



Request for Appropriation

Domestic Violence: Utah County Shelter Infrastructure Expansion

Sen. Allen Christensen

This funding would allow the shelter to expand capacity and reduce the need to turn away individuals.

Statewide Public Purpose

Other domestic violence shelters in the State agree that this shelter has the most serious capacity issues and presents the largest challenge to serving the needs of domestic violence victims statewide.

Financing

Financing Source	2019 One-Time	2020 One-Time	2020 Ongoing
General Fund*	\$0	\$465,000	\$0

The sponsor has requested that funding from sources marked with an asterisk not lapse.

Additional Notes

Contact Information

Dennis Hansen

Director, Center for Women and Children in Crisis

801-358-3000

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Center for Women and Children in Crisis

Critical Need in Utah County:

Domestic violence shelters can serve as a buffer between those fleeing domestic violence and homelessness. They offer immediate sheltering and can both provide and connect victims with services that will help ensure longer term stability and independent living. However, the Utah State Domestic Violence Coalition has determined that the shortage of domestic violence sheltering in Utah and Juab Counties is extremely critical. While the combined population of Utah and Juab Counties is approximately 617,675 and growing rapidly, the only shelter facility, the Center for Women and Children in Crisis (CWCIC) has only 25 shelter beds, a ratio of 1 bed for 24,707 individuals. For the other 28 counties or county partnerships in Utah, the average ratio is 1:4,404 with range of 1:10,840 (Davis) to 1:606 (San Juan). Nationally the average ratio is 1:8,696. This critical disparity puts Utah County three times below the national average and has become significantly pronounced in recent years as CWCIC has had to relocate hundreds of victims to other counties to receive sheltering services. Last year, 518 clients (273 households) were relocated or turned away for lack of space. The added burden that this has placed on these individuals and on the other programs in the state has been significant.

***Our Mission** is to provide a safe, caring, therapeutic, and educationally-based environment to assist the recovery of survivors of dating and domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking; facilitate their self-sufficiency; and decrease the incidence of violence against women and children.*

Objective: *Ensure that all survivors of domestic violence who are at risk of returning to a situation of abuse due to difficulty with housing, employment, and/or mental and physical adjustment, be provided with safe shelter, support, and assistance for a sufficient length of time to empower them to live a life free from abuse.*

Over the next two years, we intend on raising funds from private sources to construct an 80-bed shelter facility in Provo Utah (we have already obtained 5 acres of property donated near the Provo Airport worth \$1,500,000 and \$1,000,000 toward this project). We anticipate that approximately \$9,000,000 additional funding will be necessary to complete this project.

Budget Request:

We are seeking \$465,000 to help us in our plans to construct a new shelter facility. Funding would be used to pay for the following:

- Architectural fees \$240,000;
- Engineering to include structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing costs \$55,000;
- Site improvements \$170,000.

Performance Measures:

We anticipate that funding toward this program will provide:

- Sheltering service for approximately 900 clients (100% of those seeking help) annually providing shelter, food, clothing, emergency interventions, therapeutic services, advocacy, and assistance with obtaining low-income housing and sustainable income.
- 90% of survivors who receive CWCIC services will obtain permanent housing, employment or other sustainable income, and be able to live independent of our assistance within 6 months of exiting our programs.
- 90% of clients will continue to live free from abusive relationships beyond one year from the time they exit the program.

Please feel free to call me to arrange a visit (801) 358-3000 or dhansen@cwic.org.