KEY CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS

☑️ Reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

VAWA creates and supports comprehensive, cost-effective responses to the pervasive and insidious crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. Since its first authorization in 1994, VAWA has unquestionably improved how our nation addresses these crimes. VAWA expired in 2011 and should be swiftly reauthorized to ensure the continuation of these vital, lifesaving programs and laws.

- The House should introduce and pass a VAWA reauthorization bill that builds upon its successes and includes key improvements.
- We urge Senators to co-sponsor and vote for S. 1925, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2011.

☑️ Fund targeted investments for key Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs and other federal funding streams that address violence against women in the FY 2013 Congressional Budget

VAWA funds innovative, successful programs that are at the core of our nation’s response to domestic violence and sexual assault. We urge Congress to preserve the increases recommended in the President’s FY ’13 Budget Proposal to provide targeted investments for lifesaving programs to address the gap in available services, and to maintain at least level funding for all remaining VAWA CJS and L-HHS programs. Key program requests include:

Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Budget Requests

- Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP formula grants) – $189 million
- Civil Legal Assistance for Victims – $41 million
- Transitional Housing – $25 million
- Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) – $23 million
- Rural Grant Program – $37.5 million
- At least FY ’12 funding levels for all other VAWA CJS programs

Labor, Health and Human Services (L-HHS) Budget Requests

- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) – $135 million
- National Domestic Violence Hotline – $4.5 million
- Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) Program – $39.4 million
- DELTA prevention grants – $5.4 million
- Violence Against Women Health Initiative – $2.3 million
- Preserve the sex-offense set-aside in the CDC – $7.5 million

☑️ Release $1 billion from the Victims of Crime Act Fund (VOCA)

VOCA is a fund for victim services created out of fines and penalties paid by federal criminals, rather than taxpayer dollars. Over 4,000 agencies rely on VOCA to provide services to nearly 4 million crime victims. We urge Congress to release $1 billion from the VOCA fund to address the gap in available services.