



Community Grant Outcome Report

Name: Breaking the Barriers to Health Care and Domestic Violence Prevention for Latino/Hispanic Immigrants

Grantee: UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence

Contact Phone: 608-256-9195

Academic Partner: Mary Beth Plane, PhD, Senior Scientist, Department of Family Medicine, UW SMPH

Program: Implementation

Grant Duration: 02/01/2005 to 05/31/2008 (40 months)

Expenditures: \$450,000 (100% expended)

Use of Funds: Direct client services and workforce training

► **Description:** The overall aim of this project was to increase capacity of Wisconsin communities to meet the needs of Latino/Hispanic women experiencing domestic violence and to enhance their safety through broad community-based education, training and technical assistance, and dissemination of best practices. The project had four goals: (1) expand outreach services from domestic violence agencies and direct service to women in 8 counties (Buffalo, Clark, Dane, Eau Claire, Jackson, Kenosha, Racine, and Trempealeau), (2) provide technical assistance to domestic violence agencies in getting services for children of domestic violence victims, (3) conduct cultural awareness training with Latino/immigrant youth, and (4) increase the capacity of Wisconsin providers to screen and effectively respond to Latino/immigrant domestic violence incidents.

► **Results:** The project made measurable progress in building statewide capacity to improve domestic violence services by demonstrating changes in public awareness, increasing access to domestic violence services, and training local providers. Within the targeted communities, the project served over 386 new clients. The project developed outreach materials for Latino youth, created a training curriculum for health care providers with collaboration from the UW School of Nursing, and established a formal network between UNIDOS and local domestic violence agencies. The program provided training to 483 services providers, 230 law enforcement officers, 287 school personnel, and over 100 community-based organizations.

A total of 43% of providers reported that their agency's services had changed as a result of the

UNIDOS training/technical assistance, and the majority improved their awareness of the cultural and immigration issues facing Latina victims. An unexpected outcome was the development of an informal network of individuals and organizations that regularly meet to coordinate domestic violence services for the Latino/Hispanic population.

Program staff highlighted two factors that contributed to the program's success: culturally competent staff, and organizational capacity to implement the project.

► **Met Objectives:** Project completed

► **Baseline Progress on State Health Plan Objectives:** Not measured

► **Academic Partner Role:** The academic partner primarily advised on evaluation; she also actively supported the project at community meetings throughout the state.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$0

► **Dissemination:** No—may publish results in future

► **Sustained:** Yes—incorporated within local domestic violence organizations services. UNIDOS applied but was not funded for a WPP renewal implementation grant in 2007. UNIDOS has since reorganized to focus primarily on statewide technical assistance rather than direct client services, which are now offered by the local provider agencies. The outreach advocates hired through the grant are now working for those local agencies.