

2013

Annual Report

Colorado Department of Human Services
Domestic Violence Program





September 9, 2014

Dear CDHS Stakeholders,

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP) of the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families is pleased to present the Domestic Violence Program 2013 Annual Report.

In 2013, DVP administered funds to 46 domestic violence programs. These programs are located throughout the state and represent urban and rural services, residential and non-residential services, and general and specialized services. Programs provide crisis intervention, advocacy, and other supportive services for victims as well as community education and prevention efforts. In this report, you will find stories from centers that demonstrate how they, DVP, and our collaborative partners are generating positive outcomes for families overcoming the consequences of domestic violence.

The year also marked some changes for DVP. We moved to a two-year grant cycle to reduce the burden of applying every year for programs and DVP Director, Ruth Glenn, retired. Ruth served as DVP's director for the past nine years and was a dedicated state employee for 28 years. We continue to value the service and commitment she provided to DVP and its programs over the years.

Over the next year, the State of Colorado, as well as DVP will be looking to better measure outcomes for victims of domestic violence and work to identify gaps that present barriers to improving their lives in a meaningful way. While our priority is to provide resources and funding to local domestic violence programs, DVP will be putting even more emphasis on working collaboratively with other state, county and non-profit entities throughout Colorado to ensure that victims of domestic violence and their families are able to receive the quality services they need and deserve. In addition, we will be pursuing a renewed focus on prevention and awareness.

We hope that this information, along with the data provided, will prove not only useful, but offer further evidence and inspiration that we are moving toward a Colorado in which families and children are free from domestic violence.

Reggie Bicha
Executive Director, CDHS

Julie Krow
Director, OCYF

Erin C. Mewhinney
Director, DVP



Acknowledgements

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP) located in the Colorado Department of Human Services, would like to thank all domestic violence program staff working in community-based programs throughout the state of Colorado for their tireless efforts to assist victims and their families in their work to end domestic violence. Quotations provided in this report are verbatim responses from these programs and the survivors who received support.

DVP also acknowledges the wonderful community members and program staff who volunteer their time to participate on the Advisory Committee and Funding Recommendation Committee to ensure transparency, equity and accountability.



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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	1
Introduction	3
In Her Own Words	4
State Domestic Violence Program	5
Funding Sources	5
Governance	6
2013 Activities	7
Site Visits	7
Collaborations	7
Special Projects: Training and Technical Assistance	9
Domestic Violence Services in Colorado	10
Profile of Funded Programs	10
General Services	10
Residential Services	10
Children's Programs	11
Advocacy	11
Youth Services	11
Community Education and Awareness	11
Volunteers	11
DVP-Funded Program Data	12
Crisis Intervention Phone Calls	12
Demographics of Survivors Served by Funded Programs	14
Growing Needs, Innovative Strategies	15
Strong Collaborations	15
Unique Initiatives	16
Increasing Needs, Limited Resources	17
Unmet Shelter Requests	17
Lack of Safe, Supportive and Affordable Housing	17
Lack of Affordable Legal Services	17
Transportation	18
Other Unmet Needs	18
Impact of the Work: Outcome Measures	19
Information and Resources	20



Introduction

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP) of the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) 2013 Annual Report provides comprehensive information on efforts to respond to individuals and families impacted by domestic violence. Additionally, this report includes the type of services survivors received, how many survivors received services, and the funding that is provided to ensure this service delivery.

DVP provides funding for community-based domestic violence programs throughout the state of Colorado. These programs save lives by providing 24-hour crisis lines, safe shelter, empowerment-based advocacy, information and referrals to community resources, and community education on the impact that domestic violence has on the lives of survivors and their families.

Beyond funding domestic violence programs, DVP strives to collaborate with other governmental agencies and the community in order to provide expertise in domestic violence and make available the best possible interventions for victims across all systems and communities. Continuing to assess how to end domestic violence and develop plans for this effort is critical to providing the most effective services and best outcomes for Colorado citizens, now and in the future.

We are fortunate in Colorado to have communities that recognize the importance of this issue, a State government that values safe families and communities, and impassioned and creative people leading the charge to foster a Colorado free of domestic violence. This report highlights the work of domestic violence programs funded by DVP as well as the work done by DVP in the past year.

In October 2013, DVP said good-bye to long-time Director, Ruth M. Glenn. Ruth had served the Colorado Department of Human Services for 28 years, of which the last nine were spent leading DVP. During her years with DVP, Ruth helped to develop the Governor's Executive Order on Workplace Violence which included domestic violence; co-chaired the Governor's Child Welfare Action Committee; co-chaired the State Domestic Violence Coordinating Council; and co-founded the State Domestic Violence / Child Welfare Coordinating Council.

Erin C. Mewhinney was named the new DVP Director in January 2014. With more than 10 years of experience in program management, foundation development, community outreach, and policy analysis, Erin brings a wealth of talent to DVP and the State of Colorado.



DVP Staff in 2013 (from left to right): Shelly Marquez, Ruth Glenn, Brooke Ely-Milen, Chelsea Baldwin

DVP Director,
Erin C. Mewhinney



In Her Own Words

Life Changing

"I remember at the beginning...we were in love and I felt so accepted in every way. He was supportive and gentle. Gradually, he let me know that he would only stay with me and be faithful to me as long as I would meet his needs..."

I learned that it wasn't that the physical violence was always often... just often enough. Sometimes he would follow me and threaten me, other times, he would shut down, avoid, and totally abandon me... He said he was trained to kill and he would. Once that kind of fear is instilled, you forget reality, what's rational, and choice. You start to see only fear and survival.

I am a smart person. I am analytically minded. I am intelligent. However, when you have someone messing with the very reality that you are living in day after day, you don't know what's safe or what's real anymore. You become addicted to the complex process of simple survival. I remember journaling to identify that my situation was abusive and not acceptable.

I am thankful for the process, intervention, therapy and Alternatives to Violence; their services have truly changed my life."

~ **Survivor at Alternatives to Violence, Larimer County**

*"I am a smart person. I am analytically minded. I am **intelligent**. However, when you have someone messing with the very reality that you are living in day after day, **you don't know what's safe or what's real anymore.**"*

Not the Only One

"The day I came to TESSA I was in a real fog. It felt like everything that had occurred that day was a dream. I had been scared of my husband before; I had even been hit before. But this time I was not expecting this to happen since I believed that he had made strides to do better because he had learned a lot of self-help techniques. So when he blew up and hit me; I was in real shock and disbelief.

Everyone right away was very kind and I soon made friends. It was so wonderful to be able to come to a place that I knew that my son and I would be safe.

My son really benefited from the counseling he received from the girls that work with the kids, and from the friends that he made while he was here. We especially enjoyed the Family Fun Day, as well as the trip to the Penrose Fountain. The best thing that has happened is that he has started to learn how to deal with his anger at his dad; now that he feels safe.

*"...Just talking to and getting to know **other women who have been in the same circumstances** as me was so encouraging! I discovered that **I am not the only one** who has stayed in the relationship..."*

Also I owe much gratitude to my counselor, who was just a listening ear when I needed one, and has helped me to learn to deal with all my anger issues. The DOVE sessions, the Women's group sessions, and just talking to and getting to know other women who have been in the same circumstances as me was so encouraging! I discovered that I am not the only one who has stayed in the relationship..."

~ **Survivor at TESSA, El Paso County**



Colorado Department of Human Services Domestic Violence Program

In 1983, the Colorado General Assembly created the Domestic Violence Program (DVP) (formerly the Domestic Abuse Assistance Program). DVP is the sole government entity dedicated entirely to funding and sustaining community-based domestic violence programs across the state. DVP oversees approximately \$3 million annually in revenue from several sources.

Funding Sources

DVP funding is a compilation of five diverse sources. The funding is pooled and distributed through a grant application process to Colorado's domestic violence programs.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act

Beginning in 1984, 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 programs and projects to prevent family violence and to provide immediate shelter and related assistance to victims of family violence and their dependents. These funds go directly to programs and provide training and education for workers across Colorado.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Starting in 2004, additional funding for programs 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.

Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund

Colorado taxpayers elected to make donations through their state income tax refunds to the Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund in 1983. Each year, DVP distributes these funds to support domestic violence programs.

Marriage and Civil Union Licenses and Divorce Filing Fees

Beginning in 2009, \$20 of the fees collected from marriage licenses and \$5 from each divorce filing are directed to DVP for the distribution to domestic violence programs.

Heirloom Marriage Certificates

In 2008, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) began issuing heirloom marriage certificates. \$10 of the \$50 fee for each heirloom certificate issued is collected by DVP.

Funding Source Amounts for 2013

Family Violence and Prevention Services Act	\$1,548,967
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	\$629,677
Cash Fund	
Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund	\$140,644
Marriage License & Civil Union Fees	\$768,751
Divorce Filing Fees	\$156,629
Heirloom Marriage Certificates	\$770
TOTAL	\$3,245,438



Governance

DVP is governed by two separate committees; the **Funding Recommendation Committee** and the **Advisory Committee**. The Funding Recommendation Committee is responsible for reviewing all applications for funding and making recommendations to CDHS for distribution of funds. Membership in 2013 included:

Member Name	Affiliation
Andrew Aldis	Colorado Department of Human Services, Aging and Adult Services
Rich Batten	Public Strategies
Mary Pat Bowen	Park County Sheriff's Office Victim Services
Shannon Breitzman	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Injury, Suicide, & Violence Prevention Unit
Mary Clair	Colorado Department of Human Services, Child Support Enforcement
John Cogley	Cogley & Associates
Elizabeth Collins	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Rob Gallup	Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice
Sterling Harris	Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance
Erin Jemison	Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Linda Johnston	Ending Violence Against Women Project
Denise Kay	Employment Practice Solutions
Alisa Marlatt	Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare
Andy Martin	Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Victim Services
Jean McAllister	Colorado Department of Human Services, Boards and Commissions
Jan Mickish	Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Employment and Benefits
Judy Page	Colorado Attorney General's Office
Ruth Ann Russell	Retired Executive Director of Family Tree
Ellen Stein-Wallace	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Lisa Teesch-Maguire	18 th JD Attorney's Office
Ronnie Weiss	The Conflict Center

The Advisory Committee meets monthly to provide insight, direction, and monitoring to DVP. Membership in 2013 included:

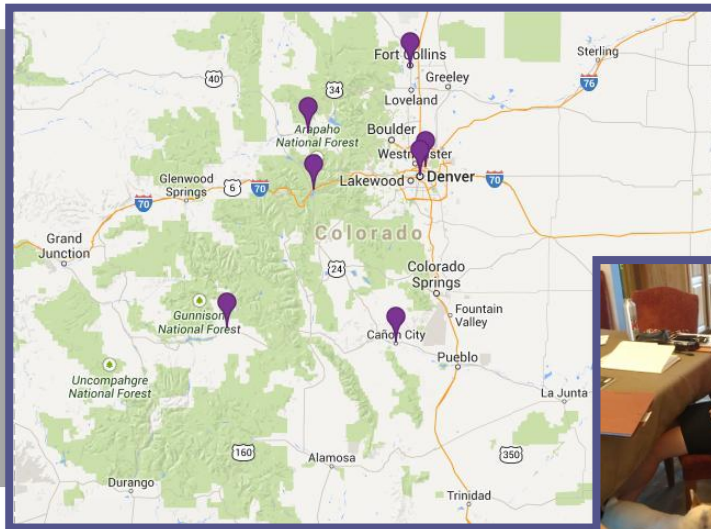
Member Name	Affiliation
Mary Clair	Colorado Department of Human Services, Child Support Enforcement
Adam Evans	Project PAVE
Elizabeth Kelly	Colorado Department of Human Services, Aging and Adult Services
Cindy Lau	YWCA of Pueblo
Kenya Lyons	Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice
Alisa Marlatt	Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare
Jan Mickish	Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Employment and Benefits
Lotte Muster	A Woman's Place
Ellen Stein-Wallace	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Samantha Thomas	Domestic Violence Initiatives
Denise Washington	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Betty Wytias	Colorado Attorney General's Office

2013 DVP Activities

Site Visits

DVP conducted 8 site visits of the 46 funded programs (shown below). These site visits are meant to assess needs, monitor for compliance, and provide relevant technical assistance. Site visits provide an opportunity for mutual learning, open discussion, identification of gaps and needs for a particular community, and to showcase successes and unique program components.

Program Name	Location
Advocates for Victims of Assault	Summit County
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Grand County
Alternatives to Family Violence	Adams County
Crossroads Safehouse	Larimer County
Denver Center for Crime Victims	Denver County
Family Crisis Services	Fremont County
Gunnison/Hinsdale Confidential Advocacy Center	Gunnison County
SafeHouse Denver	Denver County



Site visits conducted by DVP in 2013.



Brooke Ely-Milen, DVP Specialist, visiting Advocates Victim Assistance Team in Grand County.

DVP Collaborations

State Domestic Violence Coordinating Council

The State Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) is a joint initiative of the Department of Public Safety Domestic Violence Offender Management Board (DVOMB) and the Department of Human Services Domestic Violence Program (DVP) with a clear goal of working collaboratively to identify and coordinate existing state domestic violence-related programs and services. Critical components of the council include offender and victim issues, identification of gaps, shared ideas, and improved communication between departments. In 2013, the DVCC created and disseminated a Domestic Violence Tool-Kit for State employees that identified resources for supervisors, co-workers and others to support victims of domestic violence.





Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

DVP works closely with the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), the statewide membership organization for domestic violence programs. DVP and CCADV share information and collaborate to ensure that domestic violence programs are efficiently and effectively provided with essential, current and timely information.

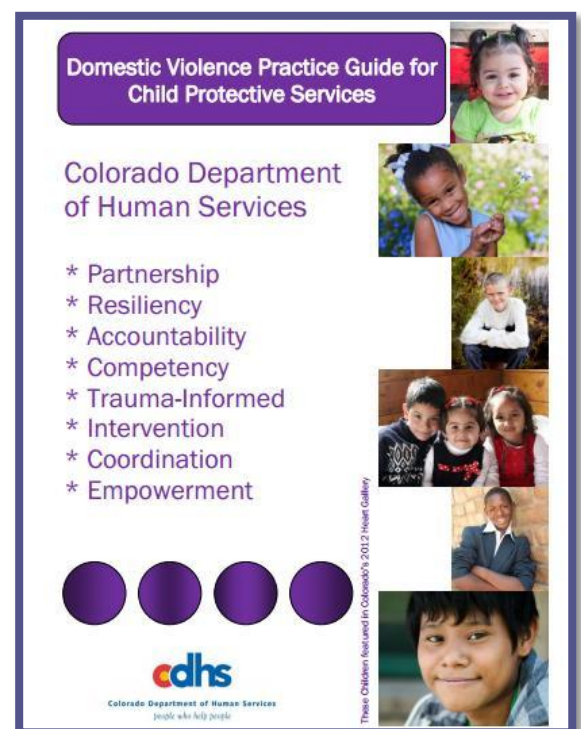
CCADV serves on the DVP Advisory Committee and the Funding Recommendation Committee while DVP sits on the CCADV Public Policy Committee.

The Domestic Violence and Child Protection Services Coordinating Council

The Coordinating Council is a collaboration of stakeholders in the areas of domestic violence and child protection with the purpose of supporting agency coordination to enhance the safety and services to families who are impacted by both domestic violence and child maltreatment. The Coordinating Council is comprised of state and county staff, system and non-governmental advocates, and other stakeholders. Staff from DVP and Child Protection Services co-chair the council. In 2013, the Coordinating Council released the "Domestic Violence Practice Guide for Child Protection Services" and provided eight trainings to approximately 200 county workers on the guide in the following six counties: Arapahoe, Jefferson, Routt, Mesa, Weld and Denver.

Colorado Parent Employment Project

In an effort to engage and involve low-income noncustodial parents who are behind in child support payments, the national Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) has provided funding to child support agencies in eight states to link these parents with employment services. As part of this demonstration project, the Colorado Department of Human Services Child Support Services Division (CSS) developed the Colorado Parent Employment Project (CO-PEP). DVP collaborated with CSS and provided CO-PEP managers and case workers with knowledge and tools regarding how to recognize and intervene in cases or issues of domestic violence. DVP's goal is to bring about heightened awareness and community involvement around domestic violence through a comprehensive strategy that includes: intensive training of CSS staff; the development of domestic violence protocols and screening; conducting project site visits; fostering community relations with local domestic violence victim services and treatment providers; and providing technical assistance. .



Special Projects: Training and Technical Assistance

DVP-funded programs have access to various resources to support their work efforts to empower victims of domestic violence and raise awareness of domestic violence in Colorado. These services were funded by DVP through the Special Projects Grant for a total of \$114,661.

Vital Project

Two programs came together to form the Vital Project – Mission Spark, LLC and the Center on Domestic Violence at the University of Colorado, Denver. The purpose of the Vital Project was to build domestic violence program management and operational capacity through technical assistance and professional development opportunities designed to meet the current and emerging needs of local programs. An array of delivery methods were offered including on-line toolkits, in-person specialized technical assistance, webinars, and formal class work at the University of Colorado Denver for the Certified Public Manager Program at the School of Public Affairs. More than 30 funded programs accessed services from Vital Project. According to Vital, 75% of participants reported greater ability to confront and solve management and other administrative challenges occurring in their organizations.

Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The mission of Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is to inspire Colorado to end domestic violence. CCADV provides training and technical assistance to their member domestic violence programs across the state, creates change at the state and local level through our collective voice, and engages all Coloradans in the work to end violence.

DVP provided funding to sponsor the Colorado Advocacy in Action Conference co-presented by CCADV and the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CCASA). The conference was held June 9-12, 2013. CCADV and CCASA hosted 175 official registrants (including staff and presenters) over the three days of the conference. The conference included 29 workshops, plus a keynote presentation by Debbie Tucker, Executive Director of the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence and founding Chair of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, a plenary session by Tonier Cain, team leader for the National Center for Trauma-Informed Care, CEO and founder of Healing Neen, and a film screening of *Healing Neen*.



“The results of client satisfaction surveys indicate that all *Vital* services provided by the Center were **successful in building management capacity** among participants. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and organizations were well-served.”

~ Center on Domestic Violence, University of Colorado Denver

Domestic Violence Services in Colorado

All DVP-funded programs provide confidential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via crisis lines or Memorandum of Understandings to coordinate services with other DVP-funded programs. The services listed below are representative of the wide array of services provided by domestic violence programs funded by DVP.

Profile of Funded Programs

Table 1 below includes an overview of the funded programs.

Table 1: Profile of DVP-Funded Programs

Service Region Type		
Urban	12	26.1%
Suburban	6	13.0%
Rural	22	47.9%
Remote Rural	6	13.0%
Number of Staff		
2-5	18	39.1%
6-10	12	26.1%
11-20	8	17.4%
21-50	8	17.4%
Budget Size		
Less than \$100,000	5	10.9%
\$100,001 - \$199,999	10	21.7%
\$200,000 - \$499,999	17	37.0%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	9	19.5%
\$1,000,000 or more	5	10.9%



Gunnison, CO

General Services

DVP-funded programs offer supportive services to survivors in crisis as well as those in need of long-term support. These services include safety planning, support groups, counseling, case management, transportation, and information and referrals.

Residential Services

Many DVP-funded programs have residential shelters where survivors and their children can stay while receiving supportive advocacy. Shelter stays are usually around 45 days, but can be as long as 120 days depending on need and availability. Several programs offer transitional housing where victims and their dependents can stay for up to two years. Many domestic violence programs without a shelter or transitional housing are able to provide alternative short-term safe housing options, such as motel vouchers.



Advocates Victim Assistance Team, Grand County

Children's Programs

DVP-funded programs offer a variety of children's programming such as group support, safety planning, healthy communication, skill building, and recreational activities. Some programs also offer parenting skills classes. Child care is usually available for survivors who are attending support groups.



Family Crisis Services,
Fremont County

Advocacy

Court-based advocacy, such as accompaniment to hearings for civil orders of protection, are widely available through DVP-funded

programs across Colorado. 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 survivors access resources and services such as victim compensation, affordable housing, food assistance, and other community supports.



Advocates for Victims of Assault,
Summit County

Youth Services

Teen dating violence education services are available in many DVP-funded programs. These programs collaborate with local schools to promote healthy relationships and education for teens to recognize the signs of abusive relationships, learn how to safety plan, and how to access resources.

Community Education and Awareness

DVP-funded program staff frequently address community groups about domestic violence and available services. Audiences include churches, health care systems, social services, businesses, law enforcement, judicial, civic groups, fatherhood programs, and others interested in learning more about the dynamics and prevention of domestic violence.

DVP-funded programs provided educational presentations and awareness activities to a broad range of churches, civic groups, governmental agencies, businesses and schools. In 2013, DVP-funded programs provided 1,941 community presentations to 58,835 individuals. Additionally, programs provided 1,662 targeted presentations to 30,622 youth. DVP-funded programs also engaged in 674 community awareness activities throughout the state of Colorado.

"[We are] able to provide trainings to law enforcement agencies and other crisis stakeholders to educate on domestic violence and its effects within a community. The DVP funded positions provide **outreach services to the smaller rural communities** in Routt County that includes presentations, work[ing] with the three school districts, and as needed, respond[ing] to those communities for direct services."

~ Advocates Against Battering & Abuse
Routt County

Volunteers

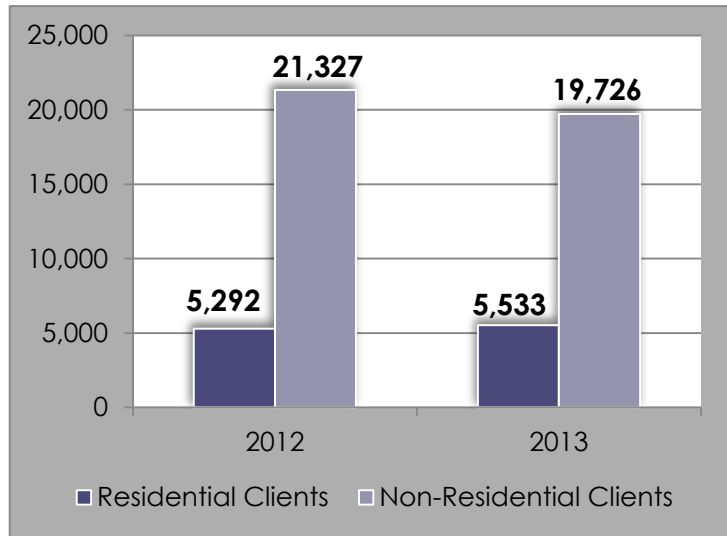
The dedication of community members and their commitment to ending domestic violence in their communities can be found in the devoted volunteers. Last year, 3,920 volunteers spent 303,146 hours providing support to DVP-funded programs. Volunteer activities ranged from contributions as board members, crisis line workers, providing child care, facilities management, and myriad other positions.



DVP-Funded Program Data

In 2013, DVP administered funds to 46 domestic violence programs throughout the state of Colorado. Those funded programs served a total of 25,259 survivors of domestic violence and their families (Graph 1). The programs also housed 62 pets the families brought with them. Residential programs provided a total of 121,050 nights of shelter.

Graph 1: Survivors Served by Type of Service



"After my assault, I felt alone and alienated. My entire world was turned upside down. I was devastated, hurt and scared. **It was hard for me to seek help from friends or family.** RESPONSE immediately came to offer their support and guidance. Without team of dedicated professionals, I would not have been able to deal with the trauma, pay the medical bills, and heal. RESPONSE is an indispensable part of our community."
 ~ RESPONSE survivor, Pitkin County

Crisis Intervention Phone Calls

Crisis lines serve as a first point (and often the only point) of contact for many survivors. This free and confidential emergency service is available to victims 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Staff and volunteers in the programs are able to provide advocacy, information, referrals, and support to survivors and their families.

In 2013, DVP-funded programs answered 67,398 emergency crisis intervention phone calls, an increase of 5.6% over 2012. Graph 2 illustrates the continuing trend of victims increasing reliance on this critical service over the years.

Graph 2: Crisis Intervention Phone Calls by Year

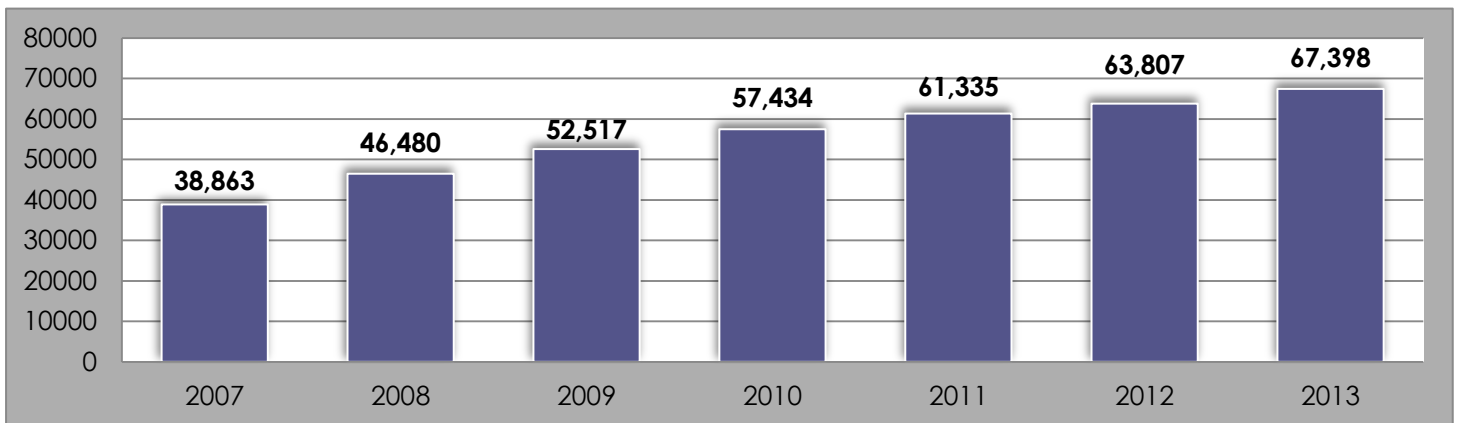


Table 2: Numbers Served by Program

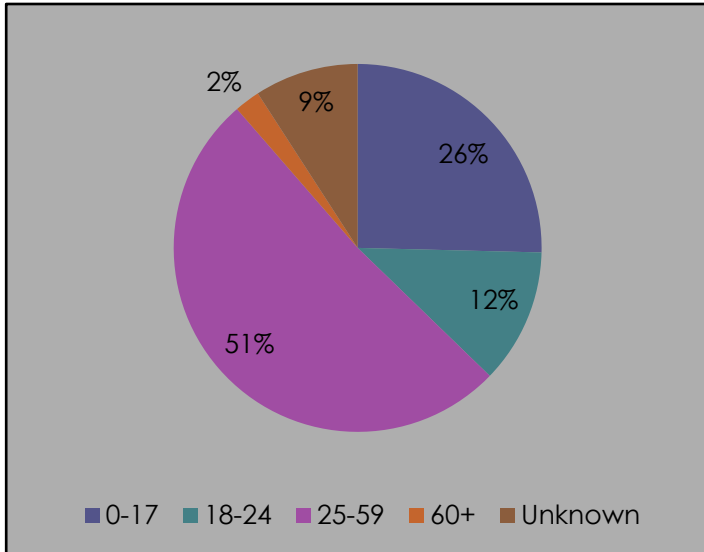
Program Name	County	Crisis Intervention Calls	Victims Served
A Woman's Place, Inc.	Weld	488	382
Advocate Safehouse Project	Garfield	194	358
Advocates - Crisis Support Services	Moffat	182	169
Advocates Against Battering & Abuse	Routt	179	368
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Las Animas	330	250
Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc.	Summit	327	180
Advocates of Lake County	Lake	155	278
Advocates Vicim Assistance Team	Grand	150	270
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Chaffee	162	219
Alternative Horizons	La Plata	431	764
Alternatives to Family Violence	Adams	5,811	1,768
Alternatives to Violence, Inc.	Larimer	270	424
Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program	Archuleta	119	287
Arkansas Valley Resource Center, Inc.	Otero	664	228
Asian Pacific Development Center	Denver	14	184
Bright Future Foundation	Eagle	287	627
Center on Domestic Violence/Phoenix Center (UCD)	Denver	70	58
Clear Creek County Advocates	Clear Creek	247	207
Colorado Anti-Violence Program	Denver	126	85
Crossroads	Larimer	126	1,630
Denver Center for Crime Victims	Denver	3,327	446
Domestic Violence Initiatives for Women with Disabilities	Denver	3,322	358
Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment (DOVE)	Denver	197	152
Estes Valley Victim Advocates	Larimer	14	147
Family Crisis Services*	Fremont	609	195
Family Tree, Inc.	Jefferson	2,724	1,459
Gateway Battered Women's Services	Arapahoe	6,299	2,294
Gunnison/Hinsdale Confidential Advocacy Center	Gunnison	64	84
Help for Abused Partners	Logan	98	460
Latimer House	Mesa	1,859	552
PeaceWorks, Inc.	Park	121	94
Project PAVE	Denver	25	244
Renew, Inc.	Montezuma	1,372	592
RESPONSE	Pitkin	150	224
S.H.A.R.E., Inc.	Morgan	160	385
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley	Boulder	1,599	480
Safehouse Denver	Denver	13,407	1,137
Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence	Boulder	7,973	2,416
San Miguel Resource Center	San Miguel	113	181
Servicios de la Raza	Denver	164	260
TESSA	El Paso	1,731	1,984
Tri-County Resources	Montrose	1,120	205
Tu Casa, Inc.	Alamosa	14	329
Volunteers of America, Southwest Safehouse	La Plata	704	305
Women's Crisis & Family Outreach Center	Douglas	7,289	1,051
YWCA of Pueblo	Pueblo	1,365	495
TOTALS		67,398	25,259

*Family Crisis Services funded for three quarters of 2013.

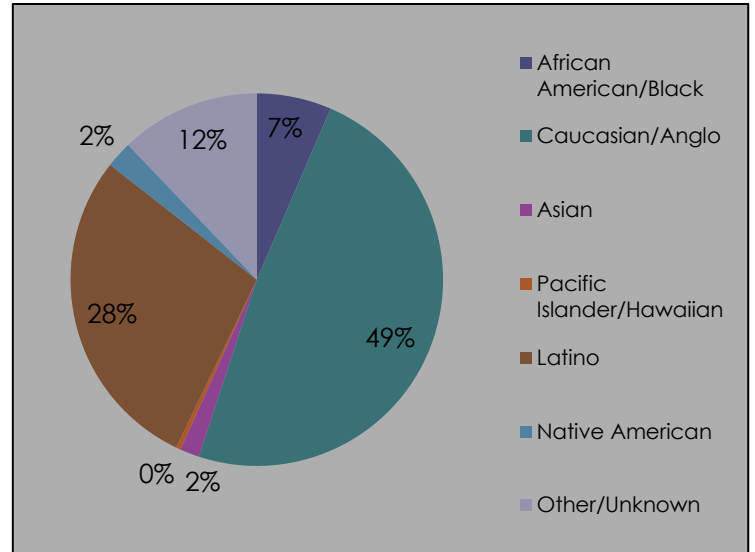
Demographics of Survivors in DVP-Funded Programs

Domestic violence impacts all communities in a variety of ways. Domestic violence does not discriminate – people from any geographic location, ethnicity, race, age group, socioeconomic status, education level, country of origin, sexual orientation, or gender can experience abuse. Graph 3 and 4 illustrate the diversity of survivors touched by domestic violence that sought and received services by DVP-funded programs.

Graph 3: Age of Survivors

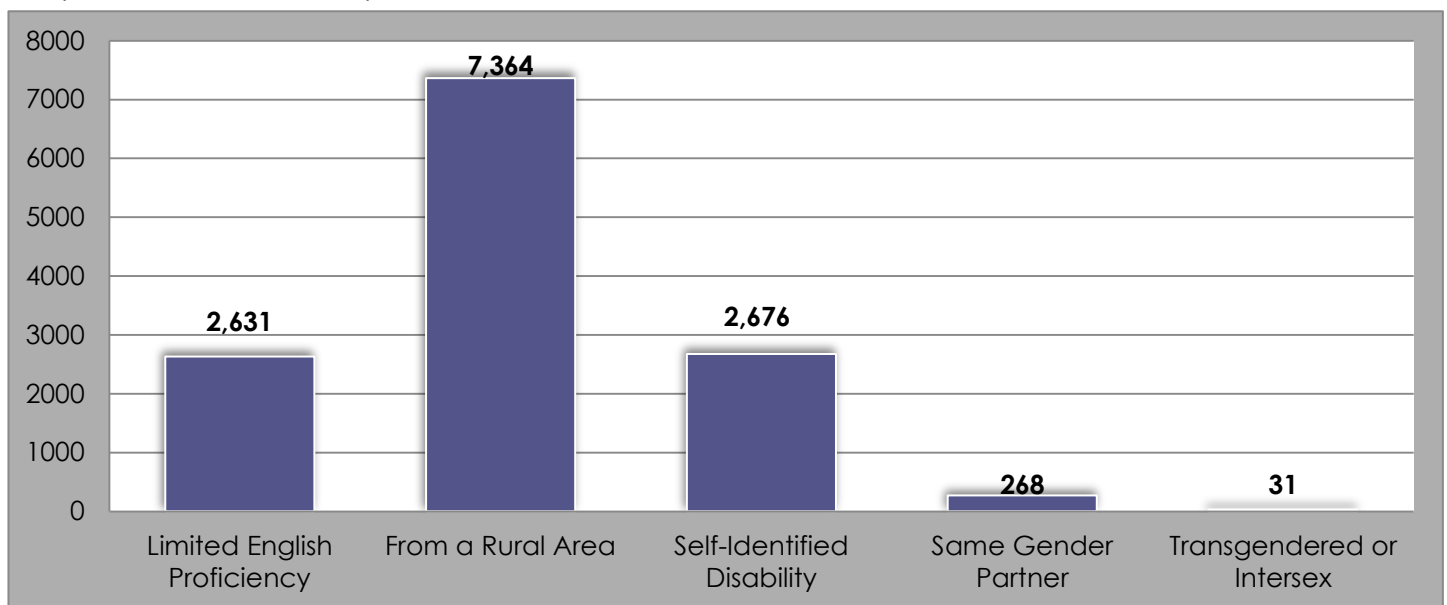


Graph 4: Race/Ethnicity of Survivors



DVP-funded programs provide services for a variety of underserved populations. Some struggle with the English language, live in a rural area or identify as living with a disability. Survivors may also identify as gay or lesbian, transgendered, or intersex. Graph 5 indicates the number of survivors who received services who identify as one (or more) of these underserved populations.

Graph 5: Underserved Populations



Growing Needs, Innovative Strategies

Domestic violence programs throughout the state are dedicated to providing relevant and innovative strategies to meet the growing and changing needs of survivors in their communities. This includes strong collaborations and unique initiatives by programs and the communities that help strengthen services for survivors.

Strong Collaborations

“PAVE is proud to be in the planning phase of Mile High STRIVE, a new three-year collaborative funded by the [US Department of Justice's] Office of Violence Against Women. This collaborative is specifically designed to bring together victim serving organizations... with a peace and justice education organization (The Conflict Center), a university (University of Colorado at Denver's Center on Domestic Violence), and schools (East High School, Morey Middle School, Whittier ECE-8 School, Moore ECE-8 School). The goals of the collaborative are to **improve knowledge of [domestic violence and teen dating violence] dynamics** among parents, teachers, professionals, and students; **improve procedures** to assist with victims of DV and TDV in the school environment, **promote healthy relationships** and positive decision-making, and **provide effective advocacy** and therapy for victims of DV and TDV in school.”

~ Project PAVE, Denver County

“The Alliance Against Domestic Abuse (AADA) does not have the financial resources to have a therapist on staff, but we saw a **significant need for mental health treatment** for both our adult and child/youth clients. AADA's Executive Director contacted our local community mental health center, West Central Mental Health (WCMH), to collaborate and brainstorm to best meet the needs of survivors in our community. Through this contact, the two agencies developed a strong collaboration in which a therapist from West Central Mental Health came to the AADA office once a week to meet with survivors through a co-location model. The two agencies worked through the confidentiality issues and began meeting clients 'where they were at' both emotionally and physically. This took away the barrier of making a referral, expecting the survivor to drive to another agency across town, complete the intake process and begin working on difficult issues alone... We have now expanded this model to include private therapists working with children at our agency.”

~ Alliance Against Domestic Abuse, Chaffee County

“The two agencies developed a strong collaboration in which a therapist from West Central Mental Health came to the AADA office once per week to meet with survivors through a co-location model.”

~ Alliance Against Domestic Abuse, Chaffee County

“Beginning in November 2012, DV Court was created as the only specialized, problem solving court specific to misdemeanor domestic violence cases in the state of Colorado. A TESSA Advocate **works with the victim in the case to determine and advocate for their needs**. This court gives offenders an opportunity to receive counseling with an offender treatment provider, intensive probation, and regular check-ins to ensure success and more importantly stop the cycle of violence. This program has a minimum one year participation goal and so far two people have made it to the third and final phase. Currently, there are close to 25 victims our advocate works closely with, ensuring their needs are met and voices are heard.”

~ TESSA, El Paso County



Unique Initiatives

"The child and family advocate... has **convened community partners to establish a crisis nursery**, where children can receive temporary care away from the adult settings of domestic violence response – court, social services, mental and medical care, and law enforcement. The broad-based community team confirmed the need for this service, identified a location, and continues to build the plan for funding, staffing, policies and procedures."

~ Advocates Crisis Support Services, Moffat County

"The Denver area has an **emerging movement to improve services to [human] trafficking victims**. Mi Gente staff has attended all quarterly meetings of DATA (Denver Anti Trafficking Alliance.) There has been collaboration between agencies to provide services to victims of trafficking and to give referrals to appropriate agencies."

~ Mi Gente / Denver Center for Crime Victims, Denver County

"Latimer House is holding group sessions at Mesa County Workforce Center as part of a co-location project. The co-location domestic violence therapist at the workforce center has taken an active role in advocating and educating agency staff.. She has built relationships with staff who now call and consult concerning individuals and review case plans. Having a credible person as a domestic violence expert who staff trusts **enhances the current level of service provided to domestic violence clients**. The domestic violence group is held weekly and co-facilitated by the [Workforce Center] therapist and Latimer House case manager. The purpose is to build a bridge – connecting Mesa County Workforce Center clients to Latimer House services."

~ Latimer House, Mesa County

"The child and family advocate... has **convened community partners to establish a crisis nursery**, where children can receive temporary care away from the "adult settings" of domestic violence response."

~ Advocates Crisis Support Services, Moffat County



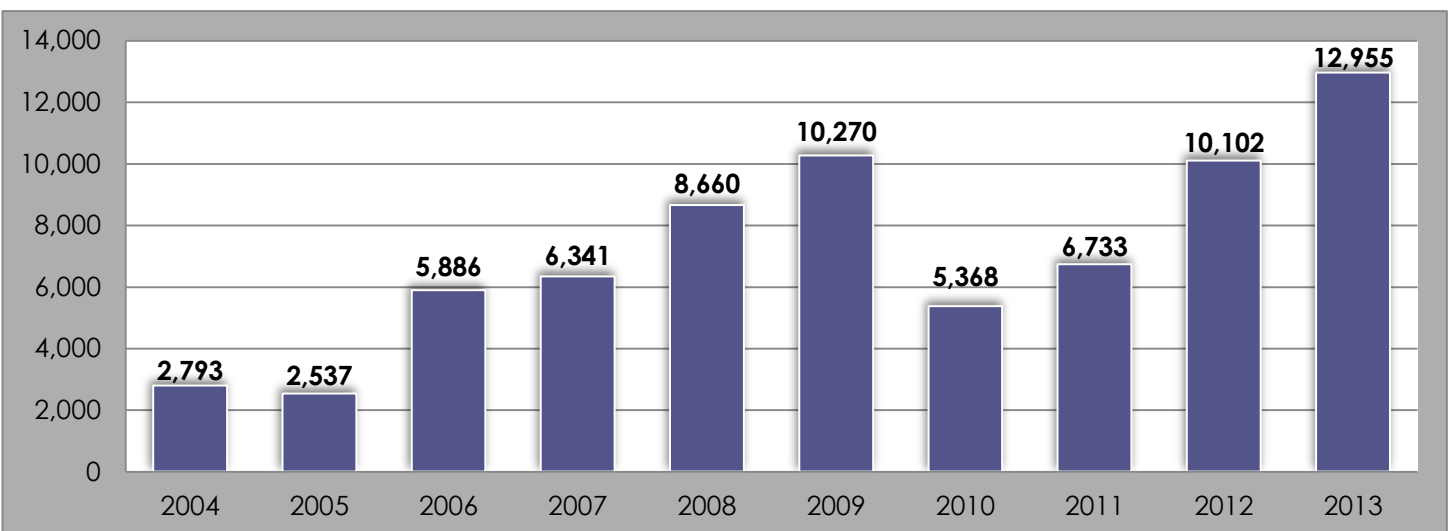
Increasing Needs, Limited Resources

Each year, programs respond to a series of narrative questions put forth by DVP. The information provided gives insight into trends, needs and issues facing programs across the state. This year, the most identified needs recognized by DVP-funded programs included the need for safe, supportive and affordable housing; affordable legal services; and transportation. Additionally, DVP collects information regarding unmet requests for shelter to better understand the reasons why a person may be seeking services and what other services may be needed in the community.

Unmet Requests for Shelter

As Graph 6 indicates, there were 12,955 individuals who were turned away from shelters in 2013 due to lack of capacity. This was a 28 percent increase over the previous year. All residential programs refer individuals and families to other services if they are unable to accommodate in the shelter including providing motel vouchers and referring to other domestic violence programs.

Graph 6: Unmet Requests for Shelter by Year



Lack of Safe, Supportive and Affordable Housing

Of the 46 funded programs, 59 percent indicated that their community has a pressing need for safe, supportive and affordable housing for victims and their children. This includes the need for transitional housing, Section 8 housing, and other long-term housing options.

Lack of Affordable Legal Services

Often, victims must face the legal system in some way while in an abusive relationship or leaving one. Approximately 20 percent of programs identified the need for legal services in their community. Specifically, victims are in need of legal assistance with civil court matters such as protection orders, dissolution of marriage, allocation of parental responsibilities, and post-decree services. Additionally, victims require help navigating the often confusing criminal court process. From arrest to probation – victims deserve to know about their rights and options.

DVP continues to seek ways to best support these services and work with community partners to fill gaps in services for survivors and their families.



Transportation

Access to transportation is a necessity for a victim to access community resources and plan for safety. More than 28 percent of programs indicated that there is a significant lack of transportation in their community. Transportation can help a victim look for employment, take children to child care facilities, attend health appointments, and create a sense of independence and self-sufficiency.

Other Unmet Needs

While housing, legal services, and transportation were the most commonly identified unmet needs; DVP-funded programs also identified the following as significant needs in their community:

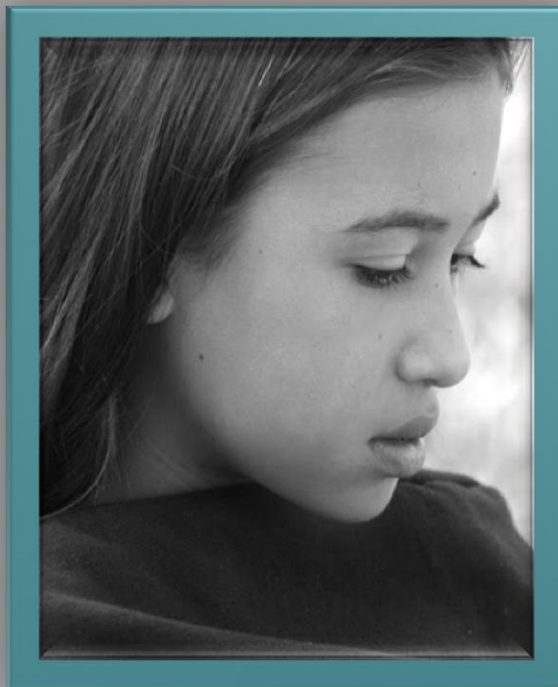
- Employment/Jobs
- Medical Services
- Mental Health Treatment
- Child Care
- Supervised Visitation
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Emergency Shelter
- Financial Assistance
- Youth Services
- Pet Services (including shelter)
- Language Services
- Outreach to Remote Rural Areas
- Training and Education for Law Enforcement

DVP continues to seek ways to best support programs and work with community partners to fill gaps in services for survivors and their families.

“Clients come to us after leaving an abusive situation and do not have any place to live.

Although we work very hard to find them housing, we are only able to do so much and the **clients often become frustrated and will return to their abusers** just so they can have a place to live.”

~ Gunnison/Hinsdale Confidential Advocacy Center, Gunnison County



“Public transportation is not available, **creating safety concerns** when a victim has to walk to work or [child] care.”

~ Advocates Against Domestic Assault, Las Animas County



Impact of the Work: Outcome Measures

DVP-funded programs tracked two specific outcome measures to evaluate the impact their services had on the lives of victims (Table 3). These outcome measurements are driven by requirements from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Domestic violence programs randomly sample victims and ask them to evaluate their experiences with shelter, advocacy and supportive services, individual counseling, and group counseling. Victims are asked to identify if the service they received “increased their strategies for enhancing their safety” and if they “increased their knowledge of 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 of victims. A minimum target of 65 percent positive response was established by FVPSA as a goal. Through its performance management strategy, C-Stat, CDHS set a goal of **90 percent** for DVP-funded programs as programs have consistently exceeded the FVPSA goal over the years.

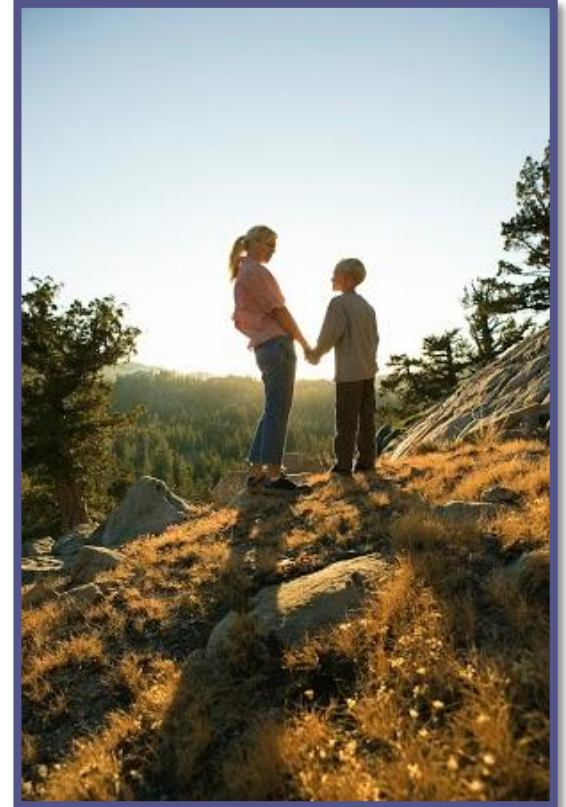


Table 3: Outcome Measures

Service Area	The percentage of survivors who reported having increased their strategies for enhancing their safety	The percentage of survivors who reported having increased their knowledge of available community resources
Residential (Shelter) N = 1,222	92.80%	92.47%
Non-Residential Supportive Services/Advocacy N = 3,153	95.43%	94.61%
Non-Residential Individual Counseling N = 1,751	95.72%	94.12%
Non-Residential Group Support N = 1,702	95.48%	94.07%



Information and Resources

Contact DVP

Domestic Violence Program (DVP)**Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families**

1575 Sherman Street, 2nd Floor
Denver, CO 80203

Phone: (303) 866-3150

DVP Website

www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp

Domestic Abuse Fund Website

www.domesticabusefund.org/

Statewide Resources

Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

(303) 831-9632
1(888) 778-7091

www.ccadv.org

Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance

(303) 861-1160
1(800) 261-2682

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/

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

National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline

1(866) 331-9474
1(866) 331-8453 TTY

www.loveisrespect.org

Family Violence Prevention Fund

www.endabuse.org

National Latino Alliance for the Elimination of Domestic Violence

www.dvalianza.org

National Network to End Domestic Violence

www.nnedv.org

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

www.ncadv.org

For more information contact:

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