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December 31, 2021

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

Enclosed is the 2021 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

2021 Annual Report

Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia



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Attorney General of Virginia
Office of the Attorney General

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Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia

2021 Annual Report

Office of the Attorney General

Domestic Violence Initiatives

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Electronic copies of the Attorney General's 2021 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.

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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.

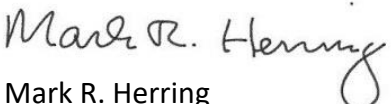
I would like to thank the following agencies and organizations for helping to provide that network of resources and for their contributions to this report: the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, the Virginia Department of Corrections, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the 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 2021, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and collaborating agencies and organizations had to continue working in 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

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 2021, there were more than 70,000 calls to domestic and sexual violence hotlines across the state.¹ A total of 3,939 adults and 2,361 children received 216,725 nights of emergency or temporary shelter due to domestic violence; however, 405 families requesting shelter services were turned away due to lack of shelter space.² A total of 56,610 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 2020 and 2021, 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 continue to make accommodations in order to provide assistance, advocacy, counseling, shelter, etc. for victims of domestic and sexual violence while COVID-19 mitigation protocols remained. For example:

- In CY2021, the Commonwealth's Attorneys Services Council's Violence Against Women Resource Prosecutor (VAWRP) organized and implemented over 50 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 30 hours of in-service PIC credit training to officers in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault.⁴
- The OAG's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative (SAKI) has coordinated with law enforcement agencies across Virginia 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.⁵
- The OAG conducted a third inventory, this time looking at PERKs that had undergone testing, but with early technology that did not allow for uploading DNA profiles to the DNA databank. The inventory began January 2021 and was completed by July 2021 with 100% participation by all law enforcement agencies in Virginia. DFS reviewed almost 800 cases listed on inventories to

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

² *Id.*

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

⁴ Information provided by the Commonwealth's Attorneys Services Council

⁵ Information provided by the Office of the Attorney General

determine the most recent form of testing; identifying almost 600 cases that qualify to be tested with current DNA technology.⁶

- In 2021, the Office of the Executive Secretary for the Supreme Court of Virginia (OES) provided 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. Fifty-nine (59) new magistrates have attended certification training in 2021.
- As of September 2021, Hope Cards (a wallet-sized card containing essential information about a final protective order), created by OES, are available in one-hundred eleven (111) courts in Virginia. Out of these 111 courts, seventy (70) are juvenile and domestic relations district courts; twenty-five (25) are general district courts; and sixteen (16) are circuit courts. In the first nine months of 2021, forty (40) new courts signed on to become a Hope Card court. Of the forty newly participating Hope Card courts, nine (9) were circuit courts, nineteen (19) were general district courts, and twelve (12) were juvenile and domestic relations district courts.⁷
- The Domestic Violence Action Team (DVAT), a statewide multidisciplinary team focused on improving domestic violence services, completed the first phase of the Promising Practices Guide (PPG) based on requests from the field and a recognition of gaps in service across the Commonwealth. The PPG is 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 PPG 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 an entry. These entries include concrete strategies for implementing promising practices and highlight domestic violence programs in Virginia who are already making strides in certain programmatic areas.⁸

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 2022, 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.

⁶ Id.

⁷ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia

⁸ Information provided by the Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence

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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.”⁹

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 the various

⁹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (2013).

relationships that fall within the broader definition of domestic violence include "family abuse" (see below), "spousal abuse," and "intimate partner violence."¹⁰

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 (§ 18.2-67.2),

¹⁰ "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.

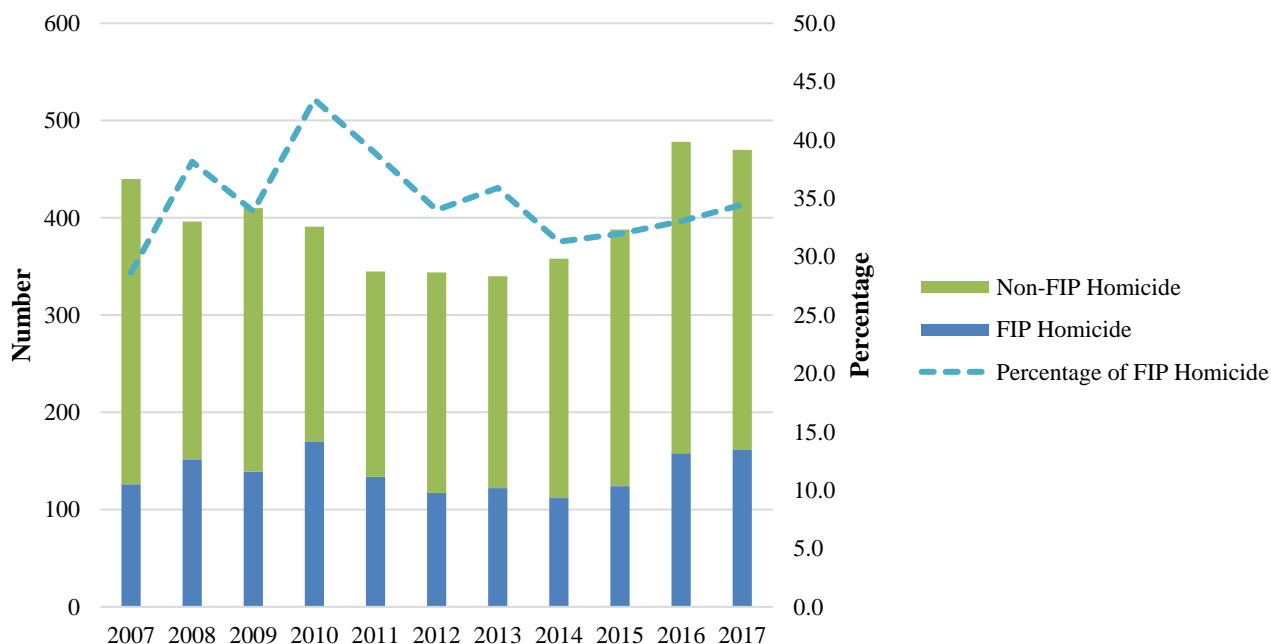
aggravated sexual battery (§ 18.2-67.3), sexual battery (§ 18.2-67.4), and attempted sexual offenses (§ 18.2-67.5). For state crime reporting purposes, the Incident Based Reporting System used by the Virginia Department of State Police defines “forcible sexual offenses” as forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling. “Non-forcible sexual offenses” include incest and statutory rape.¹¹ For federal reporting purposes, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting System defines a rape as “penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim..”¹²

Family and Intimate Partner Violence Related Homicides¹³

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)



¹¹ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020 (2021)*.

¹² Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 2019 (2020)* (website accessed November 22, 2021).

¹³ 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 2020, approximately 51% of 15,713 violent crimes committed in Virginia and reported to law enforcement agencies were committed in a home or residence.¹⁴

¹⁴ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020 (2021)*. 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 household members” for purposes of this report include spouse, “common law” spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandparent, grandchild, in-law,

Assaults

Of the 15,713 violent crimes reported in 2020, there were 9,976 aggravated assault offenses with 12,331 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, 33% were committed against family members or dating partners.¹⁵

In 2020, 18,863 arrests were made across the Commonwealth for assault and battery against a family or household member.¹⁶ Of the charges filed, 3,222 (17%) resulted in convictions.¹⁷ Of these arrests, a significant number of individuals were charged as repeat offenders. There were 1,063 felony charges for third or subsequent offenses of assault and battery against a family or household member resulting in 689 convictions.¹⁸ Felony arrests and convictions for assault and battery against a family or household member were lower in 2020 than 2019. 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.”¹⁹ 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 one unwanted contact per week. Eleven percent (11%) of stalking

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

stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, ex-spouse, or other family member. “Intimate partner” or “dating partner” includes a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship or homosexual relationship.

¹⁵ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

¹⁶ Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). 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.

¹⁷Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). See Appendix A. Conviction information is based upon disposition data available as of October 26, 2021.

¹⁸ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

¹⁹ 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).

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.²⁰ 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.²¹

In 2020, a total of 505 arrests, a 9% decrease from 2019, were made for stalking in Virginia, resulting in 87 convictions, which is approximately a 26% decrease convictions.²² The majority of stalking cases resulted in non-convictions (406 cases or 80%).²³

Data indicates 1% increase in the number of emergency protective orders (EPOs) for acts of violence, force, or threat from 2019 to 2020. From January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, 18,578 EPOs were issued for acts of violence, force, or threat. Based upon the most recent data available for 2021, from January 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021, 9,253 EPOs were issued.²⁴ There were 1,289 arrests and 391 convictions for violating a protective order for acts of violence, force, or threat.²⁵ This represents an 11% decrease in arrests and convictions from 2019 to 2020.

Sex Offenses

The total number of violent crimes reported in 2020 includes 4,423 forcible sex offenses involving 4,679 victims.²⁶ 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 86% were female.²⁷ Fifty-two percent (52%) of reported victims, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.²⁸

- In 2020, there were **696 juvenile offenders and 3,438 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** (52%) of reported victims of forcible sex offenses, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.
- Approximately **one in three** (37%) 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 (82%) were committed by perpetrators known by or acquainted with the victim, including a substantial percentage of offenses committed by family or household members or dating

²⁰ 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).

²¹ *Id.*

²² Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). The data includes arrests and convictions for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

²³ Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). The conviction data includes arrests for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

²⁴ E-Magistrate reporting data provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

²⁵ Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). The conviction data includes arrests for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, Virginia Code § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

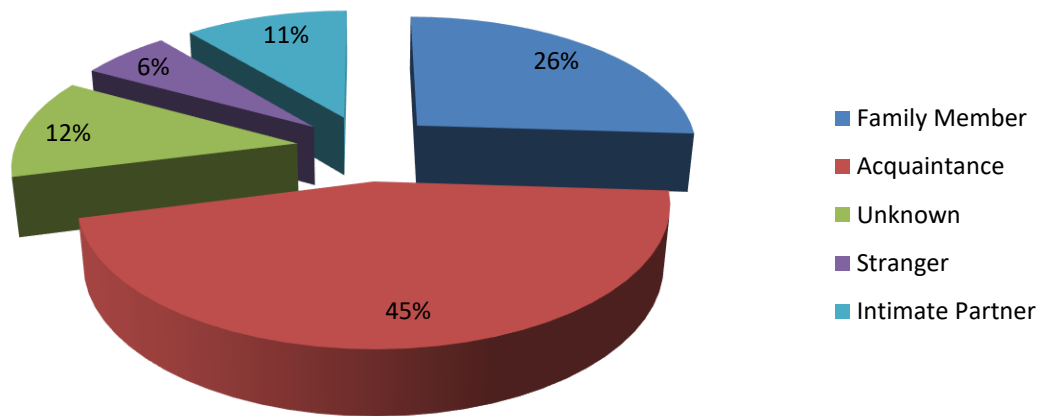
²⁶ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020 (2021)*.

²⁷ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020 (2021)*.

²⁸ *Id.* The number for victims under the age of 18 reflects victims in the 0-17 age range.

partners (37%). Of the remaining offenses reported, 45% were committed by acquaintances, 12% were committed by unknown/unreported assailants and 6% were committed by strangers.²⁹ (Figure 2)

Figure 2: Forcible Sex Offenses--Relationship to the Offender, 2020



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

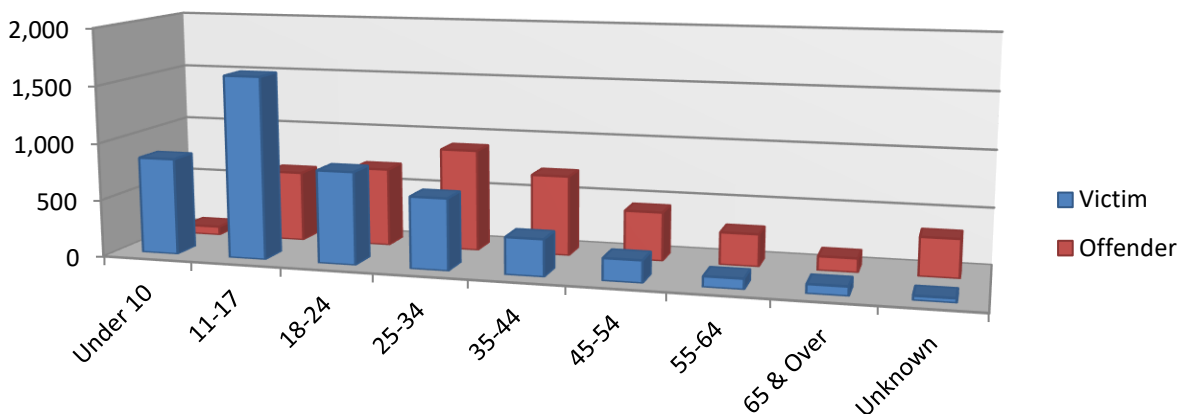
Of the forcible sex offenses reported by law enforcement agencies in 2020, 1,506 were forcible rapes or attempted rapes.³⁰ Approximately one half (52%) of the forcible rapes reported were committed against male and female victims under the age of 18. Another 16% were committed against females between the ages of 18 and 24.³¹ As shown in Figure 3, approximately one fifth of offenders (16%) were between the ages of 18 and 24.

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ *Id.*

³¹ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

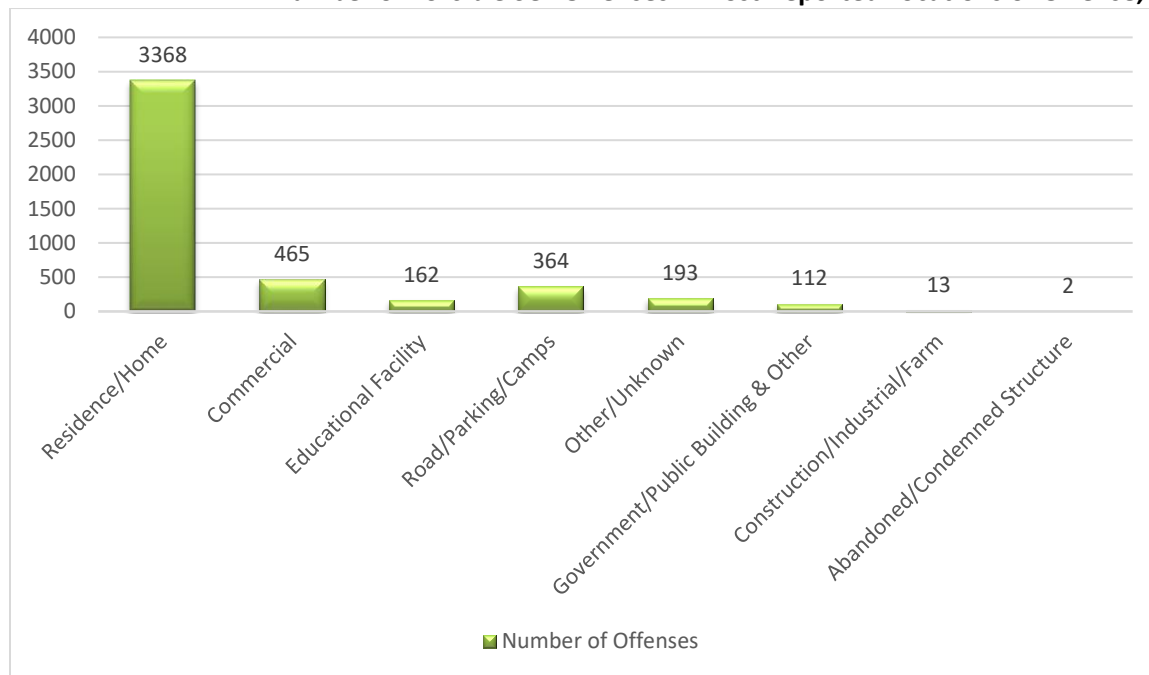
Figure3: Forcible Rape, Victims and Offenders by Age



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

In addition, the majority (76%) of forcible sex offenses reported in 2020 occurred in a residence or home (Table 2)

TABLE 2: Number of Forcible Sex Offenses – Most Reported Locations of Offense, 2020



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2020* (2021).

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 2020 , nearly three quarters (74%) 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 77% 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).³²

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 2020, a total of 56,610 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. Of the 25,329 protective orders issued, 9,640 were issued for acts of violence, force or threat and 15,689 were issued for family abuse.³³ In addition to the protective orders issued, 735 protective orders were issued in a violation of a protective order case and 153 protective orders issued in a criminal matter, a 40% decrease from 2020.³⁴

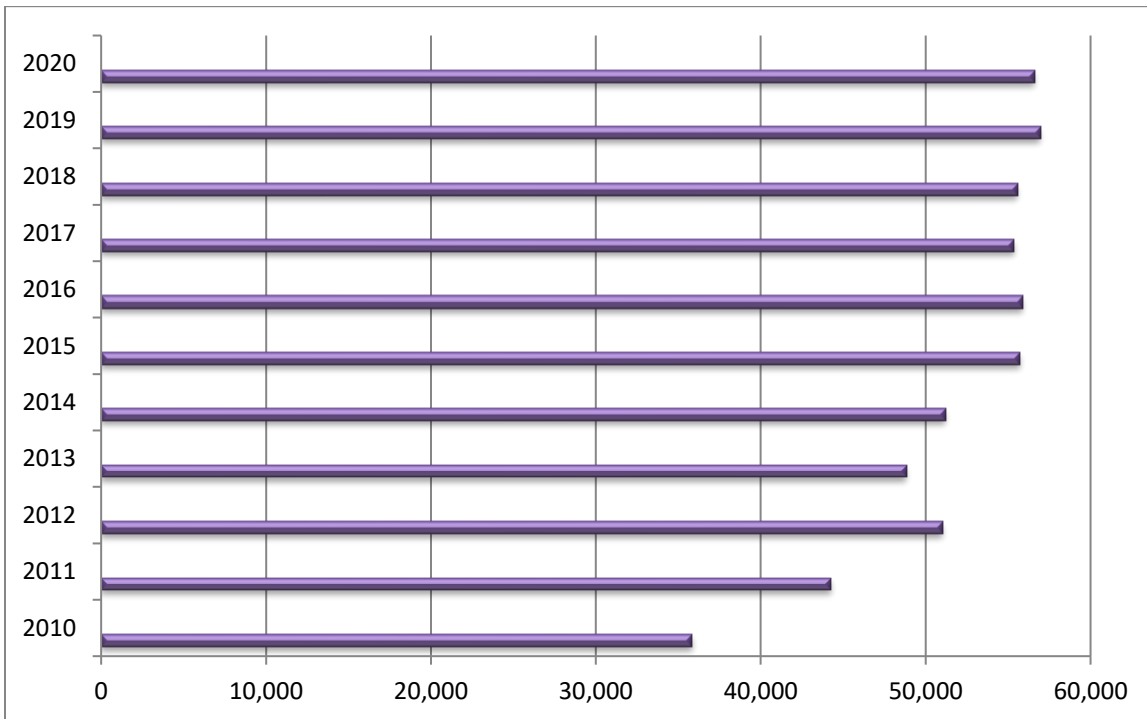
³² Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.4, 16.1-253.1, 16.1-279.1, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9, 19.2-152.10.

³³ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

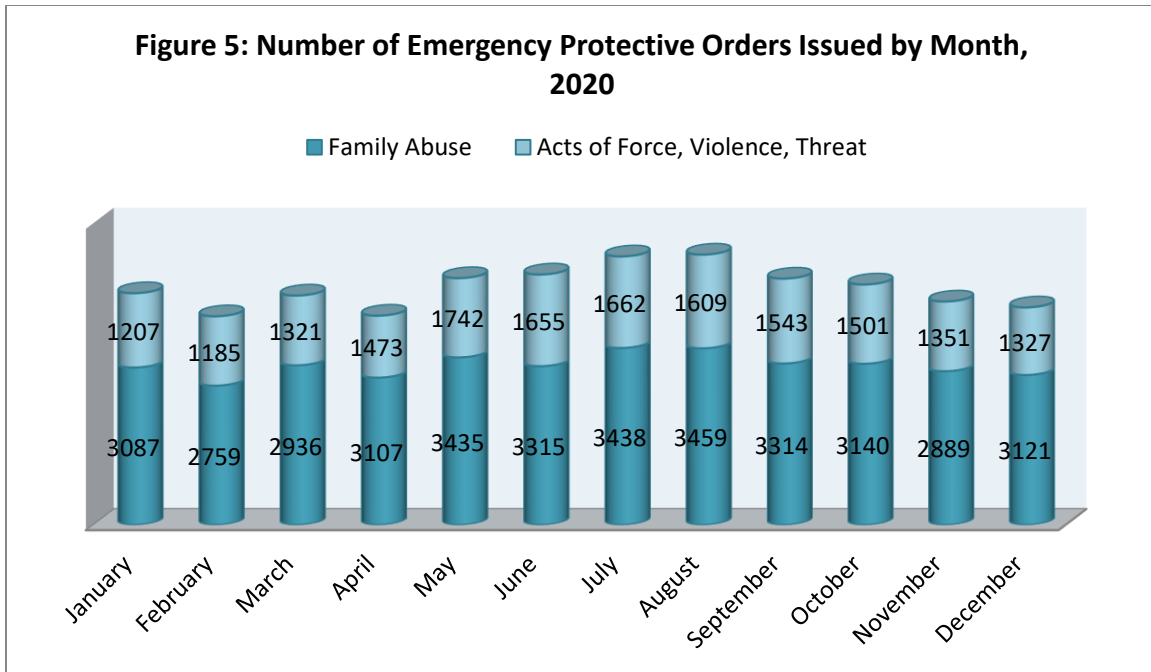
³⁴ Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia. This represents both family abuse orders and acts of violence, force, or threat protective orders.

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 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.³⁵ 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.³⁶

In 2020, 5,402 persons were arrested for violating family abuse protective orders, a 11% increase in arrests from 2018 to 2019 (Figure 6).³⁷ Of the 4,444 arrests, 36% resulted in convictions.

Persons Receiving Domestic Violence Services in 2020

- **21%** reported that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **28%** 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 - VADATA Report, 2020 (2021)*.

³⁵ See Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.2.

³⁶ See Va. Code § 18.2-60.4.

³⁷ Data from the Virginia State Police (October 26, 2021). 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

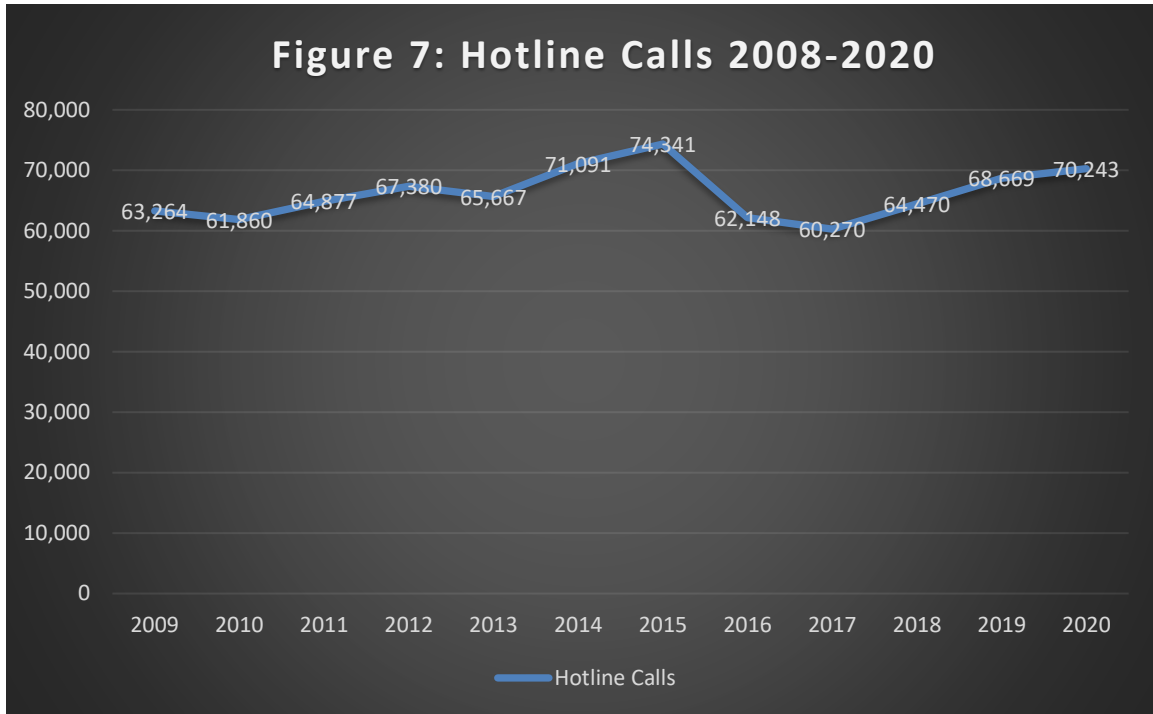
On July 1, 2011, the protective order system in Virginia underwent a number of legislative changes, particularly related to the availability of non-family abuse protective orders, or "protective orders for acts of violence, force, or threat," (formerly protective orders for stalking, sexual battery, 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 2020. (Figure 7) From 2019 to 2020, there was a 3% increase in the number of hotline calls received. In 2020, the pandemic played a large role in the number of adults and children receiving services for domestic and sexual violence in Virginia. The numbers reflect significant decreases in those seeking services. (Figure 8). The number of adults receiving domestic violence advocacy services decreased by 12% from 2019 to 2020, and the number of children

receiving domestic violence advocacy services decreased by 10%. Adults receiving sexual violence advocacy services decreased by 22%, and children receiving sexual violence services decreased by 21% from 2019 to 2020.³⁸



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2020 (2009-2021)*

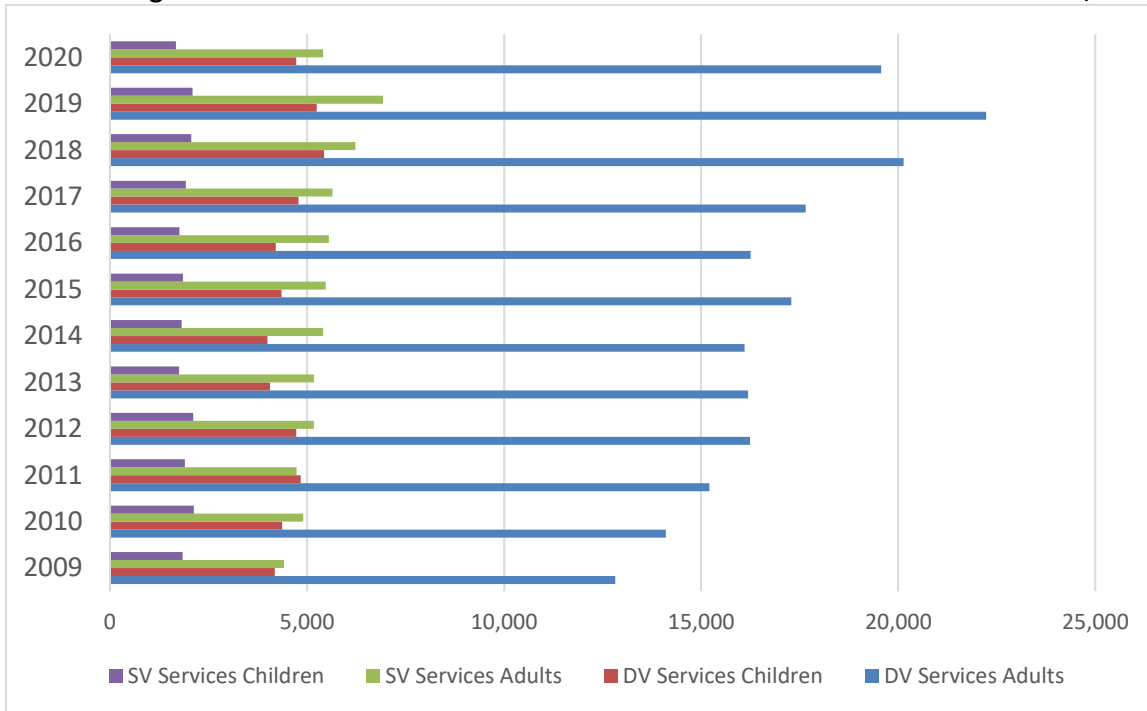
In 2020, local domestic and sexual violence service providers from 70 local programs responded to 70,243 hotline calls through Virginia domestic and sexual violence hotlines.³⁹ Through hotline calls, local programs responded to requests for services, including crisis intervention, counseling and support, emergency housing/shelter, emergency financial assistance, safety planning, transportation, and information/referral. Local domestic violence programs also provided a total of 242, 646 hours of advocacy services to 19,565 adults and 4,723 children.⁴⁰

³⁸ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2020 (2021)*.

³⁹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2020 (2021)*.

⁴⁰ *Id.*

Figure 8: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services to Adults and Children, 2009-2020



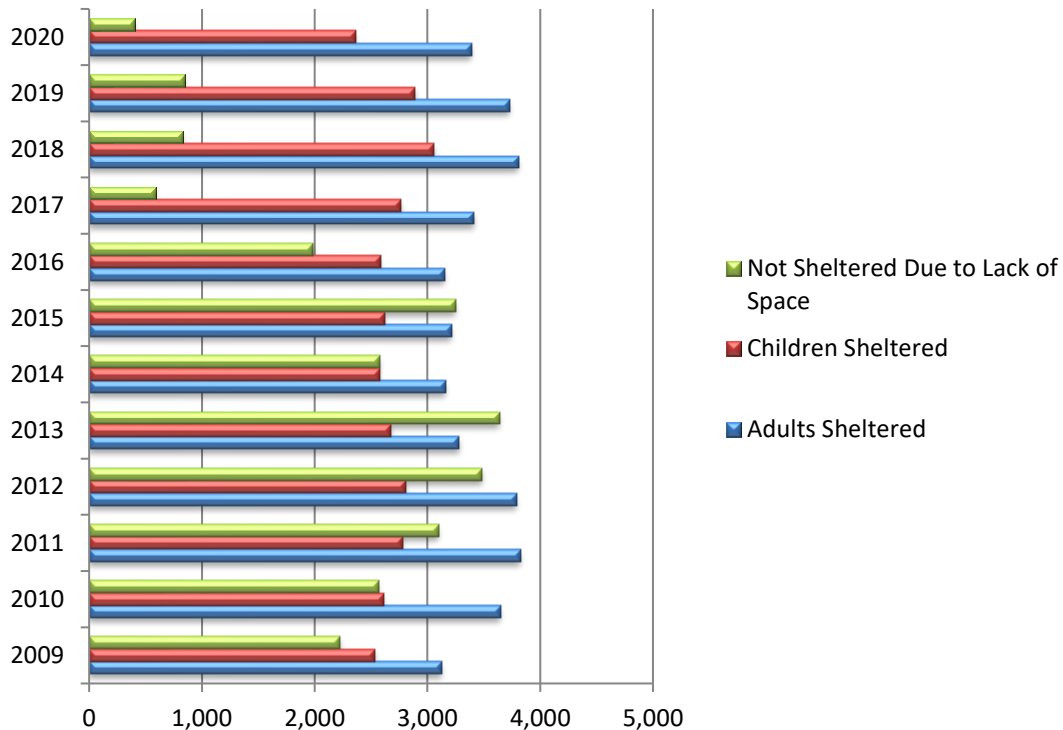
Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2020* (2009-2021).

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 2020, shelter programs provided 216,725 nights of emergency shelter to 3,393 adults and 2,361 children due to domestic violence.⁴¹ 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 2020 were able to secure shelter accommodations. A total of 405 families who requested shelter services in 2020 were turned away, representing a 53% decrease in rejection from 2019.⁴² (Figure 9)

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2020* (2021).

Figure 9: Shelter Services - Victims Sheltered and Turned Away, 2009-2020



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdata Reports 2009-2020* (2010-2021).

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 2020, local programs provided 101,985 nights of transitional housing to 328 adults and children.⁴³

Persons Receiving Sexual Violence Services in 2020

- **25% of victims** reported that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **20% of victims** reported missed time from work, school, and/or a loss of income as a result of sexual violence.
- **77%** 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, 2020* (2021).

In 2020, sexual violence service providers across the Commonwealth provided 5,408 adults and 1,670 child victims with 72,621 hours of advocacy services to ease the emotional trauma and to facilitate the reporting process.⁴⁴ (Figure 8) Of the children who received services in local crisis centers, 15% reported that they had been violated by a parent.⁴⁵

⁴³ *Id.*

⁴⁴ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2019* (2020).

⁴⁵ *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 SOURCES⁴⁶

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

The federal Crime Victims Fund (CVF) 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 FFY15 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 were significant, peaking in FFY18 with an award totaling over \$85 million. Concurrent with the increase in VOCA cap levels, deposits into the CVF began to decrease. As a result, the VOCA cap and thus VOCA awards to states have decreased. DCJS's FFY19 award was \$57.8 million, approximately \$27.5 million less than the FFY18 award. The FFY20 award was \$42.7 million, and \$26.6 million in FFY21.

⁴⁶Funding 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).

In an attempt to address declining deposits and sustainability concerns with the CVF, the “VOCA Fix” Act (H.R. 1652 VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021), was passed in August 2021. Among other provisions, the VOCA Fix Act allows for monies from deferred prosecutions to be deposited into the CVF. Future VOCA funding levels remain uncertain, but the VOCA Fix Act is an important piece of legislation in assuring the continuance of CVF-supported funding in the future.

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 2021, the Criminal Justice Services Board awarded over \$45 million in federal VOCA funds 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 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 2020, there were a total of 91 initiatives funded in Virginia, including 23 in the law enforcement category, 21 in the prosecution category, 1 in the courts category, 34 in the victim services category, and 12 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 2020, there were 376 training events that were funded with VSTOP, training a total of 4,918 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 2020, victim services sub-grantees provided services to 1,015 victims of sexual violence, 8,205 victims of domestic violence, and 1,360 victims of stalking. Grant-funded staff served 1,726 secondary victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This includes counseling services to 5,035 victims, and criminal justice support and civil legal advocacy to 11,474 victims.

Additionally, VSTOP-funded law enforcement officers investigated 1,988 cases related to domestic, sexual, and/or dating violence, or stalking. In 2020, VSTOP-funded prosecutors handled 2,700 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 2020 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 2021, DCJS awarded a total of \$525,306 in SASP funds to support 24 eligible sexual assault crisis centers.

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 2021, VSDVVF grants were awarded to 18 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.

During fiscal year 2021, the VSDVVF prosecution grantees provided services to 7,802 victims of domestic violence, 280 victims of sexual violence, and 89 victims of stalking. In addition, VSDVVF-funded prosecution grantees handled 9,991 charges involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Additionally, in fiscal year 2021, projects funded under the discretionary category of the VSDVVF provided training and information to 888 allied professionals and community members on the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. VSDVVF discretionary category grantees also provided direct services to 3,205 victims of domestic violence, 1,426 victims of sexual assault, and 283 victims of stalking, while 1,860 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 2021 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 13 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 2021, 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 2021 was \$18,857,236.

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 FY21, FACT received \$145,448 in funding from its license plate campaign and approximately \$24,000 from state income tax returns and \$10,000 in donations.

GRANT PROGRAMS

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 \$2,641,878 in FVPSA funds, renewing contracts to 52 local programs, six community-based organizations and the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance. Fourteen of the local programs begin or continued to provide and expand primary prevention efforts during FY 2021

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 2021 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 13 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 \$5,345,542 in TANF grant funds to support 52 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.

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.

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 2021, 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 2021, 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 VAdata, 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 legal advocacy in Virginia.

CARES Act Funding

The Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) appropriated funds for FVPSA funded agencies to provide temporary housing, assistance and supportive services to victims of domestic violence in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. DSS was awarded \$894,681 which was distributed through contract modifications. Because some agencies had access to sufficient funding from other sources, only 48 of the local domestic violence programs and five of the community-based organizations opted-in to the CARES Act funding in FY 2021.

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council⁴⁷

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 CY2021, the VAWRP organized and implemented over 50 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 30 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 two statewide programs and two week-long intensive 5-day trainings. The VAWRP anticipates traveling to 2 jurisdictions for before year end (CY2021) to provide training as well.

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 15 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.

Trauma to Trial confronts these statistics and focuses on overcoming the numerous challenges associated with investigating and prosecuting these difficult cases 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 conducts 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 approximately 12 teams of law enforcement officers and prosecutors on all facets of domestic violence 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 not have funding for training. The *Trauma to Trial* budget includes funding for students' lodging, meals, and training expenses.

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

⁴⁷ Information provided by the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council.

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 2020, the OAG has provided ten application assistant trainings to local domestic and sexual violence programs, victim witness assistance programs, and law enforcement. In 2021, fourteen application assistant trainings have been provided. Currently, there are 217 families in the ACP program and 504 active participants, including men, women, and children.⁴⁸

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,

⁴⁸ Data pulled on November 12, 2021

and immigrant populations. In 2021, 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*. The OAG worked with the Department of Professional, Occupational, Regulation (DPOR) to host a hoarding training virtually. It was determined the Links: Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse and Animal Fighting could not be recreated for a virtual training. With VSTOP funding, the OAG provided training on ACP, Domestic Violence Resources, and workplace violence via webinar for the Fair Housing Office, and the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals

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.

A total of 7 new jurisdictions have applied and have been accepted in the Virginia’s LAP Program in 2021. Those jurisdictions include, Independence Police Department and Galax Police Department with their DV service partner Family Resource Center, INC. , Louisa County Sheriff’s Office with their DV service provider Shelter for Help in Emergency, Rocky Mount Police Department with their DV service partner The Franklin County Family Resource Center, Luray Police Department, Stanley police Department and Page County Sherriff’s Office. Four of the Seven new jurisdictions have been trained virtually and have begun implementing the program. Virtual curriculums were created to assist these new and future communities who were very eager to get their LAP programs running.

Harrisonburg County partnering along with First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence Inc. had previously been accepted into the program back in the beginning of 2020. Due to COVID restrictions along with several leadership changes within the police department delaying their training, this LAP team was successfully trained virtually in September of 2021.

Currently, the number of law enforcement jurisdictions trained by the OAG and state partners stands at 53 statewide. As 2022 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 2021, the statewide LAP team continued hosting virtual quarterly meetings for LAP coordinators from the 53 jurisdictions. During these meetings, jurisdictions share strategies for sustaining successful LAP programs as well as any trends in their areas.

Verizon Wireless Update

Since 2016, the OAG has provided LAP jurisdictions with donated cell phones from Verizon to assist law enforcement officers with following the LAP protocol. As of June 2021 Verizon, was unable to continue to provide service to the phones as they no longer support any 3g devices, ahead of their preplanned December 2021 termination. Furthermore, Verizon has terminated this program to provide replacement phones as their philanthropic efforts have changed direction.

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) began a partnership in 2015 under two grants to test previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits, known in Virginia as Physical Evidence Recovery Kits (PERKs). These PERKs were identified in two separate state-wide inventories of law enforcement agencies. In 2020, that partnership expanded to include the Unsolved Violent Crimes and Cold Cases Unit (UVCCC) of the Virginia State Police's Fusion Center to address a larger number of unsolved, cold case sexual assaults and sexually motivated homicides. The UVCCC provides intelligence analysis and investigative support to local, state, and federal investigative agencies. The OAG, with support from DFS and UVCCC, applied for and received two additional grants totaling over \$2 million to continue testing sexual assault kits, providing investigative support and training to local law enforcement and multidisciplinary teams, and supporting the PERK Tracking System.

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.

Over the course of the project, OAG staff coordinated with law enforcement agencies across Virginia 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 remain ongoing, though many are seeing delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Three cases have resulted in an arrest so far; one of which resulted in a conviction and the other two are currently awaiting trial.

As part of the new grants, the OAG conducted a third inventory, this time looking at PERKs that had undergone testing, but with early technology that did not allow for uploading DNA profiles to the DNA databank. The inventory began January 2021 and was completed by July 2021 with 100% participation by all law enforcement agencies in Virginia. DFS reviewed almost 800 cases listed on inventories to determine the most recent form of testing; identifying almost 600 cases that qualify to be tested with current DNA technology. These PERKs will be outsourced for testing beginning early 2022.

The OAG staff, comprised of a project coordinator, investigator, and advocate, provides direct outreach and support to each locality. The OAG staff has conducted in person meetings, virtual meetings and trainings in both in person and virtual formats to multidisciplinary teams across Virginia. 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. The OAG staff also provides direct support to law enforcement agencies by assisting with investigations and direct support to survivors of sexual assault. The UVCCC will soon add two additional analysts to their team to provide direct analytical and investigative support to law enforcement agencies investigating cold case sexual assaults and sexually motivated homicides.

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. Compliance with PERK legislation and use of the tracking system is monitored by DFS, who also provides training and intervention when necessary to ensure compliance with these important laws.

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. Between October 2020 and June 2021, the HRHTTF has expanded its partnership to include Mathews County, the York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office, and the Chesapeake Sheriff’s Office. The HRHTTF continues to increase partnerships with localities and victim service providers and will continue to grow through the coming year. 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 2020 and June 2021, the HRHTTF has opened 28 investigations, made 20 arrests, identified 46 victims, and prosecuted six cases. The Outreach and Training committee provided 12 trainings to various community groups, such as Hampton-Newport News Criminal Justice Agency, Portsmouth Public School, and Virginia Victims' Fund; 2 media/social media outreach events that included a radio interview for the Hearsay Podcast Show and a Facebook Live discussion panel for the Fear 2 Freedom Organization. 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 have 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 20 minor victims of human trafficking and currently have 16 active cases open.

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 on post-conviction matters. Services are provided to victims, witnesses, and family members. VNP also assists victims throughout the Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) civil commitment process. Although the program receives request from victims of a broad range of crimes, 42% percent of the victims seeking services in 2020 involved cases related to domestic and sexual violence. Direct 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 Virginia⁴⁹

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.

In 2021, 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). 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. Total funding to support specified domestic violence projects in 2021 was \$206,916 (\$155,187 plus \$51,729 in match), which represents level funding from 2021.

OES also receives funding from the Office on Violence Against Women through their Domestic Violence Mentor Court Technical Assistance Initiative. Total funding for this two-year (2020-2022) grant is \$149,574. 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 April of 2021, all thirty-seven (37) newly appointed judges attended a session entitled, "Dynamics of Domestic Violence—Concepts and Myths," at pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. In June of 2021, all new judges also attended a protective order training session as part of their pre-bench training. Out of the thirty-seven judges, ten (10) were circuit court judges, sixteen (16) were general district court judges, and eleven (11) were juvenile and domestic relations district court judges.

⁴⁹ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

The 2021 version of the Virginia Domestic and Sexual Violence Reference Manual for District Court Judges was updated and distributed to all thirty-seven (37) new judges at their June pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. This manual is also available to judges and court personnel on the Virginia Courts Intranet site.

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. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 risk, all four trainings this year were done online using the WebEx platform. In 2021, 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. Fifty-nine (59) new magistrates have attended certification training in 2021.

Attendance at a regional training, either online or by viewing video recordings of the online proceedings, is required for all magistrates. In June of 2021, magistrates were updated on new legislation, including new firearms restrictions on those convicted of assault and battery of family/household members, changes to child protective orders, and emergency orders for adult protective services. Although these offenses are not necessarily related to domestic or sexual violence, they can arise in that context.

Magistrates were also provided with a review of recent court decisions, including some related to protective order violations and child abuse. 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.

For clerks of court, in the latter part of 2020, domestic violence training for general district court clerks included a substantial risk order training in November of 2020 with forty-nine (49) general district court clerks attending. For circuit court clerks, two (2) training sessions on protective orders took place in August and October of 2020 with a total of one hundred ninety-two (192) circuit court clerks attending.

In 2021, a special protective order training for the City of Richmond general district court took place in August with thirty-eight (38) general district court clerks attending. For juvenile and domestic relations district court, three (3) virtual trainings took place on protective orders, one in the spring of 2021 and two in late September 2021. A total of two hundred twenty-three (223) juvenile and domestic relation district court clerks attended. As of September 2021, seven (7) circuit court clerks and five (5) general district court clerks received training on Hope Cards for protective orders.

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 2020, eleven (11) courts, judges, or magistrates took advantage of the “Local Court” funding to support local domestic violence improvement projects, events, or to attend domestic violence training. Out of the eleven courts, judges, or magistrates funded, five (5) were local domestic violence improvement projects; and six (6) were either hosting or attending virtual domestic violence training events.

In the first nine months of 2021, seventeen (17) courts, judges, or magistrates applied for V-STOP local court funding. Out of the seventeen courts, judges, or magistrates funded, three (3) were local domestic violence improvement projects; two (2) were to host local domestic violence training events; and twelve (12) judges or magistrates applied for funds to attend a domestic violence training.

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 2020, a total of 2,526 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (1,351 family abuse and 1,175 non-family abuse). In the first six months of 2021, a total of 1,440 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (765 family abuse and 675 non-family abuse).

As of September 2021, one hundred nine (109) general district courts have a public access workstation at their court. These workstations provide the public with the ability to search for and view public case information, provide the public with access to court forms and I-CAN! Virginia. This service allows petitioners to complete their protective order paperwork online at the courthouse with the assistance of I-CAN! Virginia. Once a workstation is installed, each court is sent a supply of I-CAN! Virginia brochures and materials to accompany the workstation.

In 2020, new public access workstations were installed in thirteen (13) general districts courts throughout the Commonwealth. For the first nine months of 2021, a total of nine (9) new workstations were installed at various general district courts throughout the Commonwealth.

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 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 2021, Hope Cards are available in one-hundred eleven (111) courts in Virginia. Out of these 111 courts, seventy (70) are juvenile and domestic relations district courts; twenty-five (25) are general district courts; and sixteen (16) are circuit courts. In the first nine months of 2021, forty (40) new courts signed on to become a Hope Card court. Of the forty newly participating Hope Card courts, nine (9) were circuit courts, nineteen (19) were general district courts, and twelve (12) were juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

In 2020, a total of five hundred and forty-one (541) Hope Cards were issued. In the first nine months of 2021, a total of nine hundred and three (903) Hope Cards were issued.

Mentor Court Program

The Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court was designated as a national domestic violence mentor court by the Office on Violence Against Women in late 2020. A mentor court coordinator was hired, with planning and resource development taking place in 2021. A comprehensive court resource guide is near completion for rural courts who would like to visit Pulaski and learn from their domestic violence dockets and best practices. Three mentee courts have been matched with Pulaski and technical assistance will begin in early 2022.

The Family and Children’s Trust Fund of Virginia⁵⁰

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, 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 FY20, FACT received approximately \$145,448 in funding from its license plate campaign and \$24,000 from state income tax returns and \$10,000 from donations.

In FY20, FACT successfully administered 7 grants for the FY2020-2022 grant period. The grants support regionally based, trauma-informed community network grants. 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 series on Systems of Trauma. The Systems of Trauma series explores how societal injustices interconnect and exacerbate individual toxic stress caused by family violence. Two topics in that series were completed, examining systems of Poverty and Racism. Due to personal changes and the state hiring freeze, the series was placed on hold during the second part of FY 2020.

Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Center on Aging⁵¹

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

⁵⁰ Information provided by the Family and Children’s Trust Fund. Additional information available is at: <http://www.fact.state.va.us/>.

⁵¹ Information provided by the Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University.

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, 2020 – June 30, 2021. VCoA received funding from the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence 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 the counties of Hopewell and New Kent. 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.

Highlights from 2020-2021 include the following meetings/ professional development presentations:

- 9/15/2020: *YWCA of Richmond: Introduction to the Organization*, presented by Caitlin Shiflett
- 12/2/2020: Gabriela Telepman offered an overview of the work being done via her organization, *Latinos in Virginia Empowerment Center (LIVE)*

- 3/17/2021: *Getting to know Dispatch Health*. presented by Mary Catharine Kolbert
- 6/17/2021: Charles “Chuck” Rose provided an overview of his organization, *InnovAge Virginia PACE -- Richmond*

- 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)

Staff also serves on workgroups (Multi-Disciplinary Teams) in two counties 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 and Henrico.

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

Other groups VCoA offered technical assistance/consultation/training to the following agencies/organizations:

- A Better Place Consulting
- Bristol County’s Adult Protective Services
- Chesterfield County
 - Department of Social Services
 - Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Richmond City
 - Commonwealth Attorney’s Office
 - Victim/Witness Assistance Program
- Henrico County Police Department
- The Live Center
- Thrive Virginia
- VA Veteran & Family Support
- VCU’s I-CAN Accessibility Project
- Virginia’s Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
- Virginia Poverty Law Center
- Washington County’s Commonwealth Attorney’s Office

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

Staff worked with two consultants to create online training curriculum for law enforcement supervisors. This curriculum was entitled, *No Locked Doors: Law Enforcement Response to Elder Abuse*. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) awarded two (2) hours of Career Development credits for the course, which was held on June 30, 2021. Six (6) executive level law enforcement officers were in attendance.

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

- Because of the pandemic, all training for FY 2020-2021 moved to the online platform of Zoom. Three (3) new sets of curricula were developed with support by Abuse in Later Life staff, with each course

receiving two (2) hours of Career Development credits, awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). They were as follows:

- *Making the Case: An In-Depth Look at Elder Abuse & Financial Exploitation* (11.9.20)
- *Connecting the Dots: Evidence Collection & Elder Abuse Cases* (12.11.21, 1.12.21)
- *Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together: Concurrent Investigations & Elder Abuse* (6.10.21)
- A total of **109** officers were trained.

Additional training events provided to the following agencies/organizations:

- Commonwealth Coordinated Care (CCC) Plus Care Coordinators, via Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services
- Hanover Safe Place
- Safe Harbor
- A total of **584** professionals were trained via these events.

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 a collaboration between the VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities and the VCU School of Social Work that is currently funded by a grant awarded through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund and V-STOP. The Project has been continuously awarded funding since 2007. 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 modules for citizens with disabilities in 2007. The Project continues to provide recommendations related to the accessibility of the modules and receives updates from OES about which recommendations were incorporated into the module. During the past year (2020-2021) the Project has focused on collaborating with domestic and sexual violence service organizations to make services more available and inclusive to people with disabilities.

The Project developed the *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 accessible formats including braille, large print, English, Spanish, and in Microsoft Word for people who use screen readers. Around 400 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, which includes statewide and Richmond resources for survivors, can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXNzNB4hIC492Q0iVxWaMMw>

The Project recently launched a statewide online training program for domestic violence and sexual assault providers. The modules are designed to help domestic violence and sexual assault providers enhance their services for people with disabilities. The modules are free and CEU credits are available. The modules can be accessed here: <https://sites.google.com/vcu.edu/abusesurvivorswithdisabilities/home>

The modules are provided in English and closed-captioned English. To date over 963 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.

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services⁵²

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;
- 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 almost 380 grants, totaling approximately \$61 million in grant awards (*as of October 2021*).
- 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.

⁵² Information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

- 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.

Virginia Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence

Pursuant to Code of Virginia [§ 9.1-116.2](#), the Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence (Advisory Committee) was established in 2015. The Advisory Committee has the responsibility of advising and assisting the Criminal Justice Services Board and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), other state agencies, departments, boards, and institutions of the Commonwealth, along with units of local government, on matters related to the prevention and reduction of sexual and domestic violence in Virginia. In addition, the Advisory Committee will promote the efficient administration of grant funds to state and local programs that provide sexual and domestic violence services.

In 2021, the composition of the Advisory Committee was changed. Previously comprised of 15 members, the Advisory Committee now totals 19 members. The members include the following or their designee:

1. Commissioner of Social Services
2. Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services
3. Commissioner of Health
4. Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development
5. Executive Director of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
6. Executive Director of the Virginia Victim Assistance Network
7. Member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules
8. Member of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House
9. Chairman of the Virginia State Crime Commission
10. Attorney General of Virginia

The membership also consists of nine non-legislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a representative of a crime victims' organization or a victim of sexual or domestic violence, and eight of whom are representatives of local sexual and domestic violence agencies. In accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, these appointed members “shall include racial and ethnic diversity and shall be representative of regional and geographic locations of the Commonwealth.”

In 2021, the Advisory Committee’s duties and responsibilities were also modified, and are as follows:

- Promote appropriate and effective responses, services, and prevention for sexual assault and domestic violence across the Commonwealth.
- Promote strong communication, coordination, and strategy at state, regional, and local levels.

DCJS staffs and coordinates the efforts of the Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence.

During 2021, the Advisory Committee’s work primarily focused on the following:

- The ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on sexual and domestic violence victims and services;
- Establishment of a Partner Abuse Intervention and Prevention Workgroup;
- Grant programs and funding available for sexual and domestic violence services; and
- Increasing the diversity of the Advisory Committee’s membership.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional Standards Committee

Pursuant to *Code of Virginia § 9.1-116.3*, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional Standards Committee was established in 2015. The Professional Standards Committee has the responsibility of establishing voluntary accreditation standards and measures by which local sexual and domestic violence programs can be systematically evaluated with a peer-reviewed process.

In 2021, the composition of the Professional Standards Committee was changed. The members include the following:

- Twelve non-legislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, all of whom shall be leadership staff of local sexual and domestic violence programs
- One nonvoting member representing the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)
- One nonvoting member representing the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)
- One nonvoting member representing the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA)

The Professional Standards Committee’s duties and responsibilities include:

1. Establish voluntary accreditation standards and measures by which local and domestic violence programs can be systematically evaluated with a peer-reviewed process;
2. Review and vote on accreditation status recommendations for applicant programs;
3. Establish a subcommittee as needed to address appeals from applicant programs; and
4. Periodically evaluate and revise accreditation standards and measures.

DCJS staffs and coordinates the efforts of the Professional Standards Committee.

In early 2021, DCJS received applications from 14 sexual and domestic violence agencies interested in obtaining accreditation as part of the first round. These applications are being evaluated by DCJS staff, and recommendations for accreditation status will be presented to the Professional Standards Committee in late-2021 and early-2022.

Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention and Health Promotion, Injury and Violence Prevention Program⁵³

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

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 two Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grants: 1) the Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) grant; and the 2) the Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant – Sexual Assault Set Aside funds.

⁵³ Information provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention and Health Promotion, Injury and Violence Prevention Program.

Rape Prevention and Education

In 1984, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act establishing the Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) program at CDC. The goal of the RPE program is to strengthen sexual violence primary prevention efforts at the local, state, and national level in order to stop sexual violence before it begins. In Virginia, the RPE program provides state level leadership on the primary prevention of sexual violence, the coordination of statewide outreach and education activities to raise awareness about and increase involvement in primary sexual violence prevention among both state and local stakeholders in Virginia, and the provision of technical assistance on current research and trends in sexual violence prevention.

In early 2019, Virginia was awarded a new 5 year CDC-RFA-CE19-1902 grant cycle to continue the fiscal oversight of the Virginia RPE program at the Virginia Department of Health, focused on using the best available evidence for sexual violence prevention through data informed practice. Funds assist VDH in accomplishing primary prevention based individual, community, societal, and evaluation activities of first-time perpetration and victimization of sexual violence. This funding stream is heavily focused on advancing a community and societal intervention model.

During 2021, the RPE program continued to seek to increase the capacity of local communities to effectively engage in primary prevention and to adhere to best available research and practices for primary prevention. As part of its effort to increase community level interventions, the RPE program has funded one local domestic and sexual violence agency Sexual Assault Resource Agency (Charlottesville, Virginia), through competitive application to build coalition efforts and implement primary prevention strategies designed to create protective environments, empower women, and lessen harms of those employed and engaged in restaurant work. The RPE program also funded Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) through competitive application, to build statewide capacity in trauma responsive practices. These programs work with community partners to provide evidence-based and evidence-informed programming across the Commonwealth. Programs are identified and implemented based on the needs of the local community, and seek to decrease factors known to increase risk of sexual violence (such as a lack of non-violent problem solving skills, social isolation, lack of or incomplete system level policies, and a general tolerance of violence within the community) and increase protective factors such as human resource policies, and community support and connectedness.

IVPP continued its contractual relationship with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) to provide technical assistance RPE funded and unfunded agencies on best practices in intimate/sexual violence prevention through the Project ECHO™ model. VSDVAA utilizes the Project ECHO™ platform, a tele education model using hub and spoke technology, with the goal of equipping the primary prevention workforce with tools to address intimate/sexual violence prevention, and increase the proportion of persons receiving appropriate and evidence based preventive services.

Preventive Health and Health Services

The PHHS Block Grant is administered by the CDC to help states address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways targeting objectives identified in the Healthy People 2020 health improvement plan. A portion of these funds is allocated by CDC to specifically support sexual assault services and prevention (PHHS SA).

IVPP coordinates Project Connect statewide as part of a multi-state initiative of Futures Without Violence which seeks to develop comprehensive models of public health prevention and intervention that can lead to improved health and safety for victims of sexual and domestic violence. In Virginia, the project's focus is within family planning and home visiting settings. IVPP, in partnership with other state agencies and stakeholders, provides

training, educational materials and policy/procedure guidance to better enable family planning clinic staff and home visitors to identify and provide support and referral to individuals and families impacted by sexual and domestic violence. During 2021, Virginia continued its program planning in the advancement of new Futures Without Violence materials and training compendiums. IVPP contracts with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) to provide trainings on best practices in intimate/sexual violence prevention, develop and distribute resources on sexual violence prevention programming, and provide technical assistance to sexual and domestic violence agencies engaged in prevention work.

Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner⁵⁴

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).⁵⁵ 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 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

⁵⁴ Information provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

⁵⁵ "...any fatality, whether homicide or suicide, occurring as a result of abuse between family members or intimate partners" (Virginia Code §32.1-283.3)

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 Corrections⁵⁶

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 DOC strives to hold inmates/probationers/parolees 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 community supervision; and (3) victim services and advocacy.

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development⁵⁷

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.

Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence⁵⁸

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

⁵⁷ Information from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

⁵⁸ Information provided by the Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence.

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 2021 OFV Statewide Outcome Measures:

1. Survivors of domestic violence know more about domestic violence and its impact.
 - a. 95% 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.
 - 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. 96% 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. 95% 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. 99% 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. 92% 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. 95% 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

VAdata Community Engagement Form)

- a. 96% 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 funded under the Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations RFA, drew their contracts to a close at the end of FY 2021. Four of the organizations were successful in being awarded funds under the new funding cycle that began in FY 22, along with six new organizations.

Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative

In FY 2021 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). The UPLC 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 all are actively engaged throughout the process, building statewide capacity alongside SDVAs.

New agencies began Cohort Two in FY 21, which was officially expanded to be a 24-month commitment. Cohort Two began shortly after the COVID-19 public health crisis required many services and meetings to shift to virtual platforms. The UPLC Coaches and workgroup had to re-think many aspects of the learning collaborative experience that was heavily focused on group learning and peer support.

Cohort Two is made up of eighteen local domestic and sexual violence programs and 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 continued their participation, providing 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.

OFV worked with all of the domestic violence subgrantees during FY 20 and 21 on the development of Language Access Plans to ensure meaningful access and effective communication for and with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals and individuals with disabilities. Language Access planning aimed to deepen both state and local understandings of language access and to enhance meaningful access to domestic violence services. OFV offered training opportunities to learn about language and cultures and to learn how to create a language access plan that aligns with local program and their communities. In partnership with the Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Casa de Esperanza, OFV has hosted six language access planning webinars and a series of TA calls. OFV and Casa de Esperanza continued to provide direct TA to several local organizations in FY 2021.

Improving Services

The Domestic Violence Action Team

The Domestic Violence Action Team (DVAT), a statewide multidisciplinary team focused on improving domestic violence services, completed the first phase of the **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 is a product of a Promising Practices Workgroup (VDSS staff and contractors) with input from DVAT, local domestic violence program staff, and survivors, including individuals who have accessed services and individuals who have not. The PPG is 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 include concrete strategies for implementing promising practices and 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 have been synthesized into easily digestible written materials with accompanying videos, infographics, and links to informational websites.

All staff and volunteers 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 is 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 Police⁵⁹

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 Alliance⁶⁰

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 70 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 an abundance of 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 80% of its approximately \$3 million budget from federal and state grants and contracts, including funding from the Office on Violence Against Women, the

⁵⁹ Information provided by the Virginia State Police.

⁶⁰ Information provided by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Virginia Department of Social Services. Approximately \$545,000 was pass through funding. Approximately 20% of the Action Alliance's funding was from private sources, including membership dues, fees, fundraising, and private contributions.

Impact of COVID

Virginia's sexual & domestic violence agencies continued to experience a varied, yet profound impact throughout Virginia's lockdown period and beyond while riding the waves of the Coronavirus pandemic. As programs pivoted and relied on help from the Statewide Hotline to provide 24/7 services, data comparison from the January – June months of 2019 to 2020 show a 30% increase in calls with that increased rate staying steady into 2021 with almost 10% more calls in that period.

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 have continued to adapt to respond to COVID and CDC guidelines and have often had to limit shelter residents and use hotels for resident overflow.

To reduce isolation and ensure survivors' basic needs were met, shelters have had to establish regular check-ins and, in some cases, regular meal delivery to hotel occupants – in effect, adopting elements of mobile advocacy programs. Some programs have had to respond to COVID outbreaks and increased anxiety with both clients and staff.

Program staff have used creative ways to continue to meet the needs of their clients while struggling with the many demands brought about by the global crisis. Programs had to find funding for unanticipated computer needs as they worked to build virtual services for survivors and maintain operations with distributed staff. Some of the challenges related to shifts in service delivery named by participants in the 2021 Member Survey and summer 2021 listening sessions on COVID-19 impacts include: security of devices and networks, maintaining up-to-date software, maintaining confidentiality while working on virtual platforms and off-site, training for staff to function independently, and maintaining work/life balance when working from home. Despite these challenges, staff at local programs report that virtual services appear to be beneficial, indicating that participation in counseling and support groups for male survivors have improved when compared to participation prior to the pandemic.

Programs providing services to rape survivors had to pivot in similar ways. Most hospitals limited or even prohibited visitors to their emergency departments, which meant that programs were not allowed to advocate for survivors in person, and survivors might not even be able to have a family member or friend present. Program staff had to rely on their relationships with Forensic Nurse Examiners to support survivors during this crisis time as well as building ways to support survivors virtually. This is reflective of the experiences shared by staff at local sexual and domestic violence agencies across the state, who indicated in listening sessions and Member Survey responses that COVID-19 safety measures were disruptive to lines of communication between advocates, clients, and community partners. However, in some cases, promising partnerships have emerged from these disruptions, such as collaborative efforts between victim service providers and local hospitals to provide mobile healthcare services to help survivors avoid going to the emergency department to seek care.

Lack of computer knowledge and hardware, along with inadequate broadband internet connections, continue to be barriers for many survivors attempting to connect with advocates and other support systems via online settings. 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. Even with

the return to in-person schooling, some schools and pre-schools have had to close temporarily with COVID outbreaks, leaving shelter staff and residents scrambling to manage childcare on a moment's notice.

Sexual and domestic violence agencies across the state have been deeply impacted by staff shortages that spiked during "The Great Resignation" and persist. In listening sessions held in summer 2021 and responses to the member survey, participants shared how increased responsibilities related to shifts in program delivery have led to higher levels of organizational stress and individual feelings of overwhelm. They reported turnover and staffing shortages throughout different levels of organizations: among direct service providers, outreach staff, and people in leadership roles.

Many sexual and domestic violence agencies continue to face operating hardships due to reduced volunteer support and reduced monetary donations. Challenges continue to happen with holding in-person fundraising events, especially those that might have previously been annual events, building on previous years. In addition to holding virtual gatherings to foster a sense of community among advocates and preventionists across the state, the Action Alliance has continued to advocate with funding sources to support programs, even while facing budget cuts.

Anxiety, dread, and fear, both physical and financial, coupled with reduced access to safety valves—such as community or family support—continue to create challenges for SDVAs, even as vaccines have become more available. Many survivors of sexual and domestic violence still report that they are not able to hold private phone conversations due to living in close quarters and/or being under increased surveillance by family members. Text and chat hotline services continue to be available to survivors, but bring their own questions about safety when a survivor does not respond. It is worth noting that virtual communication with survivors is a new practice for many advocates; Virginia follows the national trend of seeing more organizations than before adopt text and chat crisis intervention services over the past nineteen months. Accordingly, local program staff are still learning and working to become more comfortable with this approach. When asked in the Member Survey about pandemic-related topics for requesting additional training, technical assistance, and resources, advocates ranked "holding virtual support groups" and "providing hotline services through chat or text" most highly.

Nineteen 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 and more frequently focused on meeting basic survival needs (especially housing and food) versus support, advocacy and healing. Sexual and domestic violence programs have had to make shifts in staffing hours and amend shelter policies due to safety precautions – meaning they had lower capacity to provide services while feeling the increased pressure of more demand in the community. Advocates across Virginia continue to report being stretched thin for months on end.

As the pandemic persists and we all adjust to this additional stress, the Action Alliance has continued to work to support sexual and domestic violence programs with service provision. The Action Alliance continues to offer multiple avenues for support and technical assistance to survivor advocates in online spaces, including monthly sessions with Executive Directors of crisis programs, 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.

Survivor Advocacy Services

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). From January 1 to September 30, 2021, the Survivor Advocacy team responded to 11,318 contacts, including 3,356 hotline and crisis calls.

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 pandemic and resulting restrictions on visitors have increased the vulnerability of incarcerated survivors, limiting their support systems drastically.

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. Crisis, hotline, and program calls to the LGBTQ+ line more than doubled in the first 6 months of 2021 as compared to 2020.

Outreach efforts have been significantly impacted because of the pandemic. Tabling events and activities simply stopped happening. The Action Alliance worked to increase public awareness that our Statewide Hotline was operational and that local programs were continuing to offer services. As we have settled into the longer-term time frame of COVID, we continue to be aware of its impact on survivors. COVID adds another dimension of isolation and fear.

In the initial stages of the 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 included print materials, with information in English and Spanish, such as posters and handouts that were distributed to and by essential service providers. Comparing the first 9 months of 2019 to the first 9 months of 2020, the Hotline experienced an almost 42% increase in calls. The first 9 months of 2021 show an almost 20% increase in calls from 2020.

Overall, hotline staff have observed an increasing level of fatigue and anxiety as a result of the pandemic and social isolation. Staff have also noticed an increase in calls about general family violence (parents and adult children, adults living in the same household but not involved in relationships together) as people have had to limit their social interactions and continued to respond to pandemic-related challenges. Options for survivors who wish to relocate to Virginia for safety reasons or to be near family have continued to be a challenge as shelters are full and programs may be limiting services to their local geographic area.

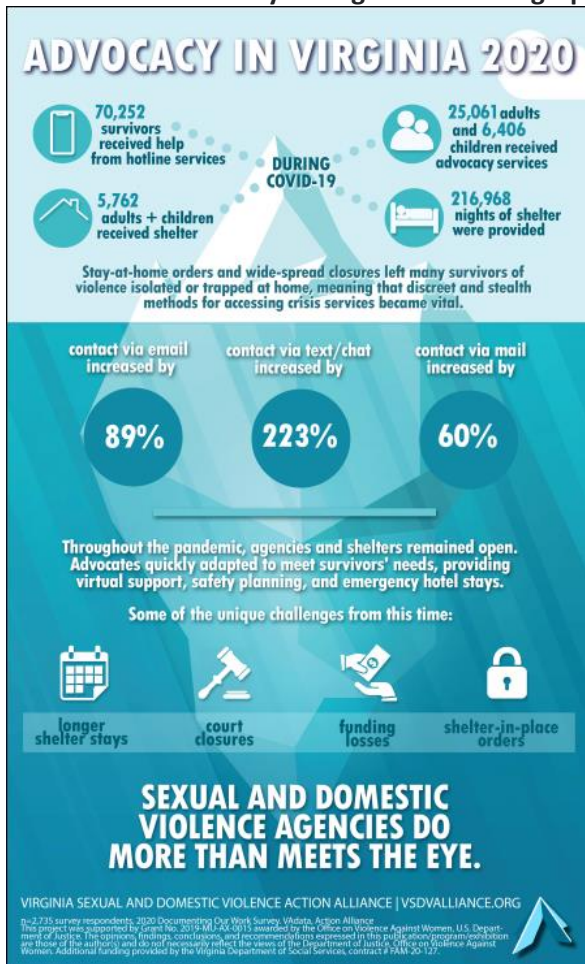
Survivor Advocacy: The Project for Empowerment of Survivors



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, 2020 through June 30, 2021, the PES provided legal services to 732 survivors. During the same time period, volunteer law students dedicated over 550 hours to help survivors; our referral network expanded to include over 60 attorneys statewide. The legal fund was used to aid 46 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 \$93,000 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 2020 Infographic



The Action Alliance released an infographic highlighting aggregate data collected through *VAdata: Virginia's Sexual and Domestic Violence Data Collection System*. This infographic helps illustrate the incredible impact that sexual and domestic violence advocates made in 2020, providing life-saving services to survivors of violence around the Commonwealth despite the unprecedented obstacles created by the necessary responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The report illustrates how Virginia's sexual and domestic violence advocates provided not only crisis response and shelter for survivors, but also assistance to meet financial, housing, employment, and legal services needs. With the onset of COVID-19, stay-at-home orders and closures designed to protect the public from COVID-19 left many survivors isolated or trapped at home with abusive partners and family members. Advocates quickly pivoted to meet survivors' needs, creating and maintaining virtual support opportunities, ongoing safety planning, including better understanding the safer use of technology, and using flexible funding to support emergency hotel stays and building relationships with new housing partners.

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 October 2020 and September 2021, Action Alliance provided 306 instances of technical assistance on primary prevention.

Part of this capacity building work with local sexual and domestic violence agencies and statewide partners has included the initiation and advocacy for Virginia's first ever sexual and domestic violence prevention fund. The prevention fund is a non-reverting state fund to support evidence-based or evidence-informed programs that (i) are operated by a local public or private nonprofit agency and (ii) have the primary purpose of preventing sexual and domestic violence through strategies that (a) promote the development and maintenance of healthy practices related to relationships, sexuality, and social-emotional development and (b) counteract the factors associated with the initial perpetration of sexual and domestic violence. The Action Alliance, along with policy leaders and our 67 sexual and domestic violence agencies statewide were successful in securing a re-allotment of \$750,000 for this work during the 2021 General Assembly session. State funders anticipate releasing funds to the field in 2022.

Creating Virtual Connections. In 2020, Action Alliance staff developed 23 new virtual learning and connection spaces to support prevention staff across Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several of these spaces continued into 2021, including a quarterly prevention connection space for local sexual and domestic violence agency staff and a campus connection space for campus professionals. Staff facilitated training and discussion related to best practices in primary prevention with attention to virtual and tech-based strategies and the intersections of prevention work with anti-oppression work. Between October 2020 and September 2021, Action Alliance staff developed and facilitated 19 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. Since 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 April 2021, we released the [YOUTH ARE](#) curriculum, which was created by members of the first Youth Action Council cohort. Created for and by youth, this curriculum aims to support young people in seeing themselves as leaders and change makers in their community and encourages adult facilitators, preventionists, and advocates to value the strengths, knowledge, and creativity young people bring to movement to end violence. Beginning in July 2021, the Action Alliance hosted the 2nd Honeycomb Retreat for 20 youth leaders across the state. Honeycomb Fellows participated in 3 consecutive weekends of political education and art-making sessions. We are launching the second cohort of the Youth Action Council this fall.

Reproductive and 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 the Virginia Sexuality Network, formerly known as the Richmond Area Sexuality Network, convened by the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood. Additionally, the Action Alliance is engaged as a continued member in the Virginia Reproductive Equity Alliance (VREA), a multidisciplinary advocacy coalition focused on supporting grassroots and legislative advocacy efforts to

advance access to identify-affirming and trauma-informed reproductive health care and family planning services across the Commonwealth. In 2020, 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. This year, Action Alliance staff developed a 6-hour training curriculum called “Creating a Culture of Wellness: Reproductive Health” to support both health care providers and sexual and domestic violence agencies to provide trauma-informed, wrap-around services to survivors. The training was offered in pilot form in September 2021 to 16 advocates and prevention staff from 3 local agencies. We plan to offer the training quarterly in 2022.

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.

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 possibilities for all who are affected by violence to get what they need to thrive in their communities.

The Action Alliance and project Coaches work with more than 65 advocates and funding partners from 18 sexual and domestic violence agencies, 2 state partners, and the Action Alliance as our second cohort participants of the project. This cohort got off to a great start considering this first year has been completely virtual. Like the first cohort of agencies, the second cohort started the project by engaging in personal, interpersonal, and organizational reflection. Over that last year, the participants had the opportunity to build connections with each other during each of the statewide and regional virtual gatherings. Because agencies could not engage with their communities in-person as much as they would have liked, this gave the project participants an opportunity to have productive conversations about organizational changes that could create a more flexible environment to serve survivors. Many of our participants created more flexible work environments and figured out ways to provide more options to create access for survivors.

During this past year, agencies also continued to train with national and statewide technical assistance providers, community organizers, and speakers to work through anti-oppressive and trauma-informed frameworks. Additionally, they will get the opportunity to train 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.

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 homicide, abolishing the death penalty and reforming Virginia's criminal legal and systems responses, ending the anti-LGBTQ panic defense, decriminalizing offenses committed by survivors of violence and those who have been trafficked, and re-investing in statewide sexual and domestic violence prevention work.

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 restored crucial funds to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund (established in 2020). 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. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the limited capacity of the Virginia Department of Health and Virginia Department of Social Services to administer these funds, sexual and domestic violence agencies have not yet received state violence prevention dollars. We anticipate these being released to the field sometime in 2022.

Additionally, during 2020 and 2021 alone, Virginia passed more than a dozen new firearms laws that substantially impact the lives and safety of survivors – including the initiation of Substantial Risk Orders (SROs) and the application of firearms restrictions to all final protective orders and misdemeanor domestic violence convictions. The Action Alliance supports these policies to remove firearms from dangerous and potentially lethal situations. However, sexual and domestic violence advocates, courts, law enforcement, and systems partners have required additional implementation tools to effectively enforce these measures and to ensure safety for survivors, their families, and the broader community. To this end and following the passage of a substantial legislative package related to firearms restrictions and protective orders in Virginia, the Action Alliance initiated a new working group in 2020 called the Virginia Domestic Violence & Firearms Collaborative (Collaborative). This multidisciplinary Collaborative includes representatives from the Virginia Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, Virginia Victim Assistance Network, Virginia Poverty Law Center, Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence, Gifford's Law Center, City of Richmond Police Department, YWCA Richmond, Carol Adams Foundation, Pulaski Co. Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court, City of Alexandria Sexual Assault Center and Domestic Violence Program, Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, Loudoun Co. Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court, Project Horizon of Rockbridge Co., and Fairfax Co. Sexual & Domestic Violence Program.

The Collaborative quickly began working (via zoom gatherings throughout the COVID-19 pandemic) to create a series of short-term and long-term goals related to the effective implementation of firearms restrictions and with the intention of building our state's capacity to understand and respond to the risk factors for intimate partner homicide. These goals included:

- Supporting communities across Virginia in effectively implementing new firearms provisions related to 2-year permanent protective orders – creating indicators and measures for successful implementation.
- Coordinating with advocates, courts, law enforcement, and systems partners to reduce and prevent the occurrence of firearm related intimate partner homicide and non-fatal injuries in Virginia.
- Educating the public on the intersections of firearms access and lethal intimate partner homicide in Virginia – with a focus on disparate rates of IPV homicide victimization impacting Black women.

Over the past year, the Collaborative has successfully gathered baseline information on implementation trends and needs from local practitioners across the state, worked with state and national experts to build a series of implementation resources for Virginia judges, law enforcement, advocates, respondents, and coordinated community response teams, and worked to design a comprehensive Firearms and Protective Orders Toolkit for Virginia-based advocates and practitioners. The final toolkit is expected to be formally released to the field in the Fall/Winter of 2021.

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 2021 General Assembly session, over one hundred 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 advance prevention efforts in the state. Among other ongoing policy projects are: the work of the Statewide Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Steering Committee; I-CAN Committee; collaborative efforts with the Joint Commission on Health Care and the Sexual Assault Task Force 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.

SV and DV grants received by the Action Alliance

Type	Source	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-22	+/-
DV	FVPSA	\$283,036	\$293,080	+\$10,044k
DV	VDSS	\$614,919	\$620,000	+\$5,081
SV	VSTOP	\$19,443		-\$19,443
SV	VSTOP (new)	\$0	\$167,184	+167,184
SDV	VSGP	\$1,015,661	\$842,305	-\$173,356k
SDV	OVW	\$243,619	\$270,782	+\$27,163k
SV	VDH/ PHHS	\$185,019	\$130,000	-\$55,019k
SDV	DCJS-UPLC	\$253,578	\$0	-253,578k

Statewide Victim Services Data as reported in VAdata

January to December 2020

2020 Hotline calls: 70,257

2020 DV/SA Service contacts to Adults and Children:242,809

2020 Total Adults and Children served: 21,028

2020 Shelter Services: 5,801 adults and children in Emergency Shelter for 218,560 shelter nights

2020 DV Services*

Adults: 22,723

Children: 6,159

2020 SV Services*

Adults: 5,436

Children: 1,680

2020 Shelter Services

Adults Sheltered in Emergency Shelter: 3,409

Children Sheltered in Emergency Shelter: 2,392

Not sheltered due to lack of space: 405

**Some survivors may have received more than one type of service.*

SB1266 (Deeds) Admission to bail; rebuttable presumptions against bail. Eliminates provisions regarding the rebuttable presumptions against being admitted to bail. The bill also provides that in making a bail determination, a judicial officer shall consider all relevant information, including a number of factors specified in the bill, to include, His liberty will constitute an unreasonable danger to himself, family or household members as defined in § [16.1-228](#), or the public

HB 1992 (Murphy) Firearms; purchase, etc., following conviction for assault and battery of a family member.

Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearms following conviction for assault and battery of a family or household member; penalties. Prohibits a person who has been convicted of assault and battery of a family or household member, as defined in the bill, from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm. A person who violates this provision is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

HB 2133 (Delaney) Commercial sex trafficking; issuance of writ of vacatur for victims

Issuance of writ of vacatur for victims of commercial sex trafficking. Establishes a procedure for victims of sex trafficking to file a petition of vacatur in circuit court to have certain convictions vacated and the police and court records expunged for such convictions. The bill requires the court to grant the writ and vacate a qualifying offense if it finds the petitioner (i) was convicted or adjudicated delinquent of a qualifying offense and (ii) committed the qualifying offense as a direct result of being a victim of sex trafficking, as defined in the bill. As introduced, the bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.

HB 2234 (Brewer) Victims of sex trafficking; affirmative defense to prosecution for certain offenses.

Victims of sex trafficking; affirmative defense to prosecution for certain offenses. Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution for prostitution and keeping, residing in, or frequenting a bawdy place if, at the time of the offense leading to such charge, such person was a victim of sex trafficking, as defined in the bill, and (i) was coerced to engage in the offense through the use of force or intimidation or (ii) such offense was committed at the direction of another person other than the individual with whom the person engaged in the acts of prostitution or unlawful sexual intercourse for such money or its equivalent.

Appendix A - Additional Data

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	1,194	398	0	0
2018	16.2-253.2	M	4,313	1,608	0	2,705	226	1,852	383	0	244
2019	16.2-253.2	M	4,963	1,687	0	3,230	239	2,154	428	0	409
2020	16.2-253.2	M	4,047	1,460	0	2,534	217	1,909	399	0	9

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
2020	16.1-253.2	F	397	170	0		9	137	29		46

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
2020	18.2-57.2	M	17,874	2,536	0	15,561	1,199	8,091	2,611	0	3,660

Table A-4: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony 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	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
2020	18.2-57.2	F	989	686	0	589	23	435	124	0	7
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
2020	18.2-57.2(B)	F	74	3	0	8	0	3	0	0	5

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
2020	18.2-60.3	M	497	78	0	401	29	264	104	0	4

Table A-6: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Stalking (Third or Subsequent Offense Within 5 Years), 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	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
2020	18.2-60.3	F	8	9	0	5	0	2	1	0	2

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
2020	18.2-60.4	M	1,289	391	0	887	112	492	279	0	4

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

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
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
2020	18.2-355	F	21	1	0	19	0	17	0	0	2

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
2020	18.2-356	F	27	1	0	26	0	16	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
2020	18.2-357	F	33	4	0	28	1	22	2	0	3
2019	18.2-357.1	F	91	27	0	65	0	55	4	0	6
2020	18.2-357.1	F	69	5	0	61	0	32	2	0	27

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
2020	18.2-61	F	525	55	0	312	25	25	39	0	223

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
2020	18.2-63	F	204	83	0	107	0	53	3	0	51

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
2020	18.2-67.2	F	374	23	0	297	8	130	29	0	130

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
2020	18.2-67.3	F	884	173	0	638	13	267	52	0	306

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
2020	18.2-67.4	M	328	95	0	185	15	97	26	1	46
2016	18.2-67.4	F	115	111	0	4	1	2	1	0	0
2017	18.2-67.4	F	135	133	0	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
2020	18.2-67.4	F	0	95	0	3	2	1	0	0	0

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					
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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
2020	18.2-370	F	384	77	0	195	3	148	20	2	22

Appendix B - 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 C – 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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
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
434-847-7751
<https://www.ywcacva.org/>

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.
110 W. Johnson St
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-7273
540-886-6800 hotline
<https://www.newdirectionscenter.org/>

Bath County

Safehome Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safehomesystems.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
423-764-2287
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
804-612-6126
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
P. O. Box 878
Daneville, VA 24543
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)
www.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)
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
615 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Suite 201.
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
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)
www.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.wrcnrv.org

Gloucester County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
lsivilcoor@versizon.net

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)
www.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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
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
217 S Liberty St Ste 205
Harrisonburg, VA 22801-3676
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.ssrcenter.org

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.
110 W. Johnson St. St 102
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-7273
540-886-6800 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
P.O. Box 1585
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
833-537-0970 (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)
lsivilcoor@versizon.net

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
615 Jefferson Davis Hwy St 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
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)
lsivilcoor@versizon.net

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.partnersfsc.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)
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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
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)
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.ssrcenter.org

Mathews County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
lsivilcoor@versizon.net

Mecklenburg County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
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)
lsivilcoor@versizon.net

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)
www.responseva.org

Nelson County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
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.ssrcenter.org

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.ywcacva.org

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

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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
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 466
Farmville, VA 23901
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
217 S. Liberty Street Ste. 205
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
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.tricountyva.org

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
615 Jefferson Davis Hwy Ste. 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
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
615 Jefferson Davis Hwy Ste. 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
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 November 2021. 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 D – 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@jamescitycountyva.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 Belleview 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

