

2017



COLORADO
Office of Children,
Youth & Families
Domestic Violence Program

Annual Report

Acknowledgements

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP), located in the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Children, Youth and Families, would like to thank all employees and volunteers working in community-based domestic violence advocacy organizations throughout the state of Colorado for their tireless efforts to assist survivors and their families.

DVP also would like to express appreciation to the wonderful community members and program staff who volunteer their time to participate on the DVP Advisory and Funding Committees to ensure transparency, equity and accountability for the DVP.

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A note about this report:

The DVP operates on a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), which means that all activities and data presented in this report are from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.

The Domestic Violence Program

In 1983, the Colorado General Assembly created the Domestic Violence Program (DVP), located in the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF). DVP is the sole government entity dedicated entirely to funding and sustaining community-based domestic violence programs across the state. DVP is the lead authority within CDHS and state government for issues pertaining to domestic violence.

Our Mission

Partner with communities in order 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

DVP oversees approximately \$3 million annually in revenue from a compilation of five diverse sources, which is pooled and distributed through an application process to Colorado's community-based domestic violence advocacy organizations.

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 survivors of family violence and their dependents.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families:

Starting in 2004, the Colorado Legislature allocated additional funding for domestic violence advocacy services through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant.

Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund:

Beginning in 1983, the legislature established the Colorado Domestic Abuse Fund (CDAF), which allows individual taxpayers to make contributions in support of funding for domestic violence advocacy services.

Marriage & Civil Union Licenses and Divorce Filing Fees: Beginning in 2009, \$20 of the fees collected from marriage and civil union licenses and \$5 from each divorce filing are directed to DVP for distribution to domestic violence advocacy organizations.



Database administration

The Client Assessment, File & Event (CAFÉ) management system is a Salesforce application administered by DVP for 1) client management record keeping in domestic violence advocacy organizations and 2) contract management and as a reporting tool for the DVP team. The system is available at virtually no cost to the community-based programs that receive DVP funding.

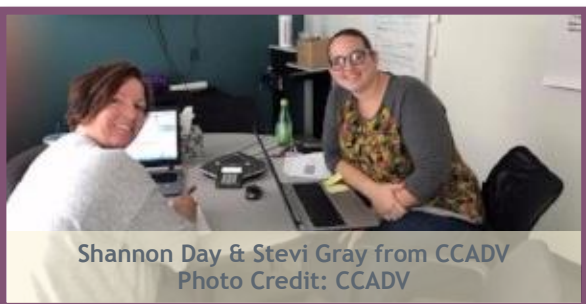


DVP works with advocacy organizations to implement, manage and use the CAFÉ. This includes routinely providing changes to the system to align the database with current needs and providing technical support for users across the state. In 2017, DVP partnered with a database developer to enhance the CAFÉ features and fix minor bugs in the system. Additionally, DVP provided ongoing training and technical support to 16 programs that use the CAFÉ for client management. This support included webinars, classroom training, user guides and tip sheets.

Training & technical assistance

In 2017, DVP provided funding to our state's federally recognized statewide domestic violence coalition, the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV). With this funding, DVP's goal is to provide support to funded programs that advance 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 coordinated with a sub-contracted partner, the Vital Project, to provide the valuable services listed below, which were funded by DVP.

Directors Orientation & Training	Technical Support	Housing Program
New Directors Orientation and Training (DOT) II was conducted on All Things Financial, and DOT III was conducted on Board Development in 2017. These trainings were well received by participants.	CCADV and Vital Project provided 14 programs technical assistance including on-demand support, coaching and training on topics such as fundraising, compliance issues, moving from vision to action and board recruitment. Vital Project hosted three webinars on for a total of 33 individuals on board development, strategic planning and succession planning.	The housing program manager at CCADV has joined the Metro Development and Housing Initiative (MDHI) board to raise awareness of domestic violence survivor and program needs within the homeless community. Additionally, eight grants were awarded to programs from the Office of Victim Programs, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Housing First Initiative. These programs received intensive technical assistance and training from the housing program manager.



Shannon Day & Stevi Gray from CCADV
Photo Credit: CCADV



CCADV team
Photo Credit: CCADV

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 2016 was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and DVP raised awareness at CDHS through the 2nd Annual Personal Care Item Drive and the first ever Selfie Station Booth.

2nd Annual Personal Care Item Drive

October 2016 marked the second annual DVP Personal Care Item Drive at CDHS. Employees at four CDHS locations donated more than ten boxes of personal care items such as shampoo, soap, makeup, and diapers. These items were then donated to Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc. in Summit County and Peaceworks Mountain Peace Shelter in Park County, two DVP-funded programs.



Selfie Station Booth

DVP set up a Selfie Station Booth to raise additional awareness for CDHS employees. The Selfie Station allowed employees to show why they stand up against domestic violence and share their picture with other employees and on social media.



Site visits

DVP conducted 11 site visits from October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017. At these site visits, the DVP team assesses program needs, monitors for compliance with federal regulations and DVP rules and provides technical assistance as needed. Site visits provide an opportunity for mutual learning, open discussion, identification of gaps and needs for a particular community and provide a forum to highlight program successes and unique service components.

Program Name	Counties Served	Date of Visit
Advocates for Victims of Assault	Summit	10/27/2016
RESPONSE	Pitkin	10/28/2016
PeaceWorks	Park	11/30/2016
Alternatives to Violence	Larimer	12/20/2016
TESSA	El Paso	5/25/2017
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Grand	7/24/2017
Advocates of Lake County	Lake	7/28/2017
Project Hope of Gunnison Valley	Gunnison, Hinsdale	7/31/2017
Volunteers of America, Southwest Safehouse	La Plata	8/1/2017
Family Crisis Services	Fremont, Custer	8/3/2017
SafeHouse Denver	Denver	9/28/2017

Advocates for Victims of Assault



“DVP [funding] is critical to our core direct services to survivors. Our 24/7 hotline, in-person crisis response, victim advocacy, and legal advocacy are all made possible in large part due to support from DVP.”

- Rob Murphy

Pictured above: Braden, Rob, Brooke (DVP), Brooke and Tracey

RESPONSE



“DVP funding has helped us by supporting administrative salaries. In a small rural resort community it isn't easy to find a qualified administrator nor is it easy to afford to pay a professional executive director.”

- Claire Driscoll

Pictured above: RESPONSE team, photo provided by RESPONSE

PeaceWorks



“A large majority of PeaceWorks clients are from underserved rural communities. The agency is able to provide two program offices and emergency shelter services through DVP funding to these vulnerable populations.”

- Lori Cuno

Pictured above: Kurt, Lori and Kelly

Alternatives to Violence



“Funding from DVP allows for the continued operation of the only emergency shelter in the southern portion of Larimer County, Colorado. Without this shelter the only alternative for the victims of domestic violence would be to travel to Fort Collins. This would present a number of barriers for the victims and displace them from their friends, schools, and community.”

- Glenda Shayne

TESSA



“TESSA employs three staff members who speak English and Spanish, and when necessary the agency contracts with interpreters to provide services for clients we cannot serve through current staffing. The bilingual case manager in the Safehouse is partially funded through DVP.”

- Becky Treece

Pictured above: Becky, SherryLynn, Danielle and D'Wanna

Advocates Victim Assistance Team



“DVP funding allows [us] to partially pay for staff salaries. Without funding, we would potentially have to let one staff person go, which would cripple our program. DVP also makes it possible for us to have a yearly audit, ensuring financial best practices.”

- Chelsea Gould

Pictured above: Chelsea, Shelia and April

Advocates of Lake County



“Funding from DVP is immensely helpful in allowing us to partially fund the salary and fringe benefits of three of our positions, general operating expenses of the agency, traveling expenses of staff and part of the cost of a financial audit.”

- Jenny Abbott

Pictured above: Kelsey, Idali and Jenny

Project Hope of Gunnison Valley



“DVP provides many overhead costs for Project Hope and thus allows for Project Hope to keep its doors open for survivors to receive services. It also allows full time staff to receive a portion of their income in order to do their full-time job.”

- Shayla Fenti

Pictured above: Shayla, Lindsay, Esmerelda and Kodi

Volunteers of America, Southwest Safehouse



“Without DVP funding, the Southwest Safehouse would not be able to provide core domestic violence shelter and support services to survivors and their families. DVP funding is essential in maintaining the full scope of the Southwest Safehouse shelter services.”

- Kyra Moon

Pictured above: Kasia, Chelsea, Rachel and Kyra

Family Crisis Services



“Without DVP funding, staff resources would be diminished greatly, resulting in staff cuts. Additionally, [we] wouldn’t have administrative dollars available necessary for operating this agency.”

- Tara Kane

Pictured above: Aren, Crystal, Chris, Tara and Haley

SafeHouse Denver



“DVP provides funds for staff salaries, including direct service staff and supervisor positions. This allows us to provide high quality, trauma informed, survivor centered services at our residential and non-residential program as well as provide ongoing supervision and support to ensure trauma informed care is being implemented.”

- Laurel Trawresey

DVP Staff Members & Committees

The staff members

The work of DVP is completed by four staff members.

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 more than 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 seven years and completed her Master's in Nonprofit Management. Her favorite non-work activities include 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 more than seven 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 since 2006. She enjoys exploring all the beauty of Colorado with her cocker spaniel, Miss Charlie.



The Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee provides insight, direction and monitoring of 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 in 2017 is listed in the table to the right.

“I am committed to serving families affected by domestic violence both in my local community and on a statewide level.”

*Sheri Mintz,
Bright Future Foundation*

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
Ashley Souza*	Archuleta County Victim Assistance
Deb Bittner*	Family Tree
Debbie Kasyon	CDPS - Division of Criminal Justice
Jackie List*	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Jody Curl*	Crisis Center
Linda Loflin-Pettit	Denver City Attorney’s Office
Lynne Sprague*	Survivors Organizing for Liberation
Randi Bretz	CDHS - Division of Performance Management
Rosa Marie Vergil Garcia	Fresh Start
Sheri Mintz*	Bright Future Foundation

* Denotes a member who is employed by a program funded by DVP.



DVP Advisory Committee & guests during a working meeting

The Funding Committee

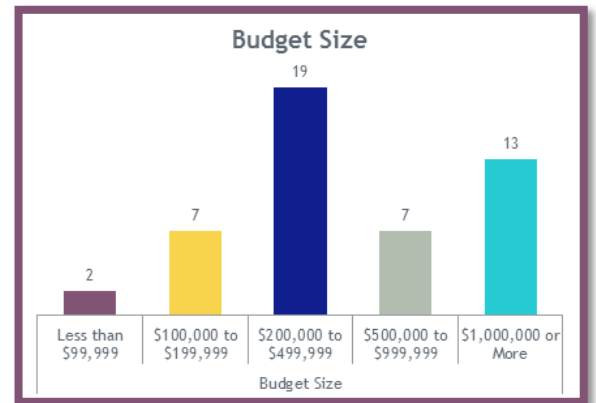
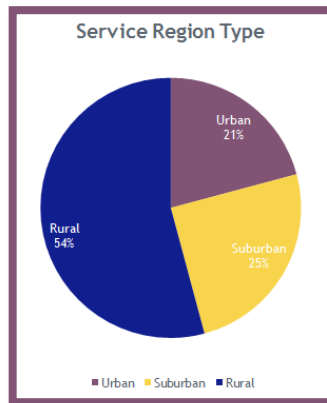
Member Name	Affiliation
Alison Williams Helm	CDPS - Office of Victims Programs
Amy Miller	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Ana Soler	The Civic Canopy
Brie Akins	Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Danielle Tuft	CDPHE - Sexual Violence Prevention Program
Roweena Naidoo	Mile High United Way
Ruth Ann Russel	Community Member, Subject Matter Expert

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 2017, the Funding Committee released the Request for Proposals for direct services for the Federal Fiscal Year 2018. Membership for 2017 is listed in the table to the left.

Domestic Violence Services in Colorado

Profile of funded programs

DVP funded 47 community-based programs in 2017 throughout Colorado. These programs provide confidential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via crisis lines or by maintaining 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.



The Service Region Type graph shows the breakdown of programs by their type of region (urban, suburban or rural). The Budget Size graph depicts the size of the total budget of the organization (not the amount of the DVP funding for the organization). Below is a list of programs funded by the DVP and their county location.

Program Name	County
A Woman's Place, Inc.	Weld
Advocate Safehouse Project	Garfield
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Las Animas
Advocates Building Peaceful Communities	Routt
Advocates Crisis Support Services	Moffat
Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc.	Summit
Advocates of Lake County	Lake
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Grand
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Chaffee
Alternative Horizons Corp	La Plata
Alternatives to Violence, Inc.	Larimer
Arising Hope	Adams
Arkansas Valley Resource Center, Inc.	Otero
Asian Pacific Development Center	Denver
Bright Future Foundation	Eagle
Clear Creek County Advocates	Clear Creek
Crisis Center	Douglas
Crossroads Safehouse, Inc.	Larimer
Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment	Denver
Domestic Violence Initiative	Denver
Estes Valley Crisis Advocates	Larimer
Family Crisis Services, Inc.	Fremont
Family Tree, Inc.	Jefferson
Gateway Battered Women's Services	Arapahoe

Program Name	County
Help for Abused Partners	Logan
Latimer House, Hilltop Health Services	Mesa
Latina Safehouse Initiative	Denver
Peaceworks, Inc.	Park
Project Hope of Gunnison Valley	Gunnison
Project PAVE	Denver
Project Safeguard	Denver
Renew, Inc.	Montezuma
RESPONSE	Pitkin
Rise Above Violence	Archuleta
S.H.A.R.E., Inc.	Morgan
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley	Boulder
SafeHouse Denver, Inc.	Denver
Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence	Boulder
San Miguel Resource Center	San Miguel
Servicios De La Raza	Denver
Survivors Organizing for Liberation	Denver
TESSA	El Paso
The Center for Trauma and Resilience	Denver
The Phoenix Center at Auraria	Denver
Tri-County Resources, Hilltop Health Services	Montrose
Tu Casa, Inc.	Alamosa
Volunteers of America, Southwest Safehouse	La Plata
YWCA of Pueblo	Pueblo

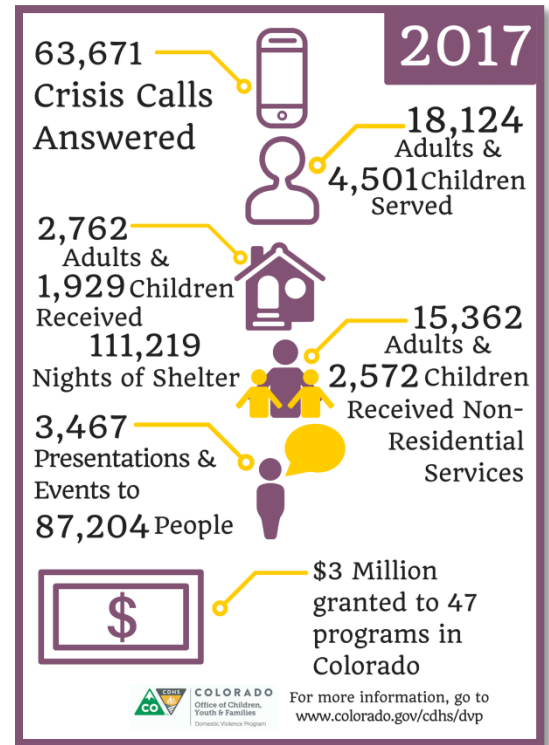
Clients served

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.

A client served:

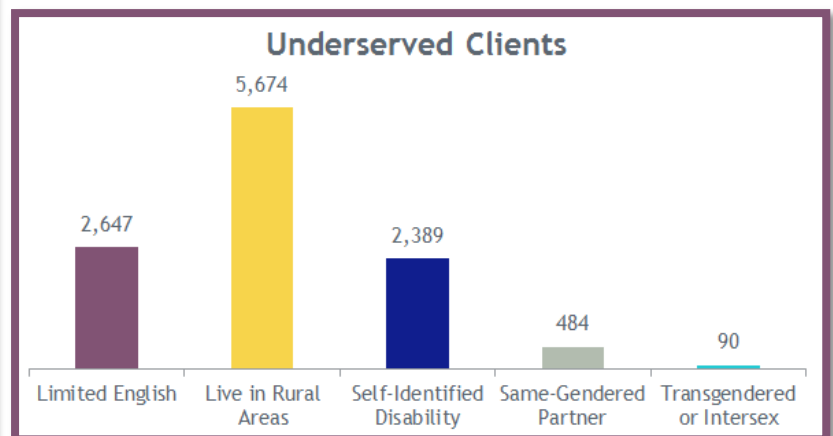
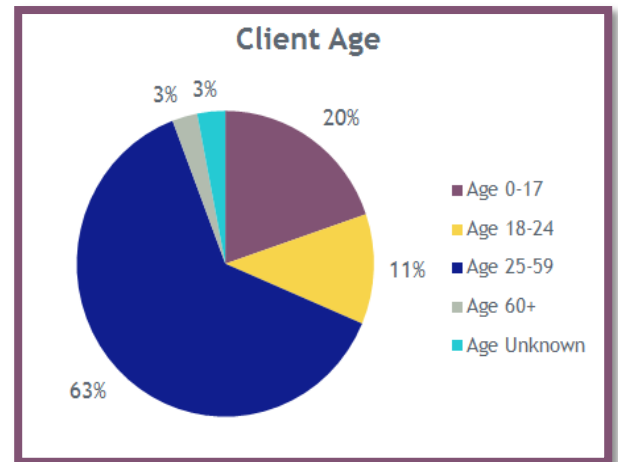
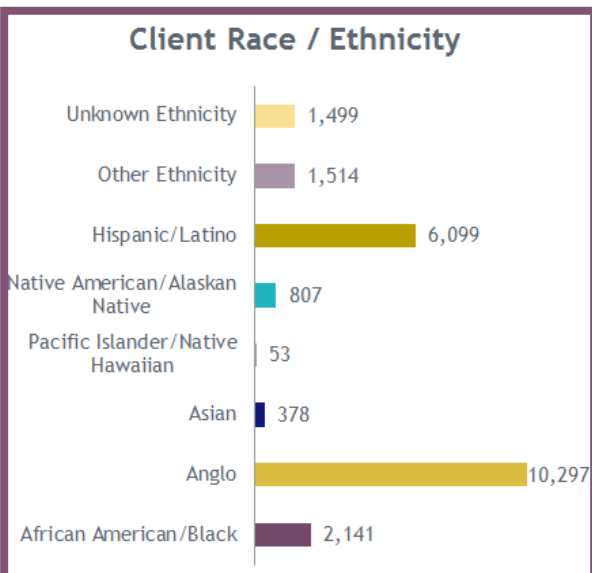
“Survivors Organizing for Liberation (SOL) received a call from a gender non-conforming survivor who came to Colorado to visit their girlfriend. During the weekend visit, the girlfriend became physically violent and verbally abusive. This survivor has no one to contact because they weren't from Colorado...SOL was able to drive down to Pueblo to pick this person up and secure food, clothing and a Greyhound ticket back to their home in California. They have stayed in touch with us to let us know how they're doing and they are in supportive domestic violence counseling.”

- Lynne Sprague, Director of Advocacy



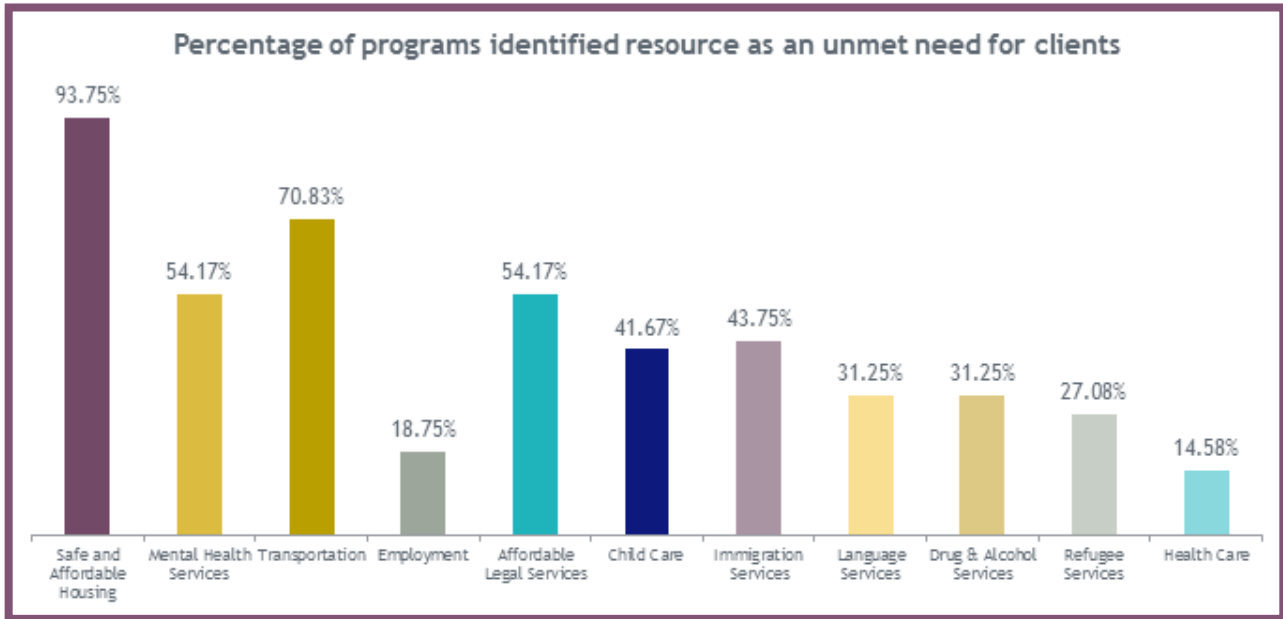
Demographics of clients served

Domestic violence impacts all communities in a variety of ways and does not discriminate. People from any geographic location, ethnicity, 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 2017.



Community resources needed

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



Safe and Affordable Housing



“Safe and affordable housing is an enormous obstacle that our clients face and is recently being addressed by the region’s governments thanks to advocacy and a recent county-wide study. Between the Cities of Boulder and Longmont and Boulder County, the region has recently launched a joint Regional Affordable Housing Strategic Plan.”

- Naomi Harris, Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

Transportation



“Public transportation is a dire need throughout the whole county. While we are not considered a ‘rural’ county as a whole, major portions of the county are still rural and often leave victims without needed resources. Even having a rural bus that transports people to the county seat of Greeley once a day would be ideal to connect with safe resources.”

- Karol Patch, A Woman’s Place

Mental Health Services



“As with much of the mental health field, our community is in desperate need of more staff, better trauma-informed training and more funding for quality staff in order to meet the mental health needs of our community.”

- Megan Alpert, University of Colorado Denver, The Phoenix Center at Auraria

Affordable Legal Services



“AADA continues to see a lack of legal services in Las Animas and Huerfano Counties. Our nearest Legal Aid Office is in La Junta, making it difficult to file for an emergency protection order. When victims are unable to contact Legal Aid, AADA’s Legal Advocate provides advocacy and accompanies clients to court upon client request.”

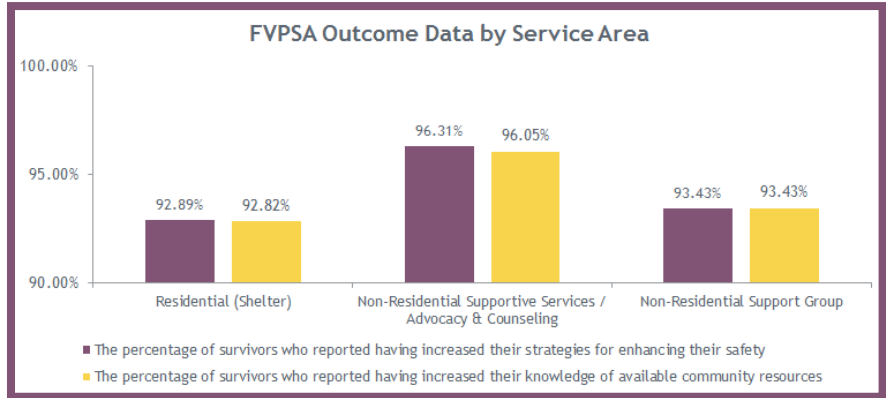
- Eleanor Olguin, Advocates Against Domestic Assault

Impact of the Work: Outcome Measures

2017 Family Violence Prevention and Services Act outcomes

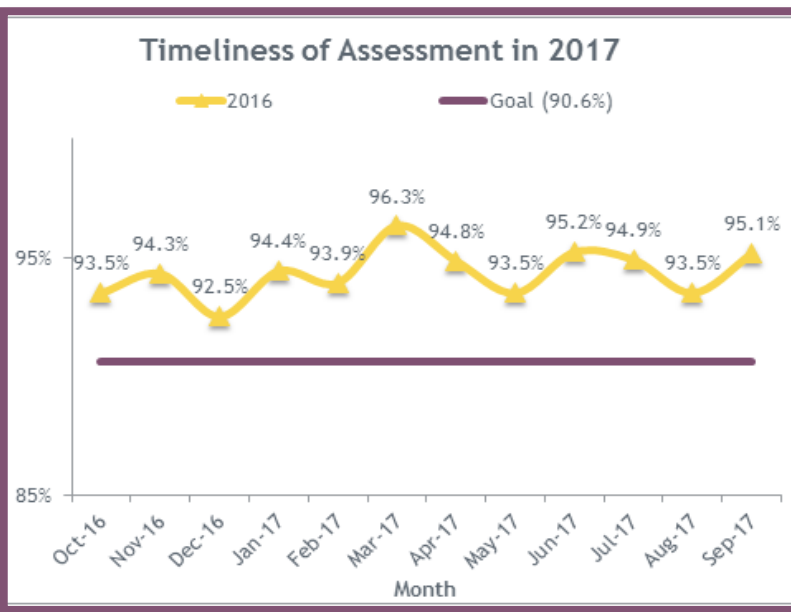
DVP-funded programs tracked two specific outcome measures to evaluate the impact their services had on the lives of survivors. These outcomes measurements are driven by requirements from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Domestic violence programs ask survivors to evaluate their 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 an even more ambitious goal of attaining a 90 percent positive response rate for DVP-funded programs as programs have consistently exceeded the FVPSA goal over the years. Overall in 2017, **94.16** percent of the FVPSA survey responses were positive.

Timeliness of assessment outcome



In addition to the two federally required outcomes mentioned above, 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 2017, **94.34** percent of new clients were assessed for risks and/or needs within the first seven days of starting services with the program.