

2016

DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE  
PROGRAM  
ANNUAL REPORT



**COLORADO**  
Office of Children,  
Youth & Families  
Domestic Violence Program

OCTOBER 2015 -  
SEPTEMBER 2016

## Acknowledgements

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP), located in the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth & Families, would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to the employees, volunteers and board members at the funded programs who provide their time, energy and passion to helping survivors of domestic violence and their families.

Additionally, the DVP would like to acknowledge the wonderful community members and program staff who have taken the time to participate on the DVP Advisory and Funding Committees to ensure transparency, equity and accountability for the DVP.

## Published by:

Colorado Department of Human Services  
Domestic Violence Program  
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## Suggestion Citation (whole or in part):

Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program:  
Domestic Violence Program - 2016 Annual Report

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# What the DVP does

**Our Mission** Partner with communities to promote the safety and well-being of domestic violence survivors and prevent acts of domestic violence through good stewardship of funding resources.

**Our Vision** Promote and sustain a culture free of domestic violence for all Coloradans.

## Funding administration

The DVP is the sole government entity dedicated entirely to funding and sustaining community-based domestic violence programs across the state. The DVP awards approximately \$3 million annually from several sources.



Family Violence  
Prevention & Services  
Act - \$1,600,000



Temporary Assistance for  
Needy Families -  
\$630,000



Colorado Domestic Abuse  
Fund - \$170,000



Marriage & Civil Union  
Licenses & Divorce Filing  
Fees - \$600,000

## Database administration

The DVP launched the Client Assessment, File & Event (CAFÉ) management system in 2015. The CAFÉ is available at virtually no cost to the community-based programs that receive the DVP funding and protects sensitive client data. The CAFÉ is the first comprehensive statewide database that all DVP-funded programs can use for reporting and case management. The purpose of the CAFÉ is twofold:

1. To improve efficiencies in the way the DVP and funded programs effectively manage contracts including submission of monthly and quarterly data, contract reimbursement, and monitoring and compliance; and,
2. To enhance collection and record keeping mechanisms for data at each funded program creating systems that efficiently track client served, demographics, completed assessments, service contacts, and activities in the communities served.

“Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) uses staff and volunteers to keep Protection Order Clinics running at Boulder Courts and Broomfield Courts. In 2016, client counts [in the CAFÉ] showed that attendance numbers for Broomfield Courts were low. [The CAFÉ] also showed us that Broomfield residents were coming to SPAN Boulder Outreach Center and Boulder Courts to access the same service! Rather than spend months with staff and volunteers under-utilized, the [CAFÉ] allowed us to be nimble and responsive [with our staffing].” - Alexandra Lynch, Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence

In 2016, the DVP partnered with a database developer and funded programs to enhance the CAFÉ features and provided ongoing training and technical support to 30 programs who use the CAFÉ for client management. This support included webinars, classroom training, user guides, tip sheets, and the launch of a CAFÉ User Group.

## Training & technical assistance



CCADV Housing Coordinator, Stevi Gray (photo courtesy of CCADV)

In 2016, the DVP provided funding to the federally-recognized statewide domestic violence coalition, The Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV). With this funding, the DVP’s goal is to provide support to funded programs that advances effective domestic violence interventions based on nationally-recognized best practices. Ultimately, implementation of these best practices contribute to the safety and well-being of survivors of domestic violence and their families and work toward prevention of domestic violence in Colorado’s diverse communities. CCADV and their sub-contracted partner, the Vital Project, coordinated with DVP to provide these valuable services.

## Training & technical assistance highlights

- Thirty (30) funded programs received individualized training and technical assistance to enhance delivery of direct services for victims of domestic violence
- Thirty-one (31) people participated in three webinars focused on organizational capacity building topics such as Use of Data, Board Development and Volunteer Management
- Two (2) toolkits were developed and distributed on nonprofit development topics including Developing a Volunteer Program and Marketing, Communications & Branding
- One-hundred percent (100%) of the respondents to an evaluation indicated their organization is in a better place to address the challenges they were facing than before the technical assistance was provided
- One (1) Directors Orientation & Training event was provided with 21 participants in attendance
- One (1) Housing Coordinator was hired and provided 32 technical assistance consultations and six trainings related to housing topics

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 2015 marked the first annual DVP Personal Care Item Drive at CDHS. Employees at four CDHS locations donated more than 10 boxes of personal care items such as shampoo, soap, makeup, and diapers. These items were then donated to Alternatives to Violence, Inc. in Loveland, CO, a DVP-funded program working to open a new shelter facility for their community.

“I wanted to thank ... everyone there for their very thoughtful donation of toiletries for guests at our SafeHouse. We appreciate the generous variety of much needed items so essential to have in a shelter. Please express our gratitude to everyone that participated in the drive. We will put everything to good use in a few months.”  
- Glenda Shayne, ATV Executive Director

## Site visits

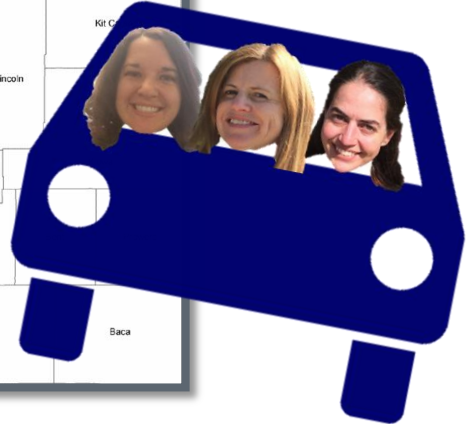
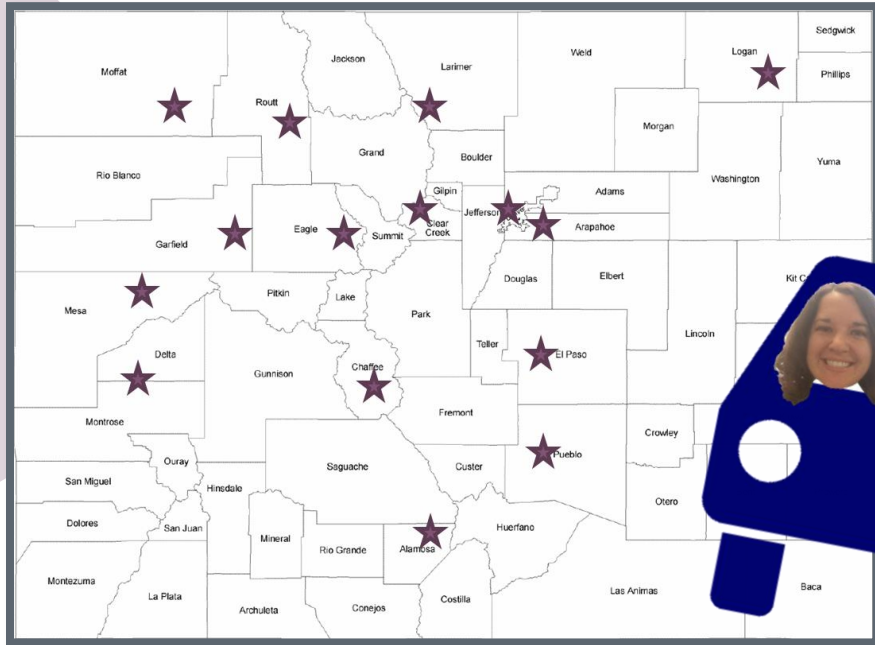
The DVP conducts regular site visits at all funded programs. The purpose of site visits is to ensure compliance with DVP Rules, FVPSA regulations, CDHS contracting requirements and identify opportunities for program improvements. The DVP visited 16 programs in 2016. See the map below and profiles of the programs visited on the next pages.

Chelsea Baldwin, Shelly Marquez, and Brooke Ely-Milen from DVP with Glenda Shayne, ATV



# Domestic Violence Program Annual Report

2016



Program Name	YWCA of Pueblo
Site Visit Date	11/9/2015
County	Pueblo
Program Type	Suburban
Crisis Calls	1,126
Total Number Served	479

“DVP funding is critical to YWCA of Pueblo for the provision of 24/7 staffing of the domestic violence crisis shelter and crisis line. This the very core of domestic violence services for Pueblo and several small southeastern Colorado communities that have no domestic violence shelter services. DVP also provides supplemental funding that makes it possible for us to provide collaborative domestic violence services with the Pueblo County Department of Social Services.” - Megan McClure, Executive Director

Program Name	TESSA
Site Visit Date	12/4/2015
County	El Paso
Program Type	Suburban
Crisis Calls	2,341
Total Number Served	2,304

Program Name	Domestic Violence Initiative
Site Visit Date	12/4/2015
County	Denver
Program Type	Suburban
Crisis Calls	2,720
Total Number Served	326

Program Name	Gateway Domestic Violence Services
Site Visit Date	2/23/2016
County	Arapahoe
Program Type	Suburban
Crisis Calls	5,377
Total Number Served	3,158

Program Name	Phoenix Center at Auraria
Site Visit Date	3/31/2016
County	Denver
Program Type	Urban - Specialized
Crisis Calls	68
Total Number Served	71

# Domestic Violence Program Annual Report

2016



Program Name	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Site Visit Date	1/15/2016
County	Boulder
Program Type	Suburban
Crisis Calls	3,021
Total Number Served	581

“With this funding, Safe Shelter has evolved from its grassroots beginnings—women protecting women in community homes—into a two-facility organization that provides high quality, comprehensive, strengths-based, trauma-informed, client-directed services... for all adults and children who experience DV.” - Jackie List, Executive Director



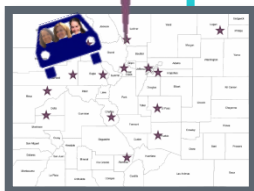
Program Name	Clear Creek County Advocates
Site Visit Date	4/18/2016
County	Clear Creek
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	195
Total Number Served	220

Program Name	Help for Abused Partners
Site Visit Date	6/29/2016
County	Logan
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	138
Total Number Served	394



Program Name	Estes Valley Crisis Advocates
Site Visit Date	4/29/2016
County	Larimer
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	214
Total Number Served	174

“I feel like we have a strong, basic program that meets the needs of our small mountain community. We provide services to all victims of domestic violence...by providing crisis advocacy at time of an incident, individual and group counselling, safehousing and supportive advocacy in the form of assistance with protection orders, victim’s comp, housing and employment, etc.” - Mary Mesropian, Executive Director



Program Name	Advocates Crisis Support Services
Site Visit Date	9/27/2016
County	Moffat
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	195
Total Number Served	70



Program Name	Alliance Against Domestic Abuse
Site Visit Date	6/21/2016
County	Chaffee
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	253
Total Number Served	190

“DVP funding allows our agency to provide life-saving services to victims of domestic violence in Chaffee County. DVP funding pays staff enabling us to provide direct service to clients.” - Andrea Schulz-Ward, Executive Director





# Domestic Violence Program Annual Report

2016

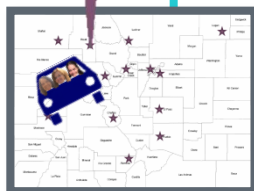


Program Name	Tu Casa, Inc.
Site Visit Date	6/22/2016
County	Alamosa
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	110
Total Number Served	491

“The San Luis Valley is large geographically and financially impoverished. The small amounts of resources we do have are stretched thin or due to lack of funding are not met. It is felt that more funding to the Valley and other resources would have to be in place to minimize these gaps in services.” - Ryan Anderson, Executive Director

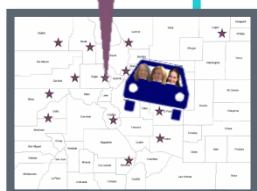
Program Name	Hilltop Health Services
Site Visit Date	7/28/2016
County	Mesa, Delta, Montrose, Ouray
Program Type	Suburban and Rural
Crisis Calls	2,511
Total Number Served	687

Program Name	Advocate Safehouse Project
Site Visit Date	8/30/2016
County	Garfield
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	363
Total Number Served	251



Program Name	Advocates Building Peaceful Communities
Site Visit Date	8/31/2016
County	Routt
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	113
Total Number Served	196

“There continues to be a demonstrated need in Routt County for domestic violence services to be provided for victims of domestic violence. Advocates is the only agency providing immediate 24-hour crisis response, residential shelter, counseling, and advocacy services, for the purpose of assessing for risk and increasing safety of victims of domestic violence.” - Diane Moore, Executive Director



Program Name	Bright Future Foundation
Site Visit Date	9/26/2016
County	Eagle
Program Type	Rural
Crisis Calls	262
Total Number Served	364

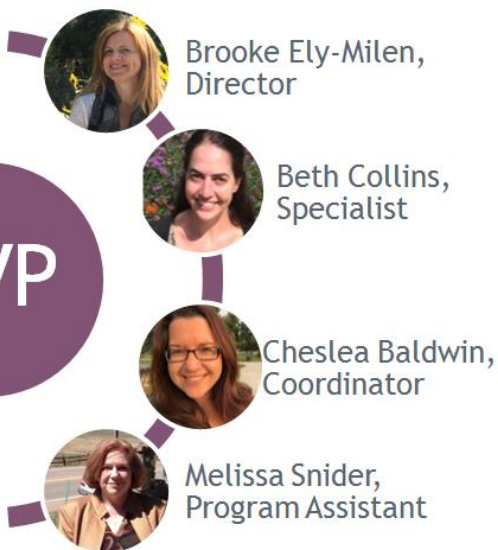
“BFF is Eagle County’s only community-based victim service agency and the sole agency within Eagle County that affords confidentiality to all victims. In partnership with DVP, BFF coordinates Eagle County’s only Crisis Hotline and only Emergency Safehouse and Shelter. BFF would not be able to sustain these services at the current level without continued financial support from DVP.” - Sheri Mintz, Executive Director

## Who we are

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP), located in the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Office of Children, Youth and Families was created in 1983 by the Colorado General Assembly to administer funds to community-based domestic violence programs. The DVP is the lead authority within CDHS and state government for issues pertaining to domestic violence.

### DVP team members

In 2016, the DVP had some team member transitions. In March 2016, the DVP welcomed Beth Collins as the new Program Specialist who filled Brooke's former position when she was hired as the director at the end of 2015. In July 2016, the DVP said a fond farewell to Shelly Marquez, who transitioned to a new role within CDHS, and welcomed Melissa Snider as the new Program Assistant.



**Director, Brooke Ely-Milen** - Brooke joined DVP in 2006 as the Program Specialist and has served as the Director since 2015. Prior to joining DVP, Brooke worked for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and has over 20 years of experience working in the domestic violence field. When she's not working, Brooke likes skiing Colorado's mountains and spending time with her golden retriever, Zac.

**Specialist, Beth Collins** - With her experience at the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Beth was a great addition to the DVP team in 2016. Beth's work interests include the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence as well as trauma-informed care best practices. She enjoys camping, hiking and snowboarding in Colorado's mountains.

**Coordinator, Chelsea Baldwin** - Prior to joining DVP in 2013, Chelsea worked for local domestic violence organization Family Tree for 7 years and completed her Master's in Nonprofit Management. Her favorite non-work activity includes hiking, traveling and reading.

**Program Assistant, Melissa Snider** - Melissa is the newest member of the DVP team and has happily been a State of Colorado employee for over 7 years. She was with Metropolitan State University and the Child Welfare Division prior to joining DVP. Originally from Texas, Melissa has made Colorado her home for over 11 years. She enjoys exploring all the beauty of Colorado with her cocker spaniel, Miss Charlie.



Brooke, Chelsea, Beth & Melissa



Advisory Committee and guests for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2015

## Advisory Committee

In addition to the DVP team, DVP governs itself with two committees. The Advisory Committee provides insight, direction, and monitoring of the DVP on an ongoing basis. Membership of this Committee is made up of representatives of funded programs, the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, other state government departments and community members with knowledge of domestic violence. Membership for 2016 is listed in the table below.

Member Name	Affiliation
Adam Evans*	Project PAVE
Alexandra Lynch*	Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence
Amy Miller	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Ashlee Lewis*	Domestic Violence Initiative
Deb Bittner*	Family Tree
Debbie Kasyon	Colorado Department of Public Safety
Jackie List*	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Jody Curl*	Crisis Center
Linda Loflin Pettit	Denver City Attorney's Office
Mary Clair	Colorado Department of Human Services
Randi Bretz	Colorado Department of Human Services
Rosa Marie Vergil Garcia	Fresh Start

\* Denotes a member that is employed by a program funded by DVP.

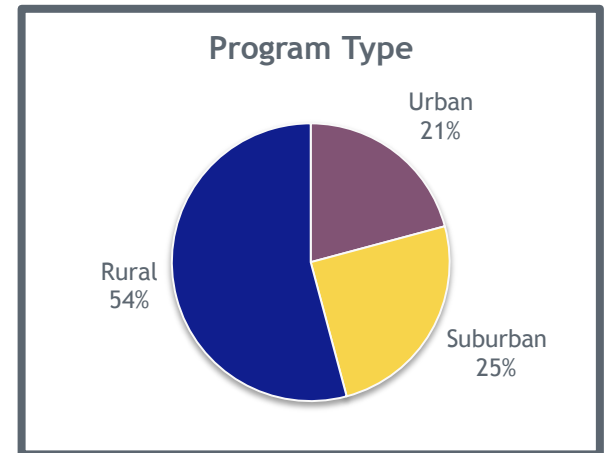
## Funding Committee

The Funding Committee is responsible for establishing an equitable process to award funding and making recommendations to CDHS for distribution of funds to community-based programs. In 2016, the Funding Committee developed a plan for the 2017 Request for Proposals. Membership for 2016 is listed in the table below.

Member Name	Affiliation
Ruth Ann Russell	Community Member
Amy Miller	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Tomei Kuehl	Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Brie Franklin	Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Debbie Kasyon	Colorado Department of Public Safety
Roweena Naidoo	Mile High United Way
Danielle Tuft	Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Alison Williams Helm	Colorado Department of Public Safety
Ana Soler	The Civic Canopy
Pat Tessmer	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence

# Who we fund

The DVP funded 47 community-based programs in 2016 throughout Colorado. These programs provide confidential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via crisis lines or maintain a Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate services with other DVP-funded programs in good standing to do so. These programs vary in size and location. Below is a list of programs funded by the DVP and their county location.

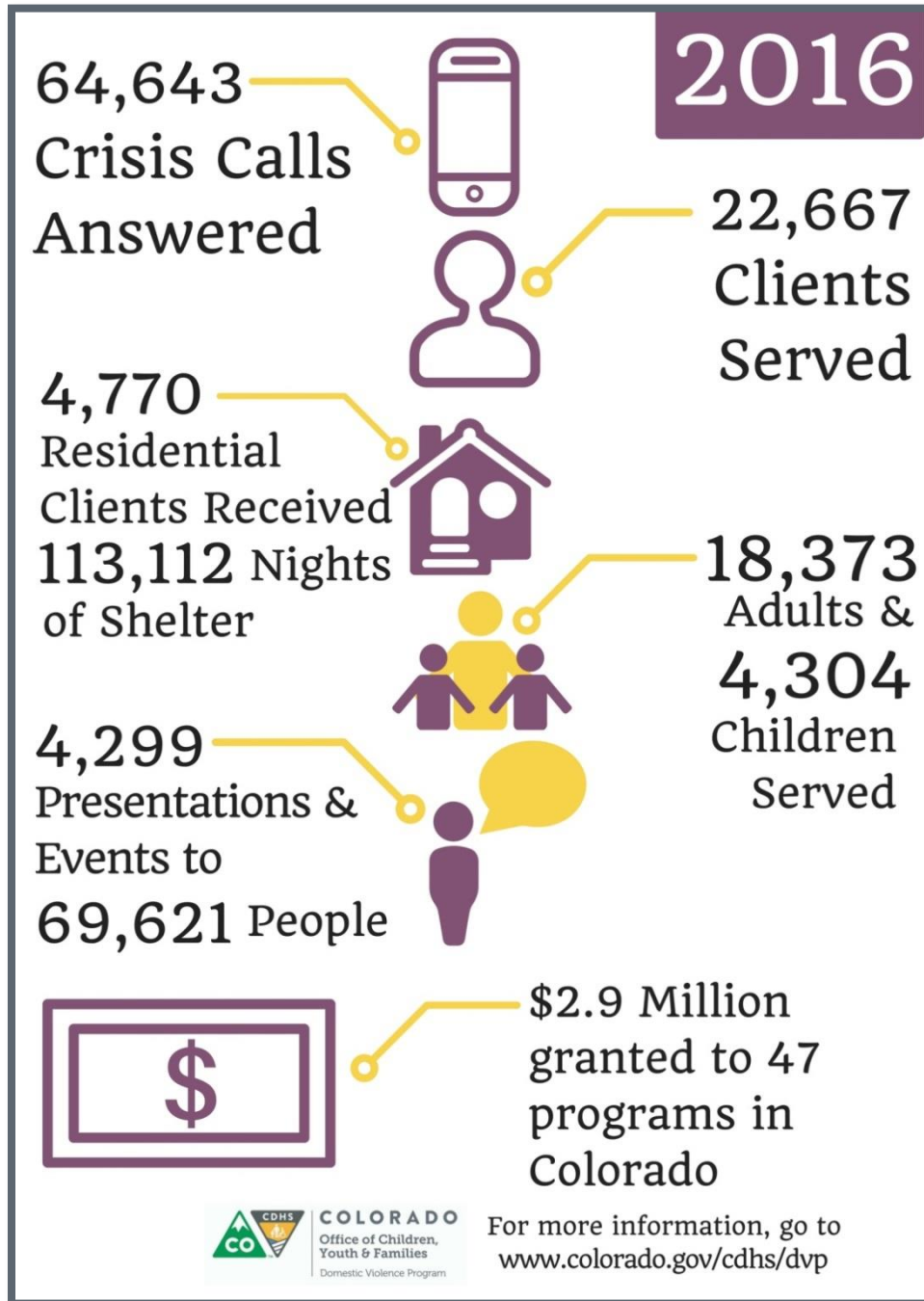


Program Name	County	Program Name	County
A Woman's Place, Inc.	Weld	Help for Abused Partners	Logan
Advocate Safehouse Project	Garfield	Latimer House, Hilltop Health Services	Mesa
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Las Animas	Latina Safehouse Initiative	Denver
Advocates Building Peaceful Communities	Routt	Peaceworks, Inc.	Park
Advocates Crisis Support Services	Moffat	Project Hope of Gunnison Valley	Gunnison
Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc.	Summit	Project PAVE	Denver
Advocates of Lake County	Lake	Project Safeguard	Denver
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Grand	Renew, Inc.	Montezuma
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Chaffee	RESPONSE	Pitkin
Alternative Horizons Corp	La Plata	Rise Above Violence	Archuleta
Alternatives to Violence, Inc.	Larimer	S.H.A.R.E., Inc.	Morgan
Arising Hope	Adams	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley	Boulder
Arkansas Valley Resource Center, Inc.	Otero	SafeHouse Denver, Inc.	Denver
Asian Pacific Development Center	Denver	Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence	Boulder
Bright Future Foundation	Eagle	San Miguel Resource Center	San Miguel
Clear Creek County Advocates	Clear Creek	Servicios De La Raza	Denver
Crisis Center	Douglas	Survivors Organizing for Liberation	Denver
Crossroads Safehouse, Inc.	Larimer	TESSA	El Paso
Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment	Denver	The Center for Trauma and Resilience	Denver
Domestic Violence Initiative	Denver	The Phoenix Center at Auraria	Denver
Estes Valley Crisis Advocates	Larimer	Tri-County Resources, Hilltop Health Services	Montrose
Family Crisis Services, Inc.	Fremont	Tu Casa, Inc.	Alamosa
Family Tree, Inc.	Jefferson	Volunteers of America, Southwest Safehouse	La Plata
Gateway Battered Women's Services	Arapahoe	YWCA of Pueblo	Pueblo

# Who they served

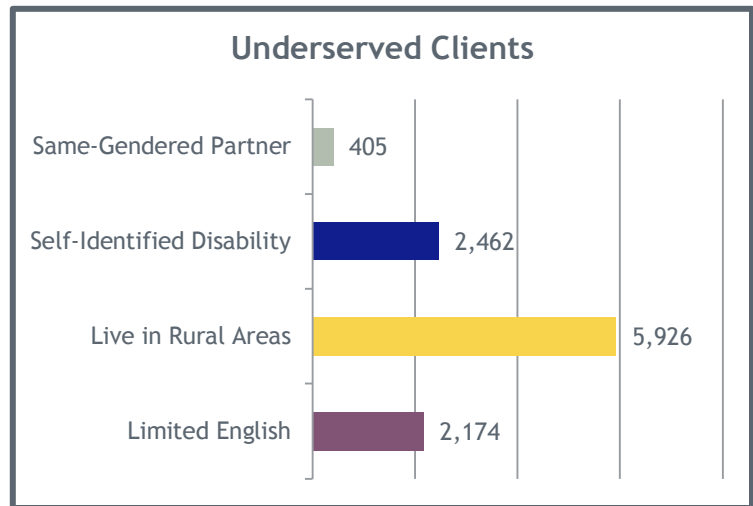
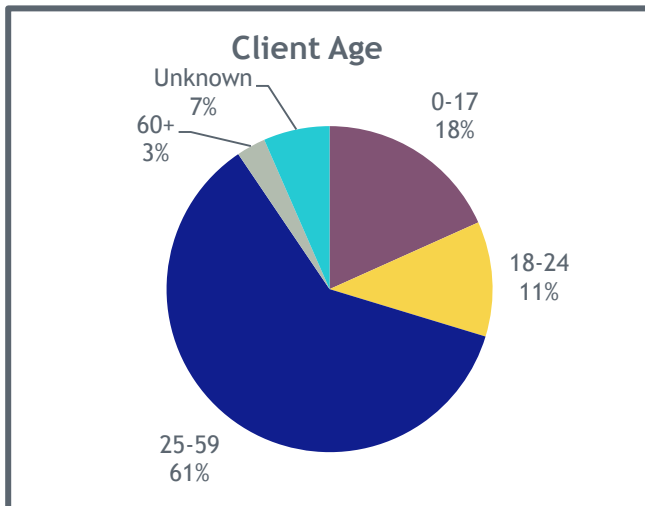
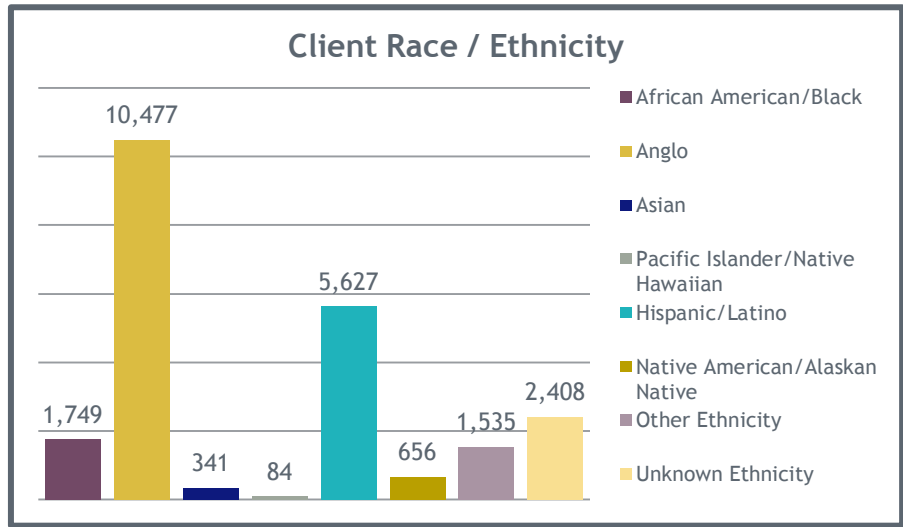
DVP-funded programs offer supportive services to survivors in crisis as well as those in need of long-term support. These services include safety planning, support groups, counseling, case management, advocacy, transportation, access to community resources and more.

## Clients served



## Demographics of clients served

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. The following graphs illustrate the diversity of survivors impacted by domestic violence that sought and received services by DVP-funded programs in 2016.



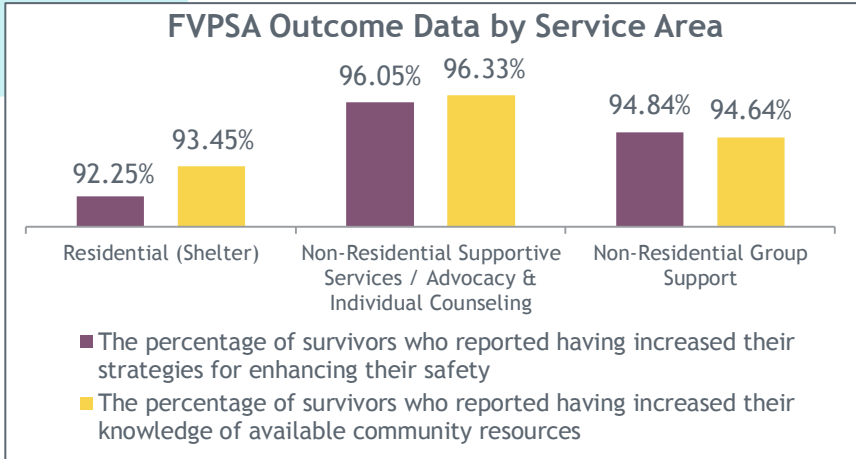
## Community resources needed

Community Resource	Percentage of programs identified resource as an unmet need for clients
Safe and Affordable Housing	93.75%
Mental Health Services	58.33%
Transportation	68.75%
Employment	35.42%
Affordable Legal Services	60.42%
Child Care	41.67%
Immigration Services	35.42%
Language Services	22.92%
Drug & Alcohol Services	33.33%
Refugee Services	18.75%
Health Care	20.83%

DVP-funded programs identified safe and affordable housing, transportation, affordable legal services and mental health services were identified as the most prominent unmet needs in their communities. The table shows other needed community resources that programs identified as an unmet need in their community.

# What they did

## 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 survivors. These outcomes measurements are driven by requirements from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Domestic violence programs randomly sample survivors and ask them to evaluate their experiences with shelter, advocacy and supportive services, individual counseling, and group counseling. Survivors 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 survivors. 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.

In addition to the two federally-required outcomes, funded programs were also required to identify clients’ immediate needs and provide information. The graph shows the work of funded programs on this outcome measure of Timeliness of Assessment. Timeliness of Assessment is defined as the client receiving a risk and/or needs assessment within the first seven days of service. Overall in 2016, 74 percent of new clients were assessed for risks and/or needs within the first seven days of starting services with the program.

