

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

- 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
- Case management, which includes assessment and victim safety planning, identification of and referral to appropriate service providers
- Legal advocacy includes:
  - intervention on client's behalf with representatives of the civil and/or criminal legal systems and/or law enforcement personnel;
  - accompanying client in court for advocacy and support; and
  - clarification of information, such as law and court process.
- Client advocacy includes contact by a trained domestic violence worker with a third party on behalf of a client after execution of necessary release of information.
- Individual or group interaction involves providing information, referral, support, guidance, education, problem solving, discussing options, and related services.
- Services are provided by a trained domestic violence worker.

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