



## LAWS AT A GLANCE FY 2018

Founded by three women who lived in Loudoun County, LAWS was incorporated in 1984 under the name Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice and does business as Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS). LAWS is a 501(c)3 private nonprofit organization providing domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse services to victims. The mission of LAWS is: to serve adults and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; to empower, inform, and advocate for adults and children; to educate the community about domestic violence and sexual assault; and to work towards the elimination of personal and societal violence.

### In Fiscal Year 2018 LAWS' staff and volunteers:

- Touched the lives of **1,077** individuals through direct services and educated **4,191** individuals through prevention, outreach and awareness programs
- Provided **3,221** bed nights of shelter to **46** women and **25** children at the LAWS Emergency Shelter
- Responded to **1,091** crisis hotline calls on the LAWS 24-hour Hotline
- Provided **608** adult victims of domestic violence with walk-in crisis services, support groups, advocacy, financial assistance and/or counseling through LAWS Domestic Violence Services at our Community Services Center in Leesburg
- Assisted **417** victims with legal services through LAWS Legal Services
- Provided counseling, advocacy, and/or support groups to **208** adult victims of sexual assault through LAWS Sexual Assault Services
- Helped **268** youth and children deal with the abuse in their lives with counseling, support groups and advocacy through LAWS Youth & Children's Services
- Served **289** victims of child abuse through the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center
- **81** families with **103** children participated in the Loudoun Nurturing Parenting Program
- Approximately **75** dedicated volunteers and Board members donated over **5,000** hours of volunteer service to help LAWS achieve our mission.

In FY 2018, LAWS raised \$2,015,663 to carry out LAWS' mission. Sources of funding included: government grants: \$1,091,531; United Way contributions: \$28,604; Resourceful Woman Thrift Shop sales: \$254,225; fundraising, donations and private grants: \$641,303. We are thankful for all of our supporters.

In FY18, LAWS employed approximately 39 staff: 20 full time; 3 part time and 16 hourly employees. Hourly employees include night/weekend shelter staff and Nurturing Program Staff. LAWS has a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of 16 individuals who provide leadership and oversight.

LAWS operates a 12-bed emergency shelter; a legal practice with two full-time attorneys; a 24-hour crisis hotline; four counselors; four advocates (including two bilingual advocates); a violence prevention program, community outreach services to reach underserved populations, a Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) Coordinator; and the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center. LAWS also operates the Resourceful Woman Thrift Store.

## **LAWS' Milestones**

**1984:** Three Loudoun women founded Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice, and began working on their first project: The Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS).

**1985:** The shelter location was selected and opened in 1985, providing 15 beds to women and children fleeing domestic violence.

**1991:** LAWS rented office space in Leesburg to begin providing services to women who were not residing in shelter.

**1992:** LAWS began providing legal services, making LAWS one of the first domestic violence programs in the state to provide free legal representation to victims.

**1995:** LAWS opened The Resourceful Woman Thrift Shop, accepting gently used clothing and household items to give to victims in need and to sell to the community.

**1996:** LAWS added Sexual Assault Services to its programs, providing Loudoun with a rape crisis center in addition to a domestic violence program.

**2001:** LAWS Community Services Center opened at 105 East Market Street in Leesburg. At this center, LAWS provides victims with legal representation and advocacy, counseling, parenting classes, support groups, and support.

**2003:** LAWS added a Spanish-speaking case worker to the staff to assist Spanish-speaking victims.

**2004:** LAWS renovated its shelter, installed a new septic system, and made many improvements to the property.

**2005:** LAWS, with other community partners, formed the Loudoun County Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), a coordinated community response to address domestic violence and to hold perpetrators accountable.

**2008:** LAWS opened the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center in December, 2008.

**2013:** LAWS was selected as "Non Profit of the Year" at the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Small Business Awards.

**2014:** LAWS was awarded "Non Profit of the Year" at the Loudoun Times-Mirror's 2014 Citizen of the Year Awards.

**2015:** The Loudoun CAC becomes an Accredited Child Advocacy Center by National Children's Alliance.

**2017:** LAWS received additional funding to grow the program. LAWS also trained the community professionals on the Danger Assessment.

**2018:** LAWS' discontinued the Nurturing Parenting Program in order to devote all resources to the increasingly complex cases of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. LAWS is a founding member of the newly created Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) in Loudoun County. And, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted to increase the DART coordinator position to a full-time position beginning in FY19.

LAWS is a member of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, the Loudoun County Domestic Abuse Response Team, the Loudoun County Sexual Assault Response Team, the Loudoun Human Services Network, and the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Children's Advocacy Centers of Virginia and an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance.

LAWS is a proud member of the United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way # 8145, Combined Federal Campaign #23867). LAWS is a 501(c)3 organization and our Federal Identification Number is 54-1282756.