



CREATING SAFER COMMUNITIES
ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
TOGETHER

August 13, 2013



Town of Waitsfield, Vermont
Select Board
9 Bridge Street
Waitsfield, VT 05673

Dear Select Board,

Circle (formally Battered Women's Services and Shelter) is requesting \$350 for FY14 from the Town of Waitsfield in support of the work that we do for victims of domestic violence. Enclosed with our request you will find our statistical information from Fiscal Year 2013.

Circle is a small, community based organization dedicated to ending all forms of domestic violence. Circle provides services to all victims of domestic violence, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, or ethnicity. Circle has always provided these necessary services at no cost, which is why we greatly depend on and truly appreciate the continued support from the community that we serve.

We ask that the taxpayers of your town be notified of our request so that they may choose to support the services that Circle provides. We at Circle ask that this request be included in the warning for the next Town Meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact our administrative office at (802)-476-6010 or email bwss@sover.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Baker".

Carolyn Baker
Direct Service Coordinator
Circle





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Circle continues to evaluate and improve upon existing services available to victims of intimate partner violence. In fiscal year 2013, services were modified and expanded in order to better accommodate the increased needs of victims living in a rural community. Throughout all of these changes, Circle staff and volunteers were kept extremely busy providing the following services:

Staff and volunteers responded to 5,399 hot line calls, an average of 449 calls per month, and an increase of 4% from last year.

- Shelter services were provided to 32 women and 27 children for a total of 1,326 bed nights.
- Our prevention based programs in schools reached a total of 2,055 students in Washington County through the 79 presentations and long-term support groups held during this fiscal year.
- Circle provided community presentations to 806 individuals through the 41 trainings and workshops offered to individuals and professionals in Washington County.
- Advocates provided support to 108 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 111 individuals file for temporary orders.
- Court Education Program was presented to 261 individuals, and our Court Hour Program, which offers one-on-one support to plaintiffs as they prepare for their final hearings, was offered to 61 individuals.
- Over 1,500 people received direct services from Circle, which are maintained by trained staff and volunteers.
- Our organization continues to rely heavily on the vast support of its many dedicated volunteers; Board Members, Hotline Advocates, Group Facilitators, and Shelter Support have all contributed 7,125 hours to the work of Circle.

P.O. Box 652, Barre, Vermont 05641



24-Hour Toll-free Hotline: 1-877-543-9498

Formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter