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**New York State's FFY 2007
Implementation Plan for the
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act**

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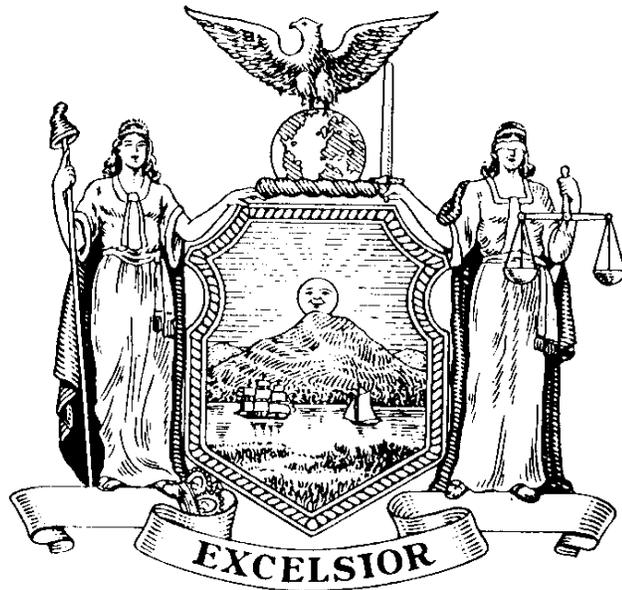
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New York State's FFY 2007

**Implementation Plan for the
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act**

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INTRODUCTION

The Division of Criminal Justice Services mission is to “enhance public safety and improve criminal justice”.

The Agency’s core functions include criminal history checks, fingerprinting operations, coordination of grant funds, providing timely information, public safety, law enforcement training, breathalyzer and speed enforcement equipment repair, accreditation of police departments and forensic laboratories, Uniform Crime Reporting, research, hosting criminal justice boards and commissions, providing information to criminal justice agencies and institutions, and hosting other criminal justice agencies.

Within that framework, the agency has set the following priorities: sex offender management; sentencing law review; reduction of violent and firearm crime outside of New York City, reduction of recidivism by focusing on re-entry; increasing DNA collection and compliance; and combating human trafficking.

The Office of Program Development and Funding is comprised of several units: Juvenile Justice, Justice Assistance Grant, Motor Vehicle and Insurance Fraud Prevention, State Legislative Items and Violence Against Women Act funding.

This State Implementation Plan for Violence Against Women is a Three-Year Plan as required by the Federal Office on Violence Against Women.

New York State’s population reached more than 19 million in 2006, an increase of 1.7% since April 2000. Fifty-two percent of the State residents are female. Seventy-six percent of the population is older than age 18, with 13% age 65 or older. Person with disabilities age 5 and older comprise 14% of New York State’s population. White non-Hispanics account for 61% of the population, African-Americans comprise 17% of the State’s population and Hispanics and

people of Latino origin comprised 16% of the population. A language other than English was spoken in the homes of 28% of the population age 5 years or older. New York State's median household income was \$45,343. Finally, nearly 15% of New York State residents live in poverty, equaling 11% of households overall. Of New York State residents 25 years or older, 27% had a bachelor's degree or higher in year 2000.

Domestic violence and sexual assault are serious social problems that affect thousands of New Yorkers annually. However, accurate figures elude policy makers and concerned law enforcement agencies as researchers continue to demonstrate that both of these categories of crime are notoriously under reported.

Until recently, the only statistics available in New York State for incidents of domestic violence were based on aggregate data obtained from Uniform Crime Reports (UCR). Although aggregated UCR data provide some insight into the prevalence of domestic violence within the State, aggregated reporting tends to result in the undercounting of criminal incidents and provides little detail concerning the nature of the violence and the law enforcement response.

In 1996, New York State developed a statewide, standardized domestic incident reporting (DIR) form. The DIR form is completed by law enforcement agencies for all alleged incidents of domestic violence, regardless of arrest. In 2007, an updated DIR form was released statewide. The NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is currently in the process of analyzing statistics gained from those forms. Information from July through December 2005 and July through December 2006 are being compiled and tabulated and will be released when finalized.

Until then, the most recent DIR statistics come from 2001. During 2001, DCJS received 169,506 DIRs completed from upstate police departments and 231,843 from New York City.

The total for all reporting jurisdictions for 2001 was 401,349 DIRs.

Likewise, sexual assault statistics demonstrate continued need for services across the State. Police reported 3,158 rapes to the Division of Criminal Justice Services for 2006.

Another 10,258 other sex offenses also were reported to the Division for 2006.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING PROCESS

In an ongoing effort to address these issues, the New York State Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Advisory Committee met in July 2007 to discuss progress made to date on VAWA programming within New York State, and to determine program priorities for use in FFY 2007 Formula grant funding. During the past decade, we have continually reached out and added members to our Committee in the hopes of creating a cohesive group that spans numerous disciplines and also represents the cultural diversity of New York State. The Advisory Committee is chaired by the DCJS Commissioner and is comprised of representatives from:

- New York State Police (NYSP);
- NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS);
- NYS Department of Health (DOH);NYS Unified Court System - Office of Court NYS District Attorney's Association;
- NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV);
- NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA);
- NYS Crime Victims Board (CVB);
- NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV);
- NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA);
- New York Asian Women's Center; and
- A sexual assault examiner from the Bronx SART Team.

This year, we were happy to add the NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault on to the VAWA Advisory Board.

DCJS works very closely with all of the agencies on the VAWA Advisory Committee on joint projects. In particular, we enjoy a very close, cooperative working relationship with both of the State Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions. In fact, staff members of the

Violence Against Women Unit at DCJS have won awards from both Coalitions. DCJS is a close ally of the NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault, and also has been working closely with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe to help establish a statewide Native Domestic Violence Coalition.

See the Appendices for a list of the Advisory Committee members and a copy of the agenda of the meeting. During this meeting, members of the Committee reviewed the State planning priorities for the coming year. Several additions were made, including an even stronger emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration; development of training (as opposed to provision of training); possible creation of an evaluation template to encourage programs to assess themselves; creation of sex offense courts (similar to other New York model courts; e.g. domestic violence courts, IDV courts, drug courts, etc.); re-entry issues; and more probation involvement (special supervision or other forms of monitoring). Under our System Improvement Priority, we also want to look at various systems and enhance their capabilities (e.g. Domestic Incident Reports, Order of Protection Registry, and Child Abuse Registry).

NEW YORK STATE PRIORITY AREAS

Complementing the Federal purpose areas, but specific to New York State, are priorities that were developed as part of the statewide planning process. The goal of the New York State plan is to improve and strengthen New York State's coordination of services and response to violence against women. These priorities are changed and/or added to each year based on input from the Advisory Committee members at the planning meeting. The Committee members are practitioners; their advice and input are invaluable in helping us to decide the future course of programs and funding in all areas of the State. All applicants for funding must address at least one of the New York State priority areas; and interdisciplinary collaboration in all areas is strongly encouraged. The priorities are as follows:

Training Priorities

- Expand and/or develop training within New York State regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking to ensure that all systems deliver services in a culturally appropriate manner;
- Train and enhance skills of legal and public safety personnel to effectively respond to violence against women. This includes, but is not limited to, court clerks, court officers, law guardians, emergency medical technicians, and communication specialists;
- Train law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, town and village justices, and court staff, including interpreters, on enforcement of orders of protection, including full faith and credit, firearms provisions, and the development of dedicated resources to fight violence against women;
- Train county probation and state parole officers on effective community supervision models for sex offenders and domestic violence offenders; prepare for offender re-entry;
- Train and assist community-based advocates and victim liaisons located within local criminal justice agencies;
- Train judges and town and village justices on laws and issues concerning sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking; and
- Implement policies and training for law enforcement officers on issues concerning stalking, primary aggressor, strangulation, and officer-involved domestic violence.

Outreach Priorities

- Improve services to underserved populations that are unduly challenged by barriers, such as geography, language, race and/or ethnicity, physical, emotional or mental disabilities, sexual orientation, and age;
- Encourage all service providers to collaborate with community partners and share resources to increase the awareness of underserved populations and to ensure culturally sensitive services and programs are available to meet their needs; and
- Include representatives of underserved populations in state and local planning activities that develop or enhance collaboration strategies.

Collaborative Priorities

- Improve direct service delivery to victims, in cooperation with criminal justice agencies, with priority given to underserved populations;
- Continue funding support to sexual assault and domestic violence providers that directly serve victims of violence; and
- Encourage collaboration among diverse disciplines through the provision of cross-training, technical assistance, and team-building strategies including the use of project models such as Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and Domestic Abuse Response Teams (DART).

System Improvement Priorities

- Support community needs assessments that seek to identify members of underserved populations and victim needs currently not met through existing community programs; support cross discipline policy development;
- Enhance and improve automated data collection systems and data communication systems that link police, prosecutors, courts and victims service agencies. Specific examples include DIRs, Order of Protection Registry, and Child Abuse Registry;
- Create a system for tracking and ensuring proper transfer of cases between courts. This may include strategies for handling cases in a seamless manner; e.g. the creation or replication of dedicated domestic violence courts and/or integrated domestic violence courts in each Judicial District; creation of sex offense courts;
- Encourage grant-funded projects to automate data collection for state and federal reporting; and
- Assess the number of sexual offense evidence collection kits that are released to law enforcement, the number tested and/or the number backlogged at NYS labs, and increase efforts to test all backlogged kits and have available DNA from kits entered into the DNA Databank.

AWARD PROCESS

The award process for VAWA funding is highly competitive and achieved through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, although occasionally direct awards may be made. RFP notification is provided to all law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, county executives, domestic violence and sexual assault providers, existing grantees, and any agency that inquires about funding. In addition, the RFP and application are posted on the DCJS website.

Upon receipt, all applications receive a thorough review by two staff members of the Violence Against Women Unit. The application/review process is very intensive. In addition to using a scoring instrument, decisions are based on the grantee's programmatic efforts and progress; administrative capabilities; past performance; and DCJS monitoring visits. The process also provides an opportunity to eliminate agencies that have been making little or no

progress. Funds then can be provided to continue and/or expand existing efforts of successful projects or to support new initiatives.

After the application review process is complete, the staff of the VAWA Unit meets off-site for a day to discuss the recommendations for each application. One of the purposes of this strategy is to ensure that all knowledge about a particular organization and or geographic area can be shared. The Unit uses a map of New York State to ensure funding is distributed in a geographically appropriate fashion. Population is taken into consideration; however, it is not the defining factor. For example, a rural county may not have a large population, but it is determined to be in need due to scarcity and/or distance of services. Although New York State is not generally considered rural, 40 of its 62 counties meet the Federal definition of rural. In addition, needs vary by county; e.g. In New York City several organizations might be funded to provide services for immigrant populations. Funding is also provided to counties that are underserved by virtue of being rural, having a migrant population, or a large refugee population.

At the current time, VAWA funds support projects in 52 of New York's 62 counties. In addition, some awards made to organizations in New York City provide services across all five boroughs (counties). Currently, there are three projects that are Statewide in nature. Outside of the projects that are Statewide, the remaining counties are not funded because either they did not apply, or they did not meet the highly competitive process requirements.

In addition to ensuring funds are provided in a geographically appropriate fashion and to underserved populations, the funds are distributed according to the statutorily mandated percentages as defined by VAWA. Funds support a wide array of programs including dedicated prosecutors, advocates, training for law enforcement, integrated domestic violence courts, and

sexual assault examiner programs. In order to ensure that domestic violence and sexual assault providers are qualified to provide services, certain documentation is required. Domestic violence service providers must be a NYS Office of Children and Family Services approved provider or they must submit a letter from the approved provider in their county saying that they are qualified to provide services and that they will work together. Sexual assault examiner programs must submit a letter from the president or chief executive officer of the hospital in which they are providing services stating that the hospital is aware and supportive of the program. In addition, they must submit a letter from the district attorney's office stating that they will work together in potential prosecution of cases.

The list of grants enclosed with this document provides a detailed narrative of all programs currently funded under VAWA.

Grants are generally made for a one-year period; however in recent years we have utilized a multi-year contract period with an option to renew. Due to the reduced funding in 2007 (STOP VAWA funds to New York State were almost \$1 million less than FFY 2006), we are utilizing our option to renew in order to sustain grantees at their current level of funding. We are able to utilize older disencumbered funds to supplement our 2007 STOP award allowing us to maintain all grantees at the 2006 level of funding.

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED VICTIMS

New York is an incredibly diverse state, and we have long recognized and addressed the needs of underserved populations. Although we are required to provide 10% of the 30% victim services allocation to culturally specific, underserved populations we have in fact provided 24% to such programs.

In addition to providing funding for rural programs, VAWA funds are provided to a wide array of organizations that provide immigrant related services, as well as direct services to victims of non-English speaking groups. Ethnic groups receiving services provided by VAWA funds include Hispanics, Asian, Indian, Russian, Haitian and numerous other groups.

New York State funds the following two programs with STOP money that specifically address the needs of disabled victims of domestic violence.

Barrier Free Living, Inc. (BFL) is a non-profit victim service agency located in Manhattan that provides a variety of services to clients who have disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The agency created the Domestic Violence Program in 1986, becoming one of the first programs in the United States to specialize in providing non-residential services to individuals with disabilities who are survivors of domestic violence. This agency continues to operate a successful domestic violence program serving women with disabilities, having received Violence Against Women funding for the past 10 years. The Domestic Violence Program offers a broad range of non-residential services, including case management; short and long term individual counseling; advocacy within the medical, legal, financial, law enforcement, and child welfare systems; safety planning; occupational therapy; psychiatric services; and referrals to outside agencies. Services are offered in English, Spanish, Italian, French, Haitian Creole, Romanian, and American Sign Language. In addition, BFL staff provides a wide variety of trainings to outside social service and criminal justice agencies on topics such as domestic violence and disability.

Barrier Free Justice was launched at the Kings County District Attorney's Office in Brooklyn, NY in 2000 and has been operating continuously for the past ten years. Barrier Free

Justice is a collaboration of the DA's Office; Barrier Free Living, (a not-for-profit organization serving people with disabilities throughout New York City); and South Brooklyn Legal Services, which provides low-cost legal consultation and representation. Whether the individual's disability is physical, psychiatric, or cognitive, the program works to more effectively prosecute cases of domestic violence and sexual assault against women with disabilities, and to best meet the needs of women with disabilities as they navigate the criminal justice system. Barrier Free Justice is the only program of its kind in New York City, and serves nearly 400 women annually.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has been receiving STOP VAWA funds to support an additional case manager/advocate in its domestic violence program since 2002. The program provides services including crisis intervention, responding to domestic violence incidents with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, referrals to appropriate agencies, education on domestic violence, advocacy with the legal/court system and law enforcement. The program works with other agencies both on and off the reservation.

The St. Regis Mohawk Program faces many unique problems: multiple police jurisdictions; resident/nonresident complications; and traditional tribal values versus institutional approaches to violence. Complicating issues is the multiple jurisdictions that are involved: e.g., the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; the Ontario Provincial Police; the Quebec Provincial Police; the New York State Police; the Franklin County Sheriff's Department and the St. Regis Tribal Police. Although the Tribal Police often are the first responders, they do not have arrest powers - - they may detain only. The program also deals with three town magistrates who demonstrate widely differing sensitivities both to domestic violence and to cross-cultural issues.

The program reports that there is a growing acceptance on the reservation to its services. Particularly important to DCJS/VAWA, we have begun a dialogue with a needy and underserved population that is already bearing positive results for victims of domestic violence. As a result of the STOP DV program on the reservation, the Tribal leadership routinely declares October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Victims receiving services rose from 32 in 1998 to 150 in 2006.

The St. Regis STOP Coordinator has been leading an effort to establish a Statewide Native Domestic Violence Coalition. Several planning sessions have been held throughout the State during 2007 to bring together many of the 11 Tribal nations. The group intends to eventually apply for Federal VAWA Native Coalition funding.

Funds have been used by the program staff to attend training on Indian Law, how it pertains to St. Regis' multiple jurisdictions, the difficulties that arise with restraining orders, full faith and credit, courts of jurisdiction, and other issues that impact domestic violence on the reservation.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Once funds are awarded to organizations, a contract is prepared between DCJS and the funded agency. All first-year grantees are required to attend an orientation session, several of which are held Statewide. These sessions provide VAWA staff an opportunity to provide programmatic and fiscal assistance to ensure the grantee gets off to the right start. Each grantee subsequently receives a site visit at least once a year, and a desk audit is done as needed. VAWA staff is very pro-active and highly committed to working with the grantees. It is not unusual for a grantee to receive more than one site visit per year, especially if problems arise. In

addition, VAWA staff attends numerous trainings, conferences and workshops sponsored by the grantees. This affords extra opportunities to gauge the grantees' success in implementing their project as well as providing an educational opportunity for VAWA staff. All grantees also must provide quarterly progress reports. These reports provide an opportunity to check on contractual compliance, to discuss what the grantee may have been unable to accomplish, and alerts the VAWA staff to issues that may be present, in which case assistance can be provided.

In addition, all sub-grantees are required to complete annual Muskie reports which capture statistical data relating to victims served, not served and partially served.

CURRENT PROJECTS AND ON-GOING EFFORTS

The New York State Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit has evolved during the last few years to take into consideration changes and improvements in the State's crime labs and DNA technology. The kit was revised in 2002 based on input from members of the NYS Crime Laboratory Working Group, representatives from several Sexual Assault Examiner Programs, and the NYS Department of Health. The kits have been revamped to remove blood tubes for purposes of obtaining DNA from victims and have been replaced with a buccal swab for the collection. The buccal swab is much less invasive than taking blood from a victim, who is already traumatized by the event, as well as the evidence collection process.

In addition, another project that New York State finalized recently was the development of a Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) kit to be used in conjunction with the NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit when there is suspicion of a drug facilitated rape. Staff at the DCJS Violence Against Women Unit spent numerous hours working in consultation with the New York Prosecutors Training Institute (NYPTI), five district attorneys in New York City, lab

personnel at the New York State Police, Monroe County and Westchester County Labs, sexual assault nurse examiners, as well as the advocate community to assess the need and the desire for such a kit. NYPTI surveyed all the district attorneys in New York State to determine their desire for such a kit. All of the DAs who responded requested the creation of a standardized kit. The kit contains two blood tubes, a urine container, instructions for use, a consent and release form and a laboratory information form. It is distributed free of charge to requesting hospitals to be used when a sexual assault victim arrives at an emergency room with possible symptoms of a drug facilitated rape. At this time, labs in New York State do not have the capability of testing for the more common types of date rape drugs (e.g., GHB/Rohypnol); as a result, the kits are outsourced to private labs for testing.

In addition, an alert sheet has been created outlining signs and symptoms of DFSA. The Alert Sheet is placed in the Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit so that when a rape victim goes to a hospital for an exam, the examiner will be alerted to the possible signs and symptoms. The Alert Sheet has also been created in a brighter, laminated poster version for distribution to all New York State hospitals, law enforcement agencies, district attorney offices and labs.

DCJS has worked closely with the NYS Crime Victims Board (CVB) to put a claim form sheet from CVB directly into the kit to ensure that all victims have an opportunity to file with CVB for crime victims compensation. In most cases, there is an advocate present and/or available to assist a sexual assault victim in filing for compensation. However, in cases where an advocate may not be available or the victim does not choose to have an advocate, putting the form directly into the kit will help ensure that the victim is notified about the availability of victim's' compensation.

Follow-up legislation to the Sexual Assault Reform Act was signed into law by former Governor George Pataki in July of 2003. This legislation included the SAFE Payment Act. The act removes the burden of filling out and submitting Crime Victims Board reimbursement forms from the victim, and instead provides direct payment to a hospital for a sexual assault exam. The legislation also included higher penalties for rapes that involved the use of certain drugs (GHB, Rohypnol). This legislation took effect in 2005. Updates to the form have recently been made and the Forensic Reimbursement Examination forms will be placed in all kits. Regional trainings were held in 2007 and will continue to be held in 2008 throughout the State to various disciplines on how to properly fill out and submit the form for prompt reimbursement.

As required as a condition of continued receipt of Grants to Encourage Arrest Program funding, New York State recently enacted legislation that allows victims to request HIV testing on offenders at *indictment*. This new law (which took effect November 1, 2007) requires creation of policies for law enforcement and courts, as well as training. A work group consisting of participants from various agencies (e.g., NYS Department of Health, DCJS, the Aids Institute, etc.) has met to determine what will be needed to address this new law. They will create a notification form apprising victims of their rights regarding HIV testing; this new form also will be placed in the Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit and distributed Statewide.

We are incredibly pleased to announce that in 2007-2008, staff members of DCJS are working with laboratory professionals, sexual assault examiners, physicians, rape crisis advocates, DNA experts, and other disciplines to completely overhaul both kits to further enhance the proper collection of evidence, while hopefully reducing trauma to the victim. As of this writing, we are exploring removing the pulled hair samples (both head and pubic) from the kit. The overwhelming majority of disciplines surveyed feel that this step is no longer

necessary; however, one group of laboratory officials would like to see it remain. We are contacting other states around the country to assess if they have removed the step, and what if any positive or negatives outcomes have occurred.

In 2003, DCJS reported in its State Implementation Plan that the backlog of evidence collection kits that existed in New York State was viewed as a priority, and in fact was added as one to the State Priorities that complement the Federal Program Purpose Areas. We are happy to report that the evidence collection kit backlog has been virtually eliminated since that time and has been kept up to a current case load backlog that is within normal bounds.

In the coming year, DCJS has other projects that we are working on collaboratively with NYSCASA, NYPTI and the NYC Alliance. By obtaining state funding, we hope to enhance DNA collection of sexual assault victims through increasing training of examiners. It is our hope to increase the number of trained and certified sexual assault examiners (SAE) medical professionals upstate by 240 and downstate by 50. Attendees of these trainings will be offered the opportunity to become International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) certified through the completion of a fully paid preceptorship. For those medical professionals who are unable to attend the above training seminars, Excelsior College will offer a forty-hour NYS DOH approved on-line course.

Funding under the initiative also would support the creation of two new standardized training curriculums. A curriculum for emergency medical responders will be developed that outlines their role in evidence preservation and educates them about SAFE Centers of Excellence within their service area. Another curriculum would be created outlining the best practices in the collection and preservation of DNA in child sexual abuse cases. The development process will be inclusive of SAE experts, Child Abuse Medical Providers (CHAMP), child advocacy center

medical directors, as well as professionals from the prosecutorial and mental health communities.

The proposal also includes the development and dissemination of a training video on the soon to be revised New York State Sexual Offense Evidence Collection kit; as well as regional multi-disciplinary conferences on sex crimes.

In addition, this State funding will provide moot court training to SANE/SAFE practitioners and DNA analysts. The training would provide information to participants on relevant legal issues and basic court room testimony.

OTHER INITIATIVES

THE NYS COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

The NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA) is taking a proactive approach to the increase of funding to Rape Crisis Centers and other programs that support victims of sexual assault. NYSCASA's grant, administered through the NYS Department of Health, has instituted strict adherence to Primary Prevention and will only fund programs that specifically address primary prevention. Primary prevention is a great approach but rape crisis programs are very often the first and last resort for support of the victim.

Sexual assault victims may rely on rape crisis centers for many years. It is necessary for the rape crisis centers in New York State to be able to support, counsel and protect these victims, sometimes for long periods of time. NYSCASA is working closely with the NYC Alliance and rape crisis centers to develop the best legislative plan to support the increase of funds to the centers in New York State.

NYSCASA's plans for the future include:

- A program in concert with NYSCADV and OPDV to place information about

regarding sexual assault and domestic violence in public places in New York State. These materials will be ready for distribution in early 2008.

- Establishment of an International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) Chapter in New York with completion in 2008.
- Technology upgrade to save time and improve productivity in 2008. A new website, better database collection and faster internet connections will afford overstretched staff more hours of productivity.
- Reissuing an updated Advocates Training manual and have effected changes from the field to enhance educational activities.
- Continue working with the Anti-Trafficking Coalition of New York State to pass Safe Harbor legislation to protect the young and vulnerable. The Human Trafficking law in New York passed in June does not include this section.

THE NYS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV) is celebrating its' 30th Anniversary this year and looking at future trends. NYSCADV will be seeking legislative changes as they relate to domestic violence specifically advocating for expanded duration of Orders of Protection; and studying at other issues such as insurance, housing, pet ownership and how those issues relate to the domestic violence survivor.

Some specialized projects NYSCADV is working on are:

- Community corrections project;
- Extra training with lesbian, gay ,bisexual and queer (LGBQ) community;
- Women of color project advocates, one-day institute on skill building, handouts on management and supervision, etc.
- Information sharing forum;
- More public education and outreach;
- Hotline for young mothers targeting WIC centers and college-aged populations; and
- Poster to be done and publicized (“men who stop rape”) to college campuses.

NYSCADV provides training and technical assistance to domestic violence programs.

Training has been expanded from one-day domestic violence training to regional and national trainings.

THE NYC ALLIANCE AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

The vision of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault (Alliance) is to create a city free from the suffering caused by sexual violence by dramatically reducing the incidence of sexual assault. The Alliance is focusing on two major goals: to ensure access to best care for all sexual violence victims and to prevent sexual violence in all communities.

During 2007-2009, the Alliance will focus on activities that support the following goals:

- Increase the capacity of service providers and responders to provide the best acute care by training health professionals as Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners and incorporating SAFE care to emergency department resident training; developing policies and protocols for special populations via workgroups with involved stakeholders; facilitating a citywide group of SAFE providers to focus on operations, standards and training; presenting the results of the Alliance's research to stakeholders to gain their commitment to necessary changes; and advocating for the development of health outcomes as a measurement of SAFE care.
- Measure and document the scope of sexual violence by completing a comprehensive report on a study of public high school youths' experience with sexual and dating violence, facilitating a participatory action research project with immigrant women on intervention in and prevention of sexual violence and utilizing the Alliance website to share research and other information.
- Conducting evidence-based advocacy to improve care and access to care by advocating for the development of SAFE programs in underserved areas, advocating for ambulance destination designation for SAFE programs in NYC, developing transfer agreements between SAFE and non-SAFE hospitals, advocating for every hospital to have volunteer rape crisis advocates and increasing public information on what SAFE programs can provide and where they are located.
- Increase the capacity of individuals, groups, organizations and communities to prevent sexual violence by overseeing and designing a primary prevention demonstration project in New York City in conjunction with rape crisis programs, facilitating a participatory action research project on sexual violence in immigrant communities in conjunction with immigrant-focused community based organizations, conducting the Sexual Assault Yearly Speak Out!, and supporting the Media Response Project. The Media Response

Project works with community individuals to respond to media coverage of sexual violence.

THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Rape Crisis Program of the New York State Department of Health funds a rape crisis center in every county and borough of New York State plus two coalitions and one child abuse medical provider network. Through a network of 55 rape crisis centers providing services at 74 sites, the program provides rape prevention and education to all age groups including children, adolescents and adults, hotline services, and quality crisis intervention, support and counseling services in every county and borough of New York State 24/7, 365 days a year. In addition, the Rape Crisis Program is responsible for promulgating standards to ensure that survivors of sexual assault receive the full range of indicated medical, forensic and support services needed to promote their recovery.

Rape Crisis Centers provide many different needed services to the community they are in as well as services to survivors of sexual assault. The services funded by the department include:

- **24-Hour Crisis Telephone Hotlines** – Rape Crisis Centers must provide seven-day-a-week, private telephone response to calls 24 hours a day, year round, to survivors and to significant others in need of crisis intervention services and information and referral. The hotlines must be free of charge in the area served and also be listed under rape crisis in local telephone directories
- **Accompaniment Services** - These services assure the presence of a trained crisis worker for a client at hospitals, law enforcement agencies, District Attorney's offices and courts. Accompaniment must be available 24 hours a day, free of charge and the client must be met within 60 minutes.
- **Advocacy Services** - This service provides intervention on behalf of a specific individual or on behalf of all survivors. Intervention may take the form of interactions with individuals, agencies, organizations, or groups that focus on promoting responses and services that address the needs and rights of survivors. Rape crisis centers must advocate for survivors of sexual assault according to the following standards.

- Empower every client to make their own personal decisions.
- Provide non-judgmental, sensitive support and information.
- Explain to the client what the medical and legal proceedings will consist of and why procedures, tests, or exams are being requested.
- Discuss the client's rights and options regarding medical and legal procedures.
- Help the client to become more comfortable in interacting with medical, law enforcement, or court personnel.
- Assist the client with accessing information regarding their case within the medical or legal proceedings.

Advocacy is available to all clients free-of-charge.

- **Referral Services** – This service provides additional resources to help a client resolve an unmet need. Rape Crisis Centers provide information and referrals to both clients and the general public. Referrals must be given to client’s free-of-charge and must include: what the service referred to can offer, why it may be helpful and how to obtain the service and then must provide follow-up to ascertain whether the client did receive the service.
- **Counseling Services** - Is supportive, individual communication and interaction which helps people make choices and act on those choices. Counseling focuses on the need to provide information which enables a client to make decisions and facilitates exploration of feelings that affect such decisions. Through the decision-making process, counseling can help people correct a situational problem, expand their skills, and restore a sense of well-being. Individual crisis counseling and follow-up must be offered free of charge and all programs must make an appropriate referral when determined that a client needs counseling beyond that which is available from the project.
- **Community Education, Professional Training and Outreach**
All rape crisis programs are required to provide community education, professional training and outreach to those in their community. Educational programs provide primary prevention to prevent the initial perpetration of sexual assault or rape. They also may provide information on the incidence of rape and sexual assault in the community. Professional training is a formal training program, conference, seminar or workshop designed for a professional group for the purpose of specialized instruction about sexual assault as it relates to the profession. Outreach is educational activities that provide information about the issues of sexual assault and which highlight the availability of services.
- **Confidentiality Assurances** - The confidentiality of communication between rape survivors and counselors is essential and should be available to all who seek services. New York State's Health Commissioner has statutory authority to grant approval to rape crisis providers for the rape crisis confidentiality privilege. Approved centers are able to

certify appropriately trained counselors. Rape crisis projects must meet regulatory standards (Sub-part 69-5 to Part 69 of Title 10 (Health) of the New York State Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations (10NYCRR) (attached) to ensure the confidentiality of client communication and records.

Additionally the Department also funds two coalitions, the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA) and New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault (the Alliance).

The Department has also undertaken a number of additional actions to improve the health system's response to sexual assault. In conjunction with a panel of experts and advocates, the department recently revised the *Protocol for the Acute Care for the Adult Patient Reporting Sexual Assault* ("Protocol"). The Protocol is designed to ensure consistently high quality treatment of rape victims as well as to facilitate proper collection of forensic evidence in all hospital emergency rooms. The updated Protocol also reflects NYS statute (effective January 28, 2004) requiring every hospital providing emergency treatment to a rape survivor to promptly provide information relating to emergency contraception, inform the survivor of the availability of emergency contraception, its use and efficacy, and provide emergency contraception to the survivor upon request. It also reflects recent improvements in rapid diagnostic testing for HIV, allowing prophylactic treatment to begin immediately if the diagnosis is confirmed, and recent changes to the HIV post-exposure prophylaxis regimen. Finally, the Protocol update also addresses recent statutory changes for the reimbursement to hospitals for forensic examination. The newly-revised Protocol has been sent to all hospitals with emergency departments, Rape Crisis Centers, SAFE examiners, SAFE training programs and other interested parties and is posted on the Department's web site. Currently the *Child and Adolescent Sexual Offense Medical Protocol* (Child Protocol) is being revised and once completed, the child Protocol will be disseminated to the field and posted on the Department's web site.

Once the Child Protocol is finalized a one-page double-sided laminated quick reference guide to both the Adult Protocol and the Child Protocol will be developed for use in emergency departments.

Another program funded by the Department is the Child Abuse Medical Provider (CHAMP) Network. The goal of CHAMP is to improve access to quality medical care for suspected child abuse victims by providing practitioners with the assessment and diagnostic skills to treat these children. The CHAMP program has increased the number of accessible expert child sexual abuse medical providers throughout New York State.

The Sexual Assault Reform Act, enacted in FY 2000, significantly expanded the Department's role in addressing sexual assault. The legislation directs the Department to designate interested hospitals in the state as sites of 24-hour sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE) programs. These hospitals are centers of excellence for the provision of sexual assault services and modeled upon the State's trauma centers. To date, 31 hospitals are designated as SAFE hospitals

In conjunction with an expert workgroup, the Department has developed standards for certification of SAFE programs, individual sexual assault forensic examiners and training programs for sexual assault forensic examiners. The Department has also approved five SAFE training program applications. There are approximately 150 individual SAFE examiners that are Department of Health-certified.

The Department also funds the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence through a memorandum of understanding for OPDV to provide train-the-trainer programs for health professionals on domestic violence in New York City. Recently the Department worked with The University at Albany School of Public Health and the New York State Office for Prevention

of Domestic Violence to provide training on domestic violence. The goal of the training is to raise awareness of domestic violence and its impact on women's health, and to encourage all healthcare providers to adopt universal domestic violence screening in order to prevent further injury, morbidity and mortality. The program objectives included: identifying the signs and symptoms of domestic violence, describing leading health indicators associated with domestic violence, identifying domestic violence treatment sources, and describing the preferred public health response to domestic violence. There will be a series of six presentations around the State for providers of all types; registration is free.

THE NYS CRIME VICTIMS BOARD

The New York State Crime Victims Board is committed to promoting programs and services that address Violence Against Women goals. To that end, CVB has or will complete the following actions:

- Crime Victims Board March 2006 Request for Proposal to fund grants for victim assistance programs across the State noted that 10% of each Federal fiscal year's grant would be allocated to programs whose principal mission was to offer comprehensive specialized services to the special needs of victims of sexual assault. While this is a mandatory VOCA priority, it is of primary importance to the Crime Victims Board as well;
- Crime Victims Board March 2006 Request for Proposal for grants for victim assistance programs across the State noted that another 10% of each Federal fiscal year's grant would be allocated to programs whose principal mission was to offer comprehensive specialized services to the special needs of victims of domestic abuse; this, too, is a mandatory VOCA priority, but also reflects the Crime Victims Board's priorities;
- In June of 2006, 45 grants were awarded to programs that serve sexual assault victims. Three year funding totals for these programs will amount to \$23.8 million and will serve approximately 45 counties in the State;
- In June of 2006, 58 grants were awarded to programs that serve domestic violence victims. Three- year funding totals for these programs will amount to \$26.9 million and will serve approximately 50 counties in the State;

- The New York State Crime Victims Board's 2007 Statewide Conference addressed the needs of woman impacted by violent crime. Workshops offered to address women's issues included: Women with Disabilities Empowerment Project, Understanding and Advocating within the Family Court System, Manual Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence, Human Trafficking, Group and Family Counseling workshops, and In Her Shoes (a workshop designed to walk advocates in the same shoes as domestic violence victims);
- Recognizing the importance of programs that serve this vulnerable population CVB, at its statewide conference issued a special achievement award to an individual and/or organization that works in the discipline of domestic violence/violence against women;
- The Crime Victims Board implemented the Forensic Rape Exam (FRE) Direct Reimbursement Program effective April 1, 2005. This program affords additional measures of personal privacy and financial relief for sexual assault survivors in the aftermath of violent and traumatic events. The FRE Direct Reimbursement Program provides for direct payment by CVB to qualifying health care providers for covered costs of forensic rape examinations provided to sexual assault patients who do not have or who decline to use their private insurance benefits or any other insurance including Medicaid or Medicare. With roll-out of the program, CVB provided regional training across the State to service providers. This summer training is again being offered to service providers to ensure that they are aware of this program and its parameters. Response to this training has been very positive;
- FRE Direct Reimbursement Program module was one of the first modules to be implemented on Claims Assistant, CVB's new automated system for processing claims. Implementation has eliminated several manual processes for FRE processing. With claims assistant processing time has improved significantly. From February 2006 through July 30, 2007, CVB has processed 5,487 FRE claims, paying out well over \$4 million in FRE claims;
- One of CVB's primary missions is to provide compensation to innocent victims of violent crime for their out-of-pocket losses related to that crime. Claim types are essential personal property, physical injury and death claims. Recognizing that any of these claim types may fall into the category of domestic violence, thee application asks claimants to specifically identify if the crime for which they are seeking compensation is a domestic violence crime. While there may be some under-reporting as this is not a required field, we can state that between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006 the Crime Victims Board paid at least 1,091 claims related to domestic violence with payments to these claimants amounting to just over \$2 million. During

the same reporting period, CVB also paid more than \$661,000 for 454 sexual assault claims; and

- In the summer of 2007, Chapter 74 of the Laws of 2007 became law, creating the crimes of labor and sex trafficking. This new law, in part, amends Article 22 of the Executive Law to specifically include these offenses in the Board's definition of victim and suspends the requirement of timely reporting to law enforcement to a reasonable amount of time considering the circumstances. The chair of the board will serve on an interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking, co-chaired by the Commissioners of Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). Women are often victims of these crimes. To ensure that these victims are afforded all the benefits of the Crime Victims Board, the Board is proposing regulations that would create rebuttal presumption victims of these new crimes had received physical injuries.

The Crime Victims Board is committed to addressing the needs of female victims of violent crime. This is evident through the agency's funding priorities for Victim Assistance Programs, the FRE program, claims processing, and advocating for the rights and interests of this population, such as the regulations being advanced for the crimes of trafficking. It is CVB's intention to continue these efforts to advance programs and services to women victims of violent crime.

THE NYS OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

In 1987 the Domestic Violence Prevention Act was passed. This required, for the first time, every county to provide and pay for residential and non-residential domestic violence services. As a result of this act, the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) developed regulations for residential and nonresidential domestic violence services. Once regulations had been established, OCFS began approving providers. OCFS has six regional offices across the state responsible for licensing all of the residential programs in New York State. The non-residential programs are approved by the local social services districts.

The act authorized OCFS to establish annual per diem rates for each county that are used to reimburse residential programs for each bed night utilized.

OCFS administers the Federal Family Violence Prevention funding. This funding is a non-competitive grant available to all approved domestic violence providers in New York State. Just under \$3 million annually, it is distributed evenly across all approved providers in the State. OCFS also allocates \$3 million in TANF funds to counties for non-residential domestic violence programs and through the Children and Family Trust Fund. The funds also support supervised visitation/domestic violence programs and other services for child victims growing up in households where there is domestic violence.

There is evidence that suggests a high correlation between child abuse and maltreatment and domestic violence in a household. As a result, since 1997, OCFS has been managing Child Protective Services/Domestic Violence collaboration projects around the State. The collaborations place a domestic violence advocate employed by the local domestic violence agency at the local CPS office to work together with the caseworkers to serve CPS/DV involved families. The collaborations involve cross-training between the agencies, regular workgroup meetings and protocol development and implementation. The agencies are encouraged to work jointly with families, ideally doing home visits and safety planning together. The goal of the collaborations is to improve outcomes for families experiencing both domestic violence and child abuse/maltreatment. As a result of the success of these projects, New York is one of the only states that now has CPS/DV collaborations as one of its program improvement strategies in response to the federal child welfare review.

THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence is a unique state-level agency designed to advise the Governor and the Legislature on the best ways for State

government to respond to the issue of domestic violence by developing policies and practices, serving as a clearinghouse of information, training professionals, developing materials on a wide range of topics, promoting interagency cooperation on the issue of domestic violence, and advocating for victims and their providers within State government.

Recent accomplishments of the Office include:

- Publication of the New York State Response to Domestic Violence: Systems and Services Making a Difference (2006), which outlined the primary funding streams for domestic violence services in the state, and highlighted some promising programs;
- Provision of two regional conferences on Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams, which included bringing in national experts to speak to a broad range of New York State service-providers;
- Release of the teen dating domestic violence “barcode” kiosk posters in malls around the State, the poster also will be made available in five languages for broader distribution;
- Release of the “Real Men Real Respect for Women” teen domestic violence video, which was recently awarded a prestigious advertising award;
- Creation of a training curriculum for homeless shelter staff;
- Finalization of the State mandated training curriculum for child protection workers; and
- Expansion of the Statewide English and Spanish domestic violence hotlines to include calls regarding sexual assault.

In 2007, OPDV welcomed a new Executive Director, and is developing several long-term projects, as well as several initiatives planned for the coming year. OPDV will be directing its energies towards ensuring that it becomes an essential resource regarding information about domestic violence for the state of New York. OPDV’s guide for victims, “Finding Safety and Support”, is being revised based on input from providers and victim focus groups. In addition, the office will begin to develop regionally-specific resource information, translated into the languages relevant to each region. The website will undergo a major revision to make it more

responsive to providers and victims, including interactive components that will actively seek input from around the State and use consumer feedback to inform OPDV publications. In an effort to encourage Statewide conversations regarding important issues in the field, OPDV plans to start a series of small Statewide workshops, which will result in publications to serve as guidance for local providers.

OPDV will publish a policy for officer-involved domestic violence. To further promote interagency collaboration, the office will be reviving its Advisory Council, which will serve as an important forum in which state agencies and community members can identify issues of concern in this area and make recommendations to the Governor for action.

OPDV will continue its extensive training programs for state agencies and community providers. OPDV plans to launch a year-long, Statewide multimedia ad campaign directed at men, encouraging them to talk to their sons about violence and respect for women. The campaign will promote the NYS Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline, and posters in five languages will be available for providers from OPDV's website.

On October 25, 2007, Governor Eliot Spitzer signed an Executive Order on "Domestic Violence and the Workplace," which requires the adoption of domestic violence and work place policies in all State agencies (see Appendices for the press release and Executive Order).

Finally, OPDV will continue to analyze some of the more difficult issues facing the field in order to provide guidance to the State, such as the role of batterers programs, the continued funding of Integrated Domestic Violence Court advocates, the issue of teen dating violence and school-based prevention programs, and the refinement of outcome measures in all areas of domestic violence response and prevention. OPDV will continue to develop and advocate legislative strategies that strengthen accountability for batterers and support for victims.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION AND CORRECTIONAL ALTERNATIVES

The Probation Domestic Violence Intervention Project (PDVIP) is a partnership between the NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) and the NYS Coalition against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV). As a team, the partners in this grant have conducted trainings for Federal and county probation officers, judges, law enforcement officers and many others. Creation of all products is overseen by a workgroup comprised of probation officers from around the State, as well as domestic violence advocates. Some of the work products include “A Model Procedural Package for Pre-Sentence Investigations and Reports,” “Probation Supervision – A Model Procedural Package”, and multiple other training tools. DPCA was the lead agency in the creation of these investigation and supervision packages.

The PDVIP also created a CD-ROM training tool for probation officers titled Domestic Violence and the Role of Probation. Completing the CD-ROM training is now required for every new probation officer before entering the “Fundamentals of Probation Practice” training. The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) have contacted the vendor that helped produce the CD-ROM. APPA was so impressed with this product that they are using the model as a tool for national distribution. The CD-ROM was subsequently retrofitted to the needs of the law enforcement community. The NYS DCJS Office of Public Safety then distributed this training tool to law enforcement agencies across the State.

During the past year, DPCA staff provided training on domestic violence to more than 850 probation officers, including distribution of more than 1,000 training material packets, procedural manuals and CD-ROM training disks to line officers and administrators across New

York State. The CD-ROM is now available on the Probation Suite of eJustice for easy access by all probation officers. In addition to the above noted training activities, DPCA provides technical assistance to line probation officers dealing with cases involving domestic violence.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Integrated Domestic Violence Courts: First established in 2001, these “one family/one judge” courts are designed to reduce the need for domestic violence victims and their families to appear in different courtrooms before several judges. Although criminal and civil cases are kept separate, one judge handles all criminal domestic violence cases and related family issues, such as custody, visitation, civil protection orders, matrimonial and, in some cases, child protective actions. As of October 2006, 29 integrated domestic violence courts were operating in Rensselaer, Westchester, Bronx, Monroe, Onondaga, Richmond, Queens, Tompkins, Erie, Franklin, and Suffolk Counties, and additional sites will be added. An annual legal training conference for IDV courts was held in September 2007; and a conference for all problem-solving courts (including DV, IDV, sex offender, mental health, drug and community courts) was held on October 25, 2007.

Domestic Violence Courts: Building upon the decade of experience with the Brooklyn Felony Domestic Violence Court, nearly 30 domestic violence courts in felony and misdemeanor courts have been created in various urban and suburban jurisdictions, large and small. These include a model *Youth Domestic Violence Court* in Kings County that focuses exclusively upon misdemeanor domestic violence cases among teenagers between the ages of 16 and 19.

Sex Offense Courts: Unique in the nation, New York State has had three sex offense courts in operation since 2006 (Nassau, Westchester, and Oswego counties) and is establishing additional courts in Suffolk and Orange Counties. These courts facilitate coordination of services for victims, as well as greater post-sentence monitoring of offenders on probation.

Family Violence Task Force: Appointed by Chief Judge Kaye in 1994, the Family Violence Task Force, now co-chaired by Honorable Sondra Miller, Associate Justice (retired) of the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, 2nd Dept. and Director of Family Support for the court system, and Honorable Anthony T. Kane, Associate Justice, Supreme Court, Appellate Division, 3rd Dept., is now planning its 14th season of seminars statewide on family violence-related issues, both civil and criminal. In 2006, the Task Force issued a “Family Violence Resource Book”, a desk-book for judges containing selected materials from prior seminars. In 2007, the seminars focused upon elder abuse and evidence in family violence cases. Prior seminars have addressed issues including, among others, the efficacy of batterers' and sex offender treatment programs, children in the courtroom, risk assessment and enforcement of orders in domestic violence cases, sexual assault, youth violence and child sexual abuse.

Town and Village Justice Comprehensive Action Plan: The Office of Court Administration is implementing a comprehensive action plan to improve the quality of local courts that serve as the front-line in domestic violence and other cases. Supervising judges have been appointed for town and village courts in every district, training is being enhanced through a training academy and the Town and Village Justice Resource Center, fiscal oversight is tightened up and additional equipment and other services are being provided. Additionally, the Commission on the Future of the Court System recently completed public hearings Statewide regarding improvements needed in the justice court system.

Electronic Transfer of Orders of Protection: Pursuant to Chapter 330 of the Laws of 2007, the court system is in the process of promulgating court rules to permit pilot projects in 9 large urban and suburban counties for the transmittal by fax or electronic means of Family Court orders of protection to law enforcement agencies in order to expedite service. Additionally, a project has been initiated in Kings County Family Court to facilitate on-line, off-premises preparation of applications for orders of protection on behalf of elderly and incapacitated domestic violence victims. Access to justice has also been enhanced in New York City by the institution of night courts; the authorization by statute for court attorney referees to issue orders of protection after 5 PM; and the authorization for pilot projects in western New York in which judicial hearing officers issue orders of protection in specialized domestic violence parts.

NEW YORK ASIAN WOMEN (NYAWC)

- NYAWC's three emergency domestic violence shelters flourished, offering up to 57 shelter beds. Each shelter is staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week and has essential services such as child care. The shelters were consistently at capacity, serving women and children in danger and with no other option but to flee from the violence in their own homes.
- NYAWC's non-residential program, SAFE (Shelter Alternatives Fostering Empowerment) was created to empower women within their own communities, helping them rebuild and govern their lives free from abuse without entering the shelter system. SAFE offers a range of culturally appropriate and language accessible services for victims of domestic violence that educate them about their rights and options, support them through counseling and advocacy, and protect them by formulating safety plans. SAFE Services include: counseling, advocacy, translation/interpretation, support groups, entitlement assistance, education/employment assistance, ESL instruction, and more;
- NYAWC initiated Tools for Success: Vocational and Housing Services, a program that aims to build women's resources and ensure safety through building financial independence and self-sufficiency. Tools for Success assistance is tailored to the needs of each individual client. The assistance we provide can range from life skills as basic as learning how to use public transportation, to highly specialized services for clients with disabilities. For most clients, however, Tools for Success focuses on three key elements: financial education, vocational training, and housing assistance;

- NYAWC's Children's Program continues to serve the unique needs of children who have witnessed or been victim to violence in their own homes. Comprehensive programs now include everything from assessing and identifying high-risk behaviors in children, to providing counseling and play therapy, support groups, mentoring programs, and parenting skills classes;
- NYAWC launched Project Free: Ending Modern-Day Slavery, which works on multiple levels from direct services to policy/advocacy and training in order to address the horrors of human trafficking; and
- NYAWC opened the doors to Our Space, a community and vocational center in a safe and undisclosed location so women and children can safely access tutoring, support groups, homework help, ESL classes, employment-based services, and more.
- Last but not least, in October 2007, NYAWC celebrated its 25th Anniversary.

NEW YORK CITY PROSECUTION HIGHLIGHTS

The issue for prosecutors across the State is their ability to come to a disposition in domestic violence cases ensures victim safety is understanding of the family dynamic and appropriate punishment, but at the same time, is considerate of the victim's wishes. That involves either taking a plea or going to trial and both of those are dependent on the quality of available evidence which can be testimony from the victim and other corroborative evidence. The initiatives are aimed at these issues:

- The Brooklyn Family Justice Center (FJC) has been in operation for more than one year and co-locates the Kings County District Attorneys Office, New York Police Department, religious leaders, Sanctuary for Families, Brooklyn Legal Services, counseling services, Jewish Services for the Aged and a host of domestic violence advocacy organizations aimed at particular ethnic groups. The idea is to allow the domestic violence victim to receive assistance with all of the criminal and civil issues she faces as a result of the abusive relationship. The FJC has already serviced thousands of victims and continues to do so. Prosecutors hope that this program will encourage cooperation in the criminal case.
- As a result of the success of the Brooklyn FJC, other counties are now planning to replicate this mode. The goal is to open as many of these centers as possible and to end the "run around: about which so many victims of domestic abuse complain.

- The Kings County District Attorney (KCDA) is beginning to address the cross complaint problem by evaluating the way these cases are handled in the earliest stage, through its DA Complaint Room. This initiative allows a domestic violence prosecutor the opportunity to interview both parties and assess the case using primary aggressor indicia is underway. The New York County DA has implemented this policy with much success.
- When physical injury is charged it is very important to have some physical proof of this injury in the form of photographs or medical records. The use of digital technology is currently being explored. The Queens DA's office is currently receiving photos at arraignments through the use of digital cameras and the immediate transfer of these photos to the office. The KCDA also is using this system to access photos at a very early stage. Through its computer system, prosecutors can access information indicating whether or not a photo was taken and then receive that photo by the grand jury presentation.
- The ability to access 911 calls is currently being reevaluated with the NYPD in an attempt to speed up the receipt of this very important piece of evidence.
- Thousands of orders of protection are issued by the local criminal courts each year and that system is being computerized. It is currently a manual system with prosecutors and judges handwriting entries on these orders. Following this initiative will be a new program to speed the issuance of the actual order to the victim's home.

UPDATE

Since the last full State Implementation Plan was submitted, we have undergone a statewide Sexual Assault Examiner (SAE) expansion effort. Initially, we identified the top 20 counties in New York State with the highest numbers of rapes that did not have a SAE program. The NYS Department of Health identified for us at least one hospital in each county that was administratively and fiscally capable of hosting a SAE program. We were successful in ensuring that 19 of the top 20 counties now have a SAE program. In addition, there are SAE programs in other counties that may be rural in nature; and some counties have more than one. To date, there are approximately 30 SAE programs in New York State. We have established

what we consider optimal, intermediate and minimal standards for sexual assault programs. Our goal is to have as many optimal programs as possible. With even the counties with the smallest numbers of sexual assaults having minimal standards (e.g., trained sexual assault examiners).

We have also expanded our website to include information specifically regarding Sexual Assault Examiner programs, including an interactive map which highlights areas in which DCJS currently has funded SAE projects. This map will continually be updated as more SAE programs are established. The DCJS website can be accessed via www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us.

CONCLUSION

All of these goals will enhance existing efforts to prevent violence against women in New York State.

We are very excited about the new initiatives we are currently undertaking as well as those we planned for the future. With continued funding under the Violence Against Women formula grant program, we will be able to proceed with our mission of implementing programs that address violence against women, are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and which hold offenders accountable for their crimes. It is our hope to fund new initiatives as well as to use the experiences gained in the last several years of VAWA to duplicate projects that we know are effective. We are thankful for the provision of Federal VAWA funds provided to New York since FFY95 have made it possible for the State to make tremendous strides in its efforts to protect women from violence. Numerous task forces have been established across the State; district attorneys' offices have dedicated prosecutors; dedicated domestic violence courts, and integrated domestic violence courts have been created; thousands of law enforcement and human service providers have received training, sexual assault examiner programs have been created,

and protocols have been developed. The increased safety of women has been possible in large part due to the Violence Against Women Act, and the grant funds provided to the State of New York.

(Please see Appendices for further required Plan elements, as well as other useful information pertaining to domestic violence and sexual assault in New York State.)

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

VAWA ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND 2007 AGENDA

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Violence Against Women Advisory Committee Meeting

July 9, 2007

Welcome and Introductions – Commissioner Denise E. O’Donnell

Presentations by:

Amy Barasch, NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

Jessica Vasquez, NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Jane McEwen or Jacqui Williams – NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Harriet Lessel – NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault

Update on VAWA Funding (Jessica Vasquez or Patti-Jo Newell, NYSCADV;
Jacqui Williams NYSCASA)

Updates/Discussion on State Priorities – Advisory Committee

OVW Info – Kim Oppelt

Open Discussion

APPENDIX B

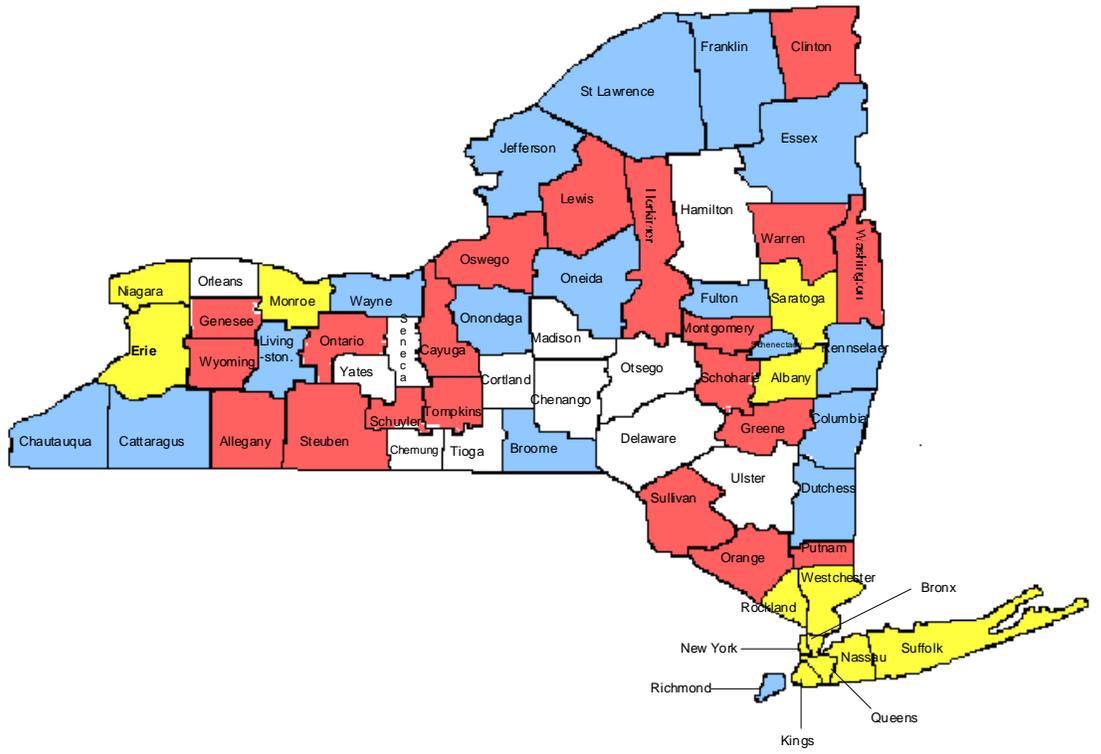
FFY 2007 AWARDS

Please Note that awards made in 2007 were made utilizing FFY2007 monies, as well as FFY 2006 and FFY2005. Older, disencumbered funds from FFY2005 and FFY2006 were used to absorb the reduction in federal funds received in FFY2007

2007 VAWA County Distribution

COUNTIES AWARDED < \$50,000		
County	No. of Projects	Total Awarded
Greene	1	\$16,300.00
Lewis	1	\$20,000.00
Ontario	1	\$21,500.00
Clinton	1	\$24,000.00
Sullivan	1	\$26,250.00
Schoharie	1	\$28,000.00
Orange	1	\$30,000.00
Montgomery	1	\$30,720.00
Wyoming	1	\$31,200.00
Steuben	1	\$33,180.00
Herkimer	1	\$35,200.00
Tompkins	1	\$35,600.00
Oswego	1	\$36,720.00
Schuyler	1	\$37,000.00
Genesee	1	\$38,400.00
Washington	2	\$41,400.00
Cayuga	2	\$42,280.00
Broome	12	\$47,200.00
Allegany	2	\$48,000.00
Putnam	1	\$48,000.00
Warren	2	\$48,000.00
COUNTIES AWARDED \$50,000 - \$100,000		
County	No. of Projects	Total Awarded
Onondaga	2	\$54,125.00
Fulton	2	\$55,870.00
Cattaraugus	2	\$59,455.00
Rensselaer	2	\$62,000.00
Livingston	2	\$63,400.00
Jefferson	1	\$64,000.00
St. Lawrence	2	\$67,200.00
Columbia	2	\$67,440.00
Wayne	2	\$68,355.00
Essex	2	\$79,325.00
Chautauqua	2	\$85,300.00
Oneida	2	\$85,800.00
Schenectady	2	\$88,400.00
Richmond	2	\$91,856.00
Dutchess	2	\$96,541.00
Franklin	3	\$99,400.00

COUNTIES AWARDED > \$100,000		
County	No. of Projects	Total Awarded
Citywide <i>(Not depicted on Map)</i>	2	\$101,000.00
Suffolk	1	\$120,000.00
Saratoga	4	\$126,500.00
Rockland	1	\$133,600.00
Nassau	3	\$149,760.00
Niagara	5	\$153,700.00
Erie	3	\$180,000.00
Monroe	5	\$185,085.00
Albany	6	\$266,120.00
Kings	5	\$277,720.00
Bronx	3	\$286,800.00
Queens	5	\$289,060.00
Statewide <i>(Not depicted on Map)</i>	3	\$384,321.00
Westchester	6	\$394,845.00
New York	10	\$549,616.00
Totals	10	\$5,505,544.00



Type of Funding: 2007Violence Against Women - by County

Albany County

**Albany County
Albany County District Attorney
Albany County Crime Victims and
Sexual Violence Center
Albany County Sheriffs Office**

Contract Amount: \$31,320 **Title:** Albany County STOP VAW Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The prosecutions of cases of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault have the unique characteristic of depending almost entirely on the testimony of the victim as the core evidence in the crime. At the same time a multitude of factors inhibit these victims/witnesses and render their active participation in the prosecution problematic. These cases are uniquely demanding in terms of requiring extraordinary levels of victim support. This project will address this issue by providing victims/witnesses in cases of sexual assault and domestic violence a consistent and integrated team incorporating prosecutors, crime victim advocates and law enforcement.

Albany Medical College

Contract Amount: \$36,000 **Title:** Sexual Assault Examiner Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will continue to support the existing Sexual Assault Examiner Program at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

**Capital District Women's Bar Assoc.
Legal Project
Equinox, Inc.**

Contract Amount: \$75,200 **Title:** Domestic Violence Legal Connection

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Domestic Violence Legal Connection's core services are in the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady and Saratoga. This project includes the recruitment and maintenance of a trained panel of attorneys to provide legal representation to victims of domestic violence on Orders of Protection in Family Court. It also provides one domestic violence training and twenty technical assistance telephone or personal contacts annually to panel attorneys and domestic violence service providers from the region.

Empire Justice Center

Contract Amount: \$33,600 **Title:** Battered Immigrant Legal Assistance

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will provide legal assistance to immigrant victims of domestic violence throughout the tri-county area of Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady. The Battered Immigrant Legal Assistance (BILA) project is a working collaboration with the domestic violence programs in the Capital District.

In Our Own Voices, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Capital Region LGBT Anti-Violence Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The goal of the Capital Region LGBT Anti-Violence Project is to increase access to and improve domestic violence services for LGBT people, particularly LGBT people of color, in seven Capital Region counties. The main objectives of the project are to: 1) Create a LGBT-specific point-of-entry for LGBT victims of domestic violence seeking services in the Capital Region. 2) Expand the number of Domestic Violence Agencies in the Capital Region who offer culturally appropriate services to LGBT communities. 3) Increase knowledge about same-sex domestic violence in LGBT communities in the Capital Region. To accomplish the project's objectives IOOV will: a. Establish a support line to provide telephone assistance to LGBT victims of domestic violence. Support line staff will provide victims with immediate crisis intervention, information and referrals to LGBT friendly domestic violence providers, legal assistance, law enforcement, counseling and services. b. Implement a community education program which will include presentations about same-sex DV for DV providers, social service agencies, and criminal justice services. c. Create a database of same-sex violence statistics based on support line calls, program participants, referrals, and office visits.

New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** The Criminal Justice Collaboration Project

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

The Criminal Justice Collaboration Project will provide statewide technical assistance throughout the year to assist rape crisis programs, sexual assault examiner programs and allied professionals in criminal justice and victims services agencies to collaborate in the provision of coordinated, culturally appropriate community responses to survivors of sexual violence. There will be four criminal justice collaboration teleconferences on current topics related to legal advocacy, forensic response to sexual assault and community collaboration strategies.

Allegany County

ACCORD Corporation

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Domestic Violence Victim Response Team

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

The Allegany County Consortium on Domestic Violence Project: Victim Response Team (VRT) is comprised of Law Enforcement, the Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Domestic Violence Program of ACCORD Corporation, Department of Social Services, Office for the Aging, Rural Justice Institute, and other area community members. The VRT is designed to coordinate services between each agency and expedite service delivery to victims, holding offenders accountable within the criminal justice system.

Bronx County

Bronx County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$84,000 **Title:** STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

Provide an effective, coordinated response, especially for the type of domestic violence victims whose cases are typically overlooked: misdemeanor cases that are not yet considered high risk.

North Central Bronx Hospital

Contract Amount: \$90,000 **Title:** North Central Bronx Hospital SART Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The SART project will provide for a Bronx borough wide mobile Sexual Assault Response Team that will assure all rape victims receive SAFE exams 24 hr/day, 365 days per year in all 3 of the Bronx New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation facilities: North Central Bronx Hospital, Jacobi Medical Center and Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center. Victims will also be provided with the support of a social worker or rape crisis advocate at each of the facilities.

The project goals are: to improve the treatment of sexual assault victims by promoting effective coordination between medical, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim services agencies and to enhance the availability of services to sexual assault victims and to encourage the victim's participation in the criminal justice process. The sexual assault victims' medical treatment, evidence collection and medical/social work follow-up will be standardized at each facility in accordance with a best practice model that addresses the victim's treatment in the context of supporting victim participation in the prosecutorial and judicial process. The Bronx SART Team will continue to provide education, consultation and technical assistance to other NYC and NY State Healthcare facilities interested in developing SART programs in other localities.

Safe Horizon, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$112,800 **Title:** Safe Horizon S.T.O.P Violence Against Women Bronx Court

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

In the past, victims of domestic violence crimes were often reluctant to participate in the prosecution of their cases. Fears of reprisal, intimidation and unfamiliarity with the criminal justice system, and a lack of resources commonly resulted in a victim returning to an unsafe home environment, often bringing their children with them as well. Although prosecutors handled the legal complexities of these victims' cases, there remained a serious gap in support services. This project assists victims of domestic

violence in understanding, negotiating, and ultimately cooperating with the court system in obtaining justice and protection

Broome County

Crime Victims Assistance Center, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Victim Advocacy

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

These DCJS funds are utilized to ensure maintenance of the current level of victim advocacy services being provided to victims throughout Broome County, who are interacting with the criminal justice and family court systems in any way. This includes services within the District Attorney's Office, as well as Broome County Family Court and the Domestic Violence Court, also located in Binghamton, NY. These advocates assist with orders of protection, provide court accompaniment, legal advocacy, and act as a liaison for the victim with court systems, as well as numerous law enforcement agencies. The purpose is to lessen the trauma to the victim, educate individuals and their families about the criminal and family court systems, and to work towards a smoother, more comprehensive interaction between victims (or victim's families) and the social systems with which they are opting or required to engage.

Crime Victims Assistance Center, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$34,200 **Title:** Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Project in Broome County

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The SAE project in Broome County focuses on community collaboration and partner training to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of sexual assault victim treatment throughout the county. The project coordinator facilitates a Sexual Assault Response Team through extensive collaboration with area hospitals, police departments, the local rape crisis program and the local university. Through a strategic planning process, the provision of on-going trainings, and case review sessions, the team continues to work towards providing smoother transitions between and among service providers, as well as comprehensive, productive, and compassionate services for victims of sexual assault.

Cattaraugus County

Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$36,080 **Title:** Violence Prevention Task Force Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Violence Prevention Task Force Project (VPTF) is a community-wide collaboration addressing sexual assault and domestic violence in Cattaraugus County. The project involves all branches of the criminal justice system including Southern Tier Legal Services and the Seneca Nation of Indians. The project plans to enhance legal advocacy through Family Court and Olean and Salamanca City Courts; provide professional trainings; and develop/update components of the existing county-wide Sexual Assault Protocol and Domestic Violence Protocol.

**Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County Sheriffs Office**

Contract Amount: \$23,375 **Title:** Domestic Violence Officer

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project continues to support the Domestic Violence Officer program in the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office. The specially trained detective is assigned to domestic violence cases. The Officer helps to improve law enforcement and community efforts in prevention programs and dealing with incidents.

Cayuga County

**Cayuga County
Cayuga County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$41,280 **Title:** Cayuga County S.T.O.P. V.A.W. Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The goal of the project is to enhance the apprehension, prosecution and adjudication of offenders of crimes of violence against women in rural Cayuga County and to enhance and improve services for victims of these crimes. The project provides personnel,

training and evaluation to achieve this goal. This project encourages collaboration between participants to improve the criminal justice systems response to crimes of violence against women in rural Cayuga County.

Cayuga Health Association, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$4,000 **Title:**The Link Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Since 1998, Cayuga Health Association's Link Program, supported by this grant has helped many battered women living in rural areas who were afraid to be living on their own after leaving their abuser. The Link Program provides a Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) unit that, when needed, at the touch of a button, police are summoned to prevent further instances of abuse. It provides security, peace of mind, and, we firmly believe, has actually saved lives.

Chautauqua County

Jamestown, City of

Contract Amount: \$56,800 **Title:** Project Crossroads

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Project Crossroads is collaboration between the Jamestown Police Department (JPD) and Family Service of the Chautauqua Region (Family Service). One of the main goals of the project since its inception has been to identify and address domestic violence throughout Chautauqua County. This can be demonstrated through the project's intervention efforts with victims of domestic violence as well as providing education to law enforcement, service providers, magistrates, businesses and community in all aspects of domestic violence, including appropriate referrals to victims and perpetrators. The project continues to further this goal by identifying domestic violence issues within our community through it's facilitation of the Chautauqua County Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault.

WCA Hospital

Contract Amount: \$28,500 **Title:** WCA Hospital SAFE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project goal is to improve the treatment of sexual assault victims by promoting effective coordination between medical, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim services agencies, and to enhance the availability of services to sexual assault victims and to encourage their participation in the judicial process.

Citywide

New York Association for New Americans, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$45,000 **Title:** Project VISA

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The New York Association for New Americans, Inc. (NYANA), through its Center for Women and Families (Center), requests a grant of \$45,000 to support the continued efforts of Project VISA (Victims of Trafficking Integrated Services and Awareness). Project VISA was established in 2002 to facilitate a more effective response to the needs of thousands of individuals in New York City who are held in forced servitude for illegal activities. Project VISA is unique in its ability to provide comprehensive, direct service to victims of trafficking. The Center is also unique in its ability to provide services that many organizations are forced to outsource to other institutions. The combination of outreach, education, and direct service provided by the Center enables it to work holistically with each individual throughout the process of recovery. The Center’s Trafficking Specialist works directly with victims on a one-on-one basis in order to establish a tailored long-term program that encompasses all of their needs.

NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault

Contract Amount: \$56,000 **Title:** New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault will increase knowledge about sexual violence issues and services on the part of the public, professionals and policy makers, improve healthcare and criminal justice response to sexual violence and increase the capacity of programs to utilize evidence-based research to evaluate their work. This will be accomplished via advocacy, education and research.

Clinton County

Behavioral Health Services North, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Clinton Co. BHSN/STOP DV Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will help provide direct services to victims during non-business hours and cover some travel costs. This project will facilitate and coordinate services to the community through the Clinton County Domestic Violence Task Force. The project will provide training on issues identified by victims of domestic abuse, committee coordination, and monitoring of programs developed through the DVTF. The safety of victims and holding accountable the perpetrators of domestic violence crimes are the basic practice guides for this project.

Columbia County

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$37,440 **Title:** Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York's Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project provides civil legal services to victims of domestic violence in Columbia and Greene Counties from the Society's offices in Albany, and on site in both counties. The staff attorney advises domestic violence victims about their rights and represents them in obtaining and enforcing comprehensive orders of protection and related relief in family court. DVLAP aims to reach the underserved rural community as well as linguistic and racial minorities. Legal Aid also convenes a domestic violence task force to help coordinate the community response to domestic violence.

REACH Center, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** SANE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Coordinator of this project will maintain the ongoing coordination of the existing Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program and will continue to improve and expand the provision of medical forensic examinations to sexual assault survivors in Columbia and Greene Counties.

Dutchess County

**Dutchess County
Family Services, Inc.
Dutchess County District Attorney
Dutchess County Probation Department**

Contract Amount: \$68,416 **Title:** Domestic Abuse Response Team

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The DART Project establishes a collaborative response team that restructures and enhances the response to domestic violence in the city and town of Poughkeepsie and the city of Beacon. From time of arrest, throughout disposition of the cases, defendants are monitored and victims receive services. Policies are modified in an effort to increase coordination among relevant agencies to ensure that domestic violence cases receive close supervision, monitoring and attention. The members of the team work closely on a daily basis, which helps to protect victims and to hold batterers accountable.

Family Services, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$28,125 **Title:** Family Services Inc Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Family Services Inc. Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner(SAFE)Program was created recognizing that victims of sexual assault found the process of obtaining medical services and subsequent navigation of the legal system difficult. The SAFE Program's team approach assists victims by providing competent, comprehensive and supportive care in an effort to restore the victim's dignity, self-esteem and sense of control. These services assist the victim by providing medical-legal examinations by trained Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners and immediate support from rape crisis advocates who also provide links to resources such as counseling, crime victims services, and assistance navigating the criminal justice system.

Erie County

**Erie County
Erie County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** S.T.O.P. Violence against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The S.T.O.P Violence Against Women program will continue to strengthen multidisciplinary coordination and cooperation between the District Attorney's Office, local police agencies, and advocacy and support agencies who work with victims of domestic violence, elder abuse and stalking and assist the ECDA's Office in prosecuting these cases. S.T.O.P Violence Against Women will strive to improve service deliveries to victims of violence by holding perpetrators accountable through prosecution, providing all necessary referrals and support services to victims.

Research Foundation SUNY Buffalo

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** Rural Expansion Family Violence Clinic

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Funding is sought to continue the expansion of the Family Violence Clinic to serve surrounding rural communities in the Western New York region. Specifically, the counties of the Eighth Judicial District (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Orleans, Niagara and Wyoming) and Monroe County. Currently the Clinic provides training, consultation, policy development, "The Resource Link", including our annual newsletter "The Resource", educational forums for community members, the Annual Educational Institute presenting research on domestic violence to professionals throughout the region and conducting research and supervision of law interns. All of the services provided by the Clinic are designed to develop and support community collaborations to assist victims of domestic violence throughout the region of Western New York and beyond. The Clinic has been providing assistance to the region for over ten years. The expansion into the rural areas has been funded by STOP grants since 1998.

Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** Crisis Services SAFE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

To provide for a SAFE (Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner) Coordinator in Erie County who plays a crucial role in facilitating the coordination of the SAFE program. A program exists at Erie County Medical Center as well as the on-call SANE response for the adult facilities of Kaleida's Health Care System in four hospitals. In addition, the coordinator has

developed and implemented a drug facilitated sexual assault screening and testing protocol, universal chart paperwork for the Kaleida Health Care system in responding to sexual assault cases and provided various community education presentations and trainings.

Essex County

Behavioral Health Services North, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$28,125 **Title:** Essex Project IX

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project continues to provide direct services for victims of domestic abuse crimes in Essex County without regard to their financial status. Outreach efforts will continue through various reports and referrals. Staff facilitate and coordinate programs and committees of the Essex Co. Task Force Against Domestic Violence and monitor the effects on services. The safety of victims and holding accountable perpetrators of domestic violence crimes are the basic practice guides for this project.

Essex County

Contract Amount: \$51,200 **Title:** VAW Crimes Prosecution Enhancement

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Continuation and continued improvement of Essex County's prosecution of domestic violence, stalking, and sex crimes. The project staff will consist of a prosecutor/coordinator who will have overall responsibility for developing and implementing policies and procedures for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking

cases, a part-time administrative person, and a part-time investigator. The prosecutor/coordinator has extensive experience in the area of addressing violence against women and children, having worked in the field in various capacities for more than twenty years.

The prosecutor/coordinator will handle Integrated Domestic Violence Court; be responsible for community coordination activities with local service providers, probation, child protective services, and other such agencies who are necessary parties to a coordinated community response to crimes against women; and handle or oversee handling of felony cases involving VAW crimes. She will review such cases that arise in the local courts, and discuss appropriate responses to those cases with the responsible attorney, making recommendations for plea offers and dispositions. The prosecutor will also be the primary point of contact for victims of VAW crimes whose cases are being prosecuted in Essex County.

Franklin County

Adirondack Medical Center

Contract Amount: \$15,000 **Title:** Adirondack Medical Center (AMC) SANE Program

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

Adirondack Medical Center (AMC) will strengthen its existing Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program by training one new SANE, creating a schedule and conducting regular internal trainings, and continuing to work with SART members. With a number of new SANEs joining the program over the past two years, the SANE Coordinator's focus this year will be to create an carry out a plan for internal trainings that will increase the new SANEs comfort level, particularly with the equipment, and act as a refresher for experienced SANEs. The Coordinator will recruit one new SANE to the program.

Community Action Agency of Franklin County, Inc

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Franklin County Collaboration

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

This is a collaborative project between ComLinks Domestic Violence Intervention Program, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Domestic Violence Program, and the Franklin County District Attorney's Office to increase victim safety and offender accountability through outreach, legal advocacy, training, the Franklin County Domestic Violence Task Force and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

Contract Amount: \$36,400 **Title:** 2006 STOP Domestic Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe STOP Domestic Violence Program has been in existence since October 1998. The program offers services to victims of violence along with their children. The program has offered services to over 300 families of the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory. Currently the STOP Program is staffed by the program manager and caseworker. Together the program manager and case worker work to offer crisis intervention and counseling, advocacy, emotional support, education seminars, and transportation to and from court.

Fulton County

Family Counseling Center of Fulton County, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$25,150 **Title:** Domestic Violence Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The purpose of this project is to improve the criminal justice response to victims of domestic violence in Fulton County by enhancing victim safety and by increasing offender accountability. The project staff will improve advocacy and supportive services to victims from underserved populations that are unduly challenged by barriers, such as geography, race, language, age or disabilities. Also, the program will strengthen The Fulton County Domestic Violence Task Force by providing training opportunities for law enforcement officers, judges and other human service providers to enhance their knowledge regarding the special needs of underserved victims of domestic violence.

Fulton County

Fulton County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$30,720 **Title:** Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This Domestic Violence Prosecutor Program continues to support staff dedicated to prosecution of domestic violence crimes. The staff of this project actively participates

in the Fulton County Domestic Violence Task Force to provide a more coordinated response to domestic violence. Other activities through the renewal period of the grant include outreach to underserved populations and added data sharing to minimize resource duplication in Fulton County.

Genesee County

YWCA of Genesee County, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$38,400 **Title:** Genesee County Community Response Partnership

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Genesee County Community Partnership fosters a comprehensive approach and response to domestic violence and sexual assault victims in this county. Our community partnership is striving to develop a systemic response that prevents further victimizing through the promotion of victim safety, strengthening of perpetrator accountability and responsibility, and on-going education of all victim service delivery system members.

Greene County

Community Action of Greene County, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$16,300 **Title:** Justice for Victims of Domestic Violence

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Columbia Greene Domestic Violence plans to continue to enhance services provided to victims of domestic violence. The programs primary goal will be to continue to develop and strengthen the community's response to the problems of domestic violence. Columbia Greene Domestic Violence will enhance victims safety through intervention strategies based on a victims right to self-determination, reinforce the need to hold the abuser accountable for his actions, hold systems responsible in identifying and responding to victims as well as promote a coordinated community zero tolerance response towards domestic violence.

Herkimer County

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County

Contract Amount: \$35,200 **Title:** Domestic Violence Advocates for Family Court & Police Dept.

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

It is the goal of the Domestic Violence Program of Herkimer County to continue to provide immediate assistance to victims of domestic violence that present at either Family Court in Herkimer County, or the City of Little Falls Police Department. Currently, there is an office available at Family Court which allows an advocate to be available to provide immediate crisis intervention, supportive counseling, information/referral and advocacy while filing family offense petitions and/or custody. There is also an office available at the City of Little Falls Police Department for 20 hours per week to provide all services from this location as well as reviewing Domestic Incident Reports and following up with the victim to describe program services and options available to them.

Jefferson County

Victims Assistance Ctr. of Jefferson County, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$64,000 **Title:** Jeff. Co. Family Violence/SA Crisis Response Team Project

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

Our Immediate Response Team is a collaborative immediate response to victims of family/domestic violence and sexual assault. It is comprised of Victims Assistance Center Advocates, law enforcement officers from the Watertown Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, New York State Police, Fort Drum Directorate of Emergency Services, the New York State Park Police, Village Police Departments, the District Attorney and Assistant District Attorneys from the District Attorney's Office. It is a first response and follow-up team that accompanies law enforcement at the time of incident, providing advocacy and assistance to the victim from that initial point of contact throughout the entire criminal justice process and with follow-up services.

Kings County

Dwa Fanm

Contract Amount: \$45,000 **Title:** Haitians Against Violence at Home Precinct Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The program entitled Haitians Against Violence at Home will work with the New York City Police Department to administer a police precinct project working to enhance the level of safety for Haitian, French Caribbean, and African victims of domestic violence by providing linkage to legal advocacy, education, training, guidance on immigration matters and by improving the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence among these populations.

**Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Kings County District Attorney
South Brooklyn Legal Services**

Contract Amount: \$84,000 **Title:** Barrier Free Justice

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project is a collaboration of Kings County District Attorney's Office, Barrier Free Living, and South Brooklyn Legal Services. The staff of the project will continue to work with women with cognitive, psychiatric or physical disabilities who are sexual assault and/or domestic violence victims. The goal of Barrier Free Justice is to improve access to the criminal justice system for women with disabilities through early intervention for victims, training professionals, identifying problems in the system, building a network of advocates, and tracking cases in a database.

Kings County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$36,720 **Title:** PROJECT S.A.V.E.

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Project SAVE, which stands for Sexual Assault Victim Education, is a counseling and legal advocacy program of the Kings County District Attorney's Office, designed to assist adult women who are victims of sexual assault through the criminal justice system.

Project SAVE provides crisis intervention, counseling, and referral services to victims while also training police and prosecutors on issues related to sexual assault.

**Kings County District Attorney
YAI/NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Contract Amount: \$64,000 **Title:** Project SHIELD

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project is a collaborative effort between the Kings County District Attorney's Office and YAI/National Institute for People with Disabilities. The project is designed to facilitate more effective investigation and prosecution of sex crimes involving women with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities (MR/DD). The staff on the grant will engage in an extensive program of community outreach and training aimed at educating professionals and community members about the issue of sexual assault in the MR/DD community; additionally, the trainings will educate victims and their families about the sexual assault and resources available for victims of this crime.

North Brooklyn Coalition Against Family Violence

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** North Brooklyn Coalition Against Family Violence – STOP

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The staff of the program provides a variety of services to domestic violence victims including individual counseling, support groups, crisis intervention, advocacy, referrals, and court accompaniment. The services of the program facilitate greater access for underserved Latina victims' domestic violence victims in the North Brooklyn section of New York City to criminal justice and other helping systems. A critical component of the Coalition's work is the project's emphasis on helping victims to remain safely in the community by providing community based support for individual clients as well as culturally and linguistically sensitive services.

Lewis County

Lewis County Opportunities, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$20,000 **Title:** Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

To help improve the safety of domestic violence/rape crisis victims in Lewis County through: Enhanced outreach and prevention education efforts; Improving direct services through the distribution of personal safety kits; Providing therapy to victims; and Maintaining a program that addresses the issue of stalking by providing direct services to victims of stalking, collaborating with local law enforcement, and providing prevention education.

Livingston County

Chances & Changes, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$25,000 **Title:** VW Outreach/Court Advocacy

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The program will continue to provide a proactive approach by offering a variety of services to domestic violence victims in Livingston County such as support groups, counseling, advocacy, referral, and information. The progress of victims will be measured through the use of GAIN scales in order to keep track of their progress, to measure service utilization and to identify any gaps in services. Outreach activities will also be conducted in this rural area of western New York State. The Court Advocate will continue to facilitate the Livingston County Domestic Violence Consortium which is the vital piece of a community uniform response to incidents of domestic violence.

Livingston County
Chances & Changes, Inc.
Livingston County District Attorney
Livingston County Sheriff's Office
Legal Assistance of the Finger Lakes

Contract Amount: \$38,400 **Title:** FYY 2006 S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Livingston County will continue and improve an established Domestic Violence Task Force. The agencies collaborating on the Task Force are the Livingston County District Attorney's Office; the Livingston County Sheriff's Department; the Livingston County Probation Department; Chances and Changes, a domestic violence service provider; and Legal Assistance of the Finger Lakes. These agencies will continue to work together in a coordinated and comprehensive response to violence against women in Livingston County. The District Attorney's Office will continue to handle the administration of the project.

The goals of the Task Force are to continue to improve the effective prosecution of domestic violence cases by focusing on evidence based prosecutions, to seek the accountability of offenders through incarceration and a graduated range of sanctions, to improve victim support services by providing coordinated case management, and to improve the access of victims to civil legal services by obtaining orders of protection and other appropriate remedies.

Monroe County

Alternatives for Battered Women, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$32,000 **Title:** S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Domestic Violence Integrated Community Project will continue to support the efforts begun in 2003 to foster a comprehensive community outreach in Rochester and the Monroe County area, to victims of domestic violence, particularly in high-risk areas. The project seeks to increase victims' self-sufficiency, and mitigate the impact of the trauma experienced because of domestic violence, all necessary in assisting victims of domestic violence in pursuing violence-free lives. This will be accomplished through the provision of informational and community support groups, individual counseling and proactive case management for victims of domestic violence. Evaluation of the impact of the proposed program will be conducted using GAINS, TSC-33 Scales and pre/post testing in targeted groups.

Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$28,125 **Title:** LAS DV Regional Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Legal Aid Society's Regional Domestic Violence Program provides legal representation and pre-petition counseling to victims of domestic violence in Monroe and

Orleans Counties. The goal of the project is to reduce domestic violence and strengthen the judicial system's response to domestic violence in Monroe County and the surrounding rural region. Direct legal representation that holds batterers accountable and supportive legal services to assist victims end the abusive relationship.

**Monroe County
Monroe County Office of Probation**

Contract Amount: \$42,120 **Title:** Enhanced Domestic Violence Services Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Enhanced Domestic Violence Services Program provides support for the Domestic Violence Intake Unit (DVIU) at the Monroe County Office of Probation-Community Corrections. Two Probation Assistants, funded by the grant, provide services to victims of domestic violence who are seeking orders of protection through Monroe County Family Court. The Probation Assistants' responsibilities include: assessing victim eligibility for Family Court orders of protection; interviewing victims; writing Family Court petitions for orders of protection; referring victims to appropriate agencies for advocacy, financial services, legal services, mental health services, housing and support services; and crisis counseling to victims within the petition writing process. Also, the staff on the grant collaborates closely with the Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium, with over 60 agencies dedicated the support of victims of domestic violence.

Planned Parenthood of the Rochester/Syracuse Region

Contract Amount: \$24,600 **Title:** Sexual Assault Examiner (SAE) Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Sexual Assault Examiner (SAE) Program utilizes specially trained Nurse Practitioner, Physician's Assistants and Registered Nurses in a hospital-based setting to ensure the compassionate, comprehensive medico-legal treatment of sexual assault victims, immediately following an assault and throughout the evidence collection process. The SAE Program helps support victims' medical and psychological needs, streamlines the evidence collection process and produces better quality witnesses and evidence for trial. This also increases successful prosecution of sexual assault perpetrators. The SAFE Center at Strong Memorial Hospital was implemented by this collaborative in 2002 and currently provides services to adult victims of sexual assault. It is known to be one of the most stable and reputable programs in NYS.

**Rochester, City of
Rochester Police Department**

Contract Amount: \$69,600 **Title:** Domestic Violence Response Team

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The Family and Victim Services Unit of the Rochester Police Department will continue to provide on-scene crisis response to any type of domestic abuse report. The Domestic Violence Response Team of the Family and Victim Services Section will also be assigned cases to follow up on through Rochester Police Department's Domestic Incident Reports. The goal of the program is to serve as many victims as possible in domestic violence crisis situations. A quick response ensures that victims will more likely accept services including safe housing and/or referrals.

Montgomery County

Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties

Contract Amount: \$30,720 **Title:** Domestic Violence Intervention & Training Team

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties will continue to expand the Domestic Violence Intervention and Training Team. This team is a collaborative effort between law enforcement officers in Montgomery County, hospital personnel, and other community organizations. Members of the interdisciplinary team will address protocol, policies and services for domestic violence cases and increase awareness in the community by offering trainings and presentations about domestic violence.

Nassau County

Hempstead, Village of

Contract Amount: \$22,500 **Title:** Domestic Violence Enforcement and Victim's Rights Program

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will fund the necessary follow-up investigations from the victim's advocates and DVU Officer in cases of domestic abuse. It will allow the advocates/DVU Officer to offer immediate services to the victims. The project will reach out to the under served populations, such as Hispanics, African Americans, and elderly victims of domestic violence. In addition, the project will give the latest training initiatives to all members who encounter domestic incidents in their daily activities. The community will also receive the latest awareness training and available services for victims and abusers.

**Nassau County
Nassau County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$89,760 **Title:** Nassau County SAE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Nassau County Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program (SANE) is a joint effort of the Special Victims Squad (SVS) of the Nassau County Police Department (NCPD), the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, the Sexual Assault Center of the Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCCADV) and the Special Victim Bureau of the Nassau County District Attorney's Office (NCDV.) The aim of SANE is to treat the victims of sexual assault with dignity and compassion, while collecting and preserving evidence that aids in the arrest and prosecution of the offenders.

Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Police Partnership and Hospital Advocacy

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This is a collaborative project between police and service providers to protect victims and strengthen the law enforcement response to domestic violence. Following a domestic violence intervention, police relay information on the incident to our project advocates who follow up to offer support and services to victims who would otherwise not have sought assistance. Started in 1997 with the Nassau County Police Department, it expanded in 2000, through Federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding, to include six local police departments and to insure the availability of bilingual services. In 2004 and 2005, two more Departments joined the project.

The hospital advocacy component provides a volunteer advocacy program to assist victims of domestic violence. With victims' consent, volunteer advocates meet victims at emergency rooms to provide support and services and connect victims to project staff for follow-up services.

New York County

Barrier Free Living, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** VAWA 2007

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Barrier Free Living non-residential Domestic Violence Program continues to provide a range of services to individuals with disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Barrier Free Living seeks to continue to engage victims of domestic violence in all the boroughs in services. This agency, with its extensive domestic violence and mental health experiences, provides a wide range of services to disabled victims of crimes in all the boroughs. Some of those services include: crisis intervention, individual and psycho-educational group counseling, case management, advocacy, referrals, occupational therapy, and a 24 hour hotline. Moreover, the program provides on going training to various social service agencies, hospitals, precincts, schools, and the criminal justice system to help bring attitudinal changes in service providers. Our ultimate goal remains to ensure that individuals with disabilities victims of domestic violence lead secure, dignified, and independent lives free of abuse.

CONNECT, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** Coordinated Action Against Violence

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Coordinated Action Against Violence Program strives to increase safety for victims of domestic violence who have sought assistance from the NYPD 25th Precinct and the East Harlem Housing Precinct (PSA 5) by providing information and advocacy services(safety planning, risk assessment, etc.), improving the criminal justice response to victims; by collaborating with the Crime Victims Treatment Center at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital; and by collaborating with the various criminal justice professionals in the Harlem Northern Manhattan Interdisciplinary Collaborative to improve the justice system for the benefit of Domestic Violence victims.

Dominican Womens Development Center

Contract Amount: \$54,016 **Title:** Nuevo Amanecer/ New Dawn

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Dominican Women's Development Center will provide services to Latina victim of Domestic Violence residing in the Washington Heights/Inwood Neighborhood of Upper Manhattan by providing direct services such as counseling, outreach, court accompaniments, referrals, community networking, and translation services.

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Contract Amount: \$40,000 **Title:** The Mount Sinai SAFE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This is a collaborative effort with The Mount Sinai Medical Center, law enforcement agencies, and the prosecutor's office. Project staff will continue to coordinate a team approach which will effectively meet the needs sexual assault survivors from the point that they enter the Emergency Department to successful prosecution of the perpetrator. Survivors will have the option of undergoing a forensic examination conducted by a trained Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner through the program. Also, survivors will be provided with consistent, high-quality health care as well as emotional support.

New York Asian Women's Center

Contract Amount: \$27,000 **Title:** NYAWC VAWA 2007

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The New York Asian Women's Center proposes to expand our quality services to underserved populations of Asian immigrant women who are trapped in domestic violence situations. The staff of the Center will provide hotline, counseling, advocacy, interpretation and other services to victims. Also, the staff of the program will conduct cultural sensitivity training and education of mainstream service providers such as law enforcement, hospitals and the criminal justice system. The Center will also educate the multiple Asian communities about domestic violence issues and available services. The Center seeks to improve services to underserved Asian populations, which are rapidly increasing in New York City, by expanding outreach efforts to established and new immigrant populations, increasing awareness of services available, and providing a full range of domestic violence services including immigration assistance, legal referrals and emergency shelter when necessary.

New York County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$81,600 **Title:** STOP Violence Against Women Program

LE

DA

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CT

Project Summary:

This project enhances DANY's DV and Sex Crimes Units, with the goal of decreasing the incidence of domestic violence and sexual assault in Manhattan.

New York Presbyterian Hospital

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** New York Presbyterian Hospital DOVE Program SAFE Initiative

LE

DA

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DS

CT

Project Summary:

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Initiative at New York Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Medical Center is creating a comprehensive program to address the medical, forensic and psychosocial care needs of victims of sexual violence. Through the efforts of a dedicated program coordinator and medical director, we have established a cadre of New York State certified sexual assault examiners, and provided them with state of the art equipment necessary to collect and document evidence of sexual assault. This has produced a high level of quality care for survivors, while improving the collection of forensic evidence for use in the prosecution of sexual offenders. This has led to our designation by the NYS DOH as a SAFE Center of Excellence. The sexual assault victims from our underserved community of Northern Manhattan are currently provided 24 hour-7-day a week care from our coordinated team care consisting of a SAFE examiner, DOVE social work staff and trained and committed volunteers' advocates. Together they provide a forensic medical examination, crisis intervention, counseling, information and referrals. Our success with victims in the emergency department enhances victim cooperation through our close relationships with the police and district attorneys serving our community neighborhoods in Northern Manhattan and the Southwest Bronx.

NYC Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** NYS LGBT Domestic Violence Training Institute & Network

LE

DA

VS

DS

CT

Project Summary:

This project will allow AVP to continue coordination of the NYS Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Violence Network, established in 2002. In the coming project year we will expand opportunities for training and "expert" facilitated practice discussions among Network participants and others serving LGBT people affected by domestic violence and sexual assault around the state.

Additionally, through our Education and Training Institute AVP will continue and expand its efforts at improving the ability of service providers and law enforcement agencies in the Downstate Region to respond to domestic violence and sexual assault in the lives of lesbian, gay, transgender and bisexual (LGTB) people. Funding for this program will enable the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project (AVP) to continue its work increasing the level of awareness among service providers of domestic violence in the lives of LGTB people.

Sanctuary for Families, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$60,000 **Title:** Access to Justice for Battered Immigrants Initiative

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Sanctuary's Access to Justice for Battered Immigrants Initiative (the Initiative) provides culturally and linguistically sensitive outreach to immigrant victims; legal education for advocates and community leaders working among immigrant populations; criminal justice advocacy; direct representation for victims in immigration law and civil protective order cases; and technical assistance to District Attorneys' Offices and community-based organizations (CBOs) serving New York City's underserved immigrant populations. In 2006, the Initiative expanded its services to more effectively reach Caribbean and sub-Saharan African communities in New York City, while still offering strong programming targeted at South and East Asian, Latina, West African, and other immigrant communities. With the recent addition of a Mandarin- and Taiwanese- speaking attorney, the Initiative will be able to enhance its services to the Chinese and Taiwanese community. The Initiative will continue its successful Community Advocates Institute to formally train CBO staff in workshop series; and strengthen its collaboration and cross-referral relationship with the Sanctuary for Families clinical and shelter departments, and with other programs in Sanctuary's Legal Center, such as the Courtroom Advocates Project.

Immigrant battered women face formidable obstacles that hinder their ability to access the criminal justice system, e.g. dependence on abusers for immigration sponsorship, lack of English-language skills, lack of familiarity with the legal system in this country, limited or no family or community support networks, traditional cultural beliefs, oftendire consequences of returning to their home country (such as "honor killing" by their families and/or communities), and a dearth of specialized immigration domestic violence service providers with legal expertise. To meet their complex legal needs, attorneys require knowledge of a broad practical legal background, encompassing criminal, civil,

immigration, and public benefits law as well as familiarity with diverse languages and cultures. The Initiative enables immigrant battered women to: initiate and pursue criminal cases against their abusers; obtain and enforce civil orders of protection; encourage cooperation with law enforcement officials, including the police and prosecutors; and obtain the legal immigration status critical to their safety and independence.

St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital Center

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program was implemented in 1997 at St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals. It was expanded to Beth Israel Medical Center in 1999. The program is coordinated and overseen by the SLR Crime Victims Treatment Center, which provides the administrative support and coordination for the multi-sited SAFE program. SAFE examiners are on call to three emergency departments to provide expert medical care and collection of forensic evidence. They work as a member of a SART team with our rape crisis volunteer advocates in providing psychological support, information and advocacy, assistance in reporting to the police and other services while in the emergency department. Prior to being on-call, SAFE must complete a 55 hr. training, precept/trail with an experienced independent examiner and be evaluated to be competent and certified. In addition, examiners must attend continuing education and on going training in collaboration with criminal justice. CVTC's SAFE program averages over 220 exams each year.

Niagara County

Lockport Memorial Hospital

Contract Amount: \$54,000 **Title:** S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Hospital based Sexual Assault Examiner program. The program provides trained responders to hospital Emergency Department when a sexual assault victim seeks treatment. The program will provide a part-time coordinator of the program and 24 hour 365 days a year coverage of the hospital ED with trained SANE staff. The coordinator will be responsible for keeping up to date with current techniques as well as in servicing SANE staff on new protocols and policies developed in conjunction with law enforcement and the Niagara County District Attorney.

**Lockport, City of
Lockport City Police Department**

Contract Amount: \$26,000 **Title:** Enhanced Domestic Violence Program

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The project is designed to further enhance the Lockport Domestic Violence Intervention Program. This program is a collaborative effort between the Lockport Police Department and the YWCA of Niagara to provide a coordinated response to domestic violence cases in the City of Lockport. The project will be enhanced by providing an assigned investigative team, consisting of a police officer and a victim services advocate. Their coordinated efforts will review cases for follow-up and contact to all victims to ensure their safety and that the offenders are held accountable for their actions. The project is designed to network directly with courts, prosecutors, and community service agencies.

**Niagara County
Niagara County Dept. Mental Health**

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Enhancement of Niagara County Rape Crisis Services

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

Niagara County Rape Crisis Services, a division of the Niagara County Department of Mental Health to have a Rape Crisis Program Assistant/Case Manager contractual position. This position is responsible for the following activities: Hospital Crisis Intervention and Case Management; Individual and phone supportive counseling; Referrals; Compilation of victim and perpetrator demographics, as well as Legal Advocacy for victims within the criminal justice system.

**Niagara County
Niagara County Sheriffs Office**

Contract Amount: \$32,000 **Title:** No One is Safe Until All Are Safe

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

Despite significant strides that have been made to coordinate and strengthen Niagara County's response to violence against women, there is continued need to reach out to women who are abused, especially the women who are least likely to report to the police.

The overall goal of this project is to improve access to these women, giving special attention to the victims of serious incidents, repetitive victims and those in the underserved populations. The court process continues to be a daunting one for victims. Advocacy efforts will also increase focus on linkage with the courts and support throughout the criminal justice system. Another crucial piece to this project will be providing training/education on the dynamics of domestic violence and proper response to victims and enhancing the relationship between the Domestic Violence Intervention Program and the Niagara County Probation Department in order to increase victim participation in completing Pre-Sentence Investigations.

**Niagara Falls, City of
Niagara Falls City Police Department**

Contract Amount: \$35,600 **Title:** Eliminate Violence Against Women

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The project proposes to continue the current program which consists of a dedicated Domestic Violence Response Team that responds to domestic violence cases and follows up on every domestic incident report filed.

Oneida County

**YWCA of the Mohawk Valley
Utica, City of
Utica City Police Department**

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Utica Police Department Domestic Violence Response Team

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The Utica Police Department proposes a continuation of the partnership with the YWCA of the Mohawk Valley for the purpose of sustaining a Domestic Violence Response Team. This is an effort to effectively reduce the occurrence of domestic violence, and in particular, those incidents involving repeat victims and/or offenders. The Team will seek to increase reporting; improve accuracy in reporting and tracking of all domestic incident information; and ensure access to supportive services for all victims of domestic violence.

YWCA of the Mohawk Valley

Contract Amount: \$37,800 **Title:** Court Advocate Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The YWCA Court Advocate project improves and expands access for battered women to the Family Court system in Oneida County. The project will provide supportive advocacy for domestic violence victims throughout all court proceedings as well as increase the access to criminal court systems as needed. The project will provide initial contact and follow up services to include but not limited to crisis intervention, referrals for shelter, counseling and support group and advocacy/accompaniment.

Onondaga County

Liberty Resources, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$26,000 **Title:** STOP Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The goal of this project is to increase the accessibility of legal advocacy to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and in doing so, increase the safety of battered women who are seeking either Criminal Court or Family Court orders by providing services designed to prevent re-victimization.

Vera House, Inc

Contract Amount: \$28,125 **Title:** Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The purpose of the SANE Program is to utilize specially trained nurse examiners to perform forensic evaluations on victims of sexual assault. SANE's are able to provide compassionate and expedient care to victims, while at the same time improving the quality of evidence collected. The examiners work collaboratively with local hospitals, victim advocates, law enforcement, the DA's Office, and the crime lab. This collaboration can indirectly affect prosecution rates by improving the rate of reporting to law enforcement.

Ontario County

Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$21,500 **Title:** Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project provides for a Criminal Court Advocate who supports, educates, and advocates for victims of domestic violence who are involved in the criminal court system. The Advocate also educates and collaborates with law enforcement and the legal/court system.

Orange County

Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Orange County Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Sexual Assault Examiner (SANE) Program assists victims of sexual assault in Orange County by providing immediate medical, legal and emotional attention for these victims. The nurses in the program also collect forensic evidence to improve the prosecution of offenders. A Senior Sexual Assault Examiner and other nurses on call assist with 24 hour nurse coverage for program. Additionally, the Senior Sexual Assault Examiner supervises and coordinates the training of nurses in the program.

Oswego County

Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$36,720 **Title:** Victim Support Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The lead agency for the Victim Support Project is SAF, a division of Oswego County Opportunities, Inc., the community action agency for Oswego County. Other collaborative partners are the Oswego County District Attorney Office, the Oswego County Probation Office, and the Oswego County Family Court. The Project staff provides direct services to female survivors of violence, including: crisis intervention;

case management; counseling; information and referral; family court petition preparation; and advocacy. Additionally, staff provide both mail and telephone outreach to survivors of violence. This year the Project is working with the health community to offer training on working with survivors of sexual assault. The Project also produces an Annual Report about Court-related activities with survivors of violence, demographic information about survivors, the incident, and perpetrators.

Putnam County

**Putnam County
Putnam/Northern Westchester
Women's Resource Cntr
Putnam County District Attorney
Putnam County Probation Department
Putnam County Sheriff's Office**

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** S.T.O.P. Domestic Violence

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

This is a collaborative project between four agencies: the Putnam County Probation Department, the Putnam County District Attorney, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, and the Women's Resource Center. The purpose of this project is to provide a coordinated approach to affect the timely continuum of services to domestic violence/sexual assault victims; and to provide accountability and safe supervision for the offenders.

Queens County

Elmhurst Hospital Center

Contract Amount: \$64,000 **Title:** Elmhurst Hospital Center SAFE Program

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The Elmhurst Hospital Center SAFE Program provides specialized medical, emotional, and forensic care through a 24-hour on call system to survivors of sexual assault in Queens. Funding from DCJS will support the SAFE Coordinator, as well as additional SAFE training and precepting for our on-call team. DCJS's support is crucial for program administration, liaison with community institutions such as the District Attorney's office, and continued capacity-building. EHC's SAFE program--like others throughout the state--is designed to improve the experience of the sexual assault survivor in the acute care setting, and to improve rates of reporting and successful criminal justice outcomes community-wide.

Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC)

Contract Amount: \$34,260 **Title:** Violence Intervention and Prevention Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC) provides bilingual counseling, advocacy, and education to families, women, men, children and youth in the New York tri-state area to prevent and end domestic violence, resolve conflict, and develop healthy family and peer relationships. KAFSC proposes to continue and improve its domestic violence and sexual assault victims' services for the Korean American community in the New York tri-state area by providing culturally sensitive and bilingual services. Our project provides training, advocacy, outreach to the community, and support services to address violence against women.

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Contract Amount: \$46,800 **Title:** SAVI at Mount Sinai School of Medicine

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The SAVI Program provides trained volunteer advocates and paid professional clinicians to serve victims of sexual assault seeking help in Queens, the state's most ethnically diverse county, and one of the most traditionally underserved areas. The SAVI's team approach unites and coordinates sexual assault response services in three of Queens County's hospitals: Elmhurst Hospital, Queens Hospital Centers, and Mt. Sinai Queens. Also, the program conducts outreach and education activities in Queens and in the Borough of Manhattan, where the program also serves six hospitals.

Queens County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$96,000 **Title:** Queens County Comprehensive Domestic Violence Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This is a proposed continuation of a comprehensive domestic violence program of the Office of the Queens County District Attorney. As part of the program, it seeks to continue the specialization of prosecution staff in felony domestic violence matters and in

use of counseling services within the District Attorney's Office for domestic violence victims, with special emphasis on support services to the elderly, and conduct of public education outreach to help break the cycle of domestic violence.

Safe Horizon, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$36,000 **Title:** Safe Horizon S.T.O.P Violence Against Women Queens Court

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

In the past, victims of felony domestic violence crimes were often reluctant to participate in the prosecution of their cases. Fears of reprisal, intimidation and unfamiliarity with the criminal justice system, and a lack of resources commonly resulted in a victim returning to an unsafe home environment, often bringing their children with them as well. Furthermore, an overwhelming number of victims in Queens County are immigrants who faced additional obstacles such as language barriers, fear of deportation, and cultural bias. Although prosecutors handled the legal complexities of these victims' cases, there remained a serious gap in support services. This project assists victims of domestic violence in understanding, negotiating, and ultimately cooperating with the court system in obtaining justice and protection.

Rensselaer County

Samaritan Hospital

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Samaritan Hospital Sexual Assault & Crime Victims Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

We are a community based sexual assault care center providing education, treatment, and prevention services to victims in Rensselaer and surrounding counties. We provide specially trained medical staff to perform medical & forensic exams to victims and treatment or referrals according to their needs.

Unity House of Troy, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$32,000 **Title:** DV Advocacy & Support

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The goals of this program are two-fold: 1) To improve victim access to effective legal relief by acting as a liaison to the legal system; offering information, referrals, accompaniment and advocacy in legal issues; 2) To develop and maintain a comprehensive database that will assist in identifying service gaps, identifying needs of victims, and assessing outcomes for victims of domestic violence in Rensselaer County.

Richmond County

Richmond County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$53,856 **Title:** Early Case Assessment, Support, and Evidence

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

To maintain the Richmond County District Attorney's ECASE program, a project coordinated with Safe Horizon, to provide early and comprehensive prosecutorial response to crimes of domestic violence; to make court-based services available to domestic violence victims; and to ensure the safety of women who are domestic violence victims.

Richmond University Medical Center

Contract Amount: \$38,000 **Title:** Richmond County SAE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Develop a comprehensive Sexual Assault Examiner Program in order to enhance services in our community. Although other comprehensive programs exist throughout the other boroughs, none exist on Staten Island. By working closely with the DA's office, the NYPD, and other victim's service agencies, our hospital based SAE Program will assure better coordination of services to our survivors.

Rockland County

**Rockland County
Rockland County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$133,600 **Title:** Rockland County Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This grant allows for a partnership between the District Attorney's Office and the Rockland Family Shelter and Volunteer Counseling Service. This collaboration is the foundation for our coordinated community response to domestic violence and sexual assault in Rockland County.

Saratoga County

Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Services

Contract Amount: \$35,000 **Title:** Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County will maintain and improve the existing SAFE program in Saratoga County, which will enhance the prosecution of sexual assault and domestic violence cases while protecting the well-being of the victims. Program staff will continue to work collaboratively with law enforcement, hospital personnel, and the District Attorney to maximize the quantity and quality of evidence collected for use in the prosecution of sexual assault cases. The program will provide sexual assault forensic examinations at Saratoga Hospital to victims of rape and sexual assault. Evidence will be collected and the chain of evidence maintained so that the evidence may be used in prosecution of crimes. Victims will be offered a compassionate and professional examination and thorough explanation of their options for reporting and medical treatment.

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$25,500 **Title:** Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York's Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project will provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence in Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties from the Society's offices in Saratoga Springs. The staff attorney will advise domestic violence victims about their rights and represent them in obtaining and enforcing comprehensive orders of protection and related relief in family court. Legal Aid will also sponsor or provide legal education and training materials for less experienced family court practitioners and lay advocates and participate in crafting a coordinated community response to domestic violence.

Mechanicville Area Community Services Center

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Mechanicville Domestic Violence Advocacy Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This program will empower underserved victims in southern Saratoga and northern Rensselaer Counties by promoting their safety and self-determination. The staff of the program will provide victims with access to a variety of services including crisis intervention, counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, transportation and court accompaniment. The staff of the program will be actively involved in collaborative efforts with criminal justice personnel in order to increase victim safety, abuser arrests, prosecutions, convictions, hold batterers accountable and promote zero tolerance for domestic abuse. In addition, the staff will conduct community outreach efforts to increase community awareness about domestic violence and its impact on victims.

Saratoga County
Saratoga County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$36,000 **Title:** S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Continue and enhance the integrated approach which has been developed over the course of previous contracts between prosecutors, law enforcement, the Courts, victim advocates and qualified service providers which employs the experience and expertise of all of the aforementioned parties to strengthen the criminal response to violence against women. Enhance comprehensive strategies to deal with violence against women through training and expanding specialized units with effective prosecution policies, protocols, orders and services specifically dedicated to preventing, identifying and responding to violent crimes against women.

Schenectady County

Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$20,000 **Title:** Sexual Assault Examiner Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This Sexual Assault Examiner Project will continue to provide specialized training for health care professionals. Training for law enforcement and medical professionals will promote dignified and compassionate treatment for victims of sexual assault. The goals of this project are to maintain a "best practice" level of care for sexual assault victims, and timely and accurate collection of forensic evidence to ensure more successful prosecutions of sexual assault offenders.

**Schenectady County
Schenectady County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$68,400 **Title:** Domestic Violence Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project is a county-wide proposal submitted by the Schenectady County District Attorney, the YWCA of Schenectady, and the Law, Order and Justice Center, in order to enhance prosecution efforts and strengthen services to women who are victims of domestic violence.

Schoharie County

Catholic Charities of Schoharie County

Contract Amount: \$28,000 **Title:** Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

With the goal of zero tolerance for domestic violence, our project will address the primary problem confronting the Schoharie County community - namely, a "culture" which tolerates it. This "culture" continues to fester because of geographic isolation, which insulates domestic violence from anything but slow change. The work of our Legal

Advocate is the key to changing this culture, which will be attacked in several ways: providing direct legal advocacy services to victims of domestic violence, collaborating with law enforcement to bring justice to the abused and accountability to the offenders, and training magistrates and/or law enforcement personnel to keep this awareness on the front burner.

Schuyler County

Schuyler County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$37,000 **Title:** Prosecution of Domestic Violence and Community Awareness

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

This project will focus on increasing the prosecution efforts against first time domestic violence offenders, while also making a concerted effort to enhance sentencing of repeat offenders. These goals will include improved enforcement of all orders of protection and working closely with the courts to further this goal. Additionally, the expanded staff supported by this grant, will enable the Schuyler County District Attorney's office to take a much stronger position on cases where the victim recants or is uncooperative with the prosecution against the abuser. Another aspect of our project will focus on creating greater awareness of teen dating violence that is becoming more common. Our goal is to provide education and tools to teens in an effort to stop dating violence before the domestic violence cycle becomes a more permanent part of their life.

St. Lawrence County

Citizens Against Violent Acts, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$32,000 **Title:** St. Lawrence County SANE Program

LE
 CT

DA

VS

DS

Project Summary:

The goal of this project is to ensure the continuation of a unified approach to sexual assault that will result in better post assault care for women, and forensic gathering and sharing of information between law enforcement agencies. The program staff will work proactively to reduce the number of assaults through better education in the community and increase the number of convictions. Moreover, the Program Manager will coordinate the efforts of the already established St. Lawrence County Sexual Abuse Response Team.

**St. Lawrence County
St. Lawrence County Probation Department
Renewal House**

Contract Amount: \$35,200 **Title:** Domestic Abuse Response Team

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The Domestic Abuse Response Team is a coordinated community response to issues of domestic violence. The program is sponsored jointly by the St. Lawrence County Probation Department, the St. Lawrence County District Attorney, and Renewal House, a domestic violence provider in the county.

Statewide

New York Prosecutors Training Institute, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** Violence Against Women

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

In the last year, in part as a result of this grant, NYPTI has been successful in its continuing mission to bring quality training and assistance to prosecutors and other law enforcement officials in the areas of violence against women and special victim cases in general. NYPTI hosted two seminars for prosecutors and law enforcement officers: Trial Advocacy in a Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence/Homicide Case (December 2005) and Special Issues in Special Victim Prosecution (August 2006). Together, the seminars were attended by 106 participants. Videotapes of each of those seminars were provided to requesting prosecutors free of charge.

NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contract Amount: \$48,000 **Title:** STOP Violence Against Women

LE **DA** **VS** **DS**
 CT

Project Summary:

The Coalition is proposing to continue its comprehensive training project that will continue to build the capacity of over 100 domestic violence programs throughout New York State, strengthening services for tens of thousands of victims of domestic violence, expand domestic violence collaborations, and improve outreach and delivery of services to underserved communities. The project will feature a series of trainings for domestic violence advocates and other systems providers statewide. Trainings, in

conjunction with ongoing technical assistance, will increase knowledge of the nature and dynamics of domestic violence, support the development of coordinated community responses, improve offender accountability, and enhance victim safety.

NYS Unified Court System

Contract Amount: \$245,990 **Title:** NYS UCS STOP 2006

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Focused efforts in Kings, New York, Bronx, Renssaeler, Schenectady, Ontario, and Westchester Counties will increase victim access to services and case information in order to promote victim safety. Project will also increase offender accountability through enhanced Judicial monitoring. Advocacy services will be contracted at each location. Technical assistance will be provided by the Center for Court Innovation.

Steuben County

Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$33,180 **Title:** Steuben County Domestic Abuse Review Team

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will continue a comprehensive, collaborative project, coordinated by the Steuben County Domestic Review Team (DART), to promote the safety of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Steuben County and to hold perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault accountable through the legal system. Southern Tier Legal Services, a division of Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc., became the lead agency in 2006 and will continue in that role. The key elements of the project include: 1) continued coordination of efforts to improve the community response to domestic violence through DART; 2) training on domestic violence and sexual assault for law enforcement, town and village justices, court personnel, and medical/health care providers; 3) specialized prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases, using evidence-centered prosecution; 4) direct services to victims, including victim advocacy for sexual assault victims, legal representation for victims in family court matters related to safety, and counseling services for victims; and 5) community outreach on domestic violence and the resources available for victims.

Suffolk County

Suffolk County
Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk, Inc.
Suffolk County District Attorney
Suffolk County Police Department
Suffolk County Probation Department
The Retreat
Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contract Amount: \$120,000 **Title:** STOP Violence Against Women Program

LE
 CT

DA

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DS

Project Summary:

This collaborative project addresses sexual assault and domestic violence against women by continuing specialized units and enhanced services to victims, improving our existing system and expanding it to under-served groups and areas. Our third SANE Center opened in 2005 to serve the East End population of Long Island. We will continue on-going training of 10 east end Police Departments and their corresponding Justice Courts in sexual assault and domestic violence and provide a victim advocate for the east end. County-wide, we will strive to improve SANE's retention of nurses, outreach and serve disabled and immigrant women, as well as the Native American population and illegal aliens, address date rape and dating violence on college campuses and increase the number of panic alarms available for victims of domestic violence.

Sullivan County

Community Action Commission to Help the Economy, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$26,250 **Title:** Safe Passage Legal Advocacy Component

LE
 CT

DA

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DS

Project Summary:

The project will assist victims in Sullivan County to ensure that they are safe from their batterer. Also, project staff will assist victims of domestic violence as they navigate the legal process in Family Court to ensure orders of protection and stalking charges are pursued when appropriate. In addition, to the above the project will focus on working closely with victims to increase the level of their knowledge in regard to legal options, personal rights and services available.

Tompkins County

**Tompkins County
Human Services Coalition
Cayuga Medical Center
Advocacy Center
Cornell University Public Safety**

Contract Amount: \$35,600 **Title:** Violence Intervention Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project seeks to continue services to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in Tompkins County. The components of the program include a S.A.N.E. program that consists of trained and committed staff situated at The Cayuga Medical Center, domestic violence and sexual assault on-call services, education and advocacy provided by the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County, lock changes and cell phone distribution for women who are in need of added protection, and self defense classes for women. This year's focus will continue the focus on the recruitment and training of additional S.A.N.E. nurses to assure that women who have experienced sexual assault will have their emergency medical needs provided by highly trained, dedicated S.A.N.E.'s. Cayuga Medical Center will continue renovations to their emergency unit that include an examination room designed to meet all the regulations for examination of sexual assault victims, including a separate area for the patient to change, a shower and storage for the specialized equipment and examination kits. The District Attorney has developed a monthly report that will all for the tracking of Sexual Assault cases through the criminal justice system. In addition, the revamped two-hour self-defense courses have continued to attract increasingly larger numbers of women. The Advocacy Center will continue its support of and advocacy for assault victims and will seek to do additional trainings for law enforcement.

Warren County

Catholic Charities of Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties

Contract Amount: \$28,000 **Title:** Domestic Violence Community Coordination Council

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This project will support the work of the Warren and Washington Counties' Domestic Violence Community Coordination Council. The DVCCC is an interdisciplinary task force which has as its goal to improve relationships, communication, cooperation, policies, services, training, and program models, in service of the mission to increase victim safety and offender accountability. Primary activities include convening DVCCC

and subcommittees; engaging agencies in actions to improve policy/procedure including needs assessment, policy development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; and providing professional training as well as community awareness.

Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$20,000 **Title:** Sexual Assault Examiner Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This Sexual Assault Examiner Project will continue to provide specialized training to healthcare professionals. Training for law enforcement and medical professionals will promote dignified and compassionate treatment for adult victims of sexual assault. The goals of this project are to maintain a "best practice" level of care for victims of sexual assault, and timely and accurate collection of forensic evidence to ensure more successful prosecutions of sexual assault offenders.

Washington County

**Granville, Village of
Granville Village Police Department**

Contract Amount: \$19,050 **Title:** Community Based Domestic Violence Intervention Unit

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project is a Domestic Violence Intervention Unit that has been in operation for 9 years through VAWA funding. The DVIU police officers have been specially trained to assist the victim at the time of the crime to assess victim's needs. DVIU officers are available on a rotating call in basis to assist victims of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault/abuse, and teen dating violence. Services to the victims include; advocating for specific needs for Orders of Protection, providing transportation, transportation to shelter and appointments, and linkage to long-term services.

**Washington County
Washington County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$28,700 **Title:** Violence Against Women

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The project's purpose is to maintain the Violence Against Women Unit created in the Washington County District Attorney's Office in 1998. The Unit will continue to work with local law enforcement, service providers and sentencing agencies to forward a coordinated and effective community response to violence against women. The focus will continue to include gender based crimes such as stalking and sexual assault as well as property based crimes committed as a means of exerting control over women who are or were partners with the offender. Our ultimate goal is to increase offender accountability and maximize victim safety.

Wayne County

ViaHealth of Wayne

Contract Amount: \$24,000 **Title:** SANE Program

- LE DA VS DS
- CT

Project Summary:

ViaHealth of Wayne will continue to ensure that an emergency and on-going support service network is available to sexual assault victims in order to address their medical, emotional, and legal concerns. VOW will continue to maintain 24/7 on-call services for these victims, by providing SAE nurses on an on-call basis and by training and certifying two additional SAE nurses. We will continue to maintain a SAE project at Newark-Wayne Hospital that provides necessary examinations of sexual assault victims and will continue to report sexual assaults and to collect forensic evidence per NYS protocol. We also will provide support for the sexual assault victim by involving the Rape Crisis Center from initial contact through prosecution, including tracking performance measures indicated in the grant. We will provide training and certifying of SANEs either on-site or by sending trainees to other training providers. We also will train local victim advocates in SANE procedures, protocols and legal issues. We will conduct outreach to law enforcement personnel, victim advocates, social services, medical practitioners, and the general public, including promoting services to the Spanish-speaking population.

Victim Resource Center of the Finger Lakes, Inc.

Contract Amount: \$44,355 **Title:** Expanded DV & SA Services - Attorney & Bilingual Advocate

- LE DA VS DS
- CT

Project Summary:

To continue to provide domestic, sexual, and family violence and child abuse services to the underserved population in Wayne County; to continue to improve delivery of these

victim services to Latino, Hispanic, Women of Color and the underserved population who are victims of these crimes by providing free legal representation for orders of protection and those issues directly related to these orders; and to continue to provide a bilingual advocate (Spanish/English) to provide translation, community, medical and legal advocacy, transportation and counseling.

Westchester County

My Sisters' Place

Contract Amount: \$36,000 **Title:** Lay Legal Advocacy Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This program will provide support services and legal advocacy to victims of domestic violence in Westchester County. The Advocacy Coordinator will recruit, train, and supervise volunteer lay legal advocates. These advocates will provide support services to victims of domestic violence, including but not limited to, court accompaniment, assistance in filing petitions, translation and interpretation services, accompaniment to police stations, government agencies, and other services as needed.

Northern Westchester Shelter

Contract Amount: \$30,000 **Title:** Survivors Law Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Survivors Law Project works to enhance the safety and overcome the barriers to participation in the criminal justice system for victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault through the delivery of comprehensive, culturally appropriate safety planning, safety plan coordination, counseling, criminal justice advocacy and legal representation.

Pace Women's Justice Center

Contract Amount: \$40,000 **Title:** Rural Law Enforcement Training Project

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

This Rural Law Enforcement Training project will serve two main purposes; (1) it will improve the criminal justice system's response to sexual assault and domestic abuse

perpetrated against the elderly, and (2) it will improve the criminal justice systems response to the crimes of stalking and teen dating violence. The project will expand on the curriculum developed during the last project cycle, which will focus on issues around stalking and dating violence and was customized for rural law enforcement agents and other members of the domestic violence and sexual assault community. The Pace Women's Justice Center (the Center) will work closely with experts in the field of sexual assault, domestic violence, and elder abuse to ensure that the curriculum for each training program incorporates and addresses the most up-to-date issues, laws, investigative techniques, and policies. Four training programs will be conducted in rural parts of New York State which will be tailored to the needs of each individual training site; two programs will focus on elder abuse issues and two programs will focus on stalking and dating violence. All trainings will be multi-disciplinary, and will bring together police, prosecutors, rape crisis advocates, domestic violence advocates, social services providers, and elder abuse professionals whenever possible, who are indigenous to each training locale, as a means of strengthening the coordination of services. The Rural Law Enforcement Project will serve two main purposes; 1) It will improve the criminal justice system's response to sexual assault and domestic abuse perpetrated against the elderly and (2) it will improve the criminal justice systems response to the crimes of stalking and teen dating violence.

**Victims Assistance Services of Westchester
Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.**

Contract Amount: \$28,125 **Title:** Westchester SANE Program

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Westchester SANE program currently provides comprehensive and sensitive forensic rape examinations, responding on an on call basis to presenting victims of rape and sexual assault at county emergency rooms. Specially trained nurses provide immediate, individualized and expert care for all adult women victims of sexual assault who seek medical treatment and evidence collection at one of nine participating hospitals in Westchester County. The SANE program maintains a consistent roll of sexual assault nurse examiners, conduits expanded training of law enforcement, hospitals and provides for the ongoing recruitment of potential SANE nurses.

**Victims Assistance Services of Westchester
My Sisters' Place
Westchester County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$167,680 **Title:** WCDA's STOP Violence Against Women Collaborative

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

The Westchester County District Attorney's STOP Violence Against Women Collaborative provides enhanced support for the prosecution of violent crimes against women, female high school and college students as well as, the underserved population defined as women with language, cultural and social barriers. This Collaborative promotes early victim contact when charges are filed in domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault cases. Community based Victim Advocates; including Victims Assistance Services and My Sister's Place aggressively outreach to victims identified by prosecutors, police and community members. Education, prevention and outreach campaigns will be directed at the identified and targeted underserved population.

Westchester County District Attorney

Contract Amount: \$93,040 **Title:** WCDA's SAVES Collaborative

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 CT

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VS

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Project Summary:

Since inception of funding seven years ago, the Westchester District Attorney's Office Sexual Assault Victims Elderly Services Collaborative (herein after referred to as SAVES) has implemented an enhanced prosecutorial response that effectively addresses the problem of violence against women in the community. Led by our Special Prosecutions Division, SAVES ensures the vertical prosecution of crimes of sexual assault and physical violence against an underserved population. The underserved population includes elderly women, Hispanic women, women with social barriers (such as language and cultural problems) as well as, mentally and physically challenged women. The SAVES Collaborative is comprised of the Westchester District Attorney's Office, Victims Assistance Services, Family Services of Westchester, the Hebrew Home for the Aged, and the Westchester Department of Senior Programs and Services and represents a comprehensive unit of agencies that provide direct support services to our targeted population. The goals of this initiative are to continue our proactive and enhanced prosecutorial response to cases of violence against women and to prevent further victimization through education and intervention. This program provides response training for law enforcement, healthcare providers, community agencies and citizenry who have frequent contact with the targeted underserved population. Recognizing the need to inhibit the inception of violence, the SAVES Collaborative also targets students at the secondary and collegiate levels to receive education on violence symptoms recognition and prevention.

Wyoming County

**Wyoming County
Wyoming County District Attorney**

Contract Amount: \$31,200 **Title:** Domestic Violence Prosecution

LE DA VS DS
 CT

Project Summary:

Reduce the number and the effect of Domestic Violence cases by adequately equipping and training our law enforcement personnel and providing increased resources and monitoring, thereby increasing our convictions, community awareness and agency response.

Total Awarded: 5,505,544.00

APPENDIX C

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



MAIN OFFICE
350 New Scotland Avenue • Albany, NY 12208
Phone: 518-482-5465 • Fax: 518-482-3807
E-mail: nyscadv@nyscadv.org

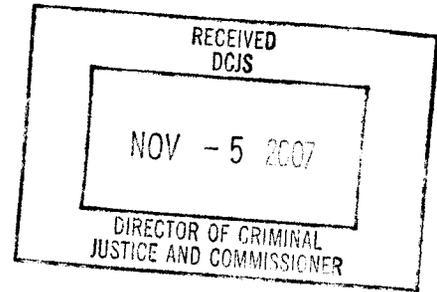
WESTERN OFFICE
1 West Main Street, Suite 200 • Rochester, NY 14614
Phone: 585-295-5721 • Fax: 585-454-4019
Email: castelle@nyscadv.org

Website: www.nyscadv.org

NYS Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotlines: English: 800-942-6906 • Spanish: 800-942-6908 • TTY: 800-818-0656

November 1, 2007

Denise O'Donnell
Commissioner
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
4 Tower Place
Albany, New York 12203



Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

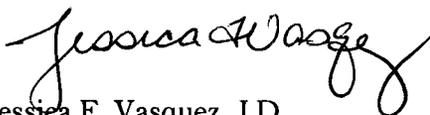
The New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is pleased to write this letter in support of the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services and its commendable work in facilitating the development of the New York State Implementation Plan for VAWA.

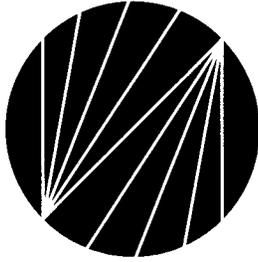
As a member of DCJS's VAWA Advisory Committee, the Coalition works closely with DCJS in identifying service needs and gaps, and updating funding priorities. Because the Coalition has extensive knowledge of domestic violence programs in NYS, we will continue to be available to provide insight throughout the grant determination process. As such, the Coalition looks forward to extending this relationship to ensure that funds disseminated to programs provide the highest quality of services.

DCJS has demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing the far ranging impacts of domestic violence in New York State. DCJS staff, particularly those in the Violence Against Women Grants Unit, regularly attend trainings, forums and conferences sponsored by the Coalition. Also, DCJS has shown a dedication to supporting programs that serve ethnic specific communities, marginalized communities, including Lesbian/Gay Bisexual and Transgendered persons, as well as those who have immigrated to NYS. Thus, the Coalition is pleased to continue working collaboratively with DCJS in the development of New York State's Implementation Plan for VAWA.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Jessica F. Vasquez, J.D.
Executive Director



**New York City Alliance
Against Sexual Assault**

27 Christopher Street
3rd Floor • New York, NY 10014
t 212.229.0345 • f 212.229.0676
www.nycagainsttrape.org

October 25, 2007

Ms. Denise O'Donnell
Commissioner
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
4 Tower Place
Albany, NY 12203

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

The New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault (Alliance) appreciates the working relationship between the Alliance and the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. As both an organization that coordinates sexual violence services in New York City and as a grantee, the Alliance has found the Division to be open-minded, fair and rigorous in their standards for funded programs. The staff has worked diligently to implement the spirit of the Violence Against Women Act—looking for true collaboration between service providers and the criminal justice system, supporting efforts that promote a victim-centered approach to intervention in sexual and domestic violence and modeling good communication with the field.

The Alliance trusts that the Division will continue to be thoughtful in how to maximize resources across the state and work with all relevant parties to ensure that New York State is effectively addressing violence against women.

Please feel free to contact me for further information at 212-229-0345 X301. Best wishes to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Harriet Lessel, LCSW
Executive Director

October 29, 2007

Denise O'Donnell, Commissioner
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
4 Tower Place
Albany, NY 12203

Dear Commissioner O'Donnell,

In 1997, the DCJS VAWA grants unit took a courageous leap and funded the Crime Victims Treatment Center to establish the first sexual assault forensic examiner program in NYC. At that time, it was a pioneering venture for my program, our hospital center and your agency... and it was new territory for all of us. During the first few years, your staff worked closely with us and other pilot programs, facilitating and hosting multi-agency meetings, helping us develop strategies to address institutional resistance and implementation problems and mentoring and supporting us all the way.

In 1999, CVTC received approval to expand our SAFE program from two emergency departments at St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals in to include Beth Israel Medical Center in the lower east side of Manhattan. They recognized the benefit that this would be not only cost effective but the program would be able to offer this expertise to hundreds more over the years.

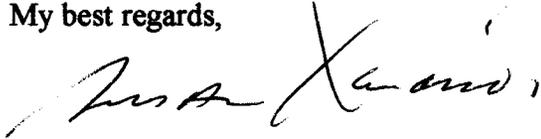
The establishment of SAFE/SAE programs in our hospitals has undoubtedly lifted the bar for medical treatment and forensic collection of evidence for sexual assault victims in NYS. When sexual assault survivors receive comprehensive and sensitive medical and emotional care, they are more likely to report the crime to the police. If evidence is professionally and expertly collected, the probability of a positive criminal justice outcome is increased... and our experience has confirmed this with increased reporting and an impressive conviction rate.

During the past decade, CVTC has collaborated on multiple projects including the establishment of SAE Standards of Care, revision of evidence collection kits, implementation of the drug facilitated rape kits, workshops, coordinating cross-training for SAFE examiners and prosecutors, DNA training for law enforcement and medical providers and development of policy and legislative initiatives.

At every turn in our growth and evolution, the VAWA staff encouraged us at every step. The unit has been and continues to be truly exceptional. They are smart, insightful and professional yet encourage autonomy and creativity. I have found that to be an unusual and special combination.

The Crime Victims Treatment Center was established 30 years ago. We have a long history working with a broad range of federal and state government agencies. We regard our relationship with your agency and especially your VAWA staff with the highest respect and admiration. Our experience during the last ten years has been a very unique and exciting collaborative adventure with exceptional people and I dare say that together, we have made a difference in many people's lives.

My best regards,

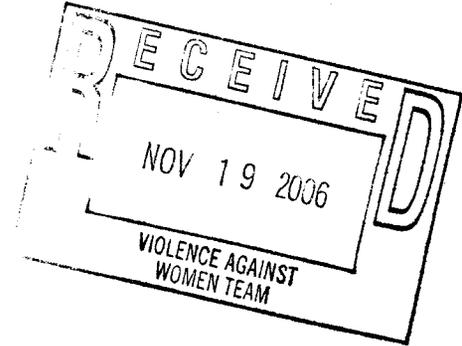
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Xenarios", written in a cursive style.

Susan Xenarios, LCSW, Director
Crime Victims Treatment Center
St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center
411 West 114 Street #2C
New York, NY 10025
Tel. 212-523-4726
Email sxenarios@cvtc-slr.org



October 29, 2007

Denise E. O'Donnell, Commissioner
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
4 Tower Place
Albany, New York 12203



Dear Commissioner O'Donnell:

I am delighted to write a letter of support for the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) regarding the VAWA STOP grant initiatives. From the inception of the STOP Formula Grants implementation in New York State, DCJS has maintained an informed and inclusive process for creating the state plan, distributed the RFA widely and monitored and supported funded-programs effectively.

The New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault values the collaborative planning process in our state. We have been and continue to be part of the statewide VAWA Advisory Committee. The regular exchange of ideas and information between Kim Oppelt and her staff in the STOP VAWA grants program and practitioners in the field is a strong asset for building New York's approach to utilizing these funds in a strategic and effective manner. There are on-going and regular consultations about program and standards of accountability for grantees. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable State team with whom communication is always possible. I appreciate DCJS staff willingness to dialogue, have challenging conversations and stay at the table!

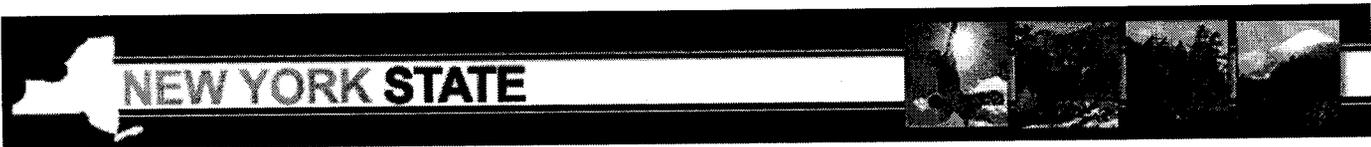
I look forward to the continued state planning work in the year ahead and the opportunities that process affords for making sure that New York State is a leader in addressing sexual violence in all our communities. Please feel free to call me at any time for assistance with planning or with questions about current issues in the sexual violence prevention field. NYSCASA staff is always glad to assist in getting information that will strengthen system response to the needs of survivors of sexual assault.

Sincerely,

A. Jane McEwen
Executive Director

APPENDIX D
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE
WORKPLACE

EXECUTIVE ORDER



NAVIGATE THE GOVERNOR'S SITE

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASES AND AUDIO

KEY DOCUMENTS

APPOINTMENTS

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DAVID A. PATERSON

FIRST LADY SILDA WALL SPITZER

GOVERNORS OF NY

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION

PHOTO GALLERY

CONTACT THE GOVERNOR

JUDICIAL SCREENING

INTERNSHIPS

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NEW YORK STATE HOME

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 25, 2007**

NEW YORK STATE ENHANCES DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION EFFORTS

Governor signs "Domestic Violence and the Workplace" Executive Order Pate Leads First Meeting of Domestic Violence Advisory Council

Governor Eliot Spitzer and Lieutenant Governor David Paterson today announced the signing of an Executive Order to improve the safety of state employees who are victims of domestic violence by requiring that all state agencies adopt comprehensive "Domestic Violence and the Workplace" policies that address the significant health and safety issues associated with domestic violence.

Executive Order 19 requires all state agencies to adopt policies relating to matters including education and training of employees on domestic violence awareness and prevention; fair personnel policies responsive to the needs of domestic violence victims; creation of workplace safety plans; and accountability measures to punish those who use state resources to commit acts of domestic violence.

"Today's announcement signifies another step forward in our efforts to fundamentally change the way New York State prevents and responds to domestic violence," said Governor Spitzer. "With this Executive Order, we are taking a proactive approach toward protecting those state employees who may be victims of domestic violence and ultimately creating a safer and more productive working environment."

Lieutenant Governor David A. Paterson announced the Executive Order at the first meeting of the Domestic Violence Advisory Council under the Spitzer Administration, which was established to make recommendations about the state's response to domestic violence, and facilitate coordination among state agencies.

Lieutenant Governor David A. Paterson said: "Governor Spitzer recognizes that domestic violence penetrates beyond the closed doors of our homes. The fact is that victims cannot always leave the abusers behind. This Executive Order and first Council meeting under the Spitzer Administration represent historic steps towards halting domestic violence wherever it occurs."

Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) Executive Director Amy Barasch said: "Domestic violence exacts a tremendous toll on the individuals that are victimized as well as their colleagues and friends. Employers can protect their workforce from domestic violence at the same time improve productivity and reduce absenteeism. We encourage private businesses to follow the State's lead, and commend our partners in this initiative, the unions representing the state workforce, for showing such leadership and commitment to this issue."

New York joins several other states including New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont and Massachusetts, in issuing an executive order requiring "Domestic Violence and the Workplace" policies for state agencies.

SEARCH GOVERNOR'S SITE

GO

HELP

OPDV is the state agency charged with improving the response of state and local commu to domestic violence and has developed a model policy for agencies to use as a guide to formulate their own policies, and will provide assistance to agencies throughout the implementation phase.

A copy of the Executive Order is attached. PDF

Additional information is available at <http://www.opdv.state.ny.us>

<< SEE ALL PRESS RELEASES

[CONTACT THE GOVERNOR](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [DISCLAIMER](#)



State of New York

Executive Chamber

No. 19

EXECUTIVE ORDER

REQUIRING THE ADOPTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE WORKPLACE POLICIES

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious public policy concern for the State of New York, requiring the State's participation in the coordinated community response to support victims and hold abusers accountable; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence permeates the lives and compromises the safety of thousands of New Yorkers each day, with tragic, destructive, and sometimes fatal results; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence occurs within a wide spectrum of intimate relationships, including married and formerly married couples, couples with children in common, couples who live together or have lived together, and couples who are or have been in a dating or sexual relationship, including same gender couples; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a widespread community problem that affects thousands of New York families, and that extends beyond the family into all areas of society, including the workplace; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York, as an employer, is additionally affected by domestic violence, which compromises the safety of both victims and co-workers, and results in lost productivity, increased health care costs, increased absenteeism and increased employee turnover; and

WHEREAS, a proactive response to domestic violence by the State of New York can also serve as a model for other employers in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) formulated a model workplace policy for state agencies to address domestic violence (the "Model Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy"), and released that policy in July 2000, but many state agencies have not yet adopted such a policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, by virtue of the authority invested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New York, do hereby order as follows:

1. OPDV shall review the Model Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy released in July 2000 and formulate any appropriate revisions to that policy. OPDV shall also formulate sample written procedures for the implementation of the revised Model Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy.

2. OPDV shall distribute the revised Model Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy, along with the sample implementation procedures, to each state agency no later than February 1, 2008. For the purposes of this order, "state agency" shall mean: (1) any state agency, department, office, board, commission or other instrumentality of the state; and (2) any public authority or public benefit corporation created by or existing under any State law, at least one of whose members is appointed by the Governor (including any subsidiaries of such public authority or public benefit corporation), other than an interstate or international authority or public benefit corporation.

3. Each state agency, no later than August 1, 2008, shall formulate and issue a Domestic Violence and the Workplace policy for that agency. In formulating such policy, the state agency (a) shall refer to the revised Model Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy distributed by OPDV, and use it for guidance as appropriate; (b) may contact OPDV for assistance; and (c) should collaborate appropriately with interested parties, including union representatives at the statewide and local levels.

4. Each state agency, in formulating its Domestic Violence and the Workplace policy, shall give due regard to the importance of increasing awareness of domestic violence and informing employees of available resources for assistance; ensuring that personnel policies and procedures are fair to domestic violence victims and responsive to their needs; developing workplace safety response plans; complying with State and federal law including restrictions of possession of firearms by a person convicted of a domestic violence related crime or subject to an order of protection; encouraging and promoting domestic violence education and training for employees; and holding accountable employees who misuse state resources or authority or violate their job duties in committing an act of domestic violence.

5. Each state agency, when it issues its Domestic Violence and the Workplace policy, shall provide a copy of that policy to OPDV, and shall notify OPDV of any subsequent modifications of the policy.

6. OPDV shall:

a. provide consultation and technical assistance to each state agency in the development and implementation of its Domestic Violence and the Workplace policy, either upon the agency's request or at the initiative of OPDV upon review of the policy as submitted by the agency;

b. receive and maintain copies of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace policies as issued and modified by the various state agencies;

c. collaborate with supervisory personnel, employee assistance professionals, human resources personnel, law enforcement agencies, unions, and security staff in the design and development of training and materials; and

d. prepare and submit to the Governor, no later than October 1, 2009, a report regarding the implementation of this order.

7. Every state agency shall cooperate with OPDV and furnish such information and assistance as OPDV determines is reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes of this order.



BY THE GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard B. ...".

Secretary to the Governor

G I V E N under my hand and the

Privy Seal of the

State in the City of

Albany this twenty-

second day of October

in the year two

thousand seven.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christ ...".

APPENDIX E

RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENSES BY COUNTY

**SEX OFFENSES REPORTED IN NEW YORK STATE BY COUNTY
2006**

County	Rape	Other Sex Offenses	Total
Albany	70	293	363
Allegany	13	83	96
Bronx	247	NA	NA
Broome	62	293	355
Cattaraugus	21	124	145
Cayuga	14	159	173
Chautauqua	45	193	238
Chemung	20	105	125
Chenango	14	112	126
Clinton	26	141	167
Columbia	14	50	64
Cortland	26	91	117
Delaware	6	82	88
Dutchess	39	239	278
Erie	264	719	983
Essex	3	72	75
Franklin	18	125	143
Fulton	12	85	97
Genesee	17	50	67
Greene	8	54	62
Hamilton	2	9	11
Herkimer	21	99	120
Jefferson	34	337	371
Kings	307	NA	NA
Lewis	7	39	46
Livingston	29	60	89
Madison	18	109	127
Monroe	144	583	727
Montgomery	5	47	52
Nassau	90	318	408
New York	222	NA	NA
Niagara	68	204	272
Oneida	36	292	328
Onondaga	99	404	503
Ontario	27	137	164
Orange	61	287	348
Orleans	7	35	42
Oswego	31	307	338
Otsego	31	104	135
Putnam	3	46	49
Queens	257	NA	NA
Rensselaer	43	216	259
Richmond	38	NA	NA
Rockland	29	144	173
St Lawrence	30	139	169
Saratoga	31	180	211
Schenectady	58	150	208
Schoharie	5	51	56
Schuyler	2	50	52
Seneca	4	113	117
Steuben	90	424	514
Suffolk	110	665	775

**SEX OFFENSES REPORTED IN NEW YORK STATE BY COUNTY
2006**

County	Rape	Other Sex Offenses	Total
Sullivan	28	124	152
Tioga	7	77	84
Tompkins	27	141	168
Ulster	50	159	209
Warren	23	166	189
Washington	16	111	127
Wayne	30	161	191
Westchester	83	609	692
Wyoming	12	48	60
Yates	4	33	37
Regional Park PD	0	10	10
New York City	1,071	NA	NA
Non-New York City	2,087	10,258	12,345
New York State	3,158	NA	NA

Source: DCJS Uniform Crime/incident-Based Reporting systems (as of 10/07).

APPENDIX F

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT DATA

“New York State is currently completing an ambitious project entitled, “**Turning Points: Exploring Domestic Violence Data in New York State**” (Excerpts from that report follow.) Turning Points is a report that represents the first time (nationally or statewide) that domestic violence data has been collected from every major state level agency and published by county. It provides an important tool for policy makers and for coordinated community response team representatives to examine the prevalence of domestic violence in their community, and to explore their community’s response to domestic violence. Indicator and outcome information from all systems is reported, including for example, data on arrest rates, charging rates, conviction rates, recidivism rates, hotline call rates, shelter usage rates and crime victim compensation rates. Analysis, interpretation, guidance on application at the community level and recommendations are also presented. While **Turning Points** includes only one chapter on the overlap between sexual assault and domestic violence (presented here), it is hoped that **Turning Points** will emerge as a baseline model for a similar future report on New York State’s surveillance and response to sexual assault. Several high level intra-agency meetings will occur post-publication in which policy makers will discuss ramifications of the report’s findings, feasibility of the report’s recommendations and decisions about recommendation adoption and implementation.

***Turning Points: Exploring Domestic Violence Data in New York State, by Deborah J. Chard-Wierschem, M.S.W, PhD, Adriana Fernandez-Lanier, PhD, and Melissa I. Mackey, M.A., New York Division of Criminal Justice Services, forthcoming (anticipated, December 2007)**

New York State Domestic Violence Data Summary

The following summary provides a brief statistical snap shot of domestic violence data presented in this book for all of New York State. Definitions and limitations of each of the data elements can be found in the individual chapters.

Criminal Justice Data

According to *Unified Crime Report (UCR) domestic violence data* operated by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), there were over 55,000 offenses reported by *non-New York City* police departments. Although data from New York City has not been available in recent years, traditionally, New York City's UCR domestic violence data has represented about 40% of the total domestic violence offenses reported to the UCR program. If these past trends continued in recent years, this would mean that in 2005, the total number of domestic violence UCR offenses in New York State would be slightly more than 93,000.

In 2005, there were 22 intimate partner offenses per 10,000 population. On average, about 44% of the non-New York City UCR domestic violence offenses involved intimate partners; the remaining incidents involved other family members (56%). On average, 79% of the UCR intimate partner violence victims were female. In terms of types of crimes, 63% of these UCR offenses were classified as "other" offenses, 23% were classified as simple assault, 9% as violations of orders of protection, 4% as aggravated assault, and 1% as sex offenses. Between 2004 and 2005, New York State experienced an 8% increase in the number of non-New York City domestic violence offenses reported through the UCR program.

According to *Supplemental Homicide Report (SHR) data* (also overseen by DCJS), from 1989 through 2005, there were more than 25,000 homicides in New York State. Three-fourths of these homicides were missing information on the relationship between the victim and offender (a frequent problem with both New York State and national SHR data). However, using the available data for that same time period, the SHR data indicates that there were slightly more than 1,400 intimate partner homicides.

About one-tenth of all homicides, and about one-third of all homicides with a *known relationship* involved domestic violence. Among all homicides that occurred in New York State from 1989-2005 with known relationships, 20%, on average, involved intimate partners. While about 80% of all homicide victims are male, 75% of all intimate partner homicides are female. Nearly half of the intimate partner homicide incidents involved guns; about one-third involved cutting instruments. Due to the missing data on relationship, it is difficult to summarize trends over time in domestic violence related homicides.

At the publication of this report, the most recent year of available *Domestic Incident Report (DIR)* (also overseen by DCJS) data was 2001. (Since 2001 was incomplete for New York City, 2002 was used as a proxy for 2001 New York City data). During that year, there were about 450,000 domestic incidents reported and recorded by New York State police departments. Nearly 40% of these incidents involved a criminal offense (i.e., a violation, misdemeanor or felony-level offense) and about 66% of the total number of DIRS involved partners. The county average for criminal DIR

incidents was 103 per 10,000. Of all criminal offense incidents, 78% reported female victims and 40% of the victims were white/non-Hispanic. About 80% of the criminal incidents appeared to fall outside the realm of New York State's mandatory/pro-arrest policy, and only 12% of the criminal incidents involved an order of protection.

While charging practices appeared to vary substantially across the state, on average, 61% of the incidents that involved a serious physical attack (i.e. choking, kicking, punching, weapon use, sexual abuse, or homicide) were charged as a misdemeanor or felony-level offense. While arrest practices also varied substantially across the state, for cases that involved a serious physical attack and an on-scene offender, the average arrest rate was 54%. Arrest rates were much higher for criminal incidents that involved orders of protection, injury, and cases that appeared to fall within the realm of New York State's mandatory/pro-arrest policy.

For some counties in New York State, within the *Computerized Criminal History (CCH) System*, (also operated by DCJS), a domestic violence indicator is attached to cases in which the parties have a domestic relationship and/or in which a DIR form was filed with the arrest paperwork. (The counties with working domestic violence indicators in 2005 were the five New York City counties (Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond), and Suffolk and Erie counties. These counties represent about two-thirds of all arrests that occur in New York State each year.)

According to the seven county domestic violence indicator data, less than 10% of the more than 340,000 misdemeanor and felony-level arrests in 2005 involved a partner or family relationship between the victim and offender. This percentage represents more than 25,000 domestic violence arrests. (If we were to apply this percentage to all of New York State's arrests (over 538,000 in 2005), the actual estimate would be closer to 48,000 domestic violence misdemeanor and felony-level arrests each year in New York State.) On average, 37% of domestic violence arrests in 2005 resulted in a conviction. The CCH data indicates that among these counties, dismissals rates for domestic violence offenders ranges substantially, from one-third to three-fourths of all arrests, depending on the jurisdiction.

While CCH data does not have domestic violence indicator information from all counties (as mentioned above), analysis was also conducted on arrests involving offenses that are commonly found to be associated with domestic violence. Typically, these "domestic violence-like" offenses are Assault 1, 2 and 3 (Penal Law (PL), 120.10, 120.05 and 120.00), Menacing 1, 2 and 3 (PL 120.13, 120.14 and 120.15), Harassment 1 and 2 (PL 240.25 and 240.26), Aggravated Harassment 1 and 2 (PL 240.31 and 240.30), Criminal Contempt 1 and 2 (PL 215.51 and 215.50), and Aggravated Criminal Contempt (PL 215.52). Overall, 21% of all arrests in New York State involved "domestic violence-like" offenses or offenses commonly associated with domestic violence arrests. The overall state rate of domestic violence-like arrests per 10,000 population was 58. The volume of domestic violence-like arrests in 2005 did not change much since 2004; domestic violence-like arrests decreased by 1%.

Although the *Incident-Based Reporting (IBR) system* (also overseen by DCJS), does not benefit from the full participation of all police departments in New York State, it is a rich data source that provides much more detail on victims and offenders involved in domestic incidents. For example, in 2005, IBR data indicates that of the more than 170,000 criminal incidents reported, 10% involved victims who were a partner, ex-partner or family member of the offender. About half of the incidents involved crimes against society (e.g., drug possession or sales, vandalism, disorderly

conduct) and 42% involved non-domestic violence victims of crimes (e.g., friends, acquaintances, strangers, unknown offenders). Domestic violence incidents were much more likely to involve a physical attack than non-domestic violence incidents (58% versus 25%, respectively).

In 2005, the average rate of domestic violence incidents was 54 per 10,000 IBR reporting population. Statewide, 62% of IBR domestic violence related incidents were classified by officers as a misdemeanor or felony level offense. Of all misdemeanor/felony level domestic violence incidents, on average, 55% resulted in an arrest and 48% of all serious physical attack domestic violence incidents resulted in arrest.

The *Integrated Probation Registrant System (IPRS)*, which is overseen by the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), is used to monitor probationers. Over 35,000 offenders were sentenced to probation in New York State in 2005. Since there was not a domestic violence indicator attached to the probation records in 2005, we constructed a “domestic violence-like” indicator to identify probationers convicted for offenses that are typically charged in domestic violence cases.

On average, 13% of all probationers were arrested or convicted for a “domestic violence-like” offense. Statewide, the rate of domestic violence-like probationers per 1,000 probationers was 133. While New York State demonstrated a 4% increase in the number of offenders that were sentenced to probation from 2004 to 2005, a 12% increase occurred in the number of “domestic violence-like” offenders. “Domestic violence-like” probationers, on average, received sentences that were approximately 36 months in length (3 years). According to IPRS data, within one year from the start of their probation, about one out of ten “domestic violence-like” offenders violated their probation sentence and about one-third were re-arrested during that time period.

Orders of protection data stored in the Family Protection Registry, which is overseen by the New York State Unified Court System (UCS), indicates that in 2005, 122,548 temporary and final orders of protection that are required to be entered into the Registry were issued by the court system. About 42% of these orders were issued by family courts, 38% were issued by local or county level criminal courts, 10% were issued by county or supreme criminal courts, 6% were issued by town and village courts, and 3% were issued by supreme/civil courts. Only 18% of the orders of protection, on average, were final orders of protection.

Overall, the temporary order of protection rate for the state was 52 per 10,000 population and the final order of protection rate was 12 per 10,000. While there was no change in the rate of total orders of protection from 2004 to 2005 (0%), there was a 20% increase in the rate of final orders of protection. The large majority (82%) of the final orders of protection were “Brady-indicated,” meaning that the order prohibited defendants from legally purchasing firearms.

The New York State Unified Court System also collects data on *Integrated Domestic Violence Courts (IDV)* across the state. In 2005, 28 integrated domestic violence courts were operational; 25 (presented here) had complete data for 2005. Integrated Domestic Violence Courts handled 11,901 new cases in 2005, and disposed 10,718 cases. About one-third of the new cases involved criminal matters (originating in criminal court), one-third involved custody/visitation issues, 18% involved family offenses, 8% involved “other” types of new cases such as paternity, foreclosure, or PINS (persons in need of supervision) or JD (juvenile delinquency) petitions, and 5% involved child abuse or neglect petitions.

The average length of time from case transfer (to the IDV Court) to case disposition varied by type of case, but ranged from about two months to four months. Although the overall rate of new cases per 10,000 population was 11, there were several counties that demonstrated significantly higher rates.

FACT SHEET Domestic Violence: New York State

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS A PROPORTION OF ALL CRIME

(Source data: IBR)

- Of the more than 170,000 criminal incidents that law enforcement agencies reported to the IBR in 2005, 10% involved domestic violence victims; 44% of all IBR domestic violence incidents resulted in arrest.

POLICE RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (1)(i)

(Source data: DIR)

- In 2001, nearly 450,000 domestic incidents were reported to and documented by police; 60% of these reports came from the New York City area.
- About two-thirds of the incidents involved intimate partners.
- On average, 78% of victims listed on DIRs were female, while 76% of offenders were male.
- On average, 39% of the incidents included some type of criminal offense allegation (i.e., a violation, misdemeanor or felony-level offense).
- For Rest of State, only 12% of the victims in all criminal incidents held an order of protection; 83% of these incidents were recorded as a violation of the order by responding police officers.
- For Rest of State criminal incidents, the offender was arrested about 36% of the time when the offender was present (on-scene).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARRESTS (2)(ii)

(Source data: CCH/USC)

- About half of the domestic violence related offenders in 2005, on average, were previously arrested for an offense commonly associated with domestic violence.
- In 2005, 34% of domestic violence cases recidivated within one year of the initial arrest.
- In counties with a domestic violence “indicator,” approximately 7% of the overall arrest rates in each county appeared to involve a domestic violence offender.
- Of counties with a domestic violence “indicator,” on average, 37% of domestic violence arrests resulted in conviction and 57% resulted in dismissals.

HOMICIDES (iii)

(Source data: SHR)

- In New York State from 1989 to 2005, 25,634 homicides occurred of which 11% were domestic violence homicides. However, 71% of the homicides were missing victim-offender relationship. Among all homicides that occurred from 1989-2005 with *known* relationships, 37%, on average, involved domestic violence-related offenders and victims; 20% involved intimate partners.
- From 1989 to 2005, homicides decreased by 61%.

- Domestic violence homicides where the relationship is known decreased by 34%, and intimate partner homicides (relationship known) has decreased by 22%.
- In 2005, there were 128 domestic violence homicides with known victim-offender relationship. Of these, 70 involved intimate partners. From 2004 to 2005, there was no perceptible change in domestic violence homicide, while intimate partner homicides decreased by over 16%.

ORDERS OF PROTECTION (iv)

(Source data: USC)

- In 2005, over 122,000 required (initial) temporary and final orders of protection were issued by New York State courts.
- Of all orders of protection in NYS that were required to be posted to the Registry in 2005, 18% were permanent or final orders.

-
- (i) (1) Domestic Incident Report (DIR) data was used to develop these estimates. For upstate and Long Island, 2001 DIR data was available. For NYC, only 2002 was available, so the annual estimate for the state was developed using a composite of these two years.
- (ii) (2) Domestic violence arrests are tracked using a combination of data from the New York State Unified Court System (UCS) and the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). Recently, UCS began attaching a domestic violence “indicator” to misdemeanor and felony case dispositions that were domestic violence related, and transferring this information to the DCJS Computerized Criminal History (CCH) System.
- (iii) (3) The Supplemental Homicide Reports (SHR) offer the following categories that were used to define “intimate partner” relationships: marital partner, ex-marital partner, common law partner, sexual partner, ex-sexual partner, and sexual triangle.
- (iv) (4) The Family Protection Registry, maintained by UCS, is a database that holds all family offense orders of protection and warrant information issued by courts in New York State. The Registry is comprised of information on both active and inactive, temporary and “permanent” or “final” orders of protection.

I. Overlap Between Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



Data for this analysis on the overlap of sexual assault and domestic violence was obtained from two main data sources: (1) domestic incidents reported to the police and (2) arrests. The NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Domestic Incident Report (DIR) database holds all domestic incidents that are reported to the police (refer to *Chapter C* for a broader discussion and analysis on this data). For this analysis, due to database differences between New York City and the Rest of State, sexual assault DIR incidents had to be identified in slightly different manners. For New York City, only “sexual abuse” incidents as identified by the suspect actions checkbox on the DIR form could be used to identify sexual abuse (or offenses) because offense information (usually listed in other fields on the DIR) was not available. However, for DIRs from the rest of the state, additional sexual assault incidents could be identified by examining the offenses (or charges) and the checkboxes. According to data from Rest of State, the “sexual abuse” checkbox identifies about 80% of all DIRs that involved sex offense behavior by the suspect.

In addition, arrest data was obtained from the DCJS Computerized Criminal History (CCH) system and the NYS Unified Court System (UCS) database. For arrest incidents in the (DCJS) CCH database, domestic violence incidents were identified as any arrests that had a DIR filed with the paperwork, or were otherwise identified as a “domestic” event (according to the UCS database).⁽¹⁾ Sexual assault incidents were identified as any “top” arrest charge (i.e., the most serious charge according to offense level (e.g., misdemeanor, felony)), for a Penal Law 130 offense. Penal Law 130 offenses include rape, criminal sexual act, forcible touching, persistent sexual abuse, sexual abuse, aggravated sexual abuse, course of sexual conduct against a child, female genital mutilation and facilitating a sex offense with a controlled substance. Domestic violence arrest indicator data was only available for seven counties (refer to *Chapter D* for a broader discussion and analysis on this data).

Table A.II presents DIR data for 2001(2002 for New York City). Approximately .2% of all domestic incidents reported to the police involved *sexual abuse*. (Note that sexual abuse incidents represented .5% of all

criminal incidents that involved violation, misdemeanor or felony level offenses (analysis not shown). *Sexual assault* incidents, (which include sexual abuse incidents and Penal Law 130 offenses), represented .4% of all domestic incidents reported to the police. Almost all (93%) of the sexual assault incidents documented on DIR forms involved criminal incidents (i.e., violation, misdemeanor or felony level offenses).

Most suspects in sexual assault incidents were male (96%, on average), while most victims were female (93%, on average). New York City suspects and victims were more likely to be minority than the Rest of State. The average age of offenders was generally several years older than victims (29 and 24 years, respectively). Nearly 40% of the victims on average were 18 years of age or younger, compared with only 20% of the offenders.

About one-third of the domestic violence/sexual assault suspects were blood relatives of their victims (e.g., parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.); most of the remaining suspects (55%) were partners (or ex-partners) of their victims. For Rest of State DIRs, about 30% of the time, the DIR form noted injury to the victim (in the injury checkbox of the DIR). On average, 7% of sexual assault DIR incidents involved an order of protection, and officers reported that the large majority of these incidents (81%) involved violations of those orders.

The large majority of the DIR sexual assault incidents (67%) were charged as felony level offenses. According to data available for the Rest of State, 37% of sexual assault DIR incidents appeared to fall within the definition of mandatory arrest. For incidents in which the suspect was on-scene when the officer arrived (Rest of State data only), 58% of those suspects were arrested by responding officers. Arrest rates increased with physical attack or serious physical attack (66% for each), and with injury to the victim (85%).

Table A.I2 and **Figure A.II** present trends in DIR data on sexual assault domestic incidents for New York City, for the years 2002 through 2005. Between 2004 and 2005, the number of sexual assault DIR incidents in New York City decreased by 43%, while the

Table A.II Characteristics and Offense Level Classification for Sexual Assault Incidents (DIR Data, 2001(2002))

	Total		New York City (2002)		Rest of State		All Statwide DIR Incidents	
	#	%	#	% w/ NYC	#	% w/ Rest State	#	%
Total (1)	448,939		278,946		169,993		448,939	
Total Criminal Incidents							175,989	39%
Total "Sexual Abuse" Incidents (% of Total DIRS) (2) (Using Suspect Action Box)	926	0.2%	438	0.2%	488	0.3%		
Total Sexual Assault Incidents (% of Total DIRS) (3) (Using Suspect Action Box and offenses when available)	1,046	0.2%	438	0.2%	608	0.4%		
Total Criminal Incidents (% of Sexual Assault Incidents) (4)	968	93%	405	92%	563	93%		
Analysis of ALL Sexual Assault Incidents								
Suspect Characteristics								
White/Non-Hispanic	369	35%	42	10%	327	54%	130,744	29%
Male (5)	814	97%	418	95%	396	97%	232,324	52%
Average Age	29.0		26.1		31.9		28.6	
Victim Characteristics								
White/Non-Hispanic	408	39%	46	11%	362	60%	138,848	31%
Female (5)	798	93%	404	92%	394	93%	247,962	55%
Average Age	24.1		22.7		25.4		32.7	
% of Victims 18 and Under	408	39%	178	41%	230	38%	27,198	6%
% Of Offenders 18 and Under	205	20%	121	28%	84	14%	51,461	11%
Suspect to Victim Relationship								
Spouse/Ex-spouse/Common Law	230	22%	118	27%	112	18%	120,772	27%
Boyfriend/Girlfriend (or Ex)	277	26%	59	13%	218	36%	80,946	18%
Child in Common	42	4%	42	10%	0	0%	39,698	9%
Same Sex Partner (NYC Only)	1	0%	1	0%	---	---	697	0%
Live together or formerly lived together (NYC Only)	24	2%	24	5%	---	---	5,448	1%
Child of victim	---	---	---	---	---	---	59,729	13%
Parent of victim	---	---	---	---	---	---	22,930	5%
Sibling of victim	---	---	---	---	---	---	21,293	5%
Otherwise related	369	35%	173	39%	196	32%	21,197	5%
Other	70	7%	0	0%	70	12%	2,114	0%
Missing	33	3%	21	5%	12	2%	74,115	17%
Suspect's Actions								
Any Physical Attack	984	94%	438	100%	546	90%	97,897	22%
Serious Physical Attack	970	93%	438	100%	532	88%	54,287	12%
Property Damage	61	6%	27	6%	34	6%	18,922	4%
Weapon Use	96	9%	32	7%	64	11%	13,335	3%
Homicide	2	0%	1	0%	1	0%	54	0.0%
Victim Injury Box to Any Victim Checked Off on DIR			not available		182	30%	21,849	5%
Suspect On-scene	258	27%	105	24%	153	25%	185,613	41%
"Other Family Members Present" Box Checked Off on DIR	454	43%	180	41%	274	45%	168,487	38%
Photos Taken	168	16%	73	17%	95	16%	19,135	4%
Guns in Home	54	5%	6	1%	48	8%	13,770	3%
Guns Seized (as % of guns in home)	11	20%	2	33%	9	19%	1,991	14%
Order of Protection	69	7%	19	4%	50	8%	29,300	7%
Violations (% of OPs)	56	81%	18	95%	38	76%	19,293	66%
Offense Level As Classified by Officer								
Felony	700	67%	310	71%	390	64%	19,858	4%
Misdemeanor	222	21%	83	19%	139	23%	79,959	18%
Violation	46	4%	12	3%	34	6%	76,172	17%
Unclassified Offense (Rest of State Only)	4	0%	---	---	4	1%	1,275	0%
Other (NYC Only)	31	3%	31	7%	---	---	65,973	15%
No offense identified	43	4%	2	0%	41	7%	205,702	46%
Physical Attack Incident	984		438		546		97,897	
Classified as Misd. or Fel.	861	88%	393	90%	468	86%	43,245	44%
Serious Physical Attack Incident	970		438		532		54,287	
Classified as Misd. or Fel.	849	88%	393	90%	456	86%	32,075	59%
Injury Incident			not available		182		21,849	
Classified as Misd. or Fel.					167	92%	13,790	63%
Unconditional Mandatory Arrest Case			not available		222	37%	8,561	1.9%
Conditional Mandatory Arrest Case			not available		7	1%	10,520	2.3%
Of Violation, Misdemeanor, and Felony Level Incidents								
% Overall Arrested When Suspect On-Scene			not available		89	58%	17,440	9%
Arrests When Suspect On-Scene and:								
Physical Attack Incident					124		32,223	
Arrested			not available		82	66%	11,951	37%
Serious Physical Attack Incident					120		17,561	
Arrested			not available		79	66%	9,197	52%
Injury Incident					47		10,836	
Arrested			not available		40	85%	6,917	75%
Incident Classified as Misdemeanor/Felony					130		15,654	
Arrested			not available		87	67%	11,796	75%

The footnotes for this table are on the following page.

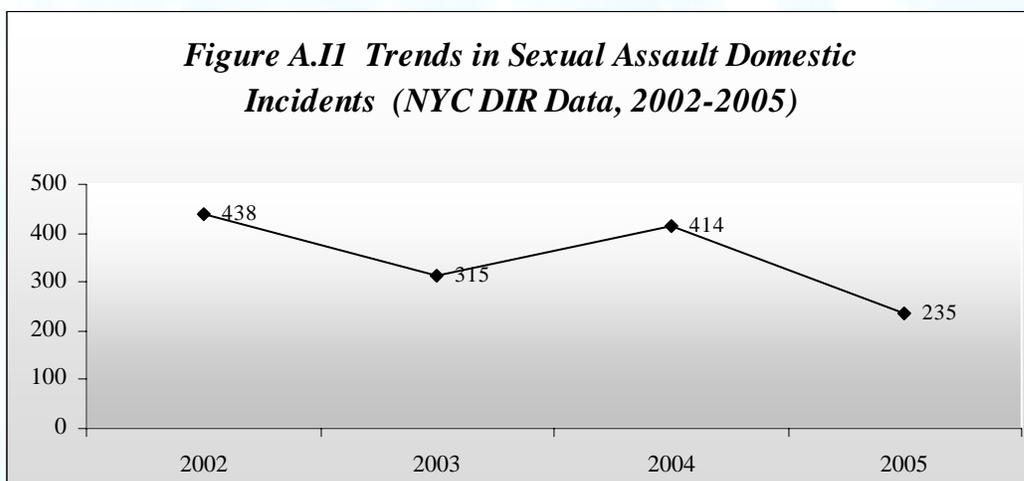
Footnotes for Table A.11

- (1) All tables present DIR data for the year 2001, the most recent year of DIR data available. However, since data from New York City was not complete for 2001, 2002 New York City data was used as a proxy for DIR activity in 2001.
- (2) Identification of sexual assault incidents increases by 20% when Penal Law 130 offenses are also included in the definition of sexual assault (according to Rest of State data), as opposed to relying on the "sexual abuse" checkbox for the DIR (NYC data).
- (3) Sexual assault data for NYC was based on the DIR "sexual abuse" checkbox. Offense and charge information was not available. Sexual Assault data for "Rest of State" was defined by offense and charge information (sex offenses) and the DIR "sexual abuse" checkbox.
- (4) For this analysis criminal incidents are defined by incidents in which the officer checked off the felony, misdemeanor, or violation box on the DIR. This definition is slightly different than the "criminal conduct incident" analysis in the DIR chapter because the analysis in this appendix involves comparisons with NYC data which has a different coding scheme for the data.
- (5) Calculations are based on non-missing total for gender-victim and non-missing total for gender-suspect.

Table A.12 Trends in Sexual Assault Domestic Incidents (NYC DIR Data, 2002-2005)

Year	Sexual Assault Incidents	% Change in the Number of Sexual Assault Incidents	Total DIR Incidents	% Change in the Number of Total DIR Incidents
2002	438	---	278,946	---
2003	315	-28%	250,360	-10%
2004	414	31%	236,250	-6%
2005	235	-43%	227,095	-4%

Figure A.11 Trends in Sexual Assault Domestic Incidents (NYC DIR Data, 2002-2005)



number of total DIR incidents decreased by only 4%.

Table A.13 and **Table A.14** present CCH data on all arrests in New York State, for 2004 and 2005, by domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2005, approximately 2% of all domestic violence-related arrests also involved a top arrest charge of sexual assault (refer to **Table A.13**). Bronx County had a slightly higher proportion of domestic violence-related arrests that also involved sexual assault (3%) while Queens had the lowest (.7%).

Across the seven counties, the number of domestic violence-related arrests that also involved a top arrest charge of sexual assault increased by 12% since

2004 (refer to **Table A.13**). Kings and Richmond counties demonstrated very large increases (more than 100%) in the number of domestic violence/sexual assault arrests that occurred from 2004 to 2005. Bronx, New York and Suffolk counties demonstrated relatively small decreases.

The prevalence of sexual assault offenses was similar for domestic violence arrests and non-domestic violence arrests; among non-domestic violence arrests, only 1% involved top charge arrests for sexual assault (refer to **Table A.13**). Almost all (97%) arrests that were identified as domestic violence and sexual assault involved male offenders (analysis not shown).

Table A.13 Percent of Domestic Violence (DV) Incidents that also Involved Sexual Assault (SA) On the Top Arrest Offense (CCH/UCS Data, 2004 and 2005)

County	2004							2005							Change in # of incidents involving DV & SA since 2004
	Total Arrests	Total DV	Of DV, SA arrests (2)		Total Non-DV	Of Non-DV, SA arrests		Total Arrests	Total DV	Of DV, SA arrests		Total Non-DV	Of Non-DV, SA arrests		
			#	%		#	%			#	%		#	%	
Bronx	68,956	5,368	133	2.5%	63,588	593	0.9%	72,308	4,411	113	2.6%	67,897	521	0.8%	-15%
Kings	75,331	6,047	54	0.9%	69,284	822	1.2%	82,681	7,185	109	1.5%	75,496	648	0.9%	102%
New York	84,765	4,542	95	2.1%	80,223	594	0.7%	79,744	4,218	85	2.0%	75,526	545	0.7%	-11%
Queens	47,070	4,038	25	0.6%	43,032	568	1.3%	49,865	4,194	28	0.7%	45,671	623	1.4%	12%
Richmond (1)	8,612	22	1	4.5%	8,590	100	1.2%	9,235	767	16	2.1%	8,468	94	1.1%	1500%
NYC	284,734	20,017	308	1.5%	264,717	2,677	1.0%	293,833	20,775	351	1.7%	273,058	2,431	0.9%	14%
Suffolk	24,952	2,688	28	1.0%	22,264	360	1.6%	24,842	2,446	22	0.9%	22,396	376	1.7%	-21%
Erie	25,548	1,832	14	0.8%	23,716	276	1.2%	25,534	1,841	19	1.0%	23,693	291	1.2%	36%
Total	335,234	24,537	350	1.4%	310,697	3,313	1.1%	344,209	25,062	392	1.6%	319,147	3,098	1.0%	12%

- (1) It appears that the domestic violence indicator for Richmond County was not fully operational in 2004.
 (2) An incident is defined as a domestic violence (DV) incident if it was "dv indicated" in the Unified Court System (UCS) database. Generally speaking, a case is "dv indicated" if a Domestic Incident Report (DIR) was completed with the arrest paperwork. An incident is defined as a sexual assault incident if the "top" arrest charge (also referred to as the most serious arrest charge) involved a Penal Law 130 offense. Penal 130 offenses include rape, criminal sexual act, forcible touching, persistent sexual abuse, sexual abuse, aggravated sexual abuse, course of sexual conduct against a child, female genital mutilation and facilitating a sex offense with a controlled substance.

Table A.14 Percent of Sexual Assault (SA) Incidents (based on Top Arrest Charge) that also involved Domestic Violence (DV) (CCH/UCS Data, 2004 and 2005)

County	2004							2005						
	Total Arrests	Total SA	Of SA, DV arrests (2)		Total non-SA	Of non-SA, DV arrests		Total Arrests	Total SA	Of SA, DV arrests		Total non-SA	Of non-SA, DV arrests	
			#	%		#	%			#	%		#	%
Bronx	69,556	726	133	18.3%	68,830	5,235	7.6%	72,308	634	113	17.8%	71,674	4,119	5.7%
Kings	75,331	876	54	6.2%	74,455	5,993	8.0%	82,581	757	109	14.4%	81,824	7,075	8.6%
New York	84,765	689	95	13.8%	84,076	4,447	5.3%	79,744	630	85	13.5%	79,114	545	0.7%
Queens	47,070	593	25	4.2%	46,477	4,013	8.6%	49,865	651	28	4.3%	49,214	4,165	8.5%
Richmond (1)	8,612	101	1	1.0%	8,511	21	0.2%	9,235	110	16	14.5%	9,125	751	8.2%
NYC	285,334	2,985	308	10.3%	282,349	19,709	7.0%	293,733	2,782	351	12.6%	290,951	16,655	5.7%
Suffolk	24,952	388	28	7.2%	24,564	2,660	10.8%	24,842	398	22	5.5%	24,444	2,424	9.9%
Erie	25,548	290	14	4.8%	25,258	1,834	7.3%	25,534	310	19	6.1%	25,224	1,822	7.2%
Total	335,834	3,663	350	9.6%	332,171	24,203	7.3%	344,109	3,490	392	11.2%	340,619	20,901	6.1%

- (1) It appears that the domestic violence indicator for Richmond County was not fully operational in 2004.
 (2) An incident is defined as a domestic violence (DV) incident if it was "dv indicated" in the Unified Court System (UCS) database. Generally speaking, a case is "dv indicated" if a Domestic Incident Report (DIR) was completed with the arrest paperwork. An incident is defined as a sexual assault (SA) incident if the "top" arrest charge (also referred to as the most serious arrest charge) involved a Penal Law 130 offense. Penal 130 offenses include rape, criminal sexual act, forcible touching, persistent sexual abuse, sexual abuse, aggravated sexual abuse, course of sexual conduct against a child, female genital mutilation and facilitating a sex offense with a controlled substance.

While only 2% of all domestic violence-related arrests also involved sexual assault, a higher proportion of all sexual assault offenses also involved domestic violence (see *Table A.14*). In 2005, 11% of all sexual assault (top charge) arrests also involved domestic violence (compared with 2% of all domestic violence arrests that involved sexual assault). The proportion of sexual assault arrests that involved domestic violence was higher for Bronx (18%) and lowest for Queens (4%). The prevalence of domestic violence was slightly higher across sexual assault arrests than non-sexual assault arrests (11% versus 6%, respectively).

Endnotes

- (1) While DCJS is in the process of implementing a "domestic violence indicator" that will be attached to every arrest record, that protocol is not yet fully operational. For this reason, the UCS data, which has an operational domestic violence indicator, had to be merged with the DCJS CCH data system.

APPENDIX G

FATALITY REVIEW RESEARCH



Office of Strategic Planning
Bureau of Justice Research and Innovation
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
RESEARCH IN REVIEW**

October 2006

Highlights

- ✓ The purpose of this research was to examine the extent to which local level domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews exist in New York State.
- ✓ Findings indicate that domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews are relatively rare events in New York State.
- ✓ Professionals from counties with reviews have found reviews very helpful in improving their community's response to domestic violence.
- ✓ Many professionals from counties without reviews have expressed their desire to learn about and initiate reviews with the hope of improving their community's response to domestic violence.
- ✓ Models of serious incident/fatality review are discussed, as well as future initiatives that might involve a larger, comprehensive, domestic violence accountability assessment structure for every community in New York State.



Target Audience:

Law enforcement officers, district attorneys, domestic violence advocates, public policy professionals, county domestic violence task forces and all agencies associated with a community's response to domestic violence.

This project was supported in part, by a grant awarded by the Violence Against Women Grants Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Domestic Violence Serious Incident/
Fatality Reviews in New York State**

by Deborah J. Chard-Wierschem, PhD and Melissa I. Mackey, MA

In 1997, the Commission on Domestic Violence Fatalities, convened by Governor George E. Pataki, published a review of several domestic violence homicides that occurred in New York State (NYS).⁽¹⁾ In that report, the Commission recommended that, while a state Fatality Review Board should not be established, "the findings and recommendations of the Commission...should be considered and implemented on appropriate state and local levels." The Commission also recommended that the need for a State Fatality Review Board be "reconsidered in light of the experience with this local review process."

Despite these recommendations, in the past ten years since the Commission's report, local level domestic violence fatality incident review boards have been relatively rare in New York State. This is not surprising since fatality reviews can be quite resource intensive, especially for small communities. The purpose of this research is to examine the extent to which domestic violence serious incident or fatality reviews exist in New York State, how they are structured, how they exist in relation to other related task-forces, and for communities without reviews, the extent to which local domestic violence professionals desire one.

A domestic violence fatality review is basically a process that engages domestic violence-related professionals in the review of a domestic violence incident that resulted in a homicide or suicide. The main purpose of a fatality review is to identify gaps in service delivery and to

determine how the system can be improved, possibly preventing future deaths.⁽²⁾ Fatality reviews afford local communities an opportunity to discuss how public service systems can improve their response to domestic violence, and increase their attention to victim safety.

Methodology

A brief survey was sent to every district attorney's office, police department and major domestic violence service provider in New York State in the Spring/Summer of 2006 (refer to *Appendix A*). These professionals are most often the main players in a community's response to domestic violence, and as such, are important "informants" about domestic violence-related practices and viable strategies for improvement. Efforts were made to ensure representation from every county in New York State, especially from service providers and district attorney's offices, two main response systems to domestic violence. Therefore, selective follow-up (by telephone) was done for counties that did not respond within the desired time frame.

The survey included several questions about the existence and structure of a domestic violence serious incident or fatality review, and questions on other related task forces (e.g. child fatality reviews and domestic violence task forces). Our decision to include a question about participation on child fatality reviews was an attempt to understand where overlap between the two fields might occur, and

also, to see if certain communities already have current structures operating for fatality review.

The survey focused on both serious incident *and* fatal incident reviews because some systems do not distinguish between the two, and we wanted to capture all domestic violence related-reviews. Furthermore, sometimes it may only be chance that distinguishes a serious incident from a fatality, and so, conceivably, serious incidents and fatalities may be more similar than not. We did not define “serious” or fatality “review” for respondents and instead, allowed them to apply their own definition.

A total of 207 responses were received, representing all 62 counties in New York State. While most of the respondents were from police departments, a higher proportion of responses were gathered from district attorney’s offices and domestic violence service providers.⁽³⁾ It should be noted that since most police department respondents were from smaller departments, police agency responses may not necessarily be representative of the experiences and beliefs of larger police departments in New York State. On a similar note, no responses were received from any New York State Police (NYSP) troops, which generally have different jurisdiction than other police departments.⁽⁴⁾ Fortunately, for the large majority of the counties (85%), responses were received from a service provider and/or a district attorney, who usually are aware of domestic violence initiatives throughout the county. In most of the remaining counties, responses were received from a major (large city) police department.

In addition to the county level surveys, researchers met with police, district attorneys and service providers from a few Capital District jurisdictions to further discuss the issue of domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews. These interviews helped to provide greater context to findings from the surveys.

Results

Tables 1 through 3, and *Figure 1* summarize survey results by county, and describe domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews, domestic violence

task forces and child fatality reviews in New York State.⁽⁵⁾ Since respondents will naturally have different opinions about their community’s response to domestic violence, *Tables 4 through 6*, and *Figures 1 and 2* present information on respondents’ perceptions and visions for their community regarding domestic violence.

County-Level Summaries

Prevalence of Serious Incident and Fatality Reviews

When summarizing the data by county, *Table 1* indicates that only about one-third of the counties in New York State (N=21) have or had a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review (also refer to *Table 2 and Table 3*). The total number of counties with current reviews is only 16, or 26% of all New York State counties. Slightly more than 60% of the counties with current reviews examine domestic violence serious incidents *and* fatalities while 44% of the counties review fatalities only. The median number of agencies that participate on reviews is six. All county reviews involved a multi-agency effort that included at a minimum, participation from law enforcement and domestic violence service providers. One county had a review that involved only two agencies (the city police department and the main local domestic violence service provider). At least two counties had a multi-agency review effort, and simultaneously, another review effort by a single agency (*results not shown*).⁽⁶⁾ Both of these single agency reviews were conducted by police departments.

Every review existed within a county that had an active domestic violence task force. However, while reviews always existed within counties that had active domestic violence task forces, reviews were not always *connected* to task forces. In some situations (as stated above), a single agency might conduct a “review” (however they defined “review”), or task force related agencies might conduct a review, while in other situations, the review emerged as an integral part of the domestic violence task force.

Of the 46 counties that did not have a current review, the large majority (76%)

of the counties had at least one respondent who said that they would like a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review started in their community (refer to *Table 1*).

Training

Only 38% of the counties with past or current reviews, had one or more participants who received training on domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews (refer to *Table 1*). All respondents from these counties said that the training was very useful. They said that the training helped the team identify what works and what does not work. Respondents also said that the training offered concrete recommendations on how to handle reviews, and it helped to introduce an expertise into the entire review process.

Written Protocols / Family Member Participation

Only about half of the counties had respondents who reported that their review had written protocols or policies that helped to guide reviews (refer to *Table 1*). About one-third of the reviews notified or interviewed family members of the victim. Only one review invited family members of the (deceased) victim to participate.

Although attachments were requested, very few respondents attached written policies or protocols associated with their review. So, it was not completely clear from the survey what processes the differing models of reviews were implementing. However, based on the narrative responses, most reviews appeared to involve examination of available data (e.g. aggregate data analysis) or sharing case record information, and rarely involved interviews with victims, witnesses or family members of the victim.

Factors for Case Selection

Each respondent was asked to report on what factors were used to determine which cases are selected for review (refer to *Table 1*). The most frequently occurring factor for case review was crime seriousness (e.g. level of injury, sexual abuse, strangulation case, or repeat incidents).

Table 1 County-level Summaries of the NYS Domestic Violence Serious Incident/ Fatality Review Survey

	#	%
Total counties represented by respondents (1) (N=62 NYS counties)	62	100.0%
Average # of responses per county	Avg	3
Counties that have or had a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review	21	33.9%
Counties with a current domestic violence serious incident/fatality review	16	25.8%
Counties with a current review that review fatal incidents only	6	37.5%
Of those without a current review, counties with one or more DV professionals who would like one	46 35	76.1%
Description of Old or Current Serious Incident or Fatality Reviews		
Counties with four or more agencies participating	14	66.7%
Number of participating agencies	Median	6.0
Counties with persons who received training	8	38.1%
Counties with written protocols or policies	11	52.4%
Reviews which notify family members	7	33.3%
Reviews which interview family members	6	28.6%
Reviews in which family members can participate	1	4.8%
Decision making factors		
Crime seriousness (e.g. including injury or repeat incidents)	9	42.9%
A vote is taken OR a designated person makes the decision	6	28.6%
All cases reviewed	5	23.8%
Dissemination of findings (# who answered question)		
Findings are shared at meetings, or with individual agencies	14	66.7%
Findings documented or otherwise turned into a report	5	23.8%
Findings shared with media	1	4.8%
Counties that had or have a domestic violence task force	58	93.5%
Counties with a current domestic violence task force	55	88.7%
Number of participating agencies	Median	6.0
Counties with professionals who expressed interest in LISTSERV	57	91.9%
Counties with child fatality reviews	31	50.0%
Number of participating agencies	Median	4.0
Domestic violence service provider participates on child fatality review	8	25.8%
Child fatality review is done within county with a Child Advocacy Center	6	19.4%

Note: The five counties of New York City are conducting a joint fatality review audit. They are each counted separately for purposes of the county-level summary analysis.

(1) A domestic violence service provider and/or a district attorney's office response was received from approximately 84% of the counties.

Table 2 Domestic Violence Task Force, Fatality or Serious Incident Review

	Has or Had DV Task Force	Has Current DV Task Force	Has or Had Review	Has Current Review	Fatal Review Only	No current review, but interested in starting a review
Albany	1	1				1
Allegany	1	1				1
*Bronx	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Broome	1	1	1	1		NA
Cattaraugus	1	1	1	1		NA
Cayuga	1	1				1
Chautauqua	1	1				1
Chemung	1	1				1
Chenango						1
Clinton	1	1				1
Columbia	1	1	1			1
Cortland	1					1
Delaware	1	1				
Dutchess	1	1	1	1		NA
Erie	1	1	1			1
Essex	1	1				1
Franklin	1	1				1
Fulton	1	1				1
Genesee	1	1				1
Greene	1	1				1
Hamilton						
Herkimer	1	1				
Jefferson	1	1				
*Kings	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Lewis						1
Livingston	1	1				1
Madison	1	1				
Monroe	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Montgomery	1	1	1	1		NA
Nassau (1)	1	1	1			
*New York	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Niagara	1	1	1	1		NA
Oneida	1	1				1
Onondaga	1	1	1		1	1
Ontario						1
Orange	1	1				1
Orleans	1	1				1
Oswego	1	1	1	1		NA
Otsego	1	1	1	1		NA
Putnam	1	1				1
*Queens	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Rensselaer	1	1	1	1		NA
*Richmond	1	1	1	1	1	NA
Rockland	1	1				1
Saratoga	1	1				
Schenectady	1	1				1
Schoharie	1	1				1
Schuyler	1	1				1
Seneca	1	1	1	1		NA
St. Lawrence	1	1				1
Steuben	1	1	1			
Suffolk	1	1				1
Sullivan	1	1				1
Tioga	1	1				
Tompkins	1	1				1
Ulster	1	1				
Warren	1	1				1
Washington	1	1				1
Wayne	1	1				1
Westchester	1	1				NA
Wyoming	1	1	1	1		NA
Yates	1					1
Total	58	55	21	16	7	35
% of state	93.5%	88.7%	33.9%	25.8%	11.3%	56.5%

(1) Although Nassau County no longer has a fatality review, and does not review serious incidents only, an interagency group does review all domestic violence incidents, not just serious or fatal incidents.

The second most frequently cited selection factor or approach was having a designated person or team vote on which cases to review. Respondents from five counties said that their teams examined all domestic incidents reported to the police. A respondent from one county said that their review team bases their case review decision on the victim's (or victim's family's) willingness to cooperate with the process.

Dissemination of Findings

The large majority (67%) of the counties with past or current reviews reported that the primary way findings and recommendations are disseminated is through their team's meetings, or in meetings or contact with individual agencies (refer to *Table 1*). Only 24% of the counties had respondents who said that their findings were documented or turned into a report. One respondent said that they disseminate their findings through release to the media.

Domestic Violence Task Force

The large majority of the counties (89%) had one or more respondents who said that their county currently has a domestic violence task force (refer to *Table 1*). Three counties reported that they had a task force, but no longer have one. Respondents from the remaining four non-task force counties reported that they never have had a domestic violence task force.

There was quite a wide range in the number of agencies that participated on a county domestic violence task force. While the median number of agencies on task forces was six, there were ten counties that had 40 or more agencies participating on their task force. Task forces most frequently included at least one police department (usually the largest city police department in a county, the county sheriff's office or representation from the NYSP), the district attorney's office, the main domestic violence service provider, the county probation department, and the county's department of social services and/or its child protective services unit. In some communities, task forces also had participation from representatives from the courts, legal aid, pa-

Table 3 Counties with Current Domestic Violence Serious Incident /Fatality Reviews

County	Level	Type	Policies	Who's Involved (# Agencies)	Criteria	Victim's Family Involved?	PROCESS	REPORT
Bronx	County/all NYC	Fatalities	Yes, local laws	Multiagency (6 or more)	All fatalities perpetrated by family or household members	No	Aggregate Data Review only	Forthcoming
Broome	County	Fatalities & Serious	No	Multiagency (6 or more)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	At meetings
Cattaraugus	County	Fatalities & Serious	Yes	Multiagency (6 or more)	Nature of case, injury level, case seriousness	Yes	Respond as needed when case meets criteria	Meetings, flyers, newspaper articles
Dutchess	County	All incidents	No	Multiagency (Less than 6)	Jurisdiction, intimate partner violence (IPV) or former IPV, level of injury	Yes	Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) steering committee	Discussed at meetings
Kings	County/all NYC	Fatalities	Yes, local laws	Multiagency (6 or more)	All fatalities perpetrated by family or household members	No	Aggregate Data Review only	Forthcoming
Monroe	County	Fatalities	Yes	Multiagency (6 or more)	Closed cases – committee decides	No	Case record review; information transferred to a standardized questionnaire. Non-case specific recommendations shared with task force. Sometimes agency staff are interviewed.	Reviews confidential; general summary; affected agencies given specific recommendations.
Montgomery	County	Fatalities & Serious	Yes	Multiagency (6 or more)	Domestic violence representative reviews all cases and helps determine further review	Yes	Handled by responding agency; reviewed by service provider; some brought to task force for further review.	Discussed in meetings and placed in minutes
New York	County/all NYC	Fatalities	Yes, local laws	Multiagency (6 or more)	All fatalities perpetrated by family or household members	No	Aggregate Data Review only	Forthcoming
Niagara	County	Fatalities & Serious	No	Multiagency (6 or more)	Level of injury, history of violence, repeat offenders, violence escalation, victim reluctance to cooperate	No	DA's office or advocate initiates; informal gathering of involved agencies; examine prior history and incident	Discussed at meetings
Oswego	County	Fatalities & Serious	Unknown	Multiagency (6 or more)	Task force reviews all physical injury dv incidences	Unknown	A monthly review of all serious domestic violence cases at coalition meeting	Unknown
Otsego	County	Fatalities & Serious	No	Multiagency (Less than 6)	Review all dv serious incident cases	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Queens	County/all NYC	Fatalities	Yes, local laws	Multiagency (6 or more)	All fatalities perpetrated by family or household members	No	Aggregate Data Review only	Forthcoming
Rensselaer	Town/City	All incidents	Yes	Multiagency (Less than 6)	All cases reviewed and receive follow-up	Depends on the case	Reviewed by detectives; some cases discussed with advocates	Unknown
Richmond	County/all NYC	Fatalities	Yes, local laws	Multiagency (6 or more)	All fatalities perpetrated by family or household members	No	Aggregate Data Review only	Forthcoming
Seneca	County	Fatalities & Serious	No	Multiagency (Less than 6)	Serious injury, sexual abuse, fatalities	Yes	Victim asst coordinator contacts Sheriff dept to review case. Discussion among agencies.	Discussed at meetings
Wyoming	County	All incidents	No	Multiagency (Less than 6)	All ongoing dv cases reviewed	Unknown	Review of progress in cases by all agencies. Has DART program.	Unknown

Multiagency = means interdisciplinary, and includes law enforcement and service providers, at a minimum

role, hospitals, schools, other service provider agencies such as mental health, substance abuse or batterer programs, and members from faith communities. In at least four counties, the multidisciplinary task force focused on issues of both domestic violence and sexual assault; in two counties, domestic violence was a sub-committee of the child abuse coalition.

Desire for Participating on a LISTSERV

Almost all of the counties (92%) had one or more respondents who said that they were interested in being on a LISTSERV that would circulate information about domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews (refer to *Table 1*).

Respondents from communities with a domestic violence task force, and respondents with knowledge of a professional from their team who had engaged in a child fatality review, were significantly more likely to want to be a part of a serious incident/fatality review LISTSERV (results not shown). Also, respondents from domestic violence service provider agencies, and to some extent, from district attorney's offices, were more likely to want to be on a LISTSERV.

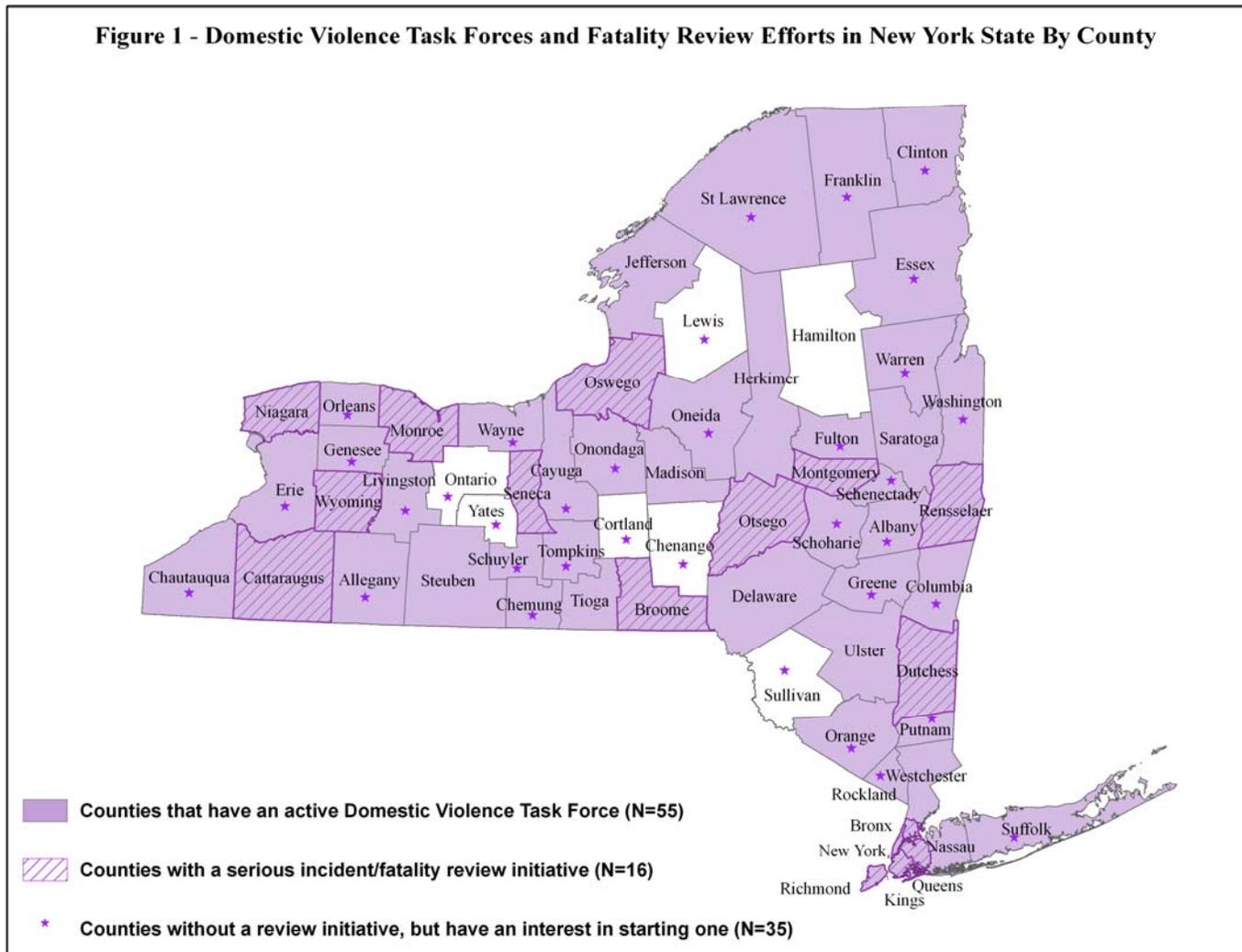
Child Fatality Review

To examine the extent of overlap between domestic violence related professionals and child welfare professionals at the local level, respondents were asked if

any professional or team from their community ever engaged in child fatality reviews. *Table 1* indicates that half of the counties had at least one respondent who said they had knowledge of a professional or team in their community who had participated in a child fatality review. It should be noted that this statistic does not indicate the prevalence of such reviews on the county level because many child fatality reviews occur in county social services departments, and those agencies were not directly surveyed. This figure merely hints at the possible overlap between domestic violence service professionals and child welfare fatality review professionals at the county level.

The median number of agencies engaged in child fatality reviews was four.

Figure 1 - Domestic Violence Task Forces and Fatality Review Efforts in New York State By County



The types of agencies that participated on child fatality reviews were similar to the types of agencies that participated on domestic violence task forces: the district attorney’s office and the local police department were almost always child fatality review participants. However, child fatality reviews were more likely to include participation by the local coroner or medical examiner, representation from local hospital(s), and of course, representation from Child Protective Service (CPS) or the Department of Social Services (DSS) which is statutorily required. Only about one-fourth of the child fatality reviews included participation by a domestic violence service provider. About one-fifth of the counties had participation (or facilitation)

from the county’s child advocacy center.⁽⁷⁾ In fact, respondents from one county in particular, reported that although they did not have a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review, they were regularly engaged in child sexual assault and child fatality reviews through the county’s child advocacy center.

Respondent-Level Summaries

Respondents with Current Domestic Violence Serious Incident/ Fatality Reviews

Helpfulness and Challenges of Implementing a Review

Table 4 presents statistics on respondents from communities with current serious incident/fatality reviews. Of those respondents who answered the follow-up questions on their community’s review, the majority (67%) said that having a serious incident/fatality review has substantially helped to improve community safety. They reported that community safety has

Table 4 Respondents from Communities with Current Reviews

	#	% of Total
Total Surveys	207	
Respondents from communities who have or had reviews	33	15.9%
Respondents from communities who currently have reviews	24	11.6%
Of respondents from communities who currently have reviews:		
Ways review has been helpful (# who answered question)	12	50.0%
Improve community safety (e.g. handling of cases, services to victims)	8	66.7%
Increase awareness and education	4	33.3%
Biggest challenges with implementing a review (# who answered question)	11	45.8%
Administrative problems (e.g. meetings, organizing, personnel, support, apathy)	5	45.5%
Confidentiality issues	2	18.2%
Agency cooperation	1	9.1%
Victim cooperation	1	9.1%
What would be most helpful to improve your review? (# who answered question)	11	45.8%
Addressing administrative problems (e.g. training, organizing, support, legislation)	7	63.6%
Addressing confidentiality issues	1	9.1%

improved through better management of cases, improved services to victims, increased ability to identify lethality factors, and improved protocols and policies. Other respondents (33%) said that their review substantially increased education and awareness of domestic violence in their community.

Several respondents who answered the follow-up questions on domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews reported that the biggest challenges their review team faced were the administrative challenges associated with trying to implement a review. These challenges included, for example, difficulties with arranging, organizing, and structuring meetings; obtaining the participation of personnel from various agencies, especially personnel with author-

ity to make changes in their agency; maintaining enthusiasm and warding off apathy. A few respondents reported that their review team struggled with issues of confidentiality. One respondent said that securing interagency cooperation was a challenge; another said that obtaining victim cooperation was a challenge.

When asked what would be most helpful in improving their community's review of domestic violence serious incidents or fatalities, most respondents felt that administrative-type issues should be addressed (e.g. organization, training, legislation). One respondent said that addressing confidentiality issues would improve the effectiveness of their review.

Respondents Without Current Serious Incident/Fatality Reviews

Desire for a Review

Table 5 presents statistics on respondents who are from communities without current domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews. Of those respondents from communities without current reviews, 43% stated that they would like their community to start a review; seven respondents (4%) were unsure about whether or not they would support a review. Respondents from communities with domestic violence task forces were significantly more likely to want a serious incident/fatality review than those without task forces (results not shown). Also, respondents from service

provider organizations and district attorney’s offices were significantly more likely to want a review than respondents from police departments.⁽⁸⁾

The large majority of respondents (79%) who answered the follow-up questions on reasons for wanting a review believed that starting a review would improve their community’s response to domestic violence (refer to *Table 5 and Figure 2*). They felt that establishing a review would increase awareness, help identify needed areas of improvement in terms of service development and delivery, identify safety concerns, and in doing so, possibly help prevent future domestic violence related homicides. About one-fifth of the respondents stated that they would like a review in their community because domestic violence is a serious

issue, and/or because there is a large volume of domestic violence incidents in their community. Interestingly, several respondents stated that although there are very few serious or fatal domestic violence incidents, they felt it would still be very important to review them. A few respondents said that while the current process of addressing domestic violence incidents is adequate, that process should be expanded to include system service review of serious injury incidents. One respondent wrote that a review would help ensure that a “victim has not died in vain.” Another respondent reported that a serious incident/fatality review would be especially useful for a class of cases that often tend to disappear from a community’s safety audit radar screen: murder-suicides. When there is a domestic vio-

lence-related homicide, there is an extensive case investigation over the course of several months because prosecution is at hand. However, when there is a murder-suicide, there is no continued involvement by the law enforcement system once the perpetrator has been identified as the suicide victim. Thus, this respondent said that a review would be especially useful for these cases which do not benefit from the scrutiny of a prosecutorial investigation.

Four respondents commented that their county has a child fatality review board or another type of child abuse response team. They reported that their child fatality review initiative could serve as a good model for domestic violence fatality reviews, or that a domestic violence fatality review could be combined

Table 5 Respondents from Communities without Current Reviews

	#	%
Respondents who said there is no current fatality review	183	88.8%
Respondents who do not want to start a review	87	47.5%
Respondents who want to start a review	79	43.2%
Respondents who are unsure about starting a review	7	3.8%
Missing	9	4.9%
Reasons why a review should or should not be started in their county (# of responses)	161	88.0%
Of those who wanted to started a review, reasons why	75	(% of responses)
It will improve the community's response to domestic violence	59	78.7%
Domestic violence is very serious or there is a large volume here	16	21.3%
There are too few cases but it is still important to review them	9	12.0%
The current process is adequate	3	4.0%
Of those who did not want to start a review, reasons why not	81	(% of responses)
There are too few cases to warrant a review	49	60.5%
The current process is adequate	34	42.0%
It is a waste of time; it takes away from other DV cases	2	2.5%
The potential for breach of confidentiality causes too many problems	2	2.5%
What would be needed for an effective review? (# of responses)	88	48.1%
		(% of responses)
Interagency cooperation and access	31	35.2%
Resources: money and staff	29	33.0%
Training, information, education, guidelines, awareness	11	12.5%
Nothing; we already have the ability	9	10.2%
Regular, well run meetings	7	8.0%
Need more serious or fatal dv incidents	6	6.8%
Consent from the victim, address issues of confidentiality	4	4.5%

Figure 2 Quotes from Respondents Who Want a Serious Incident/Fatality Review

Respondents from Police Departments

- “Due to the statistics, prevention needs to be more of a priority. A pro-active approach is always best.”
- “This is the best way to track repeat offenders and increase the accountability of violent offenders. Money from the government would [be needed for an effective review] and a full-time officer. We have a program that provides follow-up to the victim. [It has] seen limited success. So much more could be done with additional resources and manpower. This department takes this issue very seriously and would like to improve our overall efforts in this area.”
- “A review of serious incidents will help locate potential problems and develop a game plan for future incidents.”
- “I think this would be a good educational tool to help prevent future fatalities or serious incidents.”
- “Although rare, a thorough review would be an excellent learning opportunity.”
- “[A serious incident/fatality review is needed because] in recent years I have seen a dramatic decrease in law enforcement’s response to domestic incidents...”
- “Due to the increase in the number of domestic violence investigations, their serious nature and their complexity, the establishment of a review team may be warranted.”

Respondents from District Attorney Offices

- “The only way to understand and stop domestic violence is to beware, educate and punish.”
- “Yes [a review is needed]. Domestic violence is escalating in our area and we need to be prepared to handle serious situations.
- “[A review is needed] to determine if there was anything the criminal justice system could do to prevent the abuse.”
- “[There are] multiple reasons [why I believe our community should start a serious incident/fatality review]: (1) to identify safety concerns, (2) to stop the cycle, (3) [increase] agency cooperation, (4) better investigation/prosecution, and (5) increased public safety and health.

Respondents from Service Providers

- “I am interested in starting a serious incident/fatality review, but first we are trying to enliven our task force.”
- “[To start an effective review] all agencies would need to be on-board with the idea and [we would need] expert guidance to make sure the review is done correctly.”
- “We’ve had a number of fatalities over the years and I think our community needs to learn something from them.”
- “[A review would help us] learn from the input of all agencies. [It] encourages communication between agencies [and] improves services to victims.”
- “[A review would] enhance services and address the issue [of domestic violence] in a coordinated manner; to get people to understand how serious a problem family violence is.”
- “Since our community is so small, it should be combined with child fatality reviews.”
- “The only means of effectively evaluating policies and procedures in the county is to review cases to determine where there is need for improvement.”
- “[A review will help us] learn from experience; find and close gaps; address factors correlated with fatality; not let victims die in vain.”

with the child fatality review initiative.

Nearly two-thirds of the respondents (61%) who said that they did not favor a review in their community felt that there were too few domestic violence incidents to warrant a review (refer to *Table 5 and Figure 3*). However, a few of these respondents felt that such a review might be more appropriate for the county level. In fact, several respondents from counties without reviews said that they were first trying to establish or “breathe life into” their domestic violence task force before they initiated new projects.

Just over 40% of these respondents said that the current process of reviewing domestic violence incidents in their community was adequate. These processes appeared to revolve around four different categories of “review:” (1) sending all Domestic Incident Reports (DIRS)⁽⁹⁾ or

the equivalent of their information to domestic violence service providers; (2) forwarding cases to the State Police or county sheriff’s office for review and investigation; (3) openly communicating about cases at meetings with the police and district attorney’s office (and sometimes, with the domestic violence service provider); or (4) having a structured Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) program in place.⁽¹⁰⁾ Two respondents expressed their concern that focusing on a few serious incidents will take away from other incidents which comprise the majority of most law enforcement case loads. Additionally, two respondents expressed concerns that reviews might breach confidentiality, and subsequently, spiral into other problems.

Of those who said their community’s review was discontinued, respondents

gave several reasons for the discontinuation (results not shown). They stated that the review was too labor intensive, there was not enough information to conduct the review, there was substantial difficulty in getting information, there was a change in personnel that caused substantial continuity problems, or there was lack of funding. One respondent felt that even though their review was discontinued because the task force had disbanded, there were also concerns about the lack of objectivity, and there was a failure to focus on the issues at hand.

What is Needed for an Effective Review

Respondents who said they did not have a current review were asked what they felt would be needed to implement

Figure 3 Quotes from Respondents Who Do Not Want a Serious Incident/Fatality Review

Respondents from Police Departments

- “Initially, our [committee] was created to ...review domestic violence homicides and serious assaults, but it was revised to identify and address issues related to the criminal justice responses to family violence. [This way], we could work on issues without waiting for a serious incident to initiate the process.”
- “We don’t need a fatality review because we already work closely with and information flows well between the district attorney, police, advocates, judicial branch etc.”
- “While our agency handles a large number of domestic related incidents, we have been fortunate not to have these incidents escalate into a serious incident or resulting fatality.”
- “The frequency of such incidents is minimal to non-existent.”
- “[We are] small enough, and enough agencies review domestic incidents to ensure thorough investigation. Various meetings [are] held on [the] same.”
- “[We do not need a review because of] the infrequency of occurrence in our jurisdiction. It would perhaps be more feasible on a county level.”
- “I would rather see money spent on officer training and community education programs dealing with domestic violence.”
- “Cases are handled by police and the district attorney’s office. Further review is time consuming and offers little or no assistance to victims.”
- “No. Serious/fatal incidents would be investigated by Sheriff’s Office or the state police.”
- “We don’t have any incidents. The New York State Police do all our investigations.”
- “Law enforcement and the district attorney’s office are very involved in all domestic violence cases. There are very few, if any fatalities involving domestic violence in our area and [we have a] very progressive arrest policy.”
- “We are an accredited NYS Accreditation Agency with a domestic violence policy in effect.”
- “It is the policy of our Department to exercise a “pro-arrest” policy with respect to domestic incidents in the belief that the arrest is an effective deterrent to future incidents of such violence.”
- “All domestic incidents reports are faxed daily to domestic violence coordinators with the DAs office and family court domestic violence part. The county also has a domestic violence task force. The review should be conducted on the county level.”
- “We have enough community groups doing enough public hand-wringing over various issues. I have never seen one of these groups actually accomplish anything. We waste enough time around here trying to “out sincere” each other.”

Respondents from District Attorney Offices

- “We do not have such incidents except on rare occasion. When we do have such an occurrence, we review with all appropriate agencies involved.”
- “The problem does not appear to be so severe ...to justify creation of such a review.”
- “A serious incident/fatality review is not needed because the majority [of incidents] are not serious injury.”
- “This community is small enough and there are few enough homicides that we can gather any information we need.”
- “We have an active community response network that meets monthly and discusses important cases.”
- “A fatality review during the pendency of a criminal prosecution or appeal has the potential to impact a case in a negative manner by disclosing confidential information to unnecessary parties. Additionally, individuals who are not prosecutors may not understand the ramifications of taking notes, speaking to the press, etc.”

Respondents from Service Providers

- “It would break confidentiality. Not everyone on the task force needs to know. [We] would support it more if it were *not* attached to the task force.”
- “We have never had a domestic violence fatality.”
- “[A review would] divert from daily high incidents of domestic violence to focus on only a few of many.”
- “Currently, with the past history of reported serious incidents/fatalities being very low, we have not started a serious incident/fatality review team.”

an effective review (refer to *Table 5*). The first most frequently occurring response referred to securing interagency cooperation and access. In listing issues related to cooperation, a few respondents indicated that creating a working environment with non-defensive attitudes and avoiding the finger-pointing, “blame-shame” game is critical. One respondent in particular, talked about how years ago, relationships between agencies on the

interagency coalition were compromised, and unfortunately, some were severed, because of “blame-shame” reactions in the aftermath of a domestic violence homicide. The respondent also stated that the community has been trying to repair relationships ever since.

The second most frequently occurring response pertained to resources (money and staff). These respondents reported that additional funding and/or

staffing would need to be dedicated to a serious incident/fatality review effort, since current systems were already strained.

The third most frequently cited factor for an effective review by respondents was training. This topic area includes training review participants, providing documentation, research and other information on conducting reviews, developing guidelines for reviews, and overall,

Table 6 NYS Survey on Domestic Violence Serious Incident/Fatality Reviews		
	#	%
Total Respondents		
District Attorney Office	23	11.1%
Police Department	134	64.7%
Service Provider (or Coalition)	46	22.2%
Other	4	1.9%
Respondents reporting the existence of a Domestic Violence Task Force		
Respondents from counties that have or had a domestic violence task force	109	52.7%
Respondents with current task force	88	42.5%
Respondent perception of task force effectiveness (scale of 1 to 5, most effective)		
Average effectiveness rating (all respondents with past or current task forces)	---	3.39
Respondents from communities with current task forces		
Average effectiveness rating (with current review) (1)	---	4.00
Average effectiveness rating (without current review)	---	3.26
Reasons for effectiveness rating (for current task forces) (# of responses)		
Cooperation issues between agencies	34	44.2%
Resource issues (e.g. money, staff, turnover)	14	18.2%
Meeting issues (frequency, structure, agenda/focus)	12	15.6%
Training issues	11	14.3%
Problem-solving ability (or disability), good recommendations (productivity)	8	10.4%
In process of restructuring	3	3.9%
Just not effective in stopping domestic violence	2	2.6%
County is too small and rural to have effective task force	1	1.3%
Respondents who expressed interest in a LISTSERV	117	56.5%
Respondents who knew of community professionals who participated in local child fatality reviews	52	25.1%

(1) The difference in the average effectiveness score rating was statistically significant at the < p.01 level.

increasing education and awareness of all review team participants. In addition, several respondents said that having regular, well-run meetings is also important for having and sustaining effective reviews. Often, communities start initiatives, but find it difficult to sustain them because there are so many other initiatives that are competing for the time of domestic violence-related professionals. Only four respondents added that consent from the victim should be required for an effective review, or that another approach be implemented to address issues of confidentiality.

Interestingly, nine respondents said that nothing new would be needed to conduct an effective review in their community. Most of these respondents said that

they were interested in starting a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review in their community, and most of them were already connected to a domestic violence task force.

Domestic Violence Task Force

Table 6 presents statistics on respondent answers to questions on their local domestic violence task force, their desire to participate on a LISTSERV, and participation on child fatality reviews. About half of the respondents said that they have or had a domestic violence task force in their community; most of these task forces were currently active.

Using a Likert scale of 1 to 5, with “5” meaning “very effective” and “1”

meaning “not very effective,” respondents were asked to rate their task force’s effectiveness. The average task force effectiveness score was 3.39. While task force effectiveness ratings did not differ significantly by agency type (i.e. district attorney’s office, police or service provider), respondents from counties with on-going reviews were significantly more likely to rate their task force as more highly effective than counties without active reviews. (11) It should be noted that while the average task force effectiveness score fell in the middle of the scale, several respondents, representing 16 of the 55 counties with task forces (29%), scored their task forces as very low (1 or 2) on the effectiveness scale.

To further understand why respon-

dents rated their task force a certain way, we asked them to explain the reasons for their scoring (refer to *Table 6*). The highest proportion of explanations given for task force effectiveness involved cooperation issues between the agencies. Respondents who reported that cooperation was good said that agencies working together were able to develop stronger ties with local service providers and work toward the common goal of addressing issues of service delivery. They also reported that the cooperative, collaborative nature of the meetings encouraged both traditional and non-traditional partners to participate, and helped participants to effectively articulate policy and protocol problem areas without having discussions degenerate into staff disagreements or agency defensiveness. One respondent said that cooperation would be improved if the staff were more knowledgeable and if there was more support from the community.

The next most frequently occurring group of reasons given for task force effectiveness pertained to resource issues (e.g. money, obtaining staff, and staff turnover). Several respondents reported that their initiatives are often resource-dependent, especially since there are several other community initiatives that are simultaneously competing for the time and talent of local domestic violence related professionals (i.e. police, district attorney, service providers). Thus, these respondents described the effectiveness of their task force as often hanging on the availability of resources.

Next, several respondents reported that basic meeting issues interfered with the effectiveness of their task force. These issues included basic organizational issues such as meeting frequency and the structure of the meeting. These respondents reported that often, it seemed difficult to develop the proper focus for the task force meetings, and that it was sometimes difficult to keep the team focused on the issues at hand.

Training issues (good or bad) were also cited as reasons for task force effectiveness. Respondents who had positive comments about their task force's training initiatives said that their task force was very good at providing sound domestic violence training, and/or other venues of information sharing (e.g. pamphlets,

video).

Several respondents commented on the problem-solving ability of their task force. Respondents who reported good problem-solving abilities said that their task force was effective in exchanging ideas, and identifying and solving issues. Some of these respondents said that their task force was very proactive, or progressive which helped them to address problem areas. They also stated that because of the good problem-solving ability of their task force, they were ultimately able to develop sound recommendations that could positively impact and change responding systems in the community.

A few respondents said that they were in the process of restructuring their task forces, and so it was difficult to see their task forces as effective yet. A few respondents said that although their task force was fairly effective, it was still not effective enough to stop domestic violence. One respondent said that their county was too small and rural for their task force to be effective.

Desire for Participating on a LISTSERV

Slightly more than half of all survey respondents expressed an interest in being on a LISTSERV about domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews (refer to *Table 6*). Respondents from communities with a domestic violence task force, and respondents with knowledge of a professional from their team who had engaged in a child fatality review, were significantly more likely to want to be on a LISTSERV (results not shown). Also, respondents from domestic violence service provider agencies or district attorney's offices were more likely to want to participate on a LISTSERV.

Child Fatality Review

Only 25% of the respondents participated in or knew of a member from their review team or community who had participated in a child fatality review (refer to *Table 6*). These respondents most frequently were from police departments or district attorney offices.

Summary and Discussion

Despite the Governor's Commission's recommendations nearly ten years ago that domestic violence fatality reviews be established in New York State at the local level, this research has found that *the large majority of the counties in New York State (74%) do not have an active domestic violence serious incident/fatality review*. Several obstacles have interfered with the establishment of these reviews: lack of interagency cooperation, lack of administrative support and organization, lack of funds, lack of training, and a few have struggled with concerns about confidentiality.

On the other hand, while most counties in New York State do not have active reviews, about one-fourth of the counties do have active reviews. Furthermore, respondents from counties with reviews stated that reviews have been very useful in identifying areas that need improvement, increasing education and awareness in the community, improving victim services, and in general, improving public safety. These benefits remained even though review efforts sometimes struggled with administrative problems such as staff turn-over, or organizational and resource issues. These experiences of New York State domestic violence-related professionals mirror those of participants of fatality review teams across the country.⁽¹²⁾

Another important finding from this research is that there are a variety of serious incident/fatality review models or processes currently operating in New York State. Some reviews were being overseen by the county's task force; others were somewhat disconnected from the task force or were being overseen by a single agency. Some had written policies or were based on local laws; most were not. Some included family members or witnesses, but most did not. Some reviews involved detailed case file analyses, and the sharing of information between agencies, while others only examined aggregate data. Some communities only reviewed fatal incidents, but most reviewed all serious injury incidents. A few reviews published their recommendations in a report, but most did not. Again, these findings mirror the various types of reviews that have developed nationally.⁽¹³⁾

However, given these variations, there is very little research strongly supporting one approach over another in terms of which review is most effective or comprehensive.

Differences in models of review raise two other important issues revealed by findings from this study. The first issue relates to a community's theoretical view about the importance of serious incident/fatality reviews. Although only reported by a few respondents, one concern was that reviews might "take away from" the equally important, larger volume of domestic violence cases that occur in a community. In response to this issue, some counties have chosen to either review no cases or to review all cases. However, while seemingly achieving equity, it is unclear whether this "all or nothing" approach is more beneficial to a community in terms of identifying system gaps and developing recommendations for improvement.

A second issue related to models of review pertains to a community's ability to distinguish between "case response review" and "service system review." Many respondents reported that their agency has a proactive domestic violence policy or that all cases are "reviewed" (and therefore, no serious incident review initiative is needed). These respondents may have been actually referring to individual case management response initiatives, instead of a fatality review initiative that focuses on identifying and addressing system gaps. Distinguishing between these two types of reviews may be an important area to include in training programs geared towards domestic violence related professionals.

This study also found that respondents from counties with reviews seemed to indicate a sort of synergy in review counties versus non-review counties. For example, respondents from counties with serious incident or fatality reviews tended to rate their task forces as more effective than counties without reviews, and respondents from these communities were generally more likely to be interested in being part of an informational LISTSERV on reviews. These counties seemed to reveal contagious enthusiasm and activity that was reciprocated by the interdisciplinary agencies involved on their task force.⁽¹⁴⁾ This finding raises an important consideration about fatality reviews.

While the nascent state of research has not indicated either the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of reviews in terms of preventing serious incidents or improving system response to domestic violence, reviews do seem to sustain community energies dedicated to domestic violence, and energize communities to enhance their response to domestic violence.

Survey responses also suggest that domestic violence task forces, whether or not they were rated effective, appear to be the perceived building block or stepping stone to serious incident/fatality reviews. For example, of respondents in counties without reviews, those with an active task force were significantly more likely to want a serious incident or fatality review than respondents from counties without task forces. Secondly, several of the respondents from counties without reviews said they were first trying to establish or "breathe life into" their domestic violence task force before they initiated new projects. Clearly, even beyond important theoretical reasons, a perceived critical ingredient to the formation and sustainability of any model of serious incident or fatality review is a connection to an active domestic violence task force.

This finding raises an important reminder and challenge to state policy makers: "Given the importance of the local domestic violence task force in a community's response to domestic violence and its potential to serve as a foundation for incident/fatality reviews, what can the State and counties do to breathe life into these task forces?" This survey found that in 2006, although the large majority of New York State counties did have an active domestic violence task force, several of the respondents from counties with a task force said that they were still struggling with increasing the effectiveness of their task force. While counties in New York State have made substantial progress since the passage of the mandatory arrest policy in 1994,⁽¹⁵⁾ maintaining the momentum of these sweeping changes, and dedicating time and resources to a community's continued response to domestic violence remains an important task at hand. This task becomes even more difficult given today's environment of dwindling federal funds.⁽¹⁶⁾

Future Initiatives

The findings from this research provide a basis from which New York State policy makers can explore new initiatives. Three main policy questions emerge from these findings. The first question state policy makers must address is, "Should New York State increase its commitment to the development of domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews?"



Although few reviews have developed since the Commission's report ten years ago, law enforcement professionals and domestic violence service providers currently engaged in reviews in New York State report that reviews have substantial value for their community. Furthermore, the large majority of counties without reviews in New York State have one or more domestic violence-related professionals who have expressed their desire to bring review initiatives to their community. Advocates across the country are also identifying reviews as critically important ventures for a community's response to domestic violence,⁽¹⁷⁾ and in fact, the United States Department of Justice funds the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative (NDVFRI) which provides training and technical assistance to domestic violence fatality reviews nation-wide.⁽¹⁸⁾ There is also precedent for fatality reviews in New York State, since several other state agencies are currently engaged in similar review processes,⁽¹⁹⁾ although they are applied to different populations. At the same time, the development of reviews in local communities in New York State must be thoughtfully and strategically implemented, given their potential, (as we have seen from a few respondents in this study), to compromise rapport between agencies which many communities have taken years to build.

Should New York State choose to increase its commitment to building domestic violence review initiatives, the second question that state policy makers must address is, "Which process or model of serious incident/fatality review should be recommended for coun-



ties in New York State?” This is a much more difficult question to answer. Because of the dearth of research on the various models of domestic violence serious incident/fatality review that are being implemented across the country, little is known about the effectiveness of various structures of review or how to sustain them. While not supporting one particular model of fatality review, the NDVFRI offers advice on important tools for fatality reviews which include for example, beginning with multi-agency membership, adopting a “no blame, no shame” ethos, outlining the decision making criteria for case selection and review, developing confidentiality agreements addressing disclosure of information between the agencies, and developing guidelines for interviews with family members of the victim should a fatality review team choose to include them in the review process.⁽²⁰⁾ Many domestic violence fatality review teams conceive fatality reviews as intensive, case file analysis.⁽²¹⁾ However, one issue raised in this study that needs to be addressed is the fact that many local communities are already hard pressed for time and resources. Therefore, when determining a best model for serious incident/fatality review in New York State, policy makers must take into consideration that most communities are beginning from a place with limited resources.

For this reason, county or state-level policy makers should consider the various models of review and determine which current models or new alternative models might offer the best hope for a comprehensive and efficient review process in a community. Clearly, implementing a review after a case is closed requires additional time and energy from a team, and diving back into a case, pouring through many case file records is also a time and resource-laden activity. Perhaps, a potential alternative model for serious incident/fatality review should include a protocol that is already a part of the natural rhythm of the criminal justice process. Consider the fact that counties spend tens of thousands of dollars in the investigation and prosecution of felony cases. Countless hours are spent with victims and/or their families and witnesses. If the professionals involved with these investigations were trained and given the tools to gather important review-related information on

system response, that information could be reported back to local task forces, and perhaps, communities would not have to initiate a secondary serious incident/review process (post-prosecution). For example, if the district attorney’s office (or police department) had a guideline or checklist of safety audit⁽²²⁾/system service questions that could (respectfully) be asked of the victim and/or the victim’s family (or gleaned from case file review) during the course of the investigation, then the information gleaned from these interviews could be shared with the county task force on a routine basis.^(23,24)

By integrating the system audit into the routine work of prosecutors and others serving the needs of victims of domestic violence, rich and detailed information on system response could be collected without expending a great deal of extra resources. Such integrated reviews, at a minimum might seek to address the following questions: “*What experiences did this victim have with agencies in the community? In what ways were these agencies helpful? In what ways were these agencies not helpful? What were the biggest obstacles this victim faced in escaping the violence? Can any of these obstacles be tackled by existent service systems, or is it possible that new service systems should be created (for the benefit of future victims)? Which priority areas can best be addressed by the task force?*” Since our research found that few review participants had received training, structured protocols might help to ensure that reviews are equally comprehensive in every county. In fact, if all domestic violence-related agencies regularly monitored the community’s response to domestic violence as a part of the natural rhythm of their work with victims, each agency might be more likely to develop an institutional mindset of system accountability.

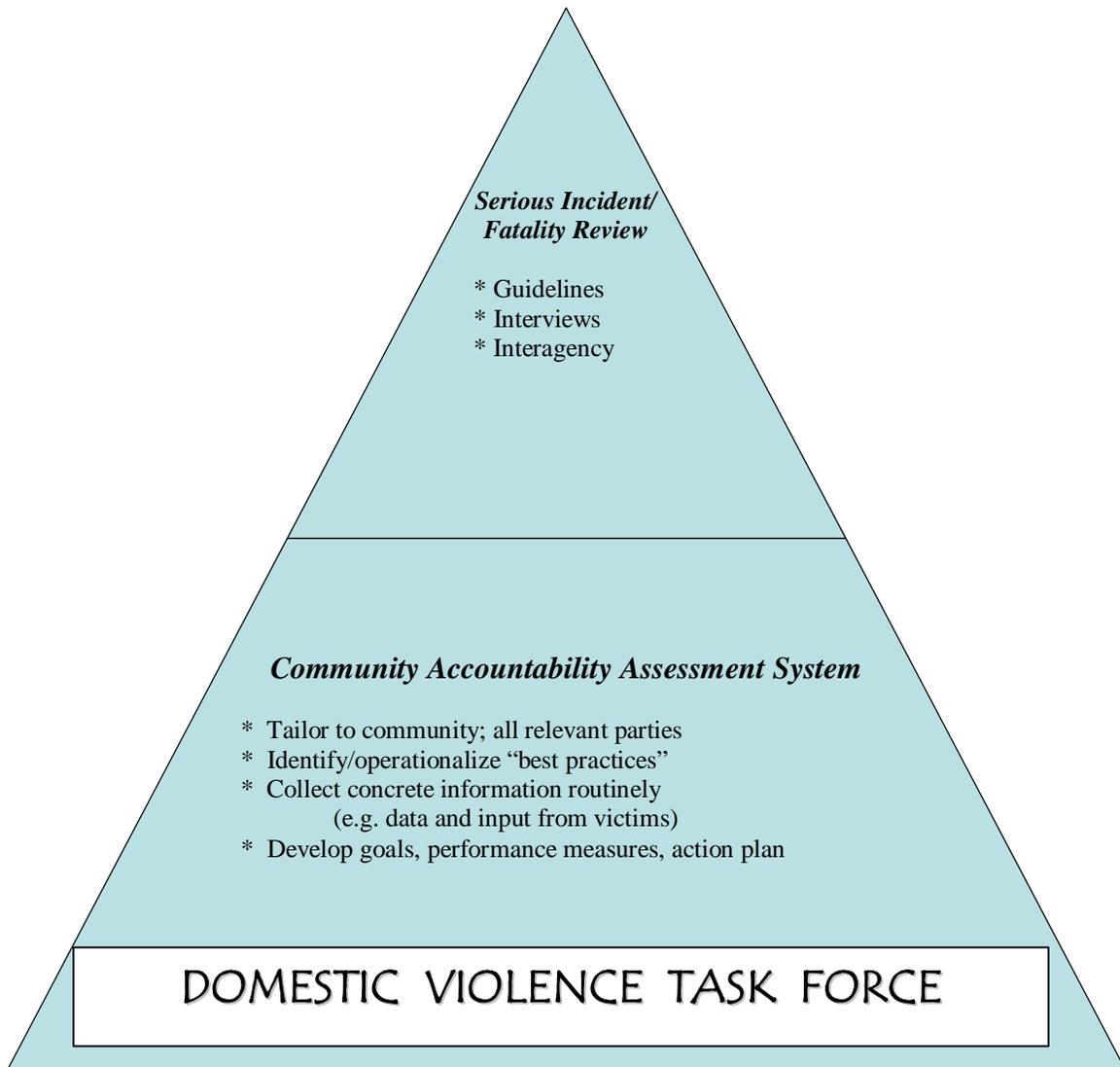
Naturally, an integrated approach to serious case review would require a huge paradigm shift at the local level. However, it could probably be accomplished with few additional resources, since it involves information gathering at a stage when information is already being gathered by a responding system (e.g. criminal justice system, medical examiner review). Furthermore, an integrated approach might yield some additional benefits. First, it would be feasible for smaller

communities whose professionals may often feel that reviews are not necessary because there are too few cases, or who forward most or all of their domestic violence cases to the county sheriff’s department or to the State Police. These communities may be more likely to initiate a well-planned review process if a second (post-case) initiative was not required, and professionals from these communities may even decide that a guidelines approach could be applied to a broader category of cases, since serious injury cases are so much less prevalent in their community. Second, because larger communities have such higher volume, they may find that instituting a parallel review process to the prosecutorial investigative process (or to the social service process) may be less onerous than initiating a secondary review process after a case is closed.

Finally, any approach to serious incident/fatality review would benefit from including a blend of quantitative data (sometimes referred to as aggregate data), as well as qualitative data (e.g. interviews). Quantitative data has a wealth of information to offer communities. Consider for example the following pieces of “performance indicator” information: the length of time it takes for police to respond to a domestic call; the rate by which domestic violence offenders are arrested and removed from the scene; the dispositional outcome of a case; the rate by which stay away orders are secured for victims; and the availability of shelter or financial assistance. Those in the field know that any one of these events could possibly make or break a victim’s ability to escape the violence. However, each community’s ability to collect, aggregate and decipher performance indicator information will vary. Nevertheless, the quantitative data can be useful for the bigger picture on service system response, and quantitative data can help contextualize the few serious or fatal incidents that might be “investigated” in a community’s review process.⁽²⁵⁾ Certainly, state policy makers and local domestic violence professionals may want to dialogue further on how access to important performance indicator information could be facilitated.

While discussing models of serious incident/fatality review is worthwhile, there is however, a bigger question that underlies the dialogue on domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews:

Figure 4 Diagram of a Comprehensive Community-Wide Accountability Assessment Structure



“What is the best approach that communities can apply to monitor and maximize their response to domestic violence?” That is to say, what is the ultimate accountability assessment structure that communities can implement? After all, this is the main reason why fatality reviews have been developed, and certainly, every community needs some sort of accountability structure. However, while serious incident/fatality reviews are



one type of accountability system (and are generally liked by those involved), they have several drawbacks. First, serious incident/fatality reviews are reactive, not proactive because they identify problems after they occur, which may lead to defensiveness by service providers. Second, serious incident/fatality reviews may miss common problems that occur in cases that do not result in serious injury or death. Third, serious incident/fatality reviews may provide a distorted picture of why fatalities occur. That is to say, only re-

viewing serious injury or fatal incidents may lead to identification of system gaps that are important to identify, but (a) could be identified without waiting for someone to die and without going through the expense of a fatality review and (b) may be causally unrelated to the death. For example, a suspect may be a repeat offender and a court may have failed to issue an order of protection; however, in the end analysis, these failures may not have mattered in terms of their ability to prevent injury. Therefore, if the only

value of a fatality review is to identify system problems, then other mechanisms of review may work just as well. Serious incident/fatality reviews are only superior if they provide unique information that will actually reduce fatalities, and/or if they are able to identify system gaps that would otherwise not have been identified.

To address these concerns, it seems reasonable to suggest that a starting point for communities is to begin with a larger plan for a community-wide *accountability assessment structure*. There are several critical features of such a structure (refer to the visual presented in *Figure 4*). First, an accountability assessment structure should be tailored to the community, bringing all relevant parties together. In essence, the foundation of such a structure should be the community's domestic violence task force. Second, these parties must identify and operationalize measurements of "best practices." Third, the team must be able to develop clear goals, performance measures, time tables and an action plan.⁽²⁶⁾ Fourth, an accountability assessment structure should collect concrete information to inform decision making, ensuring that the most critical measures are routinely available in an auto-

mated fashion so that they can be produced for the assessment team on a routine basis. This information should include whenever possible, input from domestic violence victims. Finally, the accountability assessment structure could include a review of "failures," that is, cases that resulted in serious injury or death, to investigate whether something was missed. In this light, serious incident/fatality review initiatives could be viewed as the "tip of the iceberg," and/or could be used to collect more detailed information about service system response that could not be accessed at the broader level due to resource constraints.

Since 1989, available data indicates that there have been at least 1,470 domestic violence partner-related homicides in New York State.⁽²⁷⁾ Furthermore, nearly 80% of the identified partner-related homicide victims in New York State have been women. These statistics alone are persuasive enough to encourage New York State to more systematically consider the development of domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews, and perhaps more importantly, how they fit in with a broader, community accountability assessment structure. At a mini-

um, this consideration should include ways the state can assist local community coordinated coalitions as they attempt to create, strengthen and sustain their task forces. This consideration should also include efforts to ensure that reviews do not unduly burden law enforcement, service and advocacy response systems, and that the review processes are intricately *connected to* coordinated initiatives at the local level. Finally, consideration of serious incident/fatality reviews must give precedence to respecting the privacy, confidentiality, and dignity of the victims and their families, most of whom will be grieving the loss of life or quality of life for many years.

Responding to domestic violence takes community collaboration, stamina and persistence. Law enforcement, advocacy and other service systems in New York State are ripe to address it. It is important that the state find ways to facilitate this continued dialogue.



ENDNOTES

- (1) "Commission on Domestic Violence Fatalities: Report to the Governor," by the Governor George E. Pataki Commission on Domestic Violence Fatalities, October 1997.
- (2) See for example, "Reviewing Domestic Violence Deaths," by Neil Websdale, *National Institute of Justice Journal*, Issue No. 250, November 2003, NCJ 196549.
- (3) Surveys were sent to 62 district attorney offices, 673 police departments and 102 domestic violence service providers. Responses were gathered from 45% of the domestic violence service providers, 37% of the district attorney offices and 20% of the police departments. In two of the counties, the main domestic violence service providers were located within the county department of social services.
- (4) New York State has several categories of law enforcement officers. Three main categories are (1) city, town and village police; (2) the Sheriff's Office and (3) the New York State Police (NYSP). Each group has different jurisdictions and is overseen at different governmental levels. City, town and village police are overseen by local government and their jurisdiction is usually confined to the city/town/village limits (see *Criminal Procedure Law, Section 1.20(34)*). The Sheriff's Office is a county level agency (except in New York City, which has one Sheriff for the five boroughs) (see *County Law, Article 17; Correction Law, Article 20; NYC Administrative Code, Title 7, Chapter 5*). Each Sheriff outside New York City serves as conservator of the peace within the county, maintains the county jail, and sometimes provides court security. The NYSP is operated by state government, and its patrols are generally restricted to areas outside city limits (see *Executive Law, section 223*).
- (5) In our sample, when there was more than one respondent from a county, there was generally, congruity in the responses, for most of the questions. If there was not congruity, and at least one county-level respondent expressed a desire or need for a fatality review, then that is the response that was chosen to represent the county. The reason we chose this analytic approach is because we wanted to identify counties in which there was at least one key professional who expressed interest in starting a domestic violence serious incident/fatality review. Therefore, when interpreting the county-level tables, the reader should keep in mind that county-level summarized responses do not necessarily represent the opinions of all domestic violence service professionals in that particular county.
- (6) For example, in 2005, New York City

passed a law to institute an aggregate data fatality review committee for all domestic homicides (*New York City Charter, Local Law, Int. No. 366-A*). This effort, facilitated by the New York City's Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, involves an examination of New York City domestic violence homicides. There is also a comparable effort to review domestic violence fatalities within the New York City Police Department (NYPD), as well as a follow-up program for a proportion of several precinct's domestic violence incidents (based on personal conversation with NYPD, May 2006). Rensselaer County also had two police departments which conducted "reviews;" only one of these departments was connected with the local domestic violence service provider.

- (7) A child advocacy center is a community's multidisciplinary response to child victims of sexual assault or serious physical abuse. The goal of child advocacy centers is to improve the response and management of child abuse cases. (See *Social Services Law, section 423-a*, for more information.
- (8) One issue possibly confounding the answers to this survey question is the fact that we did not define the purpose of a serious incident/fatality review (and intentionally so). For example, several professionals we interviewed stated that they did not think their county should have a review because there is no information they could glean from a review that could accurately predict which cases would end in homicide and which would not. However, when we explained that reviews are primarily done to determine the effectiveness of the system's response to domestic violence, they said in that light, a review might be very useful for their community. Thus, given this information, if we had outlined the purpose of serious incident/fatality reviews, it is possible that more respondents would have stated that they would be interested in having a review started in their community.
- (9) Domestic Incident Reports (DIR) are standardized New York State forms

that must be completed by police departments when responding to any alleged incident of domestic violence (see *Criminal Procedure Law, Section 140.10(5)*). While the practice of sharing information on DIRs with other non-law enforcement agencies is a practice that is not specifically addressed statutorily, many law enforcement agencies across the state do share DIR information with service providers. Some do so with verbal or written consent from the victim; others do not.

- (10) DART programs traditionally, are multi-agency approaches designed to prioritize victims safety and offender accountability. The main goal of a DART program is to enhance a community's response to domestic violence. Usually, these programs are started with seed money and/or federal funding in local communities (see for example, "*The Clinton Domestic Abuse Reduction Team (DART): August 1999- Clinton County, NY*," by Margaret Marcus Hal, 2000, Institute for Law and Justice, Alexandria, Virginia). Based on this research, three counties were found to have DART programs: Dutchess, Steuben and Wyoming. However, based on our field work and published reports (cited above), Clinton County also had a DART program at one time, and several other communities have started DART-like initiatives (e.g. New York City Police Department).
- (11) Also, although the sub-sample size was too small to examine statistical significance, counties with defunct domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews had a substantially lower task force effectiveness rating than counties with current reviews or than counties who had never attempted a review initiative.
- (12) See for example, "*Reviewing Domestic Violence Fatalities: Summarizing National Developments*," by Neil Websdale, Maureen Sheeran and Byron Johnson, *Reno, NV: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, October 1998*.
- (13) Refer to a state matrix of reviews provided by the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative website, (www.ndvfri.org) or the arti-

cle by Websdale (2003), cited in footnote #2.

- (14) Similar findings have been reported elsewhere. For example, the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative (NDVFRI) website reports that communities have felt that reviews help to revitalize community coordination, and that participation on reviews provide a new focus for inter-agency liaison work and communication (www.ndvfri.org/questions/bgs.html 9-26-05).
- (15) See the *Family Protection and Domestic Violence Intervention Act of 1994, Chapter 396 of the Laws of 1994*.
- (16) Refer to the "*Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriations Fact Sheet on the Violence Against Women Act and Victims of Crime Act Fund*," by the National Network to End Domestic Violence.
- (17) See for example, the report by the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, "*Advocates and Fatality Reviews*," by Margaret Hobart, June, 2004.
- (18) Refer to the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative website, at www.ndvfri.org.
- (19) New York State has at least three other examples of fatality reviews: child fatality reviews overseen by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), occupational fatality reviews overseen by the New York State Department of Health (DOH), and reviews of inmate deaths, investigated by the New York State Commission of Corrections (COC). Each of these initiatives differ in terms of the involvement they have from local agencies and state-level personnel. As such, these processes could be informative to the discussion on the development of domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews in New York State. (For more information on investigations of child fatalities, see *sections 17(d) and 20(5) of the Social Services Law* for duties of OCFS. For information on the development of local and regional fatality review teams, see *section 422-b of the Social Services Law, section 17-191 of the New York City Administrative Code* outlines the responsibilities of the child fatality review advisory team

in New York City. For information on DOH fatality review initiatives, refer to the Census of Fatality Occupational Injury (CFOI) program, and the Fatal and Control Evaluation (FACE) program, via the agency's website www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/environ/cfoi/contents.htm. For information on COC's responsibilities for investigating inmate deaths, see *section 47 of the Corrections Law.*)

- (20) Refer to the NDVFRI website (www.ndvfri.org).
- (21) Refer to the published state reports on the NDVFRI website (www.ndvfri.org).
- (22) A domestic violence safety audit is a tool for evaluating an agency's response to domestic violence. By investigating data sources, written policies or protocols, and conducting observations and interviews, a safety audit can assist jurisdictions with identifying victim safety and offender accountability concerns. For more information, refer to "*The Duluth Safety and Accountability Audit: A Guide to Assessing Institutional Responses to Domestic Violence*," by Ellen Pence and Kristine Lizdas, Minnesota Program Development, Inc. (MPDI), 1998. Following national trends, New York State has already been engaged in and supportive of communities conducting domestic violence safety audits (e.g. refer to "*Safety and Accountability Audit Report: Domestic Violence Case Information Sharing Between Law Enforcement and Prosecution*," by the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, June 2004.
- (23) Since this type of safety audit interview would be occurring during case prosecution, other issues that would have to be addressed are (1) whether or not the safety review information gleaned from interviews would be vulnerable to discovery, and (2) what consequences to the case would exist if the information was vulnerable to discovery. If it is determined that these consequences could possibly interfere with case prosecution or safety of the victim or witnesses, then serious incident/ fatality review inter-

views should of course, only be done after case closure.

- (24) The idea of developing a guidelines approach is not completely new, as other state fatality review processes have attempted to develop some standardized approaches to collecting service system response information. However, these approaches usually involve a secondary fatality review process initiated by a fatality review team. (See for example, the "*Case Cover Sheet*" of the Maine Domestic Abuse Homicide Review Panel, published in "*Til Death Do Us Part: Domestic Violence Homicides in Maine*," January 2004, by the Maine Domestic Abuse Homicide Review Panel; or the Fresno County, California "Data Collection Form;" or the Contra Costa County Domestic Violence Death Review Team "Data Collection Form." State by state reviews are presented on the NDVFRI website (www.ndvfri.org))
- (25) Contextualizing a case, or understanding how a case fits in with other cases in a community, is important on a number of levels. First, it could influence findings, recommendations and discussions with target agencies. For example, if a review team finds that an offender, who was on-scene when the officer arrived, was not arrested for a criminal act, and the victim was shortly thereafter murdered, a team might conclude that the police department is not arresting frequently when this may not necessarily be the case. It may be that the police department already has a very high arrest rate and a strong pro-arrest policy. It could be that the case did not rise to the level of a mandatory arrest incident, and the victim affirmatively expressed her desire for no arrest. By juxtaposing the quantitative data with the qualitative data, the fatality review team may be cued to delve more deeply into the case, to determine if there are other important recommendations that should be made.
- (26) In fact, New York State has already provided communities with many ideas for clear goals and performance measures in the report, "*Model Domestic Violence Policy for Counties*," by the New York State Office for the

Prevention of Domestic Violence, January 1998.

- (27) Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) data analysis, by the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, Bureau of Justice Research and Innovation. However, victim-offender relationship information for New York City cases was missing approximately 70% of the time. Therefore, this figure is most likely an underestimate.

APPENDIX A

Domestic Violence Serious Incident and Fatality Review Survey

The NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services would like to learn more about how communities in New York State are organized in their response to domestic violence. This information will help us plan for new initiatives in the state, including policy and program development, funding opportunities, training initiatives and technical assistance. Would you please take a few minutes to answer the following questions and return the survey to the address below by April 21, 2006. If you would like more information about this inquiry, or if you would like to e-mail your responses, please use the following contact information:

Deborah J. Chard-Wierschem, Ph.D, Director, Domestic Violence Research Unit
Bureau of Justice Research and Innovation (518) 457-0423
NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services dchard@dcjs.state.ny.us
4 Tower Place, Stuyvesant Plaza
Albany, New York 12203

Your Name: Phone:
Agency: E-Mail:
Address: City/State/Zip:

Your Job Title:
1. Attorney
2. Law Enforcement
3. Advocate
4. Other:

- (1) (a) Has any domestic violence-related task force, committee, agency, or other group from your community ever engaged in a serious incident or fatality review of domestic violence incidents?
(b) Is this domestic violence serious incident or fatality review initiative still on-going, and available for reviews?
(c) Please explain why your community's domestic violence serious incident/fatality review initiative is no longer on-going.
(SKIP TO QUESTION (1f))
(d) In your opinion, should your community start a serious incident / fatality review for incidents of domestic violence?
Why or Why not?
(e) What would be needed to start an effective serious incident/fatality review?
(SKIP TO QUESTION 12)

- (1)(f) Please list the agency participants and facilitators of your community's domestic violence serious incident or fatality review (even if it is no longer on-going):
Agencies
Facilitator(s)
Name: Agency:
Phone: Address:
E-Mail: City/Zip:
Name: Agency:
Phone: Address:
E-Mail: City/Zip:
(g) What is (or was) the name of your serious incident/fatality review effort?
(2) What does (or did) your domestic violence serious incident/fatality review team investigate?
1. Fatal Incidents Only
2. Serious (non-fatal) Incidents
3. Both
(3) (a) Did any of the participants on your domestic violence serious incident/fatality review initiative receive training?
(b) What type of training?
(c) Was it useful?
(4) Are there (or were there) any written policies, protocols or guidelines (or guidance) for domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews in your community?
(5) Please briefly describe what factors determine (or determined) if a domestic violence serious incident or fatality review is (or was) conducted (e.g. level of injury, nature of relationship). Note which agency professional(s) make (or made) the decision to review a case.

- (6) Please briefly describe the domestic violence serious incident/fatality review process in your community.
(7) (a) Are (or were) family members of a homicide victim notified about the fatality review process?
(b) Are (or were) family members of a homicide victim interviewed?
(c) Are (or were) family members of a homicide victim invited to otherwise participate in the fatality review process?
Please Explain.
(8) How are (or were) recommendations from your domestic violence serious incident/fatality review disseminated (e.g. discussed at meetings, published)?
(9) In what ways have domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews in your community been helpful?
(10) What have been your community's biggest challenges with regards to implementing domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews?
(11) What would be most helpful to your community for improving serious incident/fatality reviews?
(12) Would you be interested in being a part of a NYS local community listserv on domestic violence serious incident/fatality reviews if one were developed?

- (13) (a) Has any professional or team from your community ever engaged in child fatality reviews?
(b) IF YES: What person(s) and/or agencies have been involved with child fatality reviews?
(14) (a) Has your community ever had a domestic violence task force, coalition or response team in which professionals from different disciplines participate?
(b) What is (or was) the name of your task force?
(c) Which agencies participate(d) on this task force?
(d) Is this domestic violence task force still on-going?
IF NO, please explain why your task force is no longer on-going (then SKIP to END).
(e) Who facilitates your domestic violence task force meetings?
(f) On a scale of 1 to 5, how effective do you feel your current domestic violence task force is in addressing domestic violence in your community?
Please explain.
(Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

Thank you so much for your time.

For more information on crime and criminal justice,
visit the
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services website
at
criminaljustice.state.ny.us



New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
Bureau of Justice Research and Innovation
Stuyvesant Plaza, 4 Tower Place (8th Floor)
Albany, New York 12203-3724

APPENDIX H

NYS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS LISTED BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Anqing

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

American Sign Language

County: Cortland
Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
Hotline: (800) 336-9622
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Hotline: (212) 533-4358
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (212) 533-4358

County: New York
Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
Hotline: (646) 996-9448
Hotline Hours: 6pm-10pm M-F, 12-10pm S/S
Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: Queens
Program: Transition Center
Hotline: (718) 520-8045
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

American Sign Language cont.

County: Suffolk
Program: Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk
Hotline: (631) 360-3606
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (631) 360-3607
TTY Number: (631) 360-3606

County: Westchester
Program: My Sisters' Place
Hotline: (800) 298-SAFE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (914) 969-1355

Arabic

County: New York
Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
Hotline: (646) 996-9448
Hotline Hours: 6-10pm M-F, 12-10pm S/S
Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: Westchester
Program: My Sisters' Place
Hotline: (800) 298-SAFE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (914) 969-1355

Bengali

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Bengali cont.

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Bosnian

County: Cortland
Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
Hotline: (800) 336-9622
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
TTY Number:

Bulgarian

County: Niagara
Program: YWCA of the Tonawandas
Hotline: (716) 692-5643
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Cambodian

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Cantonese

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Cantonese cont.

County: New York
Program: NYANA Center for Women and Families
Hotline: (888) 242-5838
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Chinese

County: Cortland
Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
Hotline: (800) 336-9622
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
TTY Number:

County: Monroe
Program: Elder Abuse Prevention@LIFESPAN
Hotline: (800) 454-5030
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Creole, see also French, French Creole, Patois

County: Kings
Program: La Familia
Hotline: (718) 287-2657
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (718) 443-3928
TTY Number:

Creole cont.

County: Kings
Program: New Hope Emergency Shelter
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (800) 787-3224
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Kings
Program: Center Against Domestic Violence
Hotline: (718) 439-1000
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Hotline: (212) 533-4358
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
TTY Number: (212) 533-4358

County: New York
Program: Henry Street Settlement
Hotline: (212) 577-7777
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Program: Rockland Family Shelter
Hotline: (845) 634-3344
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (877) 634-3179

Dutch

County: Erie
Program: Haven House
Hotline: (716) 884-6000
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Farsi

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

French, see also Creole, French Creole, Patois

County: Bronx
Program: New Day III
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (718) 617-8762
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Bronx
Program: Safe Horizon-Community Programs
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

French cont.

County: Hamilton
Program: Hamilton County DV Services
Hotline: (800) 721-8534
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Center Against Domestic Violence
Hotline: (718) 439-1000
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

French cont.

County: Kings
Program: La Familia
Hotline: (718) 287-2657
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (718) 443-3928
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Hotline: (212) 533-4358
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (212) 533-4358

County: New York
Program: Henry Street Settlement
Hotline: (212) 577-7777
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

French cont.

County: New York
Program: NYANA Center for Women and Families
Hotline: (888) 242-5838
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
Hotline: (646) 996-9448
Hotline Hours: 6-10pm M-F, 12-10pm S/S
Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: New York
Program: Urban Women's Retreat
Hotline: (212) 690-6490
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Rockland
Program: Rockland Family Shelter
Hotline: (845) 634-3344
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (877) 634-3179

French Creole see also Creole, French, Patois

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Fujinese

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

German

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Greek

County: Suffolk
Program: Suffolk County CADV, Inc.
Hotline: (631) 666-8833
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (631) 233-3626

Gujarati

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Gujarati cont.

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Hebrew

County: Kings
 Program: Ohel Children Home & Family Services
 Hotline: (800) 603-6435
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: Rockland
 Program: Rockland Family Shelter
 Hotline: (845) 634-3344
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (877) 634-3179

Hindi

County: New York
 Program: New York Asian Women's Center
 Hotline: (888) 888-7702
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Hindi cont.

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: Queens
 Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic
 Violence Proj.
 Hotline: (718) 657-0424
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Italian

County: Queens
 Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic
 Violence Proj.
 Hotline: (718) 657-0424
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: Suffolk
 Program: Suffolk County CADV, Inc.
 Hotline: (631) 666-8833
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (631) 233-3626

County: Hamilton
 Program: Hamilton County Domestic Violence
 Services
 Hotline: (800) 721-8534
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Italian cont.

County: New York
 Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
 Hotline: (212) 533-4358
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (212) 533-4358

County: New York
 Program: NYANA Center for Women & Families
 Hotline: (888) 242-5838
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
 Hotline: (646) 996-9448
 Hotline Hours: 6-10pm M-F 12-10pm S/S
 Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
 TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: Westchester
 Program: My Sisters' Place
 Hotline: (800) 298-SAFE
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (914) 969-1355



New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Japanese

County: New York
 Program: New York Asian Women's Center
 Hotline: (888) 888-7702
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: Westchester
 Program: My Sisters' Place
 Hotline: (800) 298-SAFE
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (914) 969-1355

Korean

County: New York
 Program: New York Asian Women's Center
 Hotline: (888) 888-7702
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Korean cont.

County: Queens
 Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic Violence Proj.
 Hotline: (718) 657-0424
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Language Line

County: Rensselaer
 Program: Unity House: Emergency Services
 Hotline: (518) 272-2370
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (800) 818-0656

County: Suffolk
 Program: Suffolk County CADV, Inc.
 Hotline: (631) 666-8833
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number: (631) 233-3626

Mandarin

County: Cortland
 Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
 Hotline: (800) 336-9622
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: New York Asian Women's Center
 Hotline: (888) 888-7702
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Mandarin cont.

County: New York
 Program: NYANA Center for Women and Families
 Hotline: (888) 242-5838
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: New York
 Program: Sanctuary for Families
 Hotline: (212) 349-6009
 Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

Patois also see Creole, French, French Creole,

County: Cortland
 Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
 Hotline: (800) 336-9622
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
 TTY Number:

Polish

County: Hamilton
 Program: Hamilton County Domestic Violence Services
 Hotline: (800) 721-8534
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

County: Kings
 Program: Center Against Domestic Violence
 Hotline: (718) 439-1000
 Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
 Alternate Hotline:
 TTY Number:

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Polish cont.

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Otsego
Program: Violence Intervention Program
Hotline: (607) 432-4855
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (607) 433-8031

Portuguese

County: Albany
Program: Equinox Domestic Violence Services
Hotline: (518) 432-7865
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Westchester
Program: My Sisters' Place
Hotline: (800) 298-SAFE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (914) 969-1355

Punjabi

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Otsego
Program: Violence Intervention Program
Hotline: (607) 432-4855
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (607) 433-8031

Romanian

County: New York
Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Hotline: (212) 533-4358
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (212) 533-4358

County: Queens
Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic Violence Proj.
Hotline: (718) 657-0424
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Russian

County: Monroe
Program: Elder Abuse Prevention Program @LIFESPAN
Hotline: (800) 454-5030
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: NYANA Center for Women and Families
Hotline: (888) 242-5838
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
Hotline: (646) 996-9448
Hotline Hours: 6-10p M-F, 12-10p S/S
Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: Richmond
Program: Safe Horizon, Staten Island Community Prg.
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 227-3000
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

NYSCADV

24-Hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotlines: English: (800) 942-6906 TTY: (800) 818-0656 Spanish: (800) 942-6908 TTY: (800) 780-7660
 Office: (518) 482-5465 Fax: (518) 482-3807 Email: nyscadv@nyscadv.org Website: www.nyscadv.org

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Spanish

County: Albany
Program: Equinox Domestic Violence Services
Hotline: (518) 432-7865
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Bronx
Program: New Day I/II
Hotline: (800) 621-4673
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (718) 817-8762
TTY Number:

County: Bronx
Program: Safe Horizon-Community Program
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Bronx
Program: Safe Horizon-Willow House Shelter
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Bronx
Program: Violence Intervention Prg./BX
Compañeras
Hotline: (800) 664-5880
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Bronx
Program: Violence Intervention Prg./Morvivi
Hotline: (800) 664-5880
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Broome
Program: SOS Shelter
Hotline: (877) 754-4340
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 754-4340
TTY Number: (607) 748-7453

County: Chautauqua
Program: Anew Center The Salvation Army
Hotline: (800) 252-8748
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (716) 661-3897
TTY Number:

County: Cortland
Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
Hotline: (800) 336-9622
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
TTY Number:

County: Greene
Program: Columbia-Greene DV Prg.
Hotline: (518) 943-9211
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Dutchess
Program: Battered Women's Services of Family
Services Inc.
Hotline: (845) 485-5550
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Dutchess
Program: Grace Smith House
Hotline: (845) 471-3033
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (518) 789-6977
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Erie
Program: BE SAFE/ Domestic Violence Bureau
Dist. Atty
Hotline: (716) 858-4630
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Erie
Program: Crisis Services Advocate Program
Hotline: (716) 834-3131
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (716) 834-3131

County: Erie
Program: Haven House
Hotline: (716) 884-6000
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Erie
Program: Hispanics United of Buffalo
Hotline: (716) 481-8867
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Fulton
Program: The Family Counseling Center of
Fulton County
Hotline: (518) 725-5300
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Greene
Program: Columbia-Greene DV Prg.
Hotline: (518) 943-9211
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

NYSCADV

24-Hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotlines: English: (800) 942-6906 TTY: (800) 818-0656 Spanish: (800) 942-6908 TTY: (800) 780-7660
 Office: (518) 482-5465 Fax: (518) 482-3807 Email: nyscadv@nyscadv.org Website: www.nyscadv.org

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Spanish, cont.

County: Hamilton
Program: Hamilton County Domestic Violence Services
Hotline: (800) 721-8534
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Bklyn Comm Prg-Safe Horizon
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Kings
Program: Center Against Domestic Violence
Hotline: (718) 439-1000
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: CONNECT
Hotline: (212) 683-0605
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Domestic Violence Project/Urban Justice Ctr.
Hotline: (718) 875-5062
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Food First Family Project
Hotline: (718) 443-3928
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Kings
Program: HELP R.O.A.D.S.
Hotline: (718) 922-7980
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Horizons
Hotline: (212) 262-7655
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: La Familia
Hotline: (718) 287-2657
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: New Hope Emergency Shelter
Hotline: (800) 621-4673
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Kings
Program: Park Slope Safe Homes Project
Hotline: (718) 499-2151
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F, 9-8 W
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Kings
Program: Urban Women's Safe Haven/URI
Hotline: (718) 421-4035
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Monroe
Program: Elder Abuse Prevention Program@LIFESPAN
Hotline: (800) 454-5030
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Monroe
Program: Alternatives for Battered Women
Hotline: (585) 232-7353
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (585) 232-1741

County: Montgomery
Program: Domestic Violence Services and CVS/CCMC
Hotline: (800) 721-2173
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (518) 842-3384
TTY Number:

County: Nassau
Program: Circulo de la Hispanidad, Inc. / Salva DV Prog
Hotline: (516) 889-2849
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Nassau
Program: Nassau County CADV
Hotline: (516) 542-0404
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (516) 222-2293
TTY Number:

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Spanish, cont.

County: New York
Program: Aegis Battered Women's Program
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: New York
Program: Alianza Dominicana, Inc./Project Faith
Hotline: (888) 343-4866
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Barrier Free Living, Inc.
Hotline: (212) 533-4358
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (212) 533-4348

County: New York
Program: Freedom House
Hotline: (212) 400-6470
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 533-4358
TTY Number: (212) 533-4632

County: New York
Program: Genesis/JBFCS
Hotline: (212) 304-1430
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: H.E.L.P. Harbor
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

Spanish, cont.

County: New York
Program: H.E.L.P. Haven
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: New York
Program: Henry Street Settlement
Hotline: (212) 577-7777
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: New York
Program: Manhattan Community Programs - SH
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: New York
Program: NYANA/ Center for New Americans
Hotline: (888) 242-5838
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: NYC Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project
Hotline: (212) 714-1141
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (212) 714-1174

County: New York
Program: Safe Horizon, Inc.
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

Spanish, cont.

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: STEPS to End Family Violence
Hotline: (646) 996-9448
Hotline Hours: 6-10p M-F, 12-10p S/S
Alternate Hotline: (646) 996-9449
TTY Number: (212) 410-0824

County: New York
Program: Urban Women's New Beginnings
Hotline: (212) 491-0023
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Violence Intervention Prg./Morvivi
Hotline: (800) 664-5880
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs.
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: New York
Program: Urban Women's Retreat
Hotline: (212) 690-6490
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Niagara
Program: Alternatives to Domestic Violence
Hotline: (716) 433-6716
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (716) 433-6717
TTY Number:

NYSCADV

24-Hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotlines: English: (800) 942-6906 TTY: (800) 942-6908 Spanish: (800) 942-6908 TTY: (800) 780-7660
 Office: (518) 482-5465 Fax: (518) 482-3807 Email: nyscadv@nyscadv.org Website: www.nyscadv.org

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Spanish, cont.

County: Niagara
Program: YWCA of the Tonawandas
Hotline: (716) 692-5643
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Oneida
Program: YWCA of the Mohawk Valley
Hotline: (315) 797-7740
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Onondaga
Program: Domestic Violence Prevention Ed.
Program Spanish Action League
Hotline: (315) 427-3315
Hotline Hours: 8:30-4:30 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Onondaga
Program: Vera House, Inc.
Hotline: (315) 468-3260
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (315) 422-7273
TTY Number:

County: Onondaga
Program: Salvation Army of the Syracuse Area
Hotline: (315) 479-1332
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Ontario
Program: Family Counseling Svc. Finger Lakes
Hotline: (800) 695-0390
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Orange
Program: Safe Homes of Orange County
Hotline: (888) 503-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (845) 562-5340
TTY Number:

County: Orleans
Program: Orleans County Dept. of Social Svcs.
Hotline: (866) 314-7233
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (585) 589-5527
TTY Number: (585) 589-3170

County: Orleans
Program: ROI Domestic Violence
Hotline: (866) 314-7233
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Otsego
Program: Violence Intervention Program
Hotline: (607) 432-4855
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (607) 433-8031

County: Queens
Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic Violence Proj.
Hotline: (718) 657-0424
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Queens
Program: Safe Horizon, Project Oasis
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

Spanish, cont.

County: Queens
Program: Transition Center
Hotline: (718) 520-8045
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Queens
Program: Violence Intervention Prg./QNS
Comparteras
Hotline: (800) 664-5880
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Queens
Program: Violence Intervention Prg./Morivivi
Hotline: (800) 664-5880
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Rensselaer
Program: Unity House
Hotline: (518) 272-2370
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Richmond
Program: Safe Passage at Seaman's Soc. for Children
Hotline: (888) 837-6687
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Richmond
Program: Staten Island Oasis
Hotline: (800) 621-HOPE
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 577-7777
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Spanish cont.

County: Richmond
Program: Safe Horizon, Staten Island Community Prg.
Hotline: (800) 621-4673
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (212) 227-300
TTY Number: (800) 810-7444

County: Rockland
Program: Rockland Family Shelter
Hotline: (845) 634-3344
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (877) 634-3119

County: Seneca
Program: Family Counseling Svc. Finger Lakes
Hotline: (800) 695-0390
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Suffolk
Program: Brighter Tomorrows, Inc.
Hotline: (631) 395-1800
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Suffolk
Program: Suffolk County CADV
Hotline: (631) 666-8833
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (631) 233-3626

County: Suffolk
Program: The Retreat, Inc.
Hotline: (631) 329-2200
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (631) 329-2201
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Suffolk
Program: Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk
Hotline: (631) 360-3606
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (631) 360-3607
TTY Number: (631) 360-3606

County: Sullivan
Program: Safe Passage D.V Program
Hotline: (845) 292-5700
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Washington
Program: Domestic Violence Project
Hotline: (518) 793-9496
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Wayne
Program: Victim Resource Ctr. of the Finger Lakes, Inc.
Hotline: (800) 456-1172
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (866) 343-8808
TTY Number:

County: Westchester
Program: My Sister's Place
Hotline: (800) 298-7233
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (914) 969-5800
TTY Number: (914) 969-1355

County: Westchester
Program: Northern Westchester Shelter
Hotline: (914) 238-2800
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (888) 438-8700
TTY Number:

Spanish, cont.

County: Westchester
Program: Westchester County Office for Women
Hotline: (914) 995-5972
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline: (914) 995-2099
TTY Number:

County: Yates
Program: Family Counseling Svc./ Finger Lakes
Hotline: (800) 695-0390
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Yates
Program: Rape & Abuse Crisis Svc. Of the Finger Lakes
Hotline: (315) 536-2897
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Ulster
Program: Family of Woodstock Inc.
Hotline: (845) 338-2370
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Swedish

County: Kings
Program: Horizons
Hotline: (212) 262-7655
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

NYS CADV

24-Hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotlines: English: (800) 942-6906 TTY: (800) 818-0656 Spanish: (800) 942-6908 TTY: (800) 780-7660
 Office: (518) 482-5465 Fax: (518) 482-3807 Email: nyscadv@nyscadv.org Website: www.nyscadv.org

New York State Domestic Violence Programs Listed by Language Spoken

Tagalog

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Toishanese

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Ukrainian

County: Cortland
Program: Aid to Victims of Violence
Hotline: (800) 336-9622
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline: (607) 756-6363
TTY Number:

Urdu

County: New York
Program: Sanctuary for Families
Hotline: (212) 349-6009
Hotline Hours: 9-5 M-F
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

County: Queens
Program: Queens Legal Svcs. Domestic
Violence Proj.
Hotline: (718) 657-0424
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Urdu cont.

County: Suffolk
Program: Suffolk County CADV, Inc.
Hotline: (631) 666-8833
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (631) 233-3626

Vietnamese

County: New York
Program: New York Asian Women's Center
Hotline: (888) 888-7702
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number:

Yiddish

County: Rockland
Program: Rockland Family Shelter
Hotline: (845) 634-3344
Hotline Hours: 24 hrs
Alternate Hotline:
TTY Number: (877) 634-3179

NYS CADV

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