

### Need.

The SSS Center, Inc., provides each year long term residential treatment for 500 male clients with a substance abuse problem. The services provided will be group counseling, individual counseling, psycho educational groups, family therapy, psycho social assessments, intake and screening and other ancillary requirements to develop and implement the project.

Our intake records show that seventy percent of them were batterers or that they have the potential to move from emotional battering to violence. This statement is also validated by research from the University of Illinois College of Social Work.

Currently, prevention through psycho-educational groups is not included in substance abuse residential programs which house batterers and potential batterers. Substance abuse counselors in residential treatment programs with this population of batterers have not been trained to provide dual problem counseling. In addition the funding has thus far not been provided for the training and implementation of an adequate prevention and cross-problem residential treatment program.

This is a complex and life threatening problem which affects the safety and quality of life of men, women and children. The negative economic impact of violent substance abusers on our hospitals, courts, correctional institutions and social service agencies is a tremendous financial burden to our community.

### Project description.

The SSS Center will train already certified counselors of substance abuse in the techniques of domestic violence and violence counseling. The result of this training will be a single treatment plan and a counselor certified as a specialist in cross problem case management. The program will modeled on the SEAFIELD 911 program used by the criminal justice system for their personnel.

The expected outcomes are as follows:

- 1) On discharge, clients will return to their families and subsequently they will maintain family stability.
- 2) On discharge, clients will return to the workforce, obtain employment, and remain employed.
- 3) Following discharge, clients will avoid interaction with the justice system.
- 4) Following discharge, clients will participate in anti-relapse programs.

All clients will be administered the DuPage-Miami-Dade Disposition toward Violence Assessment (version A on admission and version B on discharge). We expect a roughly 50% decrease in predisposition toward violence.

Thirty-five percent of our clients are indigent homeless referred by the health or social service system, and we doubt they can be tracked for post-discharge follow-up. Roughly 65% of our clients who will remain under the supervision of probation officers, officers who will, at the expense of the sheriff or the state corrections department, compile data on family reunification and stability, job acquisition and retention, and offenses against the justice system, plus evidence of relapse. We are unclear at this point on how much improvement to expect relative to previous year's cohorts.

Organizational qualifications.

Health services are provided to the SSS Center by the North Broward Hospital District, and mental health services by the Henderson Clinic. As a state-licensed recovery center, SSS Center is monitored by District 10 of the Department of Children and Families. As a contractor to the Florida Department of Corrections and the Broward Sheriff's Office, SSS Center is monitored and audited by these agencies. As a grantee of Broward County Social Services Department, the SSS Center is monitored by county government.

Our executive director is a MSW; our counselors are certified professionals; and we employ two university Ph. D. consultants.

The SSS Center has been providing residential treatment for substance abuse clients in Broward County for 27 years. We are nonprofit and provide long term care to 500 men each year. The SSS Center's treatment program accepts homeless and indigent people with alcohol and drug problems, provides them room and board, rehabilitation and treatment and allows them to hold full time jobs.

We have 24 full time employees who include 8 counselors.