



## Department of Public Safety

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE &  
SEXUAL ASSAULT  
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### For Immediate Release

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### Council Awards Community-Based Prevention Grants

The Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault today awarded more than \$544,000 to four Alaskan communities to continue work being done to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

In a special meeting held this morning, the Council voted to award its new **Community Based Primary Prevention Programs Grants** to community-based programs in Anchorage, Juneau, Sitka and Homer.

“We are especially pleased to be able to use additional state funds received as part of Governor Sean Parnell’s Choose Respect Initiative to help fund the ongoing primary prevention efforts in these four communities; efforts that are addressing sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and teen-dating violence,” said Richard Irwin, Chair of the Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault.

“Unfortunately, we received more applications than we could fund,” said Lauree Morton, Executive Director of the Council, “so we looked for how the grant funds could best be used to strengthen and enhance existing, community-based, coalition-driven strategies that are already successfully in place. We believe the communities awarded the grants will be best able to use the funding toward strengthening long-term goals. ”

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The following community programs were awarded grants:

**Aiding Women in Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) in Anchorage** will receive **\$157,772** to expand the Green Dot Alaska program it is implementing to include a new project to engage youth in bystander intervention through peer leadership. The Green Dot Alaska strategies help promote safety for Anchorage residents by helping participants learn how to play a safe and active role in ending violence.

**Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE) in Juneau** will receive **\$153,423** to expand its existing programs to high school youth in three additional high schools. The programs focus on youth as agents of change in promoting a climate of teen wellness. AWARE will continue to promote youth participation in a statewide conference for youth leaders, will enhance its Sources of Strength and Teen Council wellness programs that help with suicide prevention, anti-bullying and education around teen dating violence and substance abuse, as well as its REBOUND program, a 10-day youth-led wilderness training in Glacier Bay.

**Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV) in Sitka** will receive **\$100,000** to expand the existing Boys Run pilot program to include boys in grades 3 through 5 and to expand the Girls on the Run program to include girls in Kake. Sitka will also use funds to help middle and high school boys and coaches implement the Coaching Boys Into Men program and to expand the Basic Arts Institute cultural program at the middle and high schools, as well as to support community seminars and positive parenting support.

**South Peninsula Haven House (SPHH) in Homer** will receive **\$133,000** to expand its Girls on the Run program in grades 3 through 5, to enhance a comprehensive health curriculum for eighth grade middle school students and to expand its community based Green Dot bystander intervention program to engage youth. The expansion of Homer's projects will also include more parent involvement and more family engagement in these efforts.

All projects funded include plans for evaluation.

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