

Annual Report

Domestic Violence Program

2020




COLORADO
Office of Children,
Youth & Families
Domestic Violence Program

1575 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203
www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp

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.

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

Nondiscrimination Commitment

DVP is committed to serving Colorado's community-based domestic violence advocacy programs and survivors without prejudice regarding level of income, actual or perceived sex, including gender identity, gender expression, religious beliefs, actual or perceived sexual orientation, immigration status, age, race, creed, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, spoken language, disability, or military status or any other factor. DVP is dedicated to funding programs that are committed to creating an environment that is accessible, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed for all domestic violence survivors and their families.

DVP Staff



Brooke Ely-Milen - CDHS

Brooke Ely-Milen
Director



Beth Collins - CDHS

Beth Collins
Specialist



Chelsea Baldwin
Data Specialist



Melissa Snider
Program Assistant

Remembering Brooke Ely-Milen

Brooke Ely-Milen passed away in January of 2021 following a long illness. Brooke was a valued member of the DVP team for 13 years, including as the DVP Director for five years. Brooke had a generous heart, a big smile, a strategic mind, and most of all, an unwavering commitment to survivors of domestic violence and the advocates who support them.

We are grateful to have known and worked with Brooke. She was an amazing person who carried a spirit of optimism and determination. We know Brooke is greatly missed by the entire anti-domestic violence community in Colorado.

Annual Funding Sources

DVP receives funds each year to support Colorado organizations that work to promote the safety and well-being of domestic violence survivors and prevent domestic violence. Funding from these sources was distributed to 45 community-based domestic violence advocacy organizations in Colorado.

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.

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.



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.

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.

DVP Committees

These committees provide insight, direction, and monitoring of the Domestic Violence Program and guidance regarding distribution of funds.

Advisory Committee

Adam Evans	Project PAVE
Amy Miller	Violence Free Colorado
Ashlee Lewis	The Initiative
Ashley Wilson	Rise Above Violence
Jackie List	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Laurel Tawresey	SafeHouse Denver
Linsey Wingfield	CDPS - Division of Criminal Justice
Regina Rodriguez	CDHS - MINDSOURCE - Brain Injury Network
Shannon Meyer	Response
Sheri Mintz	Bright Future Foundation

Participating on the Domestic Violence Program Committee is important to me because I recognize the overlap in the clients DVP serves and that MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Program serves and **the value in understanding and supporting** one another's efforts.

—Regina Rodriguez

Funding Committee

Agueda Morgan	Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Amy Miller	Violence Free Colorado
Danielle Tuft	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Linsey Wingfield	CDPS - Division of Criminal Justice
Regina Rodriguez	CDHS - MINDSOURCE - Brain Injury Network
Roweena Naidoo	Mile High United Way



18,616 Individuals Served

15,058 adults

3,558 children



7,392 Crisis Intervention calls answered

1,666 Needed Language Services

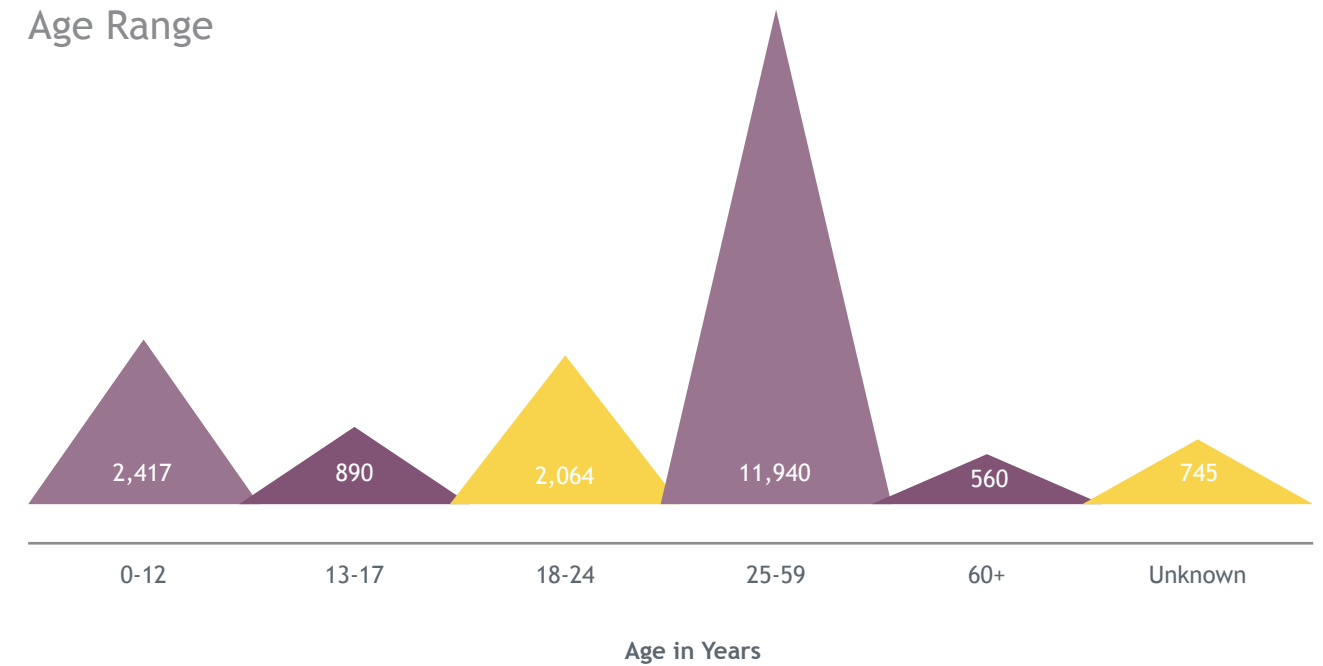
5,259 Live in Rural Areas

1,674 Self-Identify as Disabled

436 Self-Identify as LGBTQ+

Client Demographics

Age Range



Safety & Resources Client Survey Data



90%

reported "I know more ways to plan for my safety as a result of receiving services"

91%

reported increased knowledge about community resources as a result of receiving services

"Si quiere dejar a alguien, ellos pueden ayudar. Tienen todo que necesita. Son una salvación, un rescate. **No tenga miedo.**

(If you want to leave someone, they can help. They have everything you need. They are a salvation, a rescue. **Don't be afraid.**)"

- Client at Advocates of Lake County

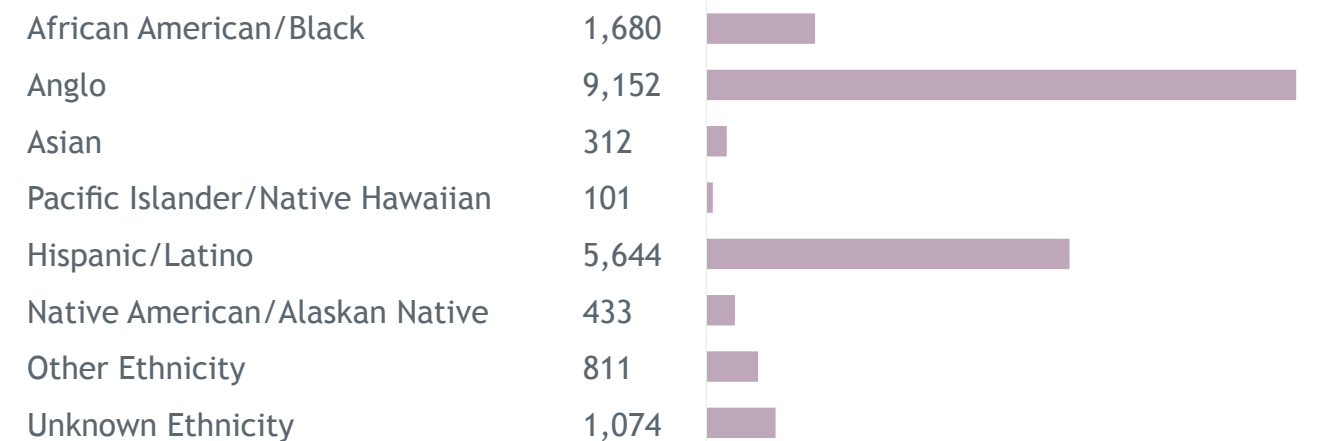
"It was one of the biggest challenges of my life, being put in a position of needing help... Bright Future Foundation was the only place I could turn to for help."

- Client at Bright Future Foundation

Service Region Type



Race / Ethnicity



Funded Organizations

Forty-five organizations across Colorado receive funding from DVP. These organizations provide free and confidential support services to domestic violence survivors and their children, including 24/7 access to crisis line support. Each organization offers a unique array of additional services, and together form a network of expertise spanning our state.

A Woman’s Place, Inc.	Gateway Domestic Violence Services
Advocate Safehouse Project	Help For Abused Partners
Advocates Against Domestic Assault	Hilltop Health Services Corporation
Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc.	Latina Safehouse Initiative
Advocates of Lake County, Inc.	PeaceWorks, Inc.
Advocates of Routt County	Project Hope of Gunnison Valley
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Project PAVE Inc.
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Project Safeguard
Alternative Horizons Corporation	Renew, Inc.
Alternatives to Violence, Inc.	Response
Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program, Inc.	S.H.A.R.E., Inc.
Arkansas Valley Resource Center	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Asian Pacific Development Center	SafeHouse Denver
Bright Future Foundation for Eagle County	Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence
Clear Creek County Advocates	San Miguel Resource Center
Community Clinics Regional Health Open Heart Advocates	Servicios de La Raza
Crisis Center	TESSA
Crossroads Safehouse, Inc.	The Center for Trauma & Resilience
Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment (DOVE)	Tu Casa, Inc.
Domestic Violence Initiative for Women with Disabilities	University of Colorado Phoenix Center at Auraria
Estes Valley Crisis Advocates	Volunteers of America Southwest Safehouse
Family Crisis Services	YWCA of Pueblo

Colorado is comprised of diverse local communities. The organizations that receive DVP funds work to provide effective outreach and intervention services that meet their local needs. Providing accessible, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed advocacy services is a common goal for meeting the needs of all survivors.

2020 - The Year of Responding to COVID-19

In early 2020, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic began disrupting life and work routines across Colorado. DVP-funded organizations began taking urgent action in March of 2020 to protect staff and clients from the emerging public health crisis while continuing to provide essential services. Emergency shelter facilities modified their protocols on an ongoing basis as they adjusted to new information on the best ways to protect their staff and clients. Nearly all employees in non-residential service roles had to begin working remotely—while balancing family, technology issues, confidentiality mandates, politics and street protests, and the stresses of a global pandemic.

Numerous adjustments were made to the services being offered. Among the adaptations were revising cleaning protocols and enacting physical distancing practices, repurposing funds to pay for hotel stays in order to prevent crowding at shelters, developing “chat” systems to stay in touch with clients who weren’t able to speak on the phone, producing training videos for youth and other community members, implementing telehealth services, and much more.

Covid-19 One-Time Funding Supports

During 2020, DVP received two CARES Act allocations; one from a federal source and one designated by the State Legislature. These CARES Act dollars were distributed to organizations in support of their efforts to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency while addressing the evolving needs of domestic violence survivors. The CARES Act funds were vital in not only offsetting significant reductions in funding that organizations experienced but especially in helping organizations purchase essential supplies for mitigating COVID-19 risks to clients and staff.

CARES Act Funds Administered by DVP

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Allocation	\$568,339	44 DVP-funded organizations
Anti-Domestic Violence Organization State of Colorado Allocation	\$312,677	44 DVP-funded organizations
Anit-Sexual Assault Organization State of Colorado Allocation	\$162,544	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Element of Discovery, LLC • IMPACT Personal Safety • Kingdom Builder’s Family Life Center • Mental Health Partners/MESA • Pueblo Rape Crisis Services, Inc. • S.A.R.A. Inc • SASO - Sexual Assault Services Organization • SAVA Center - Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Center • The Blue Bench • Voces Unidas for Justice • WINGS Foundation

