

'Skinny Budget' threatens services for survivors of domestic violence

The 'Skinny Budget' released by the White House this month includes significant cuts to critical programs and services for domestic violence survivors and their children.

While it remains unclear what exactly will be cut, the budget mirrors the Heritage Foundation Blueprint for Change, which recommends the elimination of funding for VAWA (Violence against Women Act), and FVPSA (Family Violence Protection Services Act). Since the bi-partisan VAWA legislation was passed, the rate of intimate partner **violence** decreased 72% for female victims and 64% for male victims (between 1994 and 2011). **Cuts to VAWA puts lives at risk.**

Congress will act on this budget in the coming weeks. We must act to preserve services and protect survivors of abuse and their children in our community.

LOCAL IMPACT

- **Funding:** Monroe County agencies receive over **\$700,000 each year** in VAWA funding.
- **Jobs:** **16** local direct service staff positions are funded wholly or in part by VAWA.
- **Programs & Services:**

VAWA cuts will **eliminate** or greatly reduce critical services for survivors and their children:

Supervised visitation for children | Court Advocacy Program for domestic violence survivors | Legal Services | Law enforcement training & support | Probation domestic violence supervision | Housing support | Orders of Protection support | Community response through the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium

FVPSA cuts will directly impact emergency services for survivors and their children, cutting funding for **Domestic Violence Emergency Shelters across the nation, including Willow Center.**

Many other proposed funding cuts have negative consequences for survivors and their children, removing pathways to self-sufficiency by de-funding programs that remove barriers, including:

Housing support (HUD) | Job training & support | Food security (WIC) | Victim Assistance (VOCA) | Legal services (DOJ) | After-school services | Medicaid | Healthcare coverage



Funding for VAWA and FVPSA provides critical investments in our communities that save lives, rebuild families, and prevent future crimes.

ACT NOW to protect victims!

The White House's proposed budget calls for deep cuts across federal agencies. These cuts have the potential to eliminate lifesaving services for survivors. Congress will now begin their budget process. Join us in calling on Congress to reject the proposed budget cuts and support robust investments in programs that prevent and end domestic and sexual violence.

Contact your federal representative TODAY to preserve VAWA and FVPSA funding in the federal budget.

Script: "As you continue to face funding challenges, we respectfully urge you to maintain and increase support for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) and related programs. This funding is critical to protecting victims of abuse in our community."

More tips on what to say can be found here: www.nnedv.org

Contact YOUR Federal Representatives

House of Representatives:

Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (25th District)

Rochester Office: 585-232-4850

Washington, DC Office: 202-225-3615

www.louise.house.gov

Congressman Chris Collins (27th District)

Geneseo Office: 585-519-4002

Washington, DC Office: 202-225-5265

www.chriscollins.house.gov

Congressman Tom Reed (23rd District)

Geneva Office: (315) 759-5229

Washington, DC Office: (202) 224-3121

www.reed.house.gov

**Unsure who is YOUR representative? Check here by entering your address! www.house.gov/representatives/find*

Senate:

Senator Chuck Schumer

Rochester Office: 585-263-5866

Washington, DC Office: 202-224-6542

www.schumer.senate.gov

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Rochester Office: 585-263-6250

Washington, DC Office: 202-224-4451

www.gillibrand.senate.gov

**BOTH are YOUR senators!*