



Cost of Domestic Violence In *Southern St. Louis County*

The Domestic Abuse Intervention Program (DAIP) offers domestic violence training and resources based on the Duluth Model to help community activists, domestic violence workers and practitioners in the criminal and civil justice systems, human service providers, and community leaders make a direct impact on domestic abuse.

Victim Service Agencies Are Providing Quality Care.

In 2006 and 2007 the Office of Justice Programs, in partnership with Wilder Research conducted a survey of crime victims who worked with victim service advocates.

- 97% of victims agreed or strongly agreed that the services received here helpful.
- 92% of victims agreed or strongly agreed that they learned something new to keep themselves or their families safe in the future.
- 95% of victims surveyed agreed or strongly agreed that they received the services that they needed and wanted as a result of their victimization.

**Estimated Yearly
Cost of Domestic Violence
In Our Service Area:**

\$25,695,154

PROGRAM NARRATIVE:

In 2008, 1250 battered women in DAIP's area received services. The fiscal cost of domestic violence is staggering.

After calculating medical costs and costs incurred from lost productivity (see next page), each year domestic violence costs \$16,449.00 per woman abused.

Domestic violence costs approximately \$25,695,154.00 dollars in DAIP service area last year. This number is a low estimate, as it does not include the costs of services for men, children, or secondary victims.

DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Cost of Domestic Violence Breakdown

Tangible Costs

Productivity	\$1,117.00
Medical Care/Ambulance	\$456.00
Mental Health Care	\$119.00
Property Loss/Damage	\$57.00

Subtotal Tangible **\$1,749.00**

Quality of Life: **\$14,700.00**

TOTAL COST TO VICTIM **\$16,449.00***

1250 X \$16,449 = **\$24,311,250**

Law Enforcement Costs:

LE Call Response	\$29,820
LE Calls with Arrests	\$174,500

Total Law Enforcement* **\$472,700**

Probation Costs **\$238,209**
So. St. Louis County

Total Court Costs*: **\$941,375**

TOTAL SYSTEM COST: **\$1,383,904**

*Miller, T.R., Cohen, M.A., & Wiersma, B. (1996), *Victim Costs and Consequences: A New Look* (NIJ Research Report NCJ 155282 & U.S. GPO: 1996-495-037/20041). Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice. Amounts are rounded and based on adult victimization and are in 2008 dollars based on the Consumer Price Index:

*Law enforcement calculations were determined by local and national data sources. See methodology document.
*Probation costs were determined by local and national data sources. See methodology document.
*Court costs were determined by local and national data sources. See methodology document.

Shelter Intakes

■ Women

293

2008

Bed Days

11077

10619

11883

12034

2005

2006

2007

2008

METHODOLOGY

COSTS OF VICTIMIZATION

Service Numbers:

The number of people who were victims of domestic violence was taken from the [insert program name year] State fiscal Year 2008 service numbers. The victims served may or may not have reported their abuse to law enforcement.

Methods used for estimating costs of domestic violence in Minnesota

- When possible, cost estimates were collected from state agencies. When Minnesota data was not readily available, national studies were used and adjusted for inflation. Most costs not directly available from Minnesota Sources came from a national study of domestic violence costs (CDC, 2003) or from *Victim Costs and Consequences: A New Look* (Miller, Cohen, and Weirsma, 1996))

Intangible and Intangible Costs:

MCBW used the most recent comprehensive analysis of the cost of crime per criminal victimization incident. These numbers are an underestimation of costs, but do provide us with a starting point to understand the devastating economic impact of domestic violence. Tangible costs include medical care, property damage or loss, reduced productivity at work, home and school. Intangible costs include non monetary losses - such as fear, pain, suffering and lost quality of life. The costs are based on a detailed estimate of victimization cost per crime incident. These costs are averages and include crimes that have minimal impact on victims as well as extremely violent crimes that result in long hospital stays and devastate victims' quality of life for years to come. (Pgs 9-10, Miller, T.R., Cohen, M.A., & Wiersma, B. (1996)

SYSTEM COSTS

Law Enforcement

Police salaries, including fringe benefits and do not include all possible policing costs. For example, the cost of injury incurred by police officers during investigation of incidents of violent behavior is not reflected here.

Methods used for estimating law enforcement costs:

- Law enforcement responses to domestic violence calls with no arrest were multiplied by the average response time of 1 hour times the average law enforcement salary of \$60.00.
- Domestic violence arrests were calculated by taking the number of domestic violence arrests times the average cost of processing an assault \$500.00 (or average time spent on investigation of DV calls with arrest) from *Understanding and Preventing Violence: Consequences and Control, Vol. 4.*

Court Administrative Costs:

Court administrative costs were calculated by utilizing national estimated cost for state court time, about \$4 per minute in 1982 (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1988d:123) adjusted for inflation (based on the consumer price index) which is \$8.50 per minute. \$8.50 per minute was multiplied by the average minimum time spent of 3.7 hours (250 minutes) from *Understanding and Preventing Violence: Consequences and Control, Vol. 4.*

Probation

Probation costs were calculated by multiplying the number of offenders on probation with a domestic violence offense in the given service area times the cost per day for probation times 365 days. The American Probation and Parole Association estimates the cost of probation/parole as \$3.10 per offender, per day.

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