



Peoria, Illinois 61612  
(309) 691-0551 or 1-800-559-SAFE  
[centerforpreventionofabuse.org](http://centerforpreventionofabuse.org)

March 7, 2022

Honorable LaTrina Leary  
Peoria Township Supervisor  
Township of Peoria  
205 SW Adams  
Peoria, Illinois 61602

Dear Ms. Leary,

On behalf of the clients, staff, and Board of Directors at the Center for Prevention of Abuse (CFPA), I am deeply appreciative of the long partnership our agency has had with the Township of Peoria. This generosity has helped our agency support residents of Peoria Township who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, as well as elderly and adults with disabilities who have experienced abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation.

With the Township's support, Peoria Township residents who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, as well as elderly and adults with disabilities who have experienced abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation, can rely on our organization to provide emergency shelter and support services. CFPA provides these residents with immediate shelter and stabilization, a 24-hour hotline, court advocacy, medical advocacy, counseling and support groups, therapy, supportive housing, and coordination of community resources to help survivors heal and move toward self-sufficiency.

In 2021, CFPA continued to provide essential services despite the challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. We served a total of 2,647 victims of domestic violence, 442 victims of sexual assault, and 1,116 victims of elder/disabled abuse, which included the following to Peoria residents:

- 1,199 adult and child victims of domestic violence, 219 of whom resided in our emergency shelter for a total of 4,699 shelter nights;
- 17 adult and child residents from Peoria in our transitional housing apartments for a total of 4,015 nights;
- 464 elderly and adults with disabilities; and
- 188 victims of sexual assault.

The past two years have presented all of us with unique challenges, and CFPA was no exception. Many, many adjustments were made to protect the health and safety of clients and staff. But despite these difficulties, we are proud that all CFPA services continued to be available throughout the pandemic, whether in-person, offsite, or virtually. These adjustments came at an increased cost to our agency for such aspects as offsite shelter, improved remote technology, catered client shelter meals due to closure of communal spaces, etc. With help from supporters like the Peoria Township, we have been able to continue to provide hope and healing throughout these difficult times.

We greatly appreciate your past support and are hopeful you will be able to continue that partnership with \$10,000 in funding for our efforts to help all women, men, and children live free from violence and abuse! If

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there is a possibility of additional funding to support CFPA work and those who come to the agency for care, please let me know what steps we should undertake to further that request.

In Peace,



Carol Merna  
Chief Executive Officer



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