



COLORADO
Office of Children,
Youth & Families
Domestic Violence Program



Domestic Violence Program

Annual Report

2021



Our Values

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.

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.

Vision

- Promote and sustain a culture free of domestic violence for all Coloradans.

Nondiscrimination Commitment

- DVP is committed to serving Colorado community-based domestic violence advocacy programs and survivors without prejudice regarding the 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 relevant, and trauma-informed for all domestic violence survivors and their families.

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.



Staff & Committees



 Beth Collins - Director

DVP welcomed Beth as the new director in July 2021.



 Chelsea Baldwin -
Data Specialist



 Melissa Snider -
Program Assistant



Advisory Committee

Adam Evans

Ashlee Lewis

Ashley Wilson

Jackie List

Laurel Tawresey

Linsey Wingfield

Regina Rodriguez

Roshan Kalantar

Shannon Meyer

Sheri Mintz

Project PAVE

The Initiative

Rise Above Violence

Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

SafeHouse Denver

CDPS - Division of Criminal Justice

CDHS - MINDSOURCE - Brain Injury Network

Violence Free Colorado

Response

Bright Future Foundation

Funding Committee

Agueda Morgan

Amy Miller

Danielle Tuft

Linsey Wingfield

Regina Rodriguez

Roshan Kalantar

Roweena Naidoo

Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Community Subject Matter Expert

CDPHE - Violence and Injury Prevention

CDPS - Office for Victim Programs

CDHS - MINDSOURCE - Brain Injury Network

Violence Free Colorado

Mile High United Way

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. These organizations provide free and confidential services 24/7.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act

Beginning in 1984, Congress approved the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), creating a grant for states to assist in establishing, maintaining and expanding domestic violence programs 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.

“Bright Future Foundation has recently partnered with Violence Free Colorado and the Allstate Foundation to provide financial empowerment services to survivors participating in our housing programs in efforts to support long-term financial health. Bright Future Foundation’s financial empowerment services

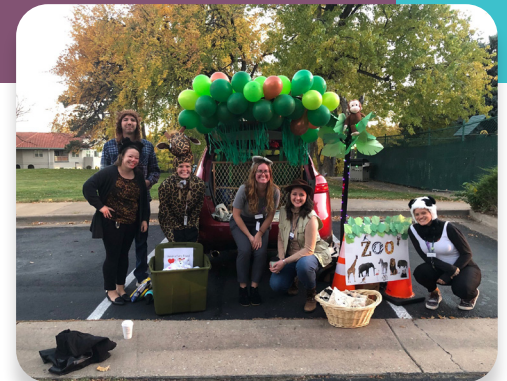
include financial education, budgeting and financial counseling, debt management and consolidation, credit management and financial planning.”

-Bright Future Foundation



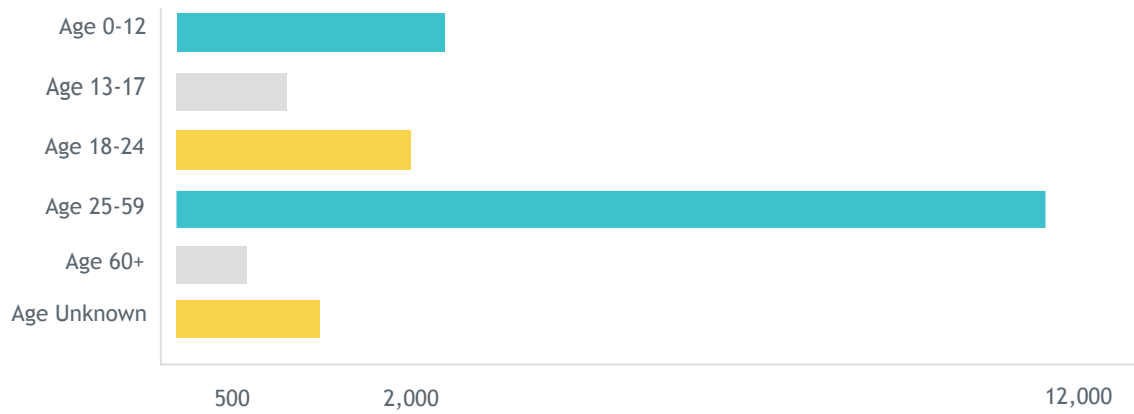
We have created an innovative community initiative called Empowered Intervention, which has multiple facets to provide education to different community groups and provide victims of domestic violence additional, safe ways to reach out. Currently, we are working with area healthcare providers and pharmacies to implement Speak Out in Ink and ANI. Speak Out in Ink provides specific messaging in clinic restrooms where victims can mark a specimen up if they want to speak confidentially with a healthcare provider. ANI provides a code word victims can utilize if they need help. We are educating healthcare providers on both of these initiatives so they understand how the initiatives work and how they can safely and effectively respond to a potential victim. Another part of the program is Safe Summit™, which is inspired by Safe Bars. We provided training to bar and restaurant personnel to teach them bystander intervention, along with code words patrons can utilize should they need assistance.

-Advocates for Victims of Assault



Statistics

Client Ages



5,478

Live in Rural Areas

1,894

Self-Identified Disability

472

Self-Identify as LGBTQ+

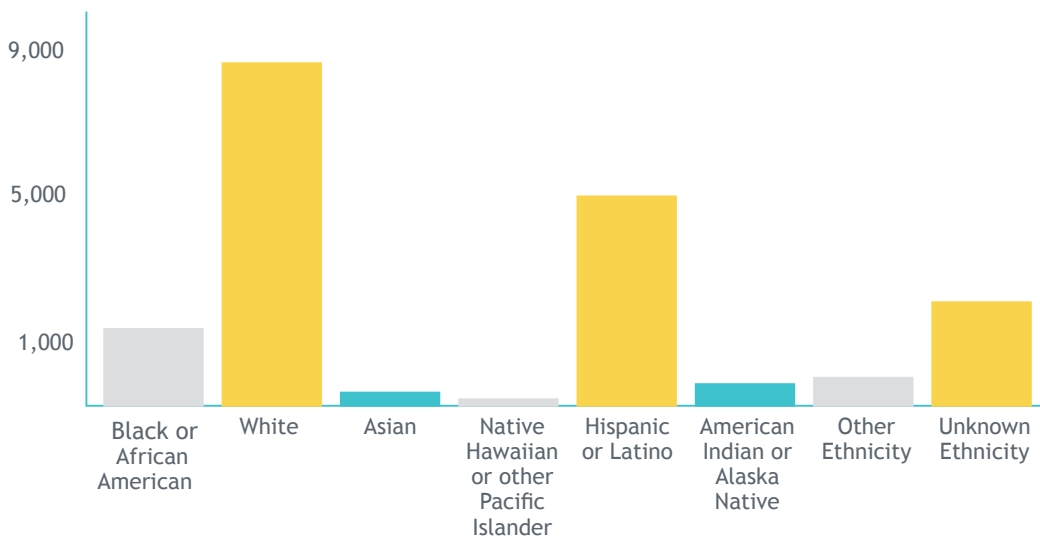
1,663

Needed Language Services

I spent several months there. In the time I've spent at the shelter I've met women, and children, from all over the country and world. The families are of different religions, ages, cultures, and colors. But we were all there to recover and heal.

- Client from Advocates for Victims of Assault

Client Race/Ethnicity



Statistics

18,174

Individuals Served throughout Colorado

15,147



Adults

3,027



Children & Youth

94.93%

Reported knowing more about community resources

95.3%

Reported having enhanced their safety strategies



70,036

Crisis Intervention Calls



89,195

Nights of Shelter Provided



3,429

Total Residential Clients



Community Education

2,249 Community Education Presentations

37,320 Persons attending Community Education

1,188 Youth Targeted Community Education

Funded Organizations

Forty-five organizations across Colorado received 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 Corp. Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services
Advocates for Victims of Assault, Inc.	Latina Safehouse Initiative
Advocates of Lake County, Inc.	PeaceWorks, Inc.
Advocates Victim Assistance Team	Project Hope of Gunnison Valley
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse	Project PAVE Inc.
Alternative Horizons Corporation	Project Safeguard
Alternatives to Violence, Inc.	Renew, Inc.
Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program, Inc. (Rise Above Violence)	RESPONSE: Help for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Arkansas Valley Resource Center	S.H.A.R.E., Inc.
Asian Pacific Development Center Victim Services Program	Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Better Tomorrow Advocates of Routt County	SafeHouse Denver
Bright Future Foundation for Eagle County	Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence
Clear Creek County Advocates	San Miguel Resource Center
Community Clinics at Memorial Regional Health Open Heart Advocates	Servicios de La Raza Services, Inc.
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 (The Initiative)	University of Colorado Denver, Phoenix Center at Auraria
Estes Valley Crisis Advocates	Volunteers of America Southwest Safehouse
Family Crisis Services, Inc.	Young Women's Christian Association of Pueblo
Family Tree, Inc. Domestic Violence Services	

Flexible Financial Assistance

DVP partnered with the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) on a suicide prevention-focused Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant that supported small awards of flexible financial assistance to DVP-funded organizations.

The purpose of these funds was to enhance services for domestic violence survivors and their dependents, particularly in communities highly impacted by COVID-19, by assisting with expenses for COVID-19 and domestic violence-related safety needs.

This was the first time DVP has been able to offer a flexible financial assistance program to organizations. Through the 43 organizations that participated, 1,007 adults and 519 children were provided with a total of \$335,349 in flexible financial assistance. On average, each household received \$333.02 in assistance.

The most common categories of funding were:

- Rental assistance and back-rent
- Hotel or motel stays
- Legal fees
- Utility assistance



Organizations found these funds to be very useful for survivors! They expressed the desire for even more flexibility in how such funds could be used. Advocates also stated the need for more local housing resources across the state.

“One emerging trend that is having a significant effect on our clients is the capacity of our local nonprofit victim legal assistance agency. In the past, many Response clients who lacked the financial resources to hire a private attorney were able to get assistance with protection orders and representation in court on divorce and custody issues. Now they are only able to help file the paperwork for protection orders and nothing more. We are having to seek out creative solutions for funding representation for our clients. The flexible funding in 2021 was extremely useful to us in meeting that need.” - RESPONSE



DVP is grateful for the support from CDPHE and SAMHSA for the opportunity to provide these funds to organizations. We are also extremely appreciative of the participating organizations and their dedication to supporting survivors in their communities.

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www.colorado.gov/cdhs/dvp

