Dear Friends:

Thank you.

It is because of you—our donors, volunteers, and other friends who share our vision for a world without sexual violence—that Rape Victim Advocates (RVA) is able to do all that we do in behalf of survivors.

In the pages that follow, we share the everyday stories about the powerful impact our programs and services have had in Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010). While our hallmark continues to be the 24-hour crisis counseling we provide in 11 hospitals throughout the city, in 2010 we worked especially hard to boost our institutional advocacy and expand the reach of our education and training programs. We re-invested in existing partnerships, such as with the Austin community on the city’s West Side; and we enlisted new partners in the arts, like the world-renowned Lookingglass Theatre Company in downtown Chicago. With these and other partners, we were able to reach new audiences in new ways, helping to build communities and institutions that are more compassionate toward survivors and are empowered to confront sexual violence.

Our services are needed now more than ever. Even as the Chicago Police Department reported a decrease in criminal sexual assaults in the past year, demand for RVA’s services increased by 15 percent. Looking forward, RVA will continue to serve survivors and educate the public, and our challenge is to find new ways to lead the fight against sexual violence and ensure our message will be heard: survivors must be treated with dignity and compassion, by the legal system, medical institutions and society as a whole. RVA is committed to providing services to survivors and their families free of charge, and grateful for the support and partnership from friends like you that has allowed us to do just that.

In the safe and just world that we seek to create, there would be no need for organizations like RVA. Until then, we are here—every step of the way.

Sharmili Majmudar
Executive Director
"Every 2 minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted."

—Rape Abuse and Incest National Network, 2010

18,349
Number of adult, adolescent and child survivors of sexual assault, child sexual abuse and sexual harassment who were served by the sexual assault crisis centers of the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault in 2010.

—Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Mission

Rape Victim Advocates (RVA) is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the healing and empowerment of sexual assault survivors through non-judgmental crisis intervention counseling, individual and group counseling, and medical and legal advocacy in the greater Chicago metropolitan area. RVA provides public education and institutional advocacy in order to improve the treatment of sexual assault survivors and to effect positive change in policies and public attitudes toward sexual assault.
History

Rape Victim Advocates was founded in 1974 by Natalie Stephens, an obstetrician/gynecologist and a group of Northwestern University medical students who witnessed survivors of sexual violence leaving hospital emergency rooms in emotionally worsened states than when they arrived. Thirty-eight years later, RVA has three community-based offices and responds crisis calls at fourteen hospitals ensuring that victims receive proper medical treatment, emotional support and resources to aid in their recovery and healing. Our comprehensive services include medical and legal advocacy, individual counseling and support groups, professional training for medical and criminal justice professionals, and public education for youth and communities.

0,000

Number of criminal sexual assaults reported to law enforcement in the Chicago Metropolitan area in 2010*, not including criminal sexual abuse or other sex crimes.

—Illinois State Police report: Crime in Illinois; *most recent data available

188,380

Estimated number of reported and unreported sexual assaults in the United States in 2009

—U.S. Department of Justice, National Crime Victimization Survey
“At first I couldn’t see my way out. But thanks to all of you [at RVA], I can see a bright future ahead.”

—survivor
How Does Rape Victim Advocates Help?

*Rape Victim Advocates* is here for survivors, responding to crisis calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing crisis intervention to victims of sexual violence at 14 hospitals throughout the Chicago area. With our support services that aid in the active healing of survivors and our work to prevent future violence, *RVA* makes a difference every single day.

It is estimated that as many as two-thirds of sexual assaults go unreported to law enforcement, and these crimes touch many lives regardless of age, gender identity, race, religion or sexual orientation. Regardless of when and where a survivor’s journey begins—in the ER just after an assault or through a visit to one of our offices months or years later—*RVA* is here for all survivors every step of the way.
Advocacy

Advocacy was the first service provided by RVA and 38 years later remains at the center of all we do, supporting individuals, families, communities and institutions. Through our crisis intervention services in the emergency room, RVA advocates explain the sexual assault examination kit, legal options, criminal justice procedures and her rights under the Sexual Assault Emergency Act of Illinois (SASETA). It is often the first step in a victim’s healing and becoming a survivor—she is able to regain control of her life by asserting her rights. Beyond the role of medical and law enforcement staff, there are too many needs that would be unmet with RVA’s advocacy services: clothes to replace the garments taken as criminal evidence, the absence of judgment in hearing a survivor’s story the first time it is ever spoken, knowledge and expertise to validate what they may be feeling and experiencing.

RVA supports each victim through our individual advocacy, and all victims through our institutional advocacy.

RVA’s work with other organizations has helped to create systemic change related to sexual assault treatment and prevention in and around Chicago. In Fiscal Year 2011 RVA trained XXX doctors and nurses and XXX police offers and Assistant State’s Attorneys. The professionals who participate in these comprehensive trainings are better able to support and interact with survivors thereby making them less vulnerable to further trauma by the systems that serve them.
Counseling

In the words of one survivor who can best describe RVA’s counseling: “I had a safe space to talk about everything I was going through without feeling judged.” The trauma of sexual violence goes far beyond the act itself, after a victim has survived the emergency room, the police station and perhaps the courtroom, and can not enter the realm of consciousness until after many years have passed. Victims of sexual violence are 4 to 26 times more likely than those who are not to face a host of other problems, including depression, drug and alcohol abuse, and suicide. RVA helps by providing confidential individual counseling, couples/family counseling and support groups to survivors of sexual assault, childhood sexual abuse, and incest.

Education and Training

Far too many myths about what sexual violence is, and why and to whom it occurs, pervade American popular culture. Through our violence prevention and public education programming, RVA strives to change attitudes toward sexual violence, share strategies for reducing it, engage communities in discussing healthy relationships, equip professionals to provide compassionate and informed care, and encourage more victims to seek help. Our presentations and workshops—offered in Chicago Public Schools, community groups, social service organizations, faith communities and substance abuse and health clinics—educate parents, teachers, direct-service professionals and clergy to recognize myths and misconceptions about sexual violence and to begin the broader conversations about it. In addition, RVA has partnered with Loyola University-Chicago, University of Illinois-Chicago, Northwestern University, and Dominican University to work with each on developing and implementing a comprehensive campus response to sexual violence.

“I don’t know where I’d be without you all.”

—survivor
“I now know how to talk to my child about dating violence and some early warning signs like extreme jealousy and controlling behavior.”

—parent, participant in RVA public education training

“I learned two important responses to someone who discloses: I believe you and it’s not your fault.”

—social worker, participant in RVA professional training
Creating Agents of Change

In Fiscal Year 2011 RVA’s education and training programs reached hundreds of adult community members and tens of thousands of children and youth throughout Chicago. What new knowledge did participants take away from this experience?

“I’ll do my best to look out for others and stand up for people who may not be able to stand up for themselves.”

—youth, participant in RVA prevention education session
Together We Stand

Beyond our direct services for survivors and our education and training programs, RVA recognizes the work of others concerned about sexual violence and leverages connections to increase awareness of this far-reaching and serious problem. Together, we can lift our own voices alongside those of survivors, breaking the silence that allows sexual violence to continue to occur.

Off the Beaten Path: Violence, Women and Art

RVA was one of three lead partners in developing community programming around Off the Beaten Path, an international touring exhibition that presents artistic responses to gender-based violence. Displayed in Chicago between January and April 2011, Off the Beaten Path featured work by 29 internationally renowned artists including Laylah Ali and Yoko Ono. The free programming series for the exhibition co-organized by RVA explored the global and local impact of violence against women through discussions, panels and performances. Several RVA staff also trained as exhibit docents and led a number of community-based tours including several for youth and young adults. More than 25,000 individuals saw the exhibit and/or participated in our community programming.
Pitchfork Music Festival

The choice of Pitchfork Music Festival organizers to include Odd Future, known for their misogynistic lyrics, provided the perfect platform for RVA to partners with other anti-violence organizations in the Chicago area to create a dialogue about violence against women and the LGBTQ community that was heard around the world. There are those who would say Odd Future’s lyrics are just fictional, over-the-top, or just about shock value. We worked to point out that real people are affected by that type of violence every day and that Odd Future’s ‘shock value’ is irresponsible. Throughout the 3-day festival, we reached thousands of festival attendees with our message and engaged our local and international communities in these conversations.

RVA Signature Events

At our annual Visionary Awards, RVA recognized the work of leaders who have made a powerful and lasting impact on the issue of sexual violence in Chicago.

2010 Award Recipients:

- Imagination Theater
- Lookingglass Theater Compay
- Chicago Tribune investigative reporters, David Jackson, Gary Marx and Megan Twohey

More than 100 people gathered in solidarity at downtown Chicago’s Daley Plaza for the 2011 Standing Silent Witness, RVA’s annual demonstration during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Participants stood silently for a single hour, wearing the stories of sexual assault survivors on t-shirts specially created for this event.
RVA Volunteers: A Different Brand of ‘Healing Hands’

RVA’s more than 100 volunteer advocates are the backbone of our direct services to victims of sexual assault. It is through this intense commitment that RVA is able to provide comprehensive services and see survivors’ recovery all the way through. Advocates commit to a full year of service with RVA, being on-call to provide crisis counseling for at least two 12-hour shifts per month after completing our intensive training to become certified Rape Crisis Counselors. They are the people who answer the page from the hospital emergency room—the caring strangers who arrive to hold an unsteady hand, decipher medical and legal terminology and filter through countless paperwork and forms, all to put victims on the pathway to becoming fully healed.

“These women are quite possibly having the worst day of their lives. To share with them, to help them, to do whatever they need—it is a privilege.”

—RVA volunteer advocate

15,216 | Number of hours
Rape Victim Advocates’ more than 100 volunteers were on-call, collectively, to provide crisis counseling in Chicago hospitals in fiscal year 2011.
What Does it Take to be an RVA Volunteer?

Commitment. Resolve. Compassion.

RVA volunteer advocates are here exclusively to serve the needs of survivors—the sole person on whom survivors can count to protect their rights and ensure consistent, specialized, and humane treatment in the face of such unimaginable trauma. But beyond advocacy, RVA volunteers do so much more—from collecting and sorting donated clothing to facilitating education and training programs to Standing Silent Witness at Daley Plaza each April. RVA volunteers make all the difference in our work to end sexual violence and help every victim become a survivor. In addition, in April 2011, RVA coordinated our third “Sunday of Sermons” in Austin to break the silence through coordinated sermons that helped dispel myths about rape, discussed the prevalence of sexual assaults, shared available resources, and encouraged involvement.

Survivors of sexual assault who were assisted by rape crisis center advocates received more medical and legal services, and were less distressed by their interactions with law enforcement and medical personnel.

—Rape Survivors’ Experiences With the Legal and Medical Systems, 2006
Rape Victim Advocates is the only independent full-service rape crisis center in Chicago that is singularly focused on sexual violence.

Serving all of Chicago, Rape Victim Advocates reaches across the city’s diverse neighborhoods. Through our on-the-ground experience helping survivors, RVA is able to connect with the surrounding communities and respond to the specific needs of the people who live there. Specialized services include a full-time children’s advocate, off-site counseling and support groups for adolescents and seniors, and staff and materials to serve Spanish-speaking survivors.
Renewing Our Commitment to Austin

The Austin community on Chicago’s West Side has one of the highest reported sexual assault rates in the city. Before RVA located an office there in 1998, there were no sexual assault services offered in Austin. Renewing our commitment to this community, in 2010 RVA moved our Austin office to a new, expanded space to better meet the needs of victims of sexual violence on the far West Side. The new space is equipped to provide the full range of RVA’s services to people living in and around Austin. In addition, in April 2010, RVA coordinated our second “Sunday of Sermons” in Austin to break the silence about sexual violence through coordinated sermons that helped dispel myths about rape, discussed the prevalence of sexual assaults, shared available resources, and encouraged involvement.
RVA provided crisis intervention, advocacy and counseling to 1,268 survivors and their significant others in fiscal year 2011, and provided an additional 690 people with information and referral to needed services.

Who We Serve

Gender

- Female: 94%
- Male: 6%

Race

- Black/African-American: 48%
- White/Caucasian: 40%
- Asian: 28%*
- Bi/Multiracial: 1%

* also reported being Latino/a
Groups served by RVA’s public education and professional training programs in fiscal year 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Education</th>
<th>12,852</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students ages 5–24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary schools</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High schools</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic and community organizations</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Training</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social service providers</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers/Educators</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law enforcement</td>
<td>1,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical/healthcare</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other professionals</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financials


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$175,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>167,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>5,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, Net of Depreciation</td>
<td>7,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Deposit</td>
<td>12,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$367,694</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Equity</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$23,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>26,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Lease Costs</td>
<td>6,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>66,490</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$123,422</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>244,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>48,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>292,814</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$416,236</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of Activities / Years ended June 30, 2011

**Revenues**
- Government Grants
- Grants-Foundations
- Individual Contributions
- Service fees
- Special Events, net

**Total Revenues**: $1,000,834

**Expenses**
- Programs
- General and Administrative
- Fundraising

**Total Expenses**: $885,463
Board and Staff

Board of Directors
as of March 2012

Julia Schmidt*, MBA President
Alisa Roadcup, Vice President
Ryan Sullivan*, Treasurer
Andrea Popevecz, Secretary
Michael Hopp, MS Director
Naina Jain*, Director
Gray Mateo-Harris, Director
*trained sexual assault crisis counselors

Staff*

Stephen Adler, Prevention Education Specialist
Pam Asen, Part-Time Educator
Megan Blomquist, Senior Medical Advocate
Cheryl Brown, Director of Development
Chihiro Iwasaki, Adult & Adolescent Counselor
Monica Jones, Part-time Counselor
Sarah Layden, Director of Advocacy Services
Sharmili Majmudar, Executive Director
LaShanda Nalls, Director of Counseling
Erica Sanchez, Advocacy Volunteer Coordinator
Jacqui Scott, Austin Legal/Medical Advocate
Laura Valiukenas, Senior Legal Advocate
Liliana Vargas, Children’s Legal/Medical Advocate
Carrie Wachter, Director of Education and Training
Lynda Wells-Nash, Administrative Services Supervisor
* all staff are trained sexual assault crisis counselors

All RVA volunteers are exceptional in their dedication to helping survivors of sexual assault and preventing future violence, but each month we recognize just one whose special efforts inspire others to do even more.

2011 Volunteers of the Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>January</th>
<th>July</th>
<th></th>
<th>June</th>
<th>November</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emilie Sepulveda</td>
<td>Pam Seaton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brittny Parenti</td>
<td>Meaghan Savery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monica Williams</td>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anu Selvam</td>
<td>December</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carmen Dvorak</td>
<td>September</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Anderson</td>
<td>November</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anu Selvam</td>
<td>October</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Meaghan Savery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Anderson</td>
<td>November</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* trained sexual assault crisis counselors
Donor List

Thank you for your generous contributions in support of our work in Fiscal Year 2011
(July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010)

Public and Foundation Supporters
- Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Illinois Attorney General
- Cook County Health and Hospital Systems
- The Albert Pick, Jr. Fund
- Alphawood Foundation
- Anonymous Private Foundation
- The Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation
- Chicago Foundation for Women
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- John R. Houslbsy Foundation
- Michael Reese Health Trust
- Morris Family Foundation
- Polk Bros. Foundation
- Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
- VNA Foundation

$5,000+
- Winnetka Congregational Church

$1,000 to $2,499
- Anonymous
- Tyler Kellen
- Anonymous
- Nextions LLC

$1,000 to $2,499
- Anonymous
- Andrew Bikulca
- FactSet Research Systems
- Sandra Ferreira and John Lee
- Matthew Kriegel
- Dr. Deepak & Mrs. Dhiru Majmudar
- McMaster-Carr Supply Company
- Kaethe Morris Hoffer and Matt Hoffer Morris
- Lexis Nexis
- Camille Romero
- Camille M. Romero & Walter Gude
- Cary Schulz
- Jack and Carol Sum
- Venus Collective

$500 to $999
- Aaron’s Apothecary
- Mary Bishop
- Julie Cameron
- Catharis Productions
- Cinema/Chicago
- Barbara Engel
- Michael Grant & Group Benefit Associates
- Michael Happ

Christal Henderson
- HNTB Corporation
- Melinda Holland
- Julie Kiefer
- Ava Knell-Malato and Richard Malato
- Rachel Kraft & Douglas Brown
- William Kral
- James Loverde
- The Meyers Fund
- Christopher Murphy
- E. Dillon Murphy & Carol Lin
- Daniel O’Rourke
- Aaron Pietrykowski
- Linda Quinde
- Julie and Daniel Schmidt
- Sara Stipp
- Ryan Sullivan

$250 to $499
- ALMAA Inc.
- Rutland Baker
- Andrea Bauer
- Anne Biere
- Coleen Burrus & David Skrodski
- The Corvus Group, Inc
- Paul Edward Coscarelli
- Arleen Dalton
- Ryan DePietro
- Michael Dietrich
- Fair Oaks Presbyterian Women
- Ruth & Dale Fast
- Sunny Fischer
- Jennifer Franklin
- Grateful Yoga, Ltd.
- Falon Greer
- Neen Hemmady and Joy Wright
- Brenda Hurley
- Miriam J. Kelm
- Patricia Kimbel
- Patricia Kryscha
- Matthew Kuzma
- Shawn Lent
- Michelle & Alferd Maldonado
- Gray Mateo-Harris & Chris Harris
- Michael McConnell
- Ila Polan
- Anne K. Ream
- R. Clifton Spargo
- Joan Spargo

24
Veronica Spicer
Andrew Swanson
Michelle Tansey
Laura Valiukenas
Kerry Walsh
Yogaview, LLC
$100 to $249
The Long Walk Home, Inc.
Access Living
The Awakening Center
Scott Barnett
Mary Jo Barnett
Megan Bess
Jennifer McCarthy Bienemann
Nicholas Braggo
Anne Breen-Greco
Matthew Burke
Susan Burke, M.D.
Evette Cardona & Mona Noriega
Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women’s Network
Keri Christensen
Jeffrey Coney
Corepower Yoga
Jean Cozier
Maria Cupp
Dawn Dalton
Meredith Darnall
Mary Dolan & David Haracz
Jennifer Donahue
Any Dykstra
Barbara Engel & Jesse Hall
Jerry Feigen
Daisy Figueroa
Margaret Fischer
Jonathan Fischer
Stanley Griedell
Daniel & Roxane Friedman
Anne Breen Greco
Eric Hall & Laurel Mascarenhas
Beth Haviland
Todd Hawkesworth
Richard Heath
Megan Hobson
James & Eileen Holzhauer
Michael Hughes
Carrie Kovach & Jay Schulman
Monica Jones
Sibyl Josephson
Candice Kane
William Karnoskak
Margaret Kelly
John Knoff
Jacqueline Koesters
Naha Lall & Robert Knowles
Dimple Limaye
Terri Lischka
Marcena Love
Erik Maccoux
Jody Marcucci
Patricia & Frederick Martin
Mercedes Martinez
Sedia Mathis
Jennifer McCarthy Bienemann
Daniel McFall
Keri McGuire
Cathy Militante
Anne Militante
Constance Moran
Rev. Calvin Morris, Ph.D
Mary Morten
Mary Morten & Willa Taylor
Sameena Mustafa Basit
Oak Park Yoga & Wellness, Inc.
Jennifer Lee O’Neil
Olayinka Owolabi
Sheena Panoor & Nikhil Trivedi
Katherine Peterson
Suzan Pinsof
Bill & Suzan Pinsof
Elizabeth Prince
Eleanor Revelle
Alisa Roadcup
Amy Robbins
Dean Rohner
Carlos M. Rosa
Ann Rothschild
Zaneta Ruff
Daniel Rufo
Daid & Lana Runyan
Esther S. Saks
Jane M. Saks
Paul Schmidt
Mary & Paul Schmidt
Aparna Sharma
Surti Singh
Gary Spade
Justin Starr
Jessica Steinbfrecher
Kathryn Sullivan
James Taylor
Scheherazade Tillet
Wayne F. Tjaden
Kenneth Venos
Michael & Kirsten Wolberg
Robin Wold
Youth Guidance
Thank you to our phenomenal Taproot Foundation team:

Scott Ablin, Account Director
Rebecca Heneghan, Project Manager
Jackie Sheridan, Marketing Manager
Kelsey Krzmarzick, Graphic Designer
Celina Chatman-Nelson, Copywriter/Editor
William Lustgarten, Strategy Analyst
Shin Lim, Photographer

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