



Louisiana  
Governor's Office  
on Women's Policy

2008 Annual Report  
to the Governor



**Honorable Bobby Jindal**  
Governor of Louisiana

**Peggy Gehbauer**  
Executive Director

## A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEGGY GEHBAUER



Peggy Gehbauer

I am pleased to present the 2008 Governor's Office on Women's Policy Annual Report, which presents our work in advancing the health, safety, economic status and education of women. Since 1964, Louisiana state government has supported women's causes through a series of publicly funded offices. The Office on Women's Policy (OWP) is proud to carry on this long-standing tradition, and to further the work that has made our state a nationally respected leader.

In 2008, OWP continued its cornerstone program which focuses on ending domestic violence. OWP is the lead state agency on domestic violence issues, with more than three-fourths of its \$8 million budget dedicated to family violence issues, largely in the form of direct support to twenty community-based shelters across Louisiana. These statewide programs provide shelter, counseling and direct services to domestic violence victims, offering support and resources to help them towards safe and fulfilling lives. We are humbled to serve not only as a funder, but as advocate and partner to these outstanding programs and their staffs that work tirelessly on behalf of the victims of domestic violence across the state.

Let me extend my sincere appreciation to Governor Bobby Jindal, the Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission, the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus, the Louisiana Women's Foundation and our network of community advocates and volunteers for their support of our work to protect and advance the opportunities for women and children.

With the support of our partners, OWP is dedicated to bringing about change in society's institutions, laws, attitudes, and beliefs that will allow women and their children to live lives free from violence. Until we can end violence against women and their families, our work must continue.

Sincerely,

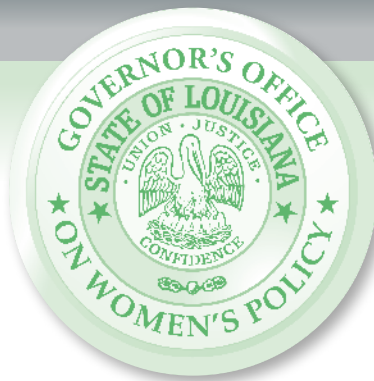
Peggy Gehbauer  
Executive Director

OWP and Southeast  
Spouse Abuse Program Staffs

## HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1964 Commission on the Status of Women established
- 1972 Bureau on the Status of Women created in Department of Health and Human Resources
- 1976 First Governor's Conference on Women
- 1985 Agency renamed Governor's Office of Women's Services, moved to Governor's Office
- 2003 Agency recreated as Governor's Office on Women's Policy. Creation of a permanent Louisiana Commission on Women's Policy and Research
- 2004 OWP initiates first statewide conference of women leaders in New Orleans
- 2005 OWP initiates Louisiana's Women Leaders Regional Conferences in Baton Rouge, Shreveport and Lafayette
- 2006 Fourth regional conference held in Terrebonne/LaFourche
- 2007 Second statewide conference of Louisiana's Women Leaders in Baton Rouge
- 2008 Governor Bobby Jindal appoints Peggy Gehbauer as Executive Director of the Office on Women's Policy and Kelly Hurtado as Chair of the Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission
- 2009 OWP hosts Fifth Annual State Family Violence Roundtable in Baton Rouge





## MISSION

Working for the betterment, safety and empowerment for all Louisiana women, the Governor's Office on Women's Policy (OWP) is a change agent and steward of the Governor's vision. To improve the quality of life for Louisiana's women, children and families, OWP provides research-based leadership in the areas of health and safety, economics and education.

## COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS



For nearly 30 years, the Governor's Office on Women's Policy (OWP) has administered grants to public and private nonprofit organizations through the Family Violence Program.

Every year, these OWP funded shelters serve approximately 14,000 family violence victims across Louisiana. More than three-fourths of OWP's budget provides funding to service provider programs in communities statewide.

These family violence shelters provide a wide range of services including emergency shelter, crisis intervention, advocacy, coordination of services, information and referral, systems advocacy, community education and public awareness, emergency transportation, safety planning, crisis line, legal advocacy, and services to children.

There are five main sources of funding: the state's general fund, federal funds from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), marriage license fees, civil fees, and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

Since 2002, OWP, with the Louisiana Department of Social Services (DSS) and community partner, the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (LCADV), has secured and administered Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding. This funding is providing

survivors of domestic violence with more options by connecting them with additional resources.

These resources provide family violence law enforcement training, community outreach workers, and child art and music therapists. Because most residential domestic violence programs are located in metropolitan areas, TANF targeted funding outreach has particularly benefited underserved rural communities.

Overall, Louisiana is a leader in family violence initiatives, but the state must continue to address this social issue.

Louisiana is providing high performing effective family violence programs. Shelters still face obstacles including funding, inadequate transportation, limited shelter space for survivors seeking safety, and maintenance of ongoing outreach and education programs about the complex dynamics of family violence.

The Office on Women's Policy (OWP) will continue to be the guiding agency to make certain that family violence shelters are available, accessible and responsive to all citizens. With its department and agency partners, community advocates, and governmental leadership, OWP is working toward the goal to end family violence and ensure survivors and their loved ones lead safe, independent, and quality lives.



Family Violence Directors Roundtable

## 2008-2009 ACTIONS & PRIORITIES

### OWP OUTREACH

- Hosted the Fifth Annual Family Violence Directors Roundtable designed to promote excellence among local partners
  - Welcomed visitors from the Middle East to discuss domestic violence issues in the U.S. and abroad
  - Created new online database L.I.S.A. (Louisiana Input System for Abuse) to provide for automated reporting, secure data collection, case management and accountability
  - Maintained an electronic news service to provide timely information on women's issues
  - Conducted outreach visits to domestic violence programs statewide
  - Continued partnership with Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO) for board training and development
  - Completed administrative logistics for transitioning from paper-based to electronic facsimile transmissions and other progress to support Green Government initiatives
  - Celebrated Women's History Month in Lafayette
- Managed new Cooperative Endeavor Agreements between non-governmental organizations and OWP that distributed \$620,000 for training and website development, shelter renovations and programs and opportunities for the benefit of Louisiana women
  - Improved and refined operation and management standards, enhanced service-quality at family violence programs, incorporated legal promulgation of the Revised Quality Assurance Standards, and conducted intensive peer review of self studies through the Committee on Quality Assurance (COQA)
  - Focused on post-Katrina programmatic outreach and specialized service to the New Orleans region through the South Shore Domestic Violence Collaborative (four shelters in greater New Orleans area)
  - Initiated training for compliance with federally-mandated outcome measures reporting
  - Supported and advocated for the New Orleans Family Justice Center, a one-stop center for survivors of domestic violence. The center received a \$3 million federal grant to assist survivors with criminal justice, legal, medical and social service needs
  - Partnered with the state domestic violence coalition to provide a toll-free, 24-hour telephone hotline

### FAMILY VIOLENCE

- Twenty shelters from across the state were funded with \$4.1 million from State General Appropriation and federal DHHS Family Violence Prevention and Services Program (FVPSA). In addition, \$1.6 million was allocated from the State general fund at \$25,000 per parish service delivery
- Marriage license and civil fees provide an additional \$550,000 in funding
- 14,932 Louisiana women and children received services through OWP's network of domestic violence service providers offering crisis services, legal advocacy, counseling, children's services, outreach and other support services
- Partnered with the Louisiana Department of Labor to provide public information resources for unemployment benefits to survivors of domestic violence provided by Act 421 of the Louisiana Legislature

### TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

- Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Louisiana Department of Social Services (DSS), \$1.2 million was provided to enhance family violence services and reduce the number of women turned away
- Family violence programs using TANF funds served 1,244 individuals and 1,523 children
- OWP engaged in on-site monitoring and measuring accountability of family violence programs throughout the state

## GOALS

The Governor's Office on Women's Policy's goals are:

- **Research and Develop Policy** by establishing and following a research methodology that pushes progress and measures results – moving from concept to work product so as to support information, decision-making and/or recommendations for action.
- **Identify and Develop Support of Programs** through managing relationships and projects within the current organizational structure and environment in order to identify and develop support of programs addressing the issues, needs and concerns of women.
- **Provide Technical Assistance and Administrative Support;** Administer Contracts; and Advance Marketing Communications to provide public information in three focus areas: education and training, health and safety, and economics and employment.



# LOUISIANA FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

**1. Calcasieu Women's Shelter**

P.O. Box 276  
Lake Charles, LA 70602  
Office: 337-436-4552  
Local Crisis: 800-223-8066  
[www.cwshelter.org](http://www.cwshelter.org)

**2. Capital Area Family Violence Intervention Center, Inc.**

P.O. Box 52809  
Baton Rouge, LA 70892  
Office: 225-389-3001  
Local Crisis: 800-541-9706  
[www.stopdv.org](http://www.stopdv.org)  
Email: [exdir@bwp.brcoxmail.com](mailto:exdir@bwp.brcoxmail.com)

**3. Chez Hope, Inc.**

P.O. Box 98  
Franklin, LA 70538  
Office: 337-828-4200  
Thibodaux Office: 985-449-1301  
Local Crisis: 800-331-5303  
[www.chezhope.org](http://www.chezhope.org)  
Email: [chezhope@cox-internet.com](mailto:chezhope@cox-internet.com)

**4. Domestic Violence Services, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans**

1000 Howard Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70113  
Crescent House: 504-866-7481  
N.O. Family Justice Center: 504-592-4005  
Project SAVE: 504-310-6872  
Local Crisis: 504-866-9554  
[www.ccano.org](http://www.ccano.org)

**5. DART**

P.O. Box 1223  
Ruston, LA 71273  
Office: 318-513-9373  
Local Crisis: 318-251-2255

**6. DOVES, Inc.**

P.O. Box 2427  
Natchitoches, LA 71457  
Office: 318-352-9394  
Local Crisis: 318-652-0802  
[www.dovesinc.org](http://www.dovesinc.org)

**7. Faith House, Inc.**

P.O. Box 93145  
Lafayette, LA 70509-3145  
Office: 337-267-9422  
Local Crisis: 337-232-8954  
[www.faithhouseacadiana.com](http://www.faithhouseacadiana.com)

**8. The Haven, Inc.**

P.O. Box 4279  
Houma, LA 70361  
Office: 985-872-0757  
Local Crisis: 800-915-0045  
[www.thehavenhelps.org](http://www.thehavenhelps.org)

**9. Jeff Davis Communities Against Domestic Abuse, Inc.**

P.O. Box 826  
Jennings, LA 70546  
Office: 337-616-8418  
Local Crisis: 866-883-2232

**10. June N. Jenkins Women's Shelter/ Beauregard Community Concerns**

P.O. Box 815  
DeRidder, LA 70634  
Office: 337-462-1452  
Local Crisis: 377-462-6504  
Email: [4choices@bellsouth.net](mailto:4choices@bellsouth.net)

**11. Metropolitan Center for Women and Children**

P.O. Box 10775  
Jefferson, LA 70181  
Office: 504-837-5455  
Local Crisis: 504-837-5400  
[www.metrobatteredwomen.com](http://www.metrobatteredwomen.com)

**12. New Start Center**

P.O. Box 504  
St. Martinville, LA 70582  
Office: 337-394-8559  
Local Crisis: 337-394-8559

**13. Safe Harbor, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1179  
Mandeville, LA 70470  
Office: 985-626-5710  
Local Crisis: 985-626-5740  
[www.safeharbornorthshore.com](http://www.safeharbornorthshore.com)

**14. Safety Net for Abused Persons / SNAP**

P.O. Box 10207  
New Iberia, LA 70562  
Office: 337-365-3893  
Local Crisis: 337-367-7627; 337-276-7071  
Email: [safenet@cox-internet.com](mailto:safenet@cox-internet.com)

**15. Southeast Spouse Abuse Program**

P.O. Box 1946  
Hammond, LA 70404  
Office: 985-542-8384  
Local Crisis: 985-542-8384  
[www.southeastspouseabuseprogram.com](http://www.southeastspouseabuseprogram.com)

**16. St. Bernard Battered Women's Program, Inc.**

P.O. Box 645  
Arabi, LA 70032  
Office: 504-277-3177  
Local Crisis: 504-277-3177  
[www.DeanoBWP.org](http://www.DeanoBWP.org)  
Email: [DeanoBWP@aol.com](mailto:DeanoBWP@aol.com)

**17. Taylor House / Project Celebration**

500 West Main Street  
Many, LA 71449  
Office: 318-256-3408  
Local Crisis: 318-256-3403  
Email: [thereishope@cebridge.net](mailto:thereishope@cebridge.net)

**18. Turning Point Battered Women's Program / Family Counseling Agency, Inc.**

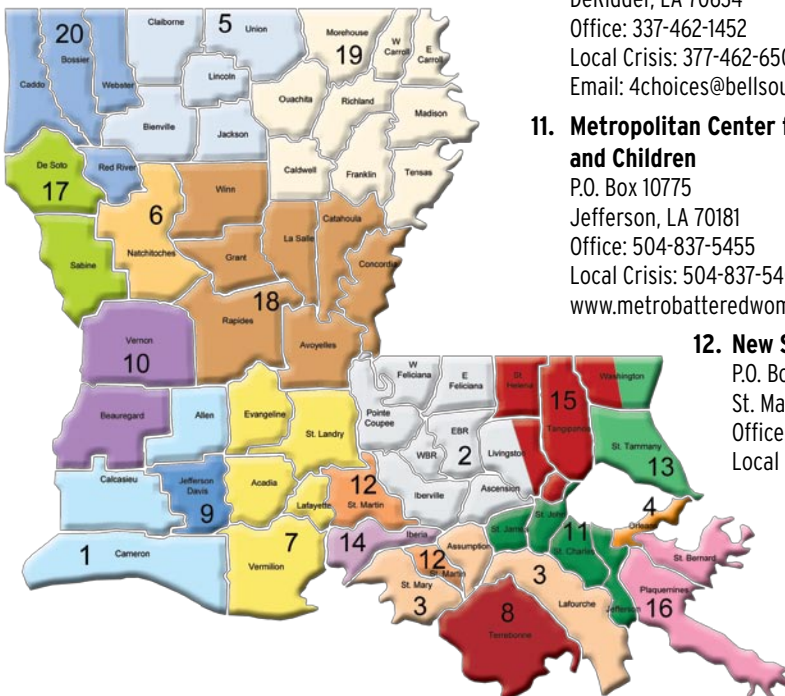
P.O. Box 1908  
Alexandria, LA 71309  
Office: 318-442-7196  
Local Crisis: 318-445-2022  
[www.FCA4cenla.com](http://www.FCA4cenla.com)

**19. The Wellspring (formerly YWCA NELA)**

1515 Jackson Street  
Monroe, LA 71202  
Office: 318-323-1505  
Local Crisis: 318-323-1543  
Family Justice Center: 318-998-6030  
[www.wellspringalliance.org](http://www.wellspringalliance.org)  
Email: [familyviolencehelp@wellspringalliance.org](mailto:familyviolencehelp@wellspringalliance.org)

**20. YWCA of Northwest Louisiana, Inc.**

Family Violence Program  
710 Travis Street  
Shreveport, LA 71101  
Office: 318-222-2116  
Local Crisis: 318-222-2117



**LOUISIANA WOMEN'S POLICY  
AND RESEARCH COMMISSION MEMBERS**



Kelly Hurtado (Chair)

Dr. Laura M. Badeaux  
Dr. Kristyn Carver  
Anne Causey  
Rep. Simone B. Champagne  
Dr. Sally Clausen  
Angele Davis  
Tia Edwards  
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Rachel C. Farmer  
Peggy Gehbauer  
Conshonda Houston  
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Tania Tetlow  
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**Honorable Bobby Jindal**  
Governor of Louisiana

**Peggy Gehbauer**  
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