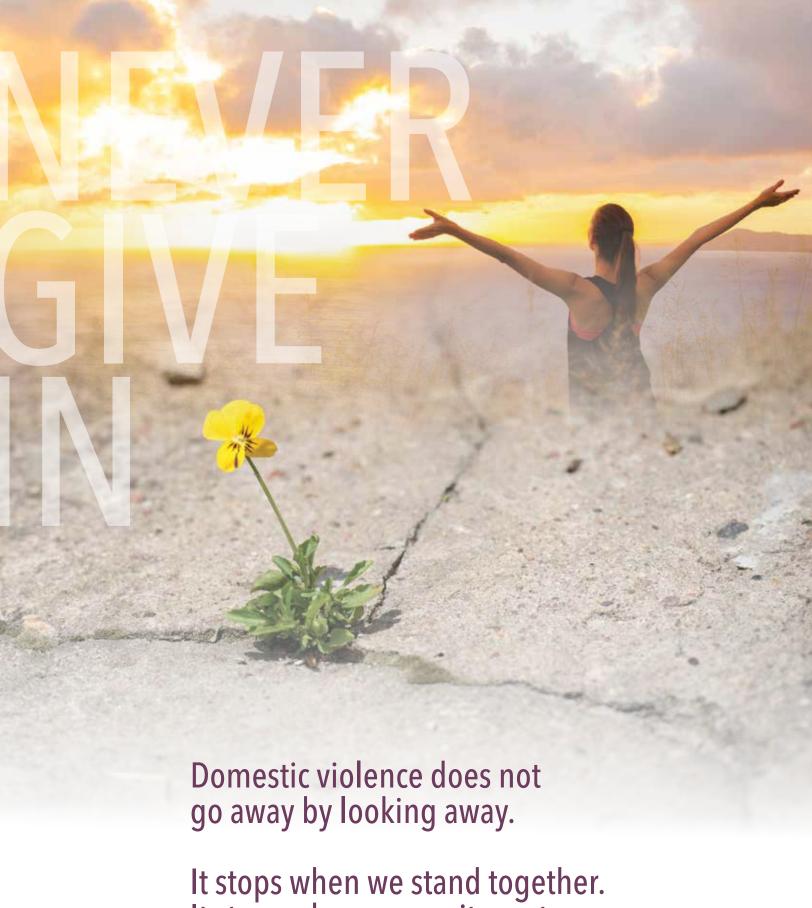


THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF A BETTER FUTURE



It stops when we stand together.
It stops when we say it must,
and not just one of us, but all of us.



"The work to stem domestic violence never ends, and I am grateful for the work of all of our partners who are committed to ending domestic violence and supporting victims. We'll continue to fight against crime in Florida and will always stand with those who have been victimized."

-Governor Rick Scott

"The Florida Department of Children and Families is dedicated to continuing our collaboration with partners around the state, including the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, to serve survivors of domestic violence and their children. These lifesaving services prevent tragedies and give these families hope for a better life, free from fear and abuse."

— Interim Secretary Rebecca Kapusta, Department of Children and Families

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence is to work towards ending violence through public awareness, policy development, and support for Florida's domestic violence centers. The terrible crime of domestic violence permeating our society is relentless, and the goal of ending it may seem impossible.

Eleanor Roosevelt said, "It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

Our commitment to ending domestic violence is inspired by those we serve: survivors and their children. We believe that every person has the right to live free of fear and control, and we must work at it. Persistently, unfailingly, relentlessly.

Mrs. Roosevelt once asked, "When will our consciences grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?" We believe we should work toward both. Good public policy should aid in preventing violence and hold batterers accountable for their crimes. FCADV serves as the primary voice for victims of domestic violence in the public policy arena, working closely with the Executive and Legislative branches to create and implement policy that strengthens penalties for batterers and enhances services for survivors.

During the 2018 Legislative Session, FCADV secured funding to install generators in all of Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers to ensure that survivors and their children may remain in confidentially located shelters rather than face exposure in public spaces. FCADV supported passage of new laws banning marriage of minors and expanding protections for victims of domestic violence who are also financially exploited vulner-

able adults. The Coalition successfully advocated to exclude offenses involving domestic violence, stalking, and dating, repeat, or sexual violence from civil citations arrest diversion programs.

These are examples of FCADV's persistence in expanding services and protections for survivors while ensuring that abusers are held accountable. This is the Coalition's singular purpose and focus, but no individual or organization can successfully combat domestic violence without support.

For decades, FCADV has partnered with the Florida Department of Children & Families and the Office of the Attorney General to deliver programs serving survivors of domestic violence and their children. The Coalition has worked to build relationships and collaborations with a myriad of community partners.

Of course, this could not have been accomplished without the consistent support of the Florida Legislature and the commitment of successive Governors to prioritize this issue. Their compassion for survivors and dedication to holding abusers accountable is evident in their sensible policy decisions and responsible provision of program funding.

Florida law requires that FCADV create a statewide status report on domestic violence and distribute it to the Florida Legislature. Information contained in this report includes the statistical data prescribed by statute, a description of many of the innovative services and programs available to survivors of domestic violence and their children, federal and state funding sources, and data collected from state and local domestic violence fatality review teams.

The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence

FCADV is the private, nonprofit organization that serves as the statewide professional association for Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers. In this role, FCADV provides leadership, advocacy, education, training, technical assistance, coordination, and support to certified domestic violence centers, their community partners, and other statewide professionals to improve services, practices, and policies related to domestic violence. FCADV is statutorily required to implement, evaluate, and fund the state's domestic violence services.² As such, FCADV conducts annual monitoring of certified domestic violence centers to ensure the provision of quality services and fiscal accountability. FCADV also serves as the primary voice for survivors of domestic violence and their children in the public policy arena.

The Florida Department of Children and Families

DCF serves as FCADV's primary partner to end domestic violence in Florida. To that end, DCF's primary responsibilities include oversight of funding, initial certification of newly formed domestic violence centers, and annual renewal of certifications for existing centers. As a result of the implementation of the Statewide Child Protection Investigation (CPI) Project, DCF and FCADV continue to work collaboratively to revise policy and training programs to address the complexities associated with the needs of families in the child welfare system experiencing domestic violence.

¹Pursuant to s. 39.904, Florida Statutes

²Pursuant to s. 39.9035, Florida Statutes

AT A GLANCE

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors, violence, or threats of violence that one person uses to establish power and control over a current or former intimate partner. It is not a disagreement, a marital spat, or an anger management problem. Domestic violence is abusive, disrespectful, dangerous, and may include abuse that is physical, sexual, emotional, spiritual, or economic. The use of threats, intimidation, isolation, pet abuse, and using children as pawns are examples of the tactics batterers use to perpetrate domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Defined in Statute

Florida law defines domestic violence as any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member.³

RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAVES LIVES

Domestic Violence Crime in Florida⁴ January – December 2017

- Overall crime decreased by 4.5 percent, while reported domestic violence offenses increased by 1.25 percent
- 106,979 domestic violence offenses were reported to law enforcement
- 180 individuals died as a result of domestic violence homicide, representing approximately 17 percent of all homicides in Florida
- Law enforcement made 64,781 arrests for domestic violence related crimes

Individuals Seeking Services Fiscal Year 2017-18

- 15,937 individuals received emergency shelter at a certified domestic violence center
- Domestic violence survivors and their children spent 669,785 nights in emergency shelter
- Advocates received 85,588 hotline calls
- 167,867 safety plans were completed with survivors
- 39,138 women, children, and men received outreach services
- 5,667 requests for emergency shelter went unmet due to lack of capacity and resources

³Pursuant to s. 741.28, Florida Statutes

4Information from FDLE's 2017 Annual Uniform Crime Report: http:// www.fdle.state.fl.us/cms/ FSAC/UCR/2016/CIFAnnual16.aspx

FLORIDA'S CERTIFIED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTERS

Certified domestic violence centers are the only state-designated organizations responsible for the provision of a continuum of services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for survivors as they begin to achieve safety and independence.

Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers are located throughout the state and are responsible for providing critical, life-saving emergency shelter, services, and programming to survivors and their children. In Florida, our centers are on the front lines of responding to domestic violence by providing a place of safety, security, healing, and empowerment to survivors of domestic violence and their children fleeing violent homes. Certified domestic violence centers are the only state-designated organizations responsible for the provision of a continuum of services to survivors, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, as they begin to achieve safety and independence.

Certified domestic violence centers are statutorily required to provide specific services that include: information and referrals; counseling and case management; temporary emergency shelter; a 24-hour crisis hotline; training for law enforcement personnel; assessment and appropriate referral of residential children; and community educational training related to the incidence of domestic violence, the prevention of such violence, and the services available for persons engaged in or subject to domestic violence.⁵

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, certified centers provided 669,785 nights of life-saving emergency shelter to 15,937 women, children, and men. Many survivors fled violent homes with their children, who represented 45 percent of those served in emergency shelter. This past year, centers provided an additional 1,623 shelter nights to survivors and their children which represents a 11-percent increase from the previous year. In addition to the services required by Florida Statutes, a majority of our certified centers supplement their programs with important ancillary services, such as transportation, rent and utility assistance, transitional housing, legal and court advocacy, work skills and job-readiness training and placement, financial literacy, and other training and education programs.

⁵Pursuant to s. 39.905, Florida Statutes

ADVOCATES RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY:

Completing 167,867 survivor-focused safety plans

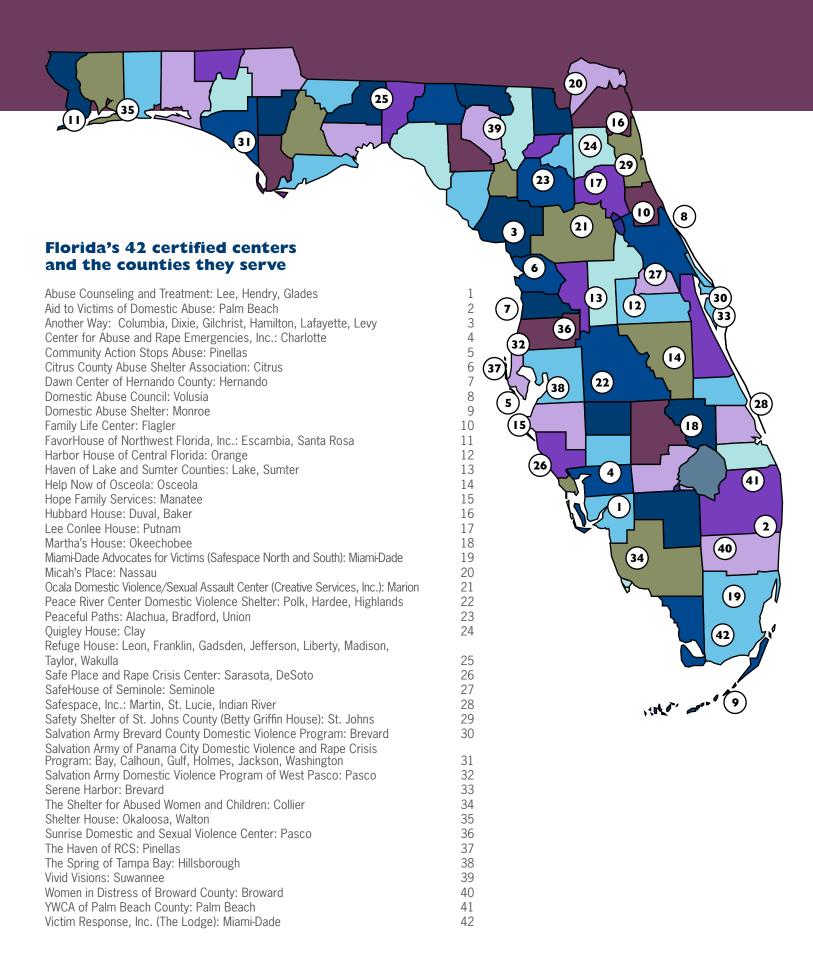
Providing 336,737 hours of counseling and advocacy

Offering 333,164 direct service information and referrals to survivors, family members, and individuals seeking assistance

Spending 96,979 hours facilitating child and youth-specific activities

Providing youth-targeted community education to 94,047 participants

Providing education and training programs to 34,905 adults



CERTIFIED CENTERS

N A SINGLE DAY

RECEIVED 418 hotline calls

SHELTERED 2,212 in emergency shelter or transitional housing

PROVIDED
441 adults
and children with
outreach services

N A SINGLE YEAR

RECEIVED 85,588 hotline calls

SHELTERED 15,937 in emergency shelter

PROVIDED
39,138 adults
and children with
outreach services

INDIVIDUALS SERVED

Domestic violence does not discriminate and occurs regardless of ethnicity, age, religion, culture, or socioeconomic status. To respond appropriately to Florida's unique and diverse population, Florida's certified domestic violence centers provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services tailored to the specific needs of each individual and/or family seeking services. FCADV operates the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline, which provides trilingual emergency services and legal counsel to survivors. FCADV also provides access to interpreter language services for certified domestic violence centers to ensure a linguistically specific response to survivors.

SHELTER 19,429

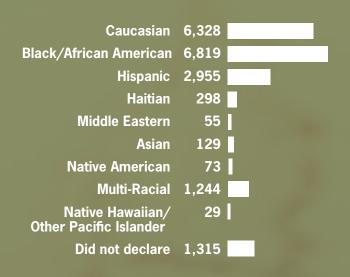
OUTREACH 48,773

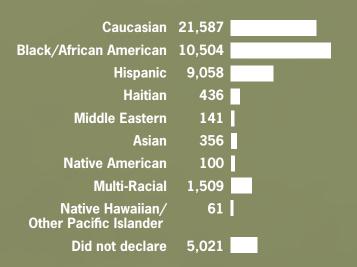
⁶http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/ DVCounts2015/ Florida.pdf

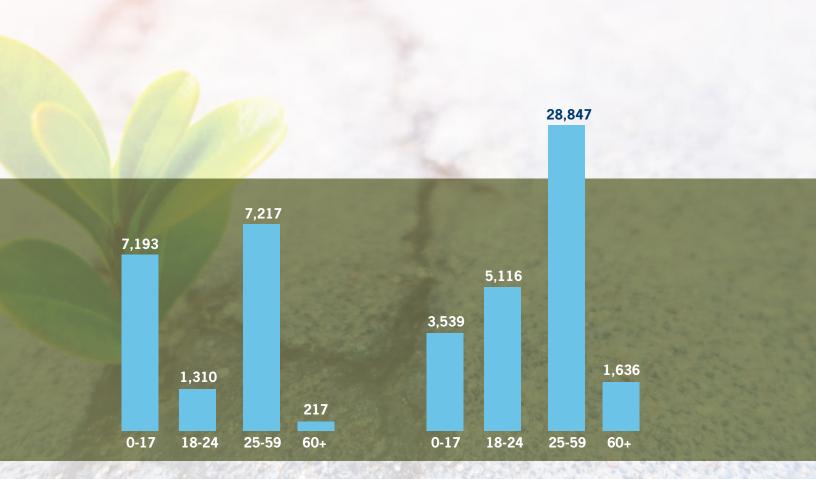
⁷Includes calls received by the FCADV Florida Domestic Violence Hotline

SERVED IN SHELTER

SERVED IN OUTREACH







SERVED IN SHELTER

SERVED IN OUTREACH

COMMUNITIES

RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Florida's certified domestic violence centers have a long history of collaborating with community partners to create and implement important programming that efficiently and effectively responds to domestic violence.

In the second year of FCADV's statewide economic empowerment project, advocates have been innovative in their support of local survivors in their journey toward financial independence. Employment is a key component to establishing financial stability, and local advocates have identified creative ways to overcome barriers that prevent what survivors may face specific to securing or supplementing income.

The following are selected examples of the unique programs created by certified domestic violence centers and local partnering agencies for their communities.

Hubbard House/Help NOW of Osceola: Establishing Community Partnerships to Secure Job Placement

To connect with survivors seeking employment, Hubbard House has identified local companies offering various positions that require a broad range of skills. The more options available, the more likely a survivor is to secure a position that works best for their needs, skills, and level of education. Each partnering company offers employment opportunities; however, several also offer participants opportunities to gain certifications or specific jobs skills that a survivor can take with them if they decide to move on. Through the partnerships cultivated by the center, participants involved with the local economic empowerment program are receiving job placements within two to three weeks

of engagement. This quick turnaround allows security for participants to be able to move forward with other financial goals rather than being mired in the employment process.

Help NOW of Osceola has made great strides in cultivating community partnerships regarding employment as well. One essential addition to their program is Community Vison Project Open. This project provides grants for customized skills certification courses designed to meet the needs of participants. These courses provide attendees with the tools necessary to advance a positive career and end the cycle of poverty. The program provides functional life skills training, technical certification, and job placement.

Martha's House: Exploring Non-traditional Jobs for Women

One of the greatest economic needs identified by survivors is the availability of employment choices for women, and especially for those without college education. While some jobs are considered "high-growth" and do not require a college education (e.g., manufacturing, transportation, skilled trades, etc), many women do not think of these as options because they are perceived as traditional "male" positions. The Economic Justice Advocate at Martha's House explored non-traditional careers that participants may not have considered as options.

The list of non-traditional industries identified in the local area by the center was extensive: mechanics, motorcycle, marine, diesel, electrician, plumbing, heavy equipment operating, carpentry, welding, HVAC, etc. The advocate also investigated locate schools and programs available to offer participants training and education in these area, as well as grants and stipends available to employers for hiring women in their field.

One key contact was Universal Technical Institute in Orlando, Florida, one of the mostrespected programs in the country. The program fully assists with completing financial aid requirements for their school, helps participants find shared housing, and supports participants with securing part-time or full-time jobs in the area that work around school hours. Further, once participants complete their schooling, Universal Technical Institute helps to place participants nearly anywhere in our country for a career.

Women in Distress: Business Empowerment Network Group

The Business Network group at Women in Distress includes an empowerment model that encourages self-confidence in business and innovative thinking. The group provides a safe and judgment-free environment for participants to develop new ideas, set business goals aligned with their financial goals, and learn different ways of earning income while receiving training on entrepreneurship. Taking advantage of knowledge gained from operating her own business for the

past five years, the center's advocate facilitates weekly business management workshops, reviews participants' business projects, and provides constructive feedback on evolving business plans. Once a month, a local business leader is invited to Women In Distress to facilitate training specific to business management and offer opportunities for networking to members of the group.

Group members have successfully grown their businesses using methods learned from the entrepreneurship program. Some have been able to turn their hobbies and passions into businesses that generate revenue. By starting small businesses, survivors are able to supplement their income, and possibly make their business their primary source of income.

"Shelter resident, 'GS,' met consistently with Help NOW's Economic Empowerment Advocate to develop steps toward building an achievable goal of career development. GS was able to apply for a scholarship with Community Vision and was accepted into the Osceola Technical College Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program for 8 weeks. GS completed the course with honors and graduated on April 9th. With the support of the center's Economic Empowerment Advocate to put together her résumé, GS applied for a CNA position and was hired at a rate of \$12.00 dollars an hour. She was approved for housing assistance and has met her goal of purchasing a car as well. The vehicle will make transportation easier for her to get to and from work. Having accomplished her financial goals and with the continuous support of Help NOW and partner agencies, GS has her dream job and is on her way to financial independence for herself and her five kids—the first time in six years."

—Success story from Hubbard House's Community Partnerships

RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE THROUGH PROGRAMS, ADVOCACY AND TRAINING

More than 96
percent of
participants in
attendance at
FCADV trainings
reported they
will utilize the
concepts learned
to enhance and
expand their
advocacy for
families
experiencing
domestic
violence.

By viewing the provision of domestic violence services through a statewide lens, FCADV is uniquely positioned to advance a comprehensive, statewide approach that focuses on the development of innovative services, programs, and best practices to respond to the needs of survivors and their children.

In 2004, FCADV was statutorily designated by the Legislature as the administrator of state and federal funding earmarked for domestic violence services. As the administrator of these funds, FCADV subcontracts with Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers, a multitude of law enforcement agencies, state prosecutors' offices, statewide associations, and communitybased organizations dedicated to providing services and resources to survivors and their children while holding perpetrators accountable for their violence. FCADV ensures compliance with administrative, programmatic, and fiscal accountability requirements of each provider by engaging in a stringent monitoring process. This statewide role leads to efficient and effective coordination among agencies responding to domestic violence throughout Florida.

In addition to the programs and initiatives on the following pages, FCADV provides training, technical assistance, and education to certified domestic violence centers, collaborative community partners, agencies, and service providers throughout the state. Each year, thousands of hours of training and technical assistance are provided to these entities to strengthen knowledge, enhance standards, and build capacity to provide quality services to domestic violence survivors and their children. FCADV tailors each training to address the specific needs identified by the center and/or local community organization. More than 97 percent of participants in attendance at FCADV trainings reported they will utilize the concepts learned to enhance and expand their advocacy for families experiencing domestic violence.

The following FCADV programs and initiatives are highlighted as examples of signature programming designed to respond to domestic violence by focusing on the needs of survivors and their children while holding perpetrators accountable for their violent behavior. This is not an exhaustive compilation of all the resources, programs, and initiatives coordinated by the organization, but represents a snapshot of select activities. For additional information about FCADV's programs and services, please visit www.fcadv.org.

FAMILIES EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVOLVED IN THE CHILD **WELFARE SYSTEM**

Child Protection Investigation Project

Protecting children from the effects of domestic violence is a mutual priority of FCADV, DCF, and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), "Intimate partner violence threatens child" is one of the most prevalent maltreatment offenses reported to the Statewide Florida Abuse Hotline, Recognizing that children in the foster care system often experience substandard life outcomes, FCADV, DCF, and OAG partnered to create this groundbreaking program designed to provide a coordinated community response for families experiencing the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse by co-locating domestic violence advocates within CPI Units. These co-located advocates provide consultation to child welfare professionals, support and referral services to survivors, and coordination with community partners to develop strategies to improve collaboration and

resolve barriers. This immediate intervention. sometimes within hours of a child abuse report. helps to stabilize the crisis and increase safety in the home. The ultimate goals of this statewide project are to bridge the gap between child welfare and domestic violence service providers to enhance family safety and to create permanency for children by focusing on keeping the child safe in the home with the non-offending parent, while increasing perpetrator accountability measures and strategies.

In 2009, the CPI Project was originally conceived and implemented with the creation of seven pilot sites. Four additional sites were added in 2011, three of which focused on providing linguistically and culturally specific services. In 2014, the Governor and Legislature provided funding to expand the highly successful CPI Project to 45 counties where a high volume of domestic violence-related child maltreatment removals occur. In 2015, the Legislature again prioritized survivor and child safety by expanding the CPI Project to all 67 counties in Florida. The legislature maintained this project as a result of its tremendous success.

DURING FISCAL YEAR 2017-18, FCADV:

Responded to 8,240 technical assistance requests from domestic violence centers, collaborative partners, and other agencies

Conducted 250 onsite technical assistance visits and trainings for certified domestic violence center staff and/or Board of Directors, collaborative partners, and other agencies

Conducted 163 webinars/technical assistance calls

Conducted 24 listening and/or focus groups throughout the state to obtain input from survivors, advocates, and other service providers regarding the current needs, barriers, and trends impacting prevention and intervention of domestic violence.

Conducted 7,355 units of electronic technical assistance to domestic violence centers and other allied organizations

- Administered and managed 234 contracts
- Conducted 88 monitoring visits and/or desk reviews

SELECT PROGRAM SUCCESS

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18, the CPI Projects collectively utilized a seamless system of wraparound services, which allowed 11,455 children, whose families were involved in the child welfare system, to remain in the home with the non-offending parent, representing a nine-percent increase from the previous fiscal year. During this time, co-located advocates:

- received and followed up on a total of 7,651 CPI Project referrals from child welfare professionals;
- participated in 3,849 child welfare case staffings; and
- provided 11,554 case consultation services to child welfare professionals.

FCADV also conducted 41 child welfare related trainings for 938 child welfare staff and other system partners. Ninety-four (94) percent of individuals participating in the CPI Project training reported increasing their knowledge regarding the overall safety and supportive needs of survivors and 95 percent of participants further indicated they would utilize the new information to enhance their work with survivors and their children.

As a result of these comprehensive services, the need for foster care services was significantly reduced and resulted in a potential cost savings of \$31,474,903.50 by keeping children out of the foster care system.

PERPETRATOR ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Law Enforcement Training Initiative

To increase perpetrator accountability in domestic violence cases, FCADV provides training and technical assistance on best practices in evidence collection and prosecution of domestic violence perpetrators to law enforcement, advocates, and prosecutors. Trainings also include establishing appropriate protocols for responding to domestic violence calls, maintaining the confidentiality of survivor information, and effectively assessing the risk for potential domestic violence homicides.

Law Enforcement Enhanced Response Program

Designed to provide domestic violence survivors and their children with protection and services while improving a community's capacity to hold batterers accountable, the Law Enforcement Enhanced Response program supports five Florida communities in enhancing their response to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This program challenges the community to listen, communicate, identify problems, and share ideas that will result in responses that ensure survivor safety and offender accountability. The goals of the program include assisting survivors and their children with accessing the protection and services necessary to live violence free while improving the community's capacity to hold offenders accountable.

Intimate Violence Enhanced Service Team (InVEST)

InVEST was created specifically to reduce and prevent domestic violence homicides. FCADV and OAG identified 11 communities with the highest rates of domestic violence homicides to implement this pilot program. InVEST utilizes a coordinated community response model designed to reduce the number of domestic violence homicides by increasing services for survivors identified in high-lethality domestic violence situations while increasing perpetrator accountability throughout the criminal justice process. Preventing domestic

During the past fiscal year, law enforcement agencies participating in the InVEST and Law Enforcement Enhanced Response programs arrested 17,198 domestic violence perpetrators, while law enforcement agencies filed 19,758 arrests for prosecution with local state attorney offices.

violence homicides requires a comprehensive, multifaceted, and community-based response in which law enforcement, other criminal justice partners, and domestic violence centers work together to hold perpetrators accountable and provide enhanced advocacy for survivors. The InVEST program includes members from law enforcement, domestic violence centers, child welfare agencies, courts, and other partners who utilize non-traditional approaches by identifying high risk cases and ensuring that all systems tailor their response to address the unique and diverse needs of each survivor.

InVEST partnerships implement batterer accountability measures and provide enhanced advocacy and safety for more than 3,000 survivors per year identified as high risk for being murdered by their intimate partner. Since the program's inception, no survivors participating in the InVEST program were murdered by the abuser. This is of particular note since participants entering the program are considered to be in the most dangerous and high-lethality domestic violence situations.

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, FCADV conducted training related to reducing intimate partner homicides for over 220 certified domestic violence center staff and allied partners. FCADV conducted 16 trainings related to the safety needs of survivors for approximately 630 participants from law enforcement agencies and allied partners. As a result:

- 100 percent of individuals who participated in the training related to reducing intimate partner homicide reported increasing their knowledge regarding the safety needs of survivors;
- 98 percent of the participants attending the law enforcement training reported increasing their knowledge regarding the safety needs of survivors; and
- 95 percent of individuals participating in the training related to reducing intimate partner homicide reported increasing their knowledge regarding strategies to employ for holding perpetrators accountable.

INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION PROJECT

"I am grateful to the [IFP Project attorneys] and the staff of the [certified domestic violence center] for all of the professional assistance they provided and the kindness they showed me. I do not know how I would have been able to navigate through the legal system without their guidance and support."

> —Quote from a survivor served by the IFP Project

The most frequently sought advice from FCADV's Legal Hotline staff is for information regarding obtaining an injunction for protection and directions related to preparing for related court appearances. In addition, survivors regularly report to FCADV during annual listening groups that access to legal services remains one of their greatest unmet needs. During FY 2016-17, FCADV was awarded a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant from OAG to fund Florida's certified domestic violence centers to hire attorneys to represent survivors of domestic, dating, and sexual violence and stalking when seeking civil injunctions for protection. Injunction for Protection (IFP) Project attorneys meet with survivors referred by partnering agencies, such as clerk and court staff, law enforcement, state attorneys, and other organizations, to determine whether filing for an injunction is a safe and appropriate legal action. IFP Project attorneys represent survivors from the temporary petition stage through the final injunction hearing, as well as in civil show cause hearings for injunction violations. The attorneys also represent survivors in other injunction-related proceedings that impact their safety, such as defending against a perpetrator's motion to dismiss a final injunction.

FCADV conducts site visits with the attorneys to address challenges, observes court proceedings, and provides legal research and individualized technical assistance to each of the centers and attorneys. During this inaugural year of the project, FCADV developed nu-

merous written forms and protocols for the IFP Project to assist with project implementation.

Currently, there are 66 IFP Project Attorneys providing services in 48 counties. The vast majority of survivors receiving injunction representation are victims of domestic violence. From October 2017 through September 2018:

- IFP Project lawyers provided legal advice and injunction representation to 8,420 new survivors
- IFP Project lawyers represented survivors in 12,499 injunction for protection and other injunction related hearings ("Civil legal assistance with obtaining protection or restraining order" on report)
- 6,084 survivors received information and referral services and 3,765 survivors received victim compensation/relocation information as a part of the program

⁸Jinseok Kim & Karen Gray, Leave or Stay?: Battered Women's Decision After Intimate Partner Violence, 23 Journal of Interpersonal Violence 1465, 1466 (2008) citing Deborah K. Anderson & Daniel G. Saunders, Leaving an Abusive Partner: An Empirical Review of Predictors, the Process of Leaving, and the Psychological Well-being, 4 Trauma, Violence, & Abuse 163 (2003); Ola W. Barnett, Why Battered Women Do Not Leave: Part 1: External Inhibiting Factors Within Society, 1 Trauma, Violence, & Abuse 343 (2000).

⁹Chen, Tim. "How to Stop Domestic Financial Abuse - US News." US News RSS. U.S. News & World Report, 26 Apr. 11. Web. 06 Aug. 2014.

Statewide Economic **Empowerment Program**

FCADV's Statewide Economic Empowerment Program was created to directly respond to financial control exercised by perpetrators. Lack of financial knowledge and resources is the number one indicator of whether a domestic violence victim will stay, leave, or return to an abusive relationship.8 Financial abuse occurs in 98 percent of all domestic violence cases.9 Survivors report that abusers utilize a multitude of economically-related tactics to gain and maintain power and control over them, such as creating large amounts of debt in joint accounts, withholding funds from the survivor or children to obtain basic needs such

as food and medicine, prohibiting the survivor from working, and not allowing the survivor to access bank accounts.10 FCADV's Statewide Economic Empowerment Program includes a critical partnership with Allstate Florida, which provides funding to advance financial independence for survivors of domestic violence and their children by coordinating grants for two certified domestic violence centers to implement local economic empowerment projects.



"I feel empowered and can do anything I want with my life now!"

-Quote from a survivor about her experience with the Economic Empowerment Program

Also during FY 2017-18:

- 3,644 survivors of domestic violence participated in financial empowerment services using the Allstate Moving Ahead Curriculum. This represents a 223-percent increase in survivors participating in financial empowerment services from the previous fiscal year.
- 4,611 survivors of domestic violence have received financial empowerment services through the local Economic Empowerment Program.
- 1,259 survivors of domestic violence have received basic literacy services including financial literacy classes, while 366 survivors have participated in the certified domestic violence center's Literacy Programs. This represents a 337-percent increase in survivors receiving basic literacy services and a 126-percent increase in survivors participating in certified center's literacy program from the previous fiscal year
- 207 meetings have been conducted with financial institutions or agencies that assist in developing programs related to microloans, microenterprises, matched savings accounts, and/or individual development accounts for survivors representing a 99-percent increase from the previous fiscal year.

- 1,967 survivors of domestic violence have been assisted with identifying and securing affordable housing and 1,947 survivors have received assistance with identifying and securing employment goals. This represents an 869-percent increase in survivors assisted with identifying and securing affordable housing and a 414-percent increase in survivors assisted with identifying and securing employment goals from the previous fiscal year.
- 278 survivors of domestic violence have completed educational courses, job training programs, or certificate programs.
- 171 survivors of domestic violence participated in the Micro-loan program, while 137 participated in the microenterprise program.
- Participating programs throughout the state provided 14,130 information and referral services, a 435-percent increase from the previous fiscal year; advocacy and accompaniment in 9,873 instances, a 612-percent increase from the previous fiscal year; and 11,346 emotional support and safety services, a 567-percent increase from the previous fiscal year.
- While EJ programs have assisted 1,732 survivors with filling Victim's Compensation applications, a 495-percent increase from the previous fiscal year; they have also provided shelter and housing services in 3,485 instances, a 118-percent increase from the previous fiscal year.

Economic Justice Program State

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, FCADV conducted 31 trainings related to strategies for improving economic opportunities for survivors of domestic violence, economic empowerment, and addressing adult literacy needs (primarily financial literacy).

Of those who participated in adult literacy and economic empowerment training, 95.73 percent increased their knowledge about survivor's literacy. Among participants in economic empowerment training, 96.88 percent increased their knowledge about survivor's financial needs, 92.28 percent increased their knowledge about survivor's literacy needs, and 92.45 percent agreed that the information presented can be implemented into their work.

Local

9,689 survivors of domestic violence incorporated financial safety planning methods into their personal plans to maintain safety. Every participant in the Economic Justice Program incorporated financial safety planning into the centers' safety planning procedures.

SafetyNet Program

In FY 2017-18, 100 percent of the people evaluated in FCADV's high-tech stalking, technology, and abuse regional trainings reported increased knowledge about the complex safety needs of survivors of such abuse, as evidenced in post-tests administered at the end of the training.

Every participant in FCADV's Statewide Anti-Stalking Institute increased their knowledge about the complex safety needs of survivors of high-tech stalking, technology, and abuse.

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, FCADV conducted 34 trainings related to the complex safety needs of survivors experiencing high-tech stalking, technology, and abuse for 2,326 certified domestic violence center staff and allied partners. Participants noted that the informa-

tion presented would influence their work greatly making statements such as, "This is information I will use at work, at home and around town" and will "help [me to] inform victims on additional ways to protect themselves as well as document harassment and stalking."

Rural Statewide Initiative and Rural/Underserved Programs

State

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, FCADV conducted the 21st Annual Rural Statewide Domestic Violence Training Institute with 165 participants. Of attendees who completed evaluations, 98.5 percent noted that information provided in the over 35 workshops, two plenary sessions and the keynote assisted in increasing their knowledge about domestic violence. Participants noted that they found the best part of the conference to be "the variety of workshop options", "the friendly staff and participants" and that the keynote speaker was engaging, inspiring, and informative.

Local

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, local funded programs reported a 31-percent increase in the number of survivors served in rural and underserved areas. Local funded programs reported a 102-percent increase in the number of support groups, advocacy, or counseling services provided to survivors in rural and underserved areas as measured by monthly reports.

Local funded programs reported an 18-percent increase in the number of partnerships with community or system stakeholders reported, creating 13 new Memoranda of Understanding or service provision protocols for serving survivors of domestic violence in rural communities. These programs reported a 19-percent increase in the number of community-based trainings provided on the needs of survivors of domestic violence in rural and underserved communities. Participants included social organizations, businesses, schools, healthcare facilities, churches, and law enforcement agencies.



Strong Families Domestic Violence Prevention Campaign

In FY 2017-18, a total of 3,168 people attended Father and Kids Experience Campaign Events in Tallahassee, Tampa, Miami, and Jacksonville. Ninety-two percent reported that because of the webpage or the campaign related events and resources, they were more likely to talk to their children about healthy relationships or domestic violence. An additional 88 percent reported that, after having encountered the campaign, they



believed they had the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to help their children have healthy relationships.

On a 1 to 10 scale, 10 indicating the highest likelihood of recommending the Father and Kids Experience event to a friend and 1 indicating the lowest, participants on average scored a 9.6 likelihood for recommendation.

Respondents that attended campaign events reported learning an average of more than 5 new ideas to become a better father at the event. Respondents reported a score of 8.8 out of 10 their intention to have conversations with their children about boundaries and how they relate to healthy relationships, and 81 percent of survey respondents said that the campaign messaging made them more likely to talk to their children about healthy relationships, domestic violence, and setting boundaries.

Of those surveyed, 92 percent said campaign materials helped them teach their kids how to have healthy relationships and 93 percent of fathers reported that the campaign messages had a strong and positive impact on their confidence that they can become a better parent.



RESPONDING TO CRISIS CALLS

The Statewide Florida Domestic Violence Hotline

FCADV operates and manages the Statewide Florida Domestic Violence Hotline, which provides multilingual services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Hotline advocates provide support, advocacy, information, and referral services for survivors of domestic violence, their children, families, and friends residing in Florida's 67 counties. FCADV, in partnership with Florida Legal Services, Inc., administers the Statewide Domestic Violence Legal Hotline, which provides comprehensive legal advice, information, and referrals to survivors of domestic violence. During the 2017-18 fiscal year, the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline received 30,652 calls, 2,825 of which were answered by the legal hotline.

Callers to the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline primarily requested assistance related to receiving shelter, support services, information regarding the civil and criminal justice system, and economic empowerment services that help survivors gain financial independence. Survivors also requested legal information related to divorce and child custody issues, parenting rights, and interstate jurisdiction.

Primary Prevention Through Supporting Youth Leadership

In 2010, FCADV developed an eight-year Prevention Plan to focus on priority populations and goals for preventing domestic and dating violence in Florida. One focus of prevention programming from that plan was working with young people and supporting their leadership to stop dating violence. To do this, FCADV facilitates a statewide Youth Advisory Board (YAB) with eight to ten young people. The YAB meets at least twice each year in person and has regular calls to plan the youth summit and coordinate youthled prevention activities around the state. The YAB along with youth leadership groups in Palm Beach County coordinated the 2018 Youth Summit. The summit was attended by over 200 people, mostly teens. Two-thirds of the workshops at the summit were led by young people.

FCADV continues to work with local certified domestic violence centers as they develop, enhance, and sustain youth leadership teams throughout the state. These Youth Community Action Teams (YCATs) bring together young people, typically teens, to address local concerns and develop prevention strategies and activities relevant to their communities. In 2018 twelve centers had YCATs and another ten were starting YCATs. These teams hosted events to change social norms related to dating violence in their communities. Several centers hosted "Night Out With Bae" an event to bring together young people to talk about what healthy relationships mean to them and how to address conflict in a positive manner. In Orlando, the YCAT met with local women leaders and professionals to learn about empowerment. FCADV provides training and support to the staff at domestic violence centers and the YCATs.

FCADV Awarded DELTA Impact Grant from CDC

FCADV has been a Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) recipient since 2002 when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention first introduced the domestic violence prevention funding program. In 2018, FCADV was one of ten states awarded the competitive DELTA Impact grant. Through this five-year project, FCADV will enhance and update its Prevention Plan and implement four projects. These projects will further prevention efforts related to Strengthening Economic Supports for Families, Engaging Influential Adults and Peers, and Creating Protective Environments. FCADV is partnering with The Shelter in Collier County for a policy effort on improving paid leave benefits for employees in Immokalee, a rural, agricultural and immigrant community. FCADV is also partnering with Sunrise of Pasco to implement a school-based program called Shifting Boundaries which provides classroom based programming and school level interventions to foster a safer more supportive environment for young people in school. Statewide, FCADV will work on a policy effort related to improving access to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and implementing the Coaching Boys Into Men program throughout the state.

List of Additional FCADV Programs

Rural Statewide Initiative

Rural and Underserved Communities Program

Linguistic and Culturally Specific Services Program

Domestic Violence Accessibility Program

Domestic Violence in Later Life Program

Engaging Men and Boys Program

Legal Clearinghouse Project

Technology and Safety Program

DELTA FOCUS Program

Primary Prevention Initiative

Community Collaborative Projects

Healthy Advocate Initiative

Database and Evaluation Programs

Emergency Preparedness and Response Program

Critical Incident Support Initiative

Justice for Families Batterer Accountability Program

Roaming Attorney Project

Coordinated Community Response Program

Legal Assistance for Victims Program

Changing Lives: Economic Empowerment Program

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative

Hotline Training Program

In addition to the aforementioned programs, FCADV conducts 30 hours of Core Competency Training for newly hired advocates across the state multiple times each year as well as onsite trainings from FCADV's Effective Advocacy Training Series based on certified domestic violence center request. For more information, please visit http://fcadv.org/training-technical-assistance

THE CRIME

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIME IN FLORIDA

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) publishes annual and semi-annual Uniform Crime Reports (UCRs) that serve as a reliable indicator of the number, rate, and types of crime and criminal activity known to and reported by the state's law enforcement agencies. In addition to overall crime statistics, domestic violence crimes and arrests are segregated in the UCR data by the respective crime categories.

The 2017 UCR¹¹ reflected that while overall crime decreased 4.5 percent, domestic violence crimes increased by 1.25 percent. The report also reflected an increase of 10.5 percent in domestic violence aggravated stalking offenses. An increase in these crimes raises concern because stalking is a known precursor to domestic violence homicide. Tragically, there were 180 individuals that died as a result of domestic violence homicide (a 6.7-percent decrease), representing 17 percent of all homicides in Florida last year.

In 2017, law enforcement agencies reported a total 106,979 domestic violence offenses and arrested 64,781 individuals. Domestic violence crimes against spouses and cohabitants are

overwhelmingly the most frequently reported relationship between perpetrators and victims. There were 19 counties in Florida that experienced increases of 10 percent or more in domestic violence incidences from the previous year. Overall, 33 Florida counties reported increases in domestic violence crimes, while 32 experienced decreases. It should be noted that the data contained in the annual report and reflected in the UCR only represents domestic violence offenses reported to law enforcement agencies, and domestic violence is recognized as a significantly underreported crime. An estimated 27 percent of women and 13.5 percent of men who are physically assaulted and less than 20 percent of women who are raped by an intimate partner report these crimes to law enforcement.12

11Information from FDLE's 2017 Uniform Crime Report: http://www. fdle.state.fl.us/FSAC/ UCR/2017/CoMu Off2017annual.aspx

12Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey," (2000)

HEADLINES AROUND OUR STATE

Fort Myers News-Press

August 2, 2018
Arrest warrant filed for husband of North
Fort Myers woman found dead in home

Michael Ernest Newhouse, 58, is awaiting extradition from Osceola County to face second degree murder charges in the homicide of his wife, Tina Newhouse, 51, after deputies discovered her body Tuesday

in their home on San Jose Street. Less than two weeks earlier, deputies arrested Michael Newhouse on domestic violence battery charges and ordered him not to have any contact with his wife.

Tampa Bay Times

April 5, 2018

Tampa woman slain in Georgia had sought protection from ex-husband

After more than a year of assment culminating in a vioattack, a 35-year-old woman npa woman sought help from court system. But on Thurs-authorities say, McDonald

tracked down his wife at her sister's home in Georgia, fatally shot both women and then himself, orphaning their 2-year-old daughter in a few horrific moments.

Excerpted from newspaper articles



January 16, 2018
Woman shot, killed in domestic dispute in Fort
Lauderdale. Family members say victim fatally shot
by her daughter's boyfriend. FORT LAUDERDALE,
Fla. - Fort Lauderdale police are searching for a man
who shot and killed a woman Tuesday. Police said
the woman, who was not identified, was shot multiple
times in a domestic dispute just before 7:30 p.m. in the
1200 block of Northwest 11th Place.



BAY MADISON ESCAMBIA PASCO FRANKLIN TAYLOR LEVY VOLUSIA MARION WALTON

SOURCE: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, UNIFORM CRIME REPORT, TOTAL REPORTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY, 1992 - 2017.



IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE **OFFENSES**, 2017¹⁴

ALACHUA COLLIER COLUMBIA DIXIE **FRANKLIN**

HAMILTON HENDRY

HILLSBOROUGH **JEFFERSON**

LEE **LEVY MADISON** MARION MARTIN **MONROE PASCO SUMTER**

UNION

WAKULLA

COUNTIES THAT EXPERIENCED 10%+ DECREASE

IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE **OFFENSES**, 2017¹⁵

> **CALHOUN DESOTO ESCAMBIA GULF JACKSON LAFAYETTE OKALOOSA OSCEOLA SUWANNEE**

WASHINGTON



1060° 0

¹⁴lbid

¹⁵lbid

^{*}PERCENT CHANGES SHOULD BE INTERPRETED WITH CAUTION. IN SMALL COUNTIES WITH LOW NUMBERS OF CRIME, A SMALL INCREASE MAY PRODUCE A LARGE PERCENT CHANGE.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

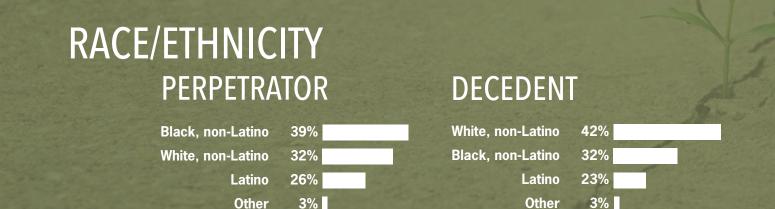
FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS

ENDER/AGE

PERPETRATOR 90% male 10% female Average age: 43

DECEDENT 84% female 16% male Average age: 42 Florida's commitment to responding to and preventing domestic violence is evidenced by the existence of a Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and 25 active local teams, representing one of only nine states with both statewide and local teams. Since 2009, the Attorney General's Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team conducted comprehensive reviews of domestic violence fatalities with the goal of preventing domestic violence homicides. The team identifies gaps in the service delivery system and offers policy and practical recommendations to strengthen safety factors and reduce risk factors that contribute to these deaths. The statewide team is co-chaired by Attorney General Pam Bondi and FCADV, and is comprised of representatives from a variety of state and local entities that interact with survivors, their children, and perpetrators of domestic violence. Members represent the court system, probation, parole, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, certified domestic violence centers, legal providers, health care providers, and the defense bar.

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, FCADV assisted to revive one inactive local fatality review team and establish one new local fatality review team. As a result, there are now a total of 25 active local fatality review teams in the State of Florida. FCADV also published and distributed the 2018 Faces of Fatality report synthesizing data from 32 reviews conducted by local fatality review teams.



RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO DECEDENT

Spouse 44%
Intimate partner 31%
Ex-spouse 22%
Other 3%

Key Findings

- 39% of perpetrators were unemployed at the time of the homicide.
- 62% of perpetrators were reported to have substance abuse histories.
- 30% of perpetrators were reported to have a professionally diagnosed mental health disorder.
- In 48% of the fatalities, there was known prior stalking behavior on the part of the perpetrator.
- 68% of perpetrators were known by family or friends to carry or possess a weapon.
- 43% of decedents and perpetrators were separated at the time of the homicide and the average length of separation when known, was approximately 5.5 years.
- 35% of fatalities had known prior death threats made by the perpetrator towards the decedent, based on victim reporting.
- 42% of perpetrators had a known non-domestic violence-related criminal history.
- 48% of perpetrators had a known criminal history of domestic violence and in 52% of fatalities, there were known prior reports to the police by the decedent alleging domestic violence by the perpetrator.

- 55% of perpetrators had a known criminal history of any kind, domestic violence-related or otherwise, based on criminal records and narrative reports.
- In 55% of the fatalities, family members reported knowing about prior incidents or prior threats of domestic violence on the part of the perpetrator.
- In 32% of the fatalities, there was a known criminal order of no contact issued against the perpetrator.
- In 32% of the fatalities there was a known permanent civil injunction for protection filed against the perpetrator by the decedent.
- In 19% there was a known permanent civil injunction for protection filed against the perpetrator by someone other than the decedent.
- 48% of perpetrators died by suicide and an additional 14% attempted but did not complete suicide.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- · FCADV should develop and distribute informational materials, such as new Public Service Announcements (PSAs) that educate family members and friends of survivors of domestic violence regarding the warning signs and dynamics of domestic violence, and services available through certified domestic violence centers and the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline. The PSAs will contribute to FCADV's "It Starts with Me" video series created to inform workplace professionals about the role of bystanders in ending domestic violence. The videos will be utilized during Domestic Violence Awareness Month and throughout the year to promote domestic violence services and encourage friends and family to respond to domestic violence in a safe and supportive manner.
- FCADV should convene a workgroup with stakeholders including, but not limited to, the Department of Children and Families, Office of Early Learning, and other stakeholders to review current training material related to appropriate domestic violence education for childcare providers and recommend enhancements to online and/or in person trainings.

"Every domestic violence homicide is a tragedy that underscores the necessity of domestic violence fatality review teams. The work of the teams honors the lives of those killed by seeking ways to prevent additional murders at the hands of domestic violence perpetrators. Gaining insight into these deaths is critical to the safety of Floridians. I am proud to partner with the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence in co-chairing the Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review team and recognize the exemplary law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and team members whose efforts contribute to the reduction of domestic violence homicide in Florida."

—Attorney General Pam Bondi

The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association, Florida Sheriffs Association and local law enforcement agencies should collaborate to develop and expand focused deterrence initiatives that are directed toward chronic and repeat perpetrators of intimate partner violence. Focused deterrence models identify perpetrators with extensive criminal records and hold them accountable for the violence they commit with swift and predictable consequences.¹⁶ A deterrence model encourages local law enforcement agencies and community partners to treat all perpetrators of chronic and repeat domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence and stalking as serious violations of the law requiring the coordinated effort of the entire criminal justice system. Perpetrators receive specific notifications from law enforcement based on the level of severity of the offense they commit. The deterrence model should build upon FCADV's Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team (InVEST) and FCADV's Law Enforcement Enhanced Response Statewide Initiative which fund dedicated law enforcement officers to investigate domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence and stalking, enhance policies related to domestic violence response, as well as strengthen partnerships with certified domestic violence centers, the State Attorney's offices and other community stakeholders to increase offender accountability while maintaining the safety for survivors and their children.

¹⁶For more information about the Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team: http://fcadv.org/projects-programs/sdvfrt

FUNDING

RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE THROUGH GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

Domestic Violence Trust Fund and General Revenue

The primary source of state funding for domestic violence emergency shelter, services, programs, and training is through the Domestic Violence Trust Fund (DVTF). These funds are distributed to Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers to provide critical, life-saving programs and services to domestic violence survivors and their children. The DVTF receives funds from a portion of fees for both marriage license and dissolution of marriage, fines for domestic violence crime convictions, and any general revenue appropriated during the annual Legislative Session.

Domestic Violence Diversion Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Recognizing that survivors of domestic violence may need temporary economic assistance to escape a violent partner, federal and state legislators created the Domestic Violence Diversion Program. Florida's program is modeled on federal law and provides support services to survivors unable to temporarily participate in training or work requirements due to safety considerations or the residual effects of domestic violence.

Capital Improvement Grant Program

Legislation passed in 2000 created this first-in-the-nation program through which, pursuant to legislative appropriations, certified domestic violence centers may apply to DCF for a capital improvement grant to construct, repair, improve, or upgrade systems, facilities, or equipment.¹⁷

¹⁷Pursuant to s. 39.9055, Florida Statutes

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Grant **Program**

FVPSA is the only federal funding dedicated specifically for domestic violence centers for the operation of emergency shelter and other critical services. The grant program also provides funding to State Coalitions for the provision of training and technical assistance to member programs to ensure quality of service provision to survivors and their children.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program*

FCADV and DCF administer two grants provided by the federal Violence Against Women Act: an annual formula grant, STOP (Services, Training, Officers and Prosecution), and the discretionary Grants to Encourage Arrest. The STOP grant promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhancing advocacy and improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women. VAWA requires that funding is distributed to each respective discipline by percentages: 30 percent to victim services, 25

percent to law enforcement, 25 percent to prosecutors, 5 percent to courts, and 15 percent discretionary (Florida generally applies discretionary funds to victim services). Federal regulations require the funding to be allocated geographically based on identified needs and availability of resources.

Grants to Encourage Arrest

The Grants to Encourage Arrest are competitive nationally and designed to encourage governments to treat domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law that require a coordinated response from the entire criminal justice system. The program works to ensure the safety of domestic violence survivors and their children and to hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes.

^{*}The reauthorization of VAWA in 2013 resulted in a requirement that funding be redirected from all programming into specific program areas. Specifically, VAWA requires that 20 percent of funding is directed to sexual assault programs and services.

FUNDING

RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE THROUGH GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

VAWA Violence Against Women Act

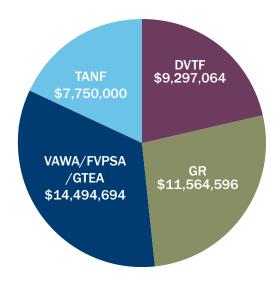
FVPSA Family Violence Prevention and Services Act

GTEA Grants To Encourage Arrest

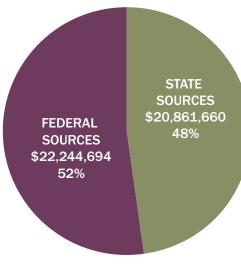
TANF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

DVTF Domestic Violence Trust Fund

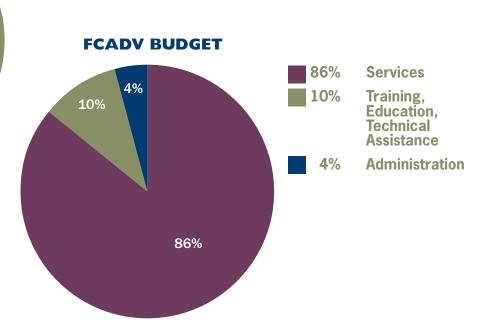
GR General Revenue



TOTAL: \$43,106,354

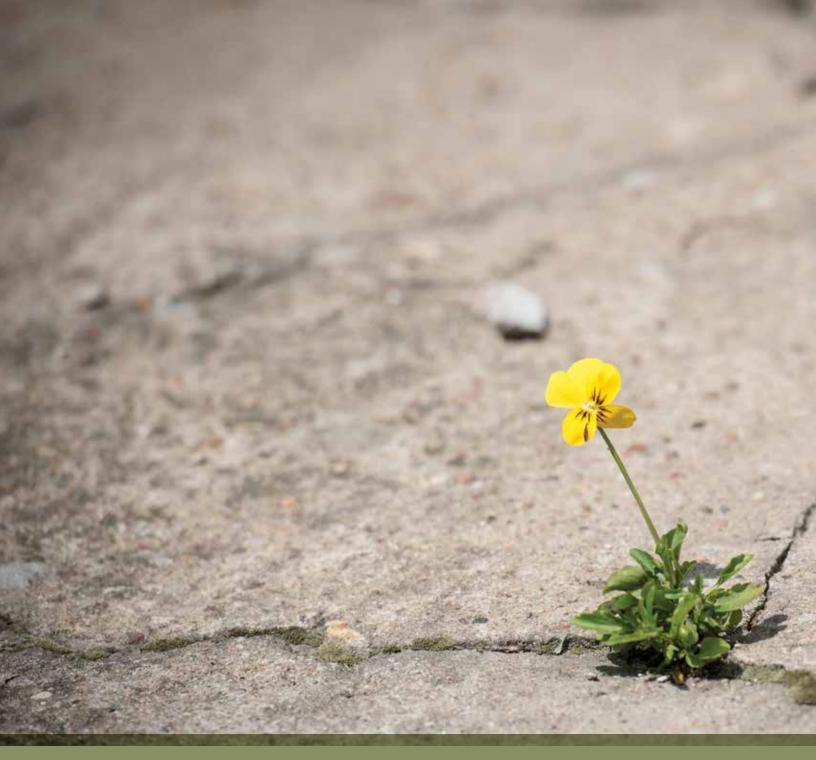


TOTAL: \$43,106,354





The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence





425 Office Plaza Drive • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (850) 425-2749 Fax: (850) 425-3091

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 500-1119 • TDD (800) 621-4202 • Florida Relay: 711

www.fcadv.org

Sponsored by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families.