



Family Violence  
& Rape Crisis Center

Annual Report  
2006

Victims Information  
Bureau of Suffolk



## SERVING OUR MISSION

For more than 30 years, VIBS has been working for futures free of violence. As a family violence and rape crisis center, VIBS provides a wide array of services for victims and their children: advocacy, court accompaniment, individual and group counseling, and 24-hour hotline assistance. Prevention is a key component of VIBS' mission, and VIBS provides educational programs to school and community groups, with a special emphasis on teens. In partnership with the criminal justice system, VIBS' HALT program holds offenders accountable to end violence and abusive behavior. In the wider community, the staff and board work to raise community awareness of the need for justice and compassion for victims.

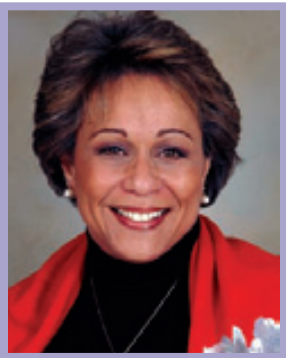


Pamela C. Johnston  
Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

In 2006 VIBS celebrated its 30th anniversary of providing services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. At our gala celebration, a woman whom VIBS helped almost 20 years ago spoke movingly about the impact VIBS had on her life. It always amazes me when I meet someone – a manicurist, a banker, a colleague – who confides: “I went to VIBS,” or “VIBS saved my life.”

In 2006 VIBS built on its core programs and increased its capacity to serve more people. New funding enhanced the children's program, court advocacy, and services to victims of elder abuse. Recognition for VIBS' services and leadership came from several quarters. The Long Island Women's Agenda selected VIBS as its 2006 Organization of the Year. Board President Lynda Perdomo-Ayala received recognition as a “Local Hero” from the Bank of America for her outstanding leadership and community involvement. Our 30th anniversary celebration in June gave VIBS and the community the opportunity to celebrate progress and re-commit to the prevention of sexual assault and family violence.



Lynda Perdomo-Ayala  
President of the Board

Internally, VIBS faced challenges and opportunities. Working with a graduate student from Stony Brook University, we developed a tool for measuring the impact and effectiveness of our programs. To safeguard programs from unexpected events, we began developing and fine tuning disaster/emergency plans to deal with everything from hurricanes to pandemics to a violent spouse. Our lease on our Hauppauge office expired and we moved to larger quarters in Holbrook. Once we recovered from the stress and strain of settling in and sorting out technical problems, we realized what a relief it was to have more room.

The board and staff made significant progress toward long-term goals. These steps included planning for a permanent home for the agency, raising significant funds, and elevating the visibility of VIBS' mission. These goals had a significant cost. In 2004, VIBS received a very generous bequest. The board restricted that money to activities that would help achieve our goals, and we used some of that money in 2006. The combination of these expenditures and the costs of moving our office created a significant deficit in our financial statements. This was a planned deficit. The funds set aside in 2004 more than compensated for these unusual expenses.

The work accomplished by the board and staff in 2006 enhanced programs and services, improved operations and efficiencies, and strengthened the foundation for future growth.



Pamela C. Johnston  
Executive Director

Lynda Perdomo-Ayala, CSW  
President of the Board

# CREATING FUTURES FREE OF VIOLENCE

Every day victims of rape and domestic violence face decisions that could change their lives or have dire consequences. Will their choices make them safer? Will they be able to support themselves financially? Will the pain ever end? VIBS' advocates and counselors help them improve their safety, get the services they need, and heal from the trauma of abuse. In 2006, VIBS provided counseling to 1,500 adults and adolescents, and advocacy to 854.

In 2006 VIBS was able to expand some of its programs. In the adult and adolescent counseling program, VIBS added an additional bilingual counselor to serve Spanish-speaking women in Huntington. Services to the elderly expanded through a partnership with Suffolk County Adult Protective Services and the Suffolk County Police Department. VIBS provided safety planning, counseling, home visits and referrals to the elderly, whether or not they wished to take legal action. In 2006, VIBS provided counseling, home visits, and advocacy to 77 abused seniors.

For many survivors of rape and sexual assault, the gateway to healing is SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner). VIBS oversees this collaborative program by

recruiting nurses, arranging for their specialized training, and coordinating with the District Attorney's Office, the police, and the hospitals. In 2006 with the help of the Police Department, VIBS launched a major effort to recruit additional nurses. SANEs provided 205 exams in 2006, and VIBS' volunteer corps of Emergency Room Companions assisted 187 victims of sexual assault or domestic violence.

Since its earliest years, VIBS has provided counseling to child witnesses of domestic violence and to children sexually abused by someone outside the family. This year VIBS expanded the program to provide therapy to child survivors of incest. Through drama, play and art therapy, children expressed their fears, regained a sense of safety and self-confidence, and built trusting relationships. In 2006, 141 children participated in programs designed to keep them safe now and in the future.

Raising awareness through education and outreach are essential to preventing rape and domestic violence. Using a dynamic curriculum, VIBS' educators engage students in lively discussions. What is a healthy relationship? Does jealousy equal love? What role do

drugs and alcohol play in dating violence? In 2006 VIBS partnered with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office to give students another perspective on domestic violence. VIBS informed and enlightened 17,615 students, professionals, and other adults in 2006.

The goals of VIBS' offender program, HALT, are to hold abusers accountable and to change violent and controlling behavior. With an increasing number of referrals coming from Child Protective Services, HALT launched a parenting program for abusive fathers. The purpose is to help men understand that their behavior impacts every member of the family, and to challenge them to make the commitment to end abusive acts. In 2006, 523 offenders participated in HALT.

The staff at VIBS hear stories both heartbreaking and terrifying. They also hear hope and determination as victims become survivors, and survivors become whole. The helpers and the helped – together they are creating futures free of violence.

## 2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lynda Perdomo-Ayala, President  
Diane Caputi, Vice President  
Magali A. Roman, Secretary  
Helen Gronus, Treasurer

Sheila Blume, M.D.  
Stephanie Brand  
Annabel Caner  
Jane Conway

John Delorenzo  
Aileen Eppig  
Elena Fortune-Jones  
Gladys Harrington

Lynne Adair Kramer  
Jason M. Morley  
Jamie Winkler

Executive Director- Pamela C. Johnston

# GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# 2006 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Major government support in 2006:

Suffolk County Departments of Social Services, Health Services, and Probation; New York State Crime Victims Board, Office of Children and Family Services, Department of Health, Department of Criminal Justice Services (conduit for federal Byrne grant and Violence Against Women Office funding); Town of Huntington.

## The following were instrumental in securing additional county or state funding in 2006:

Senators John J. Flanagan, Owen Johnson, Kenneth P. LaValle, Caesar Trunzo; Assembly Members Marc S. Alessi, Patricia Eddington, Steve Engelbright, Andrew Raia, Robert Sweeney; all the members of the Suffolk County Legislator for their support of VIBS in the 2006 budget, with special thanks to Legislators Joseph Caracappa, Jon Cooper, John Kennedy, Ricardo Montano, Lynne Nowick, and Vivian Viloria-Fisher.

## The Board of Directors and staff are most grateful for the support of VIBS' friends in the private and business sector:

A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc.; Academy Land Services, LLC; Advantage Title Agency, Inc.; All Shore Consultants, Inc.; Astoria Federal Savings; Bank of America; Belcor Builders, Inc.; Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Center; CIBS; Citibank, N.A.; Citigroup Foundation; CSC Holdings, Inc.; CTM Consulting Services, Inc.; Damin Sales, Inc.; Dock Builders Local Union 1456; Duo Plumbing & Heating Corp.; Esposito, Fuchs, Taormina & Co.; Faculty Student Assoc. Stony Brook; Good Samaritan Hospital Med. Ctr.; I.U.O.E. Local 138; John & Elaine Kanas Family Foundation; Keyspan; Knapp Swezey Foundation, Inc.; Kramer & Rabinowitz, LLC; Lewis Johs Avallone Aviles & Kaufman; LIPA; Marci Mazzola Foundation; McCabe, Collins, McGeough & Fowler; Nassau Door & Window; New Covenant Church; New York Commercial Bank; NYC Council of Carpenters; Pat Covelli Foundation; Rifkind Family Foundation; Stewart Title Insurance Co.; Stony Brook Foundation; Stony Brook University Hospital; Suffolk Community College; Suffolk County PBA, Inc.; The Eve Foundation; The Gross Family Foundation; The Stony Brook Wo/Men's Center; United Cerebral Palsy of SC; United Way of Long Island; Vytra Health Plans; Wal-Mart Foundation; Zimmerman-Edelson, Inc.; Zonta Charities of Suffolk, Inc.

*And many thanks to the hundreds of individuals who supported VIBS through financial contributions, donations of goods and services, and support of special events.*

## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Grants and contracts	\$1,361,940
Fees for services	322,349
Other income	46,457

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<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,730,746</b>
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Contributions	\$154,239
Gross proceeds from special events	213,089
Less: direct benefits to donors	(85,400)
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>127,689</b>

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<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>2,012,674</b>
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## EXPENSES

Program services	\$1,675,364
Management and general	286,129
Fundraising	218,756

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<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,180,249</b>
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Change in Net Assets:	\$ (167,575)
Net assets, beginning of year	459,761
Net assets, end of year	292,186

## SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Counseling cases:	
Adults	1,375
Adolescents	125
Children age 3-12	141
Abused elderly clients	77
Offender cases in HALT	523
Advocacy contacts	3,530
Hotline calls	6,452
Educational presentations	421
Participants at presentations	17,615
SANE exams	205
Emergency room companion visits	187
Volunteers	96

