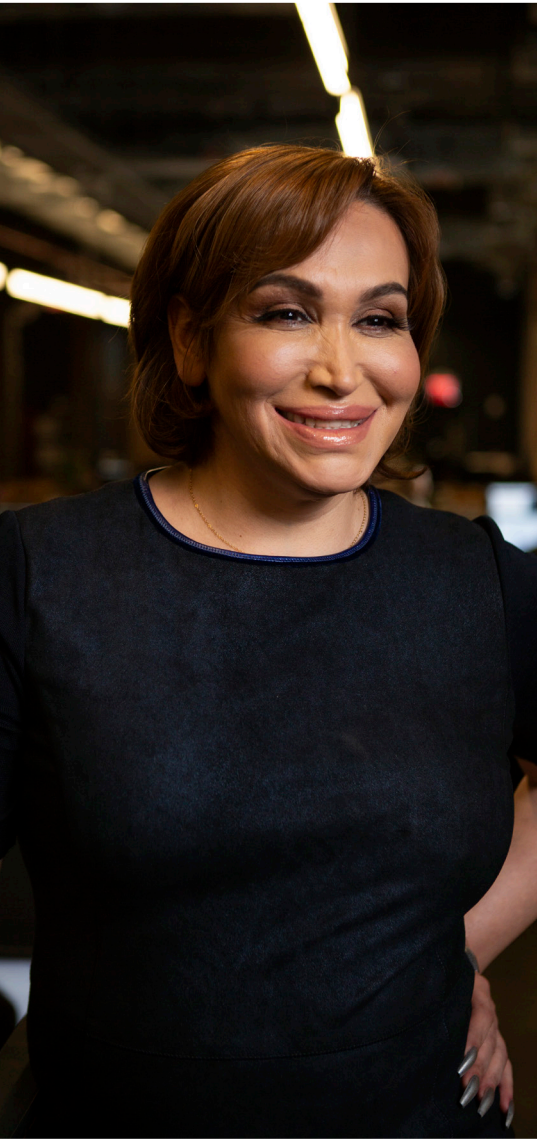


Domestic Violence Program Annual Report

2018



COLORADO

Office of Children,
Youth & Families

Domestic Violence Program

Acknowledgements

The Domestic Violence Program, 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 immense 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 DVP.

Published by:

Colorado Department of Human Services
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Denver, CO 80203
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Website | www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp

Suggestion Citation (whole or in part):

Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program:
Domestic Violence Program - 2018 Annual Report.

A note about this report:

DVP operates on a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), which means that all activities and data presenting in this report are from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

About 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 appropriated 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.

Training & Technical Assistance

In 2018, DVP provided funding to Colorado's federally recognized statewide domestic violence coalition, Violence Free Colorado, formerly the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The goal of this funding is to support the availability of training and technical assistance that advances effective domestic violence interventions based on nationally recognized best practices. Ultimately, the implementation of best practices contributes to the safety and well-being of survivors of domestic violence and their families, and facilitates the prevention of domestic violence in Colorado's diverse communities.

In 2018, Violence Free Colorado provided training and technical assistance on sheltering, housing and homelessness issues as they relate to domestic violence to address the continuing and rising need for permanent and affordable housing for survivors of domestic violence. This included more than 100 consultations for housing programming to eight organizations and hosting two webinars on housing topics.

Additionally, Violence Free Colorado provided training for community-based domestic violence advocacy organizations that was based on best and promising practices that are grounded in feminist-based, trauma-informed advocacy. The goal of these trainings was to increase sustainability, promote best practices, and support effective non-profit leadership. Violence Free Colorado hosted live webinars, provided in-person trainings, and developed Online Learning Center (OLC) content.

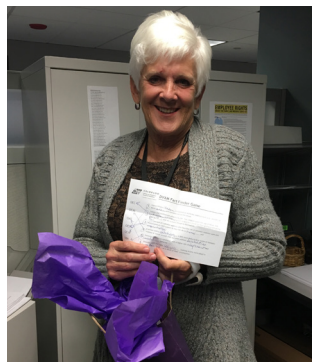
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

DVP raised awareness for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October by encouraging CDHS employees to make Domestic Violence Personal. DVP hosted several events including a kick-off, photo booth happy hour, and a lunch and learn series with topics such as healthy family screening tools, housing and economic justice for domestic violence survivors, elder abuse and domestic violence, and traumatic brain injuries.

DVP would like to acknowledge the following people for their time and expertise they shared with DVP and CDHS during the lunch and learn series:

- Linda Loflin Petitt, Denver City Attorney's Office
- Stevi Gray, Violence Free Colorado
- Judy Dettmer, Colorado Department of Human Services, MINDSOURCE
- Julie Becker, Colorado Department of Human Services, Home Visiting Unit

Additionally, DVP would like to thank all of the CDHS employees who participated in the events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Two CDHS employees won a contest that DVP held during October for their participation: Bridget Clawson and Sandy Koves.



First row: Beth Collins and Brooke Ely-Milen, Bridget Clawson, staff from Mount View Youth Services Center, Sharon Zanti and Randi Merry of CDHS

Second row: Sandy Koves, Chelsea Baldwin and Melissa Snider

Site Visits

DVP conducted 22 site visits from October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018. At these site visits, the DVP team assessed program needs, monitored for compliance with federal rules and state standards and provided 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.

New in 2018!

DVP teamed up with Violence Free Colorado during these visits to more readily connect funded organizations with the training and technical assistance available. A staff person from Violence Free Colorado accompanied DVP on visits throughout Colorado and provided on-site recommendations and follow-up assistance to help funded organizations reach compliance.



First row: Advocates Against Domestic Assault, Alternative Horizons and Safehouse Progressive Alliance Shelter
Second row: San Miguel Resource Center, DOVE and YWCA of Pueblo with DVP staff
Third Row: Hilltop, The Phoenix Center at Auraria and Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Fourth Row: Asian Pacific Development Center

DVP Staff Members & Committees

The work of DVP is completed by four staff members who are responsible for advancing the mission of DVP:



DVP staff from left:
Melissa Snider, Program Assistant; Brooke Ely-Milen, Director; Chelsea Baldwin, Coordinator; Beth Collins, Specialist.

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, Violence Free Colorado, other state government departments and community members with knowledge of domestic violence. Membership in 2018 is listed below.

- Amy Miller, Violence Free Colorado
- Ashlee Lewis, The Initiative (formerly the Domestic Violence Initiative)
- Ashley Wilson, Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program
- Deb Bittner, Family Tree
- Debbie Kasyon, Colorado Department of Public Safety - Division of Criminal Justice
- Jackie List, Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
- Jackie Sievers, Hilltop Community Resources
- Jody Curl, Crisis Center
- Laurel Tawresey, SafeHouse Denver
- Lynne Sprague, Survivors Organizing for Liberation
- Regina Rodriguez, CDHS - MINDSOURCE - Brain Injury Network
- Rosa Vergil Garcia, Fresh Start
- Shannon Meyer, Response
- Sheri Mintz, Bright Future Foundation

The Funding Committee

The Funding Committee is responsible for establishing an equitable process to award funding and making recommendations to DVP 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 2018 is listed below.

- Amy Miller, Violence Free Colorado
- Alison Williams Helm, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
- Brie Franklin, Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Danielle Tuft, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Ruth Ann Russel, Subject Matter Expert
- Roweena Naidoo, Mile High United Way

Database Administration

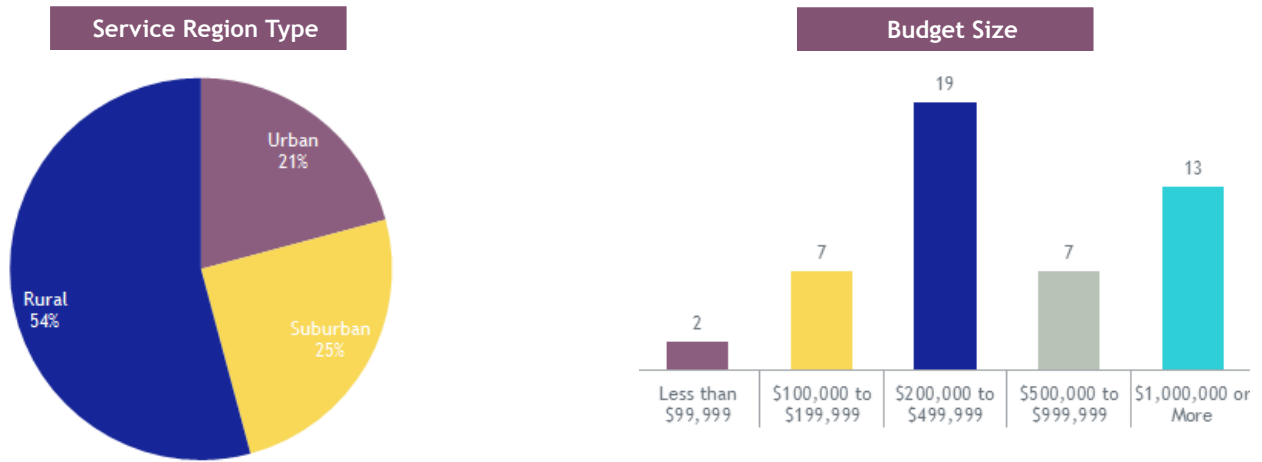
The Client Assessment, File & Event (CAFÉ) management system is a Salesforce application administered by DVP 1) for client management record keeping in domestic violence advocacy organizations and 2) as a contract management and reporting tool utilized by the DVP team. The system is available at virtually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

DVP works with advocacy organizations as they implement, manage and use the CAFÉ. DVP support includes routinely providing changes to the system to align the database with current needs and providing technical support for users across the state. In 2018, DVP provided one-on-one technical support to 15 programs that use the CAFÉ for client management. Additionally, DVP published two webinars and several Quick Tip Guides available to all funded organizations.

Domestic Violence Services in Colorado

DVP funded 45 community-based programs in 2018 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 (left) 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. Below is a list of programs funded by the DVP and their county location.

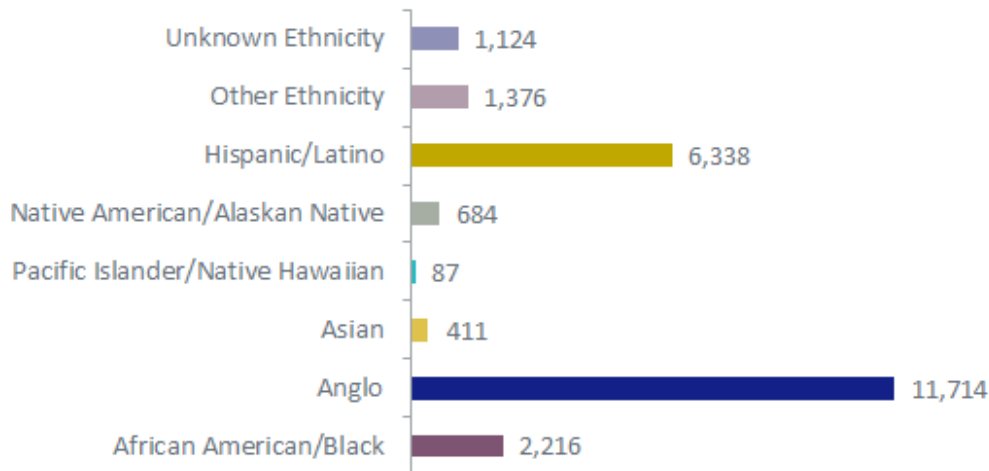
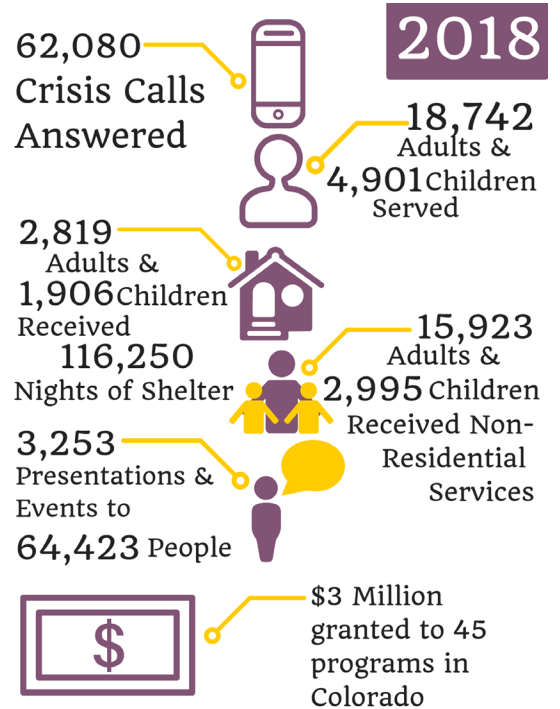
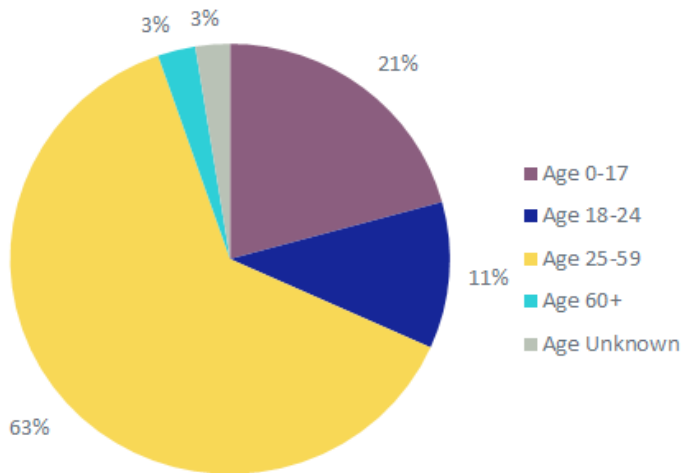
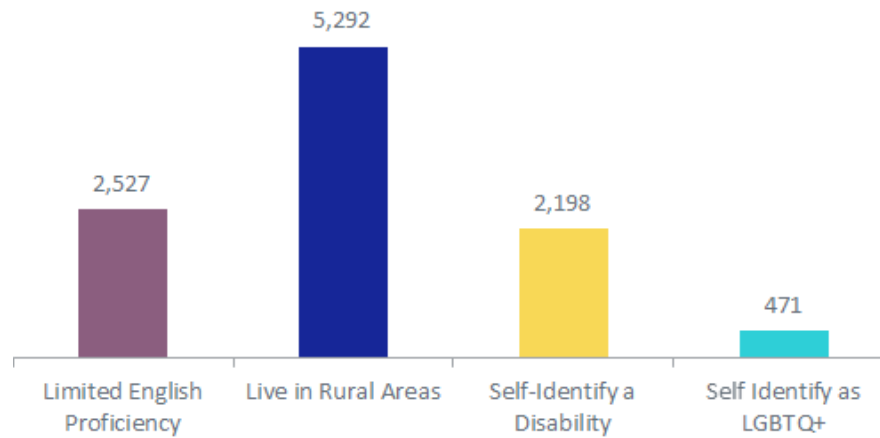


Advocate Safehouse Project	Garfield	Gateway Battered Women’s Services	Arapahoe
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Las Animas	Help for Abused Partners	Logan
Advocates Building Peaceful Communities	Routt	Latimer House, Hilltop Health Services	Mesa
Advocates Crisis Support Services	Moffat	Latina Safehouse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

Clients Served and Demographics

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.

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 2018.



Community Resources Needed

DVP-funded programs identified safe and affordable housing, affordable legal services, transportation and child care as the most prominent unmet needs in their communities. The quotations below explain how these resources would impact each community.



Safe and affordable housing: “Housing is very expensive in the Roaring Fork Valley and Garfield County. Beginning in 2019 ASP will be utilizing VOCA grant funds to provide comprehensive housing programs, including rental support, in hopes that safe, affordable housing will improve for survivors.” - Julie Olson, Advocate Safehouse Project, Garfield County

Child care: “Lack of affordable child care is a barrier to victims obtaining a job. There are limited spaces available in child care facilities so, even when clients are supported in applying for and qualifying for CCCAP or assistance from The Alliance, it is difficult for clients to find available providers. Collaborating with Early Child Coalition to identify how to support providers would be a way in which The Alliance can help to reduce this barrier.” - Rachel Holder, The Alliance, Chaffee County

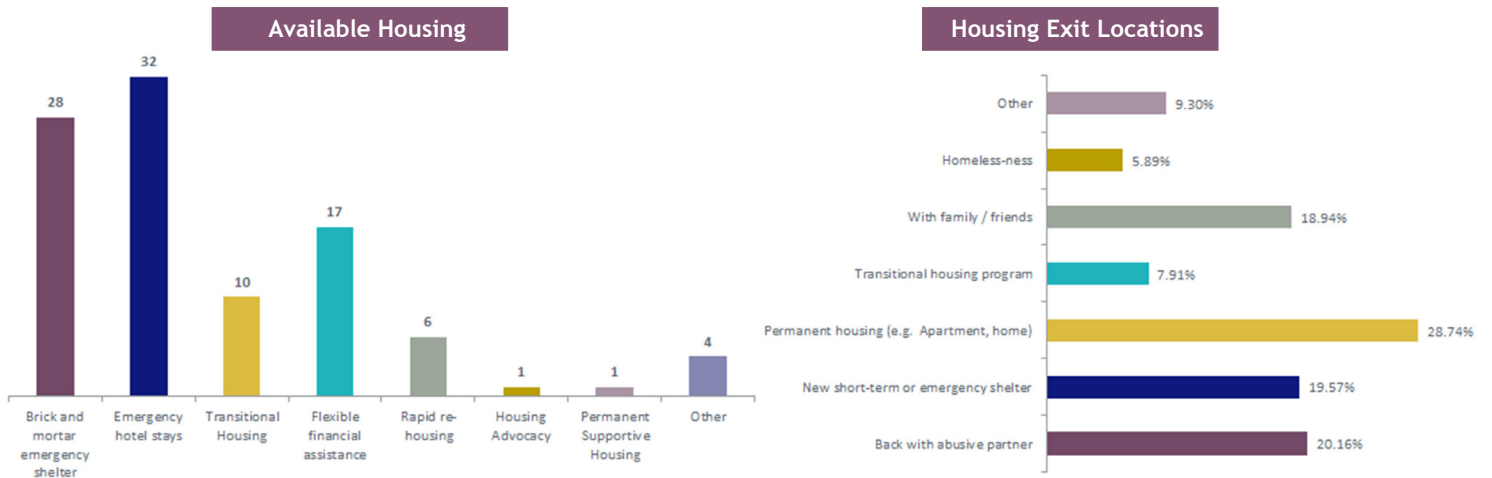
Transportation: “There is limited public transportation from rural areas of our community which can make it challenging for residents and survivors to participate in services and maintain employment. Increased funding for outreach and mobile advocacy to programs that are serving clients in rural areas would assist BFF to meet these needs.” - Sheri Mintz, Bright Future Foundation, Eagle County

Affordable legal services: “Survivors have very few options for discounted legal services and more agencies or funding available for lawyers or programs to provide that service may be helpful.” - Laurel Trawlessy, Safehouse Denver, Denver County

Housing Survey

In partnership with Violence Free Colorado to better understand the current sheltering and housing practices implemented across Colorado, funded organizations were given the opportunity to complete a housing survey. Forty out of the 45 funded organizations completed the survey. The survey asked what type of shelter or housing support is provided. The graph below include the variety of housing services available in Colorado with 70 percent providing an emergency shelter facility and 80 percent providing emergency hotel stays (many shelter facilities will also offer emergency hotel stays when the shelter is at capacity). It is important to note that 90 percent of survey respondents reported partnering with local or regional housing programs.

Survey respondents were also asked to report on where clients report they go to when they exit the housing services provided by the organization. While only 53 percent of organizations track this information, an additional 33 percent provided some information about where clients go when they exit. On average, 29 percent of clients exit to permanent housing. Included is a graph of the reported exit location of clients.



Impact of the Work: Outcome Measures

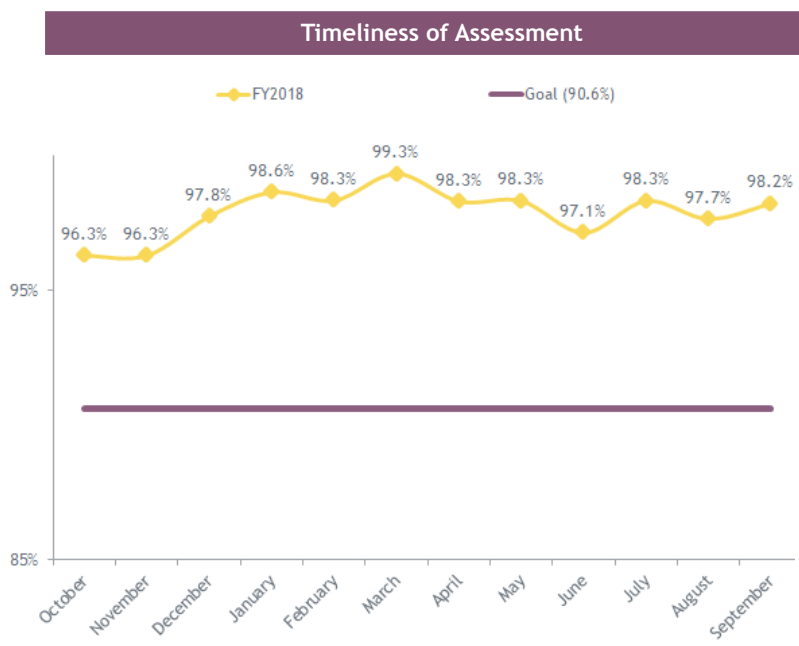
2018 Family Violence Prevention and Services Act outcomes: DVP-funded programs tracked two specific outcome measures to evaluate the impact their services had on the lives of survivors. These outcomes measurements are driven by requirements from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). 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 long-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. In 2018, 7,549 clients returned these anonymous surveys with 95.55 percent indicating that they knew more ways to plan for their safety and 95.96 percent indicating they know more of the community resources available as a result of receiving services at organizations funded by DVP.

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 below 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 2018, 97.83 percent of new clients were assessed for risks and/or needs within the first seven days of starting services with the program.



Impact of the Work: Client Letter

Fani,

This has been a year! Too many things to Process (the “P” word) and boundaries to set. I have learned a lot and still have a lot to learn.

I could not have done it without you and the safehouse. You will never know how much I appreciate the time you have spent with me and the efforts you have given to oversee my healing process.

I’ve learned that everything is temporary...you just have to wait until things pass. Be true to the person you want to be and not let circumstances change who you want to be. We need to create happiness, believe in success, focus and manifest health and prosperity. Visualize Peace. Attract love. Feel power and ask for love.

Words that sum this year up. You never know how strong you can be...until you have no choice but to be strong.

Thank you, Pam