



Working Against Violence for Everyone

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October 27, 2016

Dear Assembly Members,

We write this letter with gratitude for the generous amount we received from you this year during budget negotiations. WAVE was facing uncertain times for this next year, and though we applied for a federal grant, we could not be certain of receiving it. Asking for \$45,000 from the borough during a potential gap year was the minimum we could request if WAVE were to continue to function as we know it now. (Our overall operating budget is higher as you may remember, but this allowed us to maintain WAVE's only employee, and our current office space.) Receiving this money provided everyone interested in WAVE's future a great sense of relief, so again, we deeply appreciate the decision to help fund us during this time.

Luckily, we were recently awarded the federal grant we applied for. WAVE is elated (and shocked!) about receiving this grant. Not only does this provide us with the funds necessary to be fully funded this year, we also no longer need to be concerned about WAVE's future for the next 3-years! Part of the grant was requesting funding for another employee so an advocate could be available most of the day. With only one employee/advocate the office would be closed down any time Annette would need to help accompany a victim to the court, hospital, or police station. Now, this no longer needs to happen. WAVE's presence in our community will expand with this change, and services (such as providing training to the hospital and police department) can be more readily implemented. We are so thankful for your support of WAVE, and we will continue to work hard to fundraise and do our part to be a productive service for the community of Petersburg.

You are welcome to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Lea Stanton Gregor, Board Chair

Annette Wooton, Executive Director

Love shouldn't hurt!

Our mission is to support and provide advocacy for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to promote relationships without abuse in the greater Petersburg community.