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NEW CASTLE — U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire, D-4, McCandless, announced Thursday that the Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County will receive a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Transitional Housing Grant Program.

The funds from this award will help provide assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are homeless, or in need of transitional housing.

"Organizations like the Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County provide an important service for victims of domestic violence," Altmire said in a news release.

"We are extremely excited to have received this Violence Against Women Transitional Housing grant," Dayna Shaw Sear, executive director of the Crisis Shelter, said in a release.

"With this award, we will not only enhance our services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, but will also double the capacity of our Transitional Housing program.

"Over the past 10 years, the Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County Transitional Housing program has consistently had above- average success rates within our region and has also been ranked in the top two HUD programs every year since inception.

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to build on this success and continue to break the cycle of violence in Lawrence County," Sear said.

The Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County is a non-profit organization located in New Castle. It provides direct services to victims of domestic violence and education, awareness, training and leadership initiatives to the community.

The Transitional Housing Grant Program provides assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are homeless, or in need of transitional housing or other housing assistance, including short-term housing assistance and supportive services.