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.

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

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.
Sample of Available Trainings

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

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

List of Programs and Initiatives

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

2Includes calls received by the FCADV Florida Domestic Violence Hotline
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.

Domestic Violence Crime
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, 2015
BAKER
CALHOUN
DESOТО
DIXIE
GADSDEN
GULF
HAMILTON
JACKSON
LEON
OSCEOLA
PASCO
SUMTER
SUWANNEE
TAYLOR
WAKulla

COUNTIES THAT EXPERIENCED 10%+ DECREASE
IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES, 2015
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.