CIRCLE

CREATING SAFER COMMUNITIES
ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
TOGETHER

RECEIVED
OCT 21 2016
MARSHFIELD, VERMONT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

October 18, 2016

Town of Marshfield Vermont
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk
122 School Street, Room 1
Marshfield, VT 05658

Dear Bobbi,

Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter) is requesting $350 for FY16 from the Town of Marshfield 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 2016.

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,

Crystal Ryan
Criminal Court Advocate
Circle

P.O. Box 652, Barre, Vermont 05641 **24-Hour Toll-free Hotline: 1-877-543-9498**

Formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE
TOWN OF MARSHFIELD

Name of Organization: Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter)

Address: PO Box 652, Barre, VT 05641

Telephone Number: (802) 476-6010 (unlisted administrative)
24-hour hotline 1-877-543-9498

What type of services do you provide?
All funding received from towns within Washington County support direct services that are provided to all victims of domestic abuse:

- SHELTER: Emergency Shelter for women and their children fleeing from domestic violence
- SHELTER YOUTH PROGRAM: Available to children staying in shelter
- TOLL FREE CONFIDENTIAL 24-HOUR HOT LINE (1-877-543-9498)
- EMERGNCY, CIVIL and CRIMINAL COURT ADVOCACY
- SUPPORT GROUPS
- PREVENTION EDUCATION OFFERED TO SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT WASHINGTON COUNTY
- EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS and TRAININGS: offered to civic organizations and businesses.
- INFORMATION AND REFERRAL: information about domestic violence and community resources, as well as individualized advocacy and referral to social service, legal, employment, counseling, and housing options.

How do your services directly impact the citizens of Marshfield?
Due to confidentiality issues, the majority of clients who call our hotline or request services from us do not disclose their town of residence. Because so many callers or clients do not identify themselves or the area from which they are residing in, it is difficult to report with any degree of accuracy the true number of Marshfield residents served. **6 unduplicated Marshfield residents identified themselves on our hotline. Advocates helped 2 residents with housing. 2 residents accessed legal advocacy. And 3 residents used our referral's and information.**

How many Marshfield residents were served? 6

Last Year's Appropriation Request: $350.00

Last Year's grant: Circle received $150 from the town of Marshfield for fiscal year 2016.

Current Request: $350.00
Explanation of any increase in this year's request (if applicable)

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As Circle continues to serve our Washington County community, our programs and procedures must accurately reflect these increasingly complicated times. By reviewing and updating current policies, we have been able to measure our growth, visualize our strengths, and determine what gaps must be addressed in order for us to continue to provide services that address the needs of victims of domestic violence. The work that is done now will have a lasting effect on the entire organization, by providing the framework and direction for the future progression of the services and work that we do. Throughout our review and updating process, Circle staff and volunteers were kept extremely busy during fiscal year 2016 providing the following services:

- Staff and volunteers responded to 4,956 hot line calls, an average of 413 calls per month.
- Shelter services were provided to 26 women and 19 children for a total of 3,063 bed nights, which is 728 more bed nights than last year.
- Our prevention based programs in schools reached a total of 67 students through the 10 presentations and long-term support groups held during this fiscal year.
- Circle provided community presentations to 338 individuals through the 25 trainings and workshops offered to individuals and professionals in Washington County.
- Advocates provided support to 113 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 122 individuals file for temporary orders.
- Court Education Program was presented to 186 individuals, and our Court Hour Program, which offers one-on-one support to plaintiffs as they prepare for their final hearings, was offered to 23 individuals.
- Circle held 15 support group sessions, which 16 women attended, and 34 people received legal assistance through our free Legal Clinics.
- 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, and Shelter Support have all contributed 9,902 hours to the work of Circle.

Our services include:

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