

# Violence Intervention Program/SAFE-NH

## Quarterly News-Holiday Edition 2004

Volume 1 Issue 4

December 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

10/2004-12/2004



*Victims of Family Violence come in all shapes & sizes... Children need their parents to be SAFE too... Will YOU help?*

### *We "Made a Difference" in 2004*

- *Crisis Line available 24 hours a day, Feb.2004.*
- *Trips to Washington, DC: Presenting testimony & facts to National Advisory Committee on VAWA and others.*
- *Concerned citizens and professionals are supporting gender inclusive services offered by VIP/SAFE-NH at an increasing rate.*

*"The true leader has the courage to step away from the familiar and comfortable to face the unknown with no guarantees of success"*

*(Brian Tracy)*

### Happy holidays from our family to yours!

VIP/SAFE-NH and our families wish you a happy and SAFE Holiday season.

We thank all of our supporters for helping make sure that we have continued to be available for individuals and families who have experienced the effects of domestic violence.

Our hope is that more families will find peace in the New Year.

Please join with us in 2005 to insure that ALL victims of violence have assistance and that ALL voices are heard!

Take care and be SAFE,

Lee Newman: Executive Director

Deb Roy & Joanie Comeau:

Co-Directors



### Thank you!

A sincere thank you goes out to the many supporters of our efforts during the last 2 years.

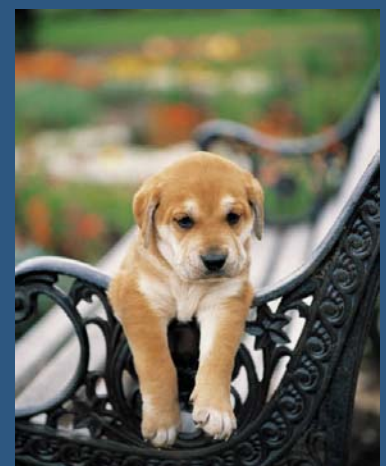
We thank [SAFE International](#) for their monetary support as well as their willingness to integrate us into their team. With SAFE's involvement we have become a stronger presence and look forward to accomplishing many worthwhile initiatives in the future.

We thank [Union Communications](#) for their professionalism and for helping to make our transitions this year seamless in order to continue needed services.

We thank [Answering Services of NH](#) for their compassionate and efficient handling of our messages and crisis calls. Their level of professionalism and the compassion of their staff when answering our calls have literally saved lives this year! We could not do our job without them on our team!

We thank [Eagle Storage](#) for their generous donation of storage space in order for us to have a secure place to store needed furniture, equipment and donations.

We also thank all of you who sent us cell phones, other needed items & of course those who contributed financially.



We can help you find assistance if you need to keep your pets safe. Often, a violent partner will threaten to kill or may harm your pet. There is assistance available so that you and your pet can be SAFE.

# VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) NEEDS to Change in 2005!



Bring light into your life by helping those who are affected by violence... find peace.

*No one deserves to be isolated and afraid!*

Reach out to those in need of assistance and feel like you have

"Made a Difference".

## NH SAFE-MeetUp

We will be planning meetings in various locations throughout NH in order to be able to meet with, talk to and involve others in our efforts during this upcoming year.

There is a link on our website for [NH-SAFE MeetUp](#). It is **FREE** to join and will automatically keep you in touch with us via the website and will enable us to invite you to our gatherings. You will be able to vote on where our meetings will be held, "chat" with us, post messages to our message board and become part of a great human rights initiative. VIP/SAFE-NH is a model program addressing violence in homes, families, schools and the workplace. Our organization has been effective in offering services to ALL victims of domestic and other interpersonal violence. Join our **MeetUp** for **FREE** and find out more about our innovative ideas.

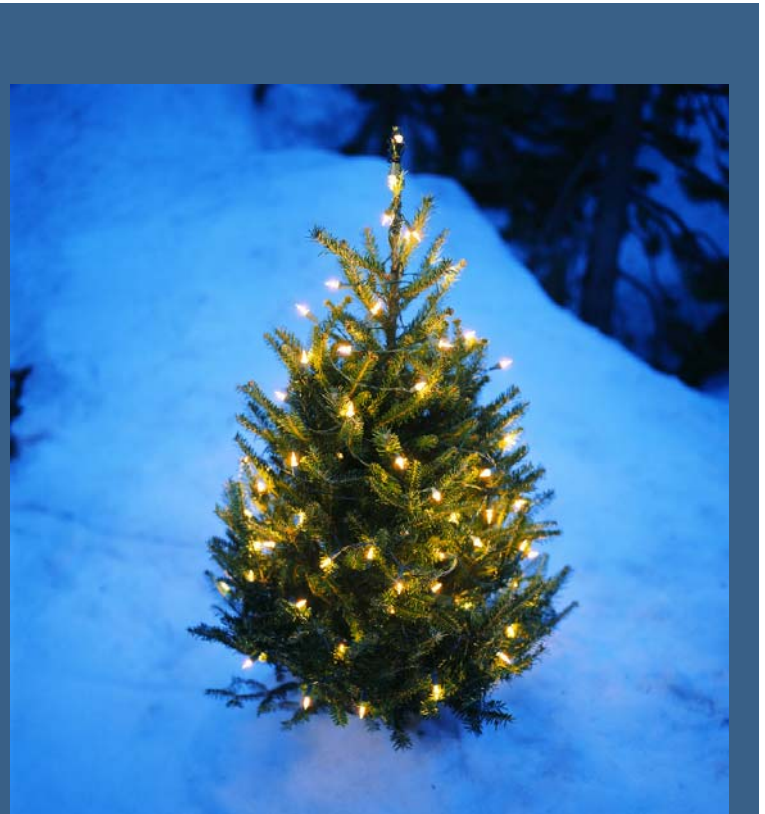
VAWA is due for reauthorization in 2005. (Violence Against Women Act)  
We implore all of you receiving this newsletter to look at what this means to you and those you love. We are including some links here to articles and research that are available to assist you. Then we hope that you will contact your members of the Congress and the Senate to let them know what you think is the right thing to do about this gender biased "Act" which allows your tax dollars to be dispensed in a way that only allows *some* of your loved ones to get assistance & support. VAWA dispenses millions of dollars every year to

programs that assist battered women while ignoring the needs of the underserved victims of domestic violence, which includes men who are abused by their female partners as well as others.

Federal funds are by law supposed to be non-discriminatory, however VAWA is a funding stream of our tax dollars that seems to be exempt from this law!

SAFE International and VIP/SAFE-NH have been actively involved in Washington, DC testifying to the National Advisory Committee on VAWA as well as other key figures in the reauthorization process to encourage them to do the right thing by changing VAWA to become inclusive.

(Cont'd on page 3)





# VAWA NEEDS to Change in 2005!

(Cont'd from page 2)

## VIP/SAFE-NH

P O Box 523

Rochester, NH 03867

Phone:

(603) 859-0859

Fax:

(603) 297-0244

Website:

<http://www.VIP-NH.org>

<http://www.SAFE-NH.org>

*"Be the change you  
want to see in the  
World"  
(Gandhi)*

Our lawmakers need to understand the true facts about domestic violence, not the myths and selective "facts" that created this biased piece of legislation. For way to long, incorrect information has been given to those who have the power to dispense funding to programs that assist victims of this crime. It's now time for those in power to hear from all of us who know that Family Violence and Interpersonal Violence, known as Domestic Violence is not just a crime against women! Assault and abuse do not discriminate!

Many families are suffering and many of our citizens are dying without equal access to assistance and support. Why? For no other reason except they were born male!

New initiatives to assist ALL victims of this crime are available, like VIP/SAFE-NH, however these new "enlightened" agencies based on Human Rights practices rather than "feminist theory" approaches have no funding available through VAWA.

Why? Due to the fact that our mission does not reflect gender bias and we do not believe that Domestic Violence is a gender specific crime.

Domestic Violence is a human issue NOT a gender issue...most of us recognize this fact and now VAWA needs to reflect this as well.

The exclusive nature of VAWA and the agencies that are funded by it need to become inclusive, or allow access to funding for other agencies to provide assistance to the underserved alongside the "women's crisis centers" that currently exist.

Please visit our website and use the link on the left of the HOME page for the "[Articles of Interest](http://www.altrue.net/site/vip/section.php?id=3037)"

This link will enable you to read many articles written by professionals and experts on Domestic Violence who believe that inclusiveness is imperative!

Use the links located on the right of our HOME page listed as "[Other valuable sites](http://www.altrue.net/site/vip/section.php?id=3042)"

This link will give you access to many other organizations that have online research and information available so that you can make an informed decision to contact our Government and make sure that VAWA is changed or replaced!

Now is the time to "Take a Stand Against Violence" and make sure that your sons, brothers, fathers and other men you know have the same rights and support that women have had access to since the inception of VAWA 10 years ago!

VAWA should become the "Family Violence Act" or the "Intimate Partner Violence Act" to reflect inclusiveness, in spite of the fact that the acronym may not be as "catchy"!



[VIP/SAFE-NH](http://www.VIP/SAFE-NH)

P O Box 523

Rochester, NH 03867



## Violence Intervention Program

S.A.F.E.- New Hampshire  
Taking A Stand Against Violence

Become  
involved...Make a  
Difference!  
Reach out and  
become part of the  
solution!

<http://www.safe-nh.org/>