

FLORIDA VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Year In Review

As 2016 comes to a close, we utilize this issue of the *Florida Voice* to provide our readers with a review of the past year, and share some highlights and accomplishments. The following highlights

are designed to provide a sample of FCADV's programs, initiatives and trainings. For specific information about any of the programs and services listed, please visit www.fcadv.org.

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

their children in the public policy arena.

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

In addition, FCADV also provides training, technical assistance, and education to certified domestic violence centers, collaborative community partners, agencies, and service providers throughout the state. Each year, thousands of hours of training and technical assistance are provided to these entities to strengthen knowledge, enhance standards, and build capacity to provide quality services to domestic violence survivors and their children. FCADV tailors each training to address the specific needs identified by the center and/or local community organizations. More than 98 percent of participants in attendance at FCADV trainings reported they will utilize the concepts learned to enhance and expand their advocacy for families experiencing domestic violence.

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



During fiscal year 2015-2016 FCADV:

- Responded to 7,042 technical assistance requests from domestic violence centers, collaborative partners, and other agencies
- Conducted 172 onsite technical assistance visits and trainings for certified domestic violence center staff and/or Board of Directors, collaborative partners, and other agencies
- Conducted 118 webinars
- Conducted 69 regional and statewide training events and/or conferences
- Administered and managed 169 contracts
- Conducted 99 monitoring visits and/or desk reviews

Sample of Available Trainings

All trainings are tailored to the needs of the training participants and their local communities.

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| Advanced Domestic Violence Training for Law Enforcement Advocacy, Technology, and Safety | Empowerment-Based Advocacy |
| Advocating for LGBT Survivors of Domestic Violence | Empowerment-Based Documentation and Service Management |
| Adult Protective Services and Later in Life Intimate Partner Violence | Ethical Communication |
| Batterer Accountability in the Child Welfare System | Evidence-Based Prosecution in Domestic Violence Cases |
| Batterer Accountability in the Criminal Justice System | Financial Exploitation in Later Life |
| Battering and Chemical Dependency | Herstory of the Battered Women’s Movement |
| Battering and Mental Health Complexities | Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault |
| Building Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Collaborations | Improving Access to Justice for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence |
| Cognitive Disability, Mental Health and Domestic Violence | Lethality Assessment and Safety Planning |
| Community Collaboration to Prevent Domestic Violence Homicide | Medical Advocacy Projects: Tools and Training Methods |
| Compassion Fatigue and Advocate Self-Care | Organizing in Rural Communities to Prevent Domestic Violence |
| Domestic Violence Core Competency Trainings | Primary Prevention of Domestic Violence |
| Domestic Violence and Disabilities | Providing Outreach to Incarcerated Survivors |
| Domestic Violence Fatality Review | Relationship Abuse – Runaway and Homeless Youth |
| Domestic Violence in Later Life | Sexual Violence in the Context of Domestic Violence |
| Domestic Violence in the Military | Shelter Rules, Ethics and Empowerment |
| Dynamics of Sexual Violence and Substance Abuse | Social Media and Advocacy in the Digital Age |
| Economic Justice: Survivor-Centered Advocacy | Teen Dating Violence and Technology |
| Effective Communication: Advocating for Survivors Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing | The Americans with Disabilities Act and Service Animals |
| Effects of Domestic Violence on Children and Youth | Train the Trainer on Core Competency |
| Emergency Preparedness as it Relates to Survivors with a Disability | Trauma Informed Care and Service Provision |

List of Programs and Initiatives

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| Accessibility Program | Domestic Violence and Home Visitors Project | Survivor Listening Project |
| Burn and Trauma Medical Advocacy Project | DELTA FOCUS Initiative | Linguistically and Culturally Specific Victim Services Project |
| Domestic Violence in Later Life Program | Primary Prevention Initiative | Legal Assistance for Victims |
| Peace of Mind Florida: Domestic Violence and Traumatic Brain Injury | Empowerment-Based Service Provision Project | Legal Initiative |
| Child Welfare Initiatives | Engaging Men and Boys Prevention Project | Sexual Violence in the Context of Domestic Violence Project |
| Clearinghouse Project | Intimate Violence Enhanced Service Team (InVEST) | Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team |
| Economic Justice Initiatives | Law Enforcement Enhanced Response to Violence Against Women | Technology and Safety Program |
| Florida Domestic Violence Hotline and Legal Hotline | Law Enforcement Training Initiative | Community Collaborative Projects |
| Core Competency Based Trainings | Rural Statewide Initiative | Rural and Underserved Projects |
| Healthy Advocate Initiative | | |

IN A SINGLE DAY¹

RECEIVED
806 hotline calls

SHELTERED
**2,293 in emergency
shelter or transitional
housing**

PROVIDED
**1,056 adults
and children with
outreach services**

IN A SINGLE YEAR

RECEIVED
122,999² hotline calls

SHELTERED
**16,362 in emergency
shelter**

PROVIDED
**33,042 adults
and children with
outreach services**

¹[http://nnedv.org/
downloads/Census/
DVCounts2015/
Florida.pdf](http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/DVCounts2015/Florida.pdf)

²Includes calls received
by the FCADV Florida
Domestic Violence
Hotline

Florida's Certified Domestic Violence Centers

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

During the 2015-16 fiscal year, certified centers provided 600,621 nights of life-saving emergency shelter to 16,362 women, children, and men. Many survivors fled violent homes with their children, who represented 46.6 percent of those served in emergency shelter. This past year, centers provided emergency shelter to an additional 965 domestic violence survivors and their children and experienced an increase of 53,963 shelter nights.

Individuals Seeking Services Fiscal Year 2015-16

- 16,362 individuals received emergency shelter at a certified domestic violence center
- Domestic violence survivors and their children spent 600,621 nights in emergency shelter
- Advocates received 122,999 hotline calls
- 113,907 safety plans were completed with survivors
- 33,042 women, children, and men received outreach services
- 5,205 requests for emergency shelter went unmet due to lack of capacity and resources

ADVOCATES RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY:

Completing 113,907 survivor-focused safety plans

Providing 412,454 hours of counseling and advocacy

Offering 485,940 direct service information and referrals to survivors, family members, and individuals seeking assistance

Spending 127,792 hours facilitating child and youth-specific activities

Providing youth-targeted community education to 111,322 participants

Providing education and training programs to 77,142 adults

The Crime of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence remains a pervasive societal issue that impacts thousands of individuals and families in Florida. In fact, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's 2015 annual Uniform Crime Report reflects that while overall crime decreased 1.6 percent, domestic violence crimes increased by 0.5 percent. While the statewide increase is small, 15 counties experienced increases of 10 percent or more. Overall, 35 of Florida's counties reported increases in domestic violence crimes, 29 experienced decreases and 3 remained constant. It should be noted that the data contained in the UCR reflects only domestic violence offenses reported to law enforcement agencies, and domestic violence is recognized as a significantly underreported crime.

³Information from FDLE's 2015 Annual Uniform Crime Report: http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/cms/FSACI/UCR/2015/CIF_annual15.aspx

Domestic Violence Crime³ January – December 2015

- Overall crime decreased by 1.6 percent, while reported domestic violence offenses increased by 0.5 percent
- 107,666 domestic violence offenses were reported to law enforcement
- 199 individuals died as a result of domestic violence homicide, representing approximately 19.1 percent of all homicides in Florida
- Law enforcement made 66,272 arrests for domestic violence related crimes

COUNTIES THAT EXPERIENCED 10%+ INCREASE

IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES, 2015¹⁵

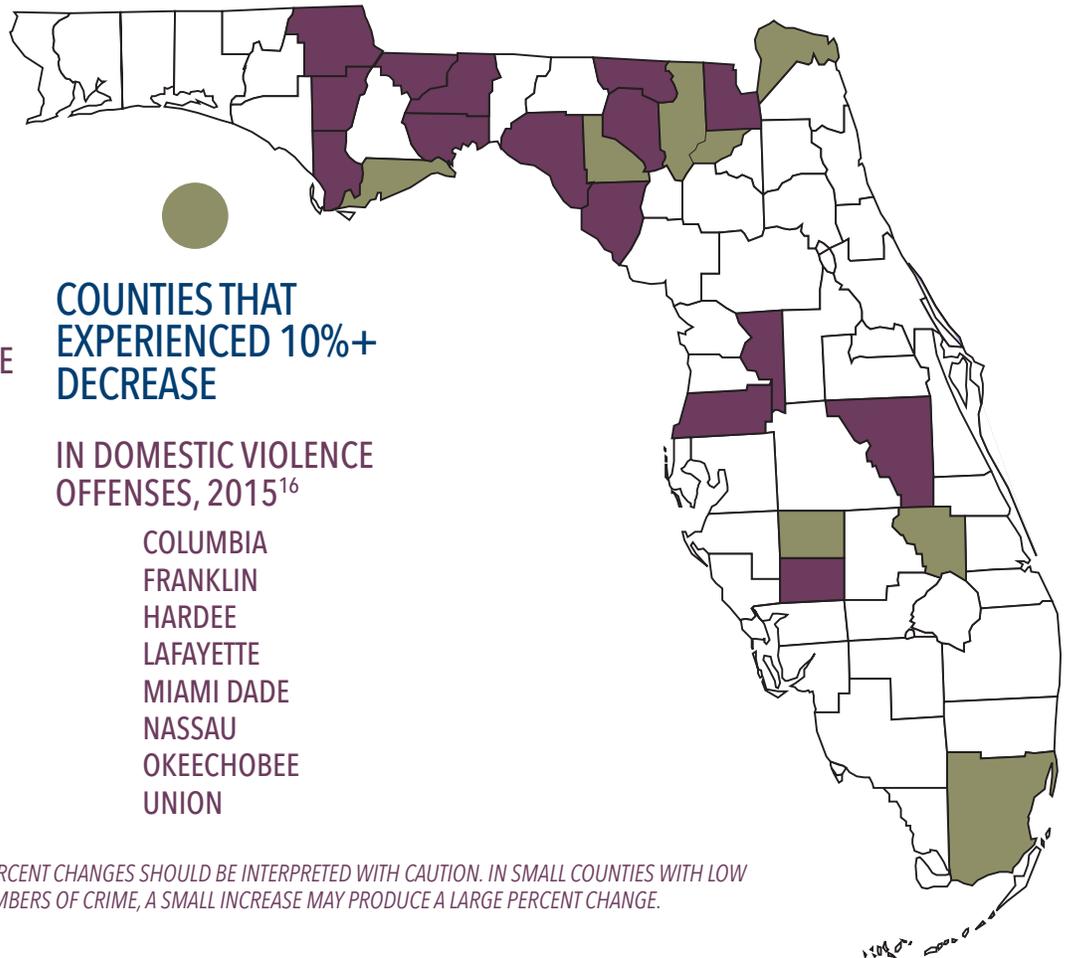
BAKER
CALHOUN
DESOTO
DIXIE
GADSDEN
GULF
HAMILTON
JACKSON
LEON
OSCEOLA
PASCO
SUMTER
SUWANNEE
TAYLOR
WAKULLA

COUNTIES THAT EXPERIENCED 10%+ DECREASE

IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES, 2015¹⁶

COLUMBIA
FRANKLIN
HARDEE
LAFAYETTE
MIAMI DADE
NASSAU
OKEECHOBEE
UNION

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



**Domestic Violence does not go away by looking away. It stops when we stand up together.
It stops when we say it must, and not just one of us, but all of us.**

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