



**News Release**  
*For Immediate Release*

**CAPSA awarded two grants worth almost \$1 million**

**LOGAN, Utah – December 18, 2007** – Community Abuse Prevention Services Agency (CAPSA) was awarded two grants totaling \$950,000.

The first, a \$750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), was awarded in September to develop a program for “Education, training, and enhanced services to end violence against women with disabilities”. The second is a \$200,000 grant from the Daniels Fund that will go toward the purchase of housing units to expand the CAPSA Transitional Housing program.

The DOJ grant is part of a three-year cooperative agreement between CAPSA and the Office on Violence Against Women. The Vera Institute of Justice, a non-profit located in Manhattan, N.Y., will provide technical assistance and a framework for the team to follow in developing this program.

Research suggests that women with disabilities may be abused at higher rates than women without disabilities, and for longer periods of time,” said Dick Baer from the USU Center for Persons with Disabilities, who will be collaborating on the project. “In addition, they face special obstacles in escaping abuse, particularly dependence on caregivers who perpetrate abuse.”

The goal of the program is to create meaningful and sustainable change resulting in more effective services for victims of violence who have disabilities, with a focus on changing the systems that are in place to assist disabled victims of domestic violence. This will be achieved by helping communities and service providers understand some of the distinct barriers for people with disabilities who are also victims of domestic violence, and providing programs that will result in effective and enduring improvements in the services available to these people.

“With this grant, we can develop programs to ensure that there are no gaps in services for people with disabilities who are also victims of domestic violence,” said Jill Anderson, Executive Director of CAPSA. “The DOJ funding will allow us to develop a model program in Cache Valley, and then help other Utah communities implement similar services in their area.”

During the first year the team will work on a strategic plan, and conduct a needs assessment and an accessibility plan; in the second and third years they will develop a curriculum for the program that can be implemented in many other organizations and communities throughout Utah.

CAPSA will also work with other subcontracted agencies throughout this process, including OPTIONS for Independence, the Utah State University Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Utah Division of Services for People with Disabilities.

CAPSA was chosen as one of six award recipients out of 50 applicants nationwide.

The \$200,000 Daniels Fund grant will go toward the purchase of housing units for the Transitional Housing program (THP). CAPSA's THP, which began in 2005, provides financial assistance for survivors of domestic violence who leave our shelter and are working to become self-sufficient by doing things such as go back to school, or save for a down payment on a home.

The Daniels Fund operates the Daniels Fund Scholarship Program and the Daniels Fund Grants Program in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. The Fund was established in 1997 by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television known for his kindness and generosity to those in need. Visit [www.danielsfund.org](http://www.danielsfund.org) for more information.

CAPSA has received \$440,000 for this program so far – including donations and grants from the Daniels Fund, Eccles Foundation, LDS Church Foundation, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and Zions Bank – and is working to raise \$310,000 more by June 2008.

For more information about these grants, or about CAPSA, call 435-753-2500.

### **About CAPSA**

CAPSA is a non-profit organization located in Logan that is dedicated to providing safe, caring, and confidential shelter, advocacy, and support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to reducing incidents of abuse through prevention education. CAPSA services include a 24-hour crisis line and mobile crisis response team; emergency shelter and food; individual crisis intervention and case management; educational support groups; coordination of services with other local agencies; assistance with sexual assault forensic exams and law enforcement interviews; protective order and civil stalking injunction assistance; court advocacy; children's programs; and educational presentations and workshops. All CAPSA services are completely confidential, completely free, and are provided in English and Spanish.

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