



## LAWS AT A GLANCE FT2021

Founded by three women who lived in Loudoun County, LAWS was incorporated in 1984 under the name Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice. LAWS is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization providing essential services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. The mission of LAWS is to provide victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse with safety, hope and empowerment services to live as survivors free from the effects of violence. LAWS' vision is: We envision a community that is free of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.

LAWS operates a 12-bed emergency shelter, however during FY21 we used alternative safe housing due to the COVID-19 pandemic; a legal practice with two full-time attorneys; a 24-hour crisis hotline; four counselors; five advocates (including two bilingual advocates); a violence prevention program, community outreach services to reach underserved populations, a Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) Program Manager; and the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center. LAWS also operates the Resourceful Woman Thrift Store.

### In Fiscal Year 2021, LAWS' staff and volunteers:

- Touched the lives of **1,148** individuals through direct services and educated **1,570** individuals through direct community engagement. Outreach campaigns touched thousands more individuals through advertising and marketing which increased significantly to conduct outreach during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provided **6,070** bed nights of emergency shelter to **105** adults and **112** children who were fleeing imminent danger.
- Provided **6,798** bed nights of transitional housing to **7** adults and **14** children in safe transitional housing.
- Responded to **1,370** crisis hotline calls on the LAWS' 24-hour Hotline.
- Assisted **247** victims through LAWS' Legal Services.
- Provided **671** adult victims of domestic violence with **8,301** service contacts including crisis services, advocacy, financial assistance and/or counseling through LAWS' Domestic Violence Services.
- Provided **194** adult victims of sexual assault with **1,088** service contacts including counseling and/or advocacy LAWS' Sexual Assault Services.
- Helped **181** youth and children deal with abuse in their lives with **557** service contacts with counseling and/or advocacy through LAWS' Youth & Children's Services.
- Provided **210** child abuse victims with forensic interviews, family advocacy, or trauma focused- cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT) through the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center.
- Approximately **75** dedicated volunteers and Board members donated over **5,000** hours of volunteer service to help LAWS achieve our mission.

In FY21, LAWS employed approximately **30** staff: **22** full time; **2** part time and **6** hourly employees. Hourly employees include night/weekend shelter staff. LAWS has a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of **10** individuals who provide leadership and oversight to the agency.

In FY21, we raised **\$3,650,458** to carry out LAWS' mission. Sources of funding included: government grants: \$2,326,554; Resourceful Woman Thrift Shop sales: \$230,395; and fundraising, donations, and private grants: \$1,093,509.

**We are so incredibly thankful to all of our supporters! We could not do the work we do without you!**

## **LAWS' Milestones**

**FY84:** Three women with \$3,000 founded Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice. Their first project was the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS).

**FY85:** LAWS' shelter opened in 1985 to provide safe housing for women and children fleeing domestic violence.

**FY91:** LAWS rented office space in Leesburg to begin providing services to women who were not residing in shelter.

**FY92:** LAWS was one of the first domestic violence programs in Virginia to provide free legal representation to victims.

**FY95:** LAWS opened The Resourceful Woman Thrift Shop to assist victims as well as to help fund LAWS' services.

**FY96:** LAWS added Sexual Assault Services to its programs, providing Loudoun with a rape crisis center for victims.

**FY01:** LAWS Community Services Center opened at 105 East Market Street in Leesburg to provide victims with legal representation, advocacy, counseling, support groups, and other support.

**FY03:** LAWS added a Spanish-speaking case worker to the staff to assist Spanish-speaking victims.

**FY05:** LAWS, along with other community partners, formed the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to address domestic violence and to hold perpetrators accountable.

**FY08:** LAWS opened the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in December 2008.

**FY13:** LAWS was awarded "Non-Profit of the Year" by Loudoun Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Small Business Awards.

**FY14:** LAWS was awarded "Non-Profit of the Year" at the Loudoun Times-Mirror's 2014 Citizen of the Year Awards.

**FY15:** The Loudoun CAC becomes an Accredited Child Advocacy Center by National Children's Alliance (NCA).

**FY17:** LAWS received increased funding to grow the programming provided to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. LAWS also trained community professionals on the Danger Assessment and began implementing the LAP.

**FY18:** LAWS was a founding member of the Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART). The Loudoun Board of Supervisors increased the DART Coordinator position to a full-time position.

**FY19:** LAWS was awarded "Nonprofit of the Year" from the Loudoun Times-Mirror's 'Best of Loudoun' awards.

**FY21:** LAWS experienced a significant increase in the number of callers fleeing imminent danger as well as an increase in the lethality of violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. During this difficult time, LAWS' staff and volunteers have been able to successfully pivot services to maintain quality services for victims. LAWS contracted with the Curtis Group to conduct several studies to learn the feasibility of launching a capital campaign for creating a new domestic violence shelter in the next few years. LAWS was awarded "Best Nonprofit/Civic Support Organization" by Loudoun Times Mirror and 'Favorite Nonprofit/Community Organization' by Loudoun Now. LAWS' Resourceful Woman Thrift Store was awarded "Best Consignment/Thrift Store" and was also a finalist for "Best Women's Clothing Store" by Loudoun Times Mirror.

LAWS is a member of the: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Loudoun County Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), Loudoun Child Advocacy Center Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), Loudoun County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), Loudoun Human Services Network (LHSN), Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Children's Advocacy Centers of Virginia (CACVA) and an accredited member of National Children's Alliance (NCA).

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 with Federal Identification Number is 54-1282756.