

ADVOCACY WORKS

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT ADVOCACY ENHANCES THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE.¹

SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE WHO RECEIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES...



HAVE A REDUCED RISK OF EXPERIENCING ABUSE AGAIN



REPORT ENHANCED MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING



STRENGTHEN THEIR SOCIAL SUPPORT NETWORKS



HAVE INCREASED ACCESS TO VITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

SURVIVORS CONSISTENTLY TELL US THAT SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES HELP THEM BUILD TRUST AND RESTORE HOPE.²

97%

FELT SUPPORTED BY STAFF IN DETERMINING THEIR PATHWAY TO HEALING

93%

KNOW ABOUT MORE WAYS TO PLAN FOR THEIR SAFETY

92%

KNOW MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY RESOURCES & HOW TO ACCESS THEM



85%

FEEL THEIR CHILDREN ARE HAVING MORE POSITIVE INTERACTIONS WITH OTHERS

94%

FEEL MORE HOPEFUL ABOUT THEIR LIVES

VIRGINIA LAUNCHED THE STATEWIDE PROJECT, **DOCUMENTING OUR WORK**, IN 2009 TO COLLECT DATA ON THE RANGE OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS AND THE IMPACT THESE SERVICES HAVE ON SURVIVORS AND COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE. **THIS IS WHAT SURVIVORS TOLD US.**

13,360

NUMBER OF SURVEYS COLLECTED FROM SURVIVORS 2010 - 2015

“THESE SERVICES CHANGED MY LIFE, HELPED ME TO BE MORE OPEN, AND I GREW FROM HEARING THE EXPERIENCES OF OTHERS.”

“I’VE NEVER BEEN SO HAPPY IN MY LIFE AND NEITHER HAS MY SON.”

ADVOCACY WORKS

VIRGINIA'S 62 SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES
ARE THE COMMUNITY'S FRONT LINE RESPONSE
TO VIOLENCE.

132,037

ADULTS AND CHILDREN SERVED

405,428

CALLS TO HOTLINE ANSWERED

34,588

ADULTS AND CHILDREN SHELTERED



PEOPLE SERVED BY SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES 2010 – 2015³



87% RECEIVED HELP MEETING BASIC FINANCIAL NEEDS



79% RECEIVED HELP FINDING SAFE/AFFORDABLE HOUSING



87% RECEIVED HELP ACCESSING MEDICAL SERVICES



90% RECEIVED HELP WITH THE LEGAL SYSTEM



88% RECEIVED HELP WITH TRANSPORTATION



92% RECEIVED HELP WITH IMMIGRATION CONCERNS



94% RECEIVED HELP ADDRESSING EMOTIONAL NEEDS



94% RECEIVED HELP WITH THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE ON RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

“I'M VERY FORTUNATE THAT I FOUND A PLACE WHERE I WAS ABLE TO GET THE SERVICES I NEEDED. THE SHELTER HAS PUT ME IN TOUCH WITH THE COMMUNITY RESOURCES THAT ARE HELPFUL TO ME AND HAS GIVEN ME HOPE TO START ON THE JOURNEY TO A BETTER LIFE.”

THESE VITAL SERVICES DECREASE A SURVIVOR'S RISK OF EXPERIENCING ABUSE AGAIN WHILE INCREASING ACCESS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES, SUSTAINING SOCIAL SUPPORT, AND IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

ADVOCACY WORKS, AND IT'S HAVING A HUGE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE.

“I FEEL THAT I'M ABLE TO WORK AND CAN NOW EMOTIONALLY AND FINANCIALLY CARE FOR MY 13 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER. I CAN SEE MYSELF ACTUALLY SUPPORTING US AND HAVING A NORMAL LIFE. THANK YOU!”

Notes--

¹ Source: Sullivan, C.M. (2012, October). Advocacy Services for Women with Abusive Partners: A Review of the Empirical Evidence, Harrisburg, PA: National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. Retrieved 6/20/16: <http://www.dvevidenceproject.org>.

² Source: 2010 – 2015 Documenting Our Work Survey, VAdata and 2010 – 2015 Statewide Domestic Violence Report, VAdata

³ Ibid.

Source of all service statistics: VAdata, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

VIRGINIA'S LEADING VOICE ON
SEXUAL & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence
ACTION ALLIANCE

5008 Monument Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
info@vsdvalliance.org
804.377.0335
www.vsdvalliance.org
@VActionAlliance