

## COMMUNITY PLAN SUBMISSION FORM

**Instructions:** Complete this form (continued on next page) and attach it to the community plan when it is submitted to the regional council of governments. The **three-page Community Plan Submission form(s) must accompany all community plans.**

*This Box For COG  
Use Only*

Grant #: 1371113

Fund Source VY

Date Received  
by COG: 12 / 07 / 11

1. Name of Plan: Scurry County Community Plan FY2013

2. **Cities, counties, or parts thereof covered by this plan:**

Scurry County consists of Snyder, Ira, Hermleigh and Fluvanna communities.

3. List the types (general focuses) of projects currently funded by CJD that the community planning group agrees should continue. DO NOT list specific grant applications or agencies.

Victim services for victims of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse, are currently funded by CJD.

4. List the gaps in services that would enhance the community plan if funding were available. List these gaps as types of services. DO NOT list specific grant applications or agencies.

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Juvenile Crime -  | Gaps in services for juveniles include lack of parental involvement, additional law enforcement and school resource officers, residential and nonresidential services within close proximity, and funding to support these programs.                          |
| Substance Abuse - | Gaps include a designated drug task force, prevention and education services such as a local Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, and funding to support these projects.  |
| Victim Services - | Gaps include limited victim services due to available funding, lack of counseling, low-income housing, public transportation, and the funding for programs to carry victim's services past the initial crisis toward restoration or new, violence-free lives. |

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## COMMUNITY PLAN SUBMISSION FORM (CONTINUED)

All community plans must be accompanied by a brief written summary of the plan. The summary must meet the following criteria:

**Planning groups must submit a summary of the priorities, goals and objectives from the community plan relating to:**

- ✓ **Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Issues**
- ✓ **Criminal Justice Issues**
- ✓ **Victims' Issues**

This summary **must** accompany all community plans and must be submitted to the WCTCOG along with the other two *Community Plan Submission Forms*.

Please type in a brief summary (as outlined above) of your Community Plan in the space provided below. Please attach extra pages if needed.

### **Scurry County Community Plan Summary FY2013**

#### **JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ISSUES:**

**Priority #1:** Establish and further fund programs, including mandatory programs for offenders, which provide services and positive role models for our juveniles and their parents, including parenting skills programs. The coordination of these programs could connect our youth and their families with the services needed to address juvenile crime.

**Priority #2:** An increase in the number of personnel designated for juvenile justice control. Because of heavy caseloads, justice personnel's time is taken dispensing discipline, but don't have the time or resources for prevention strategies.

#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES:**

**Priority #1:** To fill the gap left by CADA's departure from our community regarding education and prevention for the public and training for professionals working with substance abusers.

**Priority #2:** To find assistance for existing agencies where resources are strained due to crime and victimizations resulting from drug and alcohol abuse.

#### **VICTIM SERVICES ISSUES:**

**Priority #1:** Funding and support for the existing victim services of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse. The one family violence shelter in our area stays at capacity for crisis and shelter services and needs additional funding to provide anything beyond core services. Also, the children's advocacy center is experiencing an increase in the need for their services so funds to sustain their program are needed.

**Priority #2:** The need for counseling, low-income housing, public transportation, a Batterer's Intervention Program; these resources would help existing victims programs carry victim's services past the initial crisis toward restoration or sustained efforts for family violence victims to leave abusers, then create and lead violence-free lives. In turn this will reduce the risk to our local law enforcement.

**Scurry County Community Plan for FY2013**  
Problems/Resources/Deficiency Identification

**JUVENILE CRIME**

**PROBLEMS:**

1. Drug use and the drug related crimes, Burglary, Theft, Assault, and Truancy.
2. Bullying/Dating Violence - which includes: bullying, dating violence, cyber bullying (social networking), sexting.
3. Limited community activities/resources for juvenile age children throughout the school year and lack of parental involvement. Large population of single parent households.
4. Limited adolescent substance abuse prevention and intervention programs. (No CADA or DARE)
5. Limited and affordable secure placement for youth offenders (long-term detention).
6. Limited appropriate residential mental health programs for qualified youth offenders.
7. Limited mental health services for adolescents by qualified personnel.
8. Lack of affordable residential services for sex offenders outside of TYC commitment.
9. No residential independent living programs for adolescents.
10. Limited resources for residential and nonresidential substance abuse services.
11. Lengthy waiting lists to place youthful offenders in substance abuse services.
12. Limited juvenile job & vocational training programs.
13. Juvenile Probation Officer caseloads are too high.
14. Lack of adequate space to provide both long and short-term detention.
15. Limited response from state agencies (CPSI/MHMR).
16. Rise in Teen Homelessness

**RESOURCES:**

1. Community Resources Coordinating Group. (CRCG)
 

Meeting on a monthly basis to present difficult cases and develop the resources necessary to meet the identified needs of individual students and/or adults in need.

  - a. Psychological counseling activities:
    - i. Individual – Scurry County Juvenile Probation Dept. – limited resources.
    - ii. Churches – Ministerial Alliance. Limited unlicensed counseling is available.
    - iii. Counseling Associates staff Snyder 3 days a week.
  - b. Scurry County Juvenile Probation.
 

Counseling is provided to juvenile offenders and their families through purchase of service agreements with local therapists.
  - c. S.T.A.R.
 

A non-residential boot camp environment for youth, 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 17 years of age. Funded by city, county and school district.
  - d. Gateway Family Services.
 

Provides advocacy, support, and referrals for juvenile victims of dating and domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment.
  - e. High Sky Stay Together Program.
 

Delivers services to families with children/youth that are 0-17 years of age who are experiencing runaway, truant or delinquent behaviors. Youth and families experiencing conflict and tension are also eligible for services. Services are typically provided for a three month period and delivered in the family’s home. Services can also include any of the following: 24-hour crisis intervention, emergency respite care, coping skills education, counseling, and child development information.
  - f. West Texas Children’s Advocacy Center.
 

Provides service to victims of child abuse and their non-offending family members during and after an investigation and during prosecutorial procedures. Services are provided through a multi-disciplinary team by coordinating investigations and sharing information and resources to better serve the victims. Primary services include forensic interviews in a child friendly environment during an investigation of a child abuse report, crisis intervention, on-site Licensed Professional Counseling, case status updates from CPS and Law Enforcement, SANE accompaniment, court schooling and accompaniment, and 24 hour on call forensic interviewers.
  - g. West Texas Council Mental Health/Mental Retardation.
  - h. Department of Family and Protective Services.
  - i. Scurry Community Services.
 

Childcare, Early Head Start and Head Start.
  - j. Rivercrest Hospital – San Angelo, Texas.
  - k. Child Care Providing Organization (CCPO) – Abilene, Texas.

Services assisting with the cost of daycare so that a single parent or family can afford to work. Income guidelines apply and the parent must be working or attending school to qualify.

- l. Scurry County Health Unit.
- m. Health and Human Services.
- n. Parent Education Network
- o. Snyder Academy
- p. Pegasus Juvenile sex offender treatment (Lockhart, TX)
- q. Ralph Ramon MIP class
- r. ECI (Early Childhood Intervention Age 0-3)

2. Residential Placement Options.

None in Scurry County. Listed below are the facilities closest to Scurry County.

Taylor County:

High Sky Children's Ranch. Residential foster home residential ranch.  
Lillie Smith Farmer Acute Care and Diagnostic Center. Short term, diagnostic and emergency care for both boys and girls.  
Lacy Treatment Center.  
Girls' treatment center.  
Hendrick Home for Children. Co-ed facility.  
ACADIA

Midland County:

Barbara Culver Youth Center.  
A short-term, secure detention center for detention orders.

Garza County:

Juvenile Detention Center.  
Regional juvenile detention facility; long-term secure detention for boys 10-17 years of age. Level 1-4.  
Cornerstone. \$92.00 per day.

Floyd County:

Parent Adolescent Center.  
Pre/post adjudication. Residential facility for males/females but not secure.

Misc. Other facilities:

Adam's House (Beaumont)  
Reed Adolescent Center (Plainview)  
BCA Permian Basin (Midland)

3. Education Services.

- a. Western Texas College.

- Community service classes provide the community with non-credit leisure and recreation classes.
- Workforce education classes provide community, job-related instruction. Continuing Education Units may be available through these programs related to vocational conditions.
- TRiO:
  - Talent Search and Upward Bound. These programs are pre-college opportunities that provide services to low income and/or first generation students in grades 6-12, They are federally funded through grant sources of the Department of Education.
  - Student Support Services is an assistance program for students actively attending college designed to help them successfully complete post-secondary education. Pell grant money, along with supplemental Dept. of Ed. money combine to assist with any need the student has in order to achieve successful completion. Other services for students include; free tutoring, academic advising, transfer assistance and the completion of financial aid paperwork.
- GED/ESL classes for juveniles and adults

b. Snyder Independent School District.

- At-risk programs. SISD students who are at-risk of dropping out of school are provided with opportunities aimed at keeping them in school.
- Tutoring programs.
  - Homework Hotline. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday nights at Snyder High School Library.
- Child Development Clinics. A child find program initiated by SISD. Pre-school aged children suspected of having a disability may be referred for evaluation in the areas of speech and learning capabilities.
- Family Literacy.
  - SISD provides ESL, GED, and computer skills classes available to parents every Tuesday and Thursday nights throughout the school year.
  - Texas 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Initiative; Tiger After School Program. Focusing on family literacy, this enrichment program provides academic learning opportunities in math, reading and science, along with cultural enrichment in art, music and foreign language. Cost of program is \$5 per day.
- School Violence Program.
  - Prevention recognition and intervention for school staff.
- Even Start and ECI

Grant received by SISD to provide opportunities for parents with students 0-7. The parents can learn English or work toward GED certification. Their children will attend early childhood classes.

- P.E.P – Pregnancy, Education and Parenting.  
Co-Op program through Texas Education Assoc. that assists pregnant teens. Nurses will monitor and provide prenatal care and education to the teen parents and help access WIC and other agency assistance. Job placement and fatherhood assistance is offered to the fathers as well.

- c. Snyder Academy.  
An alternative school
- d. Gateway Family Services: Dating Violence, Sexual Assault/ Harassment, Family Violence Education.  
Gateway Family Services provides age-appropriate, curriculum-based education programs for pre-kindergarten through college age persons within this five county service area. Gateway Family Services also provides access to family violence and sexual assault video/literature resources for doctors, clergy, school counselors and teachers as requested. A 24-hour hotline staff answers crisis calls. NetSmartz internet safety presentations provide awareness and recognition of the dangers to children on the internet.
- e. West Texas Children’s Advocacy Center: Prevention Education.  
Provides prevention education and personal safety education to children from pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. WTCAC also provides child abuse related training to professionals and organizations that work with children.
- f. Scurry County Head Start and Early Head Start.  
Serving pregnant women and children 0-5. Federally funded program fostering total child development and public school readiness, which includes health, safety, nutrition, disability services and resources to meet family needs.
- g. Shattered Dreams Program.  
Awareness program targeted toward anti-drinking offered every other year to the high school level.
- h. High Sky Children’s Ranch: Services for at risk youth
- i. Ira ISD S.A.V.E Program (Students against Violence Everywhere)
- j. Hermleigh ISD S.A.V.E Program (Students against Violence Everywhere)

4. Parenting Classes and Support Services.

- a. Gateway Family Services.  
Provides parenting classes and support group services for victims and families in need of guidance. Safety planning and education are provided for children in crisis.
- b. High Sky Stay Together Program.  
Provides parent and youth workshops for clients and the community.
- c. P.E.P – Pregnancy, Education and Parenting.

This is a Co-Op program through Texas Education Assoc. that assists pregnant teens. Nurses will monitor and provide prenatal care and education to the teen parents and help access WIC and other agency assistance. Job placement and fatherhood assistance is offered to the fathers as well.

- d. ACE (Snyder Elementary after school programs).  
SISD offers this program for elementary school students in grades K-5<sup>th</sup> whose parents work or attend school full-time. The program offers a safe place to be, snacks, help with homework, and classes in academic subjects. Additional training takes place in safety skills, getting along with others, communicating effectively, and dealing with emotions properly.
- e. LEAP program @ Snyder Jr High
- f. HHSC program for children and women on Medicaid

5. Adolescent Job Training.

- a. Gulf Coast Trade Center.  
Residential job training for a 6-12 month learning experience. Walker County location.
- b. Job Corp.  
United States Department of Labor sponsors this education and vocational training program. Income and age requirements apply. Training centers are located at 4 locations in Texas.
- c. Workforce/WTC Upward Bound Program

6. Mental Health Services.

- a. M.H.M.R. Crisis Services.  
Persons experiencing emotional, behavioral or psychiatric crisis have access to a 24-hour hotline, crisis walk-in, crisis support and mobile crisis intervention.
- b. M.H.M.R. Child and Adolescent Services and ECI  
Will provide counseling services to qualifying children and adolescents.
- c. North Texas State Hospital.  
Mental commitments of adolescents and children may be made to Wichita Falls, Texas. Services are minimal.
- d. Rivercrest Hospital – San Angelo, Texas.  
Residential placement with insurance provides short-term care.
- e. ACADIA  
In-patient psychiatric facility and services for adolescents.
- f. Counseling Associates of West Texas  
Licensed professional counseling payable on a sliding scale basis.
- g. West Texas Children’s Advocacy Center.  
Provides referrals to licensed professional counseling through contracted means for victims of child abuse and to their non-offending family members.

7. After School and Summer Recreation.

- a. A.C.E.  
Enrichment and learning program located at the school site for kids whose parents work.
- b. SISD Enrichment and Special Programs.  
Program for migrant, homeless and at-risk students.
- c. Scurry County Boys and Girls Club.  
Provides supervised recreation for Snyder youth & sports
- d. Little Dribblers Association.  
Supervised basketball competition for youth.
- e. Volleyball.
- f. Little League Baseball
- g. Girls Softball Association.
- h. WTC youth soccer league
- i. Summer reading program at Scurry County Library
- j. Ira& Hermleigh ISD S.A.V.E. Program

8. Medical and Pre-natal Care.

- a. P.E.P – Pregnancy, Education and Parenting.  
Co-Op program through Texas Education Assoc. that assists pregnant teens. Nurses will monitor and provide prenatal care and education to the teen parents and help access WIC and other agency assistance. Job placement and fatherhood assistance is offered to the fathers as well.
- b. W.I.C. – Women, Infants, Children  
Must meet income, residency and nutritional need requirements. Services include supplemental food coupons for pregnang, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children less than 5 years of age. Nutrition education and counseling and referrals to other health care providers.
- c. Scurry Community Services.  
Pre-natal program for qualifying mothers.
- d. Lions Club.  
Provides vision and hearing assistance for school age children who qualify.
- e. Gateway Family Services.  
Provides transportation and hospital accompaniment for victims of sexual assault and/or family violence. SANE exams and medical appointments are included in this transport service. Trained victim advocates provide assistance in completing Crime Victim Compensation fund applications for the reimbursement of expenses incurred from this medical care and counseling as needed.
- f. West Texas Children’s Advocacy Center.  
Provides SANE accompaniment for child abuse victims. Also provides limited funding for medical treatment related to child abuse not compensated by Crime Victim Compensation, insurance, CHIPS or Medicaid.
- g. Cogdell Health Care.

Provides physicals for juvenile justice system and SISD student athletes by appointment.

- h. Scurry County Health Unit.  
Provides health care, STD testing and treatment.
- i. SISD Screening and Treatments.  
School nurses provide free lice screening and treatment for school age children. Dental screening is conducted by local dentists at the elementary locations to evaluate children who are at risk. Other student screening consists of vision, hearing, scoliosis and special education eligibility. Employees are screened for blood pressure evaluation three times per school year.
- j. Family Planning.  
Through Gayle Kubena at Scurry County Health Unit.
- k. CHIPS – Children’s Health Insurance Program.  
Affordable health insurance for children through the TexCare Partnership. Dental services also included. Pregnant women with no Medicaid also qualify.
- l. Women’s health program/ family planning at Scurry County Health Unit

9. Supervision and Community Restitution

- a. Scurry County Juvenile Probation Department.  
Random and unannounced home visits by certified Juvenile Probation Officers. These officers also supervise community service projects and arrange placement of children in public non-profit programs for completion of community service hours assessed by the juvenile court.
- b. S.T.A.R.  
A non-residential boot camp environment for youth, 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 17 years of age. Funded by city, county and school district. If sanctioned by the school system, length of placement may be up to 2 weeks. If sanctioned by Juvenile Probation, length of placement could last 6 weeks. Along with school attendance, the conditions include supervised community service.
- c. Scurry County Boys and Girls Club.  
Provides after school and summer facilities with activities designed to enhance self-esteem. Responsible adults and older exemplary youth supervise these activities.

## **PLAN OF ACTION AND ASSOCIATED GAPS IN SERVICES FOR JUVENILE CRIME ISSUES**

Lack of adequate funding remains an issue where gaps in services and implementation of a successful plan of action occur. Additional law enforcement officers and school resource officers are needed to deal with the level of truancy, bullying, school violence and juvenile crimes we are experiencing. In addition, better cooperation between the SISD and community agencies is needed to allow those individuals working with at-risk youth the ability to provide a more comprehensive approach to their plans of service. Local residential and non-residential services are needed to work with juvenile offenders. Many of the residential resources listed above do not accept female offenders thus creating a large gender-specific gap in services. The local agencies/entities working with juveniles are under-staffed and/or have had to cut programs or services due to lack of funds to address the many varied needs of juvenile offenders.

With the advent of the new Opportunity Scholarship for graduates of Scurry County, these students would be available for this money to go on to the college level and therefore improve their lives even further.

Although it appears that we have many resources for this issue, the truth is that many of the resources available to address juvenile crime and correction are located a great distance away, causing us to lose direct input to the opportunity for success of these students. In addition, there are costs incurred of equipment, time and personnel involved with accessing many of these resources.

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

### **PROBLEMS:**

1. Lack of prevention, education and professional training.
2. Distribution, Usage, and Manufacture of illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.
3. Lack of supervision/parental ability.
4. Inadequate personnel to enforce zero tolerance for under-aged tobacco use and drinking.
5. The impact on other crimes.
6. Various types of violence within the community: dating, family oriented, acquaintance or random acts.
7. The effect on the education process and literacy rates.
8. Medical intervention, detox and lack of treatment options for offenders.
9. Fetal alcohol syndrome & drug use during pregnancy.

## RESOURCES:

1. Enforcement Agencies:
  - a. Snyder Police.
  - b. Scurry County Sheriff's Office.
  - c. Texas Rangers.
  - d. Department of Public Safety.
  
2. Prevention and Education.
  - a. Law Enforcement Agencies.
  - b. Shattered Dreams Program – performed every other year at the high school level presenting alcohol awareness scenarios and consequences.
  - c. School Resource Officer.  
Two dedicated police officer specifically serving the campuses of SISD.
  - d. Gateway Family Services.  
Provides bullying prevention, safe dating, internet safety planning, sexual harassment and assault prevention programs along with support group services for each of these issues.
  - e. The offering of test strips for drinks at the local bars and functions where individuals are most likely vulnerable to date rape drugs.
  - f. School Violence Prevention.  
Government Regional Law Enforcement Academy.
  - g. S.T.A.R. Boot Camp.
  - h. MIP class, Ralph Ramon
  - i. Ira & Hermleigh SAVE program
  - j. West Texas CAC
  - k. "It's Party Time" Drug Prevention Education (School resource Officer)
  
3. Treatment and Counseling.
  - a. M.H.M.R.
  - b. Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon.
  - c. Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments.
  - d. Child Protective Services
  - e. Minor In Possession class – required by law.
  - f. Ministerial Alliance- limited counseling.
  - g. Faith based 12-step program at local churches
  - h. BCA hospital in Midland.
  - i. Vickie Copeland Counseling
  
4. Screening and Assessment.
  - a. M.H.M.R.
  - b. Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments.
  - c. ARCADA - Abilene Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

5. Drug Testing.
  - a. Adult Probation Department.
  - b. Juvenile Probation Department.
  - c. Cogdell Memorial Hospital.
  - d. Ira ISD/ SISD/ WTC (through contractor)

## **PLAN OF ACTION AND ASSOCIATED GAPS IN SERVICES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES**

The closure of the Snyder Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse due to lack of funding continues to create a large gap in education and counseling locally. We plan to explore new options for education and counseling programs through public school systems, law enforcement agencies, medical community, CRCG and other available resources while maintaining and supporting existing programs. Snyder school counselors could also become educated to recognize potential drug and alcohol problems – this could reduce truancy. Expansion of education to support stricter legislation such as keg registration, date rape, and zero tolerance for tobacco and alcohol abuse should also be explored. Reduction of drug abuse helps to reduce juvenile crime as well.

The rural nature of Scurry County relegates us to limited resources, therefore collaboration and grant applications for funding are key to addressing these issues.

### **VICTIMIZATION**

#### **PROBLEMS:**

1. Lack of reporting in all areas of violence, abuse and/or neglect.  
Often this is due to fear, apathy, embarrassment, or lack of resource knowledge.
2. Limited rural resources and programs available regarding all types of abuse such as dating violence, sexual and family violence and child abuse. Limited programs and/or funding for programs focusing on victim restoration.
3. Lack of awareness of victim resources and programs available to educate the general public.
4. Minimum availability of progressive parenting classes for those lacking in parenting skills.
5. Lack of and/or reduced funding in the following areas:
  - a. Daily shelter needs.
  - b. Transportation needs.
  - c. Few trained, qualified service providers.

d. Victim restoration.

6. Geographical area covered by caseworkers is too large for the number of caseworkers.
7. Limited or no professional counseling available for this rural area.
8. Increasing number of victims of family violence and sexual assault seeking residential and non-residential services.
9. Lack of training for first responders, i.e. emergency room staff, law enforcement, ministerial alliance members.
10. Annually decreasing funds available for sexual assault and child abuse programs.
11. Limited sexual assault services available in this rural area.
12. Limited resources available for medical and legal aid for victims.
13. Limited resources available for equipping victims with marketable job skills. This is especially crucial in dealing with victims of domestic violence who may be entering the workforce for the first time and, in many cases, will be the only provider for themselves and their children.
14. Limited support for families of child abuse in general but also during the investigation and/or prosecution process.
15. Lack of programs geared at rehabilitating the offenders of child abuse, sexual abuse and family violence.
16. Lack of low-income housing
17. Lack of childcare.
18. Lack of proper reporting by Law Enforcement
19. Lack of support from judicial system
20. Lack of MHMR services
21. Limited availability of translators for Spanish speaking victims.

**RESOURCES:**

1. Department of Family and Protective Services. Child Protective Services. Civil investigation of child abuse/neglect, family preservation services and services to

families and children when children are in FPS conservatorship. These are contracted services.

2. County Child Welfare Board.
3. Community Resources Coordination Group – CRCG.
4. Gateway Family Services.  
Domestic violence and sexual assault center providing crisis intervention to Scurry, Nolan, Mitchell, Fisher, and Kent counties. Gateway Family Services provides outreach and advocacy services in each of these surrounding counties on a weekly basis in addition to operating the Shelter located in Scurry County. Residential and non-residential services are provided with a goal of victim restoration. Services provided are: shelter, food, clothing, peer counseling, transportation, child care assistance, medical and legal advocacy and accompaniment, educational support for children, support agency referrals, support groups for adult and child victims of family violence and sexual assault, assistance with crime victim compensation fund applications, 24 hour crisis hotline and 24 hour on-call staff.
5. West Texas Children’s Advocacy Center.  
Provides service to victims of child abuse and their non-offending family members during and after an investigation and during prosecutorial procedures. Services are provided through a multi-disciplinary team by coordinating investigations and sharing information and resources to better serve the victims. Primary services include forensic interviews in a child friendly environment during an investigation of a child abuse report, crisis intervention, refer Licensed Professional Counseling, case status updates from CPS and Law Enforcement, SANE accompaniment, court schooling and accompaniment, and 24 hour on call forensic interviewers.
6. Office of the Attorney General.  
Sexual Assault program funding and assistance.
7. 211
8. North Central Texas Legal Aid – located in Abilene, Texas.
9. Western Texas College.
  - Distance learning, and GED certification.
  - TRiO; Talent Search, Upward Bound and Student Support Services programs
10. West Texas Opportunities.  
Assistance with utilities payment.
11. High Sky Stay Together Program.  
Provides therapeutic services for children ages 0-17.
12. SISD Homeless Identification Program.  
A program funded by the McKinney-Vinto grant.

13. Ministerial Alliance. (limited pastoral counseling, limited voucher program, food cupboard)
14. United Supermarkets (free pre-natal vitamins and antibiotics)
15. Counseling Associates of West Texas
16. ECI

## **PLAN AND GAPS IN RESOURCES FOR VICTIMIZATION**

Funding, manpower and ongoing training and accessibility continue to be hurdles to meeting the needs of victims in Scurry County. Support is needed to create an effective and sustained level of intervention that continues on past the initial crises event. The low level of protective orders issued and cases taken to trial, lack of counseling services, lack of low-income housing, and no public transportation all are gaps in the services needed to support victims.

Collaboration of agencies such as Gateway Family Services, Inc, and the West Texas Children's Advocacy Center help to insure comprehensive services are being provided to victims of sexual assault/abuse, dating and family violence without duplication. These agencies work to help victims through their physical and emotional trauma, legal/justice system and work towards complete victim restoration.

In addition both agencies provide education programs directed at the public school system with Gateway Family Services also providing them to law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, TDCJ and the general public. West Texas Children's Advocacy Center conducts the Stewards of Children: Darkness to Light Program for adults. This program is how to address and prevent child sexual abuse in the community. These presentations are not limited to any agency or group, but specifically designed for organizations who deal with children on a day to day basis. The purpose of the education programs is to lay down a preventive base to address the violence before it even starts. However cooperation with the SISD is needed so that all campuses are receiving the benefits.

With prevention being such an imperative part of the solution, it is difficult to prevent family violence with only half of the equation being addressed as the community is currently have limited access to Batterer's Intervention and Prevention Programs. Funding and support from the courts would be required for us to fill this large gap in service.