



RAPID CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Allender, Chief of Police

November 21, 2012

The Rapid City Common Council
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Council Member:

I am writing to explain and lay some foundation for a request coming your way.

In 2004 the City began budgeting within the Police budget, \$25,000 for Working Against Violence (WAVI). The contribution was seen as some general compensation for services provided to domestic violence and sexual assault victims by WAVI.

For some reason, no payment was made to WAVI during the years 2005-2008, even though it was budgeted each year. So, for four years WAVI missed out on a total of \$100,000 in promised funds.

This year, a contract was initiated with WAVI to strengthen the City's agreement and relationship with WAVI. During the course of the contract discussions, the value of services provided by WAVI was questioned. I worked with WAVI to establish a list of services that would need to be provided to victims, should WAVI cease to exist. Those documents, which are attached, indicate that to provide minimal services for victim protection and coordination, the City would incur an expense of over \$400,000 annually. Domestic violence is a terrible problem and requires a significant response.

After speaking with the Mayor and meeting with WAVI, I believe it is necessary to do two things:

1. Reimburse WAVI for the \$100,000 promised, but not delivered. This would likely require a supplemental appropriation for 2013.
2. Carefully consider WAVI's request for future payment during the 2014 budget cycle.

I cannot emphasize enough how important the services provided by WAVI are.

I also feel compelled to share that WAVI did not come to us complaining. I am aware though that they are projecting shortfalls of \$80,000 for 2012 and over \$100,000 for 2013. Many of their funding sources are drying up.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Allender".

Steve Allender
Chief of Police

Cost the City would incur without WAVI

RCPD refers about 1,000 victims to WAVI each year.

If the City provided a maximum of 6 motel rooms each night (365 days a year) at \$50.00 per night, the expense would total \$109,500 per year, just to keep victims alive for one night. An additional 10% would account for overflow when more motel rooms are needed due to extreme emergency situations, which is \$10,950. This brings the yearly total to \$120,450. This number is based on the RCPD's speculation of their staff/financial capabilities, not the actual number of victims seeking safe shelter. This amount also does not include extra patrol to provide safety checks, basic necessities of food or personal care items, or support services such as transportation, community resources, and case management.

This is less than half of the rooms available at WAVI, which means that many women and children would be turned away until a room became available. On average, a victim would need at least 3 nights to secure another safe location. WAVI does not have maximum lengths of stay; our average length of stay is 11 days. This allows victims to create safety plans, find resources, receive comprehensive case management, and take a breath. In 2011, WAVI provided emergency safe shelter to 305 women and 278 children totaling 12,657 shelter days.

The state allows \$26.00 per diem per person for food. Speculating the additional costs to feed those staying in motel rooms (6 rooms with multiple people per room), the expense would be:

Room 1: 2 Single women \$52 per day for food average 11 days \$616

Room 2: Mom +2 \$78 per day for food average 11 days \$858

Room 3: Mom +3 \$104 per day for food average 11 days \$1,144

Room 4: Mom + 4 \$130 per day for food average 11 days \$1,430

Room 5: Mom + 2 \$78 per day for food average 11 days \$858

Room 6: Mom + 3 \$104 per day for food average 11 days \$1,144

The expense to feed 6 families for 11 days (WAVI's average) in this scenario would total \$5,590.

WAVI's food budget for an entire month is \$800.

Now that food and shelter are taken care of (only the most basic needs), we must account for the extra staff needed to provide at least minimal case management: safety planning, court and legal advocacy, crisis management, community referrals, and emotional support. Two full time staff would be required to fill this need with an average salary of \$33,000 each per year plus payroll taxes and benefits (not accounted for here). There would also be the additional expense for patrol officers to provide safety checks for those in the motel.

Basic services WAVI provides: 24 hour crisis lines, 24 hour staff, 24 hour emergency safe shelter, 24 hour emergency room response, comprehensive case management, safety planning, court, legal and medical advocacy, emotional support, support groups, community referrals, and community education—just to name a few.

Costs of shelter provided by the RCPD to domestic violence victims (max. 6 motel rooms/night):

of Rooms	Cost per Room	Per Night	365 Nights	10% overflow
6	\$ 50.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 109,500.00	\$ 10,950.00
			Total	\$120,450

WAVI's 2011 shelter stays at the RCPD cost:

- 11 Nights average @ \$50/night = \$550 per client
- 2011 total clients: 305 women X \$550 = \$167,750

Cost of food for domestic violence victims sheltered by the RCPD (max. of 6 families):

Per Day /Per Person	Cost per day	# of days	Total
\$ 26.00			
2 Single Women	\$ 56.00	11	\$616.00
Mom +2	\$ 78.00	11	\$858.00
Mom +3	\$ 104.00	11	\$1,144.00
Mom +4	\$ 130.00	11	\$1,430.00
Mom +2	\$ 78.00	11	\$858.00
Mom +3	\$ 104.00	11	\$1,144.00
Total Per Day	\$550.00		
Total Per 6 families /11days	\$6,050		
Total Per Year	\$200,750.00		

WAVI's 2011 shelter days with food provided at the RCPD cost:

- \$26 per person/per day for day for food X 12,657 shelter days = \$329,082

Basic shelter and food costs for WAVI's 2011 clients served, at RCPD costs: 496,832.00

Police Department Staffing Costs for Domestic Violence:

Staff Costs	Cost Per Hour	hours/week	Annual Total
Case Mgr FTE	\$15.86	40	\$33,000.00
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Extra Patrol	\$22.00	14	\$16,016.00
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Annual PD Expense			\$98,032.00

Expenses to provide basic needs and case management to 1 mother with 2 children for 1 day:

Expenses	Mom + 2 kids
Room	\$50.00
Food	\$78.00
Case Mgr, 1 hour	\$15.86
Patrol, 1 hour	\$22.00
Daily Expense	\$165.86
Yearly Expense	\$60,538.90