service Providers	\$30.00/\$50.00
Legal Aid/Services and Volunteer Attorneys	\$60.00/\$100.00
Private Attorneys and the General Public	\$90.00/\$150.00

For more information, visit <http://www.bwlap.org/event/calendar>

Thank You!

*Donation Form*

DONOR INFORMATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 REQUEST FOR RECEIPT:  YES  NO

Local support of WRAP is critical to meet increasing costs to deliver services.

WRAP has provided services to victims of domestic violence for 15 years.

Your contribution to the program is greatly appreciated!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Women's Rural Advocacy Programs, Inc.

WRAP is a non-profit organization. Your gift to the program is tax deductible. A receipt for your donation will be sent to you upon request.

MAIL DONATION TO: WRAP, Box 1193, Marshall, MN 56258

**CELL PHONE COLLECTION**



**Please recycle your old cell phones to benefit:**

Women's Rural Advocacy Programs, Inc.

Money will be earned for each recycled phone. Help us reach our goal today!

**WRAP continues to collect old cell phones. Many of you have old cell phones gathering dust and taking up space. These phones can be put to good use.**

**Please consider donating cell phones that you no longer use, no matter the condition. Drop off used phones at one of our office locations or you can mail them to us.**

***Thank you!***

The costs of domestic violence go beyond the victims. The ripple effect of domestic violence is felt everywhere: the costs to the criminal justice system; medical (costs)-domestic violence is the number one reason women go to emergency rooms; effect on children living in violent homes and their performance in school; costs to employers for missed work days; and more. Programs such as WRAP provide advocacy services, support groups and preventative programming. Advocates “walk through” the whole criminal justice process with clients.

The need for services grows each year, but funding for battered women’s programs plateaued and is now plummeting downward. Women (and children) in rural areas like Lyon, Lincoln, Redwood, and Yellow Medicine Counties have multiple barriers and few alternative options available if they want to escape their abusive relationship/situation. More than half of Minnesota’s 24 shelters are located in the Twin Cities metro area. That leaves only about one shelter for every eight rural counties. There is no shelter physically located in WRAP’s service area, but WRAP provides short-term safe housing stays and/or assistance with transportation to family, friends, or a shelter.

It will be likely that women will have to leave their communities and go to other cities, or even possibly other states, for advocacy, referral, and shelter. Many victims in rural areas do not have transportation or access to it. This is only one of the many barriers women will face if they will need to go elsewhere for services—they may not be able to leave their situation—or don’t see any hope or way to even try.

Domestic violence services play a critical role in the safety and survival of families. This drastic cut in funding may cause the elimination of a critical lifeline in a successful system that saves women and children’s lives. An example of the severity of these funding cuts is Fillmore Family Resources, Inc. (FFR) located in Preston, MN, approximately 35-40 miles southeast of Rochester, MN. Fillmore Family Resources will close this November due to its funding cuts by OJP. OJP defunded the agency that primarily provides services to victims of domestic violence or child abuse for FY13, effective 10/1/12. The organization is funded through 9/30/12 and will continue to offer services until that time. It will also start referring clients to other organizations for services. Jeri Boisvert, OJP Executive Director, says she didn’t know that the lack of state funding would cause programs to close.

The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women and the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault are working together to try to develop strategies for programs that were defunded or took a significant cut. These cuts bring a very real threat to each program’s ability to provide needed services to the individuals suffering from violence and abuse.

The Women’s Rural Advocacy Programs, Inc. (WRAP) was cut ~45.0% in its FY13 award. WRAP is pursuing applying for other grants to obtain monies to support critical operating costs: office rent; postage; printing/copying; telephone lines; office and program supplies; premiums for required business insurance coverage; mileage reimbursements for staff; etc.

The timeline is short and October 1, 2012 will arrive all too soon. WRAP’s being able to continue providing these essential services beyond September 30 is seriously uncertain. Please thoughtfully consider making a donation to help ensure WRAP’s future existence.

## *It Only Takes a Moment*

*It only takes a moment  
to reach out to be a friend,  
but to the one who needs you  
the memory never ends.  
A simple act of kindness  
to a person you don't know  
may plant a seed of friendship  
that for them will always grow.  
We sometimes lose perspective  
of the difference we can make,  
when we care more of our giving  
and care less of what we take.  
So remember that your actions  
may help change a life someday.  
Always think about the person  
that you meet along the way.  
For it only takes a moment  
to reach out to be a friend,  
but to the one who needs you  
the memory never ends.*



## Asian-Americans Rarely Report Domestic Violence

A new study finds that Asian-American victims of domestic violence rarely seek care from health providers or report it to law enforcement.

Asian-Americans are the fastest growing racial group in the United States, and Hyunkag Cho, Ph.D., a Michigan State University researcher, believes the failure to seek care is a combination of cultural barriers that discourage victims from seeking help, and lack of culturally sensitive services.

The dearth of services could be eased by having a local domestic violence hotline that could facilitate calls from Chinese- or Korean-speaking victims, Cho said. The absence of such service may dissuade a victim who failed to get help the first time from trying again.

“Authorities and health care providers need to be equipped with information and resources for adequately addressing the needs of victims of domestic violence among Asians and other racial minorities,” Cho said.

The realization that Asian-Americans are the fastest growing racial group may be a surprise. According to a recent Pew Research Center report, Asian-Americans constitute 36 percent of all immigrants who arrived in 2010, with Latinos second, at 31 percent.

In a study published by the journal *Violence Against Women*, Cho found that Asian victims used mental health services only 5.3 percent of the time, while Latino victims used them 14.6 percent of the time.

Cho used survey data from about 350 victims culled from the National Latino and Asian-American Study.

In a second study, based on several national surveys and featured in the *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, he found that Asian victims of domestic violence were at least four times less likely to use mental health services than whites, blacks or Latinos.

In his native Korea, Cho said he had friends who refused to seek help for domestic violence. In many Asian cultures, seeking help can be seen as shameful to the victim and the victim’s family.

Cho believes authorities should focus on the development of affordable, culturally sensitive services for to Asia-Americans. He believes policymakers and other experts have placed too much emphasis on the effects of individual and cultural barriers.

“We need to look at the bigger picture,” Cho said. “We need more outreach efforts to increase access to domestic violence services.”

Source: [Michigan State University](http://psychcentral.com/news/2012/07/17/asian-americans-rarely-report-domestic-violence/41770.html)

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## Training Coming to Our Community!

### Minnesota Network on Abuse in Later Life (MNALL)

A Collaborative Agency and Community Response to Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Victimization in Later Life

**Wednesday, August 22, 2012 9:00AM-12:00PM**

**Adult Community Center in Marshall, Minnesota**

**Hosted by WRAP** beverages and snacks will be provided

For more information, contact the Marshall WRAP office OR email [wassisant@letswrap.com](mailto:wassisant@letswrap.com)

#### Participants will be able to:

- Understand, promote, and use an interdisciplinary approach and victim-centered advocacy focusing on victim safety
- Be prepared to continue interdisciplinary services and support of a commitment to non-violence and safety for all those in later life in their communities, with awareness of generational ageism
- Understand AGEISM and identify challenges and barriers to services accessed by victims and the effect on intervention strategies

#### Who Should attend?

- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocates and Admin Personnel, Adult Protection Workers, Social Workers, Health Care Providers to Seniors, Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, Community Senior Service Providers, Faith Communities, and Area Seniors

**Requesting a minimum of 20 attendees to be able to offer the training.**

*Minnesota Network on Abuse in Later Life*