



**Working Against Violence, Inc.**

**Working Against Violence, Inc.**, is a private 501c3 nonprofit serving victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Since 1978, WAVI has been committed to providing comprehensive services to support, educate, and advocate for victims. Currently, we are the largest domestic violence and sexual assault service provider in Western South Dakota. We also provide hundreds of hours of community education each year to schools, civic groups, churches, clubs, and the Pennington County Jail (for female inmates). WAVI staff serves on the Pennington County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Forces.

**Mission: WAVI works to create a community free from domestic violence and sexual assault through advocacy, education, and support services.**

**Vision: WAVI envisions a world free from violence.**

WAVI’s services include emergency safe shelter, case management, legal, medical, and court advocacy, 24-hour crisis hotlines, emergency room response, support groups, and community information and referrals.

- In 2012:**
- 2,148 total clients were served
  - 553 individuals stayed in shelter for a total of 10,454 days
    - 270 women
    - 283 children
  - 97 were victims of sexual assault, a 30% increase from 2011
  - Our staff answered 1,520 crisis calls
  - We assisted with filing 101 protection orders
  - A total of 29,362 services were provided

Costs without WAVI	Shelter	Food	9 days (avg stay at WAVI 2012)
Single Woman	\$50/night	\$26/day	\$684
Mom + 3 Kids	\$50/night	\$104/day	\$1,386

These costs are based on the State rates of reimbursement for hotel and food, assuming there was no safe shelter with access to food/kitchen when victims are forced to leave their homes.

**The CARE Team (Coordinated Action Response Enhancement/ Enforcement Team)**

WAVI, the Pennington County Sheriff’s Office (PCSO), and the Rapid City Police Department (RCPD) partnered in 2006 to form the CARE Team, with the goal of streamlining services and ensuring that the needs of victims were effectively and efficiently met.

**2006:** Two Case Manager positions funded through a Federal grant program, with offices at the Public Safety Building.

**2010:** Pennington County is removed from rural classification, leaving the CARE team ineligible for grant funding. WAVI/PCSO/PD cut staffing to one Case Manager (costs are absorbed by WAVI).

**Present:** WAVI continues to partner with the PCSO and RCPD, providing one CARE Team Case Manager. In 2012, the PCSO had 575 domestic violence cases assigned, out of 1,382 reported.

WAVI feels that the CARE Team is vital to providing effective victim support services and will continue to work diligently in this partnership. This program proactively responds to Police and Sheriff reports. Since the program began, case loads continue to increase amid cuts to staffing. Additional reports have been passed to WAVI’s other Case Management staff. Funding to WAVI’s general operating budget would greatly increase our ability to effectively manage our role in the CARE Team while maintaining our regular case load.

**Funding:** WAVI receives a combinations of government funding, public and private grant support, and individual contributions. Our Operating Budget for 2013 is \$863,318.

