

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 19, 2019

Katharine Sullivan  
Acting Director  
Office on Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I write to express my strong support for the application of Turning Points Network (TPN) for \$450,000 of funds from the Department of Justice's Office of Violence Against Women (OVW). Funding from OVW will enable TPN to expand and develop a short-term housing assistance and support service program that annually already aids nearly 1000 survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Turning Points Network operates in the 15 communities that comprise Sullivan County, a predominantly rural area in western New Hampshire with high rates of poverty and a shortage of community resources that help people in need. It is the only provider in the county whose primary focus is on survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse. After receiving a Transitional Housing Assistance grant from OVW in 2009, TPN implemented a program that has provided housing assistance and supportive services to survivors and their children. Relationships were forged with community partners to address their unique needs and break down barriers to sustaining safe, permanent housing.

With support from OVW, TPN will utilize these partnerships to build on this successful program and optimize its services to survivors who have been impacted by substance use disorder. Rental assistance will be provided for 65 families up to one year, and case management services will be offered to help interested survivors achieve economic independence and financial empowerment that will aid in the transition to a stable home. Special attention will also be given to connecting survivors with substance use disorder to services, groups and events that will help in their recovery efforts. With its experience and relationships with providers, TPN can be an invaluable resource for these people as they overcome barriers to their well-being and navigate different systems and services.

I strongly support TPN's proposal and urge you to give all consideration to its worthy program. With funding from the Department of Justice, TPN can continue to make a real difference in the lives of Sullivan County residents. If you have any questions, please contact Jon Jarvis on my staff at 603-647-7500.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator