Marriage license expenditures by year.

FY 2008-09 $555,837.86

FY 2009-10 $814,148.19

FY 2010-11 $783,844.08

FY 2011-12 $824,852.39

FY 2012-13 $662,629.77

Marriage License revenue collected by year. These funds are used only for domestic violence contracts.

FY 2008-09 $733,518

FY 2009-10 $694,600

FY 2010-11 $734,994

FY 2011-12 $745,321

FY 2012-13 $757,415

FY 2013-14 YTD $724,820

Prevention and Services Act Grant) funds into one contract that we call “Spouse Abuse”. Each of the 13 domestic violence programs receive the marriage license funds. There is a scope of service for the Spouse Abuse contract that each provider must meet that follows the guidelines set out in SC statute 20-4-160 as described below:

Domestic Violence Fund.

(A) There is established the Domestic Violence Fund, a fund separate and distinct from the general fund, in the State Treasury. The fund must be administered by the Department of Social Services and revenues of the fund must be used solely to award grants to domestic violence centers and programs in the State.

(B) In order for a domestic violence center or program to be eligible to receive funds, it must be a nonprofit corporation and must:

(1) have been in operation on the preceding July 1 and continue to be in operation; and

(2) offer the following services:

(a) a twenty-four hour hotline;

(b) transportation services;

(c) community education programs;

(d) daytime services, including counseling; and

(e) other criteria as may be established by the department.

(C) The Domestic Violence Fund must receive its revenue from that portion of marriage license fees provided for in Section 20-1-375 and donations, contributions, bequests, or other gifts made to the fund. Contributions to the fund must not be used to supplant existing funds appropriated to the department for domestic violence programs and grants. Monies in the fund may be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next, and interest earned on monies in the fund must be retained by the fund.

Additionally each year for the last several years there has been a proviso (the number changes each session) that states the following:

(DSS: Battered Spouse Funds) Appropriations included in Subprogram II.K entitled Battered Spouse shall be allocated through contractual agreement to providers of this service. These appropriations may also be used for public awareness and contracted services for victims of this social problem including the abused and children accompanying the abused. Such funds may not be expended for any other purpose nor be reduced by any amount greater than that stipulated by the Budget and Control Board or the General Assembly for the agency as a whole.