The fastest growing segment of the homeless population in the Denver Metro area is women and children, and domestic violence is the number one cause for their homelessness. SPAN's Emergency Shelter Program provides safe, confidential emergency shelter for adults and children fleeing violence so that they do not have to choose between remaining with an abuser and being homeless.

Increasingly these vulnerable members of our community are facing such significant obstacles to sustainable self-sufficiency and stability that they cycle in and out of shelter, a pattern that has been identified as highly detrimental to adults and children dealing with the trauma of violence. During this long, lingering recession, survivors arriving at Shelter increasingly have no employment or unstable employment, no health insurance, transportation or long term post-shelter housing opportunities. 90% of Shelter clients earned $10,000 or less in 2011. One-third of SPAN's adult shelter residents have a physical disability, frequently the result of assault by the abuser. Another 25% of shelter clients disclose having a mental health or developmental disability. Over 75% of clients at the SPAN Shelter in 2011 had co-occurring issues related to chronic homelessness, mental health and substance abuse.

These numbers offer compelling evidence that shelter alone is not the answer and survivors need a comprehensive continuum of integrated support and services that address the long term barriers to their stability and self-sufficiency. People stay at Shelter longer because their choices for post-shelter safety are often limited and difficult to navigate.

SPAN's Transitional Services Program is dedicated to the best practices approach of providing longer, deeper, broader services to survivors as they work to become self sufficient and stable. The Transitional Services Program works with government agencies and other non-profits to create a true “safety net” for adults and children impacted by violence that provides long term solutions and opportunities for housing, health care, transportation, child care, and employment. One example of this is SPAN's expanded Transitional Housing opportunities, supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. The three-year grant funded the Transcendence Transitional Housing Project (TTHP) and has allowed SPAN to more than double the number of adults and children who have access to deeply subsidized transitional housing for up to two years, from 26 adults and children in 2010 to 56 in 2011. Through
Dear Friends,

The last vestiges of dirty, frozen, month-old snow finally melted from the north parking area of the SPAN Outreach Center last week. Spring has arrived, and with it a feeling of renewal and revitalization! In this issue of ReachOut, we review the past year’s work at SPAN and, rejuvenated by springtime, set our sights on the challenges and opportunities of 2012.

In many ways, 2011 reflected the cumulative impact that multiple years of economic uncertainty, unemployment or under-employment, and reduced community resources has had on adult and child survivors of domestic violence. SPAN saw this impact most dramatically in our Shelter Program where we provided more days of shelter (8,896) than in any previous year in our 32 year history. As survivors and their children entered shelter with few emotional and physical resources and minimal support systems, the path they faced in rebuilding their lives after violence was increasingly difficult and protracted. With the Shelter operating at full capacity to accommodate longer shelter stays in 2011, an unprecedented number of requests for shelter went unmet because there simply was no room. In 2011, more than 440 calls for shelter representing nearly 800 adults and children could not be met because the Shelter was full (a 175% increase from 2010).

Keeping pace with increased needs and requests for assistance from survivors continues to be a formidable challenge for SPAN. To do so, we have intensified our partnerships with community organizations, focused efforts on early intervention and prevention of domestic violence, and increased self-sufficiency resources for families recovering from violence. From expanded transitional housing and skill-building programs, to evidence-based primary violence prevention programs for youth, we are approaching the challenges and opportunities of 2012 with renewed energy and optimism. If the difficulties of the past several years have taught us anything, it is that we are a stronger organization through our partnerships with the community. As a member of that community, we are grateful to you for your support, your dedication, and your inspiration as we collectively work to domestic violence and promote a peaceful, just community.

Peace,

Anne Tapp
Executive Director

Cooking Matters at SPAN’s Outreach Center

Cooking matters to everyone who has to feed themselves and their family on a budget while navigating the often confusing nutritional information found on food packaging and figuring out how to make healthy choices, Cooking Matters is a non-profit organization, dedicated to empowering families with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to prepare healthy and affordable meals. This spring the group provided a series of six workshops to Transitional Services clients that helped them improve their cooking skills and to gain greater knowledge on how to shop, eat and cook smarter. Cooking Matters provided experienced chefs and nutritionists who helped clients see cooking and shopping as a healthy and fun thing to do with the entire family. Clients attending these Transitional Services Skill Building classes learned a multitude of valuable skills, from safe knife handling or learning how to interpret the ingredients list of pre-packaged foods, to making quick, nutritious and delicious meals. Each session centered on the preparation of a dish and clients received a grocery bag filled with ingredients for that recipe and a special kitchen gadget. At the final session, clients participated in a supermarket tour, learning the fundamentals of smarter, healthier grocery shopping on a budget.

Find out more about Cooking Matters at www.cookingmatters.org.
TTHP, SPAN is also able to make transitional housing available to people ineligible for other transitional housing programs, primarily immigrant survivors and their children, and survivors age 50 or older who are not yet eligible for senior housing.

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.

The SPAN Outreach Counseling Program assisted 284 children in 2011. During the current recession, requests for SPAN’s Children & Youth Counseling services have grown exponentially each year. Unfortunately due to funding reductions, SPAN has been forced to cut staff positions and limit the number of counseling interns, so resources to meet these needs have declined. To respond to additional requests for services with fewer resources, SPAN has implemented wait-lists and placed limits on the length of time children and their non-abusing parent may remain in counseling services. While necessary to maintain basic services, these solutions are not ideal for meeting the immediate or long-term support needs of children healing from the trauma of domestic violence.

A collaborative effort that is of particular importance for children is reflected in the partnership SPAN has forged with Boulder County’s Department of Housing and Human Services (HHS). Domestic violence was present in 40% of the nearly 300 substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect referred to Boulder County HHS in 2010 (Status of Children in Boulder County, 2010 Report). With more families experiencing domestic violence involved in HHS and child welfare services, the need to ensure safe, appropriate and effective services to children, youth and their non-abusing parents has become even more urgent. SPAN has taken a proactive and dynamic approach to working with HHS child protection workers, implementing cross-trainings for domestic violence advocates and child protection workers. In late 2010, staff from Boulder County HHS, Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley, and SPAN attended the “Safe & Together™” training provided by David Mandel, child welfare and domestic violence expert. The nationally renowned “Safe & Together™” training is based on these key concepts: 1) child welfare systems cannot achieve their core mission of safety, permanency and well-being of children without being competent and skillful in their response to domestic violence; and, 2) child welfare systems need to develop their capacities and competencies to intervene more effectively with domestic violence perpetrators. In 2011 SPAN, HHS, and Safe Shelter began incorporating the “Safe & Together™” model into Boulder County’s child welfare services to both enhance domestic violence awareness and to foster ongoing dialogue that will help support the safety and well being of children in Boulder County for years to come.

SPAN’s Tri City Outreach Program moved into new office space at the Sister Carmen Community Center in Lafayette in July 2011, giving SPAN’s East Boulder County clients efficient access to the support and services provided by Sister Carmen’s food bank and case management staff. At the Tri City Outreach Program a group of Latinas meet on a weekly basis for group counseling and support. This group has grown in both numbers and effectiveness, from 17 regular attendees in 2009 to 43 in 2011. With the help and support of SPAN’s Tri City staff, the Latina Women’s group has flourished and members have grown more confident and empowered. In 2011 members of the Latina Women’s Group met with Congressman Jared Polis to share their concerns on local issues and the need for immigration policy reform. They volunteer each month to participate in the Adopt-A-Road program in Lafayette, working on projects in their neighborhoods that improve the quality of life in their community while also working to fight stereotypes about domestic violence survivors and immigrants. These women also took the initiative in December 2011 to organize a community event in Lafayette called a Posada, that involved collaborating with community partners like the Sister Carmen Community Center, the Centaurus High School Latino Boys Leadership Group and City of Lafayette Senior Services. The event was entirely organized and directed by the women, and more than 90 people attended the event, enjoying an evening of conversation, music, poetry, dancing and food.

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

The impact that these services have on clients is best represented by the story of one particular client. Client “Y” is an immigrant from Japan, who was married to an American man, with whom she has a young son. After years of an escalating cycle of emotional and physical abuse, Y filed for divorce and sole custody of her 4 year old son. Shortly after
SPAN’s 2011 Year in Review

Clients Served

Services provided in 2011 include -
- **24 Hour Crisis Hotline** providing immediate crisis intervention, information and resources
- **Emergency Shelter**, food, clothing for adults and children fleeing abuse
- **Outreach Counseling** addressing a broad continuum of needs from early intervention to long-term support
- **Legal Advocacy** with crisis intervention and ongoing support for survivors involved with law enforcement and the legal system
- **Transitional Services** with long-term, comprehensive support for adults and children as they work towards self sufficiency
- **Community Education** focusing on early intervention, prevention, and social change

Community Education provided -
- 121 Community Presentation to more than 2,100 attendees
- 141 Elementary Education presentations to almost 750 students
- 94 Secondary Education presentation to 1,520 middle and high school students

Service Trends - Younger Clients, Older Clients

- The number of children and youth seeking assistance from SPAN has increased dramatically in the past two years. SPAN’s 27-bed Emergency Shelter & Resource Center is serving 50% more children today than in 2008, with 97 children finding safe haven with their mothers in 2011. The SPAN Outreach Counseling Program assisted 284 children in 2011.
- The number of adults age 50+ seeking support and assistance from SPAN has nearly quadrupled in the last several years, from 66 in 2007 to 266 in 2011. In 2007, 19 shelter residents were 50 or older; in 2011, the SPAN Emergency Shelter & Resource Center sheltered 49 survivors 50 years or older.

In 2011, 42% of clients served at SPAN’s Boulder Outreach Center were Latina/o and 60% of those individuals identified as monolingual Spanish speakers. 55% of SPAN staff and more than 25% of program volunteers are Spanish bilingual.
Service Trends - Longer Stays at Shelter = Increased Turnaway Rates

In 2011 adults without children stayed in Shelter for an average of 24 days, compared to an average of 21 days in 2010. Adults with children stayed at Shelter an average of 33 days in 2011, up from 28 days in 2010, a 15% increase. One consequence of longer stays is that fewer requests for Shelter can be met because the facility is full. In 2011, SPAN provided 349 individuals (242 adults and 97 children) with 8,896 days of emergency shelter. Yet also in 2011, a record number of adults seeking safe refuge were turned away, with 443 individuals denied access to SPAN's facility due to a lack of space, a 175% increase over 2010.

Clients Served - Gender
(All Services - includes children/youth)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>85.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender Female</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender Male</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quick Facts:
- 95% of SPAN clients have incomes that are 30% of the Boulder County Annual Median Income or less.
- 90% of Shelter residents report incomes of less than $10,000 per year.
- 85% of SPAN clients are residents of Boulder County. 8% reside in Broomfield County. 12% come from other parts of Colorado or from out of state.
SPAN’s 2011 Year in Review

Funding Update

SPAN’s 2011 Sources of Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations &amp; Trusts</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Employee Giving</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where does the money go?

SPAN’s budget was more than $1.3 million in 2011.

Here are just a few of the essentials that those funds provided:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Service at Boulder Outreach Center, Emergency Shelter &amp; the Tri-City Program Office in Lafayette</td>
<td>$22,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat, Electricity and Water for SPAN facilities</td>
<td>$33,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Household Supplies for Emergency Shelter</td>
<td>$13,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair and Maintenance at SPAN facilities</td>
<td>$16,951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2011 Quick Funding Facts

- SPAN’s top funders in 2011 were Boulder County, the City of Boulder and the State of Colorado Domestic Violence Program.
- SPAN received 685 donations from individuals in 2011, ranging in amounts from $5 to $20,000. The average amount of individual donations was $125.
- 2011 was the first year that SPAN participated in Colorado Gives Day. This one-day online giving event raised more than $22,000 for SPAN from 98 donors on December 6, 2011.
- Foundations are an important part of SPAN’s funding! Top foundation grants in 2011 included a total of $48,000 from the McCormick Foundation/Denver Post Season to Share Fund, $15,000 from the Louis & Harold Price Foundation, and $10,000 from the Rose Women’s Fund.
- SPAN receives support from the community in a variety of ways, including organizations, individuals and businesses holding fundraising events on SPAN’s behalf. One great example of this in 2011 was the Summer Bar Crawl series, which featured evenings at a local bar or brewery, friendly arm wrestling competitions, live music and food. The Summer Bar Crawl was organized by wonderful volunteers and events like this raised $14,694 for SPAN in 2011.
- Faith-based organizations donated $35,894 to SPAN in 2011, with $30,000 of this coming from the wonderful community at Calvary Bible Church in Boulder and Erie.

It takes amazing people to do the work that SPAN does, so it is not surprising that staff salaries represent the number one expense in SPAN’s annual budget. In 2011 $937,342 supported the work performed by SPAN’s 31 full time and part time staff.

www.safehousealliance.org
**SPAN’s Funding Challenges**

This long, lingering recession has challenged every non-profit to examine funding models and implement organizational efficiencies. Over the past several years SPAN has seen flat or shrinking revenues from many of the traditional funding sources non-profits depend upon, with only program specific, time-limited foundation and government funding seeing an increase during this time frame. Unrestricted funds that can be applied to addressing SPAN’s need to update and improve organizational capacity, capital infrastructure or rebuilding the organization’s depleted reserve funds have been more challenging to find. To build a stronger, sustainable financial future for the organization, SPAN needs to focus on fund diversification, and to develop creative and innovative strategies for improving revenues from all sources, including earned income, special events, individual donors, corporate sponsors, and foundations.

A major component to SPAN’s long term financial sustainability is retiring the debt incurred during the construction of the expanded Emergency Shelter and Resource Center, which opened in 2008. Since the location of SPAN’s original Emergency Shelter was inadvertently published and widely distributed, the organization was forced to relocate the Shelter quickly and did not have the luxury of engaging in a traditional capital campaign to finance the Shelter’s construction. SPAN is committed to a renewed Capital Campaign effort to retire the shelter construction debt by the end of 2013.

**Major 2011 Funding Sources**

**Government**
- Boulder County Board of Commissioners
- State of Colorado, Domestic Violence Program
- City of Boulder Housing & Human Services
- Boulder County Department of Housing & Human Services
- US Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women
- 20th Judicial District VALE Board

**Foundations & Trusts**
- Boettcher Foundation
- Denver Post Season to Share Fund
- Lookabaugh Cadwell Family Foundation
- The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County
- Rose Community Foundation
- Louis & Harold Price Foundation
- Lefkovitz Family Foundation

**United Way**
- Foothills United Way

**Churches**
- Calvary Bible Church
- First Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons

**Businesses**
- Black Roofing
- Covidien Surgical Devices
- Boulder Sundown Saloon
- The Colorado Group
- Mark H. Carson & Associates, P.C.
- Colorado Energy Management, LLC
- Starbridge Inc.
- Cardinal Peak
- Wolf Eissinger Advisory Group - UBS
- Flatirons Solutions
- Wells Fargo Advisors

**Individuals**
- Shirley & Farzin Lalezari
- Tim & Mary Black
- Audrey & Andrew Franklin
- Joe & Heather Dilorio
- Dennis & Linda Fromholzer
- Lisa Darby & Robert Banta

---

**What do donations support?**

*It can be challenging to grasp exactly how your contribution challenges abuse and promotes hope.*

**Here are some examples:**

- **$50**—Legal advocacy for a woman who visits our drop-in Immigration Legal Clinic
- **$75**—Two skill-building groups for women working toward self-sufficiency through the SPAN Transitional Services Program
- **$150**—A series of four Bully Prevention presentations for a 3rd grade class
- **$500**—Twelve weeks of individual and group counseling for a child who has witnessed domestic violence.
- **$1,000**—One month of solar-supported utilities at the SPAN Shelter and Resource Center.
- **$1,500**—One week of emergency shelter, food, counseling and advocacy for a family of three.
- **$2,000**—Provides advocacy and support to 10 survivors through their entire experience with the civil and criminal legal system.

---

**WE NEED GIFT CARDS!**

SPAN has an urgent need for gift cards from grocery stores and discount stores -- King Soopers, Safeway, Target, Wal-Mart, etc. SPAN uses these cards to purchase supplies for special events and trainings and to assist clients.

Mail or drop off gift cards at SPAN’s Outreach Center, attn. Rollie Butler, 835 North Street, Boulder, CO 80304.
2011 Program Highlights continued from page 3

filing for divorce, Y returned to Japan to visit her elderly and ailing parents. During her absence her husband filed a complaint against her with the police in Boulder, claiming that Y had attempted to kill him. When Y attempted to return to the United States, she was arrested. In her initial court hearing, the judge granted her husband sole custody of their child, denying Y any access to her son. Throughout 2011 SPAN provided Y with counseling services and legal advocacy, assisting and supporting her through her struggle to create a self sufficient life for herself, and to gain access to and ultimately custody of her child. Y was also provided transitional housing and was referred to an attorney who helped her with her divorce/custody case, and her immigration issues. Throughout, Y showed incredible fortitude, strength of spirit and resilience, remaining steadfast in her desire to see her son and to be a regular part of his life. After nearly a year, Y prevailed in court, was granted a divorce with spousal support from her ex-husband, and joint custody of her young son. This fall Y started classes at the University of Colorado in Boulder, majoring in psychology, with the intention of someday being able to support and advocate for women such as herself.

SPAN’s Community Education & Training Program focuses on early intervention, prevention and social change. Children and youth in our community experience violence in their relationships and witness it in their homes. In Boulder Valley high schools, 8% of students (approximately 750) report at least one incident of being hit or physically hurt by a boyfriend/girlfriend, 5% report forced sexual intercourse (2% males, 8% females), and 14% have been electronically bullied. Females 18 years or younger comprise 4% of the victims in prosecuted domestic violence cases in Boulder County. The domestic violence rate in Boulder County is higher than the state and national average, resulting in more youth exposed to violence at home.

In 2011 SPAN continued its work as part of the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Shared Risk & Protective Factor Project. SPAN used the Community Readiness Assessment to Boulder County’s determine readiness to address teen dating violence. The resulting score of “3-Vague Awareness” (some concern in the community but no motivation to address the issue) highlights the need for the Youth Violence Prevention Education Program. The Youth Violence Prevention Education Program is based on research that demonstrates how primary prevention strategies, such as school-based programs, can challenge norms, introduce relationship skills that are incompatible with violence, and promote healthy, non-violent relationships. Presentations for students take place during the school year. Consultation and training is available for teachers, school counselors, and administrators throughout the year, with the majority of presentations taking place during the school year.