



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

Mark R. Herring
Attorney General

202 North Ninth Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-2071
Fax (804) 786-1991
Virginia Relay Services
800-828-1120
7-1-1

December 29, 2020

To the Chairs of the Senate and House, Courts of Justice Committees, and the Virginia State Crime Commission:

Enclosed is the 2019 Annual Report on Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia, prepared by the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-515.1 with contributions from state, local, and non-profit partners.

The Report uses current statewide data to update you and your committees on our successes in reducing domestic and sexual violence and to note the areas where more attention is required. The Report highlights some of the initiatives undertaken by agencies and organizations in Virginia, including public awareness campaigns, training, activities, legislative changes, and other statewide efforts to address these critical issues. It presents an overview of programs and services available to domestic violence and sexual assault survivors as well as the major funding sources for those resources. Finally, the Report includes extensive contact information for national, state, and local agencies and programs that work with, or provide resources to survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

We should be proud of the work done and the commitment shown by dozens of state, local, and federal partners, but it is clear that there is still a great deal of work before us to effectively address domestic and sexual violence in the Commonwealth of Virginia. I am confident that Virginia will continue to support programs and initiatives to promote safety for victims and to hold offenders accountable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark R. Herring".

Mark R. Herring
Attorney General

2020 Annual Report

Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia



Mark R. Herring
Attorney General of Virginia
Office of the Attorney General

Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia

2020 Annual Report

Office of the Attorney General

Domestic Violence Initiatives

Mark R. Herring
Attorney General

Erin Ashwell
Chief Deputy Attorney General

Michael Kelly
Chief of Staff

Shannon Freeman
Director, Programs and Outreach

Melissa A. McMenemy
Statewide Facilitator

Attorney General's Message	i
Executive Summary	ii
Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia	6
Funding Sources and Grant Programs	21
Agency Efforts and Initiatives	32
Legislative Update 2019	a
Appendix A-Additional Data	c
Appendix B- COVID-19	m
Appendix C- State Agencies and Organizations	p
Appendix D- Domestic and Sexual Violence Programs by Locality	q
Appendix E- Local Fatality Review Teams	gg

Electronic copies of the Attorney General's 2020 Annual Report on Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia may be downloaded from the Office of the Attorney General's website at www.ag.virginia.gov.

Cover Image: The images of the persons included on the cover are merely representative and are not images of actual victims of sexual or domestic violence.

Attorney General's Message

Every person in Virginia has the right to live free from fear of sexual and domestic violence. These crimes can leave a lasting impact on survivors, their families, and our communities, but by intervening early and connecting survivors and vulnerable people with the resources they need, we can help break the cycle of violence and prevent re-victimization. Victims of domestic violence must know that there is a strong network of resources and caring individuals who want to help them.

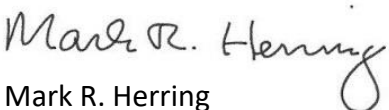
I would like to thank the following agencies and organizations for helping to provide that network of resources and for their contributions to this report: the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, the Virginia Department of Corrections, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia State Police, the Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia, the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Virginia, the Virginia Center on Aging, and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

In addition to these state-level organizations, local domestic and sexual violence programs throughout Virginia are on the front lines, leading our prevention, education, and awareness efforts and addressing the needs of survivors through advocacy services, safety planning, court accompaniment, and counseling. My team and I are proud to work collaboratively with these agencies and organizations to prevent and respond to these tragic crimes.

Throughout 2020, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and collaborating agencies and organizations had to adapt to the changing landscape with COVID-19 and the restrictions surrounding social distancing. Programs continued to provide the same level of services, found inventive ways to meet with clients, and continued to provide emergency shelter with COVID-19 protocols in place. In addition, state, local, and private partners continued to sponsor trainings and collaborate on projects and initiatives related to violence against women efforts via online platforms. These trainings, projects, and initiatives offer professionals working to investigate, prosecute, or provide direct services to victims with additional tools and knowledge to assist victims of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking.

The following report details some of the tremendous work being done by local and state agencies throughout the Commonwealth. It also presents a snapshot of where we have been and where we are in our efforts to reduce sexual and domestic violence. We should be proud of our efforts, but as you will see, our work is far from done. As Virginians, we must do all we can to prevent these devastating crimes from occurring, and must ensure that survivors have a robust network of support and resources in their communities. Working together, we can give survivors, their families, and their communities the hope, support, and assistance they need.

Sincerely,


Mark R. Herring

Executive Summary

Domestic and sexual violence affect our families, homes, communities, schools, and workplaces on a daily basis. Domestic and sexual violence impact all socio-economic levels, cultures, and religions. Whether the impact is open and obvious, such as a tragic homicide that receives media attention and spurs a community to action, or hidden and subtle, such as the emotional and psychological effect on children who silently live with the violence, domestic and sexual violence can penetrate even the deepest levels of our society.

The available data highlights the impact of these crimes in Virginia. In 2019, there were more than 68,000 calls to domestic and sexual violence hotlines across the state.¹ A total of 3,726 adults and 2,892 children received 228,703 nights of emergency or temporary shelter due to domestic violence; however, 846 families requesting shelter services were turned away due to lack of shelter space.² A total of 56,962 emergency protective orders were issued by magistrates and judges across the Commonwealth to protect the immediate health and safety of victims and their family members.³

In 2019 and 2020, Virginia's state and local agencies and organizations provided tools and resources to prosecutors, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, health care providers, social service providers, and allied professionals. State, local, and private partners also promoted public awareness and prevention initiatives and supported collaborative efforts among agencies and organizations to enhance the overall response to domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking. In addition, state, local, and private partners had to make accommodations to continue providing assistance, advocacy, counseling, shelter, etc. for victims of domestic and sexual violence due to COVID-19. For example:

- The Office of the Attorney General coordinated with over 100 law enforcement agencies to submit all eligible PERKs for testing that were identified as unsubmitted in the two inventories. Testing of 2,664 PERKs and secondary review of analysis results by DFS was completed in September 2020. From these PERKs, 905 new DNA profiles were added to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) resulting in 386 matches, or "hits", to offenders/arrestees or evidence in other cases. Two cases have resulted in an arrest so far; one of which resulted in a conviction and the other case is currently awaiting trial.
- The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia conducted training in June of 2020 to twenty-nine (29) newly appointed judges. They attended a protective order training session at their pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. Out of the twenty-nine judges, eleven (11) were circuit court judges, ten (10) were general district court judges, and eight (8) were juvenile and domestic relations district court judges.
- In 2019, new public access workstations were installed in forty-seven (47) general districts courts throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to providing the public with the ability to search for and view public case information, public access workstations provide the public with access to court forms and I-CAN! Virginia. This new service allows petitioners to complete their protective order paperwork online at the courthouse with the assistance of I-CAN! Virginia. As of July 2020, a total of eighty-four (84) public access workstations were installed at various general district courts throughout the Commonwealth.

¹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdata Report 2019* (2020).

² *Id.*

³ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

- In FY19, FACT successfully administered 10 grants for the FY2019-2020 grant period. Grants included two large system wide trauma-informed community network grants in Richmond and Charlottesville and eight local service grants. Local service grants supported a range of services such as emergency shelter services, counseling services, trauma-informed parent education, and child sexual abuse trainings and served 52 Virginia localities.
- During 2020, the Action Alliance and project Coaches successfully wrapped up the first cohort of this 24-month project and welcomed in 18 new sexual and domestic violence agencies, 2 state partners, and the Action Alliance as cohort two participants.

In addition, these agencies and organizations identified and collected data on family and intimate partner violence-related fatalities, domestic and sexual violence-related crimes, protective orders, and services to victims and children in order to assist with providing a broader picture of these issues that confront our communities. Much of that information is included in this Report.

As we enter 2021, we must continue to support the efforts of agencies and programs across the Commonwealth that work tirelessly to promote victim safety and offender accountability, while learning new ways to provide services both efficiently and effectively.

Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia

Domestic and sexual violence have direct physical and emotional consequences for tens of thousands of victims, family members, and children. These crimes do not discriminate - they impact women and men of all ages, races, ethnic groups, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Domestic and sexual violence also impact the community as a whole - from our homes and neighborhoods to our schools and workplaces. These crimes present challenges for a wide range of professionals who deal with these issues on a daily basis, including law enforcement officers, prosecutors, advocates, social services workers, judges, magistrates, court personnel, probation officers, health professionals, and other allied professionals.

Agencies and organizations across the Commonwealth of Virginia devote significant resources to the prevention of and response to domestic violence and sexual assault incidents. These agencies and organizations continuously collect data to assess current programs and services in an effort to ensure the best allocation of resources at both state and local levels. By compiling the data available from stakeholder agencies and organizations in a range of disciplines, this Report aims to facilitate an understanding of the impact of these issues on our families and communities.

What is Domestic Violence?

According to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, domestic violence is defined as “[a] pattern of abusive behaviors used by one individual intended to exert power and control over another individual in the context of an intimate or family relationship.”⁴

The Code of Virginia defines “domestic violence” more broadly as:

[t]he occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a current or former family member, household member as defined in § 16.1-228, person against whom the victim obtained a protective order or caretaker:

- a. Attempting to cause or causing or threatening another person physical harm, severe emotional distress, psychological trauma, rape or sexual assault;
- b. Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person without proper authority, under circumstances that place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or physical harm;
- c. Subjecting another person to false imprisonment; or
- d. Attempting to cause or causing damage to property so as to intimidate or attempt to control the behavior of another person.

Va. Code Ann. § 38.2-508.

Based upon the above Code definition, domestic violence may include elder abuse, abuse of incapacitated adults between the ages of 18 and 59, child abuse, stalking, dating violence, sexual abuse, and trafficking in women and children. Other terms often used in the Code and elsewhere to describe domestic violence and

⁴ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (2013).

the various relationships that fall within the broader definition of domestic violence include "family abuse" (see below), "spousal abuse," and "intimate partner violence."⁵

This Report and much of the data collected focuses on the broader definition of "domestic violence" as set forth by the Code of Virginia.

What is "Family Abuse?"

While the Code does include a broad definition for "domestic violence," the definition most often referenced in Virginia domestic violence cases is the definition for "family abuse:"

"Family abuse" means any act involving violence, force, or threat that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury and that is committed by a person against such person's family or household member. Such act includes, but is not limited to, any forceful detention, stalking, criminal sexual assault in violation of Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, or any criminal offense that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury.

Va. Code Ann. § 16.1-228.

The "family abuse" definition centers primarily on the relationship between the parties, defined as "family and household members:"

"Family or household member" means (i) the person's spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (ii) the person's former spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (iii) the person's parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, half-brothers, half-sisters, grandparents and grandchildren, regardless of whether such persons reside in the same home with the person, (iv) the person's mother-in-law, father-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law who reside in the same home with the person, (v) any individual who has a child in common with the person, whether or not the person and that individual have been married or have resided together at any time, or (vi) any individual who cohabits or who, within the previous 12 months, cohabited with the person, and any children of either of them then residing in the same home with the person.

Va. Code Ann. § 16.1-228.

What is Sexual Violence?

The terms "sexual assault" or "sexual violence" imply sexual contact without consent and with or without the use or threat of force, regardless of the relationship of the parties. Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, sexual offenses include rape (§ 18.2-61), forcible sodomy (§ 18.2-67.1), object sexual penetration (§ 18.2-

⁵ "Intimate partner" has been defined by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner as a spouse, former spouse, current or former boyfriend or girlfriend, same-sex partner, or dating partner. Some relationships within the intimate partner classification do not fall within the statutory definition of domestic violence, where those relationships do not meet the cohabitation or child in common elements of Virginia Code § 16.1-228.

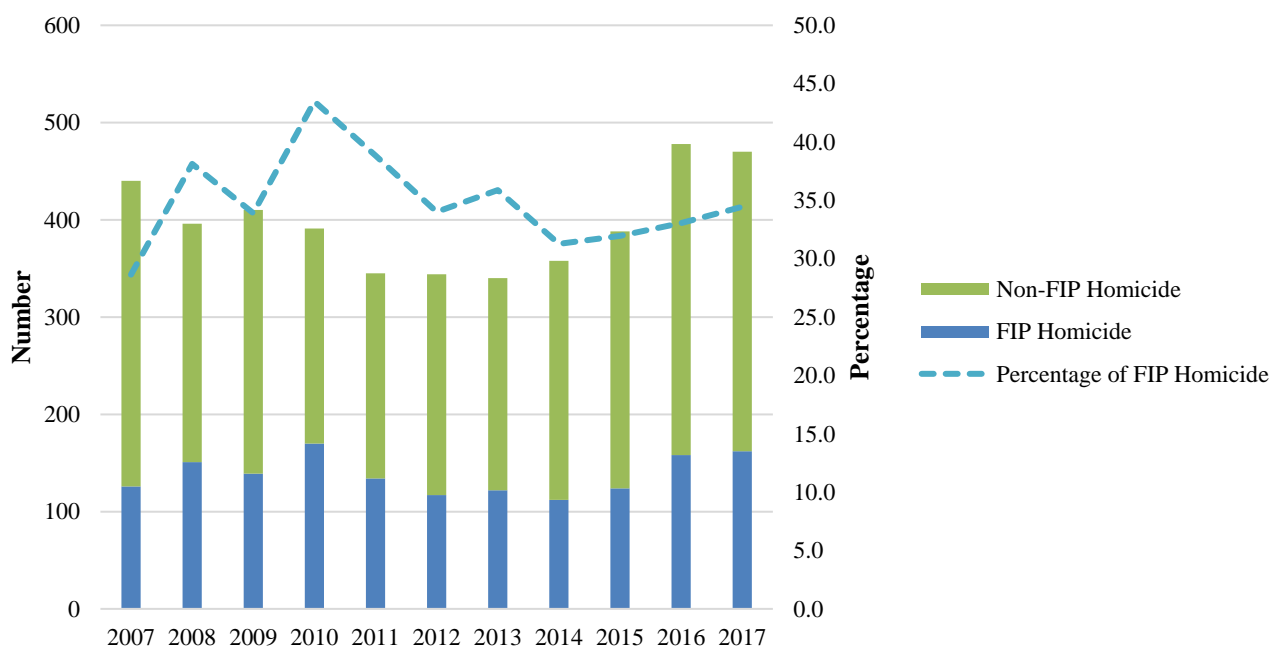
67.2), aggravated sexual battery (§ 18.2-67.3), sexual battery (§ 18.2-67.4), and attempted sexual offenses (§ 18.2-67.5). For state crime reporting purposes, the Incident Based Reporting System used by the Virginia Department of State Police defines “forcible sexual offenses” as forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling. “Non-forcible sexual offenses” include incest and statutory rape.⁶ For federal reporting purposes, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting System defines a forcible rape as “the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.” Sexual offenses are defined as “offenses against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like” and include incest, statutory rape, indecent exposure, and attempted sexual offenses.⁷

***Family and Intimate Partner Violence Related Homicides*⁸**

The ultimate tragedy in any family or community is the occurrence of an untimely or avoidable death. In its ongoing surveillance of domestic violence homicides, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) compiles data on family and intimate partner homicides that occur in Virginia. This public health effort is for understanding the scope of fatal domestic violence in Virginia. The project uses six case types to differentiate categories of fatal domestic violence. Cases in the project are deaths deemed by the OCME to be a homicide after a medico-legal death investigation.

Since the beginning of data collection in 1999, 2,621 people in Virginia have lost their lives to domestic and dating violence. A review of homicides occurring January 1-December 31, 2017, collected as part of the OCME’s FIP Homicide Surveillance Program and the National Violent Death Reporting System, indicates there were 162 FIP homicides, representing 34% of all homicides (470) in Virginia in 2017. This represents a 2.5% increase in the number of FIP homicides from 2016; however, the proportion of FIP homicides to all homicides remained consistent with past years.

Figure 1: Number of Homicides and Family and Intimate Partner (FIP)



⁶ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019 (2020)*.

⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 2012 (2013)* (website accessed November 15, 2013).

⁸ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 2020

Table 1 below provides a five-year look at trends in family and intimate partner homicide in Virginia. The table reveals that Intimate Partner Homicide is the most frequent type of fatal domestic violence, followed by Other Family Homicides. Moreover, there were fewer cases in Intimate Partner Associated Homicides, Elder/Dependent Adult by Caretaker Homicides compared to 2016; however, the percentages of these compared to all FIP homicides remained similar. While the number of Other Family Homicides increased, there were nearly half the number of Family Associated Homicides.

Table 1: Family and Intimate Partner Homicide in Virginia, 2013-2017, by type of Homicide

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Intimate Partner Homicide	47	38.5	48	42.9	55	44.4	60	38.0	66	40.7
Intimate Partner Associated Homicide	29	23.8	26	23.2	25	21.0	36	22.8	33	20.4
Child by Caretaker Homicide	21	17.2	16	14.3	17	13.7	20	12.7	19	11.7
Elder/Dependent Adult by Caretaker Homicide	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.6	1	0.6
Other Family Homicide	18	14.7	20	17.8	21	16.9	30	19.0	37	22.8
Family Associated Homicide	6	4.9	2	1.8	6	4.8	11	7.0	6	3.7
Total	122	100.0	112	100.0	124	100.0	158	100.0	162	100.0

In addition, surveillance in 2017 revealed that a number of important trends continued from previous years:

- Males and females were both vulnerable to domestic violence homicide; however, females had a greater probability of being killed by a current or former intimate partner, whereas males had a greater probability of being killed by a family member, or while in the “crossfire” of an intimate partner relationship (e.g., killed by their intimate partner’s abusive ex-partner);
- Racial disparities continue, with White Virginians accounting for the greatest number of domestic violence homicide victims than other racial groups for all case types, except Child Homicide by Caregiver, where infants identified as Black being the most vulnerable racial group;
- A firearm was most often fatal agent used to inflict the fatal injury; and
- The average age of victims in 2017 was 38 years old.

Domestic Violence-Related Offenses

Domestic violence may result in or be a factor in any number of violent crimes. In 2019, approximately 51% of 17,993 violent crimes committed in Virginia and reported to law enforcement agencies were committed in a home or residence.⁹

⁹ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019 (2020)*. For data purposes, “violent crime offenses” include murder/non-negligent manslaughter, aggravated assault, forcible sex offenses, and robbery, all involving the use or threat of force. “Family and

Assaults

Of the 17,993 violent crimes reported in 2019, there were 9,282 aggravated assault offenses with 11,025 victims. The crimes reported in this category include assaults, attempted murder, poisoning, assault with a deadly weapon, maiming, mayhem, assault with explosives, and assault with disease (knowledge of infection and attempt to infect another). Of the total aggravated assaults reported, 40% were committed against family members or dating partners.¹⁰

In 2019, 21,739 arrests were made across the Commonwealth for assault and battery against a family or household member.¹¹ Of the charges filed, 4,469 (20%) resulted in convictions.¹² Of these arrests, a significant number of individuals were charged as repeat offenders. There were 1,108 felony charges for third or subsequent offenses of assault and battery against a family or household member resulting in 873 convictions.¹³ Felony arrests and convictions for assault and battery against a family or household member were lower in 2019 than 2018, however the number of convictions increased in 2019 compared to 2018. Additional charge and disposition information for assault and battery offenses is provided in Appendix A.

Stalking

Another crime closely related to domestic violence is stalking. Stalking is commonly defined as “a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.”¹⁴ In Virginia, stalking is defined by the Code of Virginia as “any person...who on more than one occasion engages in conduct directed at another person with the intent to place, or when he knows or reasonably should know that the conduct places that other person in reasonable fear of death, criminal sexual assault, or bodily injury to that other person or to that other person's family or household member.” (Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-60.3(A).

Each year an estimated 7.5 million people in the United States are victims of stalking. Sixty-one percent (61%) of female victims and 44% of male victims of stalking are stalked by a current or former intimate partner. Intimate partner stalkers frequently approach their targets, and their behaviors escalate quickly. Forty-six percent (46%) of stalking victims experience at least

Types of Technology Used for Stalking

- Texting
- Sexting
- Use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) - Social media can be used to harass the victim, to create false accounts solely for the purpose of posting negative, threatening, degrading messages to or about the victim, or to create fake accounts pretending to be the victim or sending messages as the victim.
- Impersonating the victim online to create online sex ads or solicit sex online
- Using GPS tracking to follow the victim and/or track where the victim goes

From the National Stalking Resource Center, National Center for Victims of Crime, *Use of Technology to Stalk and the Workplace*, www.victimsofcrime.org

household members” for purposes of this report include spouse, “common-law spouse,” grandchild, in-law, stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, ex-spouse, or other person with whom the victim includes a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship or homosexual relationship.

¹⁰ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019* (2020).

¹¹ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 9, 2020). See Appendix A. Arrests for assault and battery against a family or household member include misdemeanor and felony arrests pursuant to Virginia Code § 18.2-57.2.

¹² Data from the Virginia State Police (November 30, 2020). See Appendix A. Conviction information is based upon disposition data available as of November 30, 2020.

¹³ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019* (2020).

¹⁴ Stalking Resource Center, The National Center for Victims of Crime, *Stalking Fact Sheet*, https://members.victimsofcrime.org/docs/default-source/src/stalking-fact-sheet-2015_eng.pdf?sfvrsn=2 (accessed November 30, 2020).

one unwanted contact per week. Eleven percent (11%) of stalking victims have been stalked for five or more years. One in eight victims of stalking have missed work due to the stalking and at least half of employed victims have missed more than five days of work due to the stalking.¹⁵ Seventy-six percent (76%) of intimate partner homicide victims were stalked by their partner and 54% of intimate partner homicide victims reported the stalking to police.¹⁶

In 2019, a total of 622 arrests were made for stalking in Virginia, resulting in 118 convictions, which is approximately a 10% decrease in both arrests and convictions from 2018 to 2019.¹⁷ The majority of stalking cases resulted in non-convictions (522 cases or 84%).¹⁸

Data indicates a 5% increase in the number of emergency protective orders (EPOs) for acts of violence, force, or threat from 2018 to 2019. From January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, 18,497 EPOs were issued for acts of violence, force, or threat. Based upon the most recent data available for 2020, from January 1, 2020, to June 30, 2020, 8,888 EPOs were issued.¹⁹ There were 1,454 arrests and 439 convictions for violating a protective order for acts of violence, force, or threat.²⁰ This represents no statistical difference from 2018 to 2019 in arrests and an 6% increase in convictions.

Sex Offenses

The total number of violent crimes reported in 2019 includes 5,510 forcible sex offenses involving 5,854 victims.²¹ Forcible sex offenses reported include forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling. Of the reported victims of forcible rape offenses, the vast majority 84% were female.²² Fifty percent (50%) of reported victims, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.²³

- In 2019, there were **182 juvenile offenders and 5,223 adult offenders** for sexual offenses including forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, forcible fondling, incest, and statutory rape. Of these arrests, fifteen percent were juvenile arrests.
- **One half** (50%) of reported victims of forcible sex offenses, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.
- Approximately **one in three** (36%) of the reported forcible sex offenses were committed against family members or intimate dating partners.
- Sex offenses still remain largely unreported to law enforcement. Three quarters of victims (77%) who sought crisis services for an incident within 30 days of the incident reported it to law enforcement in Virginia.

The majority of forcible sex offenses (79%) were committed by perpetrators known by or acquainted with the victim, including a substantial percentage of offenses committed by family or household members or

¹⁵ Stalking Resource Center, The National Center for Victims of Crime, *Stalking Fact Sheet*, https://members.victimsofcrime.org/docs/default-source/src/stalking-fact-sheet-2015_eng.pdf?sfvrsn=2 (accessed November 30, 2020).

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 30, 2020). The data includes arrests and convictions for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

¹⁸ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 30, 2020). The conviction data includes arrests for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

¹⁹ E-Magistrate reporting data provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

²⁰ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 30, 2020). The conviction data includes arrests for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, Virginia Code § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

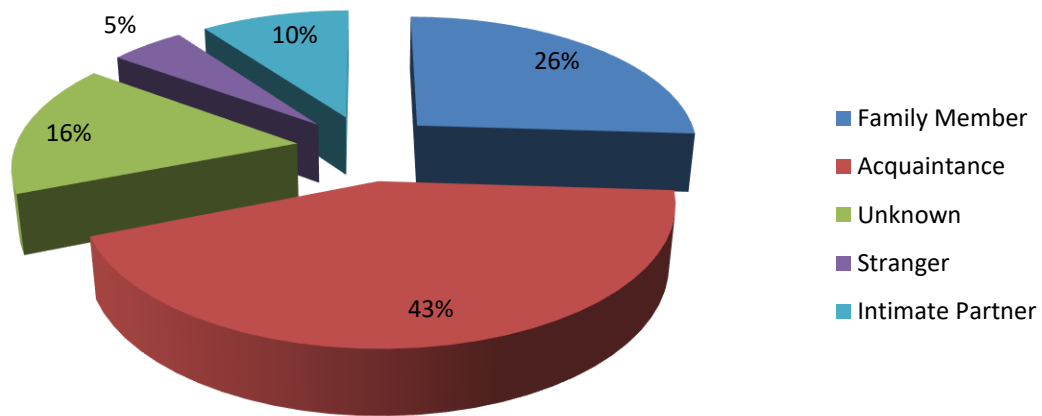
²¹ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019 (2020)*.

²² Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019 (2020)*.

²³ *Id.* The number for victims under the age of 18 reflects victims in the 0-17 age range.

dating partners (36%). Of the remaining offenses reported, 43% were committed by acquaintances, 16% were committed by unknown/unreported assailants and 5% were committed by strangers.²⁴ (Figure 2)

Figure 2: Forcible Sex Offenses--Relationship to the Offender, 2019



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019* (2020).

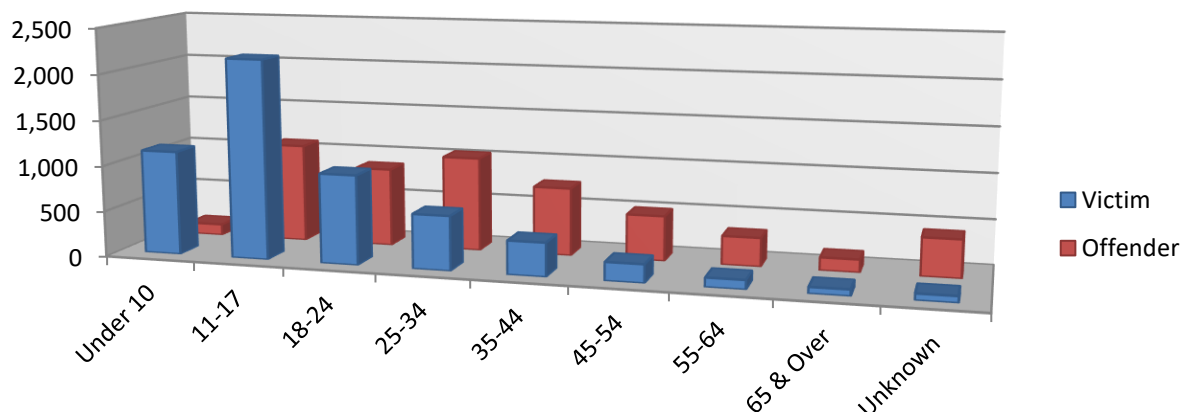
Of the forcible sex offenses reported by law enforcement agencies in 2019, 1,801 were forcible rapes or attempted rapes, resulting in 1,846 victims.²⁵ Approximately one half (50%) of the forcible rapes reported were committed against male and female victims under the age of 18. Another 16% were committed against females between the ages of 18 and 24.²⁶ As shown in Figure 3, approximately one fifth of offenders (18%) were between the ages of 18 and 24.

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2019* (2020).

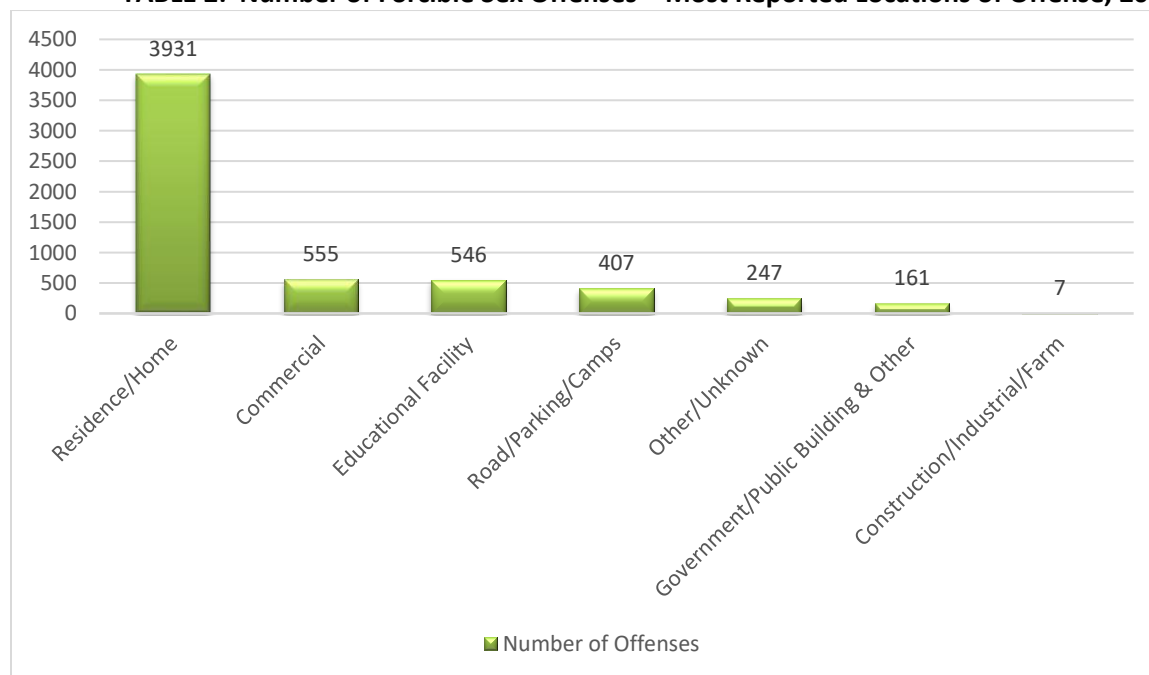
Figure3: Forcible Rape, Victims and Offenders by Age



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2019 (2020).

In addition, the majority (78%) of forcible sex offenses reported in 2018 occurred in a residence or home (Table 2)

TABLE 2: Number of Forcible Sex Offenses – Most Reported Locations of Offense, 2019



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2019 (2020).

Underreporting of Domestic and Sexual Violence Offenses

While criminal reports and arrest data can provide some picture of the impact of domestic and sexual violence to law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and the courts, the data does not capture the significant number of overall offenses that go unreported by victims. Further, according to information

collected by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance in 2018, nearly three quarters (72%) of individuals who sought domestic violence advocacy services, who had been assaulted within the past 30 days in Virginia, had reported the experience to law enforcement. Similarly, approximately 80% of those individuals who sought sexual violence crisis services in Virginia and had reported the incident to law enforcement, experienced the assault within the past 30 days.

Protective Orders

A protective order is a document issued by a court to protect a victim and a victim's family or household members from an abusive person. Protective orders can be issued in cases of family abuse or in cases where a petitioner has been subjected to an act of violence, force, or threat. Protective orders can be issued on an emergency basis (for up to three days), on a "preliminary" or temporary basis (usually for 15 days), or on a "permanent" basis (for up to two years).²⁷

In 2011, the protective order system in Virginia underwent a number of legislative changes. Protective orders (formerly protective orders for stalking, sexual battery, aggravated sexual battery, and criminal offenses resulting in serious bodily injury) were made available to a larger class of persons based upon a broader range of conduct. In addition, the provisions for family abuse protective orders and protective orders were made more consistent, including the penalties for repeat violations.

Family abuse protective orders are designed to protect a victim and his or her family or household members from the physically abusive or threatening conduct of another family or household member. In order for these orders to be issued, the family or household relationship must exist between the parties, and the victim must show that he or she is or has been subjected to family abuse. (Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.4, 16.1-253.1, 16.1-279.1.)

Protective orders are also designed to protect a victim of violent or threatening behavior and his or her family members from the conduct or threats of another. These protective orders are issued when a victim "(i) is or has been...subjected to an act of violence, force, or threat, or (ii) a petition or warrant has been issued for the arrest of the alleged perpetrator for any criminal offense resulting from the commission of an act of violence, force, or threat. (Va. Code Ann. §§ 19.2-152.8-152.10.)

In 2019, a total of 56,962 emergency protective orders (figures 4 and 5), 27,499 preliminary (PPO) and final protective orders (PO) were issued by courts across the Commonwealth for both family abuse and acts of violence, force, or threat.²⁸ Of the 27,499 protective orders issued, 8,509 were issued for acts of violence, force or threat and 18,990 were issued for family abuse. Of the protective orders issued, 809 protective orders were issued in a violation of a protective order case and 257 protective orders issued in a criminal matter, a 29% decrease from 2018.²⁹

It is also important to note that prior to April 2012, protective order cases involving juvenile respondents were not entered into the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Case Management System (JCMS) in a way that would allow them to be distinguished from other case data. Accordingly, family abuse

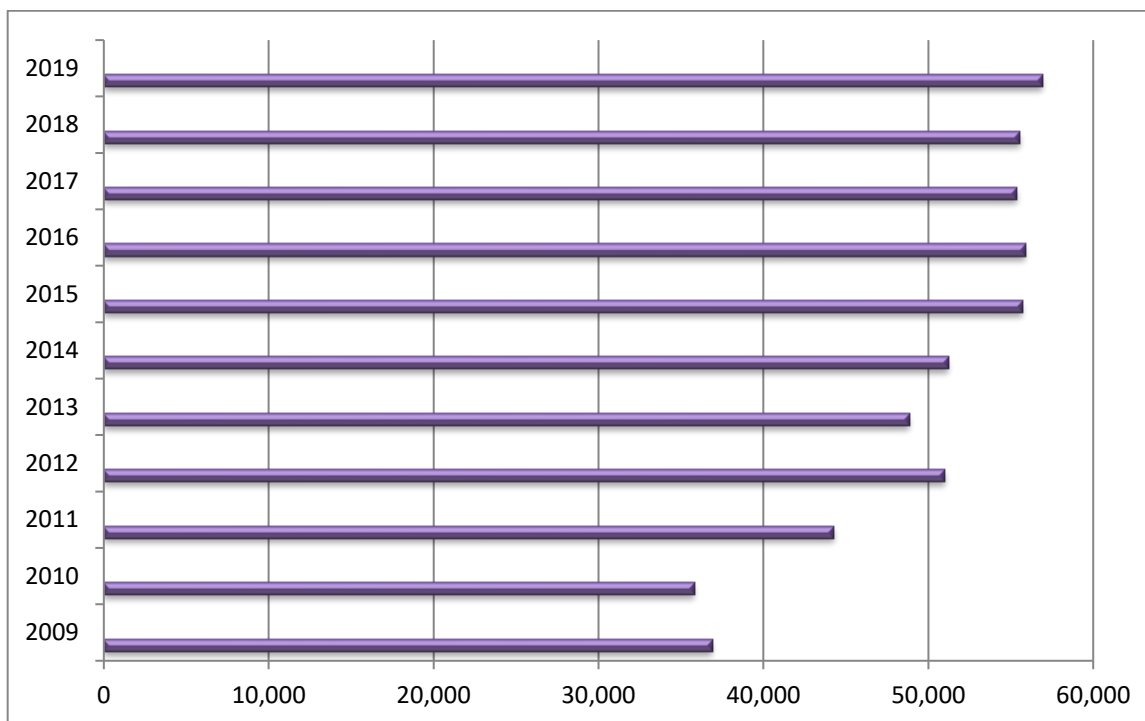
²⁷ Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.4, 16.1-253.1, 16.1-279.1, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9, 19.2-152.10.

²⁸ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

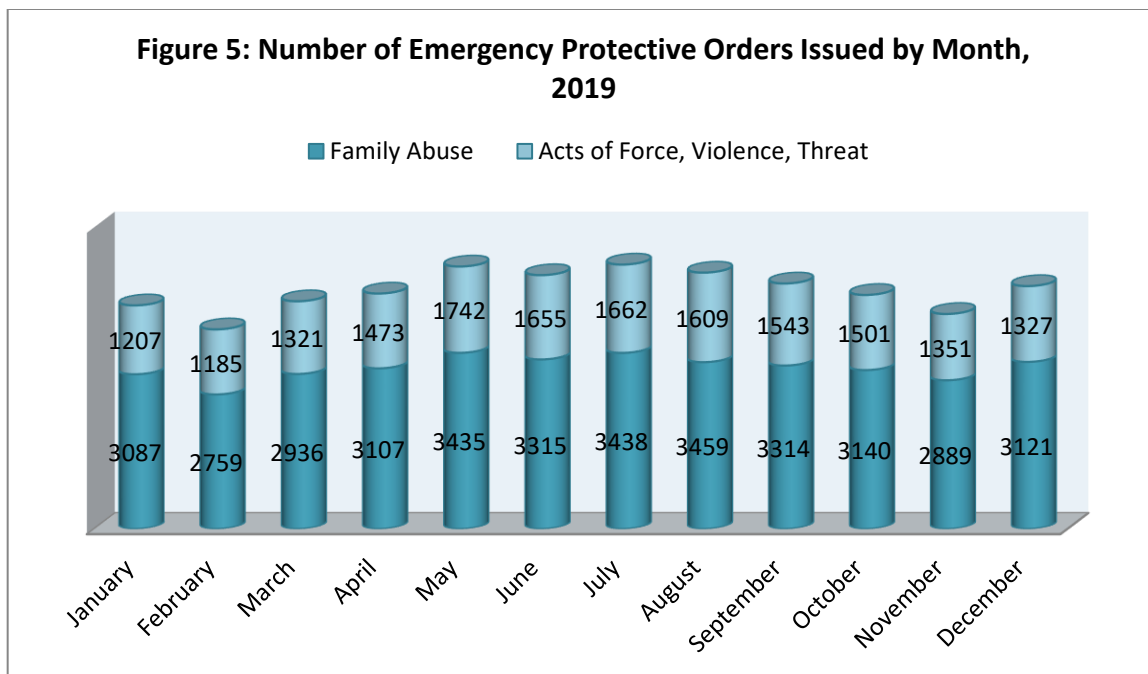
²⁹ Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

protective order cases involving juvenile respondents are not included in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court data provided below for the timeframe prior to April 2012. Recent changes to the system now allow those cases to be distinguished. Finally, it should be noted that the data presented in this Report does not include preliminary protective orders (PPO) because all cases in which a PPO was issued currently cannot be identified in the case management systems.

Figure 4: Number of Emergency Protective Orders Issued for Family Abuse and Acts of Violence, Force, or Threat by Year



Source: Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia



Source: Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia

Enforcement of protective orders is critical to their effectiveness in protecting victims from further acts of abuse. Although primarily issued as civil orders, certain violations of family abuse protective order provisions result in criminal prosecution.³⁰ Furthermore, the violation of any provision of a protective order issued for an act of violence, force, or threat (formerly a protective order for stalking, serious bodily injury, or sexual battery/aggravated sexual battery) results in criminal sanctions.³¹

In 2018, 5,402 persons were arrested for violating family abuse protective orders, a 11% increase in arrests from 2018 to 2019 (Figure 6).³² Of the 5,402 arrests, 34% resulted in convictions.

Persons Receiving Domestic Violence Services in 2018

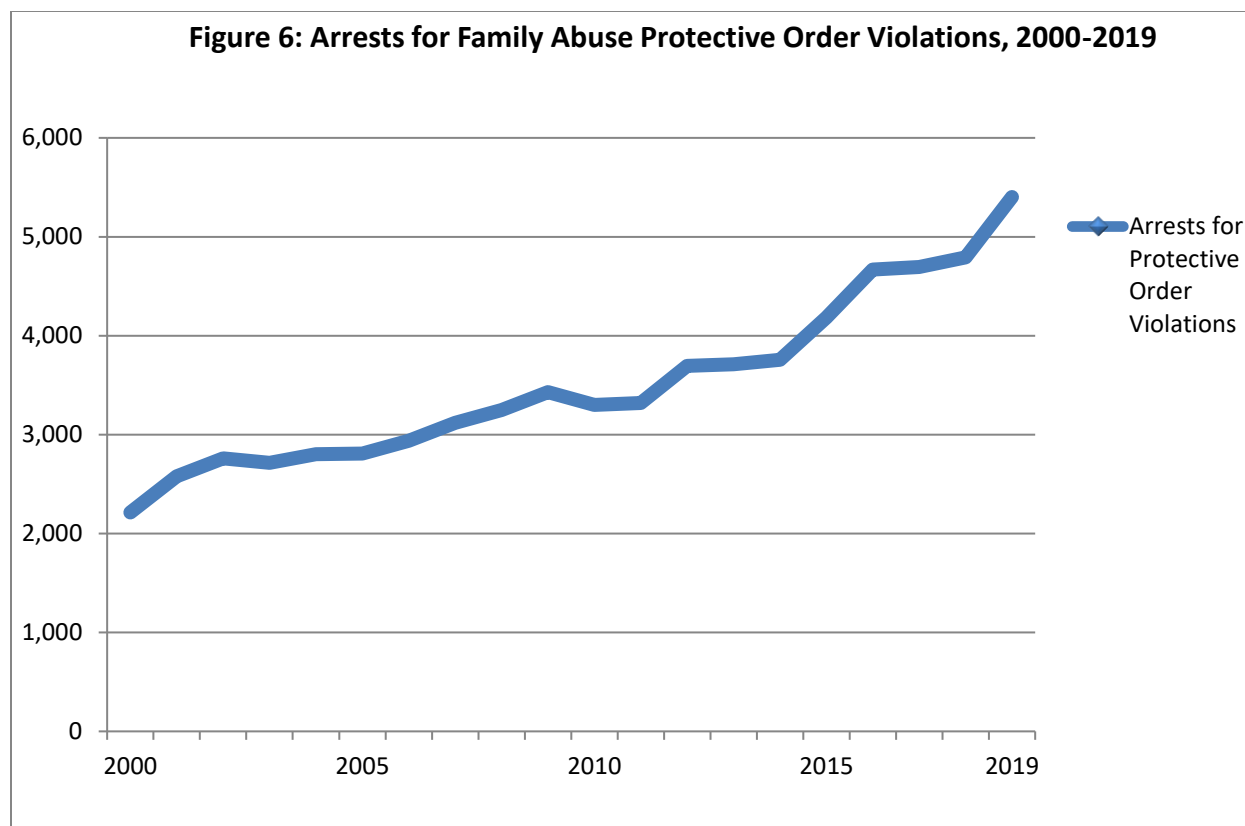
- **20%** reported that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **27%** reported that they had to relocate or become homeless as a result of the domestic violence.
- **74%** reported that they had reported the presenting domestic violence event to the police.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdat Report, 2019 (2020)*.

³⁰ See Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.2.

³¹ See Va. Code § 18.2-60.4.

³² Data from the Virginia State Police (November 19, 2019). Arrests for family abuse protective orders increased substantially after July 1, 1997, when Virginia Code § 19.2-81.3 was amended to require law enforcement officers to arrest for protective order violations where probable cause exists to believe a violation has occurred. Va. Code Ann. § 19.2-81.3. See Appendix A.



Source: Virginia State Police

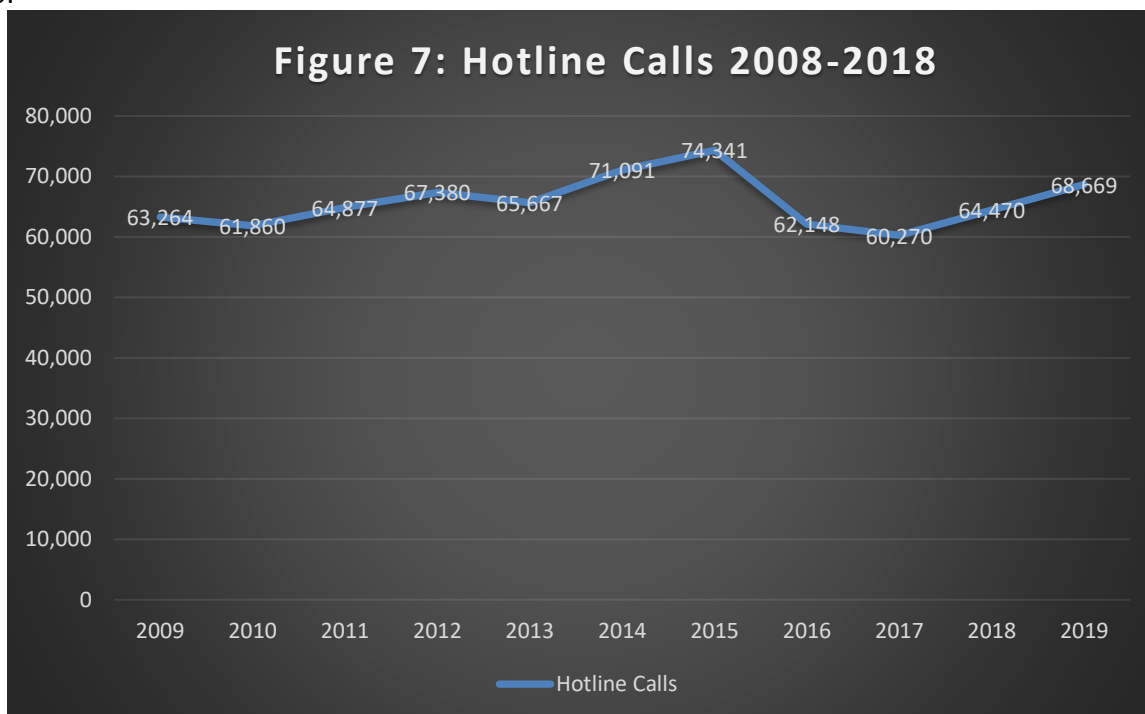
On July 1, 2011, the protective order system in Virginia underwent a number of legislative changes, particularly related to the availability of non-family abuse protective orders, or "protective orders for acts of violence, force, or threat," (formerly protective orders for stalking, sexual battery, aggravated sexual battery, and criminal offenses resulting in serious bodily injury), which became available to a larger class of persons based upon a broader range of conduct. While the data suggests a significant increase in the arrest rate for violations of these orders beginning in 2011, the impact of these legislative changes on numbers of arrests will continue to be analyzed for longer-term trends in future reports.

Services to Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Domestic and sexual violence cases have a distinct impact on the criminal justice system. These offenses also impact social services and other agencies that provide direct services to victims and their families. Domestic and sexual violence service providers engage in crisis intervention and provide hotline, shelter, and advocacy services to thousands of victims and their children each year. Among the advocacy services provided are: education, safety planning, group and individual counseling, mental health services, accompaniment to court, referral to legal services, financial and housing assistance, and transportation.

The demand for sexual and domestic violence crisis services through hotline calls increased in 2019. (Figure 7) From 2018 to 2019, there was a 7% increase in the number of hotline calls received. Overall service provisions to victims of domestic violence continues to increase (Figure 8). The number of adults receiving domestic violence advocacy services increased by 10% from 2018 to 2019, and the number of children receiving domestic violence advocacy services decreased by 4%. Adults receiving sexual violence advocacy

services increased by 11%, and children receiving sexual violence services increased by 2% from 2018 to 2019.³³



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2020 (2009-2019)*

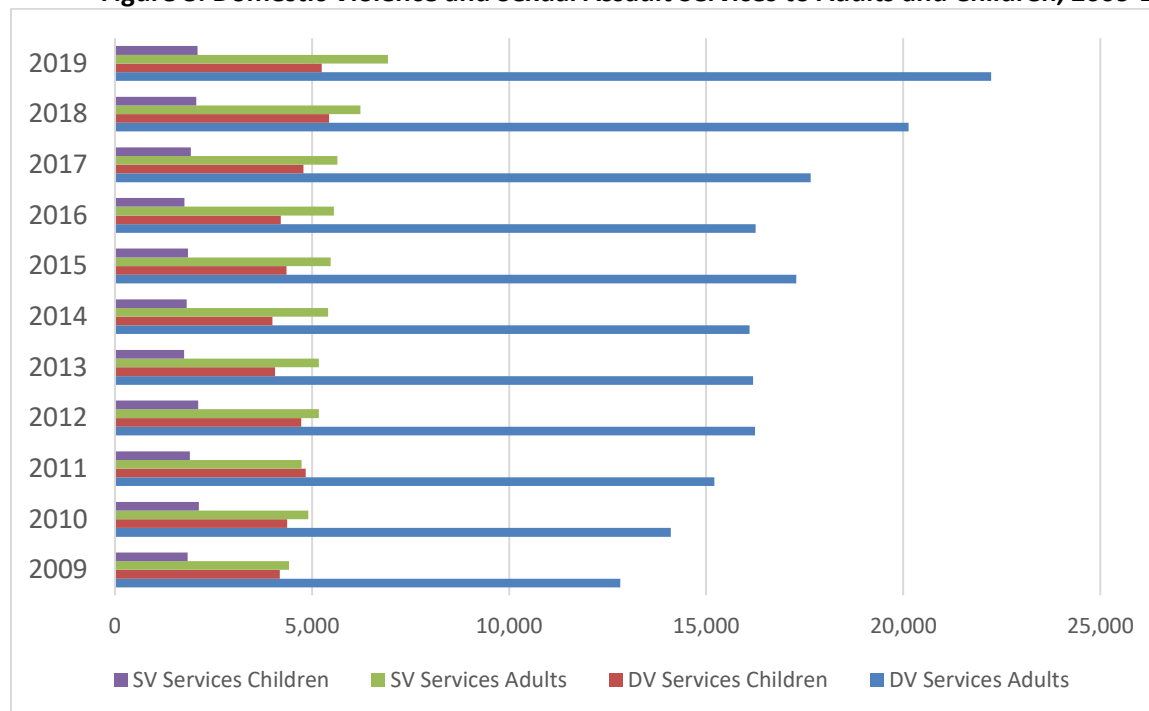
In 2019, local domestic and sexual violence service providers from 63 local programs responded to 68,669 hotline calls through Virginia domestic and sexual violence hotlines.³⁴ Through hotline calls, local programs responded to requests for services, including crisis intervention, counseling and support, emergency housing/shelter, emergency financial assistance, safety planning, transportation, and information/referral. Local domestic violence programs also provided a total of 226,920 hours of advocacy services to 22,230 adults and 5,246 children.³⁵

³³ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2019 (2020)*.

³⁴ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2019 (2020)*.

³⁵ *Id.*

Figure 8: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services to Adults and Children, 2009-2019



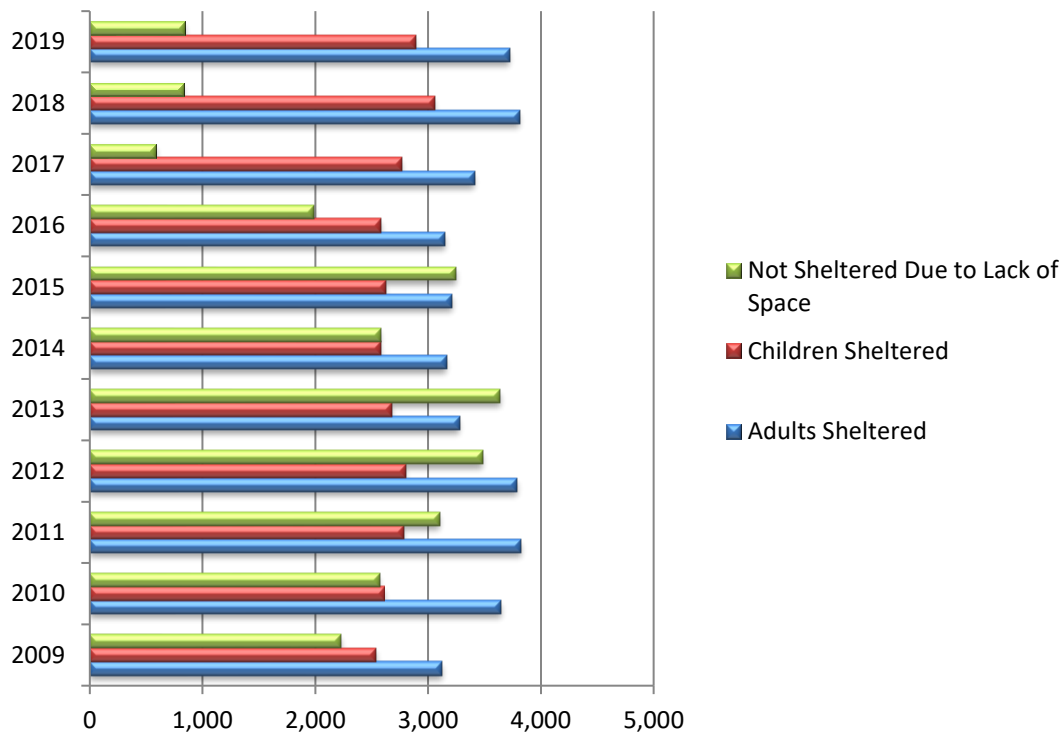
Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2020* (2009-2019).

Through public and private funding sources, emergency and temporary shelter services are provided to thousands of men, women, and children who are victims of domestic violence. In 2019, shelter programs provided 121,064 nights of emergency shelter to 3,726 adults and 2,892 children due to domestic violence.³⁶ These figures do not include the number of domestic violence victims who seek emergency shelter in non-domestic violence shelters. Not all victims who requested shelter services in 2018 were able to secure shelter accommodations. A total of 846 families who requested shelter services in 2019 were turned away, representing a 29% increase in rejection from 2018.³⁷ (Figure 9)

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2018 (2019)*.

Figure 9: Shelter Services - Victims Sheltered and Turned Away, 2006-2018



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdata Reports 2009-2019* (2010-2020).

In addition to emergency shelter needs, local domestic violence programs also assist victims and their families with housing support services to ease their transition from shelter to independent living arrangements. In 2019, local programs provided 81,475 nights of transitional housing to 318 adults and children.³⁸

Persons Receiving Sexual Violence Services in 2019

- **23% of victims** reported that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **19% of victims** reported missed time from work, school, and/or a loss of income as a result of sexual violence.
- **760%** of victims whose incident occurred within the past 30 days reported the sexual violence event to the police

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2019* (2020).

In 2019, sexual violence service providers in 37 sexual assault crisis centers across the Commonwealth provided 6,922 adults and 2,094 child victims with 95,443 hours of advocacy services in an effort to ease the emotional trauma and to facilitate the reporting process.³⁹ (Figure 8) Of the children who received services in local crisis centers, 16% reported that they had been violated by a parent.⁴⁰

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2019* (2020).

⁴⁰ *Id.*

Funding Sources and Grant Programs

Funding is critical to support an effective response to domestic and sexual violence at the local and state levels; however, funding from both federal and state sources often lacks continuity and consistency due to changing economic conditions and priorities. As a result, state and local agencies that rely upon federal and state funding sources must seek alternate funding sources to stabilize their funding, or make difficult decisions regarding the services that can be provided to victims of sexual and domestic violence.

With the number and variability of sources of funding, the landscape of domestic and sexual violence funding in Virginia can be rather complex. Funding for local and state efforts in these areas is administered by four primary agencies: the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS), the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). These four agencies administer and distribute funds from numerous federal and state sources with numerous purpose areas.

FUNDING SOURCES⁴¹

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

The federal Crime Victims Fund (“Fund”) was established by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984 and is one of the major funding sources for victim services throughout the United States. The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is the designated VOCA Fund administrator for Virginia. DCJS uses VOCA funding to support direct service delivery, training, and technical assistance through local child abuse service programs, domestic violence programs, sexual assault crisis centers, victim/witness programs, and other victim-serving organizations. Revenues are deposited into the Fund annually from criminal fines, forfeited appearance bonds, penalties, special forfeitures, special assessments, and gifts, donations, and bequests by private parties. Fund dollars do not come from taxpayers.

Beginning in 2000, the U.S. Congress has placed a cap on funds available for distribution to states. These annual caps were intended to maintain the Fund as a stable source of support for future services. For the 10 years preceding Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015, the level of funds allocated to states remained relatively consistent, while simultaneously several federal criminal convictions resulted in large fines and penalties deposited into the fund. Consequently, the balance of the VOCA fund increased significantly, without any corresponding increases in the allocations received by the states. This resulted in a bare minimum of services covered by many local agencies with additional service and staffing needs going unmet.

In order to address this imbalance, the Federal Appropriations Act of 2015 included a provision raising the nationwide VOCA appropriation cap from \$745 million to \$2.361 billion. This unprecedented increase in the federal appropriation level resulted in significant increases to all state allocations. In August 2015, Virginia received its federal fiscal year 2015 VOCA Fund allocation totaling \$50.3 million. This was more than four times as much as Virginia received in 2014, when the award totaled \$11.5 million. Subsequent VOCA award levels have continued to be significant, with the FFY18 award totaling over \$85 million. It is important to note that despite these significant increases, the current level of VOCA funding allocated to states is unsustainable. There are no cases currently moving through the Federal court system that would result in the large fines and penalties that contributed to the VOCA fund balance prior to FFY15. DCJS’s FFY19 award was \$57.8 million, approximately \$27.5 less than the FFY18 award. The FFY20 award was \$42.7 million and future decreases are anticipated.

⁴¹Funding information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Department of Social Services, the Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Division of Injury and Violence Prevention, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Family and Children’s Trust Fund (FACT).

DCJS has continued to plan for and efficiently utilize VOCA funds for services and costs as allowable under federal guidelines. As a result of DCJS efforts to support victims' services in a sustainable manner, in May 2020, the Criminal Justice Services Board awarded over \$58 million to maintain and expand victim services in Virginia. Examples of funded projects included: child abuse treatment programs, child advocacy centers, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs, domestic violence programs, sexual assault crisis centers, and victim/witness programs. In addition, new initiatives were funded for a second year, including a hospital-based violence intervention project implemented in hospital systems across the Commonwealth and school-based mental health services for youth victims of crime.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is the source of three of the funding programs at the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). VAWA creates and supports wide-ranging responses to violent crimes against women, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Since its enactment, VAWA programs have worked to improve responses to these crimes.

VAWA was originally passed in 1994 and was the first federal legislation recognizing domestic violence and sexual assault as crimes. It provided federal resources for community-coordinated responses to addressing violence against women. Its subsequent reauthorizations have produced many important provisions, to include a legal assistance program for victims, an expanded definition of crime to include dating violence and stalking, addressing prevention, added housing protections, and funding for rape crisis centers and culturally- and linguistically-specific services. In the last VAWA Reauthorization of 2013, provisions were added to address violence against Native women and LGBTQ survivors, expanded housing protections for victims, and added protections for survivors that are college students and immigrant victims. This legislation has ensured the continuance and enhancement of programs that make a difference in the lives of victims and in the safety of communities.

ICJR

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Grant Program (ICJR), administered by OVW, is designed to treat domestic/sexual violence as serious violations of criminal law by encouraging collaborative partnerships among state, local, and tribal governments and courts. Through a coordinated community response, the ICJR program challenges communities to communicate, identify problems, and share ideas for responding to victims of domestic/sexual violence, resulting in the application of best practices to enhance victim safety and ensure offender accountability at each juncture in the criminal justice system through investigation, arrest, prosecution, and judicial oversight.

DCJS is the state administering agency for ICJR, in partnership with the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and the Virginia Victim Assistance Network. One million dollars was received during the three-year grant cycle (2019 – 2022) to provide technical assistance and training to enhance and expand Lethality Assessment Programs (LAP), Fatality Review Teams, Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART), and advocacy programs in Virginia.

SASP

A second VAWA stream of funding is the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP). SASP was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 Technical Amendments, and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. Funding through SASP supports sexual assault crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide core services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault.

DCJS is the state administering agency for SASP. DCJS, in partnership with other stakeholders, seeks to consider the array of needs of all sexual assault victims and available services in the state when developing implementation strategies. As a result, and in accordance with grant requirements, Virginia's SASP Grant Program emphasizes the maintenance, expansion, and establishment of sexual assault services, including direct intervention, core services, and related assistance to adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault.

Approximately \$500,000 is allocated to Virginia each year through a formula grant from the Office on Violence Against Women at the U.S. Department of Justice. These funds enable DCJS to support direct intervention services to sexual assault victims across the Commonwealth.

STOP

A third VAWA funding stream is the STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) Violence Against Women program. The STOP program promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women; encourages the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women; and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women. The STOP grant program is known as VSTOP in Virginia and is guided by the VSTOP State Planning Team. Approximately \$3.5 million is allocated to Virginia each year through a formula grant from the Office on Violence Against Women at the U.S. Department of Justice. These funds enable DCJS to support over 90 projects throughout Virginia to address the issues of domestic and sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking in a meaningful way.

Virginia Crime Victim Witness Special Fund

The Virginia Crime Victim Witness Fund (VWF) was established in 1995 by *Code of Virginia* § [19.2-11.3](#) to support the Victim/Witness Grant Program, which provides funding for services to victims and witnesses of all crimes, including victims of domestic and sexual violence. The VWF is funded by a designated percentage of court fees and costs collected by local district and circuit courts from convicted offenders, and is administered by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant

Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grants are awarded to states to develop and strengthen the response of the criminal justice system to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and to support and enhance services for victims. In Virginia, federal STOP funding is referred to as Virginia-STOP, or "VSTOP" funding.

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) was designated in 1995 as the agency in Virginia to implement the STOP formula grant program of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The STOP Program was initially authorized under VAWA in 1994 and has been amended and reauthorized in 2000, 2005, and most recently, by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Act of 2013. The STOP Violence Against Women grant program promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women. The STOP Program also encourages the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women, and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

Virginia's STOP grant program is referred to as VSTOP. In 2019, there were a total of 106 initiatives funded in Virginia, including 27 in the law enforcement category, 23 in the prosecution category, 1 in the courts category, 38 in the victim services category, and 17 in the discretionary category.

Priority and funding recommendations are provided by the VSTOP State Planning Team. This team has met at least twice each year since 2007, not only to serve as an advisory group to provide guidance and direction for the expenditure of VSTOP funds, but also (as the only multidisciplinary group to address violence against women continuously for the past fifteen years) to provide observations, input, and recommendations on other relevant statewide issues on sexual and domestic violence.

In calendar year 2019, there were 638 training events that were funded with VSTOP, training a total of 10,450 allied professionals and volunteers in Virginia. Some of the most common topics of training events included: Domestic Violence Overview, Prosecuting Crimes Against Women, Dynamics and Services, Advocate Response, Safety Planning for Victims/Survivors, Law Enforcement Response, and Confidentiality.

Also in 2019, victim services sub-grantees provided services to 1,189 victims of sexual violence, 8,402 victims of domestic violence, and 1,079 victims of stalking. Grant-funded staff served 1,904 secondary victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This includes counseling services to 5,632 victims, and criminal justice support and civil legal advocacy to 9,472 victims.

Additionally, VSTOP-funded law enforcement officers investigated 2,070 cases related to domestic, sexual, and/or dating violence, or stalking. In 2019, VSTOP-funded prosecutors handled 3,328 cases of sexual violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking.

Serving underserved populations through VSTOP funding remains a priority. Currently, VSTOP funds support nine programs that provide services to Spanish-speaking victims of sexual and domestic violence, two programs that provide civil legal assistance to immigrant victims, and one program that provides culturally appropriate services to Asian victims of crime. In addition, approximately 39% of VSTOP projects that were funded in 2019 served primarily or entirely rural localities, where resources are often scarce and victims experience additional barriers to safety.

Grant-funded programs have reported that they would be unable to provide essential services that increase victim safety and offender accountability without VSTOP funding.

Sexual Assault Services Program Formula Grant (SASP)

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) receives Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) for the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) Formula Grant. SASP is the first and only federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. These funds are designed to supplement other funding sources directed at addressing sexual assault.

For calendar year 2020, DCJS awarded a total of \$446,893 in SASP funds to support 19 eligible sexual assault crisis centers.

Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program

Recognizing that individuals who are 50 years of age or older who are victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, face unique barriers to receiving assistance, Congress created the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program (Training Grants Program). This grant program creates a unique opportunity for providing or enhancing training and services to address these problems for this specific audience.⁴²

Other VAWA Grants

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Injury and Violence Prevention Program (IVPP), receives VAWA funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support Virginia's Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) initiative. Finally, OVW awards VAWA grants to each state's domestic violence coalition and sexual assault coalition for the purposes of coordinating state victims' services activities, as well as collaborating and coordinating with federal, state, and local entities. In Virginia, the state domestic and sexual violence coalition is the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance).

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund

In 2004, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation creating the Virginia Domestic Violence Victim Fund. In 2006, the Virginia General Assembly passed additional legislation changing the name of the fund from the Virginia Domestic Violence Victim Fund to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF). The purpose of the VSDVVF is to provide funding to assist in protecting and providing necessary services to adult victims of, and children affected by, sexual violence, domestic violence, stalking, and family abuse (*Code of Virginia* § [9.1-116.1](#)). Deposits to the VSDVVF come from a portion of fees collected for misdemeanors, traffic infractions, and other violations in district court (*Code of Virginia* § [16.1-69.48:1](#)).

In state fiscal year 2020, VSDVVF grants were awarded to 24 projects under the discretionary category to include victims' services programs, legal aid, law enforcement agencies, and forensic nurse examiner programs for the purpose of providing services to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and family abuse. Funding was also provided to 28 local units of government to fund additional prosecutors, paralegals, legal secretaries, or to enhance existing resources that provide services to adult and/or child victims who are affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and family abuse.

⁴² Additional information about this grant may be accessed online at the OVW website:
<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/ovwgrantprograms.htm#7>

During fiscal year 2020, the VSDVVF prosecution grantees provided services to 4,533 victims of domestic violence, 357 victims of sexual violence, and 130 victims of stalking. In addition, VSDVVF-funded prosecution grantees handled 6,445 charges involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Additionally, in fiscal year 2020, projects funded under the discretionary category of the VSDVVF provided training and information to 432 allied professionals and community members on the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. VSDVVF discretionary category grantees also provided direct services to 3,196 victims of domestic violence, 1,496 victims of sexual assault, and 506 victims of stalking, while 1,758 hotline calls were received by grant-funded staff.

Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program

Virginia established the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP) in 1983 to provide additional funding for the prevention of family violence and intervention in situations involving family violence, particularly situations involving child abuse and neglect. In addition to prevention and intervention services, activities funded with VFVPP funds include the statewide Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline, statewide training, and technical assistance and data collection. Additional funds are added to this fund from the Social Services Block Grant by DSS.

FY 2019 grants awarded with VFVPP funds support basic crisis services, as well as projects for the prevention of family violence on the local and state levels. DSS administered \$1,338,864 in VFVPP grant funds to 6 of the local programs and to the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance.

Victim/Witness Program Grants

In 1984, the Virginia General Assembly created the victim/witness grant program and designated DCJS as the administering agency. In 1995, *Code of Virginia* § 19.2-11.3 established the Virginia Crime Victim Witness Fund (VWF) as a special non-reverting fund to support victim and witness services. The VWF is funded by a designated percentage of court fees and costs collected by local district and circuit courts from convicted offenders, and is administered by DCJS. The fund supports the Victim/Witness Grant Program, which provides funding for services to victims and witnesses of all crimes, including victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Currently, funding for the Victim/Witness Grant Program comes from three sources: federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds from the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, the state VWF (special fund), and state general funds.

Victim/Witness Grant Program staff ensure that victims and witnesses are afforded their rights under Virginia's Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (Code of Virginia Chapter 1.1). These rights are outlined through six broad categories:

1. Victim and witness protection and law-enforcement contacts
2. Financial assistance
3. Notices/notifications
4. Victim input
5. Courtroom assistance
6. Post-trial assistance

For state fiscal year 2020, the number of grant-funded Victim/Witness Programs totaled 113. This included the Office of the Attorney General's Victim Notification Program. The total amount awarded to support Victim/Witness Programs for fiscal year 2020 was \$18,857,236.

The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) Victim/Witness Program positions supported with grant funds was 308 FTE positions in fiscal year 2020.

Kids First and Children's Programs License Plates

The Family and Children's Trust (FACT) Fund generates revenue from the sale of KIDS FIRST license plates and a portion of the Children's Programs license plates, which is shared with the Department of Health's Safe Kids Coalition. These funds support grants for family violence programs and public awareness initiatives. In FY20, FACT received \$145,000 in funding from its license plate campaign and approximately \$24,000 from state income tax returns.

Federal and State Shelter Grants

The Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP) is a **\$15.2 million** combined fund of state and federal sources for prevention, shelter operations, rapid re-housing assistance, coordinated entry, and planning activities.^[1] Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), federal funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, is incorporated into VHSP and supplements state funds primarily for rapid re-housing, activities. State funding for emergency shelters is administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Although shelter grants focus primarily on shelter services for the homeless population, funds from these programs also provide support to domestic violence shelters. Twenty-eight domestic violence shelters received funding through the Virginia Homeless Solutions Program in 2017. In addition, approximately 25% of the total number of individuals served by shelters receiving DHCD funds in 2017-2018 were victims of domestic violence.⁴³

GRANT PROGRAMS

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Grant Program (SADVGP)

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administered the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Grant Program (SADVGP) through June 30, 2019. This grant program provided funding to local domestic violence programs, sexual assault crisis centers, dual sexual and domestic violence agencies, and statewide programs to provide and enhance direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Grant-funded projects provided a variety of core direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. These core services included: crisis intervention, follow-up peer counseling, emergency assistance (e.g., shelter, financial assistance), assistance with crime victim compensation claims, information and referrals to other needed services, personal advocacy (e.g., accompaniment to hospital emergency rooms and court), and criminal justice support and advocacy. Many programs also offered services such as support groups and therapy. Services were, and continue to be, provided at no cost to victims, and most programs offered additional specific services for underserved and minority communities.

^[1] Virginia Homeless Solutions Grant is a combination of two federal sources (Emergency Solutions grant and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV) and two state sources, Homeless Assistance, and Homeless Prevention state general funds).

⁴³ Virginia's Homeless Programs Report, 2017-2018, accessed December 1, 2020

Funding for SADVGP came from three sources. First, federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds from the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime have supported services to victims since 1984. Second, state funds, including both state general and special funds, continue to supplement federal funding for local and statewide sexual and domestic violence services. Third, SADVGP recipients provide matching in-kind and/or cash funds to support their projects.

For state fiscal year 2019, DCJS awarded a total of \$21,570,423 to support one statewide program and 56 local domestic violence and sexual assault programs. Starting in state fiscal year 2020, programs received continued funding through the Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP), which is described separately.

Sexual Violence Prevention Programming Grant

The Injury and Violence Prevention Program (IVPP) of the Virginia Department of Health contracts with local sexual assault centers to provide sexual violence prevention programming in localities. Services and activities funded include: intensive youth-peer education, multisession, curriculum-based education, community education, train-the-trainer programs, and public awareness campaigns or events.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) was enacted by Congress in 1984 to promote public awareness and prevention of family violence as well as to provide services for victims and their dependents. FVPSA funds enable local programs to provide residential and nonresidential services to victims, including shelter or transitional housing, safety planning, counseling, legal services, child care, services for children, career planning, education, public awareness, and necessities (such as clothing, food, and transportation).

DSS administered \$2,518,114.00 in FVPSA funds, awarding contracts to 51 local programs, six community-based organizations and the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance. 14 of the local programs begin or continued to provide and expand primary prevention efforts during FY 2020

Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program

Virginia established the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP) in 1983 to provide additional funding for the prevention of family violence and intervention in situations involving family violence, particularly situations involving child abuse and neglect. In addition to prevention and intervention services, activities funded with VFVPP funds include the statewide Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline, statewide training, and technical assistance and data collection. Additional funds are added to this fund from the Social Services Block Grant by DSS.

FY 2020 grants awarded with VFVPP funds support basic crisis services, as well as projects for the prevention of family violence on the local and state levels. DSS administered \$1,336,864 in VFVPP grant funds to 8 of the local programs and to the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

Through budget appropriations of the General Assembly, federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds are included in the state budget for the provision of direct services and systems advocacy to victims of domestic violence. These funds are also used to provide community outreach and public

awareness in their communities. State General funds are combined with TANF funds to ensure the greatest flexibility in ensuring that all victims are eligible for these services. DSS administered \$5,195,542 in TANF grant funds to support 43 local domestic violence programs, six community based organizations and the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance.

Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP)

The Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) is a new grant program that was established by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in 2019 as a funding source for various direct service victim assistance programs across the Commonwealth. VSGP is supported by Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds and state general funds. The primary purpose of VOCA funding is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. A crime victim, for the purpose of this grant program, is defined as a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, and/or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime. VSGP funding supports domestic violence and sexual assault programs that previously received Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Grant Program funding, many programs previously funded by the VOCA New Initiatives grant, and various victim assistance programs that had not previously received VOCA funding. In 2019, and continuing into 2020, the new programs included: two new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs; two new legal aid programs; two new domestic violence county-based programs; a new domestic violence shelter; a program specific to Latinx victims; a mental health assistance program; a hospital-based violence intervention program; and two school-based victim assistance projects.

The victim assistance programs that receive VSGP funding provide a variety of direct services to victims of crime including: crisis intervention, emergency assistance (e.g., shelter, financial assistance), assistance with crime victim compensation claims, information and referrals to other needed services, personal advocacy (e.g., accompaniment to hospital emergency rooms and court), and criminal justice support and advocacy. Many programs also offer services such as support groups and therapy. Projects funded by the VSGP grant provide services to victims at no cost.

For state fiscal year 2021, VSGP was awarded to 86 projects for a total amount of \$45,590,000.

Victims of Crime Act New Initiative Victim Assistance Grant Program

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administered the Victims of Crime Act New Initiative (VOCA NI) Victim Assistance Grant Program through June 30, 2019.

VOCA NI grants were first awarded in fiscal year 2017 to establish new victim services projects throughout Virginia. The establishment of this new program was possible as a result of a significant increase in federal funding. In August 2015, Virginia received its federal fiscal year 2015 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund allocation totaling \$50,330,687. This was more than four times as much as Virginia received in 2014 when the award totaled \$11,561,072.

As a result of the increased funding, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) was able to fund approximately 60 brand new victim services projects through the VOCA NI Grant Program.

One VOCA NI-funded project is highlighted below:

Samaritan House (Virginia Beach)

Through this regional project, victims of human trafficking are provided emergency shelter and comprehensive case management services. Victims are able to access additional resources from a

greater number of providers working together to partner with federal and local law enforcement officials. These services are available specifically for victims that have been trafficked, without regard to the victim's age, religion, race or ethnicity, cultural or social background, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Support services are victim-centered, trauma-informed, and tailored to the individual needs of each person. Services also include accompaniment and transportation to court, legal appointments, immediate medical appointments, mental health appointments, and assistance with searches for employment and long-term housing options.

Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Program

The Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Program is a grant program administered by the Office of Family Violence (OFV) at the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS). This Program promotes awareness, education, prevention, and service programs. DSS awards grants to public and private nonprofit, incorporated agencies and organizations that provide direct crisis services to victims of domestic violence.

In FY 2020, DSS awarded 51 local domestic violence programs contracts, using a combination of federal grant funds from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and state appropriated funds. The state appropriated funds are derived from the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and general funds.

Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations

The Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations is a grant program administered by the OFV. This program supports domestic violence services and projects for underserved populations that are provided by community-based organizations (CBOs) and units of government that have a primary focus and demonstrated history of providing services to specific underserved population.

In FY 2020, DSS renewed contracts with six culturally and population specific organizations contracts using a combination of federal grant funds from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and state general funds.

Sole Source Contract for Statewide Services

The DSS Office of Family Violence continued to provide funding to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance for provision of services in two primary areas: 1) training and technical assistance to those working in local domestic violence, as well as allied professionals including the new Underserved Population Learning Collaborative; and 2) the operation of VAdat, the statewide data collection system used by local domestic violence programs to document their services. Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and state general funds are all used to support the sole source contract.

Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Grant Program (ICJR), formerly known as Grants to Encourage Arrest Program (GEAP), is a discretionary grant awarded to DCJS, in partnership with the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and the Virginia Victim Assistance Network. One million dollars was received during the

current three-year grant cycle (2019 – 2022) to provide technical assistance and training to enhance and expand Lethality Assessment Programs (LAP), Fatality Review Teams, Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART), and advocacy programs in Virginia.

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council⁴⁴

The Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council (CASC) is the state agency mandated to provide support and training services to Virginia's prosecutors.

Since 2010, CASC has employed a V-STOP funded half-time Violence Against Women Resource Prosecutor (VAWRP). The VAWRP provides training, technical support and resources to Virginia's domestic and sexual violence prosecutors and investigators statewide.

In CY2020, the VAWRP organized and implemented over 60 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) credit for Virginia's prosecutors on issues related to the investigation and prosecution of domestic and sexual violence and stalking cases. That training included four hours of training specifically focused on ethical issues that arise in the investigation and prosecution of these cases. The VAWRP also provided over 25 hours of in-service PIC credit training to officers in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault.

These training hours were offered through both large statewide trainings and smaller topic-specific trainings. Specifically, VAWRP helped organize three statewide programs, one week-long intensive 5-day trainings, as well as virtually presenting training to several individual jurisdictions.

Since 2008 CASC has offered a V-STOP funded intensive five-day training program to sexual violence prosecutors and investigators. The program, entitled *Trauma to Trial: Investigating and Prosecuting Adult Non-Stranger Sexual Assault*, is offered annually at no cost to approximately 12 prosecutor/investigator teams from across the state. The *Trauma to Trial* training was developed in response to the startling statistics surrounding adult non-stranger sexual assault. According to 2019 statistics from RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network), more than 2/3 of rape victims know their assailants, yet fewer than 2% of all rapists will ever spend a day in jail.

Trauma to Trial confronts the issues behind these statistics and focuses on overcoming the numerous challenges associated with investigating and prosecuting these difficult cases. This program is taught through a trauma-informed lens and trains prosecutors and law enforcement in the use of trauma-informed interviewing and investigation. The faculty is comprised of allied professionals from across Virginia and beyond and includes not only prosecutors and investigators, but also victim advocates, a forensic nurse examiner/sexual assault nurse examiner (FNE/SANE), social workers/clinicians and victim-witness personnel. Importantly, no student is excluded from *Trauma to Trial* because their office or department does not have funding for training. The *Trauma to Trial* budget includes funding for students' lodging, meals, and training expenses.

CASC also had scheduled in May, an intensive, five-day training for prosecutors and law enforcement officers, focused on the issues unique to the prosecution of domestic violence. The program, entitled *Guns and Roses*, offers advanced training to 12 teams of law enforcement officers and prosecutors on all facets of handling intimate partner cases including corroboration of testimony, domestic violence dynamics, evidence-based prosecution, determining the predominant aggressor, and forfeiture by wrongdoing. The faculty includes some of the top prosecutors, victim advocates, and law enforcement officers in Virginia. As with *Trauma to Trial*, no student is excluded from *Trauma to Trial* because their office or department does

⁴⁴ Information provided by the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council.

not have funding for training. The *Guns and Roses* budget includes funding for students' lodging, meals, and training expenses. Because of COVID-19, *Guns and Roses 2020* was rescheduled to February 2021.

In addition to these programs, CASC also offers domestic violence and sexual assault prosecution training at its larger, statewide training programs. At CASC's Spring Institute, held virtually in April 2020 and attended by over 700 Virginia prosecutors, CASC offered a presentation on trauma-informed prosecution.

At the VACA Annual Summer Conference, held virtually in August 2020 and attended by over 300 Virginia prosecutors, CASC provided instruction on Elder Abuse (to include inter-familial abuse) investigation and prosecution.

At the CASC Annual Executive Conference, to be held virtually in December 2020, instruction will be provided on the sharing of records and confidentiality issues between Commonwealth's Attorneys and community advocacy agencies.

VAWRP also regularly facilitates an online forum for prosecutors who handle domestic violence and sexual assault cases and provides individual assistance to prosecutors statewide.

CASC is deeply committed to combating crimes of domestic and sexual violence. By receiving support services and many hours of continuing legal education and in-service credit, Virginia's prosecutors and investigators have access to comprehensive training to help them successfully prosecute and investigate domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases.

Office of the Attorney General

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) promotes public awareness of domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking issues in the Commonwealth through the implementation of a number of initiatives, training, collaboration, and grant programs. The OAG actively promotes sound public policy and legislative efforts to enhance victim safety and to hold offenders accountable. The OAG also collaborates with state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to address the issues of domestic and sexual violence in communities across the Commonwealth. The Office employs the Statewide Facilitator for Victims of Domestic Violence, a position created by Virginia Code § 2.2-515.1, to assist agencies with the implementation of domestic violence programs.

Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) is a voluntary, confidential mail-forwarding service for victims of domestic violence who have recently moved to a location unknown to their abusers. The program permits a participant to use a "substitute" mailing address in lieu of his or her home address in an effort to keep the victim's physical location confidential. The substitute address is a post office box, maintained by the OAG in Richmond, with no relation to the participant's actual address. The ACP has been available to domestic violence victims across the Commonwealth since July 1, 2011. On July 1, 2014, the ACP opened to victims of stalking and on July 1, 2017, ACP was opened up to victims of human trafficking and sexual violence. Also in 2017, the Application Assistant Program was created allowing for local domestic and sexual violence programs and victim witness programs to be certified as application assistants. This has allowed more access to the program by victims, and has streamlined the application process. While the ACP cannot provide absolute protection for victims, it can be an effective element of an overall safety plan. Victims are encouraged to seek counseling through a local domestic violence program, a sexual assault

crisis center, or through shelter services for safety planning information. Additional information on the ACP can be found at: <http://www.ag.virginia.gov>.

In 2019, the OAG has provided seven application assistant trainings to local domestic and sexual violence programs, victim witness assistance programs, and military family advocacy programs and victim advocates. In 2020, ten application assistant trainings have been provided. Currently, there are 222 families in the ACP program and 393 active participants, including men, women, and children.⁴⁵

Grant Initiatives

VSTOP

The OAG continues to receive funding from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), under the STOP Violence Against Women Grant (VSTOP). Through this grant, the OAG provides resources, training, and technical assistance to local and state allied professionals, as well as to victims on domestic and sexual violence issues, stalking and human trafficking.

Through funding from the VSTOP grant, the OAG produces and distributes resource materials and provides training to law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and victim services providers. The materials and trainings include information on domestic and sexual violence laws, accessing domestic violence resources, and working with victims from underserved communities, including victims from the elderly, disabled, non-English speaking, and immigrant populations. In 2020, the OAG received \$40,562 in VSTOP funding from DCJS to support public awareness activities across the Commonwealth and in underserved communities. Through the “Safe at Home” Program, the OAG directed victims to state and local resources, provided training to prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and advocates on working with victims from underserved communities, and distributed thousands of public awareness materials statewide.

COVID-19 impacted the OAG’s ability to host in person trainings, *Beyond the Clutter: Dangers and Consequences of Hoarding and Links: Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse and Animal Fighting*. Currently the OAG is looking to turn these trainings into a series of webinars. With VSTOP funding, the OAG provided training on ACP, Domestic Violence Resources, and workplace violence via webinar for the Petersburg Domestic Violence Task Force, Fair Housing Office’s annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month event, and for Dominion Power.

Lethality Assessment Program

The OAG continues to work with the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence technical assistance staff to implement Maryland’s Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). Increasing participation in the program statewide continues to be a priority. LAP is an evidence-based, collaborative approach to intimate partner homicide prevention that helps law enforcement identify and properly handle intimate partner violence situations that may become fatal for a victim. Law enforcement officers are trained to use a standardized set of 11 questions that can identify a victim who is at high risk of being killed. If it is determined, through these questions, the victim is at high risk they are immediately connected on scene to a 24-hour domestic violence service provider in their community. The service provider can immediately aid with shelter needs, and resources for the victim while the law enforcement officer is on scene. The statewide training team, headed by the OAG, with the partners from Maryland, includes DCJS and the state domestic violence coalition, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

⁴⁵ Data pulled on December 29, 2020

A total of 4 new jurisdictions applied and were accepted into Virginia's LAP program in 2020. Harrisonburg County partnering along with First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence Inc., Stafford County Sheriff's Office partnering with Empowerhouse, Arlington County Police Department partnering with Doorways, and Danville Police Department partnering with Haven of the Dan River Region. Training for these four LAP communities were postponed due to health concerns and travel restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual curriculums will be created to assist these new and future communities who are very eager to get their LAP programs running, until restrictions are lifted. Currently, the number of law enforcement jurisdictions trained by the OAG and state partners stands at 49 statewide. As 2021 approaches, additional jurisdictions are preparing for training and implementation.

In addition to training new LAP communities, the statewide LAP team provides on-going technical assistance to established programs. In 2020, the statewide LAP team continued hosting virtual quarterly meetings for LAP coordinators from the 49 jurisdictions. During these meetings, jurisdictions share strategies for sustaining successful LAP programs as well as any trends in their areas.

The statewide LAP team also avails itself to jurisdictions by providing technical assistance as needed. In 2020 the LAP team assisted with the Fairfax County Lap community to review and update their interagency LAP Policies, Operating procedures, as well as their Memorandum of Understanding between their teams partners. This community was one of the first agencies in the state to adopt the LAP program back in 2015. They have been very receptive and open to receiving immense technical assistance to improve and strengthen their LAP program to better serve their community.

Since 2016, the OAG has provided LAP jurisdictions with donated cell phones from Verizon to assist law enforcement officers with following the LAP protocol. All phones have been updated and provided minutes to continue to be used until the end of 2021.

Lastly, the Virginia statewide LAP training team coordinator was the recipient of the 2020 Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence David M. Sargent Lethality Assessment Program award. This award recognizes professionals who are doing exceptional work in homicide reduction through the vehicle of the LAP. Professionals who receive this award have been chosen for their exemplary dedication to the coordination and implementation of the LAP. They have gone above and beyond to develop LAP best-practices within their agencies, enhance LAP partnerships within their communities, and/or improve coordination of services for High-Danger IPV victims with whom the LAP has been conducted. Their actions result in more options and safer communities for IPV victims.

Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR) Grant

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) was awarded an Improving Criminal Justice Response grant by the US Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women in 2019. The program, funded by the grant, brings together the following organizations in order to build victim service collaborations in the Commonwealth: Office of the Attorney General; Department of Criminal Justice Services; Office of the Chief Medical Examiner; Virginia Victim Assistance Network; Virginia Poverty Law Center; and the state domestic violence coalition, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

The goals of the grant are to: (1) Enhance local and regional community response to sexual assault by promoting stronger coordination and encouraging the implementation of SARTs in Virginia through the development and delivery of training, resources and networking, informed by an Advisory Group. (2) Enhance local and regional community response to domestic and dating violence in Virginia's diverse

regions by promoting stronger coordination and encouraging the implementation or expansion of Fatality Review Teams and Lethality Assessment Programs. (3) Improve legal advocacy services by developing and delivering trainings, resources, and information on best practices, provide technical assistance and make networking opportunities available to system and community-based victim advocates, attorneys, and criminal and civil justice personnel, SARTs, LAP and Fatality Review Teams.

Physical Evidence Recovery Kits (PERKs)

The OAG and the Virginia Department of Forensic Science (DFS) partnered under two federal grants to test previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits, known in Virginia as Physical Evidence Recovery Kits (PERKs), identified in two separate state-wide inventories of law enforcement agencies. The project's implementation reflects national best-practice recommendations outlined by the Department of Justice's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative and is guided by a multidisciplinary steering committee comprised of local and state-wide subject matter experts.

The Sexual Assault Kit Testing Project has three overall objectives: to test all eligible PERKs, enhance multidisciplinary response to sexual assault, and promote trauma-informed, victim-centered practices. The project will meet these objectives by coordinating with Virginia's law enforcement agencies to test PERKs, and provide training opportunities and direct support to multidisciplinary teams across the Commonwealth.

OAG staff coordinated with over 100 law enforcement agencies to submit all eligible PERKs for testing that were identified as unsubmitted in the two inventories. Testing of 2,664 PERKs and secondary review of analysis results by DFS was completed in September 2020. From these PERKs, 905 new DNA profiles were added to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) resulting in 386 matches, or "hits", to offenders/arrestees or evidence in other cases. Case review, investigation, and victim notification efforts pertaining to these hits are ongoing. Two cases have resulted in an arrest so far; one of which resulted in a conviction and the other case is currently awaiting trial.

The OAG staff provides direct outreach and support to each locality. In person meetings with local multidisciplinary or sexual assault response teams cover the project's purpose and objectives, the roles and responsibilities of the locality, and information and resources to aid the locality in developing a plan. The OAG staff recommends a multidisciplinary team approach to developing and carrying out protocols for case review and utilization of trauma-informed, victim-centered practices for victim notification of testing results. Most training and outreach opportunities planned for this year were postponed or cancelled altogether due to the nationwide COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has also impacted local collaborative and response efforts.

A portion of grant funding was allocated for the Department of Forensic Science to build and implement a PERK tracking system. The tracking system will follow and track the status of PERKs from creation, to collection, to testing and storage. Survivors of sexual assault will be able to access the system to determine the location and status of their PERK. Effective July 1, 2020, use of the system by certain users, to include law enforcement and healthcare providers was mandated. This mandate covers both the requirement to notify survivors about the system and how to access as well as requiring the entry of data pertaining the status and location of each kit. As of September 30, 2020 almost 200 law enforcement agencies and 22 collection sites (i.e. healthcare providers or forensic nursing program) had been trained and granted access to the system. Over 6,600 PERKs have been entered into the system since beta testing began last year.

As of October 2020, the OAG has secured two more grants totaling over \$2.1 million to enhance investigations of cold case sexual assaults by hiring intelligence analysts to assist with investigations, provide funds for advanced DNA testing efforts such as forensic genealogy, and continue to support and provide training opportunities for law enforcement and multidisciplinary partners across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Human Trafficking

Since October 2016, the Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force (HRHTTF) has been actively engaged in human trafficking prevention and intervention throughout the Tidewater region. A collaboration between the Office of Attorney General Mark Herring, Homeland Security Investigations, Samaritan House, Transitions Family Violence Services, the US Attorney's Office, Virginia State Police, and law enforcement agencies and prosecutors from Newport News, Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, and Williamsburg, the HRHTTF takes a comprehensive approach to human trafficking that meets the personal needs of victims and the public safety goals of the community. The HRHTTF has an Executive Committee that oversees operations, a Victim Services committee that has brought together both community-based and systems-based organizations to determine the needs and gaps in services for victims, a Law Enforcement and Prosecution committee to investigate and prosecute sex and labor trafficking cases, and an Outreach and Training Committee to provide awareness and training to a wide range of stakeholders, including law enforcement, prosecutors, schools, colleges, faith-based communities, hotels, airlines, airports, probation and parole, juvenile services, and community members.

Between October 2019 and June 2020, the HRHTTF has opened 63 investigations, made 23 arrests, identified 48 victims, and prosecuted five cases. The Outreach and Training committee provided 12 trainings to various community groups, such as Newport News Neighborhood Watch Coalition, and the TSA at the Norfolk Airport; four outreach events that included efforts at the Norfolk Airport and Bus Terminal, outreach to the Native American Community and the Hotel/Motel Industry. In addition, the HRHTTF partnered with the Richmond Regional Minor Victim of Human Trafficking program to provide training to law enforcement, prosecutors, and juvenile probation officers. As with many initiatives, outreach efforts slowed dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, local and federal law enforcement has continued to work cases collaboratively throughout the public health crisis.

The HRHTTF's lead victim services providers are Samaritan House and Transitions Family Violence Services. The Task Force collaborated this year with Transitions Family Violence Services due to the Task Force expansion in the Hampton Roads area. Samaritan House was awarded the Comprehensive Victim Services Grant and has a new partnership with William and Mary Law Clinic that works with clients in need of T-visas and U-visas. Transitions Family Violence Services was awarded the Housing Assistance Grant for Victims of Human Trafficking and has new partnerships with Bacon Street, a substance abuse treatment program for youth and adults, and the Hispanic Resource Center of Coastal Virginia. Since January 2020, Samaritan House and

Transitions Family Violence Services provided services to 18 sex trafficking victims and one labor trafficking victim and held 16 outreach and training events.

In October of 2020, the OAG received continuation funding for the HRHTTF. This three year grant will continue to provide funding for a full time task force coordinator, trainings for task force members, and overtime reimbursements for local law enforcement agencies who are members of the HRHTTF. With the continuation funding the HRHTTF is planning to expand geographically, by adding the City of Williamsburg, Town of Smithfield, and the Counties of Accomack and Northampton. This grant also brought victim services funding to Transitions Family Violence Services to assist victims of human trafficking on the Peninsula side of Hampton Roads. They will work in conjunction with Samaritan House on providing wrap around, comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking.

In October of 2019, the OAG received a \$340,000 grant from the Office of Victims of Crime for the Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking program. This grant created a regional case manager for minor victims of sex and labor trafficking serving the Richmond region. The case manager currently assists localities currently involved in the Richmond Regional Human Trafficking Collaborative by providing case management services, referrals, and assisting with the identification of minor victims of human trafficking. In addition, the case manager has convened a regional multidisciplinary team (MDT) and five local MDTs to look at all human trafficking cases involving minor victims, finds gaps in services, and community partners who can assist victims and their families. Since April of 2020, the case manager has provided services to six minor victims of human trafficking.

The OAG also participates in the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force, the Prince William County Human Trafficking Task Force, the Richmond Regional Human Trafficking Collaborative, and the Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinating Committee.

Victim Notification Program

The Victim Notification Program (VNP) is a system-based victim services program that ensures crime victims have access to services and receive notification of the filing and the disposition of criminal appeals and habeas corpus proceedings. Services are provided to direct victims, witnesses, and family members. VNP also assists victims throughout the Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) civil commitment process. Although the program serves victims of a broad range of crimes, 13% percent of the victims served involved cases related to domestic and sexual violence. Services provided include notification of case hearings, emotional support, safety planning and information about safe housing options. The program also provides services to underserved victims of crime to include: elder abuse, child exploitation, identity theft and gang-related violent crimes.

Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia⁴⁶

The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia (OES) is the Administrative Office for Virginia's Judicial System. The OES provides coordination, supervision and administrative support for operations and systems within the court and magistrate systems. The OES also provides ongoing training and technical assistance to judges, magistrates, and court personnel across the Commonwealth on a range of issues that impact the courts, including training on domestic and sexual violence issues.

⁴⁶ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

In 2020, the OES received funding from the Office on Violence Against Women through the STOP (Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors) grant program (or V-STOP in Virginia). Total funding to support specified domestic violence projects in 2020 was \$206,916 (\$155,187 plus \$51,729 in match), which represents level funding from 2019.

V-STOP funding supports judicial branch education and training efforts on domestic violence, local court projects, the I-CAN! Virginia protective order online forms completion program, and the Hope Card program.

In late September 2020, OES was awarded funding from the Office on Violence Against Women through their Domestic Violence Mentor Court Technical Assistance Initiative. Total funding for this two-year grant will be \$149,574. Beginning October 1, 2020, these funds will allow the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court to serve as a national domestic violence mentor court for other rural courts around the country who wish to learn from the various domestic violence best practices implemented in Pulaski, Virginia. In addition, these funds will allow the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court as well as local domestic violence stakeholders to receive specialized domestic violence training and technical assistance from national providers.

Judicial Branch Training and Education on Domestic Violence

The OES provides training and education on domestic violence issues to judges, magistrates and district court clerks. This includes training delivered at OES-sponsored events, online education, and print information and resources. In 2020, OES-sponsored domestic violence training for judges included three in-person sessions for newly appointed judges at their pre-bench training, and two WebEx voluntary sessions for district court judges at their mandatory annual conference.

In June of 2020, all twenty-nine (29) newly appointed judges attended a protective order training session at their pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. Out of the twenty-nine judges, eleven (11) were circuit court judges, ten (10) were general district court judges, and eight (8) were juvenile and domestic relations district court judges. On August 25 and 26, 2020, a total of sixty-three (63) district court judges attended one of the voluntary domestic violence discussion group sessions offered virtually at the Judicial Conference of Virginia for District Courts.

For magistrates, domestic violence issues are discussed during magistrate certification training. Certification training is required for all new magistrates and is a rigorous four-week course that concludes with a comprehensive exam. Certification training is normally held four times a year at the magistrate training facility in Hanover, Virginia. However, this year because of the COVID-19 risk, three (3) of the trainings were done online using the WebEx platform. In 2020, training on bail considerations in domestic violence situations, emergency protective orders, marital rape, and larceny as it pertains to married couples were some of the domestic violence topics covered in magistrate certification training. Sixty-eight (68) new magistrates will have attended certification training in 2020.

Attendance at a regional training, either online or by viewing video recordings of the online proceedings, is required for all magistrates. In June of 2020, the new Virginia legislation on Emergency Substantial Risk Orders was discussed at the four (4) magistrate regional meetings that took place online using the WebEx platform. Additionally, magistrates received information about the increased penalty for persons who unlawfully attach tracking devices to vehicles, and they also reviewed recent court decisions related to crimes against children, malicious wounding, and assault and other crimes against persons in domestic

relationships. Although these offenses and emergency substantial risk orders are not necessarily related to domestic or sexual violence, they can arise in that context. In addition, magistrates have attended other events and classes offering training on domestic violence issues to satisfy the statutory requirement for continuing education for magistrates.

In June of 2020, eleven-hundred and five (1,105) district court clerks of court received training on recent legislative changes to protective orders via a series of WebEx presentations. Out of the 1,105 clerks trained, five hundred forty-six (546) were general district court clerks, four hundred eighteen (418) were juvenile and domestic relations district court clerks, and one hundred thirty-one (131) were combined clerks of court. In October of 2020, eighty-two (82) circuit court clerks received training on Hope Cards for protective orders in circuit courts.

The *Virginia Domestic and Sexual Violence Reference Manual for District Court Judges* was updated and distributed to all new judges at their pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. The updated manual is also available to judges and court personnel on the Virginia Courts Intranet site. Additionally, in 2020, a bench card for judges on non-fatal strangulation was developed and will be distributed to all Virginia judges by the end of the year.

The OES also offers domestic violence courses online for magistrates and judges. In 2019, sixty-seven (67) magistrates completed the “Virginia Magistrates’ Domestic Violence Awareness Course.” In the first nine months of 2020, twenty-eight (28) magistrates completed the same online course. In 2019, five (5) judges completed the “The Dynamics of Domestic Violence for Judges” course. In the first nine months of 2020, five (5) judges completed the same online course. Both online courses are available through the Virginia Learning Center.

Local Court Projects

V-STOP funding was made available to local courts or judges through the “Local Court Funding” program to support a variety of domestic violence projects, events, or training.

In 2019, ten (10) courts or judges have taken advantage of the “Local Court” funding to support local domestic violence improvement projects, events, or to attend domestic violence training. Out of the ten courts or judges funded, two (2) were local domestic violence improvement projects; three (3) were local domestic violence training events; and five (5) judges attended domestic violence training.

In the first nine months of 2020, sixteen (16) courts or judges applied for V-STOP local court funding. Out of the twenty-five courts or judges funded, five (5) were local domestic violence improvement projects; three (3) were to host local domestic violence training events; and eight (8) judges or magistrates applied for funds to attend a domestic violence training. Due to COVID-19, all eight in-person trainings were cancelled, and the local training events were either cancelled or held virtually.

I-CAN! Virginia

I-CAN! Virginia is a free online forms completion program that enables a person to complete and print out the forms necessary to petition for a protective order in Virginia’s district courts. I-CAN! Virginia can be used anywhere a person has access to the Internet and is available in both English and Spanish. I-CAN! Virginia can be accessed through Virginia’s Judicial System Web site at www.vacourts.gov.

Online assistance with protective orders through I-CAN! Virginia has been available since 2005 for family abuse protective orders in Virginia's juvenile and domestic relations district courts and since late 2011 for non-family abuse protective orders in Virginia's general district courts. The OES continues to update, improve and maintain I-CAN! Virginia through V-STOP funding.

In 2019, a total of 2,079 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (1,171 family abuse and 908 non-family abuse). In the first six months of 2020, a total of 1,157 users created accounts and accessed I-CAN! Virginia (588 family abuse and 569 non-family abuse).

In 2019, new public access workstations were installed in forty-seven (47) general districts courts throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to providing the public with the ability to search for and view public case information, public access workstations provide the public with access to court forms and I-CAN! Virginia. This new service allows petitioners to complete their protective order paperwork online at the courthouse with the assistance of I-CAN! Virginia. As of July 2020, a total of eighty-four (84) public access workstations were installed at various general district courts throughout the Commonwealth. Once a workstation is installed, each court is sent a supply of I-CAN! Virginia brochures and materials to accompany the workstation.

The Hope Card Program

A Hope Card is a laminated card, similar in size and shape to a credit card. This voluntary, optional program provides applicants with a wallet-sized card containing essential information about a final family abuse protective order in a durable, easy-to-read format. The Hope Card program began as a pilot project at the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in 2017. Efforts to expand the number of courts offering Hope Cards has been taking place since 2018.

As of September 2020, Hope Cards are available in fifty-six (56) courts in Virginia. Out of these fifty-six (56) courts, fifty-four (54) are juvenile and domestic relations district courts, one (1) is a general district court and one (1) is a circuit court. The Chesterfield General District Court and Chesterfield Circuit Court began serving as pilot courts in the fall of 2020.

In 2019, a total of two hundred eighty-four (284) Hope Cards were issued. In the first six months of 2020, a total of two hundred forty-eight (248) Hope Cards were issued.

The Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia⁴⁷

The Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) was created by the General Assembly in 1986 as a public-private partnership for the prevention and treatment of family violence. This includes child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.

FACT is administered by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The Board of Trustees is vested with the statutory authority to: 1) Encourage, approve, and accept gifts, contributions, bequests, or grants from any public or private source to carry out the purposes of FACT; 2) Administer and disburse any funds available to FACT; 3) Engage in fundraising activities to expand and perpetuate FACT; 4) Monitor the use of funds to ensure the accountability of the recipient of funds; 5) Advise the Department of Social Services,

⁴⁷ Information provided by the Family and Children's Trust Fund. Additional information available is at: <http://www.fact.state.va.us/>.

the Board of Social Services, and the Governor on matters concerning programs for the prevention of child abuse and neglect and family violence, the treatment of abused and neglected children and their families, and such other issues related to child abuse and neglect and family violence as identified by the Commissioner; 6) Communicate to the Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Corrections, Criminal Justice Services, Education, Health, and Juvenile Justice, other state agencies as appropriate, and the Attorney General activities of the Board of Trustees related to efforts to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect and violence within families; and 7) Encourage public awareness activities concerning child abuse and neglect and violence within families.

FACT is primarily funded by direct donations from public and private sources, revenue from the sale of the KIDS FIRST license plates, and voluntary donations on state income tax returns. In FY19, FACT received approximately \$153,000 in funding from its license plate campaign and \$23,000 from state income tax returns and \$14,000 from donations.

In FY19, FACT successfully administered 10 grants for the FY2019-2020 grant period. Grants included two large system wide trauma-informed community network grants in Richmond and Charlottesville and eight local service grants. Local service grants supported a range of services such as emergency shelter services, counseling services, trauma-informed parent education, and child sexual abuse trainings and served 52 Virginia localities. FACT continues to provide statewide leadership on trauma-informed care by requiring all FACT grants to utilize trauma-informed principles. Additionally, FACT's grant for the Greater Richmond Trauma-Informed Community Network supports them providing technical assistance for emerging and existing trauma-informed community networks across the state.

After successfully completing its multi-year Issue Brief series on the topic of trauma and trauma-informed care throughout the lifespan FACT began a new issue brief series in FY19: Systems of Trauma. The Systems of Trauma series explores how societal injustices interconnect and exacerbate individual toxic stress caused by family violence. FACT released the series introduction and first brief on racial trauma in Spring 2019 and will complete the series with briefs on economic trauma (Fall 2019) and gender-based trauma (Spring 2020).

In FY19 FACT and VCU Gerontology teamed up to develop a multi-modal training program focused on teaching resilience skills to the direct care workforce. Using a Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) civil penalties fund grant, the project builds trauma-informed and resilience-focused organizational cultures within licensed nursing facilities. Read more about the project at <http://www.fact.virginia.gov/innovative-partnerships-vcu-gerontology-dmas-fact/>.

Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Center on Aging

48

The Virginia Center on Aging (VCoA), housed in the College of Health Professions at Virginia Commonwealth University, was created by legislation enacted by the Virginia General Assembly in 1978. The Center is "an interdisciplinary study, research, information and resource facility for the Commonwealth of Virginia." VCoA is the only such center in Virginia.

VCoA has several training initiatives that address domestic and sexual violence in later life and elder abuse. From July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. VCoA received funding from the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence

⁴⁸ Information provided by the Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Victim Fund (VSDVVF) to support statewide efforts against family violence, including training and technical assistance. Since January of 2019, VCoA's abuse in later life projects have been supported by V-STOP (Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) funding from the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

Abuse in Later Life Project¹

The "Abuse in Later Life Project," funded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) allows us to work throughout the state to address both family and intimate partner abuse in later life. The goals of the project, which will run until December 31, 2021, are as follows:

1. To develop a comprehensive, coordinated, and cross-trained community response to intimate partner and family violence in later life in Virginia that will assist criminal justice professionals, providers of aging-related services, domestic violence advocates, adult protective services workers, and allied service professionals in addressing the needs and circumstances of older women and promoting the identification, apprehension, prosecution, and adjudication of persons committing violent crimes against older women. This will be accomplished by providing training for criminal justice professionals and service providers, and facilitating the provision of appropriate services through interagency collaboration. In addition, there will a focus on increasing awareness and education, designing specialized services, improving existing services, and designing resources and training programs to assist law enforcement, criminal justice, aging services, domestic violence advocates, and allied service professionals in responding to the unique needs of older women.
2. On a statewide basis, to enhance the law enforcement response to violence against older women by providing training at the executive and supervisor levels.
3. On a statewide basis, to enhance expertise in law enforcement agencies on trauma- informed response to domestic violence in later life by coordinating regional training events for law enforcement officers, emergency communications officers, and allied professionals.

Goal 1: Comprehensive, coordinated, and cross-trained community response

- **Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life**

The Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life serves as a local partnership of organizations, working since 1998, to raise awareness and improve the community response to women aged 50 and older who experience domestic, sexual, or family violence. The Task Force works locally primarily with four jurisdictions: Richmond City and counties of Henrico, Chesterfield, and Hanover. Members have joined representing agencies located in other jurisdictions as well, including New Kent County, Petersburg, and Franklin County. The Project Manager, Courtney O'Hara, MS, provides technical support to local agencies and coordinates a forum for resource sharing and interaction among service providers and agencies. The Task Force promotes cross training and collaboration among service providers and agencies, recommends policy and program initiatives, and seeks funding for training, outreach, and services to address the needs of this underserved population. During FY 2018-2019-2020, 11 electronic newsletters were distributed. Task Force membership has increased to 188 members, an 11% increase over membership at the end of FY 2018-2019.

Highlights from 2019-2020 include the following meetings/ professional development presentations:

- 9/17/2019: Jackie Robinson Brock with VCU's Partnership for People with Disabilities presented information about the I-CAN Accessibility Project;

- 12/4/2019: Susheela Varkey with the Virginia Poverty Law Center presented on their work related to immigration, including a focus on their LA VIDA project
- 6/17/2020: Annie Rhoads of the VCU Department of Gerontology presented on historical trauma and COVID-19. A March meeting was canceled due to COVID-19.

Additional consultations/presentations/technical assistance (TA) included:

- Ruth Anne Young, presented a workshop at the statewide ***DCJS Conference (title: Envision: Creating Paths of Resiliency for Underserved Domestic Violence)*** on 10/11/19, in Harrisonburg, Virginia. A diverse group of 26 DV/SA agencies, mental health, health care and others participated.
- Courtney O'Hara serves on workgroups (Multi-Disciplinary Teams) in three counties/city active and meeting. These groups provide a means of stronger and clearer communication and collaboration between law enforcement, Adult Protective Services and local service providers to include representatives from Richmond City and the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico.
- In July 2019, Ruth Anne Young provided technical assistance to the Richmond Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney as they applied for a federal grant to create an enhanced elder abuse multi-disciplinary team. They subsequently received the grant and are in the process of creating this team.
- Other groups VCoA offered technical assistance/consultation/training to include the Chesterfield County Domestic & Sexual Violence Resource Center, Franklin County Family Resource Center, and Safe Harbor.

Service/membership on other statewide teams:

- VCoA Abuse in Later Life Staff serve on several statewide collaborative efforts including the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance Statewide Partnership, DSS Domestic Violence Action Team, I-CAN Board, Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Board and Conference Planning Committee, VSTOP State Team (DCJS), and WINGS (Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders)

Goal 2: Providing Statewide Training to Law Enforcement Executives and Supervisors

- On Dec. 19, Ruth Anne Young met **18** law enforcement executives from Southwest Virginia to provide education on the Abuse in Later Life Program, resources on abuse in later life for their department and to provide information on new resources, discuss opportunities for future learning and collaboration, and solicit feedback on the planned supervisors training. She met with **30** law enforcement executives at the January 8 meeting of the Northern Virginia Chiefs and Sheriffs Association on the same topics. Additionally, one chief attended the Law Enforcement training held on September 18, 2019 in Harrisonburg.
- Ruth Anne Young is revising the training curriculum for supervisors by moving to an online program. A pilot training is currently under review by three law enforcement academies for feedback and final revisions before submitting to DCJS for training credits.

Goal 3: Providing Statewide Training to Law Enforcement Officers, Emergency Communications Officers, and Allied Professionals

- In 2019, this project delivered a 1-day (8-hour) regional training session for law enforcement officers in 3 different parts of the Commonwealth. The training focuses on identification, response, and investigation of ALL, to include domestic, sexual and dating violence, stalking, neglect, and trauma-informed response. The trainings were held on 8/19/2019 in Martinsville, on 9/18/2019 in Harrisonburg, and 10/3/2019 in Richmond. A total of 101 officers and related professionals attended, including seven magistrates.

Because of the coronavirus, training for 2020 will be moved to an online platform. Revision of the curriculum is currently underway.

Additional Highlights from FY 2019-2020 included:

- Program Managers have made a commitment to growing our work via new and exciting ventures.
- Virginia Domestic & Sexual Violence Action Alliance inviting VCoA to join their upcoming Underserved Population Learning Collaborative sessions, allowing us to serve as subject matter experts
- Meeting with VCU's Partnership for People with Disabilities to explore collaboration opportunities
- Utilization of web based training tools to expand our reach in the state, particularly with regard to law enforcement training.
- VCoA was asked by the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life to serve as a partner for testing their revised pilot training for victim service providers.
- VCoA received a \$24,081 internal VCU grant to study the abuse in later life knowledge, attitudes and practices of law enforcement, victim services and health care providers.
- The National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) reached out to VCoA in late July to share they had chosen the Richmond area to Pilot their newest curriculum, *Responding to Abuse in Later Life: Promoting Respect & Safety for All Older Victims*. VCoA was excited to collaborate with NCALL on this project and arranged for more than 25 participants from diverse fields to engage in this 8 hour training.

This project is supported by the Department of Criminal Justice Services award no. 20-R4145VA19 awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice Services from funds authorized by the federal Violence Against Women Act and awarded to Virginia by the U.S. Department of Justice. Opinions or points of view expressed do not necessarily represent those of DCJS or the Justice Department.¹

Virginia Commonwealth University, Partnership for People with Disabilities and the VCU School of Social Work I-CAN! Accessibility Project

The I-CAN! Accessibility Project is collaboration between the VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities and the VCU School of Social Work that is funded by a grant awarded through the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victims Fund and V-STOP by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The Project has been continuously awarded two-year funding since 2007. In 2017-2020 DCJS moved to a 3 year grant cycle that was awarded to continue the activities of the I-CAN! Accessibility Project. The mission of the I-CAN! Accessibility Project is: *To promote and facilitate awareness about abuse of people with disabilities and to advocate for equal access to services and legal protections.*

The I-CAN! Accessibility Project has an active and engaged Advisory Board made up of over 30 members. Representation on the Advisory Board includes people with various disabilities, law enforcement, attorneys, representatives from state and local disability organizations, representatives from state and local domestic violence organizations, and others.

The I-CAN! Accessibility Project began collaborating with the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES) to improve the accessibility of the I-CAN! Virginia module for citizens with disabilities in 2007. The Project continues to provide recommendations related to the accessibility of the module, and receives updates from OES about which recommendations were incorporated into the module. During the past year (2019-2020) the project has focused on collaborating with domestic violence service organizations to make services more available and inclusive to people with disabilities.

The project developed a booklet called, *Understanding Protective Orders in Richmond, Virginia*, in collaboration with the Virginia Poverty Law Center. This is updated regularly with important legislative changes. This booklet is designed in simple language to walk a person through the process of obtaining a protective order and is written in an accessible formats including braille, large print, English, Spanish, and in Microsoft Word for people who use screen readers. Around 500 copies of the booklet were printed in English, Spanish, and large print and distributed to over 20 different organizations in Richmond, Henrico, and Chesterfield. The booklets are available online here: <https://sites.google.com/view/i-canprojectbooklet/home> An additional grant was secured by the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities to translate the Understanding Protective Orders booklet into American Sign Language. The translation of the booklet that includes statewide resources for survivors can be found on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/OM4LxKmzilg>

The project recently launched a statewide online training module for domestic violence and sexual assault providers to help enhance their services for people with disabilities. The modules are free and CEU credits are available. The modules, which are provided in English and closed captioned English can be accessed here: <https://sites.google.com/vcu.edu/abusesurvivorswithdisabilities/home> . To date over 740 users have accessed the modules. The majority of users are in Virginia (Richmond, Virginia Beach, Ashburn, Norfolk, Williamsburg). Evaluation feedback suggests that the information provided in the modules is helpful for providers and they are satisfied with the content.

Lastly the project created a resource site related to COVID-19, abuse and disabilities. It can be accessed here: <https://sites.google.com/vcu.edu/dvdisabilityandcovid19/home>

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services⁴⁹

The mission of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is to provide leadership to improve the criminal justice system in Virginia's communities through effective training, partnerships, research, regulation, and support. DCJS is charged with planning and carrying out programs and initiatives to improve the functioning and effectiveness of the criminal justice system as a whole ([§9.1-102](#) of the *Code of Virginia*).

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services:

- conducts research and evaluation on criminal justice issues;
- develops short and long-term criminal justice plans;

⁴⁹ Information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

- distributes federal and state funding to localities, state agencies and nonprofit organizations in the areas of law enforcement, prosecution, crime and delinquency prevention, juvenile justice, victims services, corrections and information systems;
- provides training, technical assistance, and program development services to all segments of the criminal justice system;
- establishes and enforces minimum training standards for law enforcement, criminal justice, and private security personnel; and
- licenses and regulates the private security industry in Virginia.

DCJS is unique in state government because of its system-wide perspective on criminal justice. While it directs programs and services to each component of the system, it has an overarching responsibility to view the system as a whole, to understand how changes in one part of criminal justice will affect other parts, and to work to assure that plans and programs are comprehensive.

Within the DCJS Division of Programs and Services, the Victims Services Team leads efforts to best respond to victims of crime throughout the Commonwealth. Responsibilities of the Victims Services Team include:

- Administering six grant programs using both federal and state funds. Through these six programs, the team awards 360 grants, totaling approximately \$71.5 million in grant awards (*as of October 2020*).
- Developing, facilitating, and coordinating conferences, webinars, and training events.
- Implementing statewide initiatives, such as enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams and collecting data on the Lethality Assessment Program.
- Developing best-practice resource materials, as well as drafting and reviewing policies and legislation.
- Coordinating the response to assist victims of mass casualty events and coordinating Virginia's Crisis Response Team.
- Providing technical assistance and other support for victim-serving organizations throughout Virginia.

Grant funding administered by the Victims Services Team is primarily focused on the delivery of direct services to crime victims. The grants are supported by federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds, as well as state general and special funds. Grant recipients include prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, state and local domestic and sexual violence agencies, state and local victim/witness programs, and other victim-serving organizations. As a result, thousands of victims receive services from funded programs, thousands of law enforcement officers and allied professionals receive related training, and dozens of localities benefit from funding and technical assistance.

Support to Local Sexual Assault Response Teams

In 2004, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation stating that “the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall promote the use of local and regional sexual assault response team policy and protocol... as an integral part of an effective coordinated community response to sexual assault” (Virginia Acts of Assembly, Chapter 980). Further, the *Code of Virginia* directs that DCJS shall establish “training standards and publish a model policy and protocols for local and regional sexual assault response teams” (*Code of Virginia § 9.1-102*).

Legislation passed in 2008 and 2009 also contributed to the need for statewide guidelines on a coordinated response to sexual violence. In 2008, in response to federal mandates attached to grant

funding from the Violence Against Women Act, the Virginia General Assembly passed a bill that made significant changes to laws describing the provision of, and payment for, forensic examinations in sexual assault cases. In 2009, legislation codified the creation of sexual assault response teams (SART) in Virginia (*Code of Virginia* § [15.2-1627.4](#)). Since July 1, 2009, Commonwealth's Attorneys have the responsibility to coordinate a multi-disciplinary response to sexual violence in their community which is consistent with the guidelines established by DCJS.

In accordance with these legislative mandates, DCJS continues to promote the publication, *Sexual Assault Response Teams: A Model Protocol for Virginia*, which focuses on comprehensive, coordinated intervention and care for adult victims of sexual assault. Localities are encouraged to review the model protocol as they continue to address sexual assault in their communities and as they seek to meet related statutory requirements.

Additionally, in July 2017, the results of a national research project on Virginia's SART *Code of Virginia* mandate were published in a report, *Cultivating SART Efficacy: Insights on the Impact of the Virginia Sexual Assault Response Team Mandate*. For this project, DCJS partnered with the Sexual Violence Justice Institute (SVJI), a national technical assistance provider, to seek responses to the following core question: "What happened as a direct result of the Code of Virginia being amended in 2009 to require each Commonwealth's Attorney to convene a SART?"

Findings emerged related to four questions:

1. What was the impact of the mandate on the growth of Virginia SARTs?
2. What was the impact of the Virginia mandate on SART efficacy?
3. What were some of the challenges of mandate implementation?
4. What other notable events occurred as a result of mandating SARTs in Virginia?

In addition, nine specific considerations are presented for enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams in Virginia. Some examples of these are: to identify and empower an entity or agency to formally lead the work of SART ecosystem development; to create a SART registry; to consider what constitutes the right amount of standardization for SARTs and in what areas; and to determine evaluation and data needs for teams.

The full report is available on the DCJS website here: <https://www.dcs.virginia.gov/sites/dcs.virginia.gov/files/publications/victims/cultivating-sart-efficacy-insights-impact-virginia-sexual-assault-response-team-mandate.pdf>

Through the Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) grant, DCJS initiated the *Strengthening SARTs in Virginia Project*, which has conducted the following activities to support SARTs:

- A webinar on the Virginia SART *Code of Virginia* mandate.
- Two regional trainings entitled "Creating Strong and Sustainable SARTs in Virginia."
- A SART Summit and subsequent report that explored the viability and work of a State SART group that could offer support and resources to local SARTs.
- The creation of a Virginia SART Advisory Council comprised of state and local representatives to guide resources, training, and technical assistance to SARTs.
- A Virginia SART Google Group that publicizes best practices, training, and resources for SARTs.
- A 2-day SART Interactive Scenario Training.
- Creation of a SART web page that includes resources for teams.
- Technical assistance and customized trainings for local SARTs.

- Sexual Assault Expert Testimony Training.
- A quarterly, topic-driven SART Coordinators Discussion Forum.
- Live and recorded webinars on SART-related topics.
- Trauma-Responsive Investigation and Victim Interview Trainings.

DCJS Victims Services Training Initiatives

In addition to the typical training offered, DCJS Victims Services developed new training initiatives this past year. The goal of these new training initiatives is to help agencies deliver inclusive, equitable, trauma-informed assistance to crime victims in Virginia, both now and in the future. Based on feedback from service providers, DCJS staff, and partner agencies, DCJS Victims Services identified three broad training priorities for this initiative: 1) organizational sustainability, 2) capacity building, and 3) service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To help victim service agencies best leverage funding, resources, and partnerships to ensure program longevity, DCJS Victims Services offered specific training and technical assistance. One such training, “On the Road to Excellence,” provided grant recipients with important information on grant life cycles, grant terms and conditions, risk assessments, progress reporting, budget construction and amendments, and other topics vital to successful grant management. Other training included the “Measuring What Matters” training series. This series of six webinars taught participants to use performance management and program evaluation techniques to communicate program effectiveness and community impact.

The capacity building training was designed to increase an agency’s ability to provide inclusive, equitable services to all victims in the community, including those who are traditionally underserved. To meet this goal, DCJS sponsored a two-day conference in October 2019 titled, *Envision: Creating Paths of Resiliency for Underserved Domestic Violence Survivors*. This conference featured national presenters who shared innovative models and best practices in providing resiliency-based, culturally-responsive service delivery for traditionally unserved and underserved survivors. Additionally, DCJS offered trainings on topics such as providing socially conscious victims services, cultural humility for victim service agencies, and language justice for victim services.

An important aspect of capacity building is relationship building and partnerships. Victims are best served when professionals from across the criminal justice continuum are able to successfully collaborate and cooperate. To provide additional support in this area, DCJS Victims Services offered training such as *Confidentiality and Victim-Serving Multidisciplinary Teams*, *Coordinated Community Response to Non-Fatal Strangulation*, and *Strengthening the Response: Community Collaborations at the Intersections*. These trainings provided practical knowledge and best practices to improve cooperation and coordination of victim-serving professionals.

Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic presented unprecedented challenges to services providers. DCJS Victims Services offered a series of roundtable discussions related to providing services during the pandemic. These roundtables featured a presentation by a subject matter expert, followed by participant discussion to share experiences, challenges, and successes. Roundtable discussion topics included “Victim Compensation During the COVID-19 Crisis”, “Helping Survivors ‘Thrive’ in Times of COVID-19”, and “Loss, Healing, and Resilience: Surviving and Thriving in the Midst of a Pandemic”.

Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention and Health Promotion, Injury and Violence Prevention Program⁵⁰

The Injury and Violence Prevention Program (IVPP) in the Division of Prevention and Health Promotion at the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) provides state level leadership on the primary prevention of sexual violence as well as funding and technical assistance to local organizations and communities for local prevention education efforts. IVPP accomplishes this work supported by three Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grants: 1) the Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) grant; 2) the Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant – Sexual Assault Set Aside funds; and 3) the Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program.

Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner⁵¹

Surveillance Efforts. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 32.1-283.3 (B), the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) collects information on all homicides in the Commonwealth of Virginia and conducts surveillance of those homicides that result from family and intimate partner violence (FIPV).⁵² Surveillance of FIPV homicides began in 1999 as a method to describe the magnitude of lethal domestic violence in Virginia. Project staff members examine death investigation records identify cases in which the alleged offender was an intimate partner or family member, or where the death was directly related to domestic violence. After cases are identified, they are placed in one of six violence-related homicide categories: intimate partner, intimate partner associated, child by caregiver, elder/dependent adult by caregiver, other family, and family associated.

The OCME also receives grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for the [Virginia Violent Death Reporting System \(VVDRS\)](#). VVDRS cases include, but are not limited to, (1) all cases of suicide where the victim had an intimate partner problem (not necessarily violence), was the perpetrator of interpersonal violence within the past month, and/or was the victim of interpersonal violence within the past month; and (2) all homicides which were related to intimate partner violence and/or intimate partner jealousy or rivalry. Current FIPV data is pulled from this project and utilized for data analysis in this data.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review. With funding support through the *Partnership to Improve Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking* grant, the OCME works directly with Virginia communities to establish domestic violence related local or regional fatality review teams through the provision of technical assistance and training. The purpose of domestic violence fatality review is to prevent future deaths by carefully examining the events that led to a fatality; by analyzing system responses to those deaths; and by improving a community's coordinated response to

⁵⁰ Information provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention and Health Promotion, Injury and Violence Prevention Program.

⁵¹ Information provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

⁵² "...any fatality, whether homicide or suicide, occurring as a result of abuse between family members or intimate partners" (Virginia Code §32.1-283.3)

domestic violence. Multidisciplinary teams are formed at the local or regional level. Membership in these teams varies among localities, but generally includes representatives from law enforcement, Commonwealth Attorneys, social services, courts, probation and parole, domestic violence programs, mental health, and healthcare.

Virginia continues to make great progress in the area of domestic violence fatality review. Nineteen local or regional teams (Appendix D) have been established throughout the Commonwealth. The OCME provides ongoing technical assistance and training to domestic violence fatality review teams, including team member recruitment, developing team policies and procedures, obtaining local government endorsement, training on the theory and method of fatality review, developing recommendations and preparing reports. Resources and materials developed to support these teams are available at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner/fatality-review-surveillance-programs-reports/domestic-violence-fatality-review/resources/>.

Adult Fatality Review. In addition to supporting the work of domestic violence fatality review teams in Virginia, the OCME also provides ongoing technical assistance to Virginia's adult fatality review teams. Adult Fatality Review Teams may review the death of any person age 60 years or older, or any adult age 18 years or older who is incapacitated and who meets one of the following criteria for review: (1) was the subject of an adult protective services or law-enforcement investigation; (2) whose death was due to abuse, neglect, or exploitation or acts suggesting abuse, neglect, or exploitation; and/or (3) whose death came under the jurisdiction of or was investigated by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner as occurring in any suspicious, unusual, or unnatural manner, pursuant to § 32.1-283. Currently, there are two regional teams operating in the Metro Richmond area and the Northern Virginia region.

Virginia Department of Corrections⁵³

The Virginia Department of Corrections' (DOC) goals for sexual and domestic violence services are to support the safety and well-being of victims, children and the community. The strives to hold offenders accountable for their crimes while supporting them in their process of change.

Three main components of the DOC's response to sexual and domestic violence are (1) evidenced based programs and curriculum; (2) case planning and offender supervision; and (3) victim services and advocacy.

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development⁵⁴

The mission of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is to create safe, affordable, and prosperous communities to live, work and do business in Virginia. DHCD partners with Virginia's communities to develop their economic potential; regulates Virginia's building and fire codes, provides training and certification for building officials, and invests in housing and community development projects throughout the Commonwealth. The majority of these projects are designed to help low-to-moderate-income citizens. By partnering with local governments, nonprofit groups, state and federal agencies, and others, DHCD strives to improve the quality of life for Virginians.

⁵⁴ Information from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence⁵⁵

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 63.2-1611 through 63.2-1615, the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) is responsible for the coordination and management of domestic violence prevention and service efforts across the Commonwealth. In accomplishing its statutory mission, the Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence (OFV), funds local public and private nonprofit domestic violence programs that address the issue of domestic violence within their community and provide services to all people in that community who have experienced or been impacted by domestic violence. The OFV's primary goals are to support local domestic violence programs, to provide leadership and coordination within DSS on domestic violence as it relates to child abuse and neglect and other DSS service areas, to educate local DSS agencies, community organizations and the general public on the effects of domestic violence, and to work collaboratively with the state domestic violence coalition and other state agencies. The OFV endeavors to provide consistent and reliable services through local service providers for victims and children in every locality of the Commonwealth.

Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Program - Support to Domestic Violence Programs

Through various projects, OFV supports an array of direct services to victims of domestic violence and their children, including crisis hotlines, shelter for victims and their children, emergency transportation, translation services for limited and non-English speaking victims, services for children and youth exposed to domestic violence, legal advocacy including court accompaniment, explanation of legal options, and referrals to attorneys, assistance with applications for benefits through local departments of social services (LDSS) and victims' compensation, safety planning and counseling for victims in crisis and non-crisis situations.

In addition to funding local programs that provide services to victims and their children, through a contract with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance), the OFV continues to support the Virginia Data Collection Project (VAdata), the provision of technical assistance for local programs and communities, as well as the provision of training for local domestic violence advocates.

The OFV values the success of the services provided by funded local domestic violence programs. To provide collective outcome data, each funded program utilizes the Documenting Our Work (DOW) client feedback surveys to hear specifically from survivors about their experiences.

FY 2020 OFV Statewide Outcome Measures:

1. Survivors of domestic violence know more about domestic violence and its impact.
 - a. 97% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know more about sexual and/or domestic violence and its impact.
2. Survivors of domestic violence know more about the resources in their community available to them.

⁵⁵ Information provided by the Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence.

- a. 95% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know more about community resources
3. Survivors of domestic violence are safer
 - a. 97% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know more ways to plan for their safety.
4. All survivors receiving services are welcomed and respected.
 - a. 93% clients responding to the DOW survey who identify as being from an underserved population who also report feeling welcomed and respected.
5. Survivors have power over their lives
 - a. 96% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know how to take their next steps.
 - b. 98% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that they could accept or not accept the services offered to them.
6. Children exposed to domestic violence are emotionally healthy
 - a. 93% of clients with minor children responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, their children know that it's okay to talk about their experiences with violence.
 - b. 94% of clients with minor children responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they feel that their children are having more positive interactions with others.
7. The community knows more about domestic violence (measured from subgrantee agency input into the VAdat Community Engagement Form)
 - a. 93% of community members attending trainings and presentations who report that they learned new information that will help them identify and respond to sexual and/or domestic violence.

Centering the Voices of Underserved Survivors

The Virginia Underserved Populations Advisory Committee

The Office of Family Violence (OFV) is committed to ensuring that all survivors of domestic violence have access to the services they need. We often hear that services are available to everyone, regardless of demographic or geographic community; however, we know that individuals from underserved populations often face additional barriers in accessing life-saving domestic violence services. In order to address these barriers and to increase access, the OFV created the Virginia Underserved Populations Advisory Committee

(VUPAC) in the fall of 2017. VUPAC has taken on three approaches to achieving their vision whereby all services are culturally specific, trauma informed, and accessible to all survivors.

1. Supporting Culturally-Specific Organizations (Underserved Populations Grant Program)
2. Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative
3. State Level Work

The VUPAC is comprised of representatives from community-based organizations who serve underserved populations, state agency staff and staff from local, state and national domestic violence organizations. VUPAC is committed to language justice by hosting multi-lingual meetings via simultaneous interpretation and providing all printed materials in the language of each committee members' choosing.

Supporting Culturally-Specific Organizations

The six culturally and population specific organizations, newly funded in FY19 under the Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations RFA, continue to grow and strengthen their outreach efforts and provide domestic violence service to their unique communities. These organizations are trusted allies in their communities and include the Sacred Heart Center, LGBT Life Center, Hampton Roads Community Action Program, Greater Washington Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse, Ethiopian Community Development Council and Boat People SOS.

Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative

In FY 2020 the Office of Family Violence (OFV) continued its intentional effort to transform services and outreach in Virginia for survivors of domestic violence who are currently unserved, underserved, and inadequately served. In response to the findings identified in FY 2017 while collaborating with the Women of Color Network, Inc. and input from Virginia's Underserved Population Advisory Committee, the OFV in partnership with Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), and the Action Alliance launched the Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative (UPLC). This 18-month program is designed to support local Sexual and Domestic Violence Agencies (SDVAs) to become strong allies to underserved populations and to promote access to culturally-responsive, comprehensive services. This program aims to "expand the circle" and close the gaps, preparing agencies to better provide safety and healing for all survivors. The three partner agencies are jointly responsible for designing the UPLC and each is actively engaged throughout the process, building statewide capacity alongside SDVAs.

UPLC Cohort One teams completed the 18-24 month learning session in July. Many of the UPLC agencies revised their agency mission, policies and practices in order to increase their efforts to reach marginalized communities. Additionally, all programs identified and made strides to building relationships with an underserved population in their service area. The post project assessment revealed significant progress on goals centered on reflection of internal and external barriers to sexual and domestic violence services for underserved populations and engagement with underserved populations. The post project assessment also revealed areas of learning and practice that will require strengthening for Cohort Two in order to meet the project goals including more targeted training opportunities on navigating specific community contexts, cultivating relationships with culturally-specific organizations and increasing executive director and board member involvement to support organizational change.

The application for the UPLC Cohort Two was released in the spring with eighteen local domestic and sexual violence programs accepted into the 24 months learning collaborative. Additionally, three state-wide agencies, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Department of Social Services have UPLC teams in this learning collaborative to work on state level changes pertaining to reaching and serving underserved populations. Three of the UPLC teams from Cohort One have committed to provide peer to peer support to the new teams in Cohort Two while also deepening their agency's efforts to address barriers to services and grow relationships with underserved communities.

State Level Work

All OFV sub grantees of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Program grant are required to have workplans outlining their activities for serving specific underserved populations. Programs will report twice year on their progress toward meeting these goals outlined in their workplans and technical assistance is provided as necessary.

Improving Services

The Domestic Violence Action Team (DVAT)

The Domestic Violence Action Team (DVAT), a statewide multidisciplinary team focused on improving domestic violence services, is developing a **Promising Practices Guide** (PPG) based on requests from the field and a recognition of gaps in service across the Commonwealth. The audience for the PPG is the full spectrum of staff and volunteers working at local Domestic Violence Programs (DVP) across Virginia. The focus of the PPG is the diverse needs of survivors and individuals impacted by domestic violence.

The Promising Practices Guide will be developed by a Promising Practices Workgroup (VDSS staff and contractors) that will get input from DVAT, local domestic violence program staff, and survivors, including individuals who have accessed services and individuals who have not. The PPG will be a series of entries highlighting various subject areas that were identified through a DVAT exploratory process and that relate to domestic violence programming and services.

The Promising Practices Guide is unique in that it will advance the needs of survivors through a trauma-informed lens while including opportunities to reflect on the racial justice and social justice impact of a particular entry. These entries will include concrete strategies for implementing promising practices and will highlight DVPs in Virginia who are already making strides in certain programmatic areas. The existing research and feedback from survivors and DVP staff gathered by the Promising Practices Workgroup will be synthesized into easily digestible written materials with accompanying videos, infographics, and links to informational websites.

All staff and volunteers will have access to ALL of the information prepared by the Promising Practices Workgroup in an effort to break down silos, provide up to date tools and resources, and ensure Virginia's DVPs are able to respond to diverse survivor needs in the most affirming, survivor-centered manner possible.

The Promising Practices Guide will be a living document which will be updated regularly. It will provide ongoing opportunities to expand what trauma-informed domestic violence programming steeped in racial and social justice could look like in Virginia.

Virginia Department of State Police⁵⁶

The Virginia Department of State Police (VSP) serves the Commonwealth as the primary state law enforcement agency and assists the criminal justice system in a wide range of capacities. One of VSP's primary responsibilities involves the sharing of information with other members of the criminal justice system.

The Criminal Justice Information Systems Division (CJIS) is responsible for administering the systems that are used to disseminate this information. This information is made available through multiple databases including: the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN), the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE), the Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry, the Virginia Protective Order Registry, the Virginia Firearms Transaction Center (VFTC), and the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

VSP also serves as the central repository for incident-based data reported by local law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth. The Uniform Crime/Incident Based Reporting (UCR/IBR) section of the CJIS Division collects, analyzes, and disseminates statistics to members across the Commonwealth. This data is then compiled into an annual report entitled *Crime in Virginia*, available online at www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance⁵⁷

Mission and funding

The Action Alliance is Virginia's leading voice on sexual and domestic violence and enhances response and prevention efforts through training, public policy advocacy, public awareness programs, and technical assistance to professionals. As an advocacy organization, the Action Alliance provides the expertise needed to ensure an effective response. As a service provider, the Action Alliance offers people resources for making informed choices. And as a membership organization, the Action Alliance builds diverse alliances across the Commonwealth. The Action Alliance envisions a future where all communities are free of sexual and domestic violence, where healthy relationships and healthy sexuality thrive, and where survivors are empowered in an environment of respect and mutual learning.

As a statewide coalition, our members include 67 sexual and domestic violence advocacy agencies, several allied organizations providing services to victims of domestic and sexual assault and other individuals from diverse communities. The Action Alliance provides more than 50 trainings each year for our members and community professionals, including webinars, conferences, and workshops/seminars. For more information on Action Alliance projects and resources, visit the website at www.vsdvalliance.org.

To accomplish its mission, the Action Alliance relies upon federal and state grant funding, membership fees, and private contributions. In FY2020, the Action Alliance received 85% of its approximately \$3 million budget from federal and state grants and contracts, including funding from the Office on Violence Against Women, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Virginia Department of Social Services. Approximately 15% of the Action Alliance's funding was from private sources, including membership dues, fees, fundraising, and private contributions.

Survivor Advocacy Services

⁵⁶ Information provided by the Virginia State Police.

⁵⁷ Information provided by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

The Virginia Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has a broad scope of survivor advocacy services. This includes a statewide toll-free hotline for victims, friends, family, allied professionals, and the general public. Trained advocates provide 24/7/365 confidential crisis intervention, risk assessment, safety planning, support, and information and referrals to community-based services through phone (1.800.838.8238), chat (www.vadata.org/chat), and text (804.793.9999). Throughout 2019, the survivor advocacy services team had twelve active multi-lingual/multi-cultural advocates on staff to respond to the number of people whose primary language is Spanish. From January 1 to December 30, 2019 the Survivor Advocacy team responded to 14,676 contacts, including 2,304 hotline calls. The total number of service hours provided to local sexual and domestic violence agencies was 197,265 for 30 unique programs.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act Hotline (PREA Hotline) continues to respond to adults who are incarcerated within Virginia Department of Corrections facilities (major institutions and correctional units) before, during, or after release. Survivors of violence can also send mail to a post office box, to which the survivor advocacy team responds. The hotline provides emotional support, reporting options, and (when requested) connection with volunteer victim advocates who can offer ongoing support through medical exams and/or legal proceedings related to sexual violence.

The LGBTQ Partner Abuse and Sexual Assault Helpline (866.356.6998) is supported by the Virginia Anti-Violence Project (VAVP). The helpline is available 24/7/365. VAVP works to address and end violence, with a specific focus on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) communities across Virginia.

Survivor advocacy services staff continue to expand public awareness through participation in a variety of outreach efforts by tabling at local, regional, and statewide events such as professional conferences and cultural festivals. As a result of outreach efforts, there has been a marked increase in contacts from underserved and/or marginalized communities.

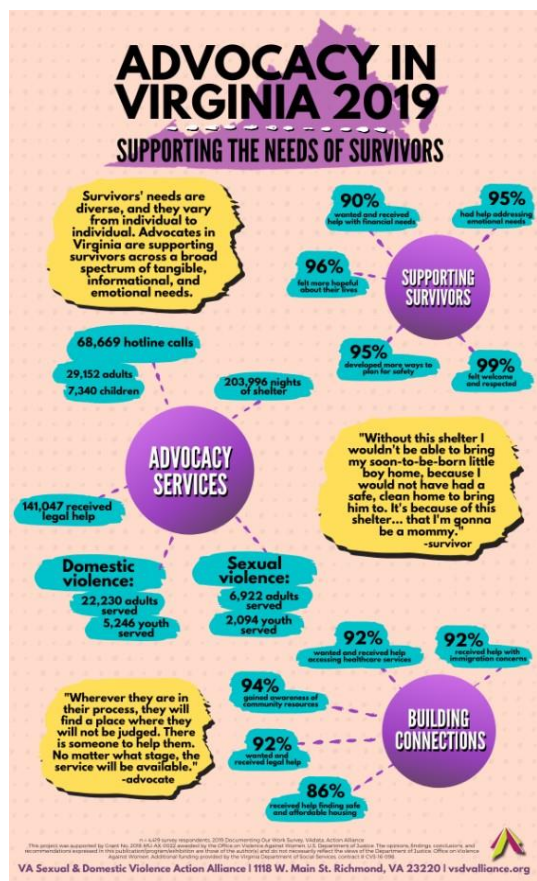
Additionally, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Action Alliance launched a statewide public awareness campaign to let people know that the Statewide Hotline is operational and that local programs are open and providing services even during stay-at-home orders. The campaign, with information in English and Spanish, included print materials, such as posters and handouts that were distributed to and by essential service providers; public service announcements via radio and one from First Lady Pamela Northam; and social media outreach. From February 2020 to March 2020 the Hotline experienced a 14% increase in hotline contacts and a nine percent increase in forwarded hours. Comparing March 2019 to March 2020 the Hotline saw a 73% increase in calls and a 16% in forwarded hours. Lastly, when comparing the hotline's first quarter (January-March) 2019 to 2020, there was a 65% increase in calls and a 12% increase forwarded hours.

Survivor Advocacy: The Project for Empowerment of Survivors



Project for the EMPOWERMENT OF SURVIVORS

The Project for the Empowerment of Survivors (PES), funded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Service's Victim Services Grant Program, provides trauma-informed legal information, advice, and referrals to survivors throughout Virginia who are experiencing sexual or intimate partner violence, dating violence, human trafficking, and/or hate crimes. The PES offers survivors of violence, particularly those who are traditionally underserved, the opportunity to carefully weigh legal options and to be linked with legal advocacy and legal services in their communities.



The PES has three components: 1) trained advocates, attorneys, and volunteer law students who address survivors' legal questions and concerns; 2) a referral network of trained community-based attorneys who provide direct legal representation to survivors; and 3) a Legal Advocacy Fund that provides monetary support to underserved victims of violence who need ongoing legal representation. From July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the PES provided legal services to 535 survivors. During the same time period, volunteer law students dedicated over 715 hours to help survivors; our referral network expanded to include over 6 attorneys statewide. The legal fund was used to aid 48 survivors with a variety of legal matters, including child custody and support, asylum and other immigration issues, and employment discrimination, among others. Astoundingly, attorneys donated over \$96,000 worth of legal services to survivors. Survivors aided by PES come from multiple and intersecting underserved populations, including low-income populations, rural communities, members of the LGBTQ+ community, disabled individuals, elderly individuals, non-English speakers, immigrants, and others.

Data Collection: Advocacy in Virginia 2019 Infographic

The Action Alliance released an [infographic](#) highlighting aggregate data collected through VAdata: Virginia's Sexual and Domestic Violence Data Collection System. The infographic illustrates both total number of Hotline and in-person services delivered by Virginia's sexual and domestic violence agencies,

beyond standard crisis services. The report illustrates how Virginia's sexual and domestic violence advocates are providing additional support around addressing financial needs, accessing healthcare, immigration concerns, providing legal assistance, helping survivors find affordable housing, and increasing survivors' awareness of community resources. Survivors reported they knew more ways to plan for their safety (95%), felt welcomed and respected (99%), and felt more hopeful about their lives (96%). This information was collected from the 4,419 survivors who provided feedback on the services they received via the Documenting Our Work (DOW) survey.

Prevention

The Action Alliance is committed to exploring and supporting best practice strategies to prevent sexual and intimate partner violence and to build healthy and thriving communities across Virginia. Many of our efforts are centered on primary prevention strategies that seek to prevent perpetration before it occurs. We do this through shifting attitudes, behaviors, and norms that support and perpetuate the root causes of violence and promoting healthy behavior and communities.

Building Capacity across the Commonwealth. The Action Alliance offers specialized, intensive coaching (technical assistance) to sexual and domestic violence agencies, allied individuals and community organizations, and state partners. We support local and statewide efforts for effective primary prevention programs by translating national best practices and research findings into practical applications, developing evaluation practices, providing peer learning and connection opportunities, and developing and locating promising tools and resources. As well as providing leadership on state and national policy, shared outcomes across violence prevention, youth mentoring and mobilization efforts, and sexual and reproductive health promotion. **Between January and October 2020, Action Alliance provided 262 instances of technical assistance on primary prevention.**

Creating Virtual Connections. In March 2020 our prevention team launched new virtual learning and connection spaces to address the isolation of Virginia prevention staff and provide opportunities to address emerging issues as prevention efforts changed due to COVID-19. Relationship building is central to preventing sexual and intimate partner violence and there were many shifts in prevention programming due to public health safety guidance. To ensure these shifts happened consistent with best practices, some of the training and discussion facilitated included: tutorials on tech-based facilitation practices and tools, strategies to reach communities with limited internet capabilities, peer problem solving and resource sharing, adapting bystander intervention approaches online, responding to racial justice uprisings in communities, and messaging the importance of prevention. **Between March and December 2020, Action Alliance developed 23 new virtual learning and connection spaces to support prevention staff across Virginia.**

Youth engagement. The Action Alliance has continued to build opportunities for young advocates ages 18-24. Throughout 2020, our prevention team has held monthly meetings for youth leaders to learn more about violence prevention and trauma-informed intervention, curriculum building and resource creation, training facilitation, and more. In September 2020, one of the youth leaders was invited to join the Action Alliance's governing body, to continue building youth voice into the Action Alliance's leadership structure.

Reproductive & sexual health partnerships & projects. The Action Alliance continues to build and maintain partnerships with reproductive health providers and sexual health educators. This year staff continued their multi-year participation in Richmond Area Sexuality Network meetings, convened by the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood. In partnership with the Virginia Department of Health, the Action Alliance began to restore Project Connect, a project to build the capacity of and strengthen collaboration between health care providers and sexual and domestic violence agency staff. Project

Connect will support both health care providers and sexual and domestic violence agencies to provide trauma-informed, wrap-around services to survivors.

Underserved Population Learning Collaborative (UPLC)



The Underserved Population Learning Collaborative (UPLC) was formed in a partnership between the Action Alliance, Victim Services Division of DCJS, and Office on Family Violence within the Virginia Department of Social Services to enhance domestic violence and sexual assault outreach, services, and community partnerships throughout Virginia. The UPLC's goal is to build the capacity of these agencies to be strong allies to underserved populations and promote access to appropriate comprehensive services.

During 2020, the Action Alliance and project Coaches successfully wrapped up the first cohort of this 24-month project and welcomed in 18 new sexual and domestic violence agencies, 2 state partners, and the Action Alliance as cohort two participants. The outgoing and incoming cohorts had a chance to gather virtually to pass along anecdotes about lessons learned from their time in the project and what they hope to learn going forward respectively. Similar to the first cohort, the second cohort started the project with engaging in personal, interpersonal and organizational reflection. While the Coaches were not able to continue with in-person travel starting March 2020 because of COVID-19, they have traveled across the state virtually to engage this cohort of 21 agencies in a regional gathering, two statewide learning sessions, and technical assistance site visits. This project continues to include analysis of policy and practice to change and enhance services to underserved populations.

Agencies can look forward to with national and statewide technical assistance providers, community organizers, and speakers working through anti-oppressive and trauma-informed frameworks. They will be trained on topics including but not limited to: Trauma-informed supervision, 3-tier underserved populations, cultural responsiveness, inclusive practices, policy evaluation, anti-oppressive practices and policies, historical barriers to accessing services, and community organizing.

This project is also intended to build stronger relationships with individuals in underserved populations and community organizations. The relationships built may be between organizations and individuals that may or may not be directly working with survivors of violence but seeks to create a support system that opens up possibilities for all whom are affected by violence to get what they need to thrive in their communities.

Policy and Legislative Initiatives

Public policy is a critical component of comprehensive and effective survivor advocacy. The Action Alliance monitors the development and implementation of state and federal laws that affect survivors of sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, trafficking, hate crimes, and other forms of interpersonal violence as well as those laws that affect sexual and domestic violence agencies.

This year, the Action Alliance provided support and resources - from drafting legislation, to testimony and advocacy in legislative hearings, and work with legislators and state partners and allies - as the Virginia legislature considered several bills related to reducing offender access to firearms, preventing intimate partner violence homicide, promoting victim access to medical services in the aftermath of trauma, investing in statewide sexual and domestic violence prevention work, expanding survivor housing access and protections, and revising Virginia's standards for child custody determinations to capture non-family or household member abuse.

Two notable measures backed by the General Assembly this session will serve to provide localities with the tools and resources required to prevent sexual and domestic violence and related fatalities in the Commonwealth. In an effort to recognize the growing threat to public health and safety that sexual and domestic violence poses, the legislature approved bills to establish the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund and to authorize dedicated staff positions and new grant programs at the state level. This is the first fund of its kind in Virginia and one of just a few like it nationwide. Grants from this fund will be disbursed to sexual and domestic violence prevention programs statewide with a focus on those that promote the development and maintenance of healthy practices related to relationships, sexuality, and social-emotional development and counteract the factors associated with the initial perpetration of sexual and domestic violence.

Additional prevention measures include legislation to adopt uniform court practices in cases of final (2-year or "permanent") protective orders where respondent possession, transport, and purchase of firearms are prohibited. This proposal establishes the requirement for a judicial mechanism to certify that respondents of final protective orders have relinquished access to or possession of firearms and file such certification with the clerk of the court, providing judges with the ability to issue a show cause for contempt of court should a respondent refuse to comply. This judicial mechanism, while simple in nature, provides localities with the flexibility to swiftly and proportionally respond to those individuals who may pose an imminent threat of danger to survivors and/or community members.

The Action Alliance is requested to speak on a variety of legislative initiatives each year that impact survivors of sexual and domestic violence. The Action Alliance holds an annual Legislative Advocacy Day in order to inform members and elected representatives about legislation related to sexual and domestic violence. During the 2020 General Assembly session, 139 sexual and domestic violence advocates and allies held meetings, sent emails, and made phone calls to their legislators in order to advance policies that would promote victim safety and justice. Among other ongoing policy projects are: the work of the Statewide Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Steering Committee; I-CAN Committee; collaborative efforts with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Virginia Healthcare and Hospital Association, and the Joint Commission on Health Care to address statewide gaps in forensic nursing and expanding survivor access to preventative and emergency medical services in the aftermath of trauma; work with the Supreme Court of Virginia, Department of Criminal Justice Services, law enforcement, and advocacy organizations to address the effective enforcement of provisions in protective orders statewide; and efforts to increase coordinated and trauma-informed responses across sectors and systems as well as those efforts to link systems of care.

We will continue to work on the Action Alliance’s public policy strategic priorities for 2017-2023. The Public Policy Committee’s strategic planning document, originally created in 2016, outlines specific goals, activities, and outcomes in 2-year increments – providing a roadmap for the Action Alliance’s public policy vision and strategies.

Trainings and Summits

The Action Alliance has provided training to more than 2,400 advocates from multiple disciplines and agencies between October 1, 2019- September 30, 2020. Due to the onset of COVID-19 and the dramatic shift in how we engage with advocates, many of our trainings, workshops, and technical assistance opportunities moved to virtual spaces. These spaces included 7 web-based learning modules developed through new curricula, and nearly 70 workshops/seminars, and webinars. Through these engagements, 1,723 sexual and domestic violence advocates and 759 allied professionals, including attorneys, government agency staff, college/university professionals, educators, law enforcement officers, mental health professionals, military command staff, victim-witness professionals, and other victim advocates received training from the Action Alliance, totaling more than 10,000 person hours.

Trainings are based on multiple content areas. This year, training content areas for sexual assault, domestic violence/dating violence, and stalking included: advocate response; confidentiality; cyberstalking and technology-facilitated abuse; domestic/dating violence overview, dynamics, and services; incarcerated survivors; disrupting the trauma-to-prison pipeline; primary prevention; services to and for generally underserved populations (including Black and Indigenous People of Color, Asian, Hispanic/Latinx and other immigrant communities, the elderly, those experiencing homelessness, LGBTQIA+ identified survivors, people with disabilities, and those living in rural communities); reproductive health/reproductive coercion; and community-based responses to gender-based violence. and safety planning. Training content areas for justice system included: civil court procedures and codes; criminal court procedures and codes; domestic violence statutes/codes; firearms and domestic violence; judicial response; protection orders; sexual assault statutes/codes; sexual assault forensic examination; and stalking statutes/codes.

SV and DV grants received by the Action Alliance

Type	Source	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	+/-
DV	FVPSA	\$270,894	\$283,036	+\$12,142k
DV	VDSS	\$614,919	\$614,919	
SV	VDH/RPE	\$73,946	0	-\$73,946
SV	VSTOP	\$19,443	\$19,443	
SDV	VSGP	\$1,011,739	1,015,661	+\$3,922k
SDV	OVW	\$242,217	\$243,619	+\$1,402k
SV	VDH/ PHHS	\$129,529	\$185,019	+\$55,490
SDV	DCJS-UPLC	\$251,726	\$253,578	+1,852k

Statewide Victim Services Data as reported in VAdata

January to December 2019

2019 Hotline calls: 68,688

2019 DV/SA Service contact to Adults and Children: 224,409
2017 Total Adults and Children served: 21,028

2019 Shelter Services: 6,643 in Emergency Shelter for 230,337 shelter nights

2019 DV Services

Adults: 22,266

Children: 5,263

2019 SV Services

Adults: 6,931

Children: 2,103

2019 Shelter Services

Adults Sheltered in Emergency Shelter: 3,737

Children Sheltered in Emergency Shelter: 2,906

Not sheltered due to lack of space: 846

2020 Legislation

HB 99 (Rasoul) Landlord and tenant; victims of family abuse; evidence to mitigate low credit score; damages. Allows an applicant for a lease to recover actual damages, including all amounts paid to the landlord as an application fee, application deposit, or reimbursement for any of the landlord's out-of-pocket expenses that were charged to the applicant, along with attorney fees, if the landlord does not consider evidence of the applicant's status as a victim of family abuse to mitigate any adverse effect of the otherwise qualified applicant's low credit score.

HB 298 (Tran) Misdemeanor sexual offenses where the victim is a minor; statute of limitations. Increases the statute of limitations for prosecuting misdemeanor violations where the victim is a minor from one year after the victim reaches the age of majority to five years after the victim reaches the age of majority if the offender was an adult at the time of the offense and more than three years older than the victim for the following misdemeanor violations: carnal knowledge of detainee by employee of bail bond company, sexual battery, attempted sexual battery, infected sexual battery, sexual abuse of a child age 13 or 14 by an adult, and tongue penetration by adult of mouth of child under age 13 with lascivious intent. This bill is identical to [SB 724](#).

HB 475 (Mullin) Virginia sexual assault forensic examiner coordination program. Establishes the Virginia sexual assault forensic examiner coordination program within the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The bill requires the head of the program to create and coordinate an annual statewide sexual assault forensic nurse examiner training program; coordinate the development and enhancement of sexual assault forensic examiner programs across the Commonwealth; participate in the development of hospital protocols and guidelines for treatment of survivors of sexual assault; coordinate and strengthen communications among sexual assault nurse examiner medical directors, sexual assault response teams, and hospitals for existing and developing sexual assault nurse examiner programs; provide technical assistance for existing and developing sexual assault forensic examiner programs; create and maintain a statewide list, updated biannually, that includes pertinent information regarding sexual assault forensic examiners and nurse examiners; create sexual assault nurse examiner recruitment materials for universities and colleges with nursing programs; and support and coordinate community education and public outreach, when appropriate, relating to sexual assault nurse examiner issues for the Commonwealth. The provisions of the bill are contingent on funding in a general appropriation act.

HB 880 (Simonds) Protective orders; motions to dissolve filed by petitioner; ex parte hearing and issuance of order. Provides that, upon motion by a petitioner to dissolve a protective order, a dissolution order may be issued on an ex parte basis with or without a hearing and that a hearing on such a motion shall be heard by the court as soon as practicable. The bill further provides that a dissolution order granted on an ex parte basis shall be served upon the respondent.

HB 1181 (Watts) Violation of provisions of protective order; venue. Provides that a violation of a protective order may be prosecuted in the jurisdiction where the protective order was issued or in any county or city where any act constituting the violation of the protective order occurred.

SB 105 (Favola) Best interests of the child; history of child abuse and acts of violence, force, or threat. Provides that any history of child abuse and acts of violence, force, or threat that occurred no earlier than 10 years prior to the filing of a petition for custody or visitation of a child shall be considered by a court in determining the best interests of a child. This bill is identical to [HB 861](#).

SB 144 (Stuart) Protective orders; issuance upon convictions for certain felonies; penalty. Authorizes a court to issue a protective order upon convicting a defendant for an act of violence and upon the request of the victim or the attorney for the Commonwealth on behalf of the victim. The bill provides that the duration of such protective order can be for any reasonable period of time, including up to the lifetime of the defendant, that the court deems necessary to protect the health and safety of the victim. The bill provides that a violation of a protective order issued upon a conviction for an act of violence is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

SB 297 (Favola) Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund; report. Creates the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund, which shall be administered by the Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Department of Health and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and used to develop, support, and evaluate programs that prevent sexual and domestic violence through strategies that (i) promote healthy practices related to relationships, sexuality, and social-emotional development and (ii) counteract the factors associated with the initial perpetration of sexual and domestic violence. This bill is identical to [HB 1015](#).

SB 479 (Howell) Protective orders; possession of fire arms, surrender or transfer of firearms, penalty. Prohibits any person subject to a permanent protective order (i.e., a protective order with a maximum duration of two years) from knowingly possessing a firearm while the order is in effect, provided that for a period of 24 hours after being served with a protective order such person may continue to possess such firearm for the purposes of selling or transferring it to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm. A violation of this provision is a Class 6 felony. The bill also provides that a court shall order a person subject to a permanent protective order to (i) within 24 hours, surrender any firearm possessed by such person to a designated local law-enforcement agency or sell or transfer any firearm possessed by such person to a dealer or to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm and (ii) certify in writing that such person does not possess any firearms or that all firearms possessed by such person have been surrendered, sold, or transferred and file such certification with the clerk of the court that entered the protective order within 48 hours after being served with a protective order. The bill provides that the willful failure of any person to certify in writing that all firearms possessed by such person have been surrendered, sold, or transferred or that such person does not possess any firearms shall constitute contempt of court. The bill provides procedures for designating a local law-enforcement agency to receive and store firearms, as well as a process to return such surrendered firearms. The bill also makes it a Class 4 felony for any person to sell, barter, give, or furnish any firearm to any person he knows is prohibited from possessing or transporting a firearm who is subject to a permanent protective order. This bill incorporates [SB 372](#) and is identical to [HB 1004](#).

Table A-1: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders, 2003-2018

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	16.1-253.2	M	2,655	1,113	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	16.1-253.2	M	2,727	1,021	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
2005	16.1-253.2	M	2,600	1,070	0	5	0	4	1	0	0
2006	16.1-253.2	M	2,706	1,083	0	16	1	6	8	0	1
2007	16.1-253.2	M	2,853	1,039	0	78	1	11	65	0	1
2008	16.1-253.2	M	2,965	1,038	0	1,092	121	603	368	0	0
2009	16.1-253.2	M	3,109	1,145	0	1,840	271	1,034	535	0	0
2010	16.1-253.2	M	3,032	1,165	0	1,686	229	1,016	440	1	0
2011	16.1-253.2	M	3,074	1,211	0	1,742	235	1,011	496	0	0
2012	16.2-253.2	M	3,414	1,322	0	1,880	232	1,172	476	0	0
2013	16.2-253.2	M	3,391	1,307	0	1,857	244	1,226	386	0	1
2014	16.2-253.2	M	3,365	1,311	0	1,867	215	1,204	447	0	1
2015	16.2-253.2	M	3,815	1,476	0	2,126	235	1,389	502	0	4
2016	16.2-253.2	M	4,250	1,559	0	2,446	275	1,670	519	0	2
2017	16.2-253.2	M	4,246	1,526	0	1,826	234	1194	398	0	0
2018	16.2-253.2	M	4,313	1,608	0	2,705	226	1852	383	0	244
2019	16.2-253.2	M	4,963	1,687	0	3,230	239	2,154	428	0	409

Table A-2: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders (Third or Subsequent Offense Within 20 Years), 2004-2018

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2004	16.1-253.2	F	75	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005	16.1-253.2	F	210	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	16.1-253.2	F	232	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	16.1-253.2	F	267	18	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
2008	16.1-253.2	F	282	26	0	60	0	47	12	1	0
2009	16.1-253.2	F	322	32	0	114	6	59	49	0	0
2010	16.1-253.2	F	264	102	0	143	8	102	32	0	1

2011	16.1-253.2	F	245	105	0	131	6	92	33	0	0
2012	16.1-253.2	F	282	99	0	153	5	108	40	0	0
2013	16.1-253.2	F	319	146	0	145	14	101	30	0	0
2014	16.1-253.2	F	390	170	0	192	13	119	60	0	0
2015	16.1-253.2	F	365	128	0	213	9	165	38	0	1
2016	16.1-253.2	F	419	162	0	229	7	175	47	0	0
2017	16.1-253.2	F	450	148	0	253	13	204	36	0	0
2018	16.1-253.2	F	479	174	0	305	10	240	53	0	2
2019	16.1-253.2	F	439	171	0	276	10	198	34	0	34

Table A-3: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Assault and Battery Against Family or Household Member, 2003-2018

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	18.2-57.2	M	21,943	6,875	29	2,010	20	35	1,807	0	148
2004	18.2-57.2	M	22,099	6,755	29	2,374	16	31	2,167	0	160
2005	18.2-57.2	M	22,463	6,661	18	2,740	15	48	2,475	0	202
2006	18.2-57.2	M	22,099	6,818	15	3,992	26	97	3,713	0	156
2007	18.2-57.2	M	22,473	6,540	15	4,862	22	163	4,499	0	178
2008	18.2-57.2	M	22,993	6,174	10	12,951	1,164	4,836	5,720	1	1,230
2009	18.2-57.2	M	23,031	5,387	4	16,919	1,959	7,298	4,716	0	2,946
2010	18.2-57.2	M	22,872	5,918	3	18,055	1,882	7,488	8,375	1	309
2011	18.2-57.2	M	21,244	4,550	7	16,872	1,664	7,113	6,785	0	1,310
2012	18.2-57.2	M	19,702	4,518	1	15,699	1,674	6,816	4,040	0	3,169
2013	18.2-57.2	M	21,158	4,146	1	14,842	1,563	6,508	3,520	1	3,250
2014	18.2-57.2	M	20,872	4,108	3	14,838	1,457	6,691	3,400	0	3,290
2015	18.2-57.2	M	19,220	3,646	1	13,660	1,356	6,081	3,211	0	3,012
2016	18.2-57.2	M	22,474	3,920	0	16,639	1,640	7,391	3,547	3	4,058
2017	18.2-57.2	M	21,945	3,835	0	12,270	1,512	7,554	3,177	0	4,082
2018	18.2-57.2	M	21,536	3,733	0	17,803	1,508	7,971	2,945	0	5,379
2019	18.2-57.2	M	20,631	3,596	3	18,602	1,298	8,232	2,897	0	6,175

Table A-4: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Assault and Battery Against Family or Household Member, 2003-2018

				CONVICTIONS	NON-CONVICTIONS
--	--	--	--	-------------	-----------------

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	18.2-57.2	F	1,038	196	0	5	0	0	5	0	0
2004	18.2-57.2	F	1,166	225	2	7	0	1	4	0	2
2005	18.2-57.2	F	1,293	210	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
2006	18.2-57.2	F	1,224	215	0	4	0	2	2	0	0
2007	18.2-57.2	F	1,177	205	0	14	2	9	3	0	0
2008	18.2-57.2	F	1,136	208	0	343	22	225	94	2	0
2009	18.2-57.2	F	1,161	211	0	537	37	308	191	0	1
2010	18.2-57.2	F	1,174	955	0	762	49	389	318	0	6
2011	18.2-57.2	F	1,142	870	1	718	50	350	297	0	21
2012	18.2-57.2	F	1,016	915	0	684	64	331	229	0	60
2013	18.2-57.2	F	1,632	944	0	618	50	279	201	0	88
2014	18.2-57.2	F	1,051	536	0	316	40	270	2	0	4
2015	18.2-57.2	F	1,053	505	0	484	30	289	161	0	4
2016	18.2-57.2	F	1,639	875	0	713	44	364	212	0	93
2017	18.2-57.2	F	1,609	1,046	0	536	43	394	22	2	98
2018	18.2-57.2	F	1,541	924	0	617	28	382	54	0	153
2019	18.2-57.2	F	1,108	873	0	692	35	397	200	1	170
2003	18.2-57.2(B)	F	72	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	18.2-57.2(B)	F	58	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005	18.2-57.2(B)	F	59	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	18.2-57.2(B)	F	86	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	18.2-57.2(B)	F	100	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	18.2-57.2(B)	F	64	14	0	3	0	0	3	0	0
2009	18.2-57.2(B)	F	72	8	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
2010	18.2-57.2(B)	F	177	18	0	7	2	4	1	0	0
2011	18.2-57.2(B)	F	173	11	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
2012	18.2-57.2(B)	F	287	7	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
2013	18.2-57.2(B)	F	137	71	0	63	6	36	20	0	1
2014	18.2-57.2(B)	F	102	49	0	49	2	28	17	0	2
2015	18.2-57.2(B)	F	109	47	0	56	2	39	15	0	0
2016	18.2-57.2(B)	F	101	47	0	47	4	29	13	0	1
2017	18.2-57.2(B)	F	83	5	0	3	1	2	0	0	0
2018	18.2-57.2(B)	F	15	7	0	8	0	1	0	0	7

2019	18.2-57.2(B)	F	108	4	0	8	0	2	0	0	6
------	--------------	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Table A-5: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Stalking, 2003-2018

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	18.2-60.3	M	1,017	190	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
2004	18.2-60.3	M	1,025	168	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
2005	18.2-60.3	M	910	192	0	4	0	1	3	0	0
2006	18.2-60.3	M	881	169	0	8	0	5	3	0	0
2007	18.2-60.3	M	921	193	0	63	3	9	51	0	0
2008	18.2-60.3	M	900	158	0	459	54	202	201	2	0
2009	18.2-60.3	M	991	195	0	741	90	364	287	0	0
2010	18.2-60.3	M	919	178	0	702	72	367	262	1	0
2011	18.2-60.3	M	733	137	0	571	74	321	175	0	0
2012	18.2-60.3	M	564	122	0	418	57	249	112	0	0
2013	18.2-60.3	M	480	84	0	350	46	208	95	0	1
2014	18.2-60.3	M	505	104	0	369	56	190	123	0	0
2015	18.2-60.3	M	465	101	0	325	36	196	92	0	1
2016	18.2-60.3	M	631	137	0	435	56	236	143	0	0
2017	18.2-60.3	M	649	126	0	441	47	278	116	0	0
2018	18.2-60.3	M	684	125	0	559	40	261	121	0	137
2019	18.2-60.3	M	615	114	0	519	55	273	138	0	53

Table A:6: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Stalking (Third or Subsequent Offense Within 5 Years), 2003-2018

				CONVICTIONS	NON-CONVICTIONS
--	--	--	--	-------------	-----------------

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	18.2-60.3	F	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	18.2-60.3	F	26	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005	18.2-60.3	F	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	18.2-60.3	F	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	18.2-60.3	F	12	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
2008	18.2-60.3	F	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009	18.2-60.3	F	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	18.2-60.3	F	9	5	0	9	0	4	5	0	0
2011	18.2-60.3	F	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2012	18.2-60.3	F	3	5	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
2013	18.2-60.3	F	12	6	0	5	1	4	0	0	0
2014	18.2-60.3	F	7	4	0	3	0	1	2	0	0
2015	18.2-60.3	F	6	3	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
2016	18.2-60.3	F	10	7	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
2017	18.2-60.3	F	13	7	0	5	1	3	1	0	0
2018	18.2-60.3	F	12	9	0	3	0	2	0	0	1
2019	18.2-60.3	F	7	4	0	3	0	2	0	0	1

Table A-7: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violation of Stalking Protective Order, 2003-2018

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	18.2-60.4	M	61	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	18.2-60.4	M	100	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005	18.2-60.4	M	99	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	18.2-60.4	M	95	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	18.2-60.4	M	98	41	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
2008	18.2-60.4	M	86	39	0	24	4	13	7	0	0
2009	18.2-60.4	M	135	51	0	80	25	33	22	0	0
2010	18.2-60.4	M	94	33	0	54	12	21	21	0	0
2011	18.2-60.4	M	284	94	0	180	25	91	64	0	0
2012	18.2-60.4	M	758	235	0	497	55	270	172	0	0
2013	18.2-60.4	M	779	227	0	496	83	243	170	0	0

2014	18.2-60.4	M	985	310	0	614	87	331	196	0	0
2015	18.2-60.4	M	1,047	353	1	643	111	352	179	0	1
2016	18.2-60.4	M	1,327	469	0	858	113	522	221	1	1
2017	18.2-60.4	M	1,130	364	0	693	109	384	200	0	0
2018	18.2-60.4	M	1,461	412	0	1,049	127	601	248	2	71
2019	18.2-60.4	M	1,454	439	0	1,001	104	516	261	4	116

Data provided by the Virginia State Police (November 15, 2017); *2003 data not provided for felony violations of protective orders

Table A-8: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Taking, detaining, etc., person for prostitution, etc., or consenting thereto; human trafficking, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-355	F	27	7	0	19	0	19	0	0	0
2017	18.2-355	F	34	6	0	23	2	20	1	0	0
2018	18.2-355	F	7	1	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
2019	18.2-355	F	18	1	0	17	0	11	1	0	5

Table A-9: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Taking, detaining, etc., person for prostitution, etc., or consenting thereto; human trafficking, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-356	F	8	1	0	5	0	5	0	0	0
2017	18.2-356	F	12	0	0	12	0	12	0	0	0
2018	18.2-356	F	17	3	0	14	0	10	4	0	0
2019	18.2-356	F	18	2	0	15	0	5	1	0	9

Table A-10: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Receiving money from earnings of male or female prostitute, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-357	F	72	14	0	39	0	37	2	0	0
2017	18.2-357	F	68	11	0	51	4	47	0	0	0
2018	18.2-357	F	49	9	0	40	0	33	0	0	7
2019	18.2-357	F	60	10	0	43	0	34	0	0	9
2019	18.2-357.1	F	91	27	0	65	0	55	4	0	6

Table A-11: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Rape, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-61	F	486	139	0	230	25	170	35	0	0
2017	18.2-61	F	587	87	0	299	24	238	39	0	0
2018	18.2-61	F	458	65	0	393	13	192	30	0	158
2019	18.2-61	F	646	61	0	530	11	177	79	0	263

Table A-12: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Carnal knowledge of child between thirteen and fifteen years of age, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-63	F	282	131	0	103	5	94	4	0	0
2017	18.2-63	F									
2018	18.2-63	F	142	103	0	39	1	5	2	0	31
2019	18.2-63	F	246	88	0	125	0	58	4	0	63

Table A-13: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Object sexual penetration, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-67.2	F	402	81	0	217	23	168	26	0	0
2017	18.2-67.2	F	351	62	0	170	14	135	22	0	0
2018	18.2-67.2	F	342	56	0	286	19	143	24	0	100
2019	18.2-67.2	F	405	23	0	348	8	152	22	0	166

Table A-14: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Aggravated sexual battery, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-67.3	F	935	308	0	416	37	318	61	0	0
2017	18.2-67.3	F	924	244	0	419	30	350	39	1	0
2018	18.2-67.3	F	582	228	0	354	16	333	5	0	0
2019	18.2-67.3	F	1006	163	0	785	12	329	26	0	418

Table A-15: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violation Sexual battery, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-67.4	M	450	164	0	259	33	176	48	0	0

2017	18.2-67.4	M	326	101	0	156	23	109	22	2	0
2018	18.2-67.4	M	313	97	0	216	20	128	40	0	28
2019	18.2-67.4	M	320	51	0	215	20	124	22	0	49
2016	18.2-67.4	F	115	111		4	1	2	1	0	0
2017	18.2-67.4	F	135	133		1	0	1	0	0	0
2018	18.2-67.4	F	126	121	0	5	0	1	4	0	0
2019	18.2-67.4	F	4	116	0	4	0	2	0	0	2

Table A-16: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Taking indecent liberties with children, 2016-2018

				CONVICTIONS		NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2016	18.2-370	F	494	186	0	237	11	189	37	0	0
2017	18.2-370	F	462	131	0	230	12	203	15	0	0
2018	18.2-370	F	458	65	0	393	13	192	30	0	158
2019	18.2-370	F	516	103	0	387	1	218	18	0	150

Appendix B – COVID 19

This year, 2020, provided state, local, and non profit organizations with new challenges to overcome in order to continue providing the high level of services to domestic and sexual violence victims. Organizations shifted to provide counseling, group counseling, and intake interviews to web based meeting platforms. In addition, all meetings and most trainings were transformed into webinar based platforms. Services were never discontinued, just shifted and victims still received the services they were seeking, including being able to enter emergency shelter when needed. COVID-19 showed the strength of agencies' ability to provide services and their flexibility in how those services could be provided. While in-person meetings, counseling sessions, group counseling sessions, and court hearings are preferred, meeting online allowed for the continuation of services with little disruption.

The Action Alliance provided a great summary of the impact of COVID-19 on local domestic and sexual violence agencies.

Virginia's sexual and domestic violence agencies initially experienced a varied, yet profound impact as a result of Virginia's lockdown to stem the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic. Approximately one third of sexual and domestic violence agencies reported seeing decreases in the number of survivors seeking services; approximately one-half reported seeing increases, including several with very significant increases. These changes were concerning, whether it meant a program could possibly not meet their increased demand or whether the number of survivors reaching out for help had decreased. Comparing March 2019 to March 2020, the Statewide Hotline experienced a 73% increase in calls.

To adhere with physical distancing guidelines, Virginia's sexual and domestic violence programs quickly decentralized many of their shelter programs to reduce the number of survivors living in their facilities. Programs used hotels for overflow, while shifting their in-person advocacy and support groups to online environments. Lack of computer knowledge and hardware, along with inadequate internet connections became enormous barriers for many survivors attempting to connect with advocates via those online environments. To reduce isolation and ensure survivors' basic needs were met, shelters then set about to establish regular check-ins and in some cases, regular meal delivery to hotel occupants. The initial lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) early in the pandemic created potential hazards for both clients and staff.

Children staying with parents in shelter and in hotels were thrust into on-line learning environments, often without the necessary equipment or internet access. Children who were forced to shelter in place with abusers were unable to have the brief daily respite from abuse that being in school often provided.

At the same time, many sexual and domestic violence agencies faced operating hardships due to reduced volunteer support and reduced monetary donations. Approximately 80% of the sexual and domestic violence programs surveyed in Virginia reported decreases in donations; 75% were forced to cancel fundraisers—many of which were scheduled to be held in the Spring. Monetary losses for programs ranged from hundreds of dollars to \$250,000. The Action Alliance advocated for match waivers in grant funding to assist with the decrease in donations and volunteer hours. CARES Act funding in the Summer helped many programs re-establish financial stability.

Anxiety, dread, and fear, both physical and financial, coupled with reduced access to safety valves—such as community or family support—created a pressure cooker environment for sexual and domestic violence during Virginia's coronavirus lockdown. Many survivors of sexual and domestic violence reported that they were not able to hold private phone conversations due to living in close quarters and/or being under increased

surveillance by family members. In response, the Action Alliance swiftly created and distributed a statewide media campaign to inform survivors that the Statewide Hotline can be reached by both text and chat as alternate, perhaps more private forms of communication (see more details in the Survivor Advocacy section of this report).

Seven months into the nationwide spread of COVID, crisis programs across Virginia, the Statewide Hotline, and the Action Alliance's legal advocacy project report that the nature and kind of help requested by survivors has changed markedly since the pandemic began. Survivors' needs are now both more complex needs and more frequently focused on meeting basic survival needs (especially housing and food) versus support, advocacy and healing. Advocates across Virginia report being stretched thin for months on end.

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Action Alliance pivoted to providing multiple avenues for support and technical assistance to survivor advocates in online spaces, including weekly informational sessions with Executive Directors of crisis programs, community healing spaces for advocates to learn about and practice self-care, regular problem-solving sessions for advocates working in shelters, and training and networking spaces for preventionists working to undermine the cultural roots of violence. The Action Alliance continues to expand remote training and technical assistance and continues to engage in limited on-site services to support member sexual and domestic violence agencies while adhering to CDC safety guidelines.

Appendix C - State Agencies and Organizations

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council

William & Mary Law School, Room 220
613 South Henry Street
P.O. Box 3549
Williamsburg, VA 23187
(757) 253-4146
www.cas.state.va.us

Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia (FACT)

801 East Main Street, 15th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 726-7604
www.fact.state.va.us

Office of the Attorney General

900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2071
www.oag.state.va.us

Supreme Court of Virginia

Office of the Executive Secretary
100 North 9th Street, 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-6455
www.courts.state.va.us

Virginia Center on Aging

Virginia Commonwealth University
730 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 980229
Richmond, VA 23298
(804) 828-1525
www.vcu.edu/vcoa

Virginia Department for the Aging

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100
Richmond, VA 23229
(804) 662-9333
www.vda.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services

1220 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-3921
www.dbhds.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Corrections, Community Corrections

P.O. Box 26963
Richmond, VA 23261-6963
(804) 674-3000
www.vadoc.state.va.us/community

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

1100 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-4000
www.dcjs.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Health

Division of Prevention and Health Promotion

109 Governor Street, 8th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 864-7732
Injury Hotline: 1-800-732-8333
www.vdh.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Health

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

400 East Jackson Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-3174
www.vdh.virginia.gov/medexam

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 371-7000
www.dhcd.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Social Services

Office on Family Violence

801 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 726-7000
www.dss.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of State Police

P.O. Box 27472
Richmond, VA 23261-7472
(804) 674-2000
www.vsp.virginia.gov

Virginia Poverty Law Center

919 East Main Street, Suite 610
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 782-9430
www.vplc.org

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

1118 W Main St.
Richmond, VA 23230
(804) 377-0335
www.vsdvalliance.org

Appendix D – Domestic and Sexual Violence Programs by Locality

Accomack County

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA23601
757-599-9844
www.visitthecenter.org

Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence
P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA23417-0003
757-787-1329
877-787-1329 (hotline)
<http://www.escadv.org/>

Albemarle County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

University of Virginia Violence and
Social Change Program
P.O. Box 800588
Charlottesville, VA 22908
434-982-2774.

Alexandria

Alexandria Sexual and Domestic Violence Programs
421 King St., Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-746-4911 (DV)
703-683-7273 (SV)
www.alexandriava.gov/women/

Allegheny County

Safehome Systems
P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safehomesystems.org/>

Amelia County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Amherst County / Appomattox County

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center
626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
888-528-1041

Annandale

Korean Community Services Center of Greater
Washington
7700 Little River Turnpike, Suite 406
Annandale, VA 22003
703-354-6345
888-987-4561 (hotline)
www.kcscgw.org/

Arlington County

Doorways for Women and Families
4600 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22203
703-504-9400
703-237-0881 (hotline)
www.doorwaysva.org

Ashland (Township)

Hanover Safe Place
629-A N. Washington Hwy
Ashland, VA 23005
804-752-2728
804-752-2702 (hotline)
www.hanoversafeplace.com

Augusta County

New Directions Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 3069
Staunton, VA 24402-3069
540-885-7273
540-886-6800 hotline
<https://www.newdirectionscenter.org/>

Bath County

Safeshome Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safeshomesystems.org/>

Bedford County

Bedford County Domestic Violence Services
P.O. Box 783
Bedford, VA 24523
540-587-0995
540-587-0970 (hotline)
<https://www.bedfordcountyva.gov/departments/social-services/bedford-domestic-violence-services>

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center
626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
888-528-1041

Bland County

Family Resource Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 612
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-625-0219
800-613-6145 (hotline)
www.frcinc.org

Botetourt County

Sexual Assault Response and Awareness
3034 Brambleton Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
540-345-7273
540-981-9352 (hotline)
www.sararoanoke.org

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Bristol

Abuse Alternatives, Inc.
104 Memorial Drive
Bristol, TN37620
423-652-9093
800-987-6499 (hotline)
www.abusealternativesinc.org

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
www.crisiscenterinc.org

Brunswick County

Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit
6th District Court Services
401-C S. Main St.
Emporia, VA 23847
434-348-0100

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Buchanan County

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
<https://www.family-crisis.org/>

People, Inc. of Virginia
1173 W. Main St.
Abingdon, VA 24210
276-623-9000
276-935-5485 (hotline)
877-697-9444 (toll free)
<http://peopleinc.net>

Buckingham County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Buena Vista

Project Horizon
120 Varner Ln
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-7861
540-463-2594 (hotline)
www.projecthorizon.net

Campbell County

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center
626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
888-528-1041

Bedford County Domestic Violence Services
P.O. Box 783
Bedford, VA 24523
540-587-0995
540-587-0970 (hotline)
<https://www.bedfordcountyva.gov/departments/social-services/bedford-domestic-violence-services>

Caroline County

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault
3331 Shannon Airport Cir.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
www.empowerhouseva.org

Carroll County

Family Resource Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 612
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-625-0219
800-613-6145 (hotline)
www.frcinc.org

Charles City County

Project Hope at Quin Rivers
P.O. Box 208
New Kent, VA 23124
804-966-8720
877-966-HELP (4357) (hotline)
www.quinrivers.org

Charlotte County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Tri-County Community Action Agency, Inc.
400 Thomas Jefferson Hwy
Charlotte Ct House, VA 23923
434-542-5898
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Charlottesville

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22903-0013
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

Chesapeake

Help and Emergency Response
P.O. Box 2187
Portsmouth, VA 23702-0187
757-485-1445
757-485-3384 (hotline)
www.hershelter.com

Response Sexual Assault Support
Services of the YWCA
1424 McNeal Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23502
757-625-4248
757-226-YWCA (9922) hotline
www.ywca-shr.org

Chesterfield County

Chesterfield County Domestic Violence
Resource Center
P.O. Box 40
Chesterfield, VA 23832-0040
804-318-8265
<https://www.chesterfield.gov/1832/Domestic-Sexual-Violence-Resource-Center>

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

YWCA of Richmond
Women's Advocacy Program
6 N. 5th St.
Richmond, VA 23219
804-643-6761
804-643-0888 (hotline)
<https://ywcarichmond.org/>

Clarke County

The Laurel Center Intervention for Domestic & Sexual Violence
P.O. Box 14
Winchester, VA 22604
540-667-6160
540-667-6466 (hotline)
www.thelaurelcenter.org

Clifton (Township)

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Clifton Forge

Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline
800-838-8238 (V/TTY)

Colonial Heights

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

Covington

Safehome Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safehomesystems.org/>

Craig County

Sexual Assault Response and Awareness
3034 Brambleton Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
540-345-7273
540-981-9352 (hotline)
www.sararoanoke.org

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Culpeper County

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Cumberland County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Danville

Haven of the Dan River Region
434-486-5482
<http://www.havenofthedanriverregion.com/>

Tri-County Community Action Agency, Inc.
400 Thomas Jefferson Hwy
Charlotte Ct House, VA 23923
434-542-5898
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Dickenson

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.org

Dinwiddie

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Emporia

Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit
6th District Court Services
401-C S. Main St.
Emporia, VA 23847
434-348-0100

Essex County

The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1267
Warsaw, VA 22572-0713
804-333-1099
804-333-5370 (shelter office)
800-224-2836 (hotline)
www.havenshelter.org

Fairfax

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual
Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Fairfax County

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual
Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Shelter House, Inc. / Artemis House
P.O. Box 139
Herndon, VA 20170
703-435-4940
www.shelterhouse.org

Falls Church

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual
Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Fauquier County

Fauquier Department of Social Services
Domestic Violence Services
320 Hospital Dr.
Warrenton, VA 20186
540-422-8416

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Floyd County

Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
P.O. Box 477
Radford, VA 24143
540-639-9592
540-639-1123 (hotline)
800-788-1123 (toll free)
540-639-2197 (TTY)
www.wrcnr.org

Fluvanna County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22903-0013
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

Franklin County

Franklin County Family Resource Center
P.O. Box 188
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
540-483-5088
540-483-1234 (hotline)
<http://fcfamilyresourcecenter.com/>

Frederick County

The Laurel Center Intervention for Domestic
& Sexual Violence
P.O. Box 14
Winchester, VA 22604
540-667-6160
540-667-6466 (hotline)
www.thelaurelcenter.org

Fredericksburg

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault
3331 Shannon Airport Cir.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
www.empowerhouseva.org

Front Royal

Phoenix Project
P.O. Box 1747
Front Royal, VA 22630
540-635-2302
540-635-2300 (hotline)
<http://phoenix-project.org/>

Giles County

Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
P.O. Box 477
Radford, VA 24143
540-639-9592
540-639-1123 (hotline)
800-788-1123 (toll free)
540-639-2197 (TTY)
www.wrcnr.org

Gloucester County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
www.laurelshelterinc.org

Goochland County

Goochland County Free Clinic & Family Services
P.O. Box 116
Goochland, VA 23063
804-556-6260

Grayson County

Family Resource Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 612
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-625-0219
800-613-6145 (hotline)
www.frcinc.org

Greene County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22903-0013
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

Greensville County

Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit
6th District Court Services
401-C S. Main St.
Emporia, VA 23847
434-348-0100

Halifax County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Tri-County Community Action Agency
P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Hampton

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

Transitions Family Violence Services
P.O. Box 561
Hampton, VA 23669-0561
757-722-2261
757-723-7774 (hotline)
www.transitionsfvs.org

Hanover County

Hanover Safe Place
629-A N. Washington Hwy
Ashland, VA 23005
804-752-2728
804-752-2702 (hotline)
www.hanoversafeplace.com

Harrisonburg

The Collins Center
P.O. Box 1473
Harrisonburg, VA 22803
540-434-6430
540-434-2272 (hotline)
www.thecollinscenter.org

First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence
129 Franklin St.
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
540-434-0295
866-223-9169 (toll free)
www.firststepva.com

Henrico County

Safe Harbor
P.O. Box 17996
Richmond, VA 23226
804-249-9470
804-612-6126 (hotline)
www.SafeHarborShelter.com

Henry County

Southside Survivor Response Center
P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-403-4080
877-934-3576 (hotline)
www.cafv.info

Herndon (Township)

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual
Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Highland County

New Directions Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 3069
Staunton, VA 24402-3069
540-885-7273
800-56-HAVEN (42836) hotline
<https://www.newdirectionscenter.org/>

Safehome Systems
P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safehomesystems.org/>

Hopewell

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

Isle of Wight County

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

The Genieve Shelter
157 N. Main St., 2nd Floor R-3
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org/

James City County

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children
P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

King and Queen County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
www.laurelshelterinc.org

Project Hope at Quin Rivers
P.O. Box 208
New Kent, VA 23124
804-966-8720
877-966-HELP (4357) (hotline)
www.quinrivers.org

King George County

Rappahannock Council against Sexual Assault
3331 Shannon Airport Cir.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
www.empowerhouseva.org

King William County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
www.laurelshelterinc.org

Project Hope at Quin Rivers
P.O. Box 208
New Kent, VA 23124
804-966-8720
877-966-HELP (4357) (hotline)
www.quinrivers.org

Lancaster County

Haven Shelter and Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1267
Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-1099
804-333-5370 (shelter office)
800-224-2836 (hotline)
www.havenshelter.org

Lee County

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
www.crisiscenterinc.org

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.org

Leesburg

Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS)
105 E. Market St.
Leesburg, VA 20176
703-771-3398
703-777-6552 (hotline)
www.lcsj.org

Lexington

Project Horizon
120 Varner Ln
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-7861
540-463-2594 (hotline)
www.projecthorizon.net

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Loudoun County

Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS)
105 E. Market St.
Leesburg, VA 20176
703-771-3398
703-777-6552 (hotline)
www.lcsj.org

Louisa County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22903-0013
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

Lunenburg County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Tri-County Community Action Agency
P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Lynchburg

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center
626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
888-528-1041

Madison County

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Manassas

ACTS/Turning Points &
SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-8606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Manassas Park

ACTS/Turning Points &
SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-8606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Martinsville

Southside Survivor Response Center
P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-403-4080
877-934-3576 (hotline)
www.cafv.info

Mathews County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
www.laurelshelterinc.org

Mecklenburg County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Tri-County Community Action Agency
P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Middlesex County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
www.laurelshelterinc.org

Montgomery County

Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
P.O. Box 477
Radford, VA 24143
540-639-9592
540-639-1123 (hotline)
800-788-1123 (toll free)
540-639-2197 (TTY)
www.wrcnr.org

Mt. Jackson (Township)

Response, Inc.
P.O. Box 287
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-5599
540-459-5161 (hotline)
<https://www.responseva.org/>

Nelson County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
<https://saracville.org/>

Shelter for Help in Emergency
P.O. Box 1013
Charlottesville, VA 22903-0013
434-963-4676
434-293-8509 (hotline)
www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org

New Kent County

Project Hope at Quin Rivers
P.O. Box 208
New Kent, VA 23124
804-966-8720
877-966-HELP (4357) (hotline)
www.quinrivers.org

Newport News

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

Transitions Family Violence Services
P.O. Box 561
Hampton, VA 23669-0561
757-722-2261
757-723-7774 (hotline)
www.transitionsfvs.org

Norfolk

YWCA of South Hampton Roads
Women in Crisis/Response Sexual Assault Support
1424 McNeal Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23502
757-625-4248
757-226-YWCA (9922) hotline
ywca@ywca-shr.org

Northampton County

Eastern Shore Coalition against Domestic Violence
P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA 23417
757-787-1959
757-787-1329 (hotline)
866-663-6478 (hotline)
www.escadv.org

Northumberland County

Haven Shelter and Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1267
Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-1099
804-333-5370 (shelter office)
800-224-2836 (hotline)
www.havenshelter.org

Norton

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.org

Nottoway County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Onancock

Eastern Shore Coalition against Domestic Violence
P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA 23417
757-787-1959
757-787-1329 (hotline)
866-663-6478 (hotline)
www.escadv.org

Orange County

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Page County

Choices: Council on Domestic Violence for Page County
216 W. Main St.
Luray, VA 22835
540-743-4414
www.choicesofpagecounty.org

Patrick County

Southside Survivor Response Center
P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-403-4080
877-934-3576 (hotline)
www.cafv.info

Petersburg

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

Pittsylvania County

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center
626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
888-528-1041
www.lynchburgywca.org

Citizens against Family Violence
P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-632-8701
www.cafv.info

Poquoson

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children
P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601

757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

Transitions Family Violence Services
P.O. Box 561
Hampton, VA 23669-0561
757-722-2261
757-723-7774 (hotline)
www.transitionsfvs.org

Portsmouth

Help and Emergency Response
P.O. Box 2187
Portsmouth, VA 23702-0187
757-485-1445
757-485-3384 (hotline)
www.hershelter.com

Powhatan County

Powhatan County Department of Social Services
Domestic Violence Program
3908 Old Buckingham Rd, Suite 2
Powhatan, VA 23139
804-598-5630 ext. 2422
www.powhatanva.gov

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Prince Edward County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23824
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
<https://www.scvpcares.org/>

Prince George County

The James House
6610 Commons Dr.
Prince George, VA 23875
804-458-2704
804-458-2840 (hotline)
www.thejameshouse.org

Prince William County

ACTS/Turning Points &
SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-8606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Pulaski County

Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
P.O. Box 477
Radford, VA 24143
540-639-9592
540-639-1123 (hotline)
800-788-1123 (toll free)
540-639-2197 (TTY)
www.wrcnr.org

Radford

Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
P.O. Box 477
Radford, VA 24143
540-639-9592
540-639-1123 (hotline)
800-788-1123 (toll free)
540-639-2197 (TTY)
www.wrcnr.org

Rappahannock County

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Richmond

Safe Harbor
P.O. Box 17996
Richmond, VA 23226
804-249-9470
804-612-6126 (hotline)
www.SafeHarborShelter.com

YWCA of Richmond
Women's Advocacy Program
6 N. 5th St.
Richmond, VA 23219
804-643-6761
804-643-0888 (hotline)
www.ywcarichmond.org

Richmond County

Haven Shelter and Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1267
Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-1099
804-333-5370 (shelter office)
800-224-2836 (hotline)
www.havenshelter.org

Roanoke

Salvation Army Turning Point
815 Salem Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24016
540-345-0400
<http://virginiasalvationarmy.org/roanokeva/programs/turning-point/>
Sexual Assault Response and Awareness
3034 Brambleton Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
540-345-7273
540-981-9352 (hotline)
www.sararoanoke.org

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Roanoke County

Sexual Assault Response and Awareness
3034 Brambleton Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
540-345-7273
540-981-9352 (hotline)
www.sararoanoke.org

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Rockbridge County

Project Horizon
120 Varner Ln
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-7861
540-463-2594 (hotline)
www.projecthorizon.net

Rockingham County

The Collins Center
P.O. Box 1473
Harrisonburg, VA 22803
540-434-6430
540-434-2272 (hotline)
www.thecollinscenter.org

First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence
129 Franklin St.
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
540-434-0295
866-223-9169 (toll free)
www.firststepva.com

Rocky Mount

Franklin County Family Resource Center
P.O. Box 188
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
540-483-5088
540-483-1234 (hotline)
<http://fcfamilyresourcecenter.com/>

Russell County

Clinch Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
(SV only)
P.O. Box 188
North Tazewell, VA 24630
276-988-5583
276-979-8959 (hotline)
www.clinchvalleycaa.org

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.org

People, Inc. of Virginia
1173 W. Main St.
Abingdon, VA 24210
276-623-9000
276-935-5485 (hotline)
877-697-9444 (toll free)
<http://peopleinc.net>

Salem

Sexual Assault Response and Awareness
3034 Brambleton Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
540-345-7273
540-981-9352 (hotline)
www.sararoanoke.org

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Scott County

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
www.crisiscenterinc.org

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.org

Hope House of Scott County
P.O. Box 1992
Gate City, VA 24251
276-386-1373
888-250-4325 (hotline)
www.facebook.com/HopeHouseOfScottCountyInc

Shenandoah County

Response, Inc.
P.O. Box 287
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-5599
540-459-5161 (hotline)
<https://www.responseva.org/>

Smithfield

The Genieve Shelter
157 N. Main St., 2nd Floor R-3
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org/

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

Smyth County

Family Resource Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 612
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-625-0219
800-613-6145 (hotline)
www.frcinc.org

South Boston

Tri-County Community Action Agency
P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountycaa.com

Southampton County

The Genieve Shelter
157 N. Main St., 2nd Floor R-3
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org/

Spotsylvania County

Rappahannock Council against Sexual Assault
3331 Shannon Airport Cir.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
www.empowerhouseva.org

Stafford County

Rappahannock Council against Sexual Assault
3331 Shannon Airport Cir.
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
www.empowerhouseva.org

Stanley

Virginia Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline
800-838-8238 (V/TTY)

Staunton

New Directions Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 3069
Staunton, VA 24402-3069
540-885-7273
800-56-HAVEN (42836) hotline
www.newdirectionscenter.com

Strasburg (Township)

Response, Inc.
P.O. Box 287
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-5599
540-459-5161 (hotline)
<https://www.responseva.org/>

Suffolk

The Genieve Shelter
157 N. Main St., 2nd Floor R-3
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org/

Surry County

The Genieve Shelter
157 N. Main St., 2nd Floor R-3
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org/

Sussex County

Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit
6th District Court Services
401-C S. Main St.
Emporia, VA 23847
434-348-0100

Tazewell County

Clinch Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
P.O. Box 188
North Tazewell, VA 24630
276-988-5583
276-979-8959 (hotline)
www.clinchvalleycaa.org

Troutville

Virginia Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline
800-838-8238 (V/TTY)

Vienna

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual
Violence Services
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Vinton

Total Action for Progress-Domestic Violence Program
302 2nd St., SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
540-283-4813
540-580-0775 (after-hours)
www.tapintohope.org/DomesticViolenceServices.aspx

Virginia Beach

Samaritan House
2620 Southern Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-631-0710
757-430-2120 (hotline)
www.samaritanhouseva.org

Warren County

Virginia Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline
800-838-8238 (V/TTY)

Warrenton

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)
501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
<http://www.safejourneys.org>

Washington County

Abuse Alternatives, Inc.
104 Memorial Drive
Bristol, TN37620
423-652-9093
800-987-6499 (hotline)
www.abusealternativesinc.org

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
www.crisiscenterinc.org

Waynesboro

New Directions Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 3069
Staunton, VA 24402-3069
540-885-7273
800-56-HAVEN (42836) hotline
www.newdirectionscenter.com

Westmoreland County

Haven Shelter and Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1267
Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-1099
804-333-5370 (shelter office)
800-224-2836 (hotline)
www.havenshelter.org

Williamsburg

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children
P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

Winchester

The Laurel Center Intervention for Domestic
& Sexual Violence
P.O. Box 14
Winchester, VA 22604
540-667-6160
540-667-6466 (hotline)
www.thelaurelcenter.org

Wise County

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
www.crisiscenterinc.org

Family Crisis Support Services
701 Kentucky Ave. SE
Norton, VA 24273
276-679-7240
877-348-3416 (hotline)
800-572-2278 (toll free)
www.family-crisis.com

Woodbridge

ACTS/Turning Points &
SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-8606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service (SAVAS)
P.O. Box 4783
Woodbridge, VA 22194
703-368-4141 (hotline)
<https://www.actspwc.org/get-help/sexual-assault>
Woodstock (Township)

Response, Inc.
P.O. Box 287
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-5599
540-459-5161 (hotline)
<https://www.responseva.org/>

Wythe County

Family Resource Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 612
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-625-0219
800-613-6145 (hotline)
www.frcinc.org

York County

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children
P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

Transitions Family Violence Services
P.O. Box 561
Hampton, VA 23669-0561
757-722-2261
757-723-7774 (hotline)
www.transitionsfvs.org

Source- Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action
Alliance, updated October 2019. For a current list of all
accredited and non-accredited domestic and sexual
violence programs, visit the Action Alliance's website at
www.vsdvalliance.org

Appendix E – Fatality Review Teams

Virginia's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams

Bedford County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Heather Jones
Interim Director
Bedford Domestic Violence Services
P.O. Box 783
Bedford, VA 24523
(540) 587-0970
Heather.Jones@dss.virginia.gov

Chesterfield County Intimate Partner & Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Lindsay Cassada
Coordinator
Chesterfield County Domestic and Sexual
Violence Resource Center
P.O. Box 40
Chesterfield, VA 23832
(804) 318-8265
cassadal@chesterfield.gov

Colonial Area Family and Intimate Partner Violence Fatality Review Team

(James City County, Poquoson, Williamsburg, York County)

For more information contact:

Amy Jacobson
Colonial Community Corrections
4093 Ironbound Road, Suite B
Williamsburg, VA 23188
(757) 564-2311
Amy.Jacobson@jamestowncountyva.gov

Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Toni Zollicoffer & Jessica Greis-Edwardson

Office for Women & Domestic Violence
Services, Office of the Commonwealth's
Attorney
12000 Government Center Parkway
Suite 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
Chatonia.Zollicoffer@fairfaxcounty.gov
Jessica.Greis-Edwardson@fairfaxcounty.gov

Four Rivers Regional Fatality Review Partnership

(New Kent County, Charles City, King William, King and Queen and the town of West Point)

For more information contact:

Sarah Okolita
Client Services Director
Quin Rivers, Inc.
12025 Courthouse Circle
New Kent, VA 23124
sokolita@quinrivers.org

Franklin County Family Violence Fatality & Community Response Team

For more information contact:

Katrina Hancock
Domestic Violence Advocate Coordinator
Office of the Sheriff, Franklin County VA
70 East Court Street
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
(540) 483-3000 ext. 2407
katrinahancock@franklincountyva.gov

Gloucester County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Ginny Evans
Victim/Witness Assistance Program Director
Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney,
Gloucester County
7400 Justice Drive,
P.O. Box 456
Gloucester, Virginia 23061
(804) 693-4995
vevans@gloucesterva.info

Hampton Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Sanu Dieng
Managing Director
Transitions Family Violence Services
P.O. Box 561
Hampton, VA 23669
(757) 722-2261
sdieng@transitionsfvs.org

Henrico County Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Beth C. Bonniwell, MSW
Senior Management Specialist
Henrico County Police Division
7721 E. Parham Rd.
P.O. Box 90775
Henrico, VA 23273-0775
(804) 501-5732
bon@henrico.us

Loudoun County

For more information contact:

Josephine Gonzalez, MPP
Loudoun Domestic Abuse Response Team
(D.A.R.T.) Coordinator
Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS)
105 East Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176
(703) 443-2810
Josephine.Gonzalez@lcsj.org

Lynchburg City Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Susan Clark
Victim Witness Director
Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, City of
Lynchburg
901 Church St.
P.O. Box 1539
Lynchburg, VA 24505
(434) 455-3766
sclark@ocalynchburg.com

Mathews County Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Sheriff Mark Barrick
PO Box 190
10622 Buckley Hall Road
Mathews, VA 23109
(804) 725-7177
sheriff@co.mathews.va.us

Monticello Area Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

(Albemarle County and City of Charlottesville)

For more information contact:

Jon Zug
Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, Albemarle
County
410 East High St.
Charlottesville, VA 22902
(434) 972-4072
jzug@albemarle.org

Newport News Family and Intimate Partner Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Laura Dobson
Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney -
Victim/Witness
2501 Washington Avenue, 6th Floor
Newport News, VA 23605
(757) 926-7257
ldobson@nnva.gov

Norfolk Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Philip G. Evans
Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney, City of
Norfolk
(757) 664-4815
Phil.Evans@norfolk.gov

Northern Neck/Essex Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

(Counties of Essex, Lancaster, Northumberland,
Richmond, Westmoreland)

For more information contact:

Marcie Clifton

Special Agent, Virginia State Police
 (804) 840-6269
vafinest1@gmail.com

Pulaski County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Mary Beth Pulsifer
 Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley
 Post Office Box 477
 Radford, VA 24143
 (540) 639-5700
cornerstone@wrcnrv.org

City of Richmond Family Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

Sarah Heller
 Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney
 City of Richmond
 1600 Oliver Hill Way
 Oliver Hill Courthouse
 Richmond, VA 23219
 (804) 646-3530
Sarah.Heller@richmond.gov

Roanoke Valley Regional Family and Intimate Partner Violence Fatality Review Team

(County of Roanoke, Cities of Roanoke and Salem, Town of Vinton)

For more information contact:

Melissa Ratcliff Harper
 Forensic Nurse Examiner
 Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital
 1906 Bellevue Avenue
 Roanoke, VA 24014
 (540)521-0365 or (540)266-6025
mrharper@carilionclinic.org

Washington/Bristol Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

(County of Washington, City of Bristol)

For more information contact:

Jerry Wolfe
 City of Bristol Commonwealth Attorney's Office
 210 Piedmont Avenue
 Suite 2
 Bristol, VA 24201
 (276) 645-7200
jawolfe@bristolva.org

Statewide Technical Assistance

Family and Intimate Partner Violent Death Prevention Projects

Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

737 North 5th Street, Suite 301

Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 205-3856

