

# Annual Report 2007

Capital Area Family Violence Intervention Center, Inc.



**Battered  
Women's  
Program**

**United  
Way**



## The Year in Review

As we move into our 30th anniversary year of community service, it is a great source of pride to look back on 2007 and what CAFVIC/Battered Women's Program has accomplished. As long as CAFVIC maintains the community's support, we will continue to provide services to all individuals and families who are victims of domestic violence. The Battered Women's Program has always worked to improve the community response to domestic violence and worked to make the community a safer place for all families. To that end our goal remains to engage everyone in understanding domestic violence, its impact on the family and the community through recruitment of volunteers, advocacy, education and action plans for getting citizens actively involved in our efforts to end domestic violence, in our community.

## Accomplishments

- Advocated for legislation that changed laws on the definition of strangulation
- Advocated for legislation that provided for worker's compensation when women lose their jobs due to domestic violence
- Advocated for the creation of the utility deposit exemption, approved by the Public Service Commission
- Expanded our outreach services to all seven parishes in our service area

## Statistics

- 24 hour Crisis-Line over **2700** callers
- Emergency Shelter / **822** women and children
- Counseling/Advocacy/Support **2050** women
- **1398** victims of domestic and dating violence received help through our legal services
- **132** community education speeches and workshops presented to over **3500** participants
- **75** training session for over **1272** volunteers and professionals
- **88** media events / **20** booth/exhibit events.

## Agency Funding

### **Capital Area United Way**

### **Government Agencies**

- OWP– Office on Women's Policy
- CACFP-Child and Adult Care Food Program
- CVA-Crime Victim Assistance
- FEMA-Federal Emergency Management Agency
- VAWA-Victims Against Women's Act
- ESGP– Emergency Shelter Grants Program
- EBR –East Baton Rouge Parish
- U.S. Department of Justice
- Ascension Parish
- Iberville Parish
- New Voices

### **Foundations**

- Huey & Angelina Wilson Foundation
- Lamar Family Foundation
- BASF
- IOLTA –Interest on Lawyers Trust Account
- Fore! Kids Foundation
- William E. Montan Trust
- Entergy Foundation
- St. James Episcopal

### **Events**

WCSO– Annual Women's Chef Show Off

### **Donations/Contributions**

### **Our Mission:**

To end domestic violence in the ten parish Capital Area United Way area through:

- Serving victims of family violence,
- Educating the public about family violence, and
- Impacting economic, social, and cultural conditions and attitudes that contribute to domestic violence.

### Shelter Programs and Services

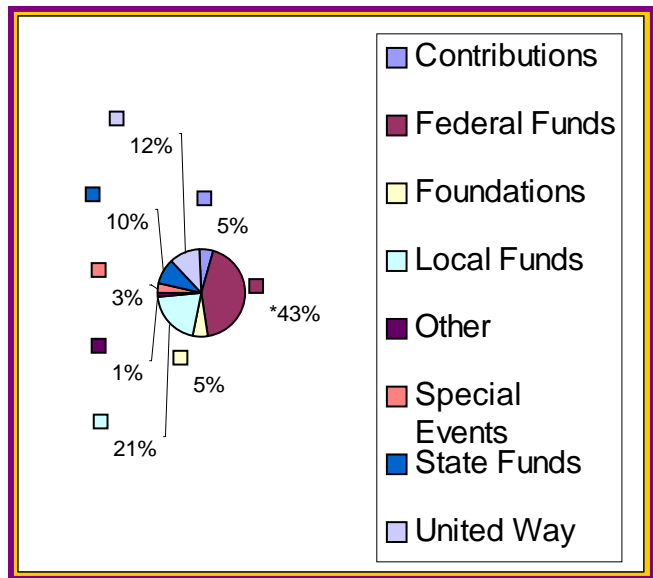
- **24-hour Crisis Line**—staffed by trained employees and volunteers to provide information, referrals to other agencies, support and emergency safety planning
- **Emergency Shelter**— offers temporary emergency housing to battered women and their children who have no safe place to stay. Room and board are provided at no charge, for a limited time.
- **Counseling** - program is designed to offer emotional support and information to battered women. Specialized individual and group counseling services are offered to the children. Peer support group meetings are offered to accommodate women’s schedules and safety. Individual sessions can also be arranged.
- **Advocacy** -program assists battered women in meeting their basic needs (connecting to social service, financial assistance, etc.); and emergency needs (transportation, medical care, etc.)
- **Education and Training** –program provides information about domestic violence to interested school, church and community groups. Training is also available to those professional organizations and their employees concerning domestic violence in the workplace.
- **Legal Services** –program assists battered women with their legal needs (i.e. protection orders, pressing charges, court appearances, and access to legal representation)

### Volunteer Program

- **4356** total hours in childcare, Crisis-Line management, facilities assistance and maintenance assistance. Over **50** volunteers contributed **1736** hours on the crisis line , **362** with children and other hours **1239**.



### Financial Overview of FY 2007



\*These funds include a Department of Justice 2-year grant, expended through 2007.

### CAFVIC Main Events

**Kids Café** For another year the Junior League of Baton Rouge funded Kids’ Café, a joint project of the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and CAFVIC. Saturday mornings provide the time for Jr. League volunteers and the children residing in Zonta House to learn together about food and nutrition.

### Annual Women Chefs’ Show Off - February 1, 2007

Over thirty chefs and more than five hundred guests gathered to enjoy one of the most successful Women Chefs’ Show Off events, to date. The event, which included wonderful food, music by Betsy Braud and the Nurse Prescription Band, flowers by Lance Hayes, and a silent auction, exceeded everyone’s expectations. The event was Chaired by Keith Richard and the Silent Auction Chair was Alexzene “AI” Banker. The event raised over \$45,500 for the CAFVIC/ Battered Women’s Program, thanks to the generous donations of our corporate and individual sponsors.



**BASF Sponsored Golf Tournament.** The employees and management of BASF Industries of Giesmer, once again sponsored a Golf Tournament at Pelican Point in Gonzales. The proceeds from this event help to support the services provide by the Battered Women’s Program in Ascension Parish .



### CAFVIC Main Events

#### Women's Week —Luncheon and Workshop

On October 2, 2007 the Battered Women's Program facilitated a workshop/luncheon during Women's Week (sponsored by the Women's Council) called *A Dialogue of Hope and More Food for Thought*. Women and men came together at this workshop to discuss our individual roles in ending violence against women.

The workshop coincided beautifully with the birthday of one of the greatest peace advocates to ever grace humanity, Mahatma Gandhi. The facilitators opened the dialogue with the words of Gandhi, which reminded us immediately of the common humanity we all share and this awareness set the tone for our workshop. When the workshop concluded we all left ready to be the change agents needed to make this world a better place and safer for all.

International Women's Day Celebration originated from a union movement in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when women held a "Hunger March" in New York to protest dangerous working conditions, and called for a 10 hour workday and improved wages. In commemoration of this event the celebration of International Women's Day began. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the power of women, and all that they bring their families, the causes they care about, and our larger community.

In Baton Rouge, women play key roles in developing community resources and the economy. The Program annually recognizes someone who represents the breadth of support in the community for women and issues important to women.

On March 8, 2007, **Sibal Holt** was honored at Juban's for her dedication and leadership in the community. She is the Past President of the Louisiana AFL-CIO, where she committed 31 years of work. Since 1965 she has been a number of "firsts" in her professional career, breaking color lines, glass ceilings and economic barriers. She sits on numerous boards and commissions representing poor and working people and has been recognized for her achievement by many community organizations.

### CAFVIC Main Events

#### Take Back The Night

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the Battered Women's Program (BWP) used this as a further opportunity to reach out to the community and educate about the dynamics of domestic violence. Five candlelight vigils and programs were held throughout the Capital Area that reached all of the communities in our service area.

Martha Forbes, Executive Director of the Battered Women's Program, stood in the twilight as people gathered around the front steps of Baton Rouge High School for the annual "Take Back The Night" candlelight vigil and march. After welcoming the crowd of over 300 community members, the evening events began. Poems were read, songs were sung and survivors were given the opportunity to tell their stories and say words of encouragement and thanks. After this the candlelight vigil began. The names of the women, men and children killed in Louisiana in the last year as a result of domestic violence were read for the public to hear. As each name was read, a large drum was struck, a chakra bowl was rung and a silhouette was raised to honor the life of each murder victim. The march began directly after the candlelight vigil.

The Baton Rouge Event Chair, Kathy Saichuk and other volunteers planned and collaborated with the District Attorneys, Law Enforcement agencies, LSU and Southern Universities, the YWCA and many other organizations within our community who see the devastation of domestic violence. The following co-sponsors and community agencies also contributed to this event: LSU Wellness Education Department, LSU Women's Center, Rape Crisis Center, Presbyterian Women of South LA -Clothesline Project, LA Coalition Against Domestic Violence, LA Secretary of State- LA Confidential Program, Capital Area Animal Welfare Society, LA Dept. of Health and Hospitals, East Baton Rouge Parish BHSF, Crime Victim Assistance- EBR Sheriff's Office, Constable's Office and Coca-Cola.





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*Nearly one in five girls report being abused by a boyfriend.*

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*Intimate partner violence results in approximately 2 million injuries each year.*

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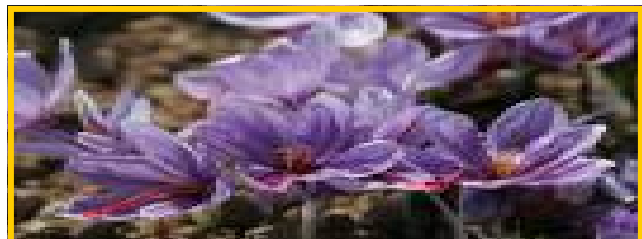
## Government

CACFP-Child and Adult Care Food Program  
 CVA-Crime Victim Assistance  
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 East Baton Rouge Parish  
 ESGP-Emergency Shelter Grants Program  
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*Pregnant women are more likely to be victims of homicide than to die from any other cause and many are killed by their intimate partners.*

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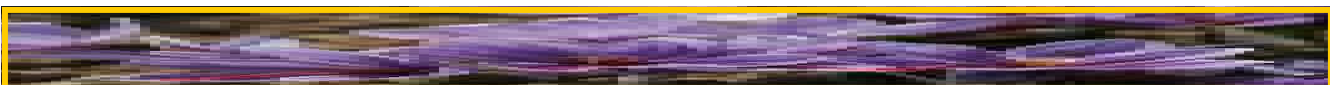
*More than 3.3 million children witness domestic violence in their home each year.*

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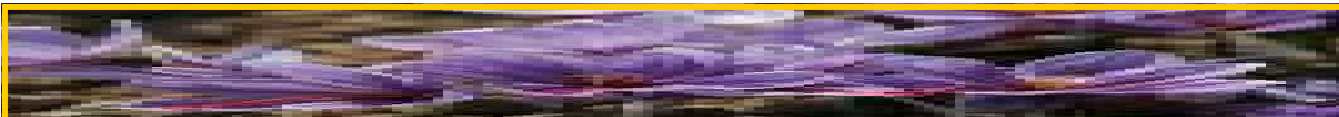
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*Approximately 5.3 million incidents of domestic violence occur each year.*



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## **CAFVIC**

**Capital Area Family Violence Intervention Center, Inc.  
 Battered Women's Program**

Supporting women and their children in their efforts to live violence free.

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