

Maricopa Association of Governments
Domestic Violence and Homeless Shelter Capacity Paper
Draft Project Overview
May 28, 2009

The MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council and MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness, in cooperation with the Community Action Research Experiences program through the School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University, will be conducting a study of the capacity of domestic violence and homeless shelters within the MAG region. The research will be conducted by Christine Glass, ASU CARE program, from May 2009 through August 2009. This study will act as an update to the 2005 MAG report, “The Need for Increased Domestic Violence Shelter.”

Initial research suggests that individuals are sometimes turned away from receiving shelter when there is still room available. The goal of this study is to discover how often this occurs, and why. The end outcome of the study will be a better understanding of the capacity of the regional shelter system with identified opportunities to maximize the current capacity. This will be accomplished through the following activities:

- A review of the screening policies of area shelters
- A survey regarding screening procedures.
- In the final phase of this study, shelters will be invited to collect aggregate data about the individuals they deem ineligible for services for the span of one week, and provide information about the reason(s) they were determined to be ineligible.

At the conclusion of the study, data will be compiled and organized into a report to be presented to the MAG committees and community stakeholders.