



Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence, Inc.

Post Office Box 333, Biloxi, MS 39533 Crisis Line 800-800-1396 Crisis Line 228-435-1968 Office 228-436-3809 Fax 228-435-0513

July 6, 2016

Councilman Rusty Anderson
City of Gautier, Ward 4
3330 US-90
Gautier, Mississippi 39553

Re: 2016 Funding Request

Dear Councilman Anderson:

Did you know that **1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking** by an intimate in their lifetime? The Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence (Center) is an active community agency committed to stemming the effects of interpersonal violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in Gautier. In 2015, the Center provided direct services in Gautier to adult and child victims of interpersonal violence. Enclosed is a copy of our 2015 statistical information for services provided to the residents of Gautier.

On behalf of the Center and its Board of Directors, I am writing to request your continued support and consideration in providing critical local funding. Specifically, I am requesting \$1,000 to continue providing life saving services to your residents. As a domestic violence shelter, state statute requires the Center to receive 25% of our funding from local revenue sources. Section 19-5-93 of the Mississippi Code permits the funding of rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters by the board of supervisors in each county; copy enclosed. Your \$1,000 support will be leveraged to bring in \$4,000 in federal grant money.

The Center has been serving the community since 1977 and is a member of the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the Mississippi Coalition for Survivors of Homicide. Program components meet all statutory and licensing requirements as set forth by funding sources, State Department of Health, State Department of Mental Health, and accounting principals/standards.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. I am happy to meet with you at your convenience to further discuss my request or to provide a tour of our emergency shelter. If you need any additional information or have any questions, please contact me at 228.436.3809 or smorrison@gcwcfn.org.

Sincerely,

Sandra K. Morrison, ACSW, LCSW
Executive Director

Enclosures

**Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence
Statistical Information
City of Gautier
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015**

Total Number of Unduplicated Individuals Served:	97
Total Number of Indirect Services Individuals:	885

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

Total Domestic Violence Victims Served (Women and Children)	46
Total Nights of Service	1,190
Meals	2,719
Individual Counseling Sessions	85
Group Counseling Sessions	120

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM PROGRAMS

Total Sexual Assault Victims Served (Women and Children)	8
Individual Counseling Sessions	23
Group Counseling Sessions	18

FOREVER CHANGED (SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS PROGRAM)

Total Survivors/Families Served	1
Individual Counseling Sessions	4
Group Counseling Sessions	3

CRISIS HOTLINE

Total Number of Calls	683
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EDUCATIONAL/PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Total Number of Educational Programs	4
Total Number of Attendees	201

BATTERERS PROGRAMS

Total Number of Batterers participating in program	8
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LEGAL CLINIC

Total Number Accepted, Advised or Referred	6
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COURT ADVOCACY

Total Number of Court Advocacy Victims Served	28
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Center Services Per Cost if Purchased Separately within the Community

Emergency Shelter for adults and children	\$25 per night
Individual Counseling for adults and children	\$75 per session
Group Counseling for adults and children	\$50 per session
Civil legal services	\$1,000 per client
Meals	\$5 per meal
Support for Survivors of Homicide victims	\$100 per person
Court Advocacy in Misdemeanor courts	\$20 per client

Costs as Applied

Gautier

Emergency Shelter for 1,190 nights	\$29,750
112 Individual Counseling Sessions	\$8,400
141 Group Counseling Sessions	\$7,050
6 Civil Legal Services	\$6,000
2,719 Meals	\$13,595
Support for 1 Survivor of Homicide victim	\$100
28 Court Advocacy	<u>\$560</u>
TOTAL Individualized Services Provided:	\$65,455

Miss. Code Ann. § 93-21-115

MISSISSIPPI CODE of 1972

*** Current through HB 1, 2016 1st Extraordinary Session and House Bills 447, 461, 496, 968, 1369, 1380 and 1413, and Senate Bills 2209, 2211, 2300, 2342, 2372, 2398, 2508, 2520, 2660, 2704 and 2808, 2016 Regular Session, not including changes and corrections made by the Joint Legislative Committee on Compilation, Revision and Publication of Legislation. The final official version of statutes affected by 2016 legislation will appear on Lexis.com and Lexis Advance in September 2016. ***

TITLE 93. DOMESTIC RELATIONS
CHAPTER 21. PROTECTION FROM DOMESTIC ABUSE
ARTICLE 3. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS

Miss. Code Ann. § 93-21-115 (2016)

§ 93-21-115. Donations from municipalities to support local shelters

The governing authorities of any municipality in the state are hereby authorized and empowered, in their discretion, to donate annually out of any money in the municipal treasury such sums as the governing authorities deem advisable to support any domestic violence shelter or rape crisis center operating within or serving its area. For the purposes of this section, "rape crisis center" means a place established to provide care, counseling and related services to victims of rape, attempted rape, sexual battery or attempted sexual battery.

HISTORY: SOURCES: Laws, 1983, ch. 502, § 9; Laws, 1990, ch. 539, § 1, eff from and after October 1, 1990.