

FACT SHEET

COPS Project Collaboration between Marin Abused Women's Services (MAWS) and the Marin County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

The purpose of the COPS Project is to increase the safety of women and girls by reducing repeat domestic violence offenses.

Interventions included:

- Point of booking intervention by graduates of the MAWS Men's program, who formed a team of volunteers called CURB (Community Unit Responding to Batterers).
- A focused community education, organizing and mobilizing campaign.

Messages conveyed during community interventions:

- Awareness + Community Action = Change.
- Domestic Violence is a public concern, not simply a private family matter.
- Domestic Violence is learned. It can be unlearned.
- Violence is always a choice.
- *Deny, Minimize, Blame and Collude.* Batterers and the community often perpetuate domestic violence by reacting in these four ways.

Data revealed that reduced recidivism was related to project components.

- ◆ Countywide rates of domestic violence recidivism decreased 73% by the end of the project, even though arrests increased over the course of the project.
- ◆ There were no recidivists among the subjects who received the CURB intervention at the jail and whose area of residence was exposed to community education and organizing 30 days prior to their first recorded arrest during the study period.
- ◆ As an intervention, CURB combined with focused community education and organizing, and arrest was more effective than only CURB and arrest, or arrest by itself.

For more information contact COPS Program Manager, 415/457-2464 x 14.

