

## **CADV Shelter Addition Case Statement**

Visitors to our area will attest to the natural beauty and great sense of community that we enjoy here at the Lake of the Ozarks. No one living in the area would dispute this assessment, but most residents are also likely unaware that the region is also home to one of the highest rates of domestic and sexual abuse in the Midwest.

Citizens Against Domestic Violence (CADV) was created in 1984 to respond to what many residents felt was an appalling number of young women and families that lacked any real assistance for sexual and domestic violence. Since our founding, CADV has continued to expand both our facilities and our services to meet the growing needs of victims in the lake area. CADV has stood as a beacon of hope for thousands of women and children who would have had nowhere else to turn if not for the resources that CADV provides.

The demand for services has continued to grow beyond what the organization has capacity for despite just having completed a new 28-bed facility seven years ago. In 2019, there were 1,181 women and children that received assistance from the organization and there were 164 clients who could not



receive assistance due to lack of resources. CADV's leadership plans to make addition to the current facility that will allow the organization to meet the growing need. This initiative aims to serve at least 100 more clients per year with the addition of:

- Four new bedrooms that will allow CADV to house an additional 12 clients at a time. These new rooms will also be larger and ideal for larger families.
- A male victims suite in separate quarters that will allow male victims of assault to receive shelter assistance. Currently, adult male victims are referred to other shelters for housing.
- A larger space for group therapy sessions and other gatherings.
- Additional office space that will be necessary to hire additional personnel that are part of the expansion

The cost of funding this initiative is estimated at \$675,000. CADV has received \$500,000 in 70% tax credits to provide assistance for the project. This addition is a major leap forward in assistance that CADV can provide for the communities that the organization serves. Getting shelter assistance for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse is essential for survivors seeking to escape a potentially deadly situation and to create a new life for themselves and their families. The availability of services in the lake area is a valued necessity for victims who need assistance immediately.