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### Organization experiences funding cuts

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Domestic violence organizations will have to cope with a substantial loss in funding. The cuts are coming from the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).

VAWA funding has been cut about 20% and VOCA funding about 20% yo 25% said Jacqueline Ferguson, associate director of operations for Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV).

DeKalb countys Safe Passage could loose as much as \$100,000.Safe Passage is cutting services and positions said Pam Wiseman, the executive director Safe Passage.

"It is kind of like a case of abandonment," Wiseman said. "Communities and families are being neglected and abandoned while this administration pursues other interests."

"When we get cut we have to turn people away" Ferguson said, "and they die."

Safe passage provides services that prevent crime, homeless, substance abuse, truancy and all sorts of problems that result from domestic violence Wiseman said.

"To not provide funding will be a lot more costly in the long run," Wiseman said.

"In one day alone, Illinois Domestic violence agencies have had to turn away over 600 people," Ferguson said.

The cuts will be announced July 1st, at the start of Safe Passages fiscal year.