

30 years. 30 milestones.

Virginia's Accomplishments in the Sexual & Domestic Violence Movement

- 1. 1974**
First Rape Crisis Center opens in Norfolk.
- 2. 1976-1981**
Virginia Crime Commission State Task Force on Criminal Sexual Assault overhauls the entire criminal code for sexual assault.
- 3. 1977**
First Domestic Violence Shelter opens in Radford.
- 4. 1980**
Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault (VAASA) is founded.
- 5. 1981**
Virginians Against Domestic Violence (VADV) is founded.
- 6. 1982**
Marriage License Tax Bill passes to support domestic violence shelters and child abuse programs.
- 7. 1986**
Marital sexual assault is made a crime for the first time in Virginia.
- 8. 1986**
Protective Order legislation is created.
- 9. 1987**
The first Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized.
- 10. 1990-1992**
Attorney General Mary Sue Terry's Task Force on Domestic Violence is created, and introduces legislation to make assault & battery against a family or household member a crime.
- 11. 1992-1993**
Virginia Commission on Sexual Assault is formed and brings major changes to Virginia's child sexual abuse laws.
- 12. 1994**
The Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline is established to provide 24-hour support and information.
- 13. 1994**
Rape Prevention Education Funding is created as the first funding ever dedicated to prevention.
- 14. 1994**
VAASA and VADV work to assure passage of the groundbreaking Violence Against Women Act, which provides \$1.6B to states to address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.
- 15. 1994-2000**
The Virginia Commission on Family Violence Prevention is established, and introduces omnibus legislation to standardize and improve the response of law enforcement in family violence.
- 16. 1996**
Vadata is created as a web-based data collection system designed for Virginia's Sexual and Domestic Violence Service agencies. Data is subsequently used to educate the public and improve laws.
- 17. 1996**
The Training Institute is established to promote a consistent community response across Virginia.
- 18. 2000-2002**
VAASA creates the Men of Vision campaign to honor and involve men in the movement.
- 19. 2001**
The first Sexual Assault Awareness Month is recognized.
- 20. 2002**
Virginia becomes one of the first states in the country to enact stalking laws.
- 21. 2002**
Silent Witness exhibit is created to honor Virginians who have lost their lives to domestic violence.
- 22. 2004**
Break the Silence is launched, Virginia's first statewide public awareness campaign focusing on domestic violence in the African-American community.
- 23. 2004**
Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Victim Fund is established and provides \$2.4M annually to prosecutors, law enforcement and victim services agencies.
- 24. 2004**
VAASA and VADV merge to enhance the effectiveness of our work, becoming the Action Alliance.
- 25. 2005**
We receive federal funding from Health & Human Services to research and develop best practices for children exposed to domestic violence.
- 26. 2006**
Virginia Commission on Sexual Violence is convened by Governor Kaine, increasing prevention work in Virginia.
- 27. 2007**
The Art of Surviving exhibit of survivors' artwork and poetry is launched to promote understanding of and healing from sexual violence.
- 28. 2007**
The nationally-recognized Red Flag Campaign launches to encourage college students to "Say something" when they see red flags for dating violence in their friends' relationships.
- 29. 2010**
Action Alliance membership commits to becoming an anti-racist coalition.
- 30. 2011**
Major legislative overhaul of Protective Orders provides equal access and equal levels of protection for victims of dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

These accomplishments are the result of hard work and dedication of a multitude of survivors, advocates, local sexual assault and domestic violence agencies, community partners, and policy leaders all working with a shared vision of a world where relationships between people are respectful, healthy and safe.

