



# Domestic Violence Program

## 2011 Annual Report



*Every day individuals and organizations across Colorado assist families in improving their lives following the trauma of domestic violence. The resilience and strength of those who experience a violent family life, and rise above it, serve as inspiration for our efforts. We applaud those who work tirelessly to break the cycle of domestic violence and create a safer, more hopeful future for all citizens of Colorado.*

— Reggie Bicha, Executive Director,  
Colorado Department of Human Services



**cdhs**

Colorado Department  
of Human Services  
*people who help people*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, would like to thank all domestic violence crisis center staff throughout the State for their tireless work to assist victims and their families and their work end domestic violence.

DVP is also grateful for the wonderful community members and crisis center staff who volunteer their time to participate on the various DVP-committees to ensure transparency, equity, and accountability.

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# INTRODUCTION

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP) of the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) presents the 2011 DVP Annual Report. This report provides comprehensive information on the delivery of services to Colorado citizens, who have been victimized by domestic violence. In addition to statistics and services, the client stories provide a view of the successes of the individuals impacted by domestic violence and represents the crisis centers diligent and difficult work to ensure survivors and their families receive the best of care in their times of crisis.

In this report you will also find information on the type of services victims receive, how many clients receive services, and the funding that is provided to ensure this service delivery. You will also have the opportunity to hear from the crisis centers regarding what they believe will end domestic violence as well as stories from clients regarding how these services assisted them in becoming safer. The crisis centers save lives by providing shelter, advocacy, and empathy, with a deep knowledge of the impact that domestic violence has on the lives of survivors and their families.

The state DVP continues to work and collaborate with many county, state, and non-governmental agencies to address the intersections of domestic violence in many fields, particularly in human service delivery. Through various stakeholder groups as well as activities and tasks, the DVP is working to ensure that Colorado is at the forefront in providing intervention and working to develop prevention strategies. The DVP works with program areas within CDHS, including Child Welfare, Colorado Works (TANF), and Aging and Adult Services, for instance. The work with other state agencies such as the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Public Health and Environment provides the opportunities to continue to determine how we can best prevent domestic violence. The DVP works collaboratively with the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, as well. These collaborations are crucial in Colorado's efforts to end domestic violence. DVP continues to assist in policy and best practices development within systems, and through training and technical assistance on all fronts of human service delivery, the DVP continues to inform and educate governmental agencies and staff. These collaborations ensure that whenever possible and as relevant systemic change occurs, to provide the best possible services and outcomes to citizens seeking services, who also may be experiencing domestic violence.

The collective work of all Colorado systems, agencies, and individuals provide the best possible interventions for survivors. Continuing to assess how and develop plans to end domestic violence is critical to providing the most effective services and best outcomes for Colorado citizens, now and in the future.

It is our pleasure to share DVP's 2011 Annual Report to demonstrate the critical role the crisis centers play in our citizens well being and the DVP's work to continue to support the crisis centers and the collective work to end domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Program Staff

## Viewpoint: “What will end domestic violence in your community?”

*The shift needed to end domestic violence would be that women are equal to men, that no one has the right to use power and control over another person. It would take men standing up to other men who make sexist jokes, who are abusive to women in public, who are jealous and possessive. It would take everyone in the community believing that domestic violence is their business and making a conscious effort to support and assist victims while also holding perpetrators accountable for their abuse.*

**Mandy Trollip, Executive Director, Alliance Against Domestic Abuse**

*This would mean a shift in mindset about what relationships really mean. This change, as always would have to come with coordinated efforts from all groups/systems in the community, education, prevention, etc.*

**Cassi Haberler, Shelter Director SafeHouse Denver**

*Providing young people the resources to address violence within intimate relationships early in life would greatly reduce – and perhaps bring an end – to interpersonal violence on college campuses.”*

**Barbara Paradiso, Director Center on Domestic Violence**

*I believe youth and men need to become highly involved in the solution and become aware of all behaviors, attitudes etc. that lead to DV. We often talk about the "Cycle of Violence" but we often approach with a response that is more linear. I believe our response needs to be much more integrated which would include prevention work, as well as, intervention.*

**Mike Johnson, Executive Director Project PAVE**

*As a community, we need an absolute no-tolerance approach to any and all forms of violence and all subsequent responses to violence must mirror NO TOLERANCE – no excuses, no exceptions.*

**Carmen Hubbs, Executive Director Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program**

*“If the community at large could understand the dynamics of the Cycle of Violence and Why Women Stay, we could finally begin to eradicate violence from our homes. This understanding would ignite a fire throughout our community to step up and speak out against domestic abuse and vote for stronger laws to punish the offenders.”*

**Jeneen Klippel, Director of Development & Public Relations Gateway**

*Since research has concluded that the two most significant factors which help a victim get free of domestic violence are increased strategies for safety and increased knowledge of community resources, we need to do more education and outreach in Jefferson County, especially in the schools. A dedicated Education Coordinator, who does not have another full-time job, is a goal for us.*

**Jane Pemberton, Managing Director Family Tree**

*We believe that ending domestic violence in the Estes Valley will involve everyone – men, women, and institutions. More education is needed for young men. Local schools and community groups that work with young people need to be open to this education. We need men involved in more ways: working with offender programs, being role models, and sitting in on groups and letting offenders know that, “real men don’t abuse women.”*

**Mary Mesropian, Executive Director Estes Valley Victim Advocates**

*A greater dialogue with other state and national agencies (on best practices, evidence based curriculums and networking strategies). Prevention Education should be focused on creating health rather than stopping abuse and ideally, is carried out by male allies and victim service providers. The prevention of dating and domestic violence should not be a burden exclusively held by victim service agencies, supportive agencies and community members must be in collaboration. A coordinated community response includes key players from both systems-based agencies and non-profits that bridge the gap between service provisions for victims and perpetrators.*

**Julie Olson, Director Advocate Safehouse Project**

## SUCCESS STORIES

(All names and identifying information have been changed. Each story has been approved and released by the identified funded crisis center.)

*“Dear Delainee – I am not sure if you remember me, however I am certain to remember you for some time to come. This is a special thank you note, because you drove me to a Safehouse in western Colorado. I feel how you helped me was extra-ordinary special, and that you went above and beyond duty. To experience your kindness and compassion with such calmness at that time was such a blessing for me. The help I need, the positive healthy changes are continuing. I have relocated with my family. Paying forward the help and support I continuously receive, is something I look forward to with pleasure. With heartfelt gratitude, thank you, Alice” Advocate Safehouse Project, Glenwood Springs*

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*“I had a good job with the state, and children and grandchildren living near me. My abuser looks like any other man, in fact he sang in church every Sunday and everyone believed he was a good Christian man. Slowly he took control over me. I am an educated woman and he managed to isolate me from friends and family a little bit at a time. Each day my personal power was taken from me and my dependence on him increased. At night he slept with his hand under my neck so if I got up while he was sleeping, he would awaken. He also kept the car key – he dropped me off and picked me up at work. After months of planning and through the help of a girlfriend and co-workers I was able to pack up a car and a family member helped me drive to Montrose. After arriving in Montrose I lived in terror – he was hounding me to come back. I lived with my daughter and was dependent on her for everything. That’s when my daughter told me about Tri-County Resources. When I finally got the nerve to go to the office, I was greeted by a smiling lady who asked if she could help me. Within minutes Shelly came out and asked if I had an appointment. I said no but the look on my face was probably so desperate that she told me not to leave, that she would be with me in a few minutes. Had I not gotten attention those first few minutes, I certainly would have left. Shelly immediately helped me by validating my thoughts and feelings. She gave me books to read and explained the cycle of abuse to me. From then I met with her once a week and she also made me a promise that if I needed her I would call her no matter what time of day it was. Since then I have seen Shelly every week. Not only did she help my emotional well-being, she also put me in touch with a legal aid representative to help with the process of filing for a divorce. The resources included advocacy, counseling, parenting classes, and transitional housing. Though my journey has been long, I still have some ways to go. I still need a job but finding my true voice has become a spiritual practice. Somewhere inside me is the person that I used to be and she is getting stronger and more confident every day.” Tri County Resources, Montrose*

These stories highlight just a few of the amazing things being done in Colorado by domestic violence crisis centers funded through the Domestic Violence Program (DVP). The hard work, innovation, and caring ways of crisis centers throughout Colorado have resulted in numerous success stories, like those above. But there is a great deal more to do.

According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS 2010), “1 in 4 women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner while 1 in 7 men experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.” These staggering statistics highlight the overwhelming prevalence of domestic violence within our communities. This report highlights the work being done everyday by crisis centers throughout Colorado to help create a Colorado free of violence.

## SERVICES OVERVIEW

All DVP-funded domestic violence (DV) crisis centers provide confidential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via crisis lines. The services listed below are representative of the wide array of services provided by domestic violence crisis centers funded by DVP.

***General Services*** - Domestic violence crisis centers offer advocacy to victims in crisis as well as those in need of long-term support. These services include safety planning, support groups, counseling, case management, transportation, information and referrals, and other programming as described below.

***Residential Services*** - Many domestic violence crisis centers have residential shelters where victims and their children can stay while receiving supportive advocacy. Shelter stays are usually around 45 days, but can be as long as 90 days, depending on need and availability. Several domestic violence crisis centers offer transitional housing where victims and their dependants can stay for up to two years. Domestic violence crisis centers without a shelter or transitional housing are able to provide alternative short-term safe housing in many instances.

***Children*** - Residential shelters offer children’s programming such as group support, safety planning, healthy communication, skill building, and recreation for children living in the shelter. Some domestic violence crisis centers also offer parenting skills classes. Childcare is usually available for victims who are attending DV support groups.

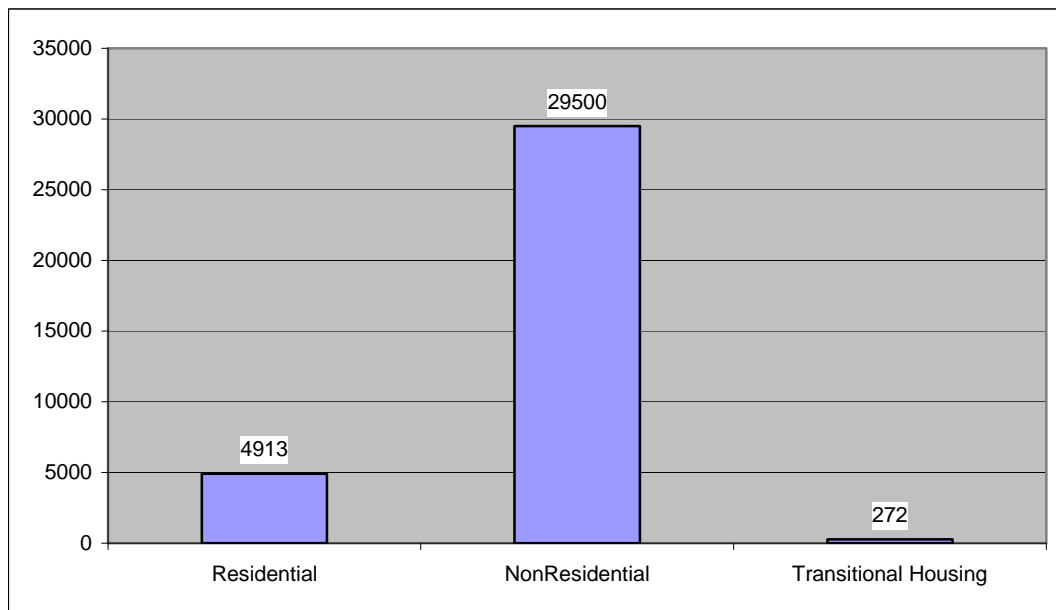
***Advocacy*** - Court-based advocacy such as accompaniment to hearings for civil orders of protection are widely available. Other legal services such as support with immigration issues, divorce, or child custody may be a direct service or provided by referral. General advocacy is available to help victims’ access resources and services such as victim compensation, affordable housing, food stamps, welfare, legal services, and other community supports.

**Teens** - Teen dating violence education services are available in many domestic violence crisis centers. Many domestic violence crisis centers collaborate with local schools to promote healthy relationships and recognize the signs of an abusive relationship.

**Community Education** - Domestic violence center staff frequently speak to community groups about DV. Audiences include churches, hospitals, social services, businesses, law enforcement, civic groups, fatherhood programs, and others interested in learning more about the dynamics and prevention of domestic violence. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

In 2011, the Domestic Violence Program (DVP) administered funds to 46 domestic violence crisis centers. Those 46 domestic violence crisis centers responded to 61,335 crisis phone calls throughout Colorado and served a total of 34,685 clients with residential, non-residential, or transitional housing services (Graph 1). In addition, the crisis centers provided a total of 107,064 nights of shelter in a residential shelter and 74,270 nights of shelter in transitional housing.

Graph 1: Clients Served

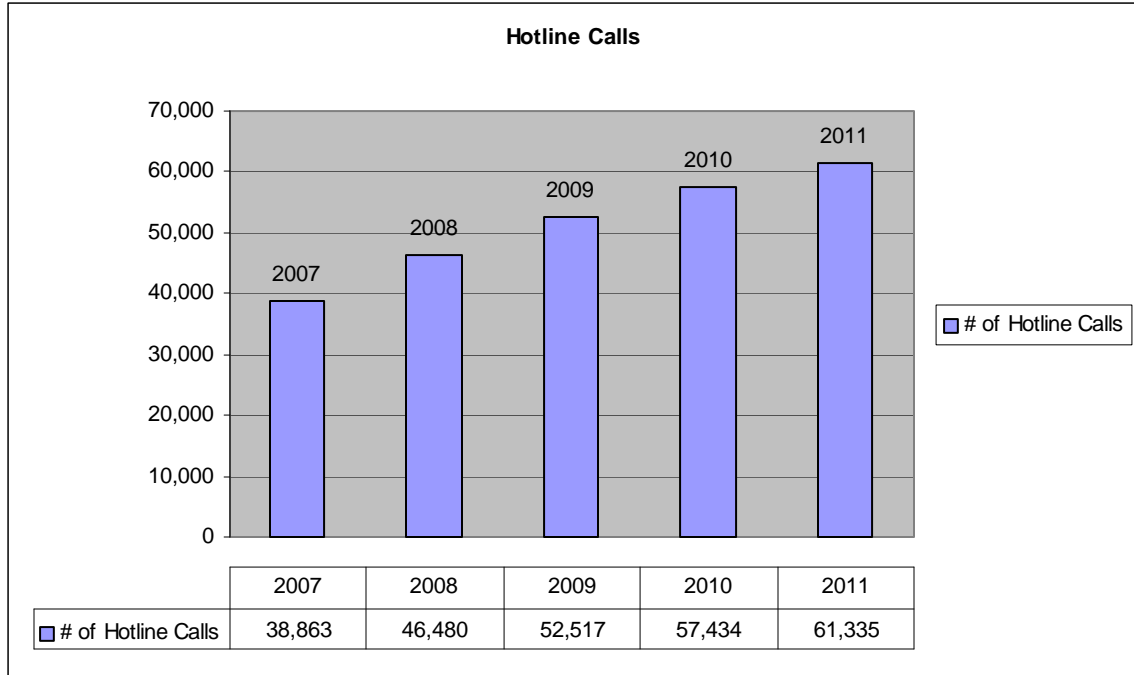


Domestic violence crisis centers provide crisis intervention, advocacy, prevention, support, and skill building to assist victims in re-stabilizing their lives. They represent rural and urban programs, shelter and non-shelter programs, and general and specialized services, which provide direct services to victims from underserved populations as well as traditionally underserved areas. Most domestic violence crisis centers have bilingual staff or translators available. A large focus of each crisis center is community outreach and education.



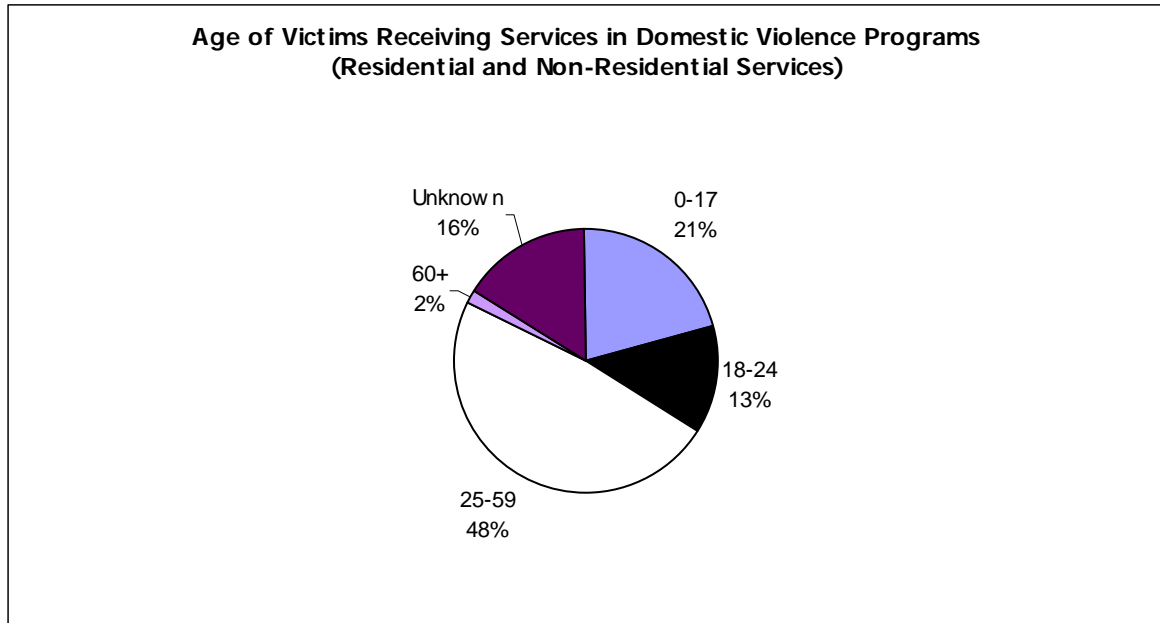
As an example of services provided to victims, crisis hotlines serve as a first point of contact for many victims. This free and confidential emergency service is available to victims 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year by domestic violence crisis centers. Crisis centers are able to provide advocacy, information, referrals, and support to victims of DV and their families. In 2011, DVP-funded domestic violence crisis centers answered 61,335 emergency crisis intervention phone calls. As Graph 2 illustrates, crisis calls have steadily increased for the past five years. This graph demonstrates the increasing reliance on this service by victims of domestic violence.

Graph 2: Hotline Calls

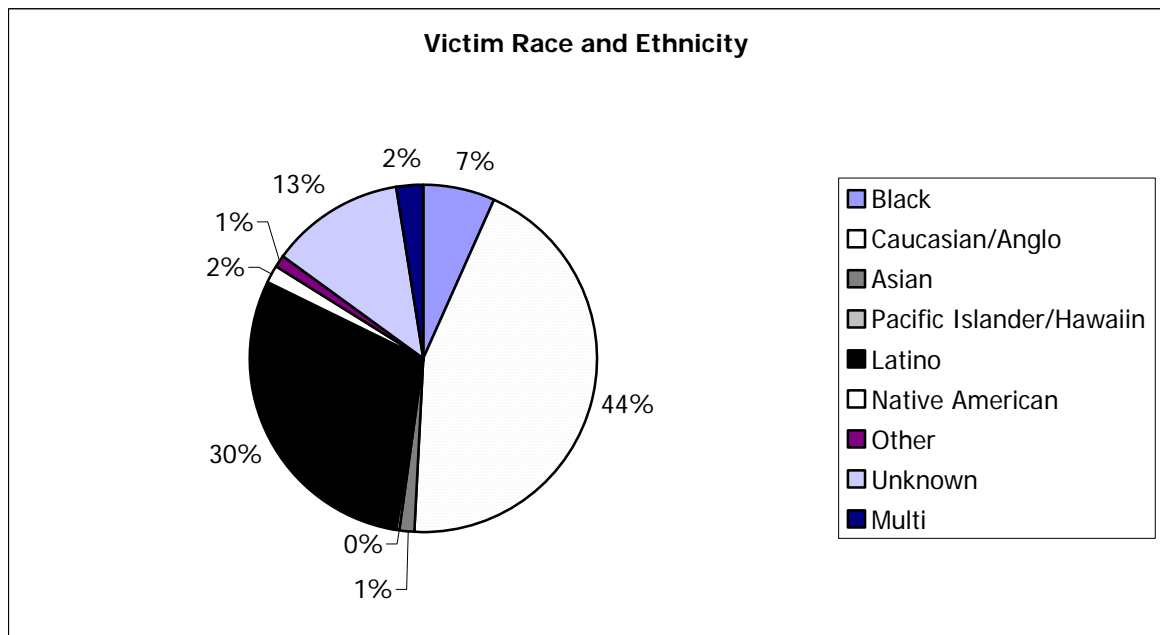


Domestic violence impacts all communities in varying ways. The far-reaching hand of abuse discriminates against no one. Graph 3 reflects the wide variety of ages of victims who received services this past year from crisis centers as a result of being impacted by DV. The percentage for each age category remains fairly consistent with percentages from last year. Graph 4 represents the multitude of races and ethnicities touched by domestic violence. Caucasians represent the largest race served this past year with 44%; Latinos were the second largest group representing 30% of the total clients served. These graphs demonstrate the pervasive nature of DV.

Graph 3: Age of Victims



Graph 4: Race and Ethnicity



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS CENTERS (funded)

DVP funds support domestic violence crisis centers throughout the State as listed below. The services provided by these centers are vital to the health of communities throughout Colorado. The necessity of these programs is demonstrated by the number of hotline (crisis calls) and victims served, also noted below.

<b>Program</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Total Hotline Calls</b>	<b>Total Victims Served</b>
A Woman's Place	Greeley	4,437	435
Advocate Safehouse Project	Glenwood Springs	209	380
Advocates Crisis Support Services	Craig	608	533
Advocates Building Peaceful Communities	Steamboat	247	250
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Trinidad	423	512
Advocates for Victims of Assault	Frisco	180	476
Advocates of Lake County	Leadville	64	277
Advocates for a Violence-Free Community	Hot Sulphur Springs	180	137
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Salida	142	219
Alternative Horizons	Durango	395	852
Alternatives to Family Violence	Commerce City	10,506	2,698
Alternatives to Violence	Loveland	77	544
Archuleta County Victim Assistance	Pagosa Springs	13	255
Arkansas Valley Resource Center	La Junta	2,343	720
Asian Pacific Development Center	Denver	91	220
Bright Future Foundation	Avon	207	605
Clear Creek County Advocates	Georgetown	431	248
Colorado Anti-Violence Program	Denver	179	161
Crossroads Safehouse	Ft. Collins	1,338	1,610
Denver Center for Crime Victims	Denver	686	294
DOVE	Denver	147	148
Domestic Violence Initiative	Denver	1,974	368
Estes Valley Victim Advocates	Estes Park	42	175
Family Crisis Services	Canon City	668	455
Family Tree	Wheat Ridge	1,948	1,229
Gateway	Aurora	5,123	2,298
Help for Abused Partners	Sterling	161	497
Jubilee House	Gunnison	24	67
Latimer House	Grand Junction	1,781	498
Mountain Peace Shelter	Bailey	208	119
*Project PAVE	Denver	0	246
*Project Safeguard	Denver	0	6,907
Renew	Cortez	53	422
RESPONSE	Aspen	388	212
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley	Longmont	695	674
SafeHouse Denver	Denver	6,441	804
SPAN	Boulder	6,166	2,314
San Miguel Resource Center	Telluride	134	168
Servicios de la Raza	Denver	748	158
SHARE	Ft. Morgan	115	259
TESSA	Colorado Springs	1,969	2,011
Tri-County Resources	Montrose	121	283
Tu Casa	Alamosa	44	350
Volunteers of America SW Safehouse	Durango	498	242
Women's Crisis & Family Outreach	Castle Rock	7,949	1,060
YWCA	Pueblo	1,182	1,295

*\*Denotes Memorandum of Understanding with SafeHouse Denver for the provision of hotline calls*

## VIEWPOINT

Each year DVP asks a series of narrative questions of the crisis centers. The information provided gives insight into the trends, needs, and issues facing crisis centers across the State. This year, two distinct areas emerged: unmet needs of clients and successful community collaborations. Quotations provided below are verbatim responses from crisis centers.

### **UNMET CLIENT NEEDS:**

#### **From Alternative Horizons located in Durango:**

*“DV programs in rural communities need funding to provide civil legal assistance to clients. Financial struggles already burden victims/survivors in their ability to leave their abusers, and access to free civil legal assistance in cases of divorce and child custody is just another obstacle in this process.”*

#### **From Clear Creek County Advocates located in Georgetown:**

*“The largest unmet need is transportation. Many are extremely isolated and don’t have access to public transportation to access services available that are outside of our community, such as counseling. While we offer group classes for women and children, one-on-one counseling is limited. Some sort of public transportation would help in both everyday life and accessing some services.”*

#### **From Advocates Against Domestic Assault located in Trinidad:**

*“The lack of legal services is a great concern for victims in rural areas. Victims of domestic violence need immediate assistance in obtaining protection orders. Although pro bono legal assistance is available through Colorado Rural Legal Services, they do not have an office in our area. AADA legal advocates try to fill that critical gap.”*

#### **From Volunteers of America – Southwest Safehouse located in Durango:**

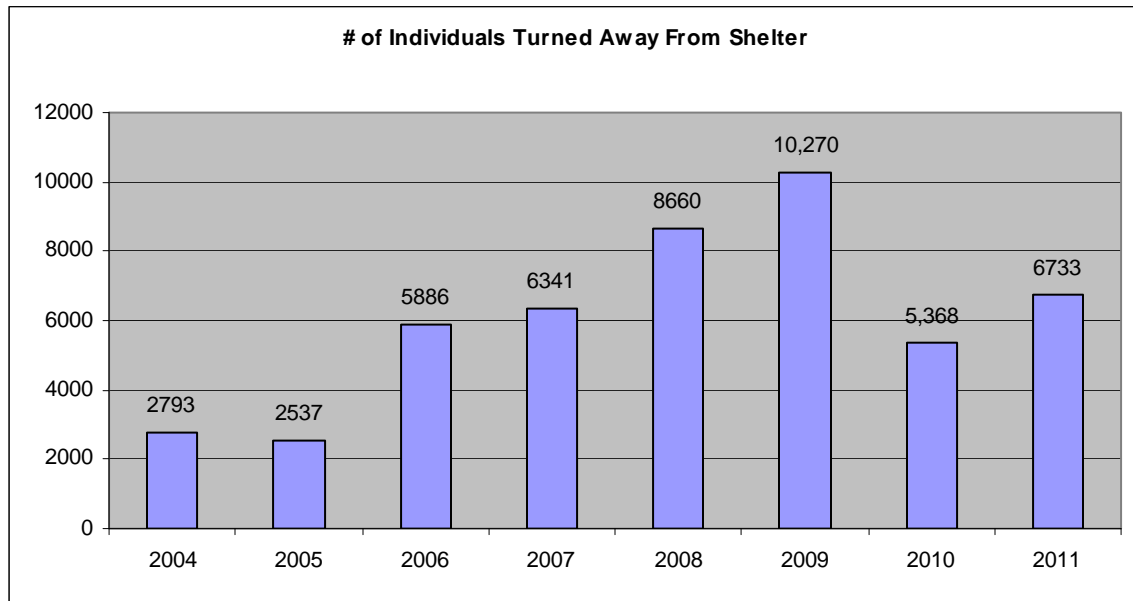
*“Collateral services for domestic violence victims, such as substance abuse treatment and mental health services are extremely limited in rural southwest Colorado...”*

#### **From Arkansas Valley Resource Center located in La Junta:**

*“Housing, rental assistance, transportation from outlying areas to localized services such as DHS. Our community needs a larger public transportation system and more staff to assist clients in finding resources.”*

A further unmet need identified was shelter. Graph 5 identifies a total of 6,733 individuals who were turned away from shelter in 2011. This was an increase over last year of 1,365 individuals. In addition to numbers turned away from shelter due to a lack of available space, there were 509 unmet requests for transitional housing in 2011.

Graph 5: Individuals Turned Away from Shelter



**SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIONS:**

**From Renew, Inc. located in Cortez:**

*“Renew is part of the Violence Prevention Coalition, comprised of many local agencies and the judicial system, that looks at domestic violence and sexual assault issues in our communities. At one of these meetings, the discussion of the impact of violence on children came up. This conversation led to the decision that all children who are in a home during a violent incident where an arrest occurs, will have a trauma assessment through the Child Advocacy Center before any modification of the Criminal Protection Order is considered. This assessment coupled with the danger assessment for the victim, helps the judge, prosecutor, and defense attorney’s better understand the dynamics and damage that this crime can have.”*

**From SafeHouse Denver, Inc. located in Denver:**

*“We have continued our relationship with Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. They are referring clients to us that they see that have domestic violence issues. We are seeing clients for individual counseling that they refer. It can be difficult for these survivors to stay in services long term due to the transient nature of this population. So, as a solution we have a SafeHouse Denver advocate on site at the Stout Street Clinic for Homeless individuals. This advocate is at the clinic 2 times a month for 4 hours each time and is available for individual counseling on a walk in basis at that site and can also arrange for those clients to receive more long term counseling...”*

**From Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley located in Longmont:**

*“The Safe Shelter Youth Advocate is working collaboratively with a detective in the Domestic Violence Unit of the Longmont Police Department to develop a curriculum for use throughout the St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD) to provide consistent and comprehensive information about domestic and dating abuse to all students, teachers, and parents. This partnership between Longmont Law Enforcement and Safe Shelter is helping to close the gap between systemic responses to abuse and holistic advocacy approaches, which historically have been at odds.”*

**From Mountain Peace Shelter located in Bailey:**

*“MPS now has a formal MOU with Park County Sheriff’s Office to establish a formal protocol for working together with the deputies to protect the confidentiality of our shelter and our residents while having the deputies’ support for safety.”*

**From Family Tree located in Wheat Ridge:**

*“Through collaborative meetings in the community, constant advocacy in the community on behalf of clients, and the many in-service trainings provided, Women In Crisis staff continue to increase their own knowledge of safety strategies and community resources, thus increasing the likelihood of success for our clients.”*

**From TESSA located in Colorado Springs:**

*“The TESSA Safehouse and Partners in Housing collaborated to create and maintain a community garden. The garden provided a healthy crop of vegetables for clients of both agencies, as well as an opportunity for residential clients to foster a feeling of community by participating in the garden’s upkeep.”*

**From Alliance Against Domestic Abuse located in Salida:**

*“Chaffee County lost its only domestic violence offender treatment provider in February of this year...After much work and collaboration from Probation and AADA, Chaffee County was able to obtain a treatment provider in March and a second provider in April. AADA is now meeting with both providers monthly for Multidisciplinary Treatment Team meetings creating a collaborative approach to domestic violence offender treatment with victim safety at the center.”*

**From DOVE located in Denver:**

*“DOVE has collaborated in providing trainings with the Colorado Daylight Project which is a collaborative effort led by Mental Health Center of Denver and the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Daylight Project is designed to provide assistance to Colorado community health centers and publicly funded substance abuse providers who want to advance access to behavioral health services to Coloradans who are deaf and hard of hearing. By collaborating with Daylight Project, we are able to create opportunities for cross training and sharing resources for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.”*

## OUTCOMES

DVP-funded domestic violence crisis centers tracked two specific outcome measurements to evaluate the impact their services had on the lives of victims (Table 1) in 2011. These outcome measurements are driven by requirements from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Domestic violence crisis centers randomly sample victims and ask them to evaluate their experiences with shelter, advocacy, support groups, and/or counseling. Victims are asked to identify if the service they received increased their strategies for enhancing their safety and/or increased their knowledge of available community resources. According to “FVPSA Outcomes Evaluation: A Practical Guide”, these two short-term outcomes have been demonstrated to contribute to improvements in longer-term safety and well-being. A minimum target of 65% positive response was established by FVPSA as a realistic goal. The 2011 results are as follows:

<i>Table 1: Outcome Measurements</i>				
	Shelter <i>N=1,685</i>	Advocacy <i>N=2,541</i>	Support Groups <i>N=1,403</i>	Counseling <i>N=1,487</i>
Victims Increased their Strategies for Enhancing their Safety	90%	94%	95%	91%
Victims Increased their Knowledge of Available Community Resources	90%	95%	91%	88%

## FUNDING SOURCES

DVP funding is a compilation of five diverse funding sources. The funding is pooled and distributed through a competitive grant application process to Colorado’s domestic violence crisis centers. Historically, DVP distributes approximately \$3.0 million to domestic violence crisis centers annually.

**Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund** - Beginning in 1983, Colorado taxpayers elected to make donations through their state income tax return refunds to the Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund. Amounts collected annually range from \$150,000 to \$400,000. Each year, DVP distributes these funds to support domestic violence crisis centers.

**Family Violence Prevention and Services Act** - Beginning in 1984, the Federal Congress approved the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). This created a grant for states to assist in establishing, maintaining, and expanding domestic violence crisis centers and projects to prevent family violence and to provide immediate shelter and related assistance for victims of family violence and their dependants. These funds go directly to crisis centers and provide training and education for workers across Colorado. The DVP distributes approximately \$1.4 million annually to domestic violence crisis centers.

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families** - Beginning in 2004, additional funding for crisis centers was secured through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant, which was a result of the loss of State general fund dollars due to budget shortfalls. The DVP distributes \$650,000 annually in TANF funds to domestic violence crisis centers.

**Heirloom Marriage Certificates** - Beginning in 2008, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) began issuing heirloom marriage certificates. A portion of the \$50 fee for each heirloom certificate issued is collected by the DVP. The DVP collects approximately \$200 annually from heirloom certificate fees for distribution to domestic violence crisis centers.

**Marriage License and Divorce Fees** - Beginning in 2009, a portion of the fees collected from marriage licenses and divorce filings were directed to the DVP for the distribution to domestic violence crisis centers. It is estimated that the funding available from this fund will be approximately \$850,000 annually.



# STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP), located within the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), is the sole government entity in the State of Colorado dedicated entirely to funding and sustaining domestic violence crisis centers. DVP strives to ensure that services to victims of DV and their children are readily available throughout Colorado's diverse communities and is continually seeking ways to improve services and educate the general populace about domestic violence.

## 2011 ACTIVITIES

### *SITE VISITS*

In 2011, DVP conducted 13 site visits to of the DVP-funded domestic violence crisis centers (listed below) throughout Colorado. These site visits provide an opportunity to assess needs, monitor for compliance, and provide relevant technical assistance. Site visits provide an opportunity for mutual learning, open discourse, identification of gaps and needs for a particular community, and to showcase successes and unique program components.

- Advocates Against Battering & Abuse, Steamboat Springs
- Advocates Crisis Support Services, Craig
- Alliance Against Domestic Abuse, Salida
- Alternative Horizons, Durango
- Bright Future Foundation, Avon
- Crossroads Safehouse, Fort Collins
- Family Crisis Services, Canon City
- Gateway, Aurora
- Project PAVE, Denver
- Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley, Longmont
- TESSA, Colorado Springs
- Tu Casa, Alamosa
- Volunteers of America – Southwest Safehouse, Durango

### *COLLABORATIONS*

#### *State Domestic Violence Coordinating Council*

The State Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) is a joint initiative of the Department of Public Safety (DVOMB) and the Department of Human Services (DVP) with a clear goal of working collaboratively to identify and coordinate existing state DV-related programs and services. Critical components of the council include: offender and victim issues, identification of gaps, sharing ideas, and improvement of communication between departments. Most importantly, the DVCC helps facilitate the integration of domestic violence issues, best practices, and education within State government. The

additional benefit is to create a method of disseminating information across state agencies and departments that is consistent, current, and avoids duplication of services.

### ***Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence***

The DVP works closely with the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), the statewide membership organization for domestic violence crisis centers. DVP and CCADV information share and collaborate to ensure that domestic violence crisis centers are efficiently and effectively provided with essential, current, and timely information. The CCADV serves on the DVP Advisory Committee and Funding Recommendation Committee. In 2011, the DVP provided funding for the CCADV annual conference, participated in the CCADV Legislative Committee, and Executive Management from each organization met monthly to ensure open communication to address the challenges confronted by domestic violence crisis centers.

### ***The Domestic Violence and Child Protection Services Coordinating Council***

The Coordinating Council is a collaboration of stakeholders in the areas of DV and child protection with the purpose of supporting agency coordination to enhance the safety of and services to families where DV and child maltreatment overlap. The Coordinating Council is comprised of state and county staff, system and non-governmental advocates, and other stakeholders. Staff from the (CDHS) DVP and Child Protection Services co-chair the council and serve on several of its sub-committees. In 2011, the Coordinating Council began the development of a DV handbook for child protection workers.

## ***TRAINING***

### ***Family Violence Option Training***

A key function of the DVP is to provide training on DV issues to state and county staff. For six years the DVP has been delivering the mandatory one-day Family Violence Option (FVO) training to Colorado Works staff throughout Colorado. This training presents practical ways county staff can help survivors and their families increase their safety and self-sufficiency. To increase collaboration and information sharing across disciplines, DV crisis center staff members are also invited to attend. During 2011, the DVP provided nine trainings in nine counties to more than 149 county and community stakeholders.

## ***PROJECTS / INITIATIVES***

### ***TANF/DV Co-Location Project***

The Colorado General Assembly created funding through the Statewide Strategic Use Fund (SSUF) to support strategic initiatives addressing systemic issues that mitigate poverty and its impact on Colorado families and communities. In June 2009 SSUF awarded DVP funding to conduct the Enhanced Domestic Violence Advocacy and Prevention Project (EDVAPP). Through EDVAPP, the DVP sub-contracted with domestic violence crisis centers to implement a Co-Location Project (CLP) initiating sustainable systemic change to enhance safety and services for survivors of DV through

collaborative partnerships between local domestic violence crisis centers and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)/Colorado Works programs in county departments of human/social services.

The first SSUF grant (2009-2010) enabled the DVP to sub-contract with six domestic violence crisis center for a 10-¾ month-long pilot project. Due to the success the six CLP sub-grantees during the first year, SSUF awarded the DVP another grant to continue five local CLP pilot projects from June 2010- June 2011 (Table 2). These five CLP pilot projects worked successfully with local TANF offices to change policies and procedures, deliver cross-training, develop materials and provide services to 1,178 survivors who were referred by TANF – this is a 17% increase over the 884 survivors served last year.

In 2012 DVP will work with project partners to develop a best practices guidebook, and screening tools, as well as cross training to Colorado Works / TANF and DV workers.

<b>Table 2: CLP-Funded Programs, June 2010-2011</b>	
<b><i>GRANTEE (5)</i></b>	<b><i>COUNTIES SERVED (9)</i></b>
<i>Crossroads Safehouse</i>	<i>Larimer</i>
<i>Safehouse Progressive Alliance / Nonviolence</i>	<i>Boulder</i>
<i>Tri-County Resource Center (Hilltop)</i>	<i>Delta, Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray</i>
<i>Women’s Crisis and Family Outreach Center</i>	<i>Douglas, Elbert</i>
<i>YWCA - Pueblo</i>	<i>Pueblo</i>

## GOVERNANCE

The DVP operates under the guidance of two committees: *the Advisory Committee and the Funding Recommendation Committee*. All members of the committees are persons knowledgeable in the field of domestic violence and are approved by the CDHS Executive Director or designee.

The ***DVP Advisory Committee***, which meets monthly, provides insight, direction, and monitoring to the DVP. Membership in 2011 included:

- Mary Clair, CDHS Child Support Enforcement
- Adam Evans, Project PAVE
- Cassi Haberler, Safehouse Denver
- Elizabeth Kelly, CDHS, Aging and Adult Protective Services
- Nancy Lewis, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance
- Kenya Lyons, Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice
- Vicki Lutz, Crossroads Safehouse
- Alisa Marlatt, CDHS, Division of Child Welfare
- Lotte Muster, A Woman's Place
- Denise Washington, Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Betty Wytias, Colorado Attorney General's Office

The ***DVP Funding Recommendation Committee*** is responsible for reviewing all applications for funding and making recommendations to CDHS for distribution of funds. Membership in 2011 included:

- Michelle Adams, DeJong & Associates, LLC
- Kelli Bennett, CDHS, Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Program
- Shannon Breitzman, Department of Public Health and Environment, Injury, Suicide, and Violence Prevention Unit
- Mary Patricia Bowen, Park County Sheriff's Office, Victim Services
- Mary Clair, CDHS Child Support Enforcement
- Cheryl Davis, DVOMB
- Rob Gallup, Department of Public Safety, Office of Victim Programs
- Denise Kay, Employment Practices Solutions, Inc.
- Spiro Koinis, Division of Youth Corrections
- Nancy Lewis, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance
- Levetta Love, El Paso County Department of Human Services
- Alisa Marlatt, CDHS, Division of Child Welfare
- Jean McAllister, CDHS, Division of Boards and Commissions
- Nancy Olson, Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Judy Page, Colorado's Attorney General's Office
- Peg Rogers, CDHS, Aging & Adult Services
- Ruth Ann Russell, Retired
- Ronnie Weiss, The Conflict Center

DVP would like to thank members of the Advisory and Funding Recommendation Committees for their time and dedication to the issue of domestic violence. We are truly appreciative of the level of commitment that each member has about the issue of domestic violence and for the wealth of knowledge represented within each of these groups. The numerous hours put in by each of these Committees ensures that we are doing our best for crisis centers across the state and ultimately the citizens of Colorado.

For information or to obtain additional copies of this report, contact:

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Colorado Dept. of Human Services  
Domestic Violence Program  
1575 Sherman St.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80203  
303-866-3408  
tomei.reif@state.co.us

# INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

## CONTACT

### Domestic Violence Program (DVP)

Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health and Housing

1575 Sherman Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr Denver, CO 80203 (303) 866-3150

## Internet

### DVP

[www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp](http://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp)

### DV Assistance Search

[www.colorado.gov/apps/cdhs/dva](http://www.colorado.gov/apps/cdhs/dva)

### Domestic Abuse Fund

[www.domesticabusefund.org/](http://www.domesticabusefund.org/)

## STATEWIDE RESOURCES:

### Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

(303) 831-9632  
1 (888) 778-7091  
[www.ccadv.org](http://www.ccadv.org)

### Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance

(303) 861-1160  
1 (800) 261-2682  
[www.coloradocrimevictims.org](http://www.coloradocrimevictims.org)

### Division of Criminal Justice

(303) 239-4442  
1 (800) 201-1325  
<http://dcj.state.co.us>

### Domestic Violence Offender Management Board

303-239-4442  
[www.dcj.state.co.us/odvsom/Domestic\\_Violence/](http://www.dcj.state.co.us/odvsom/Domestic_Violence/)

### Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

303-861-7033  
<http://ccasa.org/>

## NATIONAL RESOURCES:

### National Domestic Violence Hotline

1 (800) 799-7233 / 1 (800) 787-3224 (TTY)  
[www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)

### National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline

1 (866) 331-9474 / 1 (866) 331-8453 TTY  
[www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

### Family Violence Prevention Fund

[www.endabuse.org](http://www.endabuse.org)

### National Latino Alliance for the Elimination of Domestic Violence

[www.dvalianza.org](http://www.dvalianza.org)

### National Network to End Domestic Violence

[www.nnedv.org](http://www.nnedv.org)

### National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

[www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org)