

AGENCY GETS FEDERAL GRANT TO HELP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

Cayuga County agency gets \$352,000 to help domestic violence, sexual assault survivors



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A local agency has been awarded a federal grant to assist domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, Cayuga County's federal representatives announced Wednesday.

The Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency will receive \$352,416 through the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. The funding will be used to provide transitional housing assistance to domestic violence and sexual assault survivors.

In a statement provided by U.S. Rep. Dan Maffei's office, CSCAA Executive Director Laurie Piccolo said the grant will be a big boost to the agency's efforts.

"We are extremely excited to continue receiving this funding to provide the temporary housing services that survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Cayuga County need to get back on their feet," Piccolo said.

CSCAA's funding request was supported by Maffei, D-Syracuse, and U.S. Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer.

Gillibrand, Maffei and Schumer all supported the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization in 2013. That legislation provides funding for the DOJ's Office of Violence Against Women, which awarded the funding to CSCAA.

"It's so important to ensure that survivors of domestic, dating and sexual violence have the life-saving support they need after fleeing an abusive situation," Maffei said in a statement. "This funding will help Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc. continue its work to provide survivors with safe, affordable short-term housing in our region.

"I strongly support this grant program and am proud to partner with Senators Schumer and Gillibrand to bring these critical resources home to Central New York."

CSCAA was one of the groups highlighted during [The Citizen's award-winning Everyone's Battle series](#) in 2013. The agency [offers several services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors](#), including a 24-hour hotline, victims support group and a shelter for survivors and their children.

