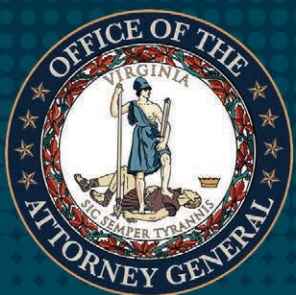


DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA

2024 Annual Report



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



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

January 8, 2025

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

Enclosed is the 2024 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 the breadth of the effort in Virginia, including public awareness campaigns, training, activities, legislative changes, and other statewide efforts to address these critical issues.

My office will continue to champion the rights of victims across the Commonwealth. We have renewed our commitment internally, and continue to work collaboratively and effectively with our executive, legislative and community partners. There is a great deal of work still to be done, but I am confident that our continued commitment to serving victims and holding offenders accountable will ultimately lead to significant reductions in domestic and sexual violence in Virginia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Miyares", written in a cursive style.

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

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Electronic copies of the Attorney General's 2024 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.

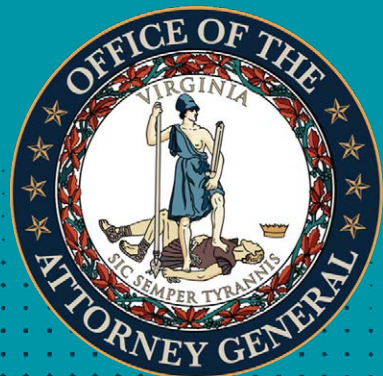
The images of the persons included in this report are merely representative and are not images of actual victims of sexual or domestic violence.

DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA

2024 Annual Report

CONTENTS

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MESSAGE	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA	5
FUNDING SOURCES AND GRANT PROGRAMS	17
AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES	27
Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council	28
Office of the Attorney General	29
Grant Initiatives	30
Office of the Attorney General Anti-Human Trafficking Section	32
Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia	37
The Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia	40
Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Center on Aging	42
Virginia Commonwealth University, Partnership for People with Disabilities and the VCU School of Social Work I-CAN! Accessibility Project	45
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services	46
Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention & Health Promotion, Injury & Violence Prevention Program	53
Virginia Department of Corrections	56
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development	56
Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence	56
FY 2023 OFV Statewide Outcome Measures	58
Virginia Department of State Police	60
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2024	61
APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA	63
APPENDIX B - STATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS	66
APPENDIX C - DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROGRAMS BY LOCALITY	68
APPENDIX D - FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS	85



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, the Virginia Poverty Law Center, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

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

Throughout 2024, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has significantly increased victim support to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Through expanded efforts provided by advocates in the Sexually Violent Predator Civil Commitment and Criminal Appeals Notification Programs, the Address Confidentiality Program, the Lethality Assessment Protocol Program, and the Identify Theft Passport Program, we have been able to inform, assist, and empower survivors across the Commonwealth.

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,

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Domestic and sexual violence is still far too prevalent in society. It has a direct impact on every aspect of life and impacts all socio-economic levels, cultures, and religions. Perhaps one of the more tragic aspects is the emotional and psychological effect it has on children.

The available data highlights the impact of these crimes in Virginia. In 2023, there were 72,831 calls to The Statewide Hotline for Domestic and Sexual violence from across the state. A total of 5,700 adults and children received 230,759 nights of emergency

or temporary shelter due to domestic violence. In 2023 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies provided in-person advocacy to 28,814 adults and children, and more 3000 prevention strategies were implemented in schools and communities.¹

In 2023 and 2024, Virginia focused on providing tools and resources to prosecutors, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, health care providers, and social service providers. State, local, and private partners also promoted public awareness and prevention campaigns to raise awareness and steer victims toward community resources.

In addition, state, local, and private partners continue to serve the Commonwealth by providing assistance, advocacy, counseling, shelter, etc. for victims of domestic and sexual violence and resource trainings for allied professionals and stakeholders. For example:

- In CY2023-24, The Commonwealth's Attorney Services Council (CASC) designated a sexual and domestic violence resource prosecutor who organized and implemented over 80 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. She also facilitated over 30 hours of in-service PIC credit training to officers in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault.²
- In CY 2024, The Office of the Attorney (OAG) Victim Notification/Victim Services Team provided services and support to 694 victims and/or witnesses of a broad range of crimes. Of those victims of crime, 26% accounted for domestic and sexual violence cases, 23% were child victims of sexual abuse/assault, 14% were adult victims of sexual assault, 2% were child pornography victims, and 26% were victims of domestic and/or family violence.³
- The Office of the Executive Secretary for the Supreme Court of Virginia (OES) in 2024 conducted a total of 10 trainings involving protective orders that were delivered or are scheduled to be delivered to clerks of court before the end of the year 2024. Eight were in-person trainings and two were virtual. A total of 531 clerks of court have received training or will be trained, including 302 circuit court clerks, 126 general district court clerks, and 103 juvenile and domestic relations district court clerks.⁴

(CONT.)

1. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Domestic Violence Services in Virginia– VA data Report. 2. Information provided by the Commonwealth's Attorney Council. 3. Information provided by the Office of the Attorney General. 4. Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES), Supreme Court of Virginia.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONT.)

- In FY24, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Health, the Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) supported Richmond Residential Services Inc. and the Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham to become Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention (LEAP) Certified Centers for Abuse Prevention and Safety (C-CAPS).⁵ Developed in collaboration between Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) School of Social Work and the Partnership for People with Disabilities, LEAP provides training on healthy relationships and information about preventing abuse to adults with disabilities. The training takes place in four, face-to-face 90-minute sessions that are taught by trainer with a disability and a co-trainer.⁶

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.

5. The Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) is a public-private partnership created to raise funds for family violence prevention efforts (<https://www.fact.virginia.gov/>). 6. Information provided by The Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT).



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, 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 “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.”⁷

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.

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.”⁸ This report and much of the data collected focuses on the broader definition of “domestic violence” as set forth by the Code of Virginia.

7. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (2013). 8. “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. See VA 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 such spouse resides in the same home with the person, (ii) the person’s former spouse, whether or not such person 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, (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, or (vii) an individual who is a legal custodian of a juvenile.

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), infected sexual battery (§ 18.2-67.4:1), 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 any sexual act directed

against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent, including rape, sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and fondling. “Non-forcible sexual offenses” include incest and statutory rape.⁹

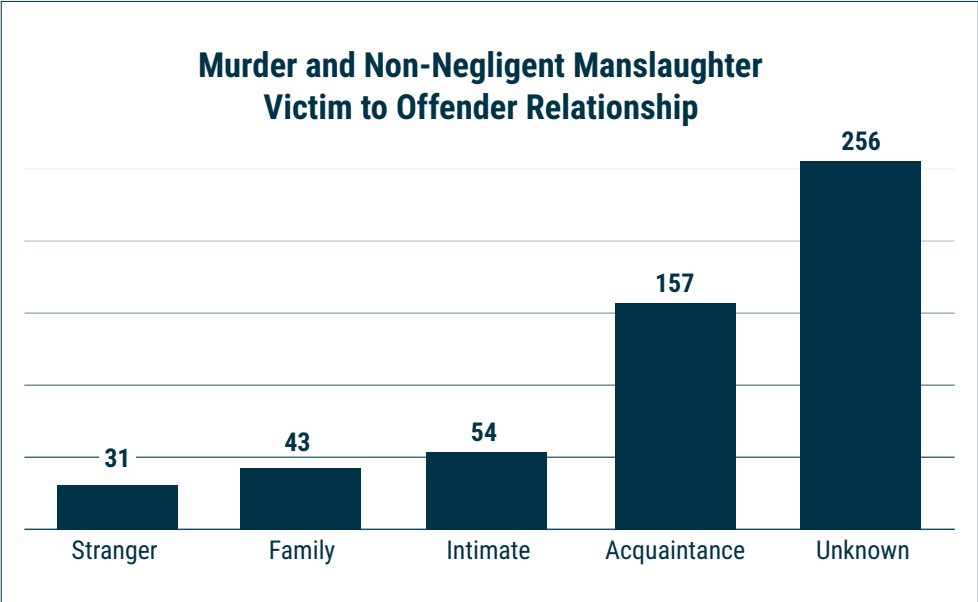
For federal reporting purposes, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting System defines a rape as “penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.”¹⁰

9. Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024). 10. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States 2019 (2020) (website accessed December 6, 2022).

FAMILY AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES

Figure 1 below shows 97 deaths occurred in Virginia due to family and intimate partner homicide in 2023, which is a decrease of almost 15% from the 2022 total of 114 deaths related to family and intimate partners.¹¹

Figure 1: Number of Homicides and Family and Intimate Partner (FIP) for 2023



Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED OFFENSES

Domestic violence may result in or be a factor in any number of violent crimes. In 2023, contributing agencies reported 18,116 violent offenses involving 20,824 individual victims in the Commonwealth. Of the reported offenses approximately 49.4% were committed in the home or residence.¹² The current report provided by the Virginia State Police represents an approximate increase of 2% from 2022.

Assaults

Of the 20,824 violent crimes reported in 2023, there were 11,702 aggravated assault offenses with 14,317 victims. The numbers show a 2.5% increase in the aggravated assault crime rate from 2022. 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.¹³

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.”¹⁴ In Virginia, stalking is defined by the Code of Virginia as “any person... who on more than one occasion engages in conduct directed at another person with the intent to place, or when he knows or reasonably should know that the conduct places that other person in reasonable fear of death, criminal sexual assault, or bodily injury to that other person or to that other person’s family or household member.” (Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-60.3(A)).¹⁵

11. Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024). For data purposes, “violent crime offenses include murder/non-negligent manslaughter aggravated assault, forcible sex offenses. 12. Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024). 13. Id. 14. Stalking, Prevention, Awareness, & Resource Center (SPARC), 2024. 15. See Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-60.3(A).

Uses of Technology in Stalking

- Unwanted phone calls, texts, photos, and text messages
- Unwanted emails or social media messages
- Monitoring activities using social media
- Posting/threatening to post inappropriate/personal information
- Tracking location with electronic device or app

Source: Stalking, Prevention, Awareness, & Resource Center (SPARC), 2024. Infographic on Stalking and Technology

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. 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.¹⁶

In 2023, a reported total of 932 arrests were made for stalking in Virginia, approximately a 17% increase from 2022, resulting in 175 convictions. As with the previous reporting years, most stalking cases resulted in non-convictions. In 2023, 757 cases resulted in non-convictions.¹⁷

In 2023, a total of 57,929 emergency protective orders (EPOs) were issued. Data for 2023 indicated a 4% increase in the number of EPOs for acts of violence, force, or threat from 2022 to 2023.¹⁸ A total of 55,509 EPOs were issued for the same period in 2022. Based upon the most recent data available for 2024, from January 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024, a total of 28,297 EPOs were issued.¹⁹ The data presented thus far for 2024 shows that 501 protective orders have been issued in cases in which a protective order was issued as required by statute upon a finding of guilt for a violation of a protective order.²⁰



16. <https://www.stalkingawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Stalking-IPV-Fact-Sheet.pdf> (accessed January 3, 2025). 17. Data from the Virginia State Police (November 12, 2024). The data includes arrests and convictions for misdemeanor and felony violations of the stalking statute, § 18.2-60.3. See Appendix A. 18. E-Magistrate reporting data provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia. 19 Id. 20 Id.

Sex Offenses

The total number of violent crimes reported in 2023 includes 5,349 forcible sex offenses involving 5,647 victims.²¹ Forcible sex offenses reported include forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling. Of the reported victims, 4,643 were female and 897 were males.²² 57% of reported victims, both male and female, were under the age of eighteen.²³

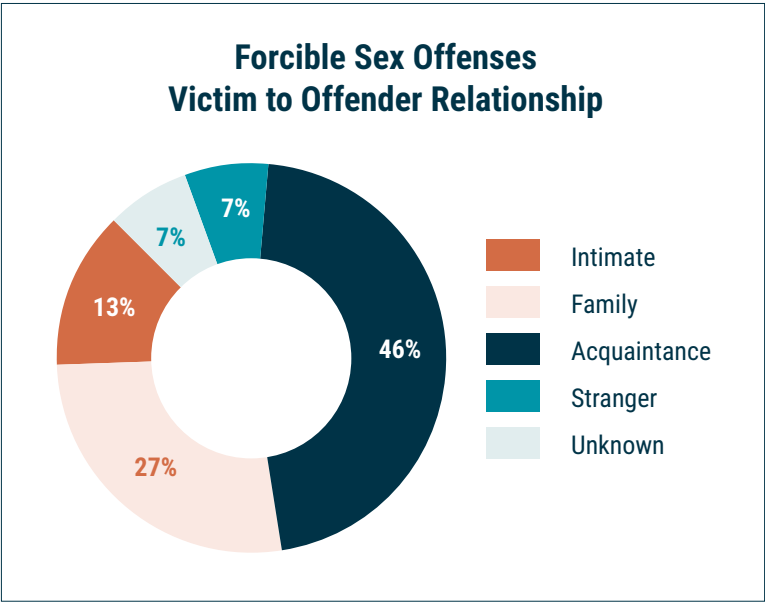
Sexual Offenses Data

- In 2023, there were 1,061 juvenile offenders which decreased by almost 9.5% from 1,173 juveniles in 2022.
- 3,733 adult offenders committed sexual offenses including forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, forcible fondling, incest, and statutory rape in 2023 for a decrease of approximately 3.7% from 2022.

Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024).

Figure 2 below shows that 86% percent of forcible sex offenses were committed by perpetrators known or acquainted with the victim. Nearly half (46%) of the perpetrators were identified as being acquaintances, 27% by family members, and 13% by intimate partners. The other perpetrators were either strangers (7%) or unknown (7%).²⁴

Figure 2: Forcible Sex Offenses, Relationship to Offender, 2023

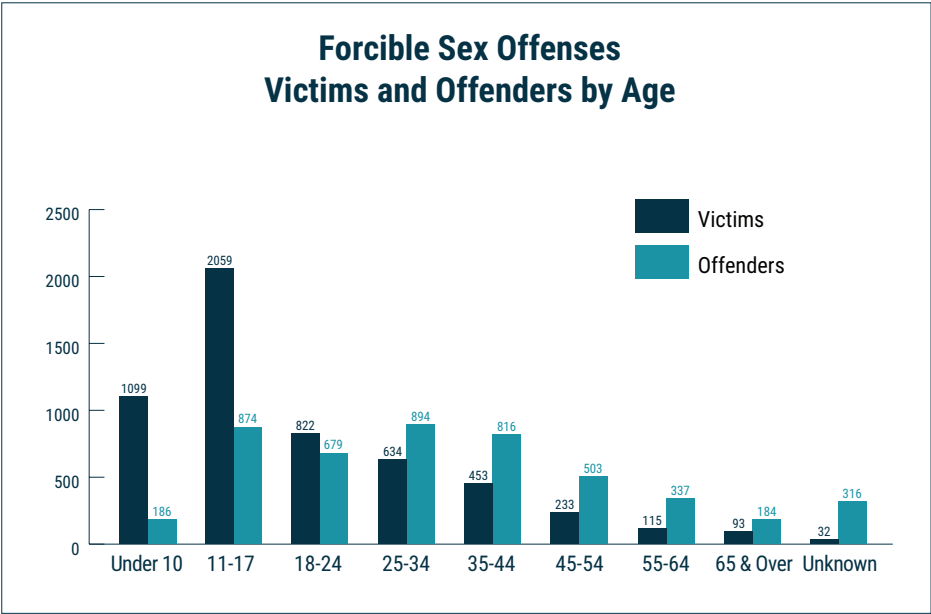


Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024)

21. Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024). Note: Victims with all unknown demographics not included in demographic reports.
22. Id. 23. Id. 24. Id.

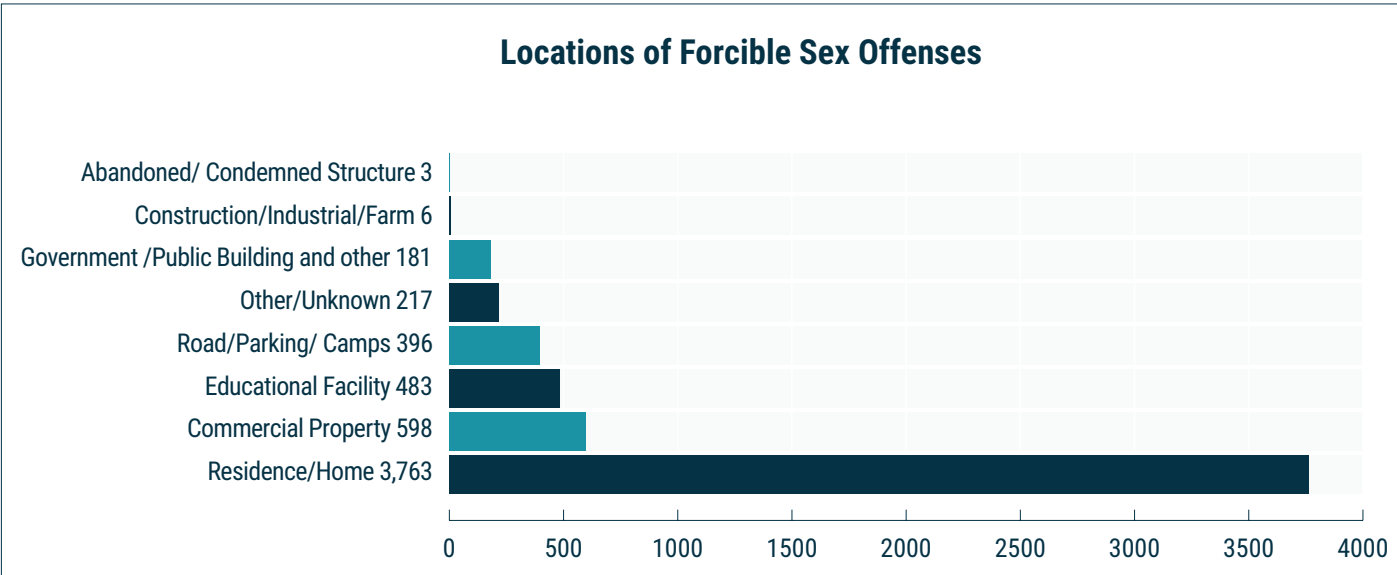
In 2023, 5,349 forcible sex offenses were reported by law enforcement agencies. Approximately 57% of the forcible sex offenses reported were committed against male and female victims under the age of 18.²⁵ Data shows that almost 15% were committed against males and females between the ages of 18 and 24.²⁶ As shown in Figure 3, approximately 13% of offenders were between the ages of 18 and 24.²⁷ In addition, an overwhelming amount of forcible sex offenses reported in 2023 occurred in a residence or home.²⁸ (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Forcible Sex Offenses, Victims and Offenders by Age, 2023



Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024).

Figure 4: Number of Forcible Sex Offenses – Most Reported Locations of Offense, 2023



Source: Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024).

25. Virginia State Police, Crime in Virginia, 2023 (2024). 26. Id. 27. Id. 28. Id.

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. According to data collected in 2022 by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, 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). The protective order may be issued for any reasonable period of time, including up to the lifetime of the defendant, that the court deems necessary to protect the health and safety of the victim.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.

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.

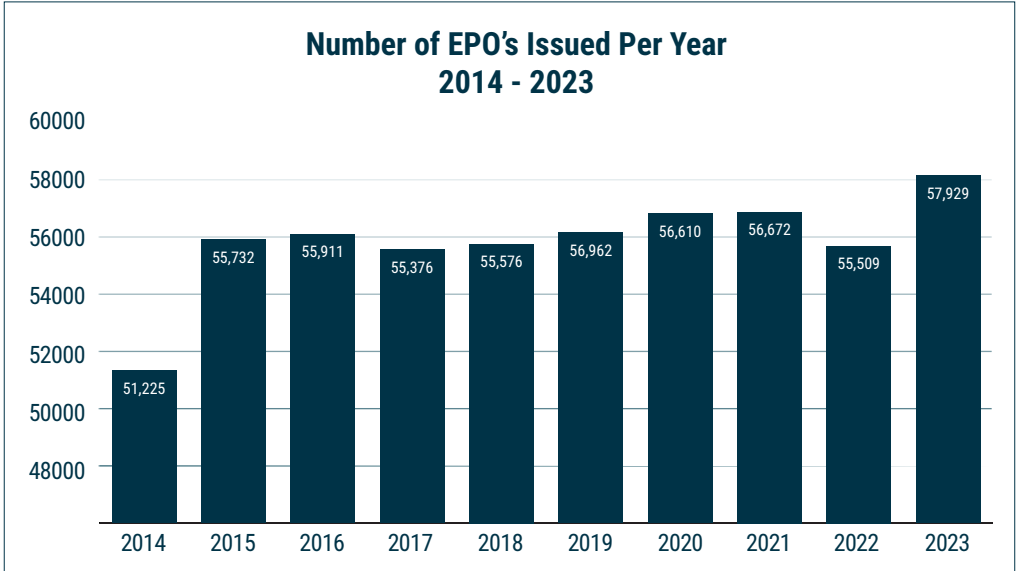
Protective Orders are also designed to protect a victim of violent or threatening behavior and his or her family members from the conduct or threats of another. These protective orders are issued when a victim "(i) is or has been... subjected to an act of violence, force, or threat, or (ii) a petition 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.

29. Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.4, 16.1-253.1, 16.1-279.1, 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9, 19.2-152.10, 19.2-297.1

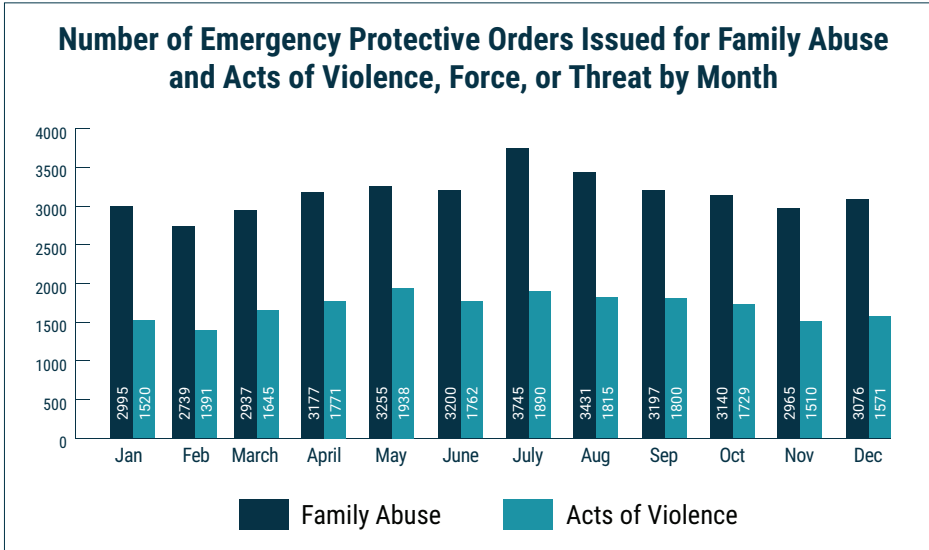
In 2023, a total of 57,929 emergency protective orders were issued (Figure 5) by courts across the Commonwealth for both family abuse and acts of violence, this represents an increase of over 4% from 2022. Of the 57,929 emergency protective orders issued, 20,342 were issued for acts of violence, force or threat and 37,587 were issued for family abuse (Figure 6).³⁰ Data shows that 5,731 arrests were made for violating protective orders in 2023, which resulted in 1,742 convictions. It is important to note that the data presented in this report does not include preliminary protective orders (PPO) because all cases in which a PPO is issued currently cannot be identified in the case management systems.

Figure 5: 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

Figure 6: Number of Emergency Protective Orders Issued for Family Abuse and Acts of Violence, Force, or Threat by Month, 2023

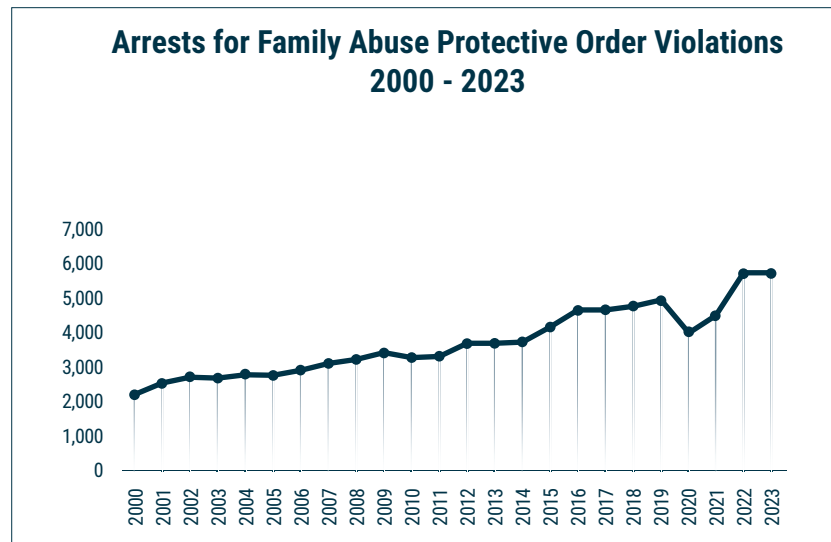


Source: Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia

30. Information provided by the 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.³¹ 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.³² In 2023, a total of 5,731 arrests were made for protective order violations of family abuse protective orders (Figure 7).³³

Figure 7: Arrests for Family Abuse Protective Order Violations, 2000-2023



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

Advocacy 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.³⁴

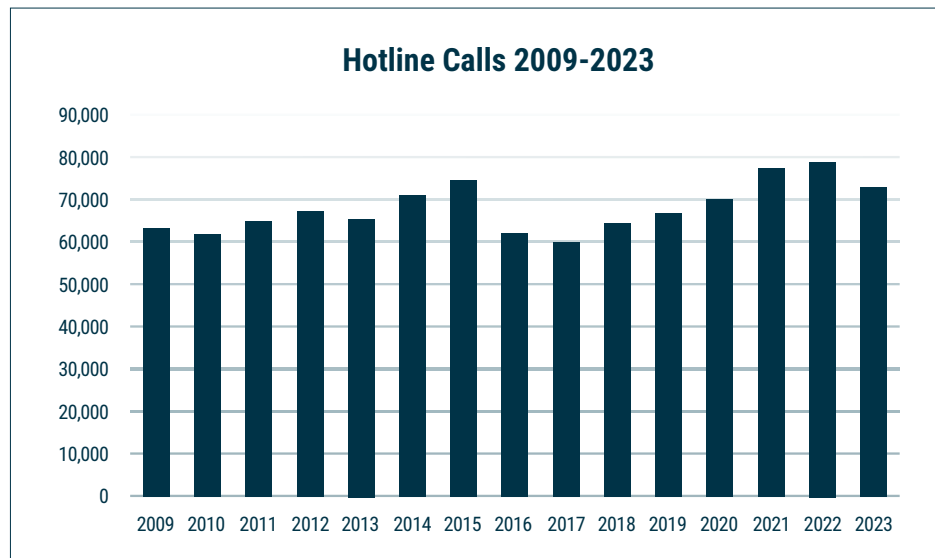
Advocacy Services in Virginia for 2023

- 72,831 hotline calls received by Virginia DVSV agencies.
- 268,673 hours of advocacy services provided by 67 agencies in Virginia.
- 28,814 adults and children received advocacy services in 2023.

Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Advocacy in Virginia, 2023 (2024)

31. See Va. Code Ann. §§ 16.1-253.2. 32. See Va. Code § 18.2-60.4. 33. Information provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia. See Appendix A. 34. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Domestic Violence Services in Virginia – Va data Report, 2023 (2024).

Figure 8: Hotline Calls 2009-2023



Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Domestic Violence Services in Virginia, VA data Reports 2010-2024 (2009-2023)

In 2023, (Figure 8), shows that local domestic and sexual violence service providers from 67 programs responded to 72,831 hotline calls through Virginia domestic and sexual violence hotlines.³⁵ Through hotline calls, local service providers 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 268,673 hours of advocacy services to 28,814 adults and children.³⁶

Persons Receiving Domestic Violence Services In 2023

Out of every 100 survivors:

- 54% lost income/financial stability
- 47% reported that they had to relocate or become homeless
- 54% reported that they had reported that the perpetrator destroyed property

Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Advocacy in Virginia, 2023 (2024)

35. Id. 36. Id.

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 2023, shelter programs provided 230,759 nights of emergency shelter to 5,705 victims, which resulted in 104,866 nights of emergency shelter for children due to domestic violence.³⁷ 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 2023 were able to secure shelter accommodations. A total of 593 families who requested shelter services in 2023 were turned away.³⁸

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 2023, local programs provided a total of 99,020 nights of transitional housing to 185 adults and 159 children.³⁹ Agencies across Virginia use both hotels and agency-operated residential shelter spaces to accommodate the housing needs of survivors.⁴⁰

Emergency Housing and Shelter Services in 2023

- 32% of survivors and their families who exited sexual and domestic violence agencies had plans to enter safe and stable (self-supported or transitional) housing.
- 34% planned to exit to unstable housing.
- 7% planned to return home where an abusive partner was present.
- 27% of families' statuses was unknown at their time of exit.
- Survivors of violence represented the largest adult sub-population of those seeking homelessness services in Virginia in 2023.

Source: Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Advocacy in Virginia, 2023 (2024)

37. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Domestic Violence Services in Virginia - VAdat Report, 2023 (2024). 38. Id. 39. Id. 40. 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 SOURCES⁴¹

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.

41. 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, Division of Violence and Injury Prevention and the Virginia Department of Social Services.

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.

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.

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

The STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) Violence Against Women 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 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 primari-

ly 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 (VFPVP), 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.

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 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.

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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 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.

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.



AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES

AGENCY EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEYS' SERVICES COUNCIL⁴²

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 CY2023-24, this prosecutor organized and implemented over 80 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. She also facilitated over 30 hours of in-service PIC credit training to officers in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault.

These training hours were offered through both large statewide trainings and smaller topic-specific trainings. Specifically, this prosecutor helped organize two large statewide programs, two week-long intensive 5-day trainings and multiple small 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, six-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.

42. Information provided by Commonwealth's Attorney Services Council.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL⁴³

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.

Office of the Attorney General Address Confidentiality Program

Pursuant to § 2.2-515.2, the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) is a voluntary, confidential mail-forwarding service for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, stalking, and child abduction 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 Office of the Attorney General in Richmond, with no relation to the participant’s actual residential address in Virginia. The ACP has been available to domestic violence victims across the Commonwealth since July 1, 2011. On July 1, 2014, the ACP became available to victims of stalking, and on July 1, 2017, ACP expanded to victims of human trafficking and sexual violence. In 2017, the Application Assistant Program allowed for local domestic and sexual violence programs and victim witness programs to be certified as application assistants. This has afforded more access to the program by victims and has streamlined the application process. On July 1, 2024, ACP expanded to allow victims of child abduction. 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 their local domestic violence program or sexual assault agency for safety planning information. Additional information on the ACP can be found at: <https://www.oag.state.va.us/programs-outreach/domesticviolence/address-confidentiality-program>.

ACP conducted a total of 10 trainings and presentations in 2023 which resulted in 92 new ACP application assistants and 63 other stakeholders receiving informational trainings about ACP throughout the Commonwealth. Currently, there are 229 families enrolled and 491 total program participants.

43. Information provided the Office of the Attorney General.

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.

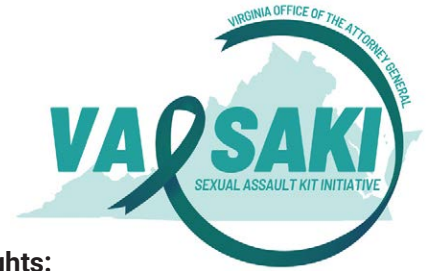
The OAG received \$40,156 in VSTOP continuation funding from DCJS for CY24-25 to support public awareness activities across the Commonwealth and in underserved communities. Through the “Safe at Home” Program, the OAG directed victims to state and local resources, provided training to prosecutors, law 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 on the necessity of providing domestic violence resources to victims.

Office of the Attorney General Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

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.

Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR) Grant Program

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



Virginia Office of the Attorney General Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)

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), 2020 (\$2 million), and 2023 (1.5 million). The 2023 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.

2023 SAKI Highlights:

- The SAKI team completed shipment coordination of 468 pre-databank PERKs from law enforcement to DNA Labs International (DLI) for testing.
- In May, SAKI partners received the first CODIS hit on this project and by the end of the year, DLI completes testing on 409 PERKs, resulting in 39 CODIS hits.
- The OAG was awarded SAKI FY23 funding and a one-year, no cost extension on SAKI FY20.
- The team helped conceptualize, plan, and organize a roundtable discussion with General Miyares for sexual assault victim advocates and forensic nurses to mark April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM).
- The SAKI team facilitated 18 Trauma-Informed Sexual Assault Investigations trainings across the Commonwealth, reaching 383 service providers including military personnel on a military base for the first time.



Roundtable with AG Miyares, sexual assault victim advocates, and forensic nurses from across the Commonwealth, April 2023

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING SECTION

The Office of the Attorney General Anti-Human Trafficking Section continued to lead efforts to enhance trauma-informed responses to human trafficking across federal, state, and local levels within the Commonwealth. Through strategic partnerships, public awareness initiatives, legislative advancements, and comprehensive training programs, the office made significant strides in combating human trafficking and supporting victims.

Community Engagement

The office engaged a vast number of professionals through roundtable discussions, town hall events, and awareness training sessions across high schools, universities, community centers, churches, law enforcement (LE) facilities, detention centers, and advocacy groups. These efforts aimed to raise awareness of human trafficking and educate stakeholders regarding best practices in identifying human trafficking, supporting victims, and reporting. A particular focus was placed on working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that serve trafficking victims. The Office of the Attorney General Anti-Human Trafficking section raised awareness about NGO services and highlighted the need for funding. Additionally, the OAG collaborated with chaplain associations and continued strengthening partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies.

Key partnerships were enhanced, including stronger ties with the office of the Secretary Public Health and Homeland Security, aimed at fostering collaboration and promoting promising practices across agencies involved in anti-trafficking efforts.

Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force

During this reporting period, the OAG Anti-Human Trafficking Section, through the Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force, documented 19 active sex trafficking cases, 13 active labor trafficking cases, and 10 cases involving both forms of trafficking. Nine victims were identified, including one new juvenile labor trafficking victim. The Office continues to refer victims of human trafficking to local community resources as necessary. The Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force remains highly engaged in professional development and outreach. Five Task Force members participated in external trainings, and eight trafficking awareness presentations were delivered to external agencies. Additionally, the task force conducted 45 internal training sessions for members and prosecutors, enhancing their capacity to handle trafficking cases.



Training and Professional Development:

In collaboration with higher education institutions, this section ensured that staff received human trafficking training to prepare for the influx of students, raising awareness about the risks and signs of trafficking and how to report. Other significant training initiatives included, "Understanding and Supporting Survivors: A Comprehensive Training on Human Trafficking from a Survivor's Perspective," which focuses on the survivor's journey, trauma-informed care, and legal procedures for reporting human trafficking. Objectives of the anti-human trafficking training included:

1. Understanding the lived experiences of survivors.
2. Enhancing identification skills for trafficking indicators.
3. Implementing trauma-informed care principles.
4. Addressing Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).
5. Reviewing protocols for legal reporting and service provision.

Major Events and Programs

Human Trafficking Summit

The Office of the Attorney General hosted the 2nd Annual Human Trafficking Summit titled, *“United for Impact: Strategies and Innovations to End Human Trafficking.”* The summit brought together over 500 leaders, policymakers, activists, survivors, and organizations to collaborate on innovative strategies and best practices to reduce the demand driving human trafficking. Key themes of the summit included:

- Innovative technologies and approaches to combat trafficking.
- Empowering survivors and promoting leadership.
- Reducing demand for trafficking.
- Providing comprehensive support services and rehabilitation.
- Encouraging corporate responsibility and ethical business practices.



Attorney General Jason Miyares' Second Annual Human Trafficking Summit

Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit

The Attorney General and director of this section was honored to attend and present at the prestigious Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit, hosted by the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. This impactful event brought together approximately 600 in-person attendees, along with a global audience participating online. During the summit, the Attorney General of our Commonwealth, alongside the Attorney General of New Mexico, led a dynamic discussion on non-partisan strategies to combat sexual exploitation.

The Director of the Anti-Human Trafficking section also had the privilege of showcasing groundbreaking work being done by the OAG, contributing valuable insights to the ongoing fight against human trafficking and exploitation worldwide



Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares and New Mexico Attorney General Rau'l Torrez and Peter Gntala, NCOSE Senior Legal Counsel

Legislative Wins

Two Significant Legislative Victories Were Achieved In 2024

1. **HB 581: Human Trafficking Response Teams:**
This bill requires Commonwealth attorneys to establish multidisciplinary human trafficking response teams. These teams will meet annually to discuss the implementation of protocols, establish guidelines for responding to various forms of trafficking, and review trauma-informed procedures for evidence collection.
2. **HB 633: Forced Labor or Service Penalties:**
This bill expands the offense of abduction to penalize any person involved in forced labor or services through force, intimidation, or deception. It also allows victims of forced labor to seek compensatory and punitive damages in civil actions.

Business Alliance Against Trafficking (100% BAAT) Program

Last year, the Attorney General launched the 100% Business Against Trafficking (BAAT) Program, which has trained nearly 2,000 employees across 48 companies in just one year! This program equips businesses with the knowledge and tools to recognize and report human trafficking, encouraging companies to become active participants in the fight against trafficking. Interested businesses can find more information on the Attorney General's website, with details on how to get involved in this initiative.

Educational Tools

The Office of the Attorney General completed the Human Trafficking Lesson for Virginia Rules, which can be accessed on the Virginia Rules website. This resource serves as an educational tool for raising awareness about trafficking among young people and educators throughout the Commonwealth.

Partnership Development and Outreach

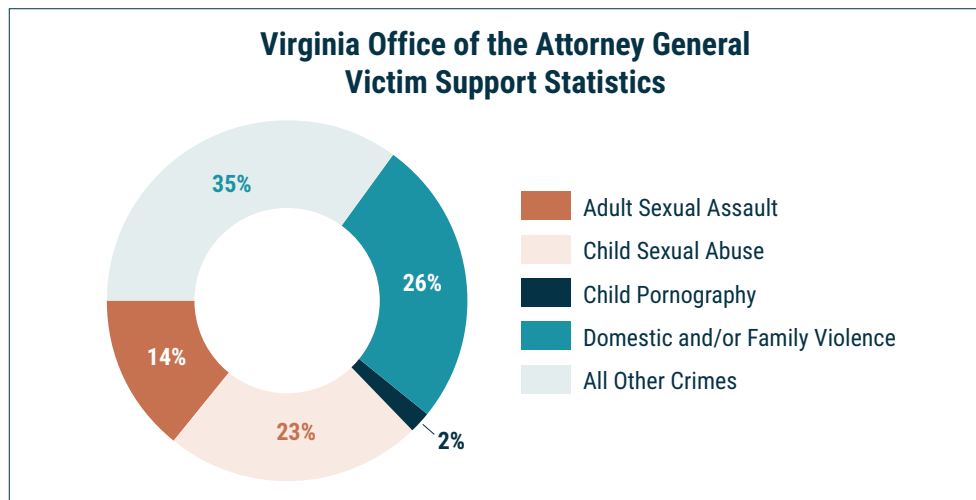
The office deepened its relationships with key stakeholders, including a visit to the DHS Center for Countering Human Trafficking to explore additional resources for the Commonwealth. Additionally, the Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force co-branded outreach materials, facilitating more effective distribution and engagement with the community.



100% BAAT Press Release Haynes Furniture Press Release

Through targeted outreach, robust training programs, legislative advancements, and collaborative partnerships, the Director of Anti-Human Trafficking has strengthened the Commonwealth's response to human trafficking. By continuing to engage with diverse stakeholders and implement trauma-informed practices, the Office of the Attorney General remains at the forefront of efforts to eradicate human trafficking and support victims.

Office of the Attorney General Victim Notification Program



Source: Virginia Office of the Attorney General Victim Notification Program (VNP), FY2024. Data shows how many victims of domestic and sexual violence were served by the Victim Notification Program for FY2024.

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 legal 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. VNP also assists victims throughout the Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) civil commitment process.

In FY 2024, VNP provided services and support to 694 victims and/or witnesses of a broad range of crimes. Of those victims of crime, 26% accounted for domestic and sexual violence cases, 23% were child victims of sexual abuse/assault, 14% were adult victims of sexual assault, 2% were child pornography victims, and 26% were victims of domestic and/or family violence. The SVP and Appeals advocates provided services that include notification of case hearings, court accompaniment, facilitating meetings with attorneys, 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. In 2024, advocates registered 77 victims into the Notification and Assistance for Victim Inclusion (NAAVI) Department of Corrections victim notification system, facilitating ongoing support and information regarding post-conviction legal matters.

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 Address Confidentiality Program, the Lethality Assessment Program, and the Identity Theft Passport Program.

The Victim Notification Program is partially funded by the Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP). In fiscal year 2023, the VNP was awarded \$308,251 in Victim Witness Grant funds. In fiscal year 2024, the VNP received level funding of \$308,251. The overall cost of the Victim Notification Program is roughly \$700,000.



OAG's VNP Team, 2024 Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Prayer Luncheon, Max Meadows, VA

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA⁴⁴

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 2024, 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 the I-CAN! Virginia protective order online forms completion program. Total funding to support specified domestic violence projects in 2024 was \$240,250 (\$180,187.5 plus \$60,062 in match), which represents a 16% increase in funding from 2023. This additional funding was used to provide an optional 1.5-day intimate partner/domestic violence conference for judges at all levels of courts.

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 (2023-2025) is \$149,326. These funds allowed the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (J&DR) 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 J&DR District Court as well as local domestic violence stakeholders to receive specialized domestic violence training and technical assistance from national providers. As a mentor court since 2020, Pulaski J&DR District Court has expanded their mentorship to interested Virginia courts.

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 2024, OES-sponsored domestic violence training for judges including two in-person sessions for newly appointed judges at their pre-bench training, and one voluntary domestic violence session for district court judges at their mandatory annual conference in August of 2024 in Roanoke, Virginia.

In April of 2024, 43 newly appointed judges attended a session entitled, "Dynamics of Domestic Violence—Concepts and Myths," at pre-bench training in Richmond, Virginia. In June of 2024, all new judges also attended a protective order training session as part of their pre-bench training. Out of the 43 judges, 14 were circuit court judges, 17 were general district court judges, and 12 were juvenile and domestic relations district court judges.

In August of 2024 at the mandatory Judicial Conference of Virginia for District Courts, a voluntary domestic violence discussion group session was offered. 73 juvenile and domestic relations and general district court judges attended.

The 2024 version of the Virginia Domestic and Sexual Violence Reference Manual for Virginia Court Judges was updated and distributed to all 43 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.

In August of 2024, 12 Office of the Executive Secretary staff members participated in a two-day train-the-trainer model for the SAMHSA-GAINS evidence-based curriculum training entitled, "How Being Trauma Informed Improves Criminal Justice Systems Responses." This cadre of OES staff members will serve as trainers to deliver the four-hour training to members of the judiciary in 2025, upon request.

44. Information Provided by the Office of the Executive Secretary.

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 2024, certification training included 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 August 19, 2024, 57 new magistrates have attended certification training in 2024.

In 2024, a total of 10 trainings involving protective orders were delivered or are scheduled to be delivered to clerks of court before the end of the year. Eight were in-person trainings and two were virtual. A total of 531 of court have received training or will be trained, including 302 circuit court clerks, 126 general district court clerks, and 103 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 2024, a total of 18 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 18 courts, judges, or magistrates funded, six were local domestic violence improvement projects; and 12 were either hosting or attending domestic violence training events.

In November 2024, the Intimate Partner/Domestic Violence Judicial Conference was held for judges at all levels of court. The conference included one and a half days of training on the neurobiology of trauma, risk assessment, access to justice issues, addressing LGBTQ+ survivors in the courts, trauma-informed systems, language access issues, and the intersection of traumatic brain injuries, strangulation, and intimate partner violence.

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, including making changes to I-CAN! Virginia that reflects the 2024 legislative changes around protective orders.

In 2023, a total of 2,759 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (1,398 family abuse and 1,361 non-family abuse). In the first six months of 2024, a total of 1,350 users created accounts and accessed both I-CAN! Virginia protective order modules (643 family abuse and 707 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 2023, a total of three thousand, four hundred and ninety-two (3,492) Hope Cards were issued across the Commonwealth. In the first six months of 2024, a total of one thousand, eight hundred and ninety (1,890) Hope Cards were issued. In addition, one (1) hope card training took place with twenty-two (22) newly elected Circuit Court clerks trained. The Hope Card Program was exhibited at three different statewide trainings by the Hope Card Program Coordinator.



Hope Card (front and back)

Mentor Court Program

The Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court was originally designated as a national domestic violence mentor court by the Office on Violence Against Women in late 2020. In late 2023, that designation continued with an award that runs through 2025. In late 2024, the Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court was matched with courts in Arizona, Washington, Kentucky, and Missouri. These courts will observe the work the Pulaski J&DR is doing related to intimate partner violence, family violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. They will also receive training and technical assistance from the Virginia court.



Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Lobby



THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND OF VIRGINIA⁴⁵

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 FY24, FACT received approximately \$125,000 in funding from its license plate campaign, \$27,000 from state income tax returns, \$250,000 from the Gaming Proceeds Fund, and \$2,000 from individual donations. FACT awarded \$242,000 in grants for FY24.

In FY24, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Health, FACT supported Richmond Residential Services Inc. and The Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham to become Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention

(LEAP) Certified Centers for Abuse Prevention and Safety (C-CAPS). Developed in collaboration between VCU's School of Social Work and the Partnership for People with Disabilities, LEAP provides training on healthy relationships and information about preventing abuse to adults with disabilities. The training takes place in four face-to-face 90-minute sessions that are taught by a trainer with a disability and a co-trainer. The two organizations had two staff members and two individuals with disabilities who utilize their services become LEAP trainers. These trainers will continue to facilitate two LEAP trainings a year and create an organizational culture of empowerment and abuse prevention. Additional funding has been approved by the Board of Trustees to expand the LEAP program to Roanoke and Hampton Roads in FY25. Below is a photo from the Train-the-Trainer session last October.

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

In 2023, FACT released [a guidance document](#) detailing a comprehensive analysis of local, state, and national laws, policies, and protocols related to children who engage in Problematic Sexual Behavior (PSB) against other children. The document includes concrete recommendations for localities and the Commonwealth as a whole to implement in order to improve tertiary prevention strategies to PSB cases. The FACT Board of Trustees has approved funding for Phase II of the PSB Project which includes the development of a 3-day Train the Trainer curriculum and toolkit for Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) who respond to these cases locally. Once developed, three pilot organizations will be selected to receive the train-the-trainer program for implementation in their communities.



Train-the-Trainer Session, October 2023

Started in 2020, the FACT Emergency Funds Project provides flexible funding to organizations across Virginia to assist families experiencing violence with unexpected expenses not covered by other funding sources. In FY24, this project was expanded to include domestic violence, homeless intervention services, and home visiting programs. Additionally, in partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the Skyward Fund was awarded to the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network serving Henrico and Chesterfield counties to assist DJJ involved youth and their families who are facing a financial emergency.

In FY24, FACT awarded nine ad hoc grants to support organizations hosting statewide activities that improve the prevention, treatment, or public awareness of family violence. While historically, these awards have been exclusive to statewide events, the Board of Trustees has approved additional funding for local events for FY25.

The Family and Children's Trust (FACT) Fund previously had established a data portal available through our website that provided information on 18 indicators connected to family violence. The portal includes data on the scope of family violence in communities, overall community health and well-being, and how public organizations—such as local departments of social services and law enforcement agencies—prevent and respond to violence in families. After technical challenges causing the removal of the data portal, FACT relaunched the portal in 2022. Additional data and data visualization features will be added to continue providing this valuable tool for organizations.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA CENTER ON AGING⁴⁶

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

VCoA has several training initiatives that address domestic and sexual violence in later life and elder abuse. From July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, VCoA’s Elder Justice work was supported in part by V-STOP (Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) funding from the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

Abuse in Later Life Project

The “Abuse in Later Life Project,” funded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) allows VCoA to work throughout the state to address both family and intimate partner abuse in later life. This project was approved at level funding, for a total award of \$219,389, funded in part through Award Numbers 15JOVW-23-GG-00605-STOP. The project period is 1/1/2024 through 12/31/2025. Areas of focus for the project are shown through the Central Virginia Task Force on Domestic Violence in Later Life, participation in statewide groups, training and technical assistance, and developing and disseminating materials.

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. Project staff 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 2023-2024 include:

- In the late summer 2023, the Abuse in Later Life Project collaborated with Alison Martin, Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney for Henrico County, to plan and host a training event on the collaboration of law enforcement and community partners in the prevention and prosecution of elder abuse. On October 18th, **133** participants attended, via the Zoom platform, the two-hour training event “Making the Multidisciplinary Team Model Work.” This training covered dynamics of elder abuse, structure of multidisciplinary teams, and an explanation of how this model was used in the City of Richmond. Participants were extremely engaged, especially when Alison Martin shifted her focus to case studies. In addition to 19 law enforcement officers, the training reached 18 elder organization staff, 15 mental health professionals, 21 social service organization staff, as well as many others from a variety of disciplines. The feedback offered post event was extremely positive: 98.7 percent agreed or strongly agreed that the information presented was useful and 96 percent said they would recommend it to other law enforcement officers. We also received a number of comments about our speaker, her passion for the topic, and her effective, dynamic, and thorough presentation.

46. Information provided by Virginia Commonwealth University, Center on Aging.

- The 2024 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) forum, held in the Richmond area on June 17, 2024. The event had record breaking registration of almost 200 people and was a half day, in person event with continuing education credits offered for nursing, social work, and law enforcement. The keynote speaker was Paul Greenwood, a former Elder Abuse career prosecutor and Deputy District Attorney from California. His address was well received by the **85** participants in attendance. Chuck Slemp, Chief Deputy Attorney General of Virginia, made a surprise appearance to highlight the creation of the Elder Abuse Investigation Center for Central Virginia. The elder mistreatment, protective factors and primary prevention panel, featuring representation from Henrico County's Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the Virginia Center on Aging, Westminster Richmond, and VCU Health's Forensic Nursing Department was welcomed by the audience and included an engaging question and answer session. While most participants were professionals from the central region, community and staff from rural areas and Hampton Roads also attended. Evaluation results are summarized in the infographic section below:



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, I-CAN Board, Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Board and Conference Planning Committee 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.

A sample of consultations/presentations/technical assistance (TA) include:

- Program Director, Courtney O’Hara, and John Childrey of the Attorney General’s Office worked together to better analyze, with strong support from the Peninsula area’s MDT, an informal review of law enforcement training centering on elder mistreatment. This survey revealed a disjointed, non-uniform approach. Law enforcement agencies in large cities have their own training within their respective departments. For example, a special victim detective in Hampton teaches a 45-minute segment on elder abuse, whereas Newport News utilizes an Adult Protective Services supervisor to teach a 45 minute to one hour class. The smaller agencies attend a regional training academy where elder abuse is taught with child abuse; with crimes related to children being the primary focus. The regional training academies allot 15 minutes to elder abuse with a training curriculum certified by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. It’s clear that elder mistreatment training for law enforcement needs reform. VCoA aims to utilize the executive law enforcement tool kit (see below for more information) as a way to promote best practice and advocate for a more consistent and comprehensive training program on this very important issue.

- Additionally, program staff provided technical assistance to the following organizations:

Dept for Aging & Rehabilitative Services	Virginia Poverty Law Center
Eastern Virginia Medical School	Hanover Safe Place
Virginia Assisted Living Association	Latinos in Virginia Empowerment
Highland County Department of Social Services	Counsel RVA
Mobile Health & Wellness Program	Daily Planet
VCU Health	Richmond City Public Libraries

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

- Staff maintains the Executive Law Enforcement Digital Toolkit, which was designed and developed in-house. 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 Later Life Project staff facilitated seventeen (17) training events around the state.
- A total of **882** professionals were trained.
- Alongside training opportunities, the domain **ElderSafeVA.com** redirects to the Virginia Center on Aging’s Elder Justice Learning & Research Hub. The hub serves as an online space with vetted resources about how to safeguard against and respond to elder abuse. The intended audience is allied professionals and community. Demonstrating the importance of a coordinated response and highlighting a recent project, Helping Elders Access Resources (HEAR) includes a section on the multidisciplinary team approach to an elder abuse case. Community engagement through the HEAR program has significantly expanded our reach and strengthened community partnerships across Virginia, which, in turn, broadens the reach of the Abuse in Later Life Project.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY, PARTNERSHIP FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THE VCU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK I-CAN! ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT⁴⁷

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.

47. Information provided Virginia Commonwealth University I-Can Project.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES⁴⁸

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.
- 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 awarded 434 grants, totaling approximately \$54.1 million in grant awards in SFY 2024.
- 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, since 2022, DCJS has received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address needs for direct services related to the pandemic. Victims Services grant

48. Information provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

recipients include prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, state and local domestic and sexual violence agencies, state and local victim/witness programs, and other victim-serving organizations. As a result, thousands of victims receive services from funded programs, thousands of law enforcement officers and allied professionals receive related training, and dozens of localities benefit from funding and technical assistance.

Support to Local Sexual Assault Response Teams

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

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

In accordance with these legislative mandates, DCJS continues to 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.dcss.virginia.gov/sites/dcss.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 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.
- 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 provides high-quality training opportunities for victim-serving professionals across the Commonwealth. This commitment is rooted in the understanding that well-trained professionals are essential for delivering trauma-informed, victim-centered support to individuals who have experienced victimization. By continuing to offer opportunities for professional development, DCJS Victims Services aims to strengthen the capacity throughout the state to better meet survivors’ needs as they seek justice, safety, and healing.

Trainings, such as *A Broader Sense of Justice: Respecting Victim Autonomy While Pursuing Offender Accountability in Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Cases*, *Trauma-Informed Prosecution of Gender-Based Violence*, *Human Trafficking Training for Investigators and Prosecutors*, *Forensic Nurses Expert Testimony*, *Trauma-Informed Investigations and Sexual Assault Victim Interviews (TRI-SAVI)*, *Human Trafficking Victim Identification for Law Enforcement*, and *Recognizing and Responding to Stalking*, all provided law enforcement and prosecutors with the knowledge and skills to better assist victims through the criminal justice process while avoiding re-traumatization.

In observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week in April 2024, DCJS Victims Services offered a daily webinar to help victim-serving professionals better support child victims through the criminal justice system. Training included sessions on preparing children for court, the trauma-informed investigation and prosecution of sexual assault with male child/youth victims, and the importance of effective collaboration between Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and the courts. As part of this training initiative, we also featured a presentation from Naomi Mortenson, advocate and survivor of child sexual abuse. Ms. Mortenson explored trauma-informed approaches in creating safe, supportive environments that allow children to disclose abuse.

As part of the DCJS Victims Services team, the Victims Crisis Assistance and Response Team (VCART) staff offered numerous training sessions to increase their capacity to assist and support victims following a criminal mass casualty event or critical incident. They provided training and outreach to schools and campuses to educate them on coordinating with VCART following a criminal mass casualty event, in order to provide valuable resources and assistance to their communities. VCART staff offered both Basic and Advanced Crisis Response training to prepare volunteers to respond effectively in the aftermath of these events. To help communities better collaborate to prepare for these events, the VCART staff, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), offered regional workshops to collaborate with other community agencies to identify and discuss resource availability and gaps in the aftermath of a mass casualty incident.

The anti-human trafficking staff on the DCJS Victims Services team provided a robust catalog of training offerings including *Human Trafficking Victim Identification for Law Enforcement*, *Human Trafficking for Investigators and Prosecutors*, *Human Trafficking 101*, and *Sexual Exploitation Treatment and Training Services (SETTS)*. These training provided multidisciplinary professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to identify human trafficking in their communities and to better understand the services necessary to support survivors.

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 April 2024, the Coordinator planned 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. Fifteen nurses, who all had completed 40-hours of the Adult/Adolescent Didactic Training, attended the intensive and hands-on lab training. This was the second 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.



DCJS Clinical Skills Lab

The Coordinator sends out a monthly email to a large list primarily consisting of forensic examiners. This email highlights resources, trainings, and important updates. The Coordinator also convenes a quarterly meeting with all forensic examiner program coordinators; this meeting provides technical support to programs through presentations and open discussion.

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.

Human Trafficking Prevention and Response Efforts

During the 2019 Session of the Virginia General Assembly, policymakers enacted § 9.1-116.5 of Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, establishing the Sex Trafficking Response Coordinator at the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), effective July 1, 2019. The goals of the Coordinator, as outlined in *Code of Virginia* § 9.1-116.5, include creating a statewide plan for local and state agencies to identify and respond to victims of sex trafficking, promoting strategies for education, training, and awareness of sex trafficking and for the reduction of demand for commercial sex, and maintaining a directory of sex trafficking victims services in Virginia. The State Trafficking Response Coordinator (Coordinator) at DCJS leads this work.

In State Fiscal Year 2024 (SFY) 2024, the Coordinator participated in 89 partnership building activities with the goals of (i) increasing capacity to identify and serve victims, (ii) increasing victims' access to a range of services, (iii) increasing awareness of the issue of human trafficking, and (iv) increasing sharing of professional expertise. The Coordinator partnered with local, state, and national organizations.

DCJS maintains the Virginia Human Trafficking Resource Guide, a directory of human trafficking victim services providers in the Commonwealth. This list also includes organizations that provide education, training, and awareness of human trafficking. DCJS updates the Resource Guide as new providers are identified. The Resource Guide appears on the Human Trafficking Response page under the DCJS public facing website.

In SFY 2024, DCJS facilitated education and training activities that reached a total of 8,459 professionals across the Commonwealth. DCJS coordinated five Sexual Exploitation Treatment and Training Services (SETTS) courses for victim-serving professionals. In partnership with Virginia State Police and the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, DCJS coordinated three Human Trafficking Investigation and Prosecution courses designed to

improve investigative techniques and bring human trafficking cases to prosecution. DCJS also piloted a Human Trafficking Victim Identification for Law Enforcement course to teach law enforcement to identify potential human trafficking and report to the appropriate authorities.

Code of Virginia § 35.1-15.1 requires hotel employees in the Commonwealth to complete training on recognizing and reporting suspected human trafficking. DCJS was required to develop an online course at no cost to hotel proprietors and employees. Hotel proprietors can utilize the online course provided by DCJS or an alternative online or in-person training course approved by DCJS. In SFY 2024, 6,081 hotel employees completed the DCJS *Human Trafficking Awareness for Hotels* course. As of August 6, 2024, the course has been translated into Spanish, Bengali, Gujarati, and Hindi.

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:

- Commissioner of Social Services
- Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Commissioner of Health
- Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development
- Executive Director of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
- Executive Director of the Virginia Victim Assistance Network
- Member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules
- Member of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House
- Chairman of the Virginia State Crime Commission
- 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 SFY 2024, 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:

- Establish voluntary accreditation standards and measures by which local and domestic violence programs can be systematically evaluated with a peer-reviewed process;
- Review and vote on accreditation status recommendations for applicant programs;
- Establish a subcommittee as needed to address appeals from applicant programs; and
- 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 22 agencies. As of September 2024, two agencies are in the process of becoming accredited, and additionally, a fourth round of applications is currently open. Finally, the Professional Standards Committee has completed the process of revising the Professional Standards.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION, INJURY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM⁴⁹

The Code of Virginia directs the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to conduct the following activities related to domestic and sexual violence in Virginia.

Data Collection

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 identifies 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.

Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Task Force

The Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Task Force (SSSATF) is established by the Article 8 (§ 32.1- 162.15:2 et seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 32.1 of the Code of Virginia. The State Health Commissioner, or her designee, chairs the SSSATF and VDH provides staff support. In 2024, the SSSATF addressed the following tasks:

- Work 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;
- Work 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;
- Develop and distribute 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
- Study and provide 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.

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

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 2024, 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. Virginia's RPE program has funded several community level interventions listed below:

- The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) was funded to perform a policy analysis of policies that strengthen household financial security and develop a plan to address economic supports of households within Virginia. Examples of such policies might include family assistance programs (e.g. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), tax credits, affordable childcare, livable wages, microfinance programs, and comparable worth policies.
- The Disability Law Center of Virginia (Richmond) was funded to develop an organizational guide on best practices and legal requirements for Virginia businesses that interface with individuals with disabilities.
- The Sexual Assault Resource Agency (Charlottesville) was funded to sustain and expand 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 Haven (Warsaw) was funded to expand coalition efforts and implement primary prevention strategies designed to create protective environments, lessen harms, and enhance community connectedness through education workshops and integration of food security through community gardens.
- Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) was funded to expand statewide capacity in implementing trauma responsive practices.
- Sportable (Richmond) was funded to update the piloted Coaching Boys into Men/Athletes as Leaders modified curriculum to best serve those with adaptive needs and provide technical assistance to other recreational sport agencies serving youth with disabilities. 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.
- The City of Alexandria Sexual Assault Center was funded to expand a Circle of Parents group for parents of LGBTQ+ youth to improve parenting dynamics and connectedness with LGBTQ+ youth.
- Real Life was funded to provide sustainable education to men through community programs and in local jails to prevent sexual and domestic violence perpetration.
- FACT (Family and Children's Trust of Virginia) was funded to expand Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention, evidence-based project that teaches adults with intellectual disabilities about healthy relationships.
- VCU Center on Aging and Virginia Broadcast Solutions was funded on a joint project to implement a state-wide elder abuse prevention campaign and landing page with resources.

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant is administered by the CDC to help states address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways targeting objectives identified in Healthy People 2030. A portion of these funds have been used to implement the following 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.
- 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.

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 2024 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.
- A statewide communications campaign and landing page with resources that addresses intimate partner violence during the pregnant and postpartum period.

National Violent Death Reporting System Grant

VDH receives funding from the 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. Data from 2002-2022 are currently available through VVDRS.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS⁵⁰

The Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC) is committed to enhancing the safety and well-being of victims, children, and the broader community through its sexual and domestic violence services. Our objectives include holding inmates, probationers, and parolees accountable for their actions while supporting their journey toward change.

The DOC's approach to addressing sexual and domestic violence is anchored in three key areas:

- Evidence-based programs and curricula
- Comprehensive case planning and community supervision
- Victim services and advocacy

Despite our efforts, the Agency has faced challenges in securing grant funding to further develop targeted programs for perpetrators on this topic. Without additional financial resources, expanding these specialized services remains a challenge.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT⁵¹

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)⁵²

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.

50. Information provided by Virginia Department of Corrections. 51. Information provided by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. 52. Information provided by Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Family Violence

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 (VAdata), the provision of technical assistance for local programs and communities, as well as the provision of training for local domestic violence advocates.

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

- **Survivors of domestic violence know more about domestic violence and its impact.**
 - 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.
- **Survivors of domestic violence know more about the resources in their community available to them.**
 - 95% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know more about community resources.
- **Survivors of domestic violence are safer.**
 - 95% of clients responding to the DOW survey who report that because of services received, they know more ways to plan for their safety.
- **All survivors receiving services are welcomed and respected.**
 - 98% of clients responding to the DOW survey who identify as being from an underserved population who also report feeling welcomed and respected.
- **Survivors have power over their lives.**
 - 96% of clients responding to the DOW survey report that because of the services received, they know how to take their next steps.
 - 98% of clients responding to the DOW survey report said that they could accept or not accept the services offered to them.
- **Children exposed to domestic violence are emotionally healthy.**
 - 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.
 - 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.
- **The community knows more about domestic violence (measured from subgrantee agency input into the VAdata Community Engagement Form).**
 - 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.

FY 2023 OFV STATEWIDE OUTCOME MEASURES

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.

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 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 POLICE⁵³

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 Biometrics Records Section (BRS).

VSP also serves as the central repository for multiple law enforcement data collections such as Incident-Based Reporting data (crime), Use of Force data, and Community Policing Act data (stop data) reported by law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth. The Data Analysis & Reporting Team (DART) section of the CJIS Division collects, analyzes, and disseminates statistics to stakeholders across the Commonwealth. Incident-Based Reporting data is combined into an annual report, Crime In Virginia. More information is available at: <https://vsp.virginia.gov/sections-units-bureaus/bass/criminal-justice-information-services/uniform-crime-reporting/>.

53. Information provided by the Department of State Police.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2024

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2024

HB 1146 Address Confidentiality Program; victims of child abduction.

Expands to victims of child abduction eligibility for the Address Confidentiality Program established by the Statewide Facilitator for Victims of Domestic Violence. VA Code Section to be changed: amends and reenacts section 2.2-515.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Department of Law; Address Confidentiality Program; victims of child abduction.

HB 994 Legal age for marriage.

Establishes the legal age of marriage to be 18 years of age and eliminates the ability for a minor to be declared emancipated on the basis of the intent to marry. VA Code Section to be changed: amends and reenacts sections 16.1-241, 16.1-331, 16.1333, 16.1-334, 20-45.1, 20-48, 20-89.1, and 20-90 of the Code of Virginia and repeals section 16.1-333.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to legal age for marriage .

HB 36 Abuse and neglect of children; causing or enabling child to gain possession of a firearm; penalty.

Creates a Class 5 felony for any parent, guardian, or other person who is 18 years of age or older and is responsible for the care of a child under the age of 18 whose willful act or omission causes or enables that child to gain possession of a firearm (i) after having received notice of a preliminary determination, pursuant to relevant law, that such child poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or (ii) when such parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of the child knows or reasonably should know that such child has been charged with, either by warrant or petition, convicted of, or adjudicated delinquent of a violent juvenile felony. The bill provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution regarding knowledge of a preliminary threat determination if such person received notice that the threat assessment team concluded that the child does not indicate a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or that any case or review opened or conducted by that threat assessment team as a result of such preliminary determination has been closed. The bill also provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution if such person has received notice that any pending charge for a violent juvenile felony has been dismissed or a nolle prosequi has been entered. The bill provides an affirmative defense to prosecution if the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of a child caused or enabled such child to gain possession of a firearm while in a dwelling because of a reasonable belief that he or such child was in imminent danger of bodily injury. Lastly, the bill provides that the new offense is eligible for the enhanced earned sentence credits. This bill is identical to SB 44. VA Code Section to be changed: amends and reenacts section 18.2-371.1 and 53.1-202.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to abuse and neglect of children; causing or enabling child to gain possession of a firearm; penalty.



APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA

APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA

Table A-1: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders, 2022-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	16.2-253.2	M	5,759	1,913	0	3,846	258	2,560	458	0	570
2023	16.2-253.2	M	5,264	1,595	0	3,669	186	2,433	456	1	593

Table A-2: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violations of Family Abuse Protective Orders (Third or Subsequent Offense Within 20 Years), 2022-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	16.2-253.2	F	441	171	0	270	0	177	39	0	54
2023	16.2-253.2	F	467	147	0	320	5	218	11	0	86

Table A-3: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Stalking, 2022-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	18.2-60.3	M	778	127	0	651	52	323	143	0	133
2023	18.2-60.3	M	923	171	0	752	55	394	168	0	135

APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA (CONT.)

Table A-4: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Stalking, 2022-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	18.2-60.3	F	18	7	0	11	0	7	0	0	4
2023	18.2-60.3	F	9	4	0	5	0	2	0	0	3

Table A-5: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Misdemeanor Violation of Stalking Protective Order, 2003-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	18.2-60.4	M	2,096	669	0	1,427	146	759	306	0	216
2023	18.2-60.4	M	1,986	657	0	1,329	106	856	300	2	65

Table A-6: Arrests and Case Dispositions for Felony Violation of Stalking Protective Order, 2003-2023

CONVICTIONS						NON-CONVICTIONS					
Year	Code Section	Felony/ Misdemeanor	Total Arrests	Guilty	Adjudicated Delinquent	Total Non Convictions	Not Guilty	Nolle Prossed	Dismissed	Mentally Insane	Deferred or Other
2022	18.2-60.4	F	197	124	0	73	6	43	9	0	15
2023	18.2-60.4	F	179	40	0	139	0	125	8	0	6



APPENDIX B - STATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

STATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council

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

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

5600 Cox Road
Glen Allen, VA
804-726-7604
www.dss.virginia.gov/community/fact.cgi

Office of the Attorney General

202 N 9th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804-786-2071
www.oag.state.va.us

Supreme Court of Virginia Office of the Executive Secretary

100 North 9th Street, 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
804-786-6455
www.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>

AWQ Virginia Department for the Aging

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

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services

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

Virginia Department of Corrections, Community Corrections

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

Virginia Poverty Law Center

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

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

1411 W Main St.
Richmond, VA 23230
800-838-8238
vsdvalliance.org

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

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

Virginia Department of Health Division of Prevention and Health Promotion

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

Virginia Department of Health Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

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

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

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

Virginia Department of Social Services Office on Family Violence

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

Virginia Department of State Police

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



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, Ste B
Newport News, VA 23601
757-599-9844
www.visitthecenter.org

Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence

12 Hartman Ave
Onancock, VA 23417
757-787-1329
877-787-1329 (hotline)
www.escadv.org

Albemarle County

Sexual Assault Resource Agency

335 Greenbrier Dr., Ste 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 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., Ste 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)
www.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)
www.scvpcares.org

Amherst County/ Appomattox County

YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center

626 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
434-847-7751
www.ywcacva.org

Annandale

Korean Community Services Center of Greater Washington

7700 Little River Turnpike, Ste 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., Ste 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

NewDirectionsCenter, Inc.

110 W. Johnson St.
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-7273
540-886-6800 (hotline)
www.newdirectionscenter.org

Bath County

Safehome Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
www.safehomesystems.org

Bedford County

Bedford County Domestic Violence Services

P.O. Box 783
Bedford, VA 24523
540-587-0995
540-587-0970 (hotline)
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)
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)
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 (tollfree)
www.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)
www.scvpcares.org

Buena Vista Project Horizon

120 Varner Ln
Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-7861
540-463-2594 (hotline)
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)
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)
www.scvpcares.org

Tri-County

Community Action Agency, Inc.
400 Thomas Jefferson Hwy
South Hill, VA 23923
434-542-5898
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountyva.org

Charlottesville

Sexual Assault Resource Agency
335 Greenbrier Dr., Ste 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
www.saracville.org/

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

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
[www.chesterfield.gov/222/ Domestic-and-Sexual-Violence-Resource-Ce](http://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)
www.ywcarichmond.org/

Clarke County

The Laurel Center Intervention for Domestic & Sexual Violence

P.O. Box 14
Winchester, VA 22604
540-667-6160
540-667-6466 (hotline)
www.thelaurelcenter.org

Clifton (Township)

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence Services

12000 Government Center Pkwy, Ste 339
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-5730
703-360-7273 (hotline)
703-435-1235 (TTY)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw/

Clifton Forge

Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline

800-838-8238 (V/TTY)

Colonial Heights

The James House

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

Covington

Safehome Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
www.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)
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)
www.scvpcares.org

Danville

Haven of the Dan River Region

P. O. Box 878
Danville, VA 24543
434-486-5482
www.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(tollfree)
www.tricountyva.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)
www.scvpcares.org

Emporia

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

Essex County

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

Fairfax

**Fairfax County Office for Women and
Domestic & Sexual Violence Services**
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Ste 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, Ste 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, Ste 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)
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., Ste 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
www.saracville.org/

Shelter for Help in Emergency

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

Franklin County

Franklin County Family Resource Center
P.O. Box 188
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
540-483-5088
540-483-1234 (hotline)
www.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., Ste 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse

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

Front Royal

Phoenix Project
P.O. Box 1747
Front Royal, VA 22630
540-635-2302
540-635-2300 (hotline)
www.phoenix-project.org

Giles County

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

Gloucester County

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

Goochland County

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

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., Ste 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
www.saracville.org

Shelter for Help in Emergency

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

Greensville County

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

Halifax County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention (Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center
P.O. Box 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
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 (tollfree)
www.tricountyva.org

Hampton

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors

718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Ste 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-AN.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 (tollfree)
www.firststepva.com

Henrico County Safe Harbor

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

Henry County

Southside Survivor Response Center

P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-403-4080
877-934-3576 (hotline)
www.ssrcenter.org

Herndon (Township)

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence Services

12000 Government Center Pkwy, Ste 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., Ste 102
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-7273
540-886-6800 (hotline)
www.newdirectionscenter.org

Safehome Systems

P.O. Box 748
Covington, VA 24426
540-965-3237
877-393-3672 (toll free)
www.safehomesystems.org

Hopewell

The James House

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

Isle of Wight County

Center for Sexual Assault Survivors

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

The Genieve Shelter

P.O. Box 1585
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org

James City County

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children

P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
833-537-0970 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

King and Queen County

Laurel Shelter, Inc.

P.O. Box 23
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-694-5890 (SV hotline)
804-694-5552 (DV hotline)
lsivilcoor@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, Ste 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse

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

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)
www.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)
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)
www.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., Ste 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
www.saracville.org/

Shelter for Help in Emergency

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

Lunenburg County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention (Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center

P.O. Box 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
www.scvpcares.org

Tri-County Community Action Agency

P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (tollfree)
www.tricountyva.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 (tollfree)
www.safejourneys.org

Manassas

ACTS/Turning Points & SAVAS

(Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-4418606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Manassas Park

ACTS/Turning Points & SAVAS

(Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service)
P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-4418606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Martinsville

Southside Survivor Response Center

P.O. Box 352
Martinsville, VA 24114-0352
276-403-4080
877-934-3576 (hotline)
www.sscenter.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)
www.scvpcares.org

Tri-County Community Action Agency

P.O. Box 1324
Halifax, VA 24558
434-572-1135
434-572-1136 (hotline)
866-832-3840 (toll free)
www.tricountyva.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., Ste 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-295-7273
434-977-7273 (hotline)
www.saracville.org

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

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, Ste 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
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)
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

Nottoway County

Southside Center for Violence Prevention (Madeline's House) Piedmont Crisis Center

P.O. Box 466
Farmville, VA 23901
434-292-1077
888-819-2926 (hotline)
www.scvpcares.org

Onancock

Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA 23417
757-787-1959
757-787-1329 (hotline)
866-663-6478 (hotline)
www.escadv.org

Orange County

Services to Abused Families (SAFE)

501 E. Piedmont St.
Culpeper, VA 22701
540-825-8891
540-825-8876 (hotline)
800-825-8876 (toll free)
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
504 888-528-1041
www.ywcacva.org

Citizens against Family Violence

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

Poquoson

Avalon: A Center for Women and Children

P.O. Box 6805
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-258-5022
757-258-5051 (hotline)
www.avaloncenter.org

718 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Ste 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, Ste 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)
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)
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
703-4418606
703-368-4141 (SV hotline)
703-221-4951 (DV hotline)
www.actspwc.org

Pulaski County

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

Shenandoah County

Response, Inc.

P.O. Box 287
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-5599
540-459-5161 (hotline)
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, Ste 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)
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 (tollfree)
www.tricountyva.org

Southampton County

The Genieve Shelter

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

Spotsylvania County

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault

615 Jefferson Davis Hwy Ste 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

Empowerhouse

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

Stafford County

Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault

615 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Ste 201
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-371-6771
540-371-1666 (hotline)
www.rcasa.org

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)
www.responseva.org/

Suffolk

The Genieve Shelter

P.O. Box 1585
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org

Surry County

The Genieve Shelter

P.O. Box 1585
Suffolk, VA 23434
757-925-4365
800-969-4673 (hotline)
www.thegenieveshelter.org

Sussex County

Family Violence & Sexual Assault Unit 6th District Court Services

401-C S. Main St.
Emporia, VA 23847
434-348-0100

Tazewell County

Clinch Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.

P.O. Box 188
North Tazewell, VA 24630
276-988-5583
276-979-8959 (hotline)
www.clinchvalleycaa.org/

Troutville

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

Vienna

Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence Services

12000 Government Center Pkwy, Ste 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)
www.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)
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)
www.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 (tollfree)
www.family-crisis.com

Woodbridge

ACTS/Turning Points & Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service (SAVAS)

P.O. Box 74
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-4418606
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)
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)
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, Ste 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



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, Ste B
Williamsburg, VA 23188
(757) 564-2311
Amy.Jacobson@jamescitycountyva.gov

Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

For more information contact:
Toni Zollicoffer & Jessica Greis-Edwardson
Office for Women & Domestic Violence Services,
Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney
12000 Government Center Parkway, Ste 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 H 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
P.O. 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

**Pulaski County Domestic Violence
Fatality Review Team**

For more information contact:
Mary Beth Pulsifer
Women's Resource Center
of the New River Valley
P.O. 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**

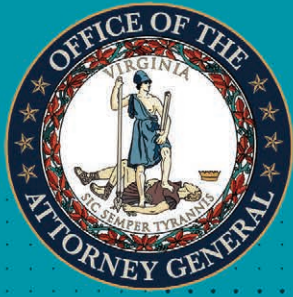
(County of Roanoke, Cities of Roanoke
and Salem, Town of Vinton)
For more information contact:
Melissa Ratcliff Harper,
Forensic Nurse Examiner
Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital
1906 Belleview Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24014
(540) 521-0365 or (540) 266-6025
mrharper@carilionclinic.org

**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 Ste 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, Ste 301
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 205-3856



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