



Intimate Partner
Violence (IPV)

The Community Advocacy Project (CAP)

**Michigan
Statistics**

In 2010, 41.8% of women have been the victim of IPV in their lifetime.¹

Of those women:

32.8% reported fear or concern for their safety



27.9% reported Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms



22.8% had an injury and/or needed medical care

Data Source:

1. Walters ML, Chen J, Breiding MJ. The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): 2010 findings on victimization by sexual orientation. *Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.* 2013;648(73):6.

For more information:
www.cap.vaw.msu.edu

www.injurycenter.umich.edu

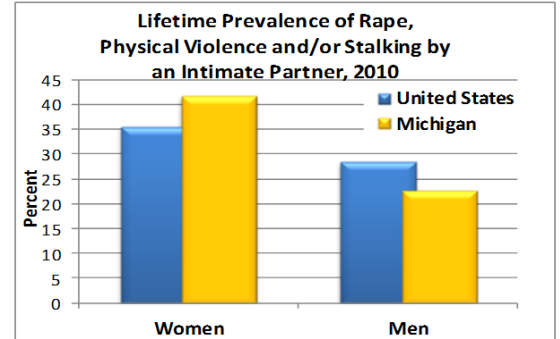
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What Is the Problem?

United States Statistics:

- 24% women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, compared to 14% of men.¹
- 81% of women who were victims of rape, stalking, or physical violence by an intimate partner, reported significant short- and long-term health impacts, compared to 35% of men.¹
- Of those with lifetime intimate partner violence (IPV), 36% of female and 16% of male victims reported a need for at least one IPV-related service (e.g., housing or legal services).¹



Source: National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 2010

What Is One Solution?

The Community Advocacy Project (CAP) is an evidence-based program created to help female survivors of intimate partner violence re-gain control of their lives. Developed by Dr. Cris M. Sullivan, Director, Michigan State University Research Consortium on Gender-based Violence, the intervention increases battered women’s access to needed community resources and support.

Program Components

- Family-centered model and a strengths-based, survivor-driven approach
- 10-week intervention, 4-6 hours/week, occurs in the home and community locations
- Phases: assessment, implementation, monitoring, secondary implementation, and completion
- Delivered by trained female undergraduate students
- Primary aims: 1) help women protect themselves and their children from further violence, and 2) generate and mobilize community resources women report needing.

Evaluation

Participants were randomized into: 1) an experimental group that received free advocacy services or 2) a control group that received services as usual. Women were followed for two years and reported on psychological abuse, violence from partners and ex-partners, quality of life, depression, social support, and their effectiveness obtaining resources in the community.^a

Evidence of Effectiveness

- Immediate: The advocacy group reported being significantly more effective in reaching their goals compared to women in the services-as-usual (control) group.^{a,b}
- Short-term: The advocacy group reported lower rates of further physical violence and depression and higher quality of life and social support compared to the controls.^a
- Long-term: Quality of life for the advocacy group consistently improved post-intervention and explained the intervention’s positive effects on social support at the 12-month follow-up, and access to resources and re-abuse at the 24-month follow-up.^c

Publications

- a. Sullivan CM, Bybee DI. Reducing violence using community-based advocacy for women with abusive partners. *J Consult Clin Psychol.* 1999;67(1):43.
- b. Sullivan CM, Tan C, Basta J, Rumpitz M, Davidson WS. An advocacy intervention program for women with abusive partners: Initial evaluation. *Am J Community Psychol.* 1992;20(3):309-332.
- c. Bybee DI, Sullivan CM. The process through which an advocacy intervention resulted in positive change for battered women over time. *Am J Community Psychol.* 2002;30(1):103-132.