2009 At A Glance

In 2009, SPAN -

- Responded to 8,612 Crisis Hotline calls
- Provided safe shelter to 409 women and children
- Assisted 385 victims of domestic assault with legal advocacy at the time of their arrest
- Provided counseling services to 851 women and children
- Worked with 148 women and children with transitional services designed to foster self-reliance and empowerment
- Supported 39 women and children as they moved into long-term transitional housing
- Performed 251 presentations at schools in Boulder County, giving 4,305 children age-appropriate information on interpersonal violence
- Benefited from the work of 421 volunteers who provided SPAN with 37,877 hours of service

Since opening our doors in 1979, SPAN has sheltered more than 8,800 women and children, responded to over 174,000 crisis calls, counseled 23,480 individuals, and offered more than 10,200 educational presentations on domestic violence and related topics throughout Boulder and Broomfield counties.
Our Mission

Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) is a human rights organization committed to ending violence against women, youth and children through support, education, advocacy and community organizing. This multi-faceted approach is required if we are both to address the immediate safety of women, youth and children confronting violence and build a world in which peace and safety for all is the norm.

Our History

Originally named Boulder County Safehouse, SPAN began providing services in 1979 in a shelter facility that could house only 12 residents. A staff of 32 now provides comprehensive, culturally-relevant services for victims of interpersonal violence and promotes nonviolence and social justice through violence prevention education, specialized community training and technical assistance programs, and anti-violence/anti-oppression coalition building with individuals, agencies, and institutions. The name Boulder County Safehouse was changed in 2004 to reflect the organization’s integrated approach to ending interpersonal violence through a human rights and social justice framework. By addressing the intersecting social conditions (i.e. racism, poverty, sexism, homophobia) that shape individual and group experiences, SPAN promotes economic, racial, and social justice for women, their families, and their communities.

SPAN Celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2009!

SPAN celebrated thirty years of hard work, determination and commitment on November 18, 2009, with an event that was part celebration, part reunion and part rallying cry to SPAN’s community of supporters.

The evening was highlighted by friends and colleagues from the past reconnecting over photos from the organization’s history. It was a unique opportunity to celebrate the women who have led SPAN, with all three of the Executive Directors — past Executive Directors Joan Welsh and Barb Paradisio, and current Executive Director Anne Tapp — in attendance.
Program Highlights

*Here is a look at the challenges and accomplishments that we experienced at SPAN during the past year—*

The Emergency Shelter Program is a residential facility and 24-hour crisis line service providing crisis intervention, safe shelter, food, and clothing to individuals seeking refuge from an abusive relationship. Advocacy, information, and support counseling assist each family to establish a safety plan that meets their individual needs and begin to heal from the abuse.

Although SPAN’s new Emergency Shelter and Resource Center opened in 2008, 2009 was the first year that the facility operated at full capacity. 278 domestic violence survivors and their children found shelter with SPAN in 2008. In 2009, this number rose to 409, a 66% increase in services provided. This increase created new challenges for SPAN’s, with increased costs and reductions in funding being the most serious. SPAN staff and volunteers found innovative, flexible and creative ways to offer clients the highest quality of services possible under the difficult financial conditions caused by the ongoing economic recession.

At the Emergency Shelter, SPAN staff also dealt with other consequences of the recession. Over 75% of clients at the Shelter in 2009 had co-occurring issues related to chronic homelessness, mental health and substance abuse issues. This is a reflection both of the greater level of stress affecting these vulnerable members of our community, and the simple fact that as other non-profits and government resources have disappeared, more people with greater needs are seeking services from SPAN. In 2009 we saw Shelter clients with fewer resources of their own to fall back upon, with a greater proportion of them having no access to long term housing or reliable transportation; many do not have a cell phone or even an email address.

In 2009 SPAN forged a collaboration with Clinica and the University of Northern Colorado Nursing Intern program to provide Emergency Shelter clients with some basic health services in the Shelter’s on-site clinic. A physician’s assistant and nurses from Clinica visit the shelter weekly to provide information and support regarding medical needs. Nursing Interns work with clients individually and in groups to increase client’s knowledge of basic health. To facilitate self sufficiency and support Shelter clients’ efforts to find work, SPAN has partnered with Colorado Community Voicemail giving Shelter clients access to free voicemail boxes, and Carriage House Community Table of Boulder has also worked with clients to organize essential documents like proof of identity and social security cards, as well as helping them find intern
positions and line up reliable transportation.

The Advocacy Program provides crisis intervention and ongoing advocacy for survivors of interpersonal violence involved with law enforcement and the justice system. Victim Advocates offer crisis support immediately following law enforcement intervention. Legal Advocates assist survivors in obtaining protection orders and addressing legal issues related to their experience of violence (including divorce, child custody, and immigration matters), and provide training for prosecutors, judges, and police.

In March, SPAN co-hosted a conference with the CU Law School and Denver University Sturm College of Law co-hosted a conference called “The Legal System’s Response to Domestic Violence: Emerging Challenges and New Perspectives”. This event worked to bring lawyers, students, advocates and community allies together to address critical legal issues impacting survivors of domestic violence. Conference topics ranged from immigration and domestic violence to new models for domestic violence courts.

280 individuals were provided assistance through the Legal Advocacy Program from January – December 2009. Because of overflow attendance at the SPAN monthly Immigrant Legal Clinic, implemented Immigrant Legal Clinics at the Tri-City Program office in Lafayette. To-date, we have recruited three additional immigration attorneys to provide pro-bono consultation during these monthly clinics.

The Outreach Counseling Program addresses a broad continuum of needs, from early intervention to long-term support toward self-sufficiency. Individual and group counseling are offered in English and Spanish in Boulder, Lafayette, and at various community-based locations throughout Boulder County. Population-specific services are available for immigrant and Spanish-speaking survivors, older victims of abuse, and survivors of same sex relationship violence.

SPAN makes short-term individual and group counseling available for adult and child survivors of domestic violence in various stages of recovery. Outreach Counselors share information about domestic violence and provide referrals to appropriate community resources. Support groups offer women an opportunity to share their story, break their sense of isolation, and learn and receive support from other women who have had similar experiences. Outreach counseling for children who have witnessed domestic violence is also provided through intensive, age-appropriate group activities. SPAN offers these services at both the Boulder Outreach Center and the Tri-City office, located in Lafayette, which serves Lafayette, Louisville,
Erie, Superior and Broomfield.

The SPAN Outreach staff continues to look for innovative ways to meet these needs. SPAN organized a Summer Camp in August 2009, providing a safe, fun environment for 25 kids, ages six through thirteen, whose families were impacted by domestic violence. Outreach has also added additional children’s structured play groups at Tri-City and support services to help moms apply for CHP+ and Medicare.

In 2010, SPAN’s Outreach Counseling Program will work with our Legal Advocacy Program on a project funded through the Avon Foundation Speak Out Against Domestic Violence initiative to assist children impacted by both the trauma of domestic violence and the difficulties of divorce. SPAN will collaborate with community partners like Boulder County Legal Services and the Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center to develop better processes and protocols to provide safe, coordinated support for children and adult victims of domestic violence throughout the civil/family court process.

The SPAN Outreach Counseling Program is taking our “access for all survivors” mission to the community, expanding advocacy to local immigrant populations with immigration clinics at Tri-City and in Boulder, plus a Latina Women’s Support Group both in Boulder and at Tri-City. The Counseling Program is also enhancing services and outreach to local law enforcement agencies to improve awareness of abuse in later life, as we continue to see a growing number of clients over 50 years old.

The Transitional Services Program works closely with other community and government agencies to provide long-term, comprehensive support for women and their children as they work toward emotional and economic self-sufficiency. Services are provided for a two-year period and include access to affordable housing, long-term case management, and skill-building classes focused on education, careers, job search skills, financial literacy, computer skills, parenting, and nutrition.

SPAN, along with Safe Shelter of Saint Vrain Valley, works with the Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services (BCDHHS) in the Boulder County TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Co-Location project. The goal of this project is to increase TANF/Colorado Works assistance to domestic violence survivors. Through the TANF Co-Location project SPAN has successfully increased assistance to both English and Spanish-speaking domestic violence survivors who are either receiving or eligible for TANF benefits.

SPAN staff have been available at BCDHHS offices to meet with survivors identified by TANF staff, to provide a bridge into SPAN and Safe...
Shelter advocacy, counseling and shelter/housing services, and to consult with TANF staff to improve screening, safety planning and referrals for applicants who may be reluctant to disclose abuse.

The Training and Community Education Program focuses on early intervention, prevention, and social change. Students, kindergarten through 12th grade, are prepared to recognize signs and causes of violence and to integrate violence-prevention strategies into their peer relationships, families, and community. Community-wide and targeted trainings inform area residents about abuse, challenge personal and organizational beliefs that perpetuate interpersonal violence, and promote equity and social justice.

In 2009, SPAN’s school-based education program for elementary-age students continued and intensified its shift into more diverse learning environments. In previous years, the majority of our elementary education took in traditional classroom settings. In 2009 SPAN introduced innovative efforts to bring our interpersonal violence prevention curriculum into educational settings outside of the traditional classroom setting.

In the spring of 2009 SPAN piloted a new curriculum, Art and Change, which was offered for the first time at University Hill Elementary School in Boulder in March and April. This curriculum, a fully-bilingual after-school program designed for 4th and 5th graders. Perhaps the most significant education project of the year was our Choices and Change: Bullying Prevention Unit delivered at Crest View Elementary School. This project took place over a three-month period and was offered to all classes in selected grades. 347 students received comprehensive training in bullying dynamics, conflict resolution and safety planning. According to evaluations conducted at the end of the Superior program, 90% of teachers reported that they saw an improvement in class dynamics once the Choices and Change program began.

The year concluded with a three-session Healthy Relationships During the Winter/Holiday Season Choices and Change program at Sanchez Elementary School in Lafayette. SPAN offered this program in the Fourth-Fifth Grade Special Education Day Treatment classroom. The program itself was specially designed to address the particular needs of this class as identified by the teacher, allowing the material to have special relevance to individual students.
Major Funding Sources

Government
Boulder County Board of Commissioners
Boulder County Dept. of Housing & Human Services
City and County of Broomfield Health & Human Services
City of Boulder Housing & Human Services
City of Lafayette
City of Louisville
FEMA (EFS)
State of Colorado Department of Human Services
(State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs ESG)
State of Colorado Department of Public Safety VOCA & VAWA
State of Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Env (TGYS + Admin)
V.A.L.E. Grant

Churches
First Congregational Church of Boulder
First Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons

Individuals
Scott D. Ogle
Diane G. Johnson
Greg Beserra
Nancy N. Holden
Sheila Fortune
Imogene C. Smith
Debi Baydush
Gayle Nosal
Mary L. Wolff
Doris Gray
Janet Axelrod
Molly Giersch
Timothy D. Black
Simon Lipstein
Lisa Nesmith
Shelley Lawton
Linda A. Stanciffe
Shirley & Farzin Lalezari
Mark Handschy
Reggie Schmidt
Nancy J. Erickson
Louis Krupp
Lisa S. Darby
Nell B. Box
Judith A. Rhoads
Elizabeth (Dede) N. Willis
Judith W. Warner
Jill Gibbs
Carolyn Grant
Susan Lavelle
Herbert B. Hensley
Helga M. Partayan
Mary Dineen
Joseph M. DiIorio
Audrey F. Franklin

Businesses, Foundations & Community Organizations
The 1040 Foundation
Active Network
Ad Hoc Foundation, Inc.
Advanced Systems Group
Amgen
Avon Foundation
Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation
Black Roofing, Inc.
Brett Family Foundation
Broomfield Community Foundation
Chandler Regional Medical Center
Christie Cadwell & Tom Lookabaugh Family Foundation
ClutterConsign, LLC
Emerson Electric Co
Ericsson Inc.
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Flatirons Solutions Corp.
Foothills United Way
Fugere Family Foundation
Gates Family Foundation
IBM (Designated Donations)
Lefkovitz Foundation
Littler Mendelson P.C.
LPL Financial (Linsco/Private Ledger)
Mark H. Carson & Associates, P.C.
McCormick Foundation
McKesson Foundation Inc.
Pinnacol Assurance
PrimeVest Financial Services
Qualcomm Inc.
Red Empress Foundation
Ruth and William R. Collins Foundation c/o Barbara Meneely
Sam S. Bloom Foundation
The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County
The Denver Foundation
The Louis and Harold Price Foundation
The Safeway Foundation
Thomas P. Waters Foundation
University of Colorado Theater & Dance Department
University of Denver Colorado Seminary
Urban Mattress
Women's Independence Scholarship Program
2009 Sources of Revenue (Unaudited)

- Donations: 17%
- Special Events: 10%
- United Way: 7%
- Government Funding: 41%
- Miscellaneous: 10%
- Grants & Trusts: 10%
- Client Fees: 0.4%
- Grants & Trusts: 15%

- Unaudited revenue and expenses for 2009 were $1,649,650
- SPAN’s annual financial audit will be available in May 2010.

Program Expenses

- Administration & Fundraising: 13%
- Transitional Services: 6%
- Education: 14%
- Advocacy: 11%
- Volunteers: 6%
- Tri City Outreach Counseling: 11%
- Boulder Outreach Counseling: 6%
- Emergency Shelter & Resource Center: 33%
Our Board

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Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

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Lead Analyst,
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Boulder Valley School District

Lydia M. Tate, Member
Attorney,
Trimble, Tate, Nulan, Evans & Holden, P.C. Attorneys at Law

Jackie Tono, Member
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Our Staff

Anne Tapp, Executive Director

Development and Administration:
Alexandra Lynch, Development Director
Rollie Butler, Office Manager
Maria Luisa Banuelos Gonzalez, Bilingual Administrative Assistant
Angie Jeffords, Events Coordinator

Emergency Shelter and Resource Center:
Mary Kay Meintzer, Shelter Program Director
Charlotte Shintaku, Shelter Counseling Coordinator
Patricia Albarado, Bilingual Shelter Advocate
Marnita Rodriguez, Bilingual Shelter Advocate
Amelia Alexander, Children’s Counselor
Taryn Bostwick, Overnight Advocate
Shelah Huerta, Overnight Advocate
Dana Medina, Bilingual Saturday Overnight Advocate
Bylo Farmer, Facilities/Donations Manager

Counseling and Outreach:
Tsunemi Maehara Rooney, Counseling Program Director
Lily Smith, Bilingual Outreach Women’s Counselor

Beatriz Ramirez, Bilingual Outreach Children’s Counselor
Laura Yonamine, Bilingual Tri-City Community Advocate
Marisol M. Rodriguez, Bilingual Tri-City Women’s Counselor
Kathy Biaggi, TANF/DV Co-Location Project Coordinator
Ana Silvia Avendaño-Curiel, Bilingual Transitional Services
Women’s Advocate

Advocacy:
Sandra Saltrese Miller, Legal/Social Policy Director
Veronica Horn, Emergency Response Specialist
Kadny Zayle, Bilingual Immigrant Legal Advocate
Penny Landis, Interim Legal Advocate

Community Training and Education
Nancy Chavez-Porter, Training/Community Education Director
Debbie Ramirez, Volunteer Coordinator
Jessica Locke, Bilingual Youth Educator/Organizer
Lindsay Miller, Spanish Bilingual Nonviolence Elementary Educator

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24 Hour Crisis Line: 303-444-2424
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