Our Staff

Janet L. Babcock, Esq., serves clients in Orange and Windsor counties and specializes in helping children who are victims of family violence including sexual assault.

Kathy Carrier is the paralegal/client services coordinator for Bennington County.

Mary B. Claassen, Esq. is the attorney serving Windham County.

Shirley Cutler is the paralegal/client services coordinator for Windham County.

Johnnie Mae Doyle is the Administrative Assistant for Ms. Ward and the Manager of the Central Vermont Office.

E. Robin Goodrum, Legal Intern, is the Coordinator of the HJWT Legal Empowerment Assistance Program (LEAP).

Kathryn A. C. Kennedy, Esq. is Associate Director and serves clients in Washington and Orange counties.

John B. Lamson is the part-time legal intern serving the Northeast Kingdom area.

Jessica A. McManus, Esq. is the attorney serving Bennington County.

Brandy L. Todd serves as a part-time paralegal in the Central Vermont office.

Wynona L. Ward, Esq. is the founder and Executive Director of HJWT, and an attorney serving the Northeast Kingdom area.

Our Board

Wynona L. Ward, Esq., President. 9580 Vermont Route 113, Chelsea, Vermont 05038, 802-685-7809.

Nancy G. Harter, Secretary. Development Consultant. 201 South Glenwood Avenue, Columbia, Missouri 65203, 573-442-3216.

Harold E. Ward, Treasurer. 9580 Vermont Route 113, Chelsea, Vermont 05038, 802-685-7809.

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Have Justice—Will Travel, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates exclusively on grants, fellowships, and private contributions. Our services are free to our clients. If you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution, you can use your credit card on our Web site, www.havejusticewilltravel.org, or please make your check payable to:

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www.havejusticewilltravel.org
The mission of Have Justice—Will Travel is to end the generational cycle of abuse in rural American families by bridging the legal, geographical, cultural, economic and psychological gaps that exist for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

From the Executive Director

When I started Have Justice—Will Travel (HJWT) at my kitchen table in 1998, I couldn’t have dreamed that it would be the organization it is just eight years later. We now have a staff of fifteen dedicated professionals, volunteers, and interns. In addition to the main office in Vershire, HJWT now has attorneys serving clients in eleven of the fourteen counties in Vermont. The attorneys serving these areas have more than twenty years experience in the domestic violence field.

We have opened a fourth office in the northeast part of the state thanks to a wonderful gift of real property and plan to have a full-time attorney there as soon as funding becomes available.

We are already helping women and children out of this office and working with other domestic violence groups in the area. As you will read in this report, we have expanded our services and engaged in a strategic planning process to help us make an even bigger difference for helping many more survivors escape the generational cycle of abuse. HJWT is the story of one woman helping another, who helps another, who helps another. We are making a huge difference in the lives of these women and children.

I am a life-long Vermonter and after having driven a tractor-trailer unit for over 15 years throughout the country, I’m convinced that Vermont is one of the most beautiful places to live. However, for low income Vermonters living on rural, isolated back roads that can become impassable from snow and mud, this setting is devastating. Many of the victims of domestic abuse in these areas don’t have telephones or driver’s licenses, and the nearest neighbor may be miles away. Ten percent of Vermont residents live below the federal poverty line. This geographic isolation and poverty is matched by poor education and social inequality which can make it especially difficult for women and children in abusive situations.

There is still so much work to do. In Vermont, there are approximately 4000 petitions for protective orders filed each year.

Stopping the generational cycle of abuse is the goal of everything that we do at HJWT. I say this because I truly believe that we will not stop street violence, we will not stop school violence until we stop violence in the home, and to stop violence in the home we must stop the generational cycle of abuse.

I am so proud of what we do at HJWT. We know the HJWT model works. I want to thank the generous foundations, individuals, and the US Department of Justice for supporting our efforts. I also want to thank our Board of Directors for their tireless work. My deepest gratitude goes to our talented and dedicated staff that is making a difference each and every day.

Wynona J. Ward
President and Founder

The Programs

The heart of the HJWT model is providing free legal representation for relief from abuse hearings, parole and divorces actions, visitation, and child custody and child support hearings. In addition to four offices where clients can come for consultations, the HJWT four-wheel drive offices on wheels are equipped with cell phones, laptop computers, portable files, and printers. In the course of these meetings with clients, we assess their needs and make referrals for other services. But our clients often need far more than legal representation, so we offer a full range of social services and referrals. The types of services HJWT offers include:

Legal Services
- Relief from Abuse hearings
- Child support needs
- Divorce and parens issues
- Custody and visitation hearings

Social Services
- Safety planning/Shelter referrals
- Financial advice/Creditor plans
- Assess financial needs of the family
- Referral for continued education
- Referral for driver’s license

Supervised visitation
- Referrals for supervised visits
- Exchanges
- Parenting classes
- Counseling arrangements

National toll free phone line

Our Future

To accomplish the HJWT mission, we have identified strategic goals that focus on developing the organizational capacity needed to provide services more broadly and efficiently, creating and implementing a formal development program that moves HJWT towards more sustainable funding, and expanding our geographic service area.

Our ten-year strategic goals include:
- Developing the staff, administrative, and development capacity necessary to support the growth and expansion of services.
- Creating and implementing a development program that moves HJWT towards sustainable funding.
- Expanding the HJWT model of holistic services for victims of domestic abuse beyond the current geographic service area.
- Fully developing a replication plan and systems for expanding services to other rural areas outside Vermont.
- Participating in domestic violence policy and education programs and legislative actions consistent with S106F(3) status.
- Evaluating each Strategic Goal.

The best measure of the effectiveness of our multiservice model is that few women, only about 10% of the women served, have returned to their batterers or entered into other abusive relationships. Since 1998, over 1,960 women and children have received the entire spectrum of HJWT services.

Our Clients

“I cannot put into words the caliber of these women, this program, without them I know I would have got out of the horrible situation I was in.”

“I wish more knew about Have Justice—Will Travel, maybe if HJWT had existed many years ago, I would have been able to get out of this situation long ago and spared my children and myself the years of fear and heartache we are learning to cope with. Thank you again for everything.”

“Have Justice Will Travel and Janet Babcock have had a profound impact on my child’s life and my family. I have attended every conference, talked to every professional who would tolerate it, called every number, read every book… and searched every Web site to help me learn to communicate. Then HJWT and Janet came along and everything changed. I think of my advocacy work and my life journey as pre-HJWT and post-HJWT. I only wish I had more to give to HJWT. You are truly a light in a dark world.”

These are just three of the voices of the many women and children who have received the full range of legal and social services provided by HJWT since 1998. Half of all homicides in Vermont in the past decade were domestic violence related. The typical victim of violent crime in Vermont is a white female in her early twenties. The victim and the assailant are known to each other in 87% of violent crime incidents. In 2005, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence programs responded to 14,964 hotline calls. In the United States, one woman out of three will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime. A majority of the abused, however, never seeks help from domestic violence programs, and yet in Vermont in 2003, these programs assisted almost 7,000 adults.

Our Sponsors

The organizations and private donors supporting the work of HJWT reflect the reality of domestic violence as a national, state, and local issue. Our organizational sponsors include:

- Albert Schweitzer Fellowship
- ALCES Foundation
- Ann Slade-Frey Foundation
- Ashoka: Innovators for the Public
- Ann L. Bronfman Foundation
- Caroline Fund
- Equal Justice Works
- Foundation for the Improvement of Justice
- Grace River Foundation
- Green Mountain Fund
- Lifetime Television
- Lintilhac Foundation
- Lyndhurst Foundation
- Maccabim Bank Foundation
- Massachusetts Mutual – Women’s Markets
- Michael Bolton Charities
- Mill Foundation
- Schultz Foundation
- Thomas Trust
- US Department of Justice
- Violence Against Women Office
- Vermont Bar Foundation
- Vermont Women’s Fund
- Vermont Community Foundation
- Windham County Foundation

“Have Justice—Will Travel has been successful in serving women and children throughout the State of Vermont. It is a shining example for grassroots domestic violence assistance on a national level. I have met this extraordinary woman many times, and I never fail to be inspired and humbled by her dramatic personal story and her venture into a non-traditional career. I salute Wynona Ward today as a true champion.”

—Senator Patrick Leahy
Congressional Record, Thursday, May 22, 2003

Number of Women and Children Served by HJWT since 1998

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Full Service</th>
<th>LEAP-Exit</th>
<th>Consulting</th>
<th>Call-ins</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases (Women)</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1,052</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>1,473</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>4,208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Served</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>5,260</td>
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3 Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (VNADV), 2005 Annual Report.