



**2008 Annual Report**

**Making a Difference in Dane County for  
more than 30 years**

**Changing Lives. Changing Attitudes.**

## About the Organization

### Domestic Abuse Intervention Services

**Our mission** is to empower those affected by domestic violence and advocate for social change through support, education and outreach.

**Our vision** is a nonviolent community that actively promotes safety, peace, justice and hope.

#### **Our values include:**

**Mutual Respect.** We believe the basis for our effective working relationships, within the organization and with our external stakeholders, is a shared knowledge and appreciation for individual differences. We believe individuals have the right to make their own choices concerning personal safety and how they live their lives. We strive to create and foster relationships based in understanding and appreciation for both self and others.

**Openness.** We believe that in serving the community and each other, we benefit from being receptive and responsive to ideas, behaviors, cultures, peoples, environments and experiences. We are accountable not only to our funders and donors, but also to each other as well as the people we serve and the community as a whole. We strive to foster an environment where people feel at ease to share opinions and to question.

**Collaboration.** We believe in the equal distribution of power and privilege throughout society and believe that by working together with each other and with our community partners, we can achieve more than working independently. We strive to create an environment where people exchange strengths and complement others' weaknesses without judgment and with a shared commitment to the purpose.

**Shared Responsibility.** Domestic abuse is a community issue. All members of the community, including abusers, must take responsibility. We work with volunteers, individuals, co-workers, community groups and systems to fulfill our mission and strive toward our vision. We believe that we all have a part to play in creating a safe and peaceful community.

Dear Friend:

It is my privilege to share with you all of the exciting and innovative things that happened at Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) in 2008.



Last year we implemented a new annual event — the “Celebrate Independence!” Luncheon. This new event replaces “The Groove” and was created to celebrate the courage and resiliency of domestic violence survivors, as well as the advocates who work tirelessly to help them achieve safety and independence. We were fortunate to welcome Teri Jendusa Nicolai as our keynote speaker for our inaugural event. Many of you will remember Teri’s incredible story of survival after she was abducted, beaten and left for dead in a storage locker in Illinois by her ex-husband. We were honored to have Teri share her story at our luncheon, and DAIS recognized her bravery and courage by bestowing upon her the inaugural “Phoenix Award” — an award given to someone who epitomizes the strength of domestic violence survivors to “rise from the ashes” of the trauma they have experienced.

DAIS also undertook an intensive Strategic Planning process in 2008. We worked with an outside consultant to help us develop questions which we posed to members of various stakeholder groups including some of our donors, funders, clients, volunteers, community partners, board members and staff. The information gathered from these stakeholder groups was used to refine our mission statement and organizational values as well as to develop recommendations for future directions for the organization. The three areas of focus for the organization over the next 18-36 months include: addressing our facility to meet the growing demands for our services, articulating and integrating an expanded outreach strategy to build awareness of domestic violence and DAIS, and developing a service continuum of programming to help victims become free of violence in their lives. In early 2009, the staff and board of DAIS will be convening work groups around each of these three main issues to create timelines and actions for achieving our strategic plan. I am excited to see where this new plan will take us as we continue our important and life-saving work.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us work towards our vision of a non-violent Dane County that actively promotes safety, peace, justice and hope.

Shannon Barry, MSSW  
Executive Director

## A Note from the Executive Director

## Crisis Line

## 2008 Services

**The Crisis Line** provides crisis intervention, safety planning, support, information and referrals to victims of domestic violence and the people who care about them. The goal is to help victims improve their safety and decrease their isolation.

The Crisis Line is operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is staffed through a combination of paid staff, trained volunteers and work study students. In 2008, volunteer Crisis Line Advocates provided 3,537 hours of time on the crisis line. That is 840 hours more than in 2007!



**6,625 total calls**  
**1,430 first-time callers**

## Children's Program

The **Children's Program** offers programming for children residing in our shelter, as well as children from the community whose moms are attending the drop-in support group. Children's Advocates may also be available to attend Crisis Response appointments. The purpose of this program is to provide children from violent homes with:

- *physical and emotional safety*
- *structure and consistency*
- *opportunities to process their feelings through play and creative activities*
- *experience with positive discipline*



Programming includes recreational, educational and support groups. Children's Advocates are all volunteers or interns. Additionally, we make a concerted effort to recruit men to work in this program to offer children an opportunity to connect with healthy and safe adult male role models.

**In 2008, DAIS served 298 children; 186 of them participated in a children's group.**

## Support Groups



**Support Groups** are offered to women residing in the DAIS shelter. In 2008, DAIS was able to reinstate a weekly Drop-In Support Group for women from the community, through the generous support of A Fund For Women through The Madison Community Foundation.

**The drop-in support group served 118 unduplicated community women in 2008.** 90 percent of the group participants said the group helped them increase their safety.

## 2008 Services

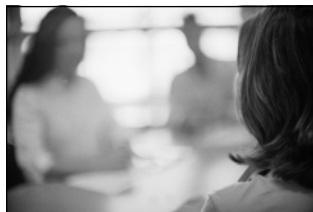
DAIS operates a 25-bed **Safe House** to serve women and their children who have immediate safety risks because of domestic violence. In addition, thanks to generous support from the City of Madison Community Development Block Grant office, for the first time, DAIS was able to offer hotel vouchers when the shelter was full or when we had male clients seeking shelter. In 2008, **483 unduplicated people were served** either in the on-site shelter or in hotels. There were 213 nights in the second half of 2008 when families were waitlisted for shelter because the safe house was full and hotel voucher money was expended for the year (compared with 115 nights for the entire year of 2007).



**Legal Advocates** assist clients in filing for restraining orders, developing safety plans and preparing for injunction hearings. They also provide support to clients during hearings and offer advocacy in criminal, civil and family court systems. Legal Advocates are not lawyers and do not give legal advice. Two full-time Legal Advocates are bilingual in English and Spanish. The Legal Program also works with the UW Law School to connect clients with legal assistance. In addition, interns in the DAIS Legal Program conduct a "Court Watch" study each summer to monitor the treatment of domestic violence victims in the civil court process. The Legal Advocates provide training to the MPD and MATC police academies and provide in-service training to the Dane County Sheriff's Department, MPD, and other law enforcement agencies in Dane County. In 2008, the Legal Advocacy Program served **512 unduplicated adults**, 88 of whom spoke a language other than English as their primary language.



**Crisis Response Advocates** meet with clients face-to-face at safe, confidential partnership sites throughout Dane County. These sites may include hospitals, community agencies, and libraries. Crisis Response Advocates assist clients with safety planning, information about restraining orders, access to direct aid funds for lock changes or relocation, referrals to other agencies and emotional support. The Crisis Response Coordinator is proficient in American Sign Language. In addition, there is one full-time Crisis Response Advocate who is bilingual in English and Spanish. In 2008, **262 unduplicated adults** were served in this program — an **increase of 40%** over the previous year! Of those 262 adults, 23 spoke a language other than English as their primary language.



Emergency  
Shelter

Legal  
Advocacy

Crisis  
Response

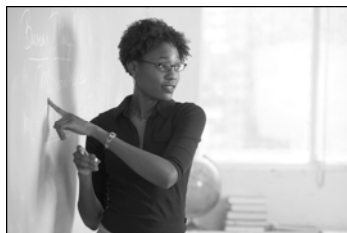
## The DELTA Project

## 2008 Services

**The DELTA Project** is a collaborative community project focused on primary prevention of dating violence and sexual assault. This mission is accomplished by working with adolescent men to help them navigate the many mixed messages they receive about masculinity, strength and violence. Project initiatives in 2008 included: Men Encouraging Non-Violent Strength (M.E.N.S.) Groups which reached about 65 young men in area high schools and community centers and Greek Men's Violence Prevention (GMVP) on the UW-Madison campus which served about 42 men in the Greek system. DELTA staff and community partners trained 250 professionals on topics relating to primary prevention of dating violence and sexual assault and ways to infuse these messages into daily work with young men.



A new Youth Leadership Initiative supported by the Madison Community Foundation was awarded to DAIS for the spring semester of the 2007-2008 school year and the 2008-009 school year. This initiative enabled the hiring of 2 regular part-time teen staff and 5 additional teens to help with school-based primary prevention initiatives. In addition to working with other students, these teen leaders also provided training to professionals from across the state. Grant goals stated that students would offer training to at least 50 professionals within the grant cycle. Within six months these young leaders in partnership with DAIS staff, trained over 80 professionals on the primary prevention of teen dating violence. In addition, they co-facilitated MEN'S groups at their school and also presented to a variety of middle school students in the county. 442 students participated in educational experiences on the topic of healthy relationships facilitated by these student leaders.



As part of our mission to advocate for social change through support, **education and outreach**, DAIS staff and volunteers are actively involved in providing community education and training, as well as serving on various committees, work groups, and task forces to insure that the community is working together to maximize resources

and improve safety for domestic violence victims and their children.

Some of our outreach efforts in 2008 included:

- 152 community education events for 3,837 audience members
- 395 hours of training for 2,157 human service agency staff
- 34.25 hours of training for 123 law enforcement officers
- 71.25 hours of training for 632 related professionals
- 21 media appearances (including television, radio and print media)

## Outreach & Education

Diane Welsh, Department of Health Services — *President*  
 Diane West, Capitol Indemnity Corporation — *Vice President*  
 Susan Bredemann, Capitol Indemnity Corporation — *Treasurer*  
 Tamara Hagen, M.D., UW Health — *Secretary*  
 Rebecca Smith, The Nature Conservancy  
 Marsha Mansfield, UW Law School  
 Steve Potter, Meriter Hospital  
 Linda Lambert, Jewelers Mutual Insurance  
 Melanie Swanson, Covance Inc.  
 Christopher Freeman, Dane County District Attorney's Office  
 Andrew Richards, University of Wisconsin System  
 Boo Mortenson, WTDY Talk Radio  
 Erik Gammell, Tilehaus, LLC  
 Lynne Solomon, UW District Court for Western Wisconsin  
 Gloria Reyes, Madison Police Department  
 Emily Dudak Taylor, The Law Center for Children and Families

## 2008 Board of Directors

Statement of Financial Position		Statement of Activities	
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>	
CURRENT ASSET		Major Grants	880,463
Cash	199,110	Small Grants	8,335
Accounts Receivable	52,500	Donations & Events	198,124
Stock	2,618	Other Revenue	1,000
Prepaid Expenses	22,174	Investment Return	(2,279)
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>276,402</b>	<b>TOTAL SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>	<b>1,085,643</b>
OTHER ASSETS			
Land	39,544	<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Buildings and Equipment	507,687	Personnel	823,805
Furniture and Equipment	22,834	Occupancy	56,198
Subtotal Other Assets	570,065	Operating Expenses	148,062
Less Accumulated Depreciation	412,562	Direct Client Aid	58,577
<b>TOTAL OTHER ASSETS</b>	<b>157,503</b>	Language Line	11,575
		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,098,217</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>433,905</b>	<b>EXCESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>(12,574)</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	7,018		
Accrued Salaries & Related Expenses	51,924		
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>58,942</b>		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>58,942</b>		
NET ASSETS			
Net Assets Designated for Operations	42,095		
Net Assets Designated for Property & Equipment	157,503		
Temporary Restricted Net Assets	23,898		
Net Assets—Undesignated	151,467		
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>374,963</b>		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>433,905</b>		

## 12/31/2008 Financial Statements

*The 2008 Statements of Financial Position and Statements of Activities have been audited by Wegner LLP. Copies of the completed report are available upon request.*

*DAIS complies with all applicable state and federal reporting requirements*

## **DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION SERVICES**

P.O. Box 1761 \* Madison, WI 53701  
Business (608) 251-1237 \* Fax (608) 284-2134  
Help/Crisis/TDD (608) 251-4445 \* (800) 747-4045  
[www.abuseintervention.org](http://www.abuseintervention.org)