

The DFSS Family Violence Prevention Initiative funds community-based agencies to provide assistance and advocacy to those who have been victims of domestic violence (physical, sexual, or emotional abuse), including teens who have been victimized in an intimate relationship.

Agencies funded under the **COUNSELING & CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** model provide the following services, which include (but are not limited to):

- Individual needs assessment and safety planning
- Identification of and referral to appropriate service providers.
- Explanation of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act, how to obtain an Order of Protection, and how to utilize the legal system to address domestic violence.
- Individual and group counseling which includes providing information, referral, support, guidance, education, problem solving, discussing options and related services.
- Counseling sessions that are facilitated by a trained and qualified counselor
- Client advocacy, which includes contact by a trained domestic violence worker with a third party on behalf of a client after execution of necessary release of information.

Programs are expected to responding to victims within 48 hours. Programs must accept referrals from and provide referrals to the City of Chicago Domestic Violence Help Line.