

Break the Cycle

Empowering Youth to End
Domestic Violence

Annual Report 2004



engage • educate • empower

LETTER FROM BREAK THE CYCLE'S
BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Over the course of 2004, our programs reached incredible new heights. As the programs in our Los Angeles office continued to grow, each of our new offices - in New York, San Francisco and Washington, DC - exceeded their ambitious goals for the number of young people served in their first full year of operation. They planted strong roots in their local communities, developing vital partnerships and making an immediate and significant impact. We applaud the staff of those offices for their passion, initiative, resourcefulness and great achievement in this challenging but rewarding task.



Today we are planting roots on a national level. The calls we receive from teens around the country remind us of the need for Break the Cycle's services in communities where we do not have a physical presence. In the coming year, Break the Cycle will focus on developing strategies, campaigns and programs that will reach teens nationwide.



We are determined to create innovative national programs guided by the same unwavering commitment to engaging, educating and empowering youth that guides our successful local services. Our national team is excited and humbled by the challenges and opportunities ahead. With your support, Break the Cycle will not only help teens in our local communities but in cities across the nation.

"Thank you very much for teaching me that I have rights to protect myself and my loved ones from domestic violence."

- 9th grade student
Los Angeles

Many of you already have helped in ways both large and small to bring about the achievements described in these pages. On behalf of the board and staff of Break the

Cycle and the youth we serve, we thank you for your gift of time and the many talents you have offered. By giving a portion of yourself, you have given a tremendous gift to many others.

Warm Regards,

Jessica Aronoff
Executive Director

John Shaeffer
Chairman of the Board

engage • educate • empower

Break the Cycle is an innovative, national nonprofit organization whose mission is to engage, educate and empower youth to build lives and communities free from dating and domestic violence.



Founded in 1996, Break the Cycle is a national resource and advocate on the issue of teen dating violence. We provide youth with preventive, law-based education, free legal services, and peer leadership opportunities.

Through innovative partnerships with schools, universities, social service providers, law enforcement, community groups, law firms and corporations, Break the Cycle provides youth with tools to

break the cycle of dating and domestic violence. We work to affect change in state and federal policy to ensure legal rights for young victims of abuse.

BREAK THE CYCLE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS 2004

Agencias Latinas Unidas en Contra de la Violencia Domestica
 California Alliance Against Domestic Violence
 Casa de las Madres
 Childrens Hospital Los Angeles
 Covenant House
 Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center
 District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
 The Door
 Domestic Violence Consortium
 Domestic Violence Intake Center at D.C. Superior Court
 Families and the Law Clinic at Catholic University's Columbus School of Law
 Harlem Children's Zone
 Legal Services for Children

Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center
 Los Angeles Police Department
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 New York City's Administration for Children's Services
 Project Hope
 Safe Horizons
 San Francisco District Attorney's Office
 Sexual Minorities Youth Action League
 Su Casa
 TAPP program
 Teen Coalition Against Teen Relationship Abuse
 Teen Domestic Violence Task Force

Venice Family Clinic
 Watts Urban High Crime Advisory Committee
 Westside Domestic Violence Network
 WEAVE



"Organizations like Break the Cycle are so vital. We need awareness, we need help, it goes on everywhere, abuse breaks all barriers, crosses all cultures, sexualities, economic levels, age groups – we can end the pain."

- Veronica
 Youth Activist



Break the Cycle is strategic in our efforts to reach youth, staying focused on how best to serve our mission. Our programs are aimed at ending domestic violence by working proactively with the young people we serve.

EDUCATE

Education & Outreach Program

Break the Cycle's preventive education program, *Ending Violence*, teaches teens about domestic violence, healthy relationships and the law.

- Taught in English and Spanish by our staff attorneys, *Ending Violence* offers youth a resource for confidential information and advice.
- Programs are offered free to youth, ages 12-22, in schools, community centers, GED programs, foster homes and detention facilities.
- Break the Cycle trains adults to recognize the signs of abuse among young people and to intervene with sensitivity and vital referrals.



EMPOWER

Legal Services Program

Our early intervention legal services provide free, confidential information, advocacy and representation to young victims of abuse.

- Sensitive to the unique needs of our clients, Break the Cycle attorneys provide full legal representation in English and Spanish.
- We operate a toll-free helpline and referral service to assist youth with questions, information and resources.



"I pursued a restraining order with the help of Break the Cycle. Today, I can speak out about my experience and, hopefully, help others in need."

- Erica
Intern/Former Client

ENGAGE

Peer Leadership Program

Break the Cycle's Peer Leadership Program engages youth in our mission, training them to be leaders in the movement to end domestic violence.

- The Youth Voices and Student Liaison programs train high school and college students to educate their peers and raise awareness about domestic and dating violence.
- The Barter Program offers legal services clients a chance to give back to the organization and the community through speaking engagements, volunteering and other special projects.



Break the Cycle envisions a world in which young people are empowered with the rights, knowledge and tools to achieve healthy, nonviolent relationships and homes.

Since our founding, **Break the Cycle** has directly served almost **64,000 youth** and provided free legal services, advocacy and advice to more than **2,400 youth**. In addition, **Break the Cycle** trained more than **8,100 first-responders** and service providers including teachers, law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel, who regularly come into contact with young victims of domestic and dating violence.



2004 BY THE NUMBERS

Education & Outreach Program

19,895	Total youth connections made.
3,580	Potential first-responders trained.
1,415	Training hours by our attorneys.
726	<i>Ending Violence</i> presentations made.

79% of our legal clients came from Education & Outreach Program efforts.

More than 170 youth volunteers provided more than 4,000 hours of service to support Break the Cycle's dating violence prevention efforts.

Legal Services Program

1,906	Hours providing comprehensive, legal services.
732	Requests for information & advice on our toll-free hotline.
99	Clients transitioned from victim to survivor.
82	Court appearances made.



Peer Leadership Program

8,645	Hours contributed through Break the Cycle's Student Liaisons, Youth Voices, interns, volunteers and former clients.
54	Interns enlisted to join the movement to end domestic violence.
48	Youth activists engaged to reach their peers through projects designed to prevent dating violence.
13	Former clients empowered to give back to Break the Cycle and their communities.

Break the Cycle doesn't just change lives, Break the Cycle saves lives.

Break the Cycle involves young people in every aspect of our work to ensure that we are responsive to the needs of the population we serve.

Break the Cycle approaches our work with the understanding that youth require special attention because often legal information is less accessible to them and the law is not always in their favor. We not only connect with schools and domestic violence-related service providers, but also reach out to other programs serving youth, including juvenile detention facilities, teen parenting programs, after-school programs, community organizations and GED courses.

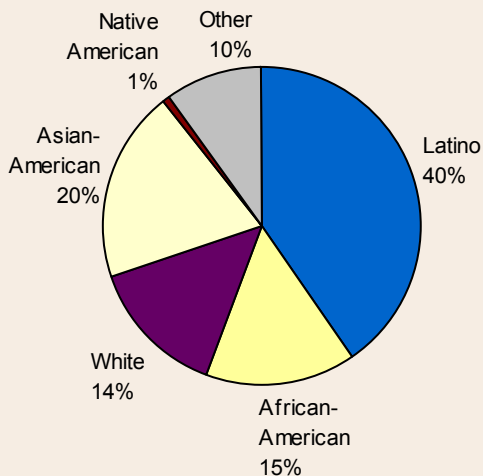
And we don't stop there. We also train adults who work with youth, including teachers, school counselors, police officers and healthcare professionals, to recognize signs of dating violence, and to intervene sensitively with vital referrals and the knowledge of special safety concerns for teens.

Domestic violence affects all of us – both men & women of all races, classes & ages. There is no one type of victim. We all have a responsibility to do something about it.

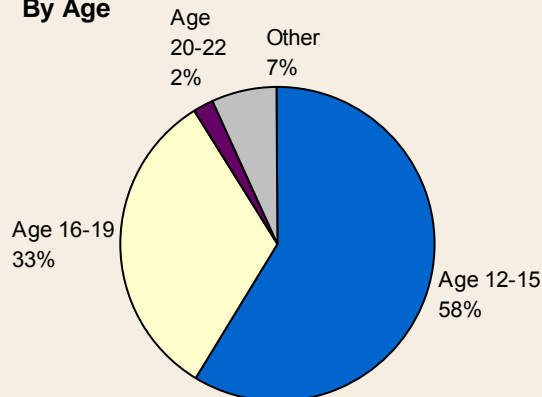
- Debbie
Youth Volunteer

EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAM

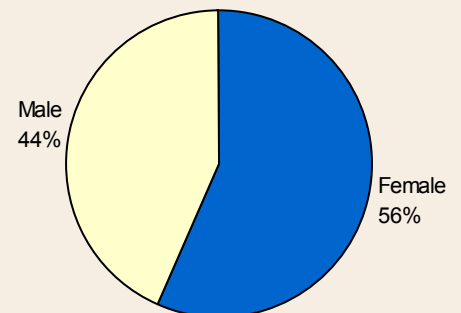
By Ethnicity



By Age



By Gender



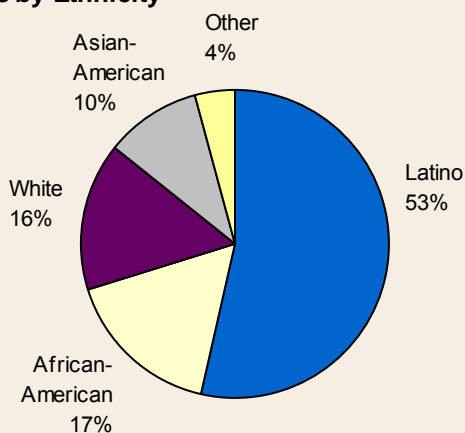
To keep Break the Cycle on the pulse of today's youth, we developed curriculum adaptations to be even more responsive to particular youth populations including: pregnant and parenting teens; Latino youth; gay, lesbian and bisexual youth; and youth living in group homes.



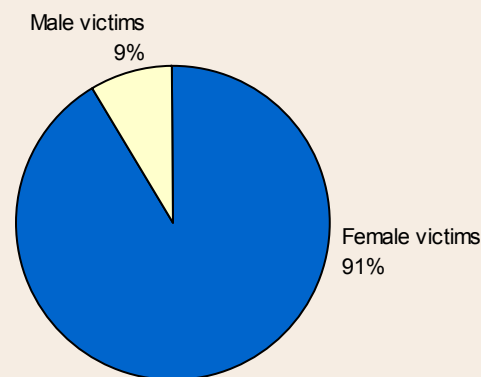
We go to where youth live, work and play. We value their feedback on how our programs work. We remember the challenges of being a teen, and recognize how those challenges make an abusive relationship that much more devastating.

LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

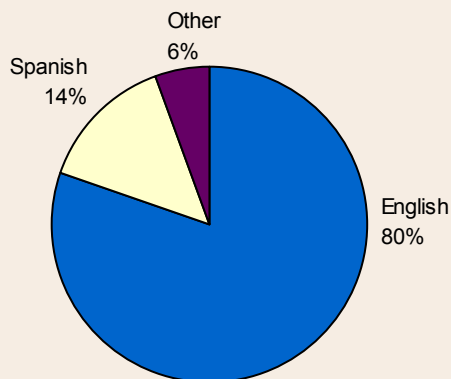
Clients by Ethnicity



Clients by Gender



Clients by Primary Language



One in three teenagers report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or physically hurt by their dating partner.¹

According to a 2003 Department of Justice report, girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most vulnerable to domestic violence, experiencing the highest per capita rates of intimate partner violence — nearly triple the overall average.² Compounding the impact of violence on youth is the dearth of appropriate services and resources geared toward helping this underserved age group. Without the proper services and support systems, the epidemic of domestic violence among youth will continue to mount. Young adults who cannot access help for issues of domestic violence will find it difficult or impossible, as adults, to change patterns of abuse which perpetuate the cycle of violence.

Break the Cycle doesn't just change lives, **Break the Cycle saves lives.**

1. Teen Research Unlimited, February 2005

2. Rennison, Callie Marie and Sarah Welchans. 2003. *Intimate Partner Violence 1993-2001*. U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics. Washington, DC.

We are a reflective and highly-adaptable organization. We collaborate. We are hands-on. We have a history of effective, life-saving services.

BREAKING POINTS 2004

- ◆ In Los Angeles, Break the Cycle formed partnerships with the Santa Monica and Los Angeles Police Departments, which now distribute Break the Cycle's information through their domestic violence response teams.
- ◆ In New York, we founded the Coalition Against Teen Relationship Abuse, an association of organizations dedicated to expanding resources available to teen victims of dating violence.
- ◆ Break the Cycle forged a partnership with the San Francisco District Attorney's office Youth Guidance Center to provide comprehensive services to young victims of violence in the juvenile court system.

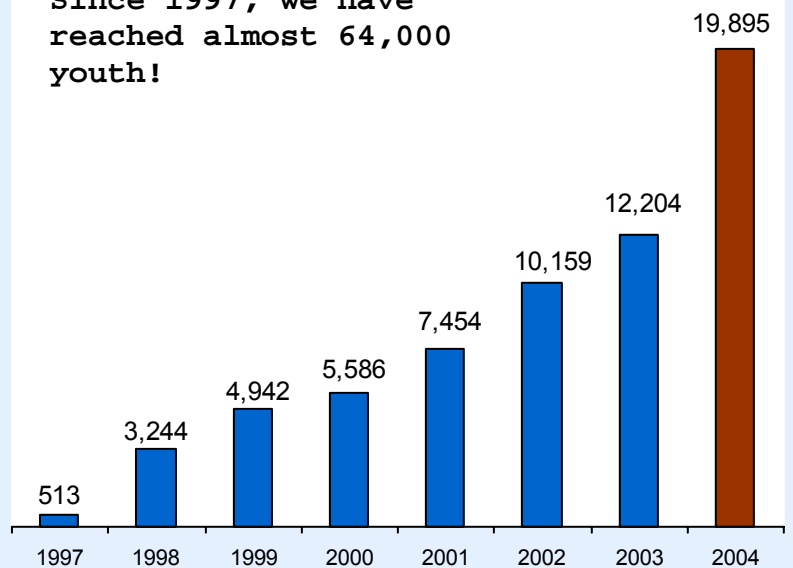


- ◆ Break the Cycle was appointed to the steering committee of the American Bar Association's National Teen Dating Violence Prevention Initiative.
- ◆ Break the Cycle became a recognized Latino service provider through partnerships with the Latino Legal Services Clinic and the Latin American Youth Center in Washington, D.C.

"Your presentation is empowering for students who commonly face violence in their lives. Thank you for providing this valuable service."

- North Hollywood High School Teacher

Since 1997, we have reached almost 64,000 youth!



We are the only organization in the country providing law-based dating violence services exclusively to teens. We BREAK THE CYCLE of domestic violence.

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STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Change in net assets	\$ 753,554	\$ 66,006
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	3,627	2,232
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	26,818	(29,659)
Prepaid expenses	(9,179)	(4,469)
Deposits	(800)	-
Accounts payable	2,698	960
Accrued expenses	<u>2,478</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	779,196	35,070
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of investment		(24,973)
Sale of investment	24,973	-
Mortgage notes receivable	(715,914)	-
Equipment purchases	<u>(10,097)</u>	<u>(1,335)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(701,038)</u>	<u>(26,308)</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	78,158	8,762
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Beginning of year	<u>299,671</u>	<u>290,909</u>
End of year	\$ <u>377,829</u>	\$ <u>299,671</u>



STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:		
Government grants	\$ 406,292	\$ 315,260
Corporate and business	6,588	51,030
Foundations and trusts	263,927	217,235
Non-profit organizations	7,559	18,149
Program service fees	2,034	4,407
Interest and dividend income	77,336	1,272
Special event income, net of expenses of \$123,622 (2004) and \$36,717 (2003)	115,741	156,681
Contributions	51,223	115,088
Planned giving	1,172,245	-
Donated goods and services, at fair value	112,062	42,000
Other	<u>3,445</u>	<u>18,024</u>
Total unrestricted revenues and gains	<u>2,218,452</u>	<u>939,146</u>
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS:		
Satisfied by payments	<u>16,000</u>	<u>9,595</u>
Total unrestricted revenues, gains and other	<u>2,234,452</u>	<u>948,741</u>
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES:		
Education and outreach	576,365	332,988
Legal services	524,313	285,440
Peer leadership	50,756	-
Management and general	112,154	53,420
Fundraising	<u>250,060</u>	<u>217,292</u>
Total functional expenses	<u>1,513,648</u>	<u>889,140</u>
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	720,804	59,601
CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
Contributions	48,750	16,000
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>(16,000)</u>	<u>(9,595)</u>
INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u>32,750</u>	<u>6,405</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	753,554	66,006
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>381,689</u>	<u>315,683</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	\$ <u>1,135,243</u>	\$ <u>381,689</u>

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THANK YOU TO
Break the Cycle gratefully acknowledges our generous
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Equal Justice America
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The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
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100,000+

The Estate of Clarice Silk
Department of Health & Human Services,
Office of Community Services
Department of Health & Human Services,
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

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Blue Shield of California Foundation
Liz Claiborne Foundation
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation

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Equal Justice America

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing.
Please accept our apologies if there are any errors or omissions and contact us for corrections.

Break the Cycle

Empowering Youth to End
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Break the Cycle
P.O. Box 64996
Los Angeles, CA 90064

888.988.TEEN

phone: 310.286.3366

fax: 310.286.3386

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