



DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA

2023 Annual Report



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December 31, 2023

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

Enclosed is the 2023 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 blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Miyares".

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

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Electronic copies of the Attorney General's 2023 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.

The images of the persons included in this report are merely representative and are not images of actual victims of sexual or domestic violence.

DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA

2023 Annual Report

CONTENTS

ATTORNEY GENERAL’S MESSAGE	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA.....	5
FUNDING SOURCES AND GRANT PROGRAMS.....	18
GRANT PROGRAMS	21
AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES	27
Commonwealth’s Attorneys’ Services Council	27
Office of the Attorney General	28
Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.....	34
The Family and Children’s Trust Fund of Virginia	36
Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Center on Aging	37
Virginia Commonwealth University, Partnership for People with Disabilities and the VCU School of Social Work I-CAN! Accessibility Project	39
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services	40
Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention and Health Promotion, Injury and Violence Prevention Program.	45
Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.....	49
Virginia Department of Corrections.....	50
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development	50
Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence.....	50
Virginia Department of State Police	55
Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.....	55
Virginia Poverty Law Center.....	62
Legislative Update 2023	65
APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA	66
APPENDIX B - STATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS	77
APPENDIX C - DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROGRAMS BY LOCALITY	78
APPENDIX D – FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS.....	92





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.

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,

A blue ink signature of Jason S. Miyares, written in a cursive style, is positioned above his name.

Jason S. Miyares

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Domestic and sexual violence affect our families, homes, communities, schools, and workplaces daily. 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 pervade even the deepest levels of our society.

The available data highlights the impact of these crimes in Virginia. In 2022, there were more than 78,956 calls to domestic and sexual violence hotlines across the state.¹ A total of 3,710 adults and 2,568 children received 241,641 nights of emergency or temporary shelter due to domestic violence. In 2022, there was a growing need for emergency, transitional, and self-supported housing to meet the needs of survivors in Virginia. Emergency housing was requested in 24% of hotline contacts. However, 51% of these requests could not be met. The number of requests for emergency shelter when space was unavailable has increased from 173% since 2021. The total number of children and youth receiving services increased by 16%.² A total of 56,672 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 2022 and 2023, 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 to continue to serve the Commonwealth by a providing assistance, advocacy, counseling, shelter, etc. for victims of domestic and sexual violence and resource trainings for allied professionals and stakeholders. For example:

- In CY2022-23, The CASC's designated sexual and domestic violence resource prosecutor 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 4 hours of instruction specifically focused on ethical issues that arise in the investigation and prosecution of these cases. 30 hours of in-service PIC credit training was provided to officers in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault.⁴
- The OAG's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative (SAKI) developed a 2-day training called *Trauma-Informed Sexual Assault Investigations* and facilitates it monthly across the commonwealth. This initiative is based on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)'s training, is focused on improving Virginia's response to sexual violence by teaching best practices for investigating sex crimes, and is certified for partial in-service credits for law enforcement.⁵
- In 2022, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) OAG secured a contract with a private lab to retest pre-databank PERKs. SAKI coordinated shipping for 467 PERKs from law enforcement agencies to the lab. Testing of 81 PERKs was completed by the end of 2022.⁶

¹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdata Report 2022 (2023)*.

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

⁶ *Id.*

- In 2022, the Office of the Executive Secretary for the Supreme Court of Virginia (OES) provided training 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 2022, OES-sponsored domestic violence training for judges included two in-person sessions for newly appointed judges at their pre-bench training, and three domestic violence sessions for district court judges at their mandatory annual conference in August of 2022 in Roanoke, Virginia.
- Effective July 1, 2022, the Hope Card Program has been expanded to all localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-152.10:1. In 2022, a total of 2253 Hope Cards were issued across the Commonwealth. In addition, 11 Hope Card training sessions took place in 2022 with 762 persons trained, most of whom were clerks of court. In 2023, 1,609 Hope Cards were issued and one training session occurred resulting in 30 legal and law enforcement personnel trained.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 to assist with providing a broader picture of these issues that confront our communities. Much of that information is included in this Report.

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.

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



**DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN VIRGINIA**



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:

The 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 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 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.

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

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.

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) 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



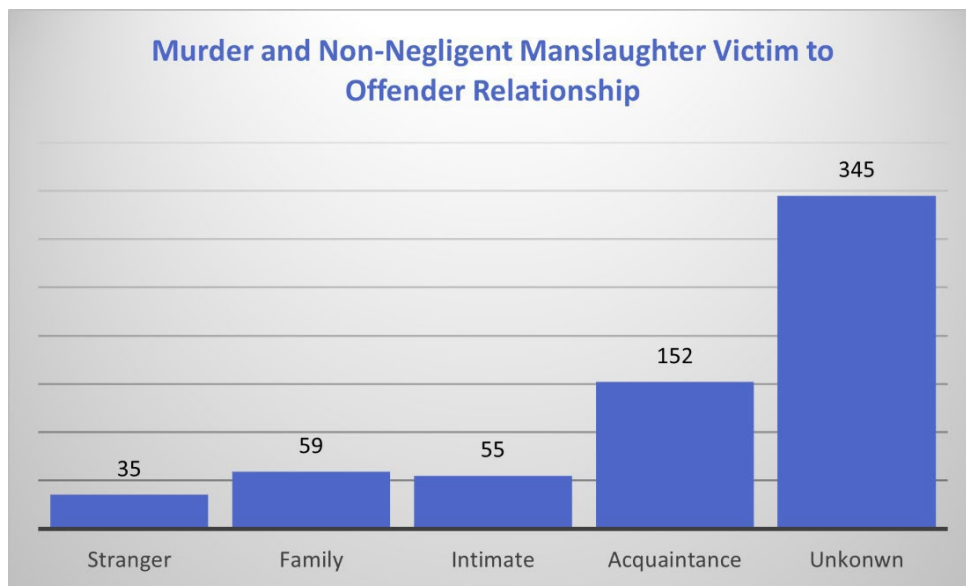
¹¹ Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2020 (2021).

¹² Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States 2019 (2020) (website accessed December 6, 2022).

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. ****OCME is currently not tracking data via the surveillance team**** Figure 1 below shows 114 deaths occurred in Virginia due to family and intimate partner homicide in 2022, which is roughly an 8% increase from the 2021 total of 97 deaths related to family and intimate partners.

Figure 1: Number of Homicides and Family and Intimate Partner (FIP) for 2022



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2022* (2023).

¹³ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 2020.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED OFFENSES

Domestic violence may result in or be a factor in any number of violent crimes. In 2022, contributing agencies reported 17,655 violent offenses involving 20,549 individual victims in the Commonwealth. Of the reported offenses approximately 47.6% were committed in the home or residence.¹⁴ The current data represents an approximate decrease of 2% from 2021.

Assaults

Of the 17,655 violent crimes reported in 2022, there were 11,161 aggravated assault offenses with 13,908 victims. The numbers show a 4.9% increase from 2021. 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, 46% were committed against family members or dating partners.¹⁵

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 fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.”¹⁶ 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 13.5 million people in the United States are victims of stalking. Nearly 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men have experienced stalking in their lifetime. 74% of those stalked by a former intimate partner report violence and/or coercive control during the relationship. 81% of women stalked by a current or former husband or cohabitating partner were also physically assaulted by that partner. 31% of women stalked by an intimate partner were also sexually assaulted. Among female victims of attempted and completed intimate partner homicide by

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

¹⁴Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2022* (2023). 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, stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, ex-spouse, or other family member. “Intimate partner” or “dating partner” includes a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship.

¹⁵Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia, 2022* (2023).

¹⁶Stalking Resource Center, The National Center for Victims of Crime, Stalking Fact Sheet, https://members.victimsofcrime.org/docs/default-source/src/stalking-factsheet-2015_eng.pdf?sfvrsn=2 (accessed November 30, 2020).^t

male partners, in the 12 months prior to the attack: 85% of attempted and 76% of completed homicide victims were stalked. 91% of attempted and 89% of completed homicide victims who had been physically abused during the relationship had also been stalked. 46% of attempted and 54% of completed homicide victims reported stalking before the attack, most commonly to police. 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.¹⁷

In 2022, a reported total of 789 arrests, a 2.84% increase from 2021, were made for stalking in Virginia, resulting in 130 convictions, which is a 43% increase in convictions.¹⁸ As with the previous reporting years, most stalking cases resulted in non-convictions. In 2022, 658 cases resulted in non-convictions.¹⁹

In 2021, a total of 56,672 emergency protective orders (EPOs) were issued. Data for 2022 indicated an 11% decrease in the number of emergency protective orders (EPOs) for acts of violence, force, or threat from 2021 to 2022. From January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, a total of 55,509 EPOs were issued for acts of violence, force, or threat. Based upon the most recent data available for 2023, from January 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023, a total of 28,330 EPOs were issued.²⁰ There were 789 arrests and 130 convictions for violating a protective order for acts of violence, force, or threat.²¹

Sex Offenses

The total number of violent crimes reported in 2022 includes 5,556 forcible sex offenses involving 5,934 victims.²² Forcible sex offenses reported include forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling. Of the reported victims, 4,967 were female and 855 were males.²³ 25% of reported victims, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.²⁴

Most forcible sex offenses (45%) were committed by perpetrators known by or acquainted with the victim. 28% reported the perpetrator to be a family member. Intimate partner sex offenses made up 12% of forcible sex offenses in 2022. Six percent (6%) of reported forcible sex offenses were committed by a stranger (Figure 2).

SEXUAL OFFENSES DATA

In 2022, there were 1,168 juvenile offenders which increased by 36% from 861 juvenile offenders in 2021. Moreover, it was reported that 4,288 adult offenders committed sexual offenses for an increase of approximately 25% for sexual offenses including forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, forcible fondling, incest, and statutory rape.

Sex offenses remain largely unreported to law enforcement. Three quarters of victims (76%) who sought crisis services for an incident within 30 days of the incident reported it to law enforcement in Virginia.

¹⁷ <https://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Stalking-IPV-Fact-Sheet.pdf2> (accessed December 7, 2023).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 27, 2023). The data includes arrests and convictions for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

²⁰ 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.

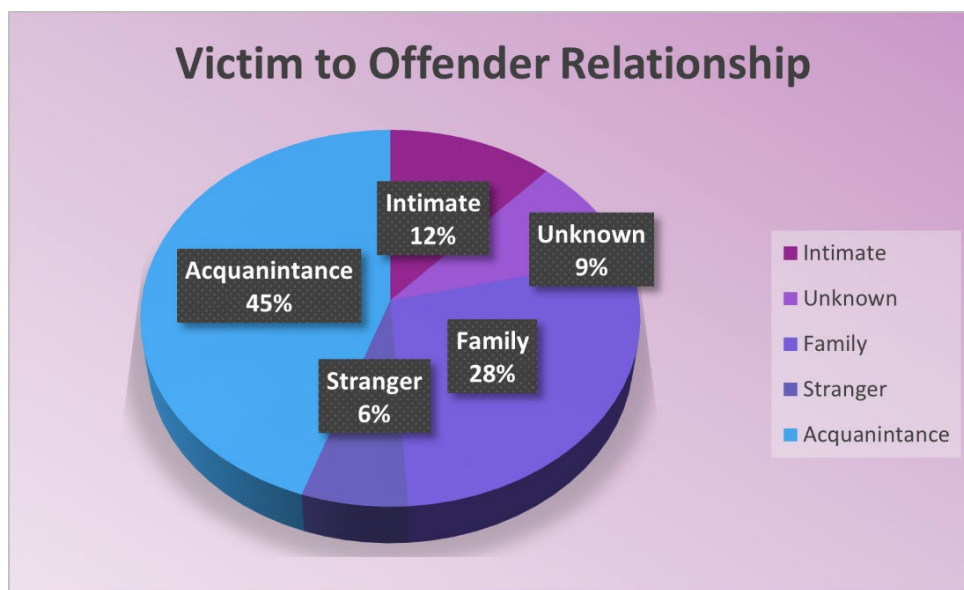
²¹ E-Magistrate reporting data provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

²² Data from the Virginia State Police (August 22, 2023). The conviction data includes arrests for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, Virginia Code § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A.

²³ Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2022 (2023). * Victims with all unknown demographics not included in demographic reports *

²⁴ Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2022 (2023). * Victims with all unknown demographics not included in demographic reports *

Figure 2: Forcible Sex Offenses – Relationship to the Offender

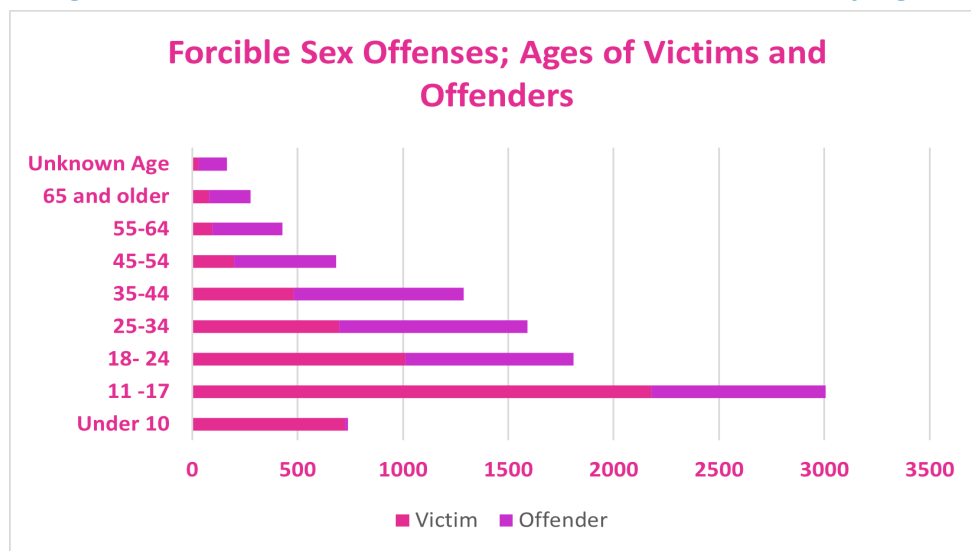


Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2022 (2023).

Of the forcible sex offenses reported by law enforcement agencies in 2022, 1,691 were forcible rapes or attempted rapes.²⁵ Approximately 62% of the forcible rapes reported were committed against male and female victims under the age of 18, an increase from 51% in 2021.

Data shows that almost 14% were committed against females between the ages of 18 and 24. As shown in Figure 3, approximately one-fifth (15%) of offenders were between the ages of 18 and 24. In addition, an overwhelming amount of forcible sex offenses reported in 2022 occurred in a residence or home (Table 1).

Figure 3: Forcible Sex Offenses, Victims and Offenders by Age



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2022 (2023).

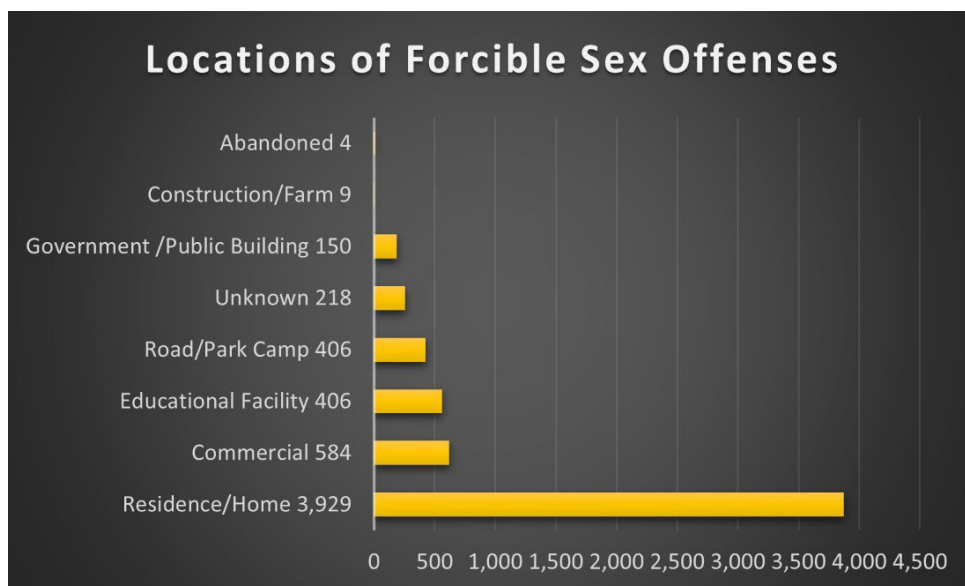
²⁵ Id. The number for victims under the age of 18 reflects victims in the 0-17 age range.

²⁶ Id.

²⁷ Id.2

²⁸ Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2022 (2023)

Table 1: Number of Forcible Sex Offenses – Most Reported Locations of Offense, 2022



Source: Virginia State Police, *Crime in Virginia*, 2022 (2023).

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 2022, nearly three quarters (71%) 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 73% 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), a “preliminary” or temporary basis (usually for 15 days), or on a “permanent” basis (for up to two years).²⁹

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.

²⁹Va. 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.

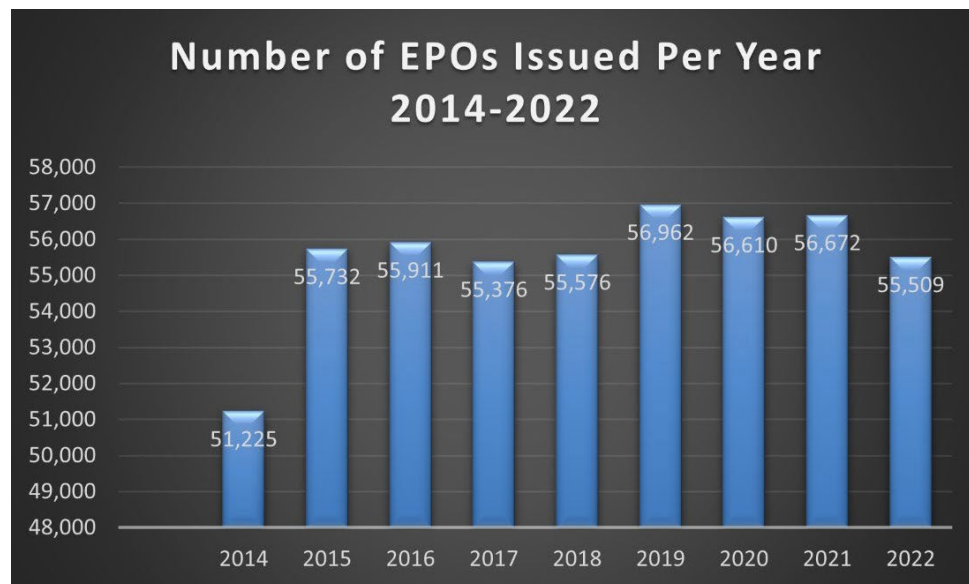
FAMILY ABUSE PROTECTIVE ORDERS are designed to protect a victim and his or her family or household members from the physically abusive or threatening conduct of another family or household member. In order for these orders to be issued, the family or household relationship must exist between the parties, 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 2022, a total of 55,509 protective orders were issued (figures 4, 5 and 6) by courts across the Commonwealth for both family abuse and acts of violence. Of the 55,509 protective orders issued, 18,985 were issued for acts of violence, force or threat and 37,687 were issued for family abuse.³⁰ In addition to the protective orders issued, 917 protective orders were issued in a violation of a protective order case and 203 protective orders issued in a criminal matter.³¹

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

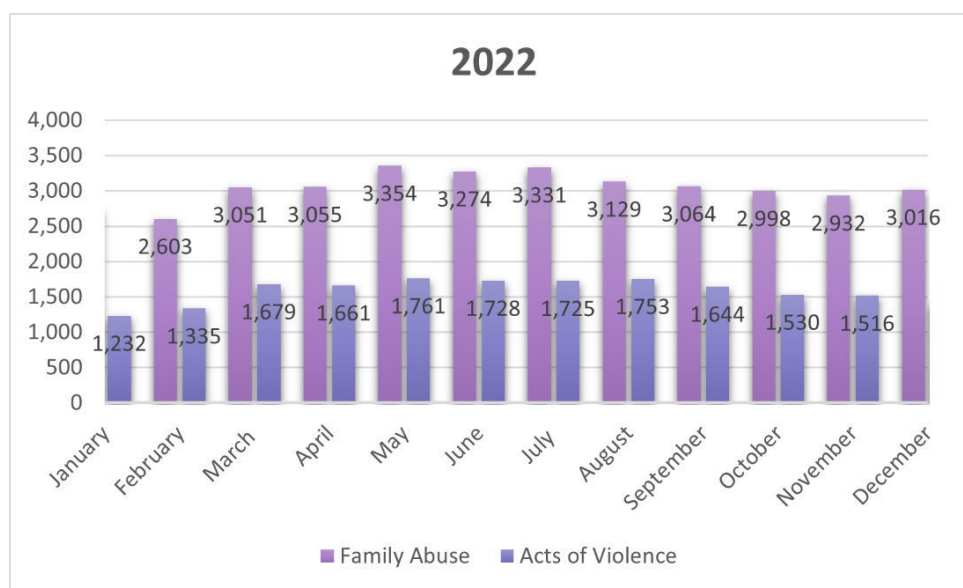


Source: Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia

³⁰ Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia.

³¹ Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia. This represents both family abuse orders and acts of violence, force, or threat protective orders

Figure 5: Number of Emergency Protective Orders Issued for Family Abuse and Acts of Violence, Force, or Threat by Month



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.³² 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.³³

In 2022, 5,968 persons were arrested for violating family abuse protective orders, resulting in an approximately 7% increase in arrests from 2021 (Figure 6).³⁴ Of the 5,968 arrests, almost 40% resulted in convictions.

PERSONS RECEIVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES IN 2022

- **19% of domestic violence victims reported** that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **26%** reported that they had to relocate or become homeless as a result of the domestic violence.
- **73%** reported that they had reported the presenting domestic violence event to the police.

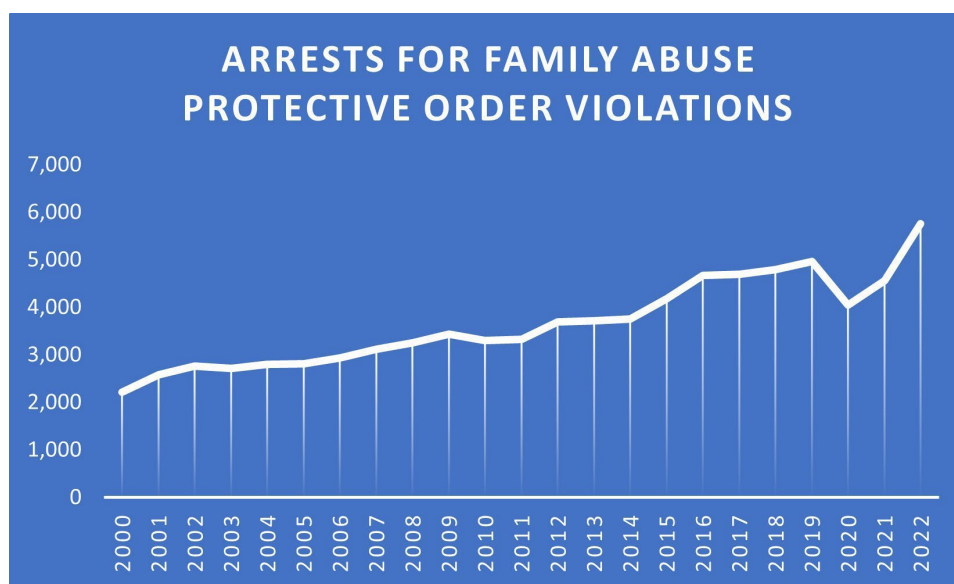
Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdata Report, 2022* (2023).

³² See Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.2.

³³ See Va. Code § 18.2-60.4.

³⁴ Data from the Virginia State Police (November 27, 2023). 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.

Figure 6: Arrests for Family Abuse Protective Order Violations, 2000-2022



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

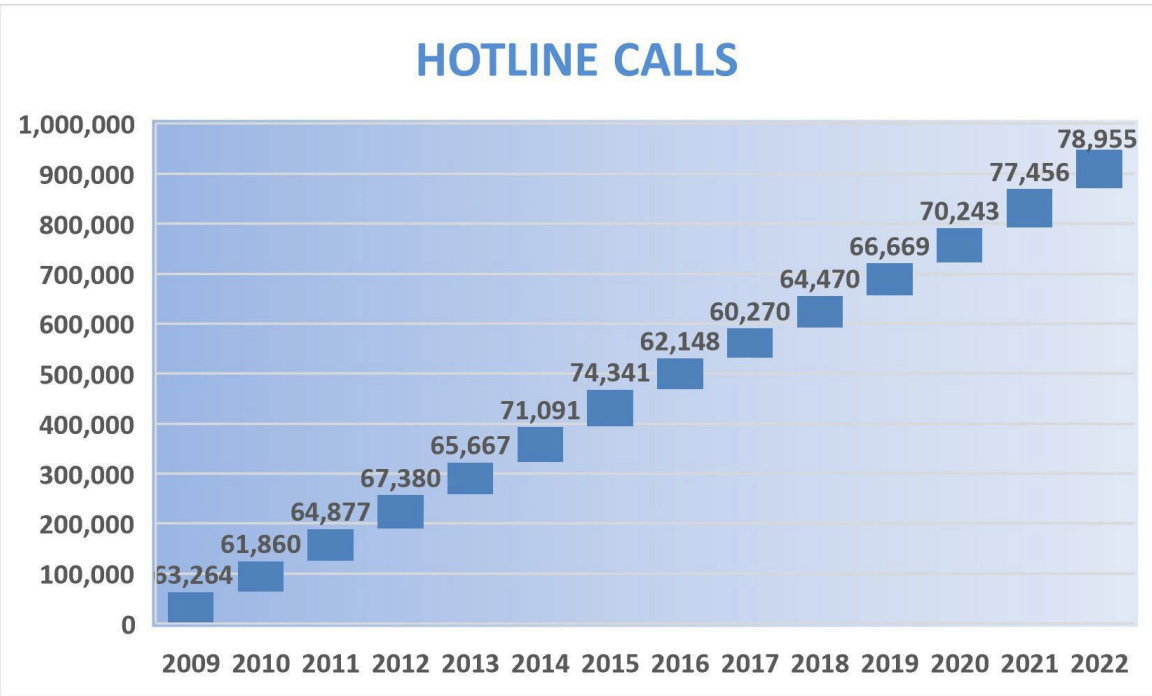
On July 1, 2011, the protective order system in Virginia underwent several legislative changes, particularly related to the availability of non-family abuse protective orders, or “protective orders for acts of violence, force, or threat,” (formerly protective orders for stalking, sexual battery, aggravated 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 hotlines, 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 had an increase of approximately 15% from 2021 to 2022. (Figure 7) In 2022 The number of adults receiving domestic violence advocacy services decreased by about 10% from 2020 to 2021, and the number of children receiving domestic violence advocacy services decreased by almost 8%. (Figure 8) Both adults and children receiving sexual violence advocacy services remained roughly the same. In 2022, 5,088 adults and 1,631 children received sexual violence advocacy services.³⁵

Figure 7: Hotline Calls 2009-2022



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2022* (2009-2022)

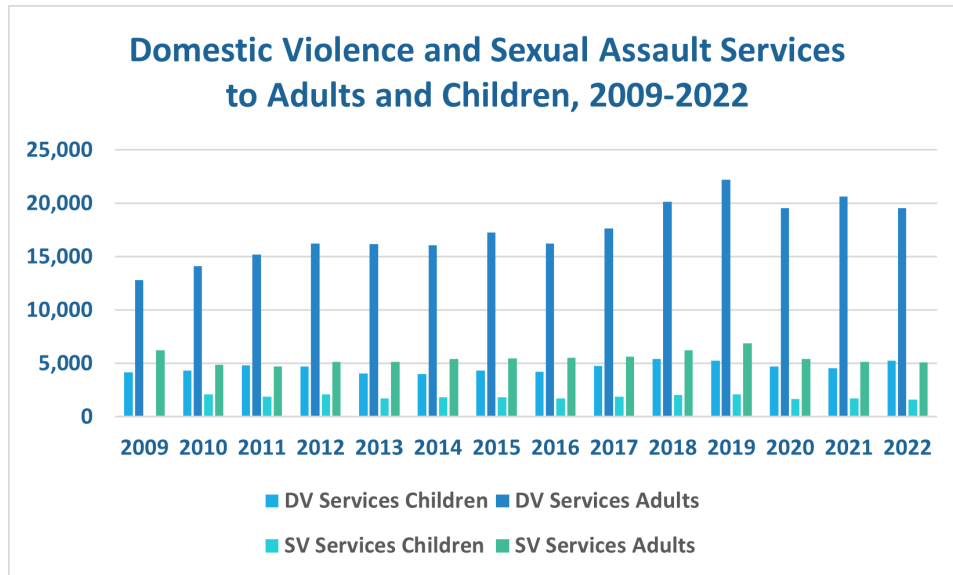
In 2022, local domestic and sexual violence service providers from 70 local programs responded to 78,955 hotline calls through Virginia domestic and sexual violence hotlines.³⁶ Through hotline calls, local programs responded to requests for services, including crisis intervention, counseling and support, emergency housing/shelter, emergency financial assistance, safety planning, transportation, and information/referral. Local domestic violence programs also provided a total of 298,861 hours of advocacy services to 29,861 adults and children.³⁷

³⁵ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2022* (2023).

³⁶ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2022* (2023).

³⁷ Id.

Figure 8: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services to Adults and Children, 2009-2022



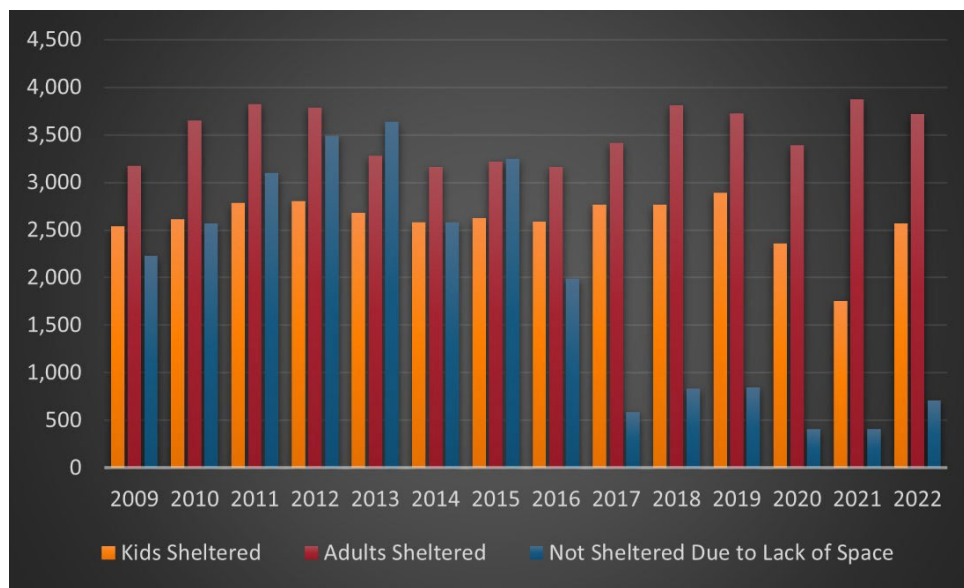
Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VAdata Reports 2010-2022* (2009-2022).

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 2022, shelter programs provided 241,365 nights of emergency shelter to 3,710 adults and 2,568 children due to domestic violence.³⁸ 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 2022 were able to secure shelter accommodations. A total of 708 families who requested shelter services in 2022 were turned away, representing a 74% increase from 2021.³⁹ (Figure 9)

³⁸ Id.

³⁹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdata Report, 2021* (2022).

Figure 9: Shelter Services - Survivors Sheltered and Turned Away, 2009-2022



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – VAdat Reports 2009-2022* (2010-2022).

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 2022, local programs provided a total of 87,467 nights of transitional housing to 163 adults and 115 children.⁴⁰

In 2022, sexual violence service providers across the Commonwealth provided 5,088 adults and 1,631 child victims with 55,674 hours of advocacy services to ease the emotional trauma and to facilitate the reporting process.⁴¹ (Figure 8) Of the children who received services in local crisis centers, 16% reported that they had been violated by a parent.⁴²

PERSONS RECEIVING SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICES IN 2022

- **29% of victims** reported that the perpetrator used a weapon against the victim (including firearms).
- **22% of victims** reported missed time from work, school, and/or a loss of income because of sexual violence
- **76% 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 – VAdat Report, 2021* (2022).

⁴⁰ Id.

⁴¹ Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, *Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdat Report, 2019* (2020).

⁴² Id.



FUNDING SOURCES AND GRANT PROGRAMS

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 SOURCES⁴³

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 funding 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 CVF annually from criminal fines, forfeited appearance bonds, penalties, special forfeitures, special assessments, gifts, donations, and bequests by private parties. Fund dollars do not come from taxpayers.

Beginning in 2015, there have been significant fluctuations in the VOCA Cap and thus in the amount of VOCA dollars allocated to states. Virginia's federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015 VOCA allocation totaled \$50.3 million. This was more than four times as much as Virginia received in 2014, when the award totaled \$11.5 million. The increase in awards peaked in FFY18 with an award totaling over \$85 million. Since FFY18, awards have declined, with Virginia's FFY23 award totaling \$34.6 million.

At the federal level, these increases in VOCA awards coincided with a decrease in deposits into the CVF. This led the balance of the CVF to decline sharply, resulting in significant concerns about the sustainability of the Fund. In 2021, the VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021 ("VOCA Fix Act") was passed by Congress and signed by the President. The VOCA Fix Act is intended to address long term sustainability of the CVF. Among other actions, the VOCA Fix Act directed monies from federal criminal settlements from non-prosecution and deferred prosecution agreements to be deposited into the CVF. Previously these funds were deposited into the General Treasury. It is hoped that these additional funds will enable the balance of the CVF to build back up over time; however, it is extremely difficult to predict future deposit levels. In the near future, it is unlikely that the CVF will be able to sustain increased VOCA Cap levels like those from FFY15-FFY19.

Proposed FFY24 federal budget amounts include a VOCA Cap of \$1.2 billion dollars, which would be a reduction from the \$1.9 billion Cap in FFY23. The federal awarding agency, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), estimates that this Cap level could represent a 41% decrease in VOCA awards to states. As of July 2023, the CVF balance is \$879 million. It is anticipated that additional deposits will come into the fund, enabling the CVF to meet the anticipated \$1.2 billion Cap.

DCJS continues to plan for and efficiently utilize VOCA funds for services and costs as allowable under federal guidelines. In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023, approximately \$40 million in federal VOCA funds were sub-awarded to support victim services in Virginia. Examples of funded projects included: child abuse treatment programs, Children's Advocacy Centers, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs, domestic violence programs, sexual assault crisis centers, and victim/witness programs. Most programs saw a 10% decrease in the federal portion of their awards as a result of the federal VOCA decreases. Future decreases are anticipated as the fluctuations in the VOCA Cap and CVF levels continue to significantly impact VOCA funding.

⁴³ Funding information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Department of Social Services, the Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Division of Injury and Violence Prevention, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT).

DCJS continues 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 2022, approximately \$46 million in federal VOCA funds were sub-awarded to support 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.

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). Funding is awarded to Virginia from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) at the U.S. Department of Justice. 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. VAWA's 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 VAWA Reauthorization of 2013, provisions were added that addressed violence against Native women and LGBTQ survivors, expanded housing protections for victims, and added protections for survivors who are college students and immigrant victims.

In the most recent VAWA Reauthorization of 2022, requirements were included that update and strengthen the provisions that were implemented in the 2013 VAWA Reauthorization. The 2022 law provides survivors, local victim-serving programs, and communities with the critical resources needed to improve housing, legal assistance, and prevention efforts. It also promotes economic justice efforts and better ensures access for survivors of all genders by strengthening non-discrimination laws and creating an LGBTQ services program. The law also addresses the disproportionate number of crimes that are perpetrated against Native women through the restoration of tribal jurisdiction, which allows tribes to prosecute non-Native perpetrators of violence. In addition, VAWA 2022 bolsters current housing protections, increases access to emergency and short-term housing, and ensures resources for culturally specific programming to ensure survivors of color receive the services that they need.

Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Grant

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Grant Program (ICJR) 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 and/or 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 of Virginia, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and the Virginia Victim Assistance Network. OVW awarded this partnership \$1,000,000 for a three-year grant cycle (2022 - 2025) to develop and strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors regarding the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims; to strengthen legal advocacy service programs and other services for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including strengthening assistance to such victims in immigration matters; develop state policies, procedures, and protocols for preventing dual arrests and prosecution in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and to develop effective methods for identifying the pattern and history of abuse that indicates which party is the actual perpetrator of abuse.

Sexual Assault Services Program (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. It 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.

In federal fiscal year 2023, \$1,042,734 was allocated to Virginia through a formula grant from OVW. These funds enable DCJS to support direct intervention services to sexual assault victims across the Commonwealth.

Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution (STOP) Violence Against Women Program

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 \$3.3 million was allocated to Virginia for FFY2022 through a formula grant from OVW. The STOP award increased to \$4.2 for FFY2023, allowing for the increase in some currently funded programs and funding for new projects. These funds enable DCJS to support over 86 projects throughout Virginia to address the issues of domestic and sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Virginia Crime Victim Witness (VWF) 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.

Sexual Assault Services Program (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 2023, DCJS awarded a total of \$667,576 in SASP funds to support 26 eligible sexual assault crisis centers. In state fiscal year 2024, DCJS awarded \$276,028 in SASP funds to support 14 eligible sexual assault crisis centers. Through these calendar year and state fiscal year grant awards, SASP funding was used in a variety of ways, including salaries for counselors and advocates; creating and printing agency brochures; translating agency brochures to other languages; on-call pay for after-hours services; travel for staff and victims to hospitals for forensic exams; and outreach activities.

Victim Witness Grant Program

In 1984, the Virginia General Assembly created the Victim Witness Grant Program and designated DCJS as the administering agency. DCJS developed guidelines to make funds available to local governments for establishing, operating, and maintaining victim and witness assistance programs. In 1995, *Code of Virginia* § [19.2-11.3](#) established the Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Fund (VWF) to support victim and witness services. 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 in the Commonwealth ensure that victims and witnesses of crime are afforded their rights under Virginia's Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (*Code of Virginia* § [19.2-11.01](#)). These rights are outlined through six broad categories:

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

For the state fiscal year 2023, the number of grant-funded Victim Witness Programs totaled 114. This currently includes three state offices: the Office of the Attorney General's Victim Notification Program, the Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit, and the Virginia Parole Board's Victim Input Program. For SFY23, the total amount awarded through the Victim Witness Grant Program was \$19,375,583, including \$13,242,295 (federal VOCA), \$5,187,598 (VWF), and \$943,700 (state general funds).

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 to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF), effective July 1, 2006. This change more accurately reflects the purpose of the funding and clarifies that resources should be focused on addressing both sexual and domestic violence. Effective July 1, 2022, [§ 9.1-116.1](#) of the Code of Virginia was amended and reenacted to include the availability of funding for sexual assault service providers and hospitals for the purpose of funding the cost of salaries and equipment for sexual assault forensic examiners, sexual assault nurse examiners, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners. The purpose of the VSDVVF is to provide

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funding to assist in protecting and providing necessary services to victims of and children affected by sexual violence, domestic violence, stalking, and family abuse. 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 2023, VSDVVF grants were awarded to 27 projects under the discretionary category to include victim 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 25 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 2023, the VSDVVF prosecution grantees provided services to 6,349 victims of domestic violence, 148 victims of sexual violence, and 96 victims of stalking. In addition, VSDVVF-funded prosecution grantees handled 9,973 charges involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Additionally, in fiscal year 2023, projects funded under the discretionary category of the VSDVVF provided training and information to 1,350 allied professionals and community members on the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. VSDVVF discretionary category grantees also provided direct services to 3,269 victims of domestic violence, 1,478 victims of sexual assault, and 860 victims of stalking, while 2,194 hotline calls were received by grant-funded staff.

Virginia STOP

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, 2013 and most recently, by the Violence Against Women Act of 2022. 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 2022, there were a total of 87 initiatives funded in Virginia, including 22 in the law enforcement category, 20 in the prosecution category, 1 in the courts category, 34 in the victim services category, and 10 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 to provide observations, input, and recommendations on other relevant statewide issues on sexual and domestic violence. The State Implementation Plan for FFY 22-25 was approved in November of 2022.

In calendar year 2022, there were 421 training events that were funded with VSTOP, training a total of 6,782 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 2022, victim services sub-grantees provided services to 1,082 victims of sexual violence, 9,586 victims of domestic violence, and 1,515 victims of stalking. Grant-funded staff served 1,973 secondary victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This includes counseling services to 4,748 victims, and criminal justice support and civil legal advocacy to 13,801 victims. Additionally, VSTOP-funded law enforcement officers investigated 2,503 cases related to domestic, sexual, and/or dating violence, or stalking. In 2022, VSTOP-funded prosecutors handled 2,981 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 2022 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.

Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP)

The Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) is a 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 core domestic violence and sexual assault services, services for victims of child abuse, and other types of victim services.

The victim assistance programs that receive VSGP funding provide a variety of direct services to victims of crime including the following: 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 years 2022 and 2023, VSGP funding was awarded to 100 projects for a total amount of \$56,551,439.00.

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 comprehensive service provision. DSS awards grants to public and private nonprofits, incorporated agencies and organizations that provide direct crisis services to victims of domestic violence.

In FY 2023, DSS awarded new contracts with 51 local domestic violence programs, 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 populations.

In FY 2023, DSS renewed contracts with eight culturally and population specific organizations 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.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund

The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund grant program is funded by the VA General Assembly and is administered by OFV. The program supports sexual and domestic violence programs to provide primary sexual and/or domestic violence prevention throughout the state. In FY 2023 DSS awarded contracts to 14 sexual and/or domestic violence programs using funds appropriated by the Virginia General Assembly. One half of the awards were made to organizations who were establishing new primary prevention efforts in their community.

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 (VSDVAA) 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 and 2) the operation of VAdat, the statewide data collection system used by local domestic violence programs to document their services. Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program (VFVPP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and state general funds are all used to support the sole source contract.

In FY 2022, VDSS funded the Action Alliance to conduct a needs assessment of local domestic violence agencies help identify the current COVID related concerns in preparation for distributing the American Rescue Plan Act grant funds for Vaccines Testing and Access to Mobile Health. Now finalized, this [report](#) informed grant RFA requirements. The \$8,316,672 federal award is to be expended by September 30, 2025

Sole Source Contract for the Laurel Center

The Laurel Center in Winchester, VA was awarded a sole source contract as legislatively directed in the 2023 state budget. The Laurel Center used the funds to provide sexual and domestic violence services in Winchester and surrounding areas.

Sole Source Contract for Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence was awarded a one-year sole source contract as a legislatively directed in the 2023 state budget. The funds were used to support renovations of their office and shelter facilities. Funds from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (including allocations from the American Rescue Plan Act), the Virginia Family Violence Prevention Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and state general funds are currently awarded as stand-alone grant programs or blended within grant awards to provide a broad funding base for Virginia's local domestic violence programs.

Funds awarded by the VA General Assembly support the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention Fund grant program. The program supports sexual and domestic violence programs to provide primary sexual and/or domestic violence prevention throughout the state.

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, childcare, services for children, career planning, education, public awareness, and necessities (such as clothing, food, and transportation).

DSS administered \$2,278,419 in FVPSA funds, entering into contracts with 51 local domestic violence programs, ten community-based organizations and the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance. 14 local programs used a portion of their FVPSA grant award to provide primary prevention efforts during FY 2023.

American Rescue Plan Act

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in additional funding being awarded through FVPSA as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). DSS received three awards. The first was for domestic violence supplemental funding, in the amount of \$3,004,484. Of this amount, \$1.8 million was provided to local domestic violence agencies through contract modifications in FY 22. The remaining funds were not awarded until FY24. The two other awards are for sexual assault support and for vaccines and testing. DSS will distribute those and the remaining domestic violence funds in FY 24.

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 statewide training, technical assistance and data collection. Additional funds are added to this fund from the Social Services Block Grant by DSS.

FY 2023 grants awarded with VFVPP funds supported basic crisis services, as well as projects for the prevention of family violence on the local and state levels. DSS administered \$1,125,933.98 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 \$5,235,493.60 in TANF grant funds to support 51 local domestic violence programs, six community-based organizations and the statewide coalition, the Action Alliance.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was awarded to the Commonwealth of Virginia by the U.S. Department of Treasury during the Coronavirus pandemic to assist with responding to the needs of Virginians impacted by the pandemic. In SFY 2023, DCJS awarded \$6,000,000 in ARPA funds to 59 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies in accordance with the SFY 2023 state budget. Also, in SFY 2023, ARPA funding was awarded to child advocacy centers and court appointed special advocate programs by the DCJS Juvenile and Child Welfare Section. ARPA funding was used to support services to crime victims in a variety of ways including the following: emergency food, hygiene, and housing; staffing advocate and counselor positions; victim travel assistance; shelter repair; office rent, utilities, supplies, and equipment; childcare services for victims; training for direct service staff; COVID-related personal protective equipment (PPE); and computer/technology support.

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AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES

AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEYS' SERVICES COUNCIL⁴⁴

The Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council (CASC) is the state agency mandated to provide support and training services to Virginia's prosecutors. Since 2010, CASC has a designated sexual and domestic violence resource prosecutor. This position provides training, technical support and resources to Virginia's prosecutors and law enforcement statewide.

In CY2022-23, this prosecutor 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. 30 hours of in-service PIC credit training was also provided to officers in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault. These training hours were offered through both large statewide trainings and smaller topic-specific trainings modules. Specifically, this prosecutor helped organize two statewide programs and two week-long intensive 5-day trainings.

Since 2008, CASC has offered an 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 access to comprehensive training to help them successfully prosecute and investigate domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases.

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

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 several 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 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 expanded 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.oag.state.va.us>

In 2022, Forty-two new families were enrolled in ACP for a total of 99 new program participants. ACP conducted a total of 12 trainings and presentations in 2022 which resulted in 70 new ACP application assistants throughout the Commonwealth. Currently, there are 252 families in the ACP program and 630 active participants, including men, women, and children.⁴⁵

Grant Initiatives

Violence Against Women Grant (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 who are elderly, disabled and non-English speaking. The OAG received \$40,156 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. During this grant cycle the Address Confidentiality Program Coordinator collaborated with multiple community partners and stakeholders to raise awareness and to provide domestic violence resources.

⁴⁵ Data pulled on December 5, 2023.

Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

The OAG continues to work with the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence technical assistance staff to implement Maryland's Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). Strengthening and 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 partners from Maryland, includes DCJS and the state domestic violence coalition, and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance. Currently, the number of law enforcement jurisdictions trained by the OAG and state partners stands at 58 statewide. As 2024 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 effectively strengthen programs. In 2023, the statewide LAP team continued hosting virtual quarterly meetings for LAP coordinators from the 58 jurisdictions. During these meetings, jurisdictions share strategies for sustaining successful LAP programs as well as any trends in their areas.

Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR) Grant

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Grant Program (ICJR) 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 and/or 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 of Virginia, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and the Virginia Victim Assistance Network. OVW awarded this partnership \$1,000,000 for a three-year grant cycle (2023 – 2025) to increase access to justice for all survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including through exploration of survivor-centered criminal justice system reform.

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 Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and the Virginia Victim Assistance Network. \$1,000,000 was received during the current three-year grant cycle (2023 – 2025) to provide technical assistance and training to strengthen local and regional community response to domestic/dating violence and stalking in Virginia by providing training and resources to existing Lethality Assessment Programs (LAPs).



Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)

History of SAKI in Virginia:

SAKI, a federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant, raises awareness about the importance of testing all sexual assault kits (SAKs) and promotes a trauma-informed response to sexual crimes. Since 2016, it has been a nationwide effort to clear untested SAKs. In Virginia, SAKs are called Physical Evidence Recovery Kits (PERKs), and the statewide SAKI project has three key objectives: test eligible PERKs, improve the multidisciplinary response to sexual assault, and advance trauma-informed, victim-centered practices.

Virginia's Office of the Attorney General (OAG), in collaboration with the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) and Virginia State Police (VSP), secured SAKI grants in 2016 (\$2 million), 2019 (\$950k), and 2020 (\$2 million). The 2022 Virginia SAKI Team comprises six full-time staff: three at the OAG, one at DFS, and two at VSP. The OAG's team includes a site coordinator, investigator, and victim advocate. DFS has a PERK Tracking System Coordinator, and VSP has two Intelligence Analysts supporting law enforcement in cold case sexual assaults and sexually motivated homicides.

SAKI Timeline in Virginia:

2016:

- OAG appoints SAKI Site Coordinator.
- SAKI establishes a statewide multidisciplinary team (MDT) for coordinating community response and overseeing grant-related goals.
- PERK Act of 2016 goes into effect, codifying victim rights and PERK handling.

2017:

- OAG hires SAKI Victim Advocate.
- DFS joins the SAKI partnership to test PERKs.
- SAKI inventories unsubmitted PERKs collected from 2014 to 2016 and discovers 1476 PERKs.

2019:

- SAKI develops a statewide protocol for cold case victim notification.
- SAKI launches a web-based PERK tracking system

2020:

- OAG hires SAKI Investigator and DFS hires SAKI PERK Tracking System Coordinator.
- VSP's Fusion Center joins the SAKI partnership.
- Virginia eliminates its backlog of unsubmitted PERKs, becoming the seventh in the nation to do so.

2021:

- Statewide PERK tracking system becomes mandatory for law enforcement and PERK collection sites.
- SAKI completes statewide inventory of previously submitted or "pre-databank" PERKs that underwent testing, but with early technology that did not allow for uploading DNA profiles to CODIS.
- DFS reviews 800 cases to determine eligibility for retesting; identifies 500 PERKs that qualify to be retested with current DNA technology.

2022:

- VSP hires two SAKI Intelligence Analysts.
- SAKI secures a contract with a private lab to retest pre-databank PERKs.
- SAKI develops a 2-day training called Trauma-Informed Sexual Assault Investigations and facilitates it monthly across the commonwealth. It is based on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)'s training and is certified for partial in-service credits for law enforcement. It aims to improve Virginia's response to sexual violence by teaching best practices for investigating sex crimes.
- Legislation mandates that unexempted PERKs go to the lab for testing and be kept for ten years.

Human Trafficking

The Human Trafficking section continued its work to improve federal, state, and local trauma informed responses within the Commonwealth. Our office facilitated roundtable discussions, townhall events, and awareness training to 1,675 people, including groups from high schools, universities, community centers, churches, LE facilities, detention centers, and a host of advocacy groups across the Commonwealth. We have strengthened our relationship with the Governor's office and relating agencies and are committed to collaborative engagement which will result in promising practices.

In August, the Attorney General launched the 100% Business Alliance Against Trafficking (BAAT). This program gives the opportunity for businesses to become a part of the solution by agreeing to bring human trafficking awareness to employees and show them how to report. Interested business will find information on our website by visiting <https://www.oag.state.va.us/> home page.

The Office of the Attorney General also partnered with *Speak Up*, a human trafficking prevention program funded by Foundation United, <https://www.thefoundationunited.com/>. This partnership lead to an additional lesson being added to Virginia Rules, a school-aged program, to address human trafficking. Virginia Rules can be found at <https://virginiarules.org/>

In an effort to provide additional safety measures for children who are vulnerable to being trafficked, Child Identification Kits were launched and distributed this year to local schools across the Commonwealth. In 2023, the Human Trafficking Task Force conducted 49 new investigations, and identified 34 potential victims of human trafficking. The Task Force also continued its outreach efforts with "Latinos in Virginia," the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Virginia Beach Juvenile Detention Center. In September 2023, the Office of the Attorney General received notification from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) that a 12-month No-Cost Extension was approved for funding assistance, which will allow the Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force to continue collaboration and expansion into other localities. In 2023, the Task Force expanded partnered operations in Williamsburg, Accomack, York, Mathews County, and Isle of Wright. The Task Force has also partnered with the City of Hampton Sheriff's Office, Suffolk Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and Suffolk Police Department. The Task Force will be facilitating future meetings in an effort to continue expanding its partnerships with other departments, agencies, organizations, and military personnel who serve as Sexual Assault Response Coordinator's (SARC) to human trafficking victims and survivors.

Training is an integral part of the task force. In 2023, Professional Development training by the OAG Coordinator included: Human Trafficking Prevention Summit, School Safety Conference, OAG 1st Annual Human Trafficking Summit ("A Call to Action"), Advanced Human Trafficking and Prosecution led training, and Sexual Exploitation Training.

Law Enforcement participated in several outreach events including a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Event sponsored by the Mattaponi Healing Eagle Clinic and Thrive Virginia in Newport News; US Coast Guard Sexual Assault Program Response Officer Training in Portsmouth, VA; US Navy Sexual Assault Response Coordinators in Norfolk, VA.

Trainings for Law Enforcement included:

- US Navy Sexual Assault Response Coordinators in Norfolk & US Coast Guard Sexual Assault Program Response Officer training in Portsmouth.
- HSI developed a general HT awareness presentation.
- HSI attended Advanced Human Trafficking Seminar in Washington, D.C. – developed presentation about benefits of task forces for HT cases.
- The task force continues to collaborate and expand. Over the next year, the task force will continue to work on completing deliverables outlined in the 2016 OVC Grant.

This year, the Minor Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator traveled throughout the commonwealth and gained an understanding to gaps and deficits in the systems in place. Therefore, in response to our findings, the Office of the Attorney General has developed a human trafficking toolkit for service providers of minors. The toolkit includes trauma-informed best practices for responding to cases involving minor trafficking victims. This has been presented throughout the state of Virginia and has been utilized as a necessary and effective tool for direct youth service providers. The toolkit provides a cohesive and consistent method for trafficking identification, response, and explains how to effectively provide wrap around services and supportive teams to address needs for minors and their families.

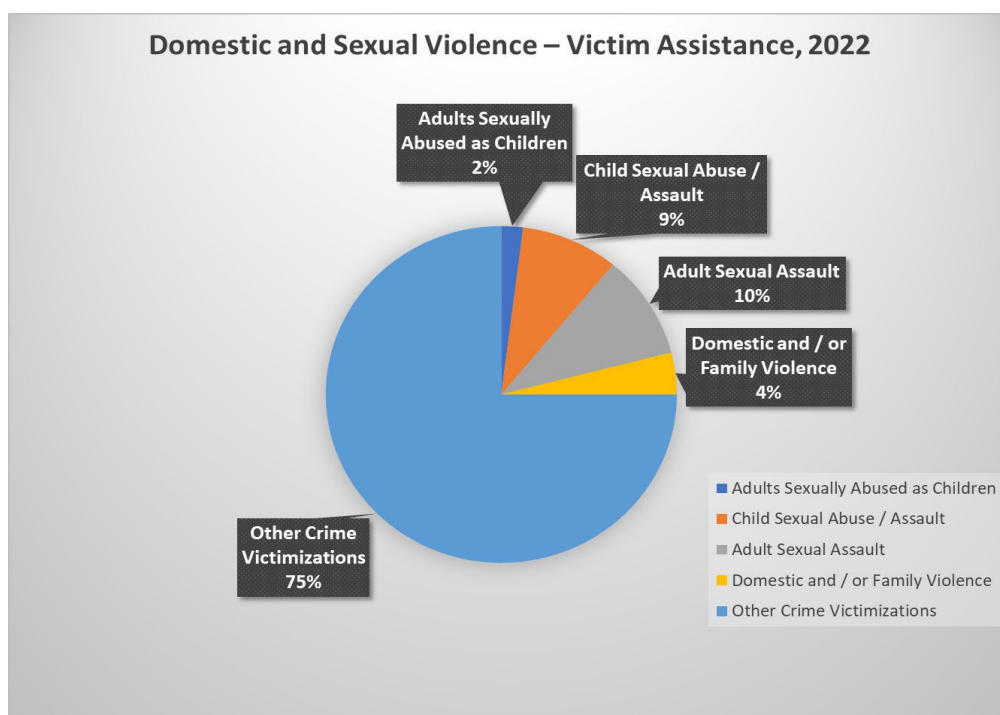
This toolkit has outlined both sex and labor trafficking. It gives guidance and addresses:

- Laws and related legislation, trafficking trends, and statistics.
- How to engage appropriately.
- How to render effective assistance.
- Vulnerabilities in different localities.
- Common terms.
- How to identify and assess in the community, advocacy center, or medical facility accurately.
- The importance of survivor engagement.
- Building trust and rapport with victims/survivors.
- Trafficking intersections.

Wallet cards have been developed with quick reference visual identification methods, a mental assessment for appropriate and accurate understanding and identification of trafficking requirements for minors by law, and appropriate contact information for reporting. These cards will assist providers as well as citizens to be able to partner with us by increasing their ability to properly identify and report suspected cases and situations of trafficking appropriately, and will soon be downloadable on the Virginia Office of the Attorney General website.

Ongoing relationships and partnerships have been developed throughout the state with mental health agencies, law enforcement, youth non-profits that focus on youth in high-risk populations, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Child Protective Services, Department of Social Services, youth juvenile detention facilities, youth shelters, youth residential facilities, and child advocacy centers throughout the state of Virginia. Partnerships, coupled with cohesive service provision and support to minor victims' providers, are in place to minimize continued exploitation, close gaps to barriers in assisting the victim and family, and to work towards eradication of trafficking of minors. These multifaceted entities are being encouraged through training, to collectively provide wraparound services to individuals and the community in an effort to support the elimination of exploitation and trafficking. The toolkit can be found on our Human Trafficking resources page https://www.oag.state.va.us/files/ht/HT_Minor_Toolkit_FINAL.pdf

Office of the Attorney General Victim Notification Program



Source: Virginia Office of the Attorney General, Victim Notification Program (VNP), 2022 (2023). Data shows how many victims of domestic and sexual violence were served by VNP for 2022.

The Office of the Attorney General Victim Notification Program (VNP) is a system-based victim services program that ensures crime victims across the entire state of Virginia have access to services and receive notification on post-conviction matters. The services provided are codified in the Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights (Code of Virginia § 19.2-11.01) and are available to victims, witnesses, and family members.⁴⁶ VNP also assists victims throughout the Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) civil commitment process. In 2022, VNP provided services and support to 204 victims and/or witnesses of a broad range of crimes. Of those victims of crime, 25% accounted for domestic and sexual violence cases: 2% were adult victims who were sexually abused as children, 9% were child victims of sexual abuse/assault, 10% were adult victims of sexual assault, and 4% were victims of domestic and/or family violence. The 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, and identity theft.

The Victim Notification Program provides training across the Commonwealth to various agencies, departments, and non-profit organizations. The training includes education on the appellate process, the sexually violent predator civil commitment process, the habeas corpus process, as well as education regarding additional services and support available to victims of crime provided by the Program.

The Victim Notification Program is partially funded by the Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP). In fiscal year 2022-2023, the VNP was awarded \$308,251 in Victim Witness Grant funds. In fiscal year 2023-2024, the VNP received \$299,004, which was a decrease in funding from the previous year.

⁴⁶ See Va. Code Ann. §§ 19.2-11.01

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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 2023, 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 domestic violence improvement projects, and I-CAN! Virginia protective order online forms completion program. Total funding to support specified domestic violence projects in 2023 was \$206,916 (\$155,187 plus \$51,729 in match), which represents level funding from 2022.

OES also received funding from the Office on Violence Against Women through their Domestic Violence Mentor Court Technical Assistance Initiative. Total funding for this grant (2020-2023) is \$149,574. These funds allowed the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court to serve as a national domestic violence mentor court for other rural courts around the country and Virginia who wish to learn from the various domestic violence best practices implemented in Pulaski, Virginia. In addition, these funds 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. In September of 2023, the OES was notified by the Office on Violence Against Women that their request of \$150,000 was approved for an additional two years (2023-2025) for the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court to continue their work as a domestic violence mentor court.

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 2023, OES-sponsored domestic violence training for judges included two in-person sessions for newly appointed judges at their pre-bench training, two domestic violence sessions for circuit court judges at their mandatory annual conference in May of 2023 in Roanoke, Virginia, and one voluntary domestic violence session for district court judges at their mandatory annual conference in August of 2023 in Norfolk, Virginia.

In April of 2023, 36 newly appointed judges attended a session entitled, "Dynamics of Domestic Violence—Concepts and Myths," at pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. In June of 2023, all new judges also attended a protective order training session as part of their pre-bench training. Out of the thirty-six judges, 14 were circuit court judges, 13 were general district court judges, and nine were juvenile and domestic relations district court judges. In August of 2023 at the mandatory Judicial Conference of Virginia for District Courts, a voluntary domestic violence discussion group session was offered where 15 juvenile and domestic relations district court judges attended.

The 2023 version of the Virginia Domestic and Sexual Violence Reference Manual for District Court Judges was updated and distributed to all 36 new judges at their June pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. Copies of this manual are also available to judges at their mandatory annual conferences. 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 five-week course that concludes with a comprehensive exam. Certification training is normally held four times a year; the training currently consists of three weeks of in-person instruction at the magistrate training facility in Hanover, Virginia, and two weeks of virtual instruction.

In 2023, certification training includes instruction on the elements of §18.2-57.2, who may qualify as a "family or household member", bail considerations in domestic violence situations, emergency protective orders, marital rape, and larceny as it pertains to married couples. As of September 9, 2023, 50 new magistrates have attended certification training in 2023.

Attendance at a regional training, either online or by viewing video recordings of the online proceedings, is required for all magistrates. In June of 2023, magistrates were updated on new legislation, including statutes that sometimes arise in the context of domestic violence cases. 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.

In 2022, circuit court clerks received a total of seven protective order-related training courses (3 webinars and 4 in-person training courses) with a total of 330 clerks being trained. In 2023, a total of 16 training courses involving protective orders were delivered or are scheduled to be delivered to clerks of court. 11 were in-person trainings and five were virtual. A total of 855 clerks of court have received training or will be trained, including 269 circuit court clerks, 412 general district court clerks, and 174 juvenile and domestic relations district court clerks.

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 2022, 12 courts, judges, or magistrates applied for Local Court Funding. Out of the twelve courts, judges, or magistrates funded, four were local domestic violence improvement projects; eight judges or magistrates applied for funds to attend domestic violence training.

In 2023, a total of 16 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 16 courts, judges, or magistrates funded, six were local domestic violence improvement projects; and 10 were either hosting or attending domestic violence training events.

I-CAN! Virginia Program

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 the first six months of 2023, a total of 1,484 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (742 family abuse and 742 non-family abuse).

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. Effective July 1, 2022, the Hope Card Program was expanded to all courts in the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-152.10:1.

In 2022, a total of 2,253 Hope Cards were issued across the Commonwealth. In addition, a total of 11 trainings on Hope Cards took place in 2022 with 762 persons trained, most of whom were clerks of court. In the first six months of 2023, a total of 1,609 Hope Cards were issued. In addition, one Hope Card training took place with 30 persons trained (15 prosecutors and 15 law enforcement personnel).

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. In 2022, the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court began providing technical assistance to five courts that they were matched with including courts in Tennessee, Nevada, and Utah. A comprehensive domestic violence resource guide for rural courts was also completed and made available to mentee courts. Also, in 2022 two videos were produced describing the collaborative efforts and best practices associated with the Pulaski domestic violence compliance review docket. In 2023, the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts hosted two out of state court teams from Utah and Tennessee and one Virginia court in Pulaski to observe and learn about their domestic violence dockets and best practices.

THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN’S TRUST FUND OF VIRGINIA⁴⁷

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

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

⁴⁷ Information provided by the Family and Children’s Trust Fund. Additional information available is at: <https://www.fact.virginia.gov/>.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA CENTER ON AGING⁴⁸

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/>.

VCoA has several training initiatives that address domestic and sexual violence in later life and elder abuse. From July 1, 2021– June 30, 2022. 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 Project

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/>.

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Abuse in Later Life Project

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, 2023, 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.

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

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 2021-2022 include the following meetings/ professional development presentations:

- 9/15/2021: *The Five W's of Multi-Disciplinary Teams: The Benefits of Creating a MDT in Your Community*, presented by Ellie Rest, CONECT Program Coordinator, James City County Social Services
- 12/2/2021: *Recognizing & Responding to Abuse in Later Life: Insights from Frontline Personnel*, presented by Dr. Sarah Mars, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 3/23/2022: *No Wrong Door Virginia*, presented by Sara Link, Virginia Department for Aging & Rehabilitation Services
- 6/23/2022: *Fill Your Cup: How Virginia Recognizes & Lifts up Caregivers*, presented by Dr. Christy Jensen
- 113 professionals were in attendance at these meetings.

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 serve 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 9 agencies/organizations:

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

Staff designed, developed, and launched the *Executive Law Enforcement Digital Toolkit*. This toolkit, developed with guidance from the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life, is designed to allow executive level law enforcement to examine current practices and introduce information that helps expand knowledge of and response to elder abuse. The toolkit is built on a process of reflection and discussion that requires candid and thoughtful conversation among those with different experiences within the organization or community. Each section details best practices in the following areas: Investigation, Safety Planning, Access, Outreach & Services, Policy & Procedure, Training, and Community Collaboration. Throughout the toolkit, visitors will find additional resources in the form of videos from "Identifying and Responding to Elder Abuse: An Officer's Role," a series of seven roll call videos designed for patrol officers to quickly recognize and respond to various types of elder abuse. A recommended flow for this toolkit is spaced out over several sessions, over three or more days.

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

The Abuse in Life Project staff facilitated eight trainings events to 174 law enforcement officers, which focused on topics like evidence collection and financial exploitation, while also providing additional training to 91 professionals at Hanover Safe Place, Pace-Farmville, and Safe Harbor.

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. 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! The 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 (2022-2023) 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. 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>

This grant also supported the development of an online training about abuse of people who are d/Deaf or Hard of Hearing. The module can be accessed here: <https://sites.google.com/vcu.edu/survivors-who-are-deaf/home> The Project also offers 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 Project also offers 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 2,000 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 SERVICES⁴⁹

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

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 eight grant programs using both federal and state funds. Through these eight programs, the team awards 431 grants, totaling approximately \$52 million in grant awards (*as of October 2023*).
- ❖ Developing, facilitating, and coordinating conferences, webinars, and training events.
- ❖ Implementing statewide initiatives, such as enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, collecting data on the Lethality Assessment Program, and advocating for forensic nurse examiners through the Sexual Assault Forensic Services Program.
- ❖ Developing best-practice resource materials, as well as drafting and reviewing policies and legislation.
- ❖ Coordinating the response to assist victims of mass casualty events and coordinating Virginia's Victims Crisis Assistance and Response Team (VCART).
- ❖ 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. Additionally, in 2022, DCJS received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address needs for direct services related to the Coronavirus pandemic. Victims Services 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.

⁴⁹ Information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Support to Local Sexual Assault Response Teams

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

Legislation passed in 2008 and 2009 also contributed to the need for statewide guidelines on a coordinated response to sexual violence. In 2008, in response to federal mandates attached to grant funding from the Violence Against Women Act, the Virginia General Assembly passed a bill that made significant changes to laws describing the provision of, and payment for, forensic examinations in sexual assault cases. In 2009, legislation codified the creation of sexual assault response teams (SART) in Virginia (*Code of Virginia* [§ 15.2-1627.4](#)). Since July 1, 2009, Commonwealth’s Attorneys have the responsibility to coordinate a multi-disciplinary response to sexual violence in their community, which is consistent with the guidelines established by DCJS.

In accordance with these legislative mandates, DCJS continues to update and promote the publication, *Sexual Assault Response Teams: A Model Protocol for Virginia*, which focuses on comprehensive, coordinated intervention and care for adult victims of sexual assault. Localities are encouraged to review the model protocol as they continue to address sexual assault in their communities and as they seek to meet related statutory requirements. Additionally, in July 2017, the results of a national research project on Virginia’s SART *Code of Virginia* mandate were published in a report, *Cultivating SART Efficacy: Insights on the Impact of the Virginia Sexual Assault Response Team Mandate*. For this project, DCJS partnered with the Sexual Violence Justice Institute (SVJI), a national technical assistance provider, to seek responses to the following core question: “What happened as a direct result of the *Code of Virginia* being amended in 2009 to require each Commonwealth’s Attorney to convene a SART?”

Findings emerged related to four questions:

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

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

The full report is available on the DCJS website here:

<https://www.dcs.virginia.gov/sites/dcs.virginia.gov/files/publications/victims/cultivating-sart-efficacy-insights-impact-virginia-sexual-assault-response-team-mandate.pdf>

Through the Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) grant (2019 – 2022), DCJS initiated the *Strengthening SARTs in Virginia Project*, which has conducted the following activities to support SARTs:

- A webinar on the Virginia SART *Code of Virginia* mandate;
- Two regional trainings entitled “Creating Strong and Sustainable SARTs in Virginia”;
- A SART Summit and subsequent report that explored the viability and work of a State SART group that could offer support and resources to local SARTs;
- The creation of a Virginia SART Advisory Council comprised of state and local representatives to guide resources, training, and technical assistance to SARTs;
- A Virginia SART Google Group that publicizes best practices, training, and resources for SARTs;
- A two-day SART Interactive Scenario Training;
- Creation of a SART web page that includes resources for teams;
- Technical assistance and customized trainings for local SARTs;
- Sexual Assault Expert Testimony Training;
- A quarterly SART Discussion Forum that promotes networking and discussion on SART coordination; and
- Live and virtual training on sexual assault response best practices.

The 2022 – 2025 ICJR grant initiative will focus on developing and updating model policies, protocols, and delivering training courses for SART professionals on trauma-informed responses to victims of sexual assault, guided by the Virginia SART Advisory Council.

DCJS Victims Services Training Initiatives

The DCJS Victims Services Team is committed to providing quality, relevant training and education opportunities for victim-serving professionals throughout the Commonwealth. Towards this goal, DCJS Victims Services provided 79 virtual and in-person training opportunities for victim-serving professionals from October 2022 through September 2023, with over 6,600 people in attendance.

To lift the voices of those we serve, we featured presentations from survivors who shared their journeys toward safety, healing, and justice. During these presentations, speakers such as Katrina Brownlee and Anna Nasset bravely discussed the devastating impact of victimization and how criminal justice professionals best supported them. Other training opportunities throughout the year allowed attendees to gain insight and guidance on best practices and emerging victim service trends. Based on feedback from victim service providers, DCJS Victims Services offered numerous trainings to address how advocates can best support survivors with mental health diagnoses and substance use or abuse. In response to this feedback, DCJS Victims Services offered a three-part training series to address the challenges identified by those providing direct services. The “Trauma-Informed Responses for Victim Services” training series offered practical guidance on verbal de-escalation, understanding, and responding to mental health symptoms, and suicide assessment and response. Additionally, DCJS Victims Services offered training on ethical boundary setting with survivors with mental health diagnoses.

The Victims Services team also offered training sessions to increase the capacity to support victims across the Commonwealth. Training topics such as crisis response, trauma-responsive investigations, sexual assault victim interviews, sexual assault nurse/forensic examiner (SANE/SAFE) clinical skills lab, and impactful victim impact statements provided opportunities for attendees to learn new advocacy skills and strengthen existing ones to improve their competence and capacity for serving and supporting victims.

Programs must be sustainable to ensure they can continue to provide survivors with quality services and support. Because an essential aspect of sustainability is effective grants management, DCJS Victims Services offered a seven-part training series on federal grants management in collaboration with the National Criminal Justice Association. This training series provided participants with guidance, tools, and resources to effectively and efficiently manage their DCJS Victims Services grants.

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Coordination Program

During the 2020 Session of the Virginia General Assembly, policymakers enacted Article 14 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, establishing the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Coordination Program at the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), effective July 1, 2020. The goals of the program, as outlined in *Code of Virginia* § 9.1-191, include developing and enhancing sexual assault forensic examiner programs across Virginia, establishing a partnership group to plan forensic nurse training, assisting with developing protocols and guidelines for the treatment of victims of sexual assault, and collecting and maintaining information on all available sexual assault forensic services in Virginia. The Sexual Assault Forensic Services Coordinator (Coordinator) at DCJS leads this program. In March 2023, the Coordinator created and coordinated an Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse/Forensic Examiner Clinical Skills Lab at Valley Urgent Care in Harrisonburg, Virginia, in partnership with the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN), the Office of the Attorney General, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Virginia Victims Fund. Eleven nurses, who all had completed 40-hours of the Adult/Adolescent Didactic Training, attended the intensive and hands-on lab training. This was the first Clinical Skills Lab offered to forensic nurses in Virginia.

The Coordinator continuously assesses and reports on gaps in forensic nursing services in Virginia. Sexual Assault/Forensic Nursing Programs are surveyed annually about their locations and services. From the data collected, a map and directory of all the programs in the state is maintained and updated periodically. The Coordinator attends meetings of the Task Force on Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault, coordinated by the Virginia Department of Health, as well as many other collaborative statewide and national meetings.

Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Efforts

In October 2021, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) created a new position within the Division of Programs and Services to focus on the intersections of gun violence and intimate partner relationships. This position, titled Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Coordinator, is tasked with two main ongoing assignments. The first goal is to continue the growth of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) across the Commonwealth in partnership with the Office of the Attorney General and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance. LAP is an innovative, evidence-based strategy designed to prevent domestic violence homicides and serious injuries. It provides an efficient and effective method for law enforcement officers to identify victims of domestic violence who are at the highest risk of being seriously injured or killed by their intimate partners, and immediately connect them to the local domestic violence service program.

The statewide LAP team actively recruits new partner programs throughout the year and provides training and implementation resources for these new law enforcement and domestic violence service agencies. In addition, the LAP team hosts quarterly meetings for LAP program coordinators, as well as refresher trainings and curriculum updates for all active programs. Finally, as part of DCJS's participation on the statewide LAP team, the Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Coordinator is responsible for leading biannual data collection and analysis efforts related to LAP activity across the Commonwealth. As of 2023, there are currently 55 law enforcement agencies and 28 domestic violence service providers that participate in LAP in Virginia.

The second goal associated with this position is to increase awareness and provide technical assistance related to Virginia's Substantial Risk Orders (SRO), which were enacted by legislation and took effect in July 2020. To meet this goal, the Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Coordinator provides training to law enforcement agencies and Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices, the two organizations tasked with the ability to initiate the proceedings necessary for the issuance of these risk orders. Finally, as part of the focus on a victim-centered approach to these and other gun violence prevention efforts, victim services agencies, regional/local domestic violence response teams, and community groups are also trained on the availability of SROs as a tool to remove firearms from those who are deemed to be at high risk of harming themselves or others. The Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Coordinator works closely with other executive agencies, units of local government, and statewide non-profits to coordinate and deliver these trainings.

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.

The Advisory Committee is comprised of 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."

The Advisory Committee's duties and responsibilities 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 2023, the Advisory Committee's work primarily focused on the following:**

- Grant programs and funding available for sexual and domestic violence services;
- Impact of reductions in grant funding on sexual and domestic violence services;
- Sustainability of sexual and domestic violence service agencies;
- Victims' compensation in Virginia;
- Anti-human trafficking efforts in Virginia; and
- Issues surrounding access to services and limits to participating in the criminal justice system for victims with limited English proficiency.

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 the following:

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 coordinates the efforts of the Professional Standards Committee. Thus far, there have been two rounds of applications for accreditation. Out of the applicants from those rounds, the Professional Standards Committee has voted to fully accredit 17 agencies. A third round of applications was opened in August of 2023. It is anticipated that twelve agencies will apply during this round. Furthermore, the Professional Standards Committee has begun the process of revising the Professional Standards. This revision process will likely be completed in 2024.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION, INJURY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM⁵⁰

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 32.1-283.3, 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). Surveillance of FIPV homicides began in 1999 as a method to describe the magnitude of lethal domestic violence in Virginia. VDH examines death investigation records and identify cases in which the alleged offender was an intimate partner or family member or where the death was directly related to domestic violence. Once identified, cases are categorized in one of six violence-related homicide types: intimate partner, intimate partner associated, child by caregiver, elder/dependent adult by caregiver, other family, and family associated. Data is shared in an annual data report from the OCME.

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

Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Task Force

The Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Task Force (SSSATF) is established by the Code of Virginia § 32.1- 62.15:11. The State Health Commissioner or designee chairs SSSATF and VDH provides staff support. The SSSATF is tasked with:

- Developing model treatment and transfer plans for use by transfer hospitals, treatment hospitals, and pediatric health care facilities;
- Developing model written transfer agreements for use by treatment hospitals, transfer hospitals, and pediatric health care facilities;
- Developing model written agreements for use by treatment hospitals and approved pediatric health care facilities required to enter into agreements with rape crisis centers pursuant to subsection D of § [32.1-162.15:4](#);
- Working with treatment hospitals and approved pediatric health care facilities to develop plans to employ or contract with sexual assault forensic examiners to ensure the provision of treatment services to survivors of sexual assault by sexual assault forensic examiners, including plans for implementation of on- call systems to ensure availability of sexual assault forensic examiners;
- Working with treatment hospitals and approved pediatric health care facilities to identify and recommend processes to ensure compliance with the provisions of this article related to creation, storage, and retention of photographic and other documentation and evidence;
- Developing and distributing educational materials regarding implementation of the provisions of this article to hospitals, health care providers, rape crisis centers, children's advocacy centers, and others; and
- Studying and providing recommendations to VDH for the use of telemedicine in meeting the requirements of this article.

VDH is funded through a variety of federal grants to conduct the following activities related to domestic and sexual violence in Virginia.

Rape Prevention and Education Grant

The goal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Rape Prevention and Education Grant (RPE) is to strengthen sexual violence prevention by focusing on primary prevention efforts which aim to stop sexual violence before it occurs. The RPE program supports comprehensive strategies that implement a public health approach and the CDC's Social-Ecological Model (SEM). The SEM demonstrates that a comprehensive approach is more impactful than a single intervention and can reach larger numbers of people.

During 2023, 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 community level interventions, Virginia's RPE program funded:

- The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) was funded to provide technical assistance to 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.
- The Sexual Assault Resource Agency (Charlottesville, Virginia) was funded to build restaurant industry coalition efforts and implement primary prevention strategies designed to create protective environments, empower women, and lessen harms of those employed and engaged in restaurant service work.
- The Shelter for Help in Emergency (Charlottesville, Virginia) was funded to implement primary prevention strategies designed to create protective environments, empower women, and lessen harms by ensuring easier, more direct access to health care services.

- The Haven (Warsaw, Virginia) was funded to build coalition efforts and implement primary prevention strategies designed to create protective environments, lessen harms, and enhance community connectedness through education and integration of food security.
- Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) was funded to build statewide capacity in implementing trauma responsive practices.
- Sportable (Richmond, Virginia) was funded to modify and implement Coaching Boys into Men/Athletes as Leaders to best serve those with adaptive needs. Coaching Boys into Men/Athletes as Leaders is an evidence-based prevention program that trains coaches and youth leaders to teach their teams about healthy relationships and that violence never equals strength.
- Five university Peer Educator Programs were funded to build a collective effort on college campuses in enhancing primary prevention: Norfolk State University, George Mason University, University of Virginia, University of Virginia at Wise, and Radford University,
- Real Life was funded to provide sustainable education through curriculum development and dissemination for men through community programs and in local jails to prevent sexual and domestic violence perpetration.
- The Virginia Commonwealth University Child Protection Team was funded to provide education to both clinical and non-clinical workforce on best practices related to addressing child abuse and neglect through the Project ECHO™ model.
- FACT (Family and Children's Trust of Virginia) was funded to examine and document best practices related to child-on-child problematic sexual behavior.

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG) is administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help states address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways targeting objectives identified in Healthy People 2030. A portion of these funds have been used to implement domestic and sexual violence prevention activities.

- Families Forward Virginia was funded to provide training and technical assistance for the implementation of Darkness to Light trainer and Circle of Parents models in communities across Virginia to prevent child sexual abuse and enhance connectedness for parents and caregivers. Darkness to Light utilizes a Social Behavior Change framework to guide work in preventing child sexual abuse, a proven approach for enabling changes at individual, community, and societal levels to improve health and overall well-being. Circle of Parents offers a supportive environment facilitated by trained facilitators but **led** by parents and other caregivers where anyone in a parenting role can openly discuss the successes and challenges of raising children.
- The Brain Injury Association of Virginia was funded to provide training and technical assistance to local sexual and domestic violence and brain injury programs to implement head injury screening, as well as linkage to care models.

Maternal Mortality Due to Violence Grant

In 2021, VDH was awarded the five-year initiative, State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal Partnership Programs to Reduce Maternal Mortality due to Violence through the US Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health. The goal of this grant is to reduce and prevent maternal deaths due to homicide and suicide. Activities throughout 2023 addressed Intimate Partner Violence as a risk factor leading to homicide and suicide including:

- The continuation of developing and implementing linkages of care models between obstetrics and gynecology and pediatric outpatient settings for pregnant or postpartum women who are at risk for intimate partner violence and suicide in partnership with the Virginia Chapters of American Academy of Pediatrics and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Pre/postnatal class curriculum development with the provision of violence prevention resources.

National Violent Death Reporting System Grant

VDH receives funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support 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. Data from 2002-2020 is currently available through VVDRS and it is anticipated to add the 2021 data set during the 2023 calendar year.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER⁵¹

Surveillance Efforts

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

The OCME also receives grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for the Virginia Violent Death Reporting System (VVDRS). VVDRS cases include, but are not limited to,

- (1) all cases of suicide where the victim had an intimate partner problem (not necessarily violence), was the perpetrator of interpersonal violence within the past month, and/or was the victim of interpersonal violence within the past month; and
- (2) all homicides which were related to intimate partner violence and/or intimate partner jealousy or rivalry. Current FIPV data is pulled from this project and utilized for data analysis in this data.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review

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

Adult Fatality Review⁵³

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.

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

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

⁵³ Information provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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 DEVELOPMENT

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 VIOLENCE (OFV)

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 work to prevent and address the issue of domestic violence within their community and provide services to all people in that community who have experienced or been impacted by domestic violence. The OFV's primary goals are to support local domestic violence programs, to provide leadership and coordination within DSS on domestic violence as it relates to child abuse and neglect and other DSS service areas, to educate local DSS agencies, community organizations and the general public on the effects of domestic violence, and to work collaboratively with the state domestic violence coalition and other state agencies. The OFV endeavors to provide consistent and reliable services through local service providers for victims and children in every locality of the Commonwealth.

Through various projects, OFV supports an array of direct services to victims of domestic violence and their children, including crisis hotlines, shelter 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. Additionally, OFV supports community education and primary prevention efforts throughout the state.

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 (VAdat), 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 2023 OFV Statewide Outcome Measures:

1. Survivors of domestic violence know more about domestic violence and its impact.
 - a) 94% 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. 95% 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. 98% of 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 report that because of the services received, they know how to take their next steps.
 - b. 98% of clients responding to the DOW survey report said that they could accept or not accept the services offered to them.
6. Children exposed to domestic violence are emotionally healthy
 - a. 94% 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. 96% of clients with minor children responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they feel that their children are having more positive interactions with others.
7. The community knows more about domestic violence (measured from subgrantee agency input into the VAdat Community Engagement Form)
 - a. 92% of community members attending trainings and presentations report that they learned new information that will help them identify and respond to sexual and/or domestic violence.

Listed below are a few highlights from the previous year, provided by the Office of Family Violence as well as services through funded programs:

- Eight culturally and population specific organizations contracts were renewed in response to the Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations RFA which was originally awarded in FY2022. Currently funded projects include Sacred Heart Center, Tahirih Justice Center, Ethiopian Community Development Council, LGBT Life Center, Just Neighbors Ministry, Church World Service, Ayuda and Virginia Harm Reduction.

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 report twice year on their progress toward meeting goals outlined in their workplans and technical assistance is provided as necessary. Some of the identified underserved populations include survivors with limited English Proficiency, immigrants, people with disabilities, older adults, LGBTQIA population, among others.

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 provides ongoing opportunities to expand what trauma-informed domestic violence programming steeped in racial and social justice could look like in Virginia. The Guide is located on the VDSS website at https://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/domestic_violence/ppg.cgi

Promising Practices Guide

Supervision of Children

What is it?

Family specific
Survivor parents/legal guardians may need additional support in assessing the needs of their children and with parenting needs during their stay in shelter.

Why is it important?

Recognize different approaches
Recognizing that there may be differences in parenting styles and cultural differences concerning family dynamics, domestic violence advocates can work with the parent to support the needs of their children.

Is this required?

Yes
At all times, but especially in a shelter setting, children are provided a safe and supervised environment.

How do we make it happen?

Setting parents up for success
Agency provides transparent guidance and language concerning supervision of children, with emphasis on non-violence policy at shelter. Parent survivors have voice and choice in how support can be provided concerning parenting within shelter. Survivor parents are validated about the challenges of parenting and healing their families in shelter/post-DV.



Access to Services

Southside Organizing Project

In FY 2023 a local program serving all or part of 12 counties closed its operations leaving access to services for sexual and domestic violence survivors in jeopardy. VDSS provided financial assistance to the local community action agency to provide immediate safety net services such as shelter and made plans to address long-term strategies for comprehensive services. VDSS and Department of Criminal Justice provided funding to the Action Alliance to go into this service area to help build the capacity of local organizations to fill the critical gap in essential crisis services, including providing domestic and sexual violence training and convening public listening sessions. This work will continue through FY 2024.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

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 ALLIANCE



The Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance) is Virginia's leading voice on sexual and domestic violence. The Action Alliance works to enhance responses to and prevention of sexual and domestic violence, stalking, and human trafficking, through training, technical assistance, data collection, public policy, primary prevention programming, public awareness, and coalition building work statewide. As an advocacy organization, the Action Alliance provides the expertise needed to ensure an effective response to violence. As a service provider, the Action Alliance offers people resources for making informed choices about their safety, their bodies, their health, and their healing. And as a membership organization, the Action Alliance builds diverse alliances across the Commonwealth towards 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, the Action Alliance's members include 70+ community-based sexual and domestic violence advocacy agencies (SDVAs), allied organizations providing services to victims of domestic and sexual assault, and other professionals and individuals from diverse communities. The Action Alliance provides an abundance of training each year for its members and community professionals, including webinars, conferences, and workshops/seminars. For more information on ongoing projects, resources, trainings, and offerings visit www.vsdvalliance.org.

To accomplish its mission, the Action Alliance relies upon federal and state grant funding, membership fees, and private contributions. In FY2022, the Action Alliance received 70% of its nearly \$3.5 million budget from federal and state grants and contracts, including funding from the federal Office on Violence Against Women, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Virginia Department of Social Services. Approximately \$270,000 of this \$3.5 million was designated as pass-through grant funding. Approximately 30% of the Action Alliance's total funding in FY2022 originated from private sources, including membership dues, fees, fundraising, and contributions.

Agency Update

The biggest transition for the Action Alliance in 2022 was the relocation of the coalition offices of 5 years to a new, smaller space at 1411-1413 W. Main St., still in Richmond. The downsizing has been possible because of transitioning to a hybrid work model. The Action Alliance invites other agencies to tour its new office and training space.

Much of the 2022 programming produced by the Action Alliance was in response to an increased demand for training and technical assistance from local sexual and domestic violence agencies (SDVAs). Persistent staff turnover rates in local SDVAs, coupled with decreased funding for the work at the federal level and similar turnover rates across human services sectors statewide, have highlighted that sexual and domestic violence victim service agencies and the advocates who work within are being taxed at extraordinary rates. Both requests for survivor services as well as the complexity of presenting traumas have continued to increase post pandemic. The ability of agencies to continue serving additional survivors with decreasing resources has resulted in a gap in services in many areas across the state. The Action Alliance has been engaged in additional trainings, technical assistance requests, and listening sessions with staff at SDVAs to help support and sustain agencies providing direct services while also building toward long-term sustainability goals for the field. To this end, the Action Alliance pulled together a small group of directors from SDVAs to form the Sustainability Planning Alliance. The purpose of the group was to outline sustainability strategies and build a state-level 10-year plan that includes workforce developments like access to wages and benefits that will sustain advocates at the local level. This ambitious project will wrap up in 2023 after publishing its 10-year plan - which will include sustainability recommendations for SDVAs, funders and state partners, policy leaders, as well as the state coalition - to build a thriving Virginia-based movement to end sexual and domestic violence.



Programming Updates

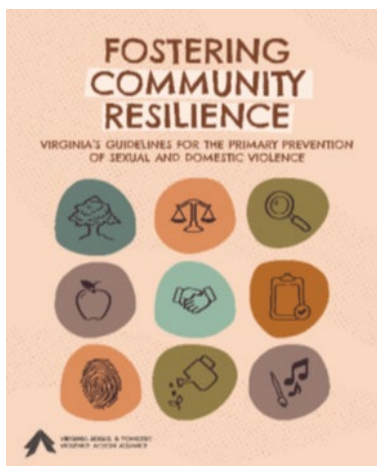
Legal Services: One programmatic change at the Action Alliance centers around its legal services program. With diminishing resources for direct legal services, coupled with unprecedented requests for legal advocacy needs, the ability to provide survivors with the assistance they need has required an infrastructure redesign. Sunsetting the “Project for the Empowerment of Survivors” project, the Action Alliance is pivoting to a low bono attorney referral network, more so than a direct service provider. The newly formed *Advocate and Attorney Alliance*, funded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Service’s Victim Services Grant Program, continues to provide 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. However, with a new focus around

the creation of more formalized relationships with attorneys willing to work with advocates who are supporting survivors, the project hopes to offer easier access to trauma-informed attorneys. The program 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. With the extreme cuts to available funds for direct legal services, the need to create relationships with attorneys who are willing to represent survivors at deeply discounted rates has become more critical now than ever before. These relationships will also allow the limited funds available for direct assistance from the Action Alliance to extend further, by subsidizing attorneys willing to work for survivors at a discounted rate. Any attorney who is interested in participating in this network is encouraged to reach out to the Action Alliance.

The Advocate and Attorney Alliance has three components: 1) a trained legal advocate and a staff attorney who provide free over the phone assistance, 2) a low bono referral network of trained community-based attorneys who provide direct legal representation to survivors working with an advocate at a local agency and who are provided limited financial assistance where available and appropriate, and 3) legal advocacy training for attorneys, advocates, judges, and other professionals who provide support to underserved victims of violence needing ongoing legal representation. In 2022, the Action Alliance staff attorney and legal advocate provided substantial assistance with civil legal advocacy for survivors in Virginia. There were 4,297 contacts made regarding civil legal assistance and 2,092 contacts made offering additional legal advice and/or counsel.

Notably, during 2022, volunteer law students dedicated over 990 hours to help survivors. The Action Alliance legal fund was used to aid 20 survivors with a variety of legal matters, including child custody and support, asylum and other immigration issues, and employment discrimination, among others. Additionally, in FY 2022, attorneys donated almost \$50,000 worth of legal services to survivors. Survivors aided by the legal fund 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.

Primary 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. In 2022, the Action Alliance wrote and launched two new training curricula for advocates: “Sexual and Reproductive Coercion: What Advocates and Healthcare Providers Need to Know” and “Joyful Sexuality and the Movement to End Sexual and Domestic Violence”. The Action Alliance also instituted a new education program for campus prevention practitioners: “ECHO@edu: Campus Violence Prevention”, which serves as a didactic and collaborative space to learn about and develop strategies for integrating prevention education into formalized spaces on college campuses.



The Action Alliance also released newly updated guidelines for the primary prevention of sexual and intimate partner violence, “Fostering Community Resilience: Virginia’s Guidelines for the Primary Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence”. This long-awaited resource offers nine guidelines for effective prevention programs that have been informed by the field and are built on the foundation of two core concepts: social justice principles and public health models. The accompanying website <https://guidelines.vsdvalliance.org> serves as a multi-media toolbox with resources relevant to each guideline.

Underserved Population Learning Collaborative (UPLC): The 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 was to build the capacity of these agencies to be strong allies to underserved populations and promote access to appropriate comprehensive services. The project ran for approximately five years. The final report is a summary of the lessons learned along the way, as well as the resources, presentations, and evaluations cultivated for this project. The full report can be found [here](#). Some reported highlights from the final report evaluations are⁵⁴:

- 87% of participants reported a change in efforts to address internal (i.e., organizational) barriers of underserved clients as a result of the UPLC.
- 81.5% of participants reported a change in efforts to address external (i.e., community and societal level) barriers to service to underserved clients as a result of the program.
- All participants in the program believed the UPLC to be very effective in facilitating a positive change in the reflection of barriers for underserved populations.
- Participants also expressed that training opportunities and technical assistance on topics such as racism, cultural humility, and power led them to share their new knowledge with fellow staff members. This, in turn, helped their broader agency think more critically about client barriers.
- As a result of the program, 82% of participants increased community outreach to new or existing organizations. For some, partnership creation even translated into more culturally informed advocacy services.
- Overall results of the evaluation of the UPLC revealed that most participants believed the UPLC did have an impact on the state of Virginia.

⁵⁴ *Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative Lessons Learned Report*, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (July 2023).

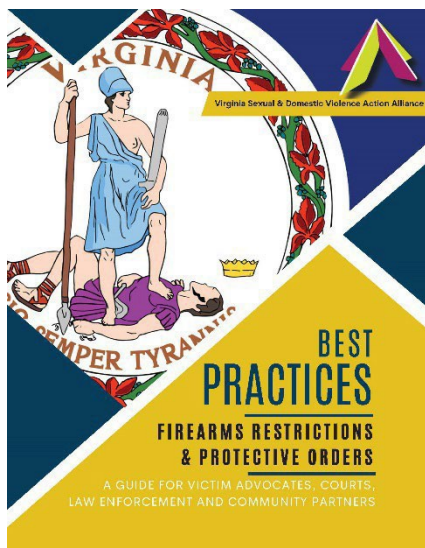
Public Policy Updates

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 working with legislators and state partners and allies - as the Virginia legislature considered several proposals including statewide access to Hope Cards for survivors with permanent protective orders, substantial investments in sexual and domestic violence services and prevention work, and clarifying and streamlining PERK testing, storage, and victim notification processes. Two notable measures backed by the General Assembly in 2022 provided localities with the tools and resources required to prevent sexual and domestic violence and addressed federal gaps in funding for life-saving crisis response services.

To recognize the growing threat to public health and safety that sexual and domestic violence poses, the legislature allocated 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. Additionally, given the federal Crime Victims Fund (Victim of Crime Act) balance being at an historic low, coupled with the influx of federal COVID relief dollars to Virginia, the Virginia General Assembly invested \$9M in frontline and community-based crisis response services in 2022. Approximately \$7M of this appropriation is going directly to local sexual and domestic violence agencies as a stop-gap measure in the absence of federal funds. As we move into 2023 and 2024, permanently and sustainably funding sexual and domestic violence agencies will become a top priority for Virginia's advocates.

Additionally, the Action Alliance continues to support policies to remove firearms from dangerous and potentially lethal situations where domestic violence, suicide, and other fatality indicators are present. 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.



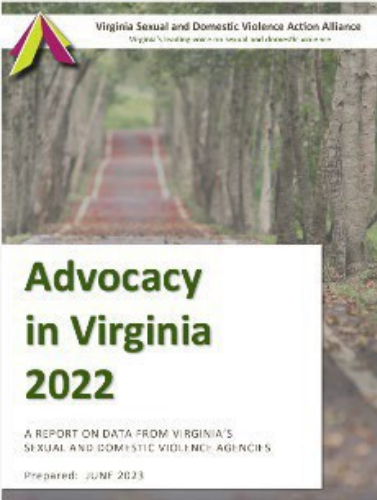
Over the past year, the Collaborative has successfully gathered baseline information on implementation trends and needs from local practitioners across the state, worked with state and national experts to build a series of implementation resources for Virginia judges, law enforcement, advocates, respondents, 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 was released end of 2022/ beginning of 2023](#) and the Collaborative has been training on these tools and the importance of proper enforcement and implementation of the laws ever since – this includes integration into the OAG's Lethality Assessment Program.

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 to inform members and elected representatives about legislation related to sexual and domestic violence. During the 2022 General Assembly session, over one hundred sexual and domestic violence advocates and allies held meetings, sent emails, and made phone calls to their legislators to advance policies that would promote victim safety and advance prevention efforts in the state. Every year, the Action Alliance policy team releases a New Laws: Legal Guide for Sexual and Domestic Violence.

Advocates resource. The 2022 edition of [this resource can be found here](#).

Other ongoing policy projects include: 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.



The Action Alliance's [Advocacy in Virginia 2022 report](#) was released in June 2023 and is available to the public. The report contains robust information about advocacy efforts on behalf of domestic and sexual violence survivors across the state. The report can be found on the Community Solutions to Sexual and Domestic Violence site (also known as, the "[Community Defined Solutions](#)" website). The report reflects the work of 69 sexual and domestic violence agencies (SDVAs) using VAdata to track a substantial portion of their services provided between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022. The report highlights aggregate data collected through VAdata: *Virginia's Sexual and Domestic Violence Data Collection System*. The report illustrates how Virginia's sexual and domestic violence advocates and agencies provided not only crisis response and shelter for survivors, but also assistance to meet financial, housing, employment, and legal service needs. Responses from surveys and interviews of staff at SDVAs show that requests for services are increasing, while agencies have seen consistent or decreased capacity over the past three years.⁵⁵ The support survivors described as most important to them were 1) help addressing emotional needs, 2) help with the impact of the violence on relationships with family and friends, and 3) help meeting basic financial needs.

Highlights from the 2022 Report include:

- **Hotline** contacts made: **78,956**.
- Of the 78,956 contacts made, **13%** requested support for **sexual violence**.
- Advocates accompanied individuals to 821 forensic exams after a sexual assault, however **71**, individuals indicated they **requested** a physical evidence recovery kit (**PERK**) and **were denied**.
- **Nearly half of the people receiving sexual violence advocacy services** and almost a third of hotline contacts **experienced forms of sexual and reproduction coercion**.
- Sexual violence survivors gave positive feedback about their experience with community and shelter-based services, indicating that **98% of clients would recommend/strongly recommend the agency to a friend**.
- Of the 78,956 contacts made, **53%** requested support for **domestic violence**.
- **Increased from 2021** were services to survivors related to emergency transportation, assistance seeking family planning, victim compensation, emergency shelter/housing, and emergency financial assistance.
- Sexual and domestic violence agencies in Virginia **provided emergency shelter for a total of 241,641 nights for 3,710 adults and 2,568 children**.
- There is a growing need for emergency, transitional, and self-supported housing to meet the needs of survivors in Virginia.
- This year emergency housing was requested in 24% of hotline contacts. However, **51% of these requests could not be met**. The number of requests for emergency shelter **when space was unavailable has increased from 173%** since 2021.
- The total number of children and youth receiving services **increased by 16%**

⁵⁵ Advocacy in Virginia 2022: A Report of Data from VA's Sexual and Domestic Violence Agencies, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (June 2023).

The DV and SV grants received by your agency (type, amount, source – CY/FY 2021-22 and CY22-FY23) and whether this funding has increased or decreased in the past year.

Type	Source	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	+/-
DV	FVPSA	\$293,080	\$309,821	+\$16,741
DV	FVPSA Covid-19	\$71,428	\$71,428	\$0
DV	FVPSA ARPA	\$59,821	\$59,821	\$0
DV	VDSS	\$620,000	\$404,158	-\$215,842
SV	VSTOP (new)	\$167,184	\$0	-\$167,184
SDV	VSGP	\$842,305	\$751,844	-\$90,461
SDV	OVW	\$270,782	\$267,469	-\$3,313
SDV	OVW ICJR	\$72,235	\$134,422	+\$62,187
SV	VDH/ PHHS	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$0
SDV	DCJS - ARPA	\$144,005	\$144,005	\$0
			TOTAL =	-\$397,872

The Action Alliance and many other sexual and domestic violence agencies around the state have benefited from an influx of one- time, federal COVID-mitigation dollars in the past several years. These one-time grants (FVPSA COVID, FVPSA ARPA, and DCJS ARPA) have helped to lessen the immediate impact of declining VOCA revenue as well as declining state and federal investments in sexual and domestic violence work. But as pandemic-era funding streams expire and federal balances in the Crime Victim Fund (VOCA) remain at an all-time low, Virginia’s sexual and domestic violence agencies face a devastating funding crisis on the horizon that is already limiting service delivery and creating significant gaps statewide.

NEW Resources released from the Action Alliance

- [Always on the Frontlines Campaign](#)
- [Advocacy in Virginia 2022 Infographic Report](#)
- [Fostering Community Resilience-Virginia’s Guidelines for the Primary Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence](#)
- [Transforming Relationships: A Violence Prevention Toolkit for Peer Educators](#)
- [Understanding PERK Exams and Your Options After a Sexual Assault](#)
- [Firearms Restrictions and Protective Orders: A Guide for Victim Advocates, Courts, Law Enforcement and Community Partners \(full toolkit\)](#)
 - [BEST PRACTICES- BUILDING A COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE around FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS & PROTECTIVE ORDERS](#)
 - [BEST PRACTICES-THE ROLE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ACHIEVING VICTIM SAFETY around FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS & PROTECTIVE ORDERS](#)
 - [BEST PRACTICES- WHAT ADVOCATES NEED TO KNOW about FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS & PROTECTIVE ORDERS](#)
 - [BEST PRACTICES- A BENCH GUIDE FOR JUDGES on FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS & PROTECTIVE ORDERS](#)
 - [BEST PRACTICES – SUPPORTING RESPONDENT EDUCATION](#)
- [Supporting Reproductive Freedom and Choice: Post Roe Resources for Advocates](#)



Two recipients of the Action Alliance's 2022 Act. Honor. Hope. Awards:

Left photo: Delegate Carrie Coyner (l) with Action Alliance Policy Director, Jonathan Yglesias (r)

Right photo: Toni Zollicoffer, Director of the Fairfax Office of Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (l) with the Action Alliance's Executive Director, Kristi VanAudenhove (r)

VIRGINIA POVERTY LAW CENTER

Virginia Poverty Law Center (VPLC) is committed to breaking down systemic barriers that keep low-income Virginians in the cycle of poverty through advocacy, education, and litigation. We work to improve laws and policies for low-income victims of domestic and sexual violence and the legal aid attorneys who represent their civil legal assistance needs. For more information on VPLC projects and resources, visit the website at www.vplc.org.

Since 1978, we've advocated for legislation that benefits low-income Virginians and provided training to legal aid organizations throughout the Commonwealth in the following areas: housing, consumer rights, domestic and sexual violence, elder rights, family and child welfare, health insurance, and public benefits. We are the only statewide organization that provides training to local legal aid program staff, private attorneys, and low-income clients relating exclusively to the legal rights of low-income Virginians.

VPLC helped create and continues to update Virginia's online Do-it-Yourself Divorce tool. In FY22 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022), 16,691 people used the self-help tools to create more than 7,000 documents they could then file in court (both divorce and fee waiver documents), saving them hundreds of dollars in fees and making it the most used tool on Lawhelp Interactive, a website that helps people fill out legal documents for free. It can be accessed at valegalaid.org.

In October of 2009, based on queries from victims and advocates not only about domestic or sexual violence but about abusers using victims' legal status in the United States or lack thereof to prevent them from seeking assistance, VPLC founded the Legal Assistance to Victim-Immigrants of Domestic Abuse (LA VIDA) program. LA VIDA assists low-income undocumented or under-documented immigrant victims of domestic or sexual violence apply for visas that give them legal status and work authorization in the United States. Our staff complete Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Self-Petitions, U visas, T visas, Battered Spouse Waivers, and other petitions as well as Applications to Adjust to Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR or "green card") status.

The work of VPLC's Staff Attorney for Domestic and Sexual Violence to provide free legal advice, trainings to the community, and collaborate with state and local stakeholders to improve policies and procedures that support domestic and sexual violence victims is supported by \$21,894 in CY22 in federal Virginia Services Training Officers and Prosecutors (V-STOP) funds and approximately \$44,000 in FY22 in federal Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR). The LA VIDA victim visa program is funded by approximately \$170,094 in FY22 in federal VOCA funds that support the work of the LA VIDA Director, a full-time, bilingual Spanish/English Attorney, and a full-time, bilingual Spanish/English Paralegal.

Applying for legal status in the U.S. often takes years. LA VIDA helps clients navigate this complicated, multi-step process every step of the way. Our program is free and supported by federal Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funds. As of December 1, 2022, LA VIDA has 235 open matters.



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2023

SB 1373 Higher educational institutions; human trafficking awareness and prevention training required.

Institutions of higher education; human trafficking awareness and prevention training required. Directs the governing board of each public institution of higher education to develop and implement policies requiring that a trauma-informed human trafficking awareness and prevention training program be provided to and completed by all first-year students as a part of such institution's first-year orientation program. The bill also directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to encourage private institutions of higher education to develop and implement policies to provide such a human trafficking awareness and prevention training program as a part of their first-year orientation programs. This bill is identical to [HB 1555](#).

SB 1367 Child abuse or neglect; definition, child engaging in independent activities without supervision.

Child abuse or neglect; definition; independent activities. Clarifies that no child whose parent or other person responsible for his care allows the child to engage in independent activities without adult supervision shall for that reason alone be considered to be an abused or neglected child, provided that (i) such independent activities are appropriate based on the child's age, maturity, and physical and mental abilities and (ii) such lack of supervision does not constitute conduct that is so grossly negligent as to endanger the health or safety of the child. The bill provides that such independent activities include traveling to or from school or nearby locations by bicycle or on foot, playing outdoors, or remaining at home for a reasonable period.

SB 1156 Suffocation by blocking or obstructing the airway of another; penalty.

Suffocation by blocking or obstructing the airway of another; penalty. Provides that any person who, without consent, impedes the blood circulation or respiration of another person by knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully blocking or obstructing the airway of such person resulting in the wounding or bodily injury of such person is guilty of suffocation, a Class 6 felony. This bill is identical to [HB 1673](#).

HB 1838 Child Pornography Registry; required information

Child Pornography Registry; required information. Requires the Child Pornography Registry to include hash values or other applicable identification method of all known or suspected child pornography obtained during the course of a criminal investigation or presented as evidence and used in any conviction. Under current law, the Registry is required to include copies of such content. This bill is identical to [SB 1241](#).



APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA

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Table A-1: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders, 2003-2022

Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	CONVICTIONS			NON-CONVICTIONS				
				Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2003	16.1-253.2	M	2,655	1,113	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	16.1-253.2	M	2,727	1,021	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
2005	16.1-253.2	M	2,600	1,070	0	5	0	4	1	0	0
2006	16.1-253.2	M	2,706	1,083	0	16	1	6	8	0	1
2007	16.1-253.2	M	2,853	1,039	0	78	1	11	65	0	1
2008	16.1-253.2	M	2,965	1,038	0	1,092	121	603	368	0	0
2009	16.1-253.2	M	3,109	1,145	0	1,840	271	1,034	535	0	0
2010	16.1-253.2	M	3,032	1,165	0	1,686	229	1,016	440	1	0
2011	16.1-253.2	M	3,074	1,211	0	1,742	235	1,011	496	0	0
2012	16.2-253.2	M	3,414	1,322	0	1,880	232	1,172	476	0	0
2013	16.2-253.2	M	3,391	1,307	0	1,857	244	1,226	386	0	1
2014	16.2-253.2	M	3,365	1,311	0	1,867	215	1,204	447	0	1
2015	16.2-253.2	M	3,815	1,476	0	2,126	235	1,389	502	0	4
2016	16.2-253.2	M	4,250	1,559	0	2,446	275	1,670	519	0	2
2017	16.2-253.2	M	4,246	1,526	0	1,826	234	1194	398	0	0
2018	16.2-253.2	M	4,313	1,608	0	2,705	226	1852	383	0	244
2019	16.2-253.2	M	4,963	1,687	0	3,230	239	2,154	428	0	409
2020	16.2-253.2	M	4,047	1,460	0	2,534	217	1,909	399	0	9
2021	16.2-253.2	M	4,558	1,573	0	2,747	329	1,960	458	2	39
2022	16.2-253.2	M	5,759	1,913	0	3,846	258	2,560	458	0	570

Table A-2: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders (Third or Subsequent Offense Within 20 Years), 2004-2022

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
2021	16.2-253.2	F	705	202	0	466	2	408	55	0	38
2022	16.253.2	F	441	171	0	270	0	177	39	0	54

Table A-3: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Assault and Battery Against Family or Household Member, 2003-2020

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- 2022

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
2021	18.257.2(B)	F	88	39	0	47	2	33	12	0	1
2022	18.257.2(B)	F	61	21	0	40	1	25	12	0	2

Table A-5: Dispositions for Misdemeanor Stalking, 2003-2022

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
2021	18.2-60.3	M	643	128	0	463	39	295	129	0	52
2022	18.2-60.3	M	778	127	0	651	52	323	143	0	133

Table A-6: Dispositions for Misdemeanor Stalking, 2003-2022

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
2021	18.2-60.3	F	20	10	0	2	0	1	1	1	8
2022	18.2-60.3	F	18	7	0	0	0	7	0	0	4

Table A-7: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violation of Stalking Protective Order, 2003-2020

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
2021	18.2-60.4	M	1,510	486	0	385	135	625	250	0	14
2022	18.2-60.4	M	2,096	669	0	1,427	146	759	306	0	216
2021	18.2-60.4	F	241	106	0	125	0	117	8	0	0
2022	18.2-60.4	F	197	124	0	73	6	43	9	0	15

Table A-8: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Taking, detaining, etc., Person for Prostitution, etc., or Consenting thereto; Human Trafficking, 2016-2020

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
2021	18.2-355	F	18	1	0	15	1	13	1	0	3
2022	18.2-355	F	21	1	0	20	0	18	0	0	1

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, 2016-2020

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	18.2-356	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
2021	18.2-356	F	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	18.2-356	F	5	1		4		4	0	0	0

Table A-10: 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, 2016-2020

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	18.2-357	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
2021	18.2-357	F									
2022	18.2-357	F	41	5		36	1	27	2		6
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

2021	18.2-357.1	F	78	15	0	62	0	61	1	0	0
2022	18.2-357.1	F	90	24	0	66	1	52	2	0	12

Table A-11: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Rape, 2016-2020

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	18.2-61	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
2021	18.2-61	F	366	102	0	259	24	182	53	0	3
2022	18.2-61	F	645	108		537	18	234	45	0	240

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, 2016-2020

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	18.2-63	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
2021	18.2-63	F	205	84	0		68	64	4	0	53
2022	18.2-63	F	184	73	111		1	58	1	0	51

Table A-13: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Object sexual penetration, 2016- 2020

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	18.2-67.2	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
2021	18.2-67.2	F	205	84	0	68	0	64	4	0	53
2022	18.2-67.2	F	421	62	0	359	10	182	22	0	145

Table A-14: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation Object sexual penetration, 2016- 2020

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	18.2-67.2	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
2021	18.2-67.3	F	731	272	0	457	29	361	67	0	2
2022	18.2-67.3	F	1038	263	0	775	23	309	31	0	362

Table A-15: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violation Sexual battery, 2016- 2020

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	18.2-67.4	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
2021	18.2-67.4	M	397	153	0	243	8	232	3	0	1
2022	18.2-67.4	M	389	118	0	271	12	144	45	0	70
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
2021	18.2-67.4	F	31	7	0	24	0	21	3	0	0
2022	18.2-67.4	F	76	75	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Table A-16: 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, 2016-2020

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	18.2-370	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
2021	18.2-370	F	397	153	0	243	8	232	3	0	1
2022	18.2-370	F	299	86	0	213	10	184	19	0	0

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APPENDIX B - STATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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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
<https://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
<https://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/fact.cgi>

Office of the Attorney General

202 N 9th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804 786-2071
<https://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
<https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/scv/home.html>

Virginia Center on Aging

Virginia Commonwealth University
730 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 980229
Richmond, VA 23298
804 828-1525
<https://vcoa.chp.vcu.edu>

Virginia Department for the Aging

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100
Richmond, VA 23229
804 662-9333
<https://www.vda.virginia.gov>

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services

1220 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804 786-3921
<https://dbhds.virginia.gov/>

Virginia Department of Corrections, Community Corrections

P.O. Box 26963
Richmond, VA 23261-6963
804 674-3000
<https://vadoc.virginia.gov/victim-services/>

[community-resources/](#)

Virginia Poverty Law Center

919 East Main Street, Suite 610
Richmond, VA 23219
804 782-9430
<https://vplc.org>

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

1411 W Main St.
Richmond, VA 23230
800-838-8238
<https://vsdvalliance.org/>

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

1100 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804 786-4000
<https://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
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov>

Virginia Department of Health

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

400 East Jackson Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804 786-3174
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medical-examiner/>

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219
804 371-7000
<https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/housing>

Virginia Department of Social Services

Office on Family Violence

801 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804 726-7000
<https://www.dss.virginia.gov>

Virginia Department of State Police

P.O. Box 27472
Richmond, VA 23261-7472
804 674-2000
<https://www.vsp.virginia.gov>



APPENDIX C - DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROGRAMS BY LOCALITY

DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROGRAMS BY LOCALITY

Accomack County

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

Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence
P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA 23417-0003
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

Bristol

Abuse Alternatives, Inc.
104 Memorial Drive Bristol, TN 37620
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)
<https://www.projecthorizon.org>

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)
<https://tricityva.org>

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)
<https://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/222/Domestic-and-Sexual-Violence-Resource-Ce>

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://ywcarrichmond.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)
<https://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
540-965-3237877-393-3672 (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

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 Danville, VA 24543
434-486-5482
<https://havenofthedanriverregion.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)
<https://tricityva.org>

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)
<https://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.wrcnrv.org

Fluvanna County

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

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

Franklin County

Franklin County Family Resource Center
P.O. Box 188
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
540-483-5088
540-483-1234 (hotline)
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.wrcnrva.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

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)

<https://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)
<https://tricityva.org>

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)
<http://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/>

Safesystems

P.O. Box 748 Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
<https://safesystems.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)
<https://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@verizon.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@verizon.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)
<https://namilee.org/crisis-info/>

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)
<https://www.projecthorizon.org>

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

Loudoun County

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

Louisa County

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

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

Lunenburg County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention
(Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 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)
<https://tricityva.org>

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)
<https://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)
<https://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@verizon.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)
<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)
<https://tricityva.org/>

Middlesex County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.
P.O. Box 23 Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
lsivilcoor@verizon.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.wrcnrv.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)
<https://saracville.org/>

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

New Kent County

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

Newport News

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite B

Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
757-236-5260 (hotline)
www.visitthecenter.org

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

Norfolk

YWCA of South Hampton Roads
Women in Crisis/Response
Sexual Assault Support
1424 McNeal Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23502
757-625-4248
757-226-YWCA (9922) hotline
<https://www.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

Notloway 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/>

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
<https://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 23
188 757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

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)
<https://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.wrcnrv.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.wrcnrv.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

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

Rockingham County
The Collins Center
217 S. Liberty Street Ste. 205
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
540-434-6430
540-434-2272 (hotline)
www.thecollinscenter.org

Rockbridge County

Project Horizon
120 Varner Ln
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-7861
540-463-2594 (hotline)
<https://www.projecthorizon.org>

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

Scott County

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
<https://namilee.org/crisis-info/>

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)
<https://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

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007
Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
<https://www.empowerhouseva.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)
<https://tricityva.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)
<https://www.rcasa.org>

Empowerhouse
P.O. Box 1007 Fredericksburg, VA 22402
540-373-9372
540-373-9373 (hotline)
877-734-7238 (toll free)
<https://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)
<https://www.rcasa.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 2
430 276-988-5583
276-979-8959 (hotline)
<https://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

Crisis Center
100 Oakview Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201
276-466-2218
276-466-2312 (hotline)
866-953-0484 (toll free)
<https://namilee.org/crisis-info/>

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, TN 37620
423-652-9093
800-987-6499 (hotline)
www.abusealternativesinc.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

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

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)
<https://namilee.org/crisis-info/>

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 <https://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@jamestowncountyva.gov

Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:

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

Four Rivers Regional Fatality Review Partnership

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

For more information contact:

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

Franklin County Family Violence Fatality & Community Response Team

For more information contact:

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

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

Most current list available as of 2021.



Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General of Virginia
Office of the Attorney General