



## FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER

**Request:** Maintain full funding for Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) priorities, thus increasing funding for Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors (STOP) grant funding available to all criminal justice system partners including victim services, the courts, prosecution and law enforcement.

Maintain the \$1.07 billion dollar cap on Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding and uphold the April 2012 Commerce, Science and Justice appropriation bill that states that Congress is not allowed to move any VOCA funding to non-VOCA federal programs.

Increase funding for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). This is a critical funding source for domestic violence shelters and provides the primary funding source for the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

### Community Value:

The city of Phoenix Family Advocacy Center (FAC) provides advocacy, case management and counseling services to victims of violent interpersonal crimes. During FFY 2012, the FAC served 6,309 clients. Additionally, the FAC provided 32 forensic sexual assault exams each month. There were 438 protective orders and 512 crisis intervention sessions provided to FAC clients. On average, 128 hours of counseling were provided and 54 clients received long-term case management services each month.



### Background:

The FAC's community partners (both on-site and community-based) are impacted by federal funding through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and VOCA. These partners include organizations such as A New Leaf, EMPACT-SPC, Jewish Family and Children's Service and Scottsdale Healthcare. Additionally, STOP and FVPSA funding support a diverse local network of non-profit and governmental agencies that interact with, and provide services in support of, domestic and sexual violence victims.

Congress renewed VAWA and passed the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting (SAFER) Act on Feb. 28, 2013. VAWA funding provides for programs that have helped to reduce sexual assault in the U.S., while the SAFER Act will help eliminate the backlog of untested DNA evidence from unsolved sexual assault cases. Maintaining the \$1.07 billion cap and not allowing a shift of funds from VAWA will provide for the increasing demand of crime victim services.

Increased FVPSA funding will help support domestic violence shelters and ensure the national domestic violence hotline remains operational. Additionally, the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which advocates for domestic violence victims and issues at the state level, receives significant funding through FVPSA.

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