



RURAL PROGRAM

Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Assistance Program

July – December 2016

The Rural Program recognizes that victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and child sexual abuse who live in rural communities face unique challenges and barriers to receiving assistance rarely encountered in urban areas, including: geographic isolation; poor economic structure; strong social and cultural pressures; lack of available services in rural jurisdictions; and lack of anonymity and security when seeking shelter services. This program challenges community-based organizations and leaders to collaborate, communicate, identify issues, and share ideas that result in responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.^{1,2}

- **148** grantees reported this period.

VICTIM SERVICES

Rural Program grantees provided services to **13,507** victims of domestic/sexual violence and child sexual abuse.

- **119** grantees used funds for victim services (80% of all grantees reporting).

Victims seeking services ³		
Victims	Total	Percentage
Served	13,290	98%
Partially served	217	2%
Not served	52	<1%
Total seeking services	13,559	100%

¹ This report contains selected data submitted by Rural Program grantees on a semi-annual progress report.

² Throughout this document, the sum of percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

³ Percentages are based on victims seeking services.

Services to victims:

- Victim advocacy was provided to **9,554** victims (71% of all victims receiving services);
- Crisis intervention was provided to **7,564** (56%) victims;
- Civil legal advocacy/court accompaniment was provided to **3,380** (25%) victims
- Counseling/support groups were provided to **3,261** (24%) victims;
- Criminal justice advocacy/court accompaniment was provided to **2,864** (21%) victims;
- Transportation was provided to **1,739** (13%) victims;
- Civil legal assistance was provided to **1,216** (9%) victims;
- Child advocacy was provided to **792** (6%) victims;
- Language services were provided to **762** (6%) victims;
- Hospital/clinic/other medical response was provided to **557** (4%) victims;
- Child care was provided to **304** (2%) victims; and
- Forensic exam was provided to **288** (2%) victims.

Shelter services:

- **1,029** victims and **708** family members received a total of **34,075** emergency shelter bed nights.
- **80** victims and **65** family members received a total of **13,055** transitional housing bed nights.

Other services to victims:

- Hotline calls received from victims: **18,942**
- Victim-witness notification/outreach activities: **3,621**

Victims served or partially served by type of victimization:

- Domestic/dating violence: **10,533** (78% of all victims receiving services)
- Sexual assault: **1,743** (13%)
- Child sexual abuse: **716** (5%)
- Stalking: **515** (4%)

Demographics of victims served	Total	% of those receiving services
Race/ethnicity^{4,5}		
White	8,525	68%
Hispanic or Latino	1,923	15%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,586	13%
Black or African American	407	3%
Asian	133	1%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	47	<1%
Gender⁴		
Female	12,055	90%
Male	1,385	10%
Age⁴		
0-6	272	2%
7-12	388	3%
13-17	649	5%
18-24	2,090	16%
25-59	8,832	69%
60+	539	4%
Other demographics⁶		
Rural	13,462	99.7%
Disabilities	1,481	11%
Limited English proficiency	1,160	9%
Immigrants/refugees/asylum seekers	1,013	7%

Victim relationship to offender ⁷	Total	% of those seeking services
Domestic/dating violence		
Spouse/intimate partner	8,164	79%
Dating relationship	1,162	11%
Other family/household member	860	8%
Acquaintance	125	1%
Sexual assault		
Spouse/intimate partner	595	34%
Acquaintance	467	27%
Other family/household member	316	18%
Dating Relationship	252	14%
Stranger	112	6%

⁴ Percentages are based on victims receiving services for whom this information was known.

⁵ Some victims may identify with more than one race/ethnicity, so the total number reported in race/ethnicity may be higher than the total number of victims served.

⁶ Because victims may be represented in more than one of these categories, or not at all, the total for this category may be higher or lower than the total number of victims served.

⁷ Victims may have been abused by more than one offender and/or may have experienced more than one type of victimization, so the total for each victimization category (when unknowns are included) may be higher than the total number of victims served in each of those categories. Percentages presented here are based on the total number of known relationships in each victimization category.

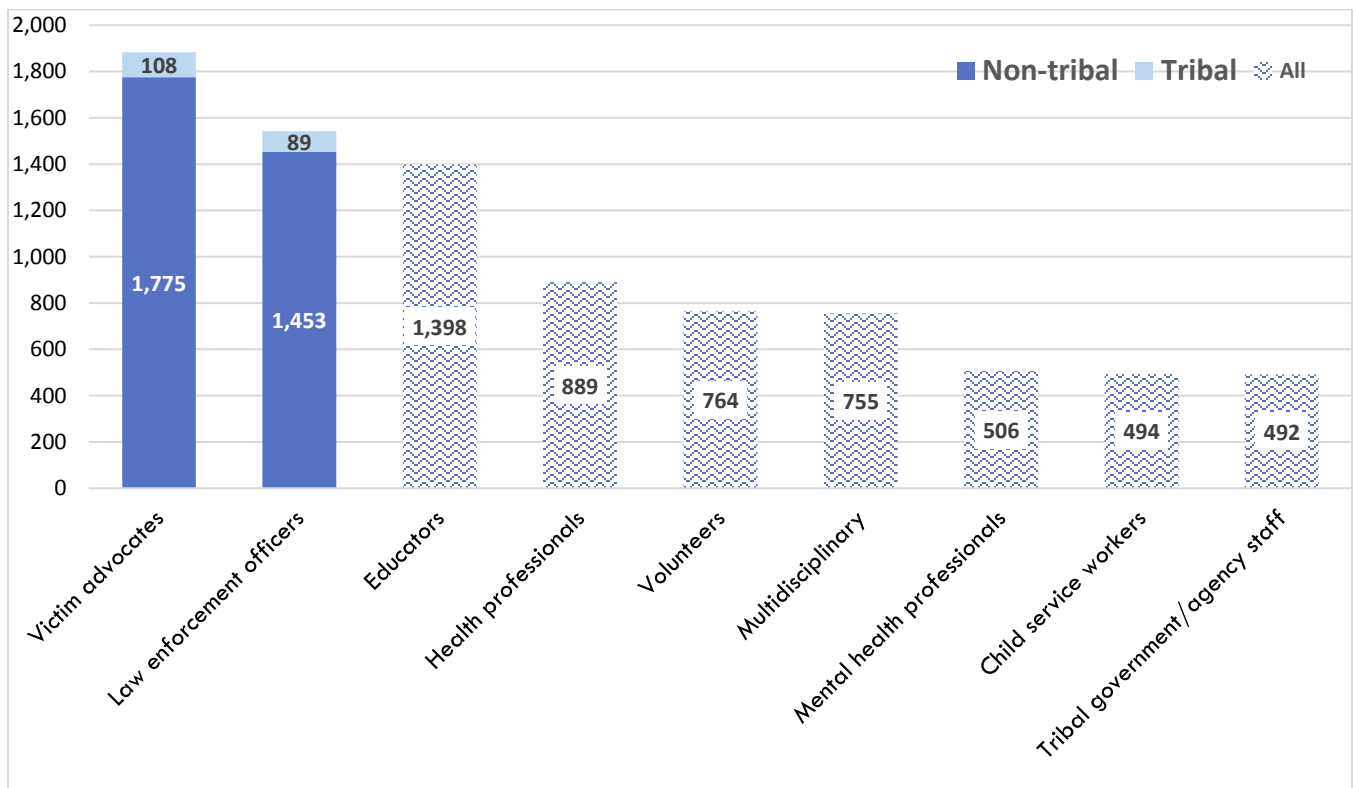
Stalking		
Spouse/intimate partner	304	50%
Acquaintance	164	27%
Dating relationship	98	16%
Other family/household member	37	6%
Stranger	10	2%
Child sexual abuse		
Other family member	460	61%
Acquaintance	206	27%
Spouse/intimate partner	59	8%
Dating relationship	14	2%
Stranger	13	2%

TRAINING

Grantees provide training for professionals so that they can develop an effective coordinated community response to violence. This training improves professional response to victims and increases offender accountability.

- **94** grantees used funds for training (64% of all grantees reporting).
- **11,994** professionals attended **743** events.

Types of professionals most frequently trained



Topics on which grantees most frequently provided training:

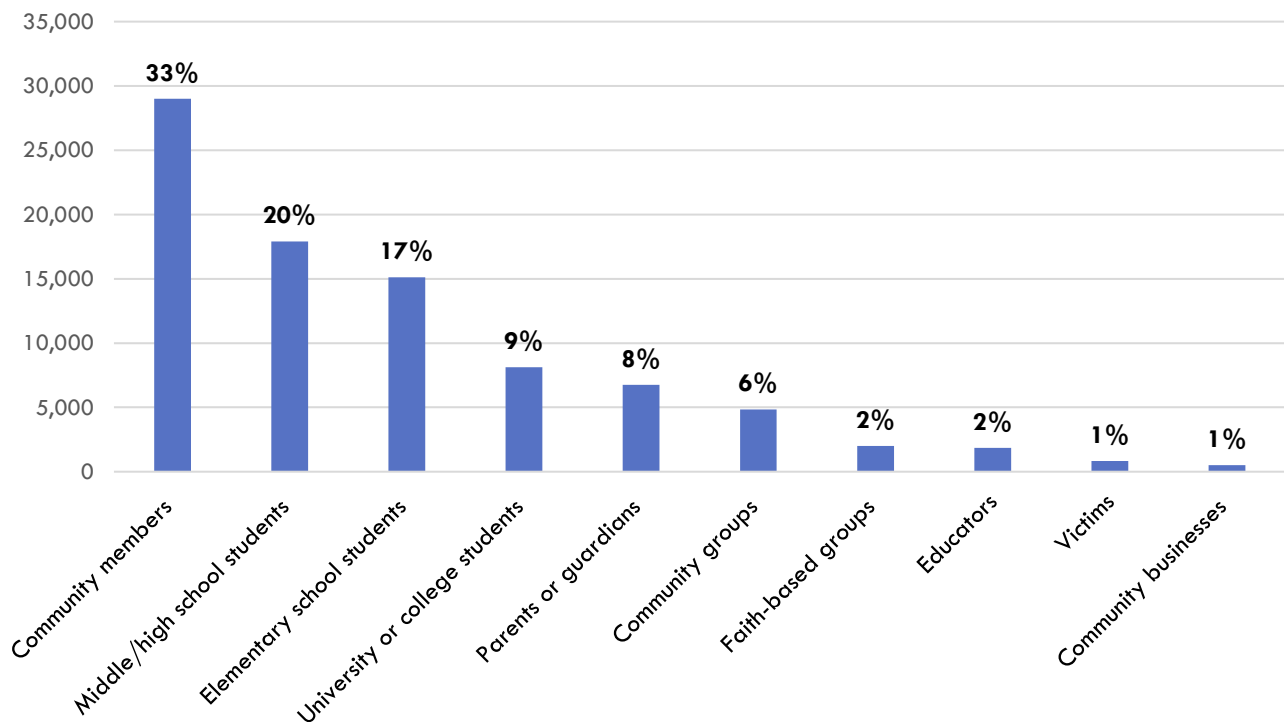
- Advocate response;
- Safety planning for victims;
- Domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services;
- Confidentiality;
- Sexual assault overview, dynamics, and services;
- Issues specific to victims who are geographically isolated;
- Dating violence overview, dynamics, and services;
- Coordinated community response;
- Mandatory reporting requirements; and
- Issues specific to victims who have mental health issues.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Grant-funded staff provide general information to the community to increase awareness of domestic/sexual violence and child sexual abuse.

- **95** grantees used funds for education (64% of all grantees reporting).
- **87,690** people attended **2,604** events.

Types of people most frequently educated



Topics on which grantees most frequently provided education:

- Domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services;
- Dating violence overview, dynamics, and services;
- Sexual assault, overview, dynamics, and services;
- Issues specific to victims who are geographically isolated;
- Healthy relationships, domestic/dating violence prevention (6th-12th grade);
- Healthy relationships, domestic/dating violence prevention (community);
- Domestic/dating violence prevention program;
- Safety planning;
- Stalking overview, dynamics, and services; and
- Issues specific to victims who are homeless or living in poverty.

STAFF

Grant-funded staff provide victim services, training, outreach, law enforcement, prosecution, and probation, among other services, to increase victim safety and offender accountability.

- **144** grantees used funds for staff (97% of all grantees reporting).
- **379** full-time equivalent (FTE) staff were funded this period.

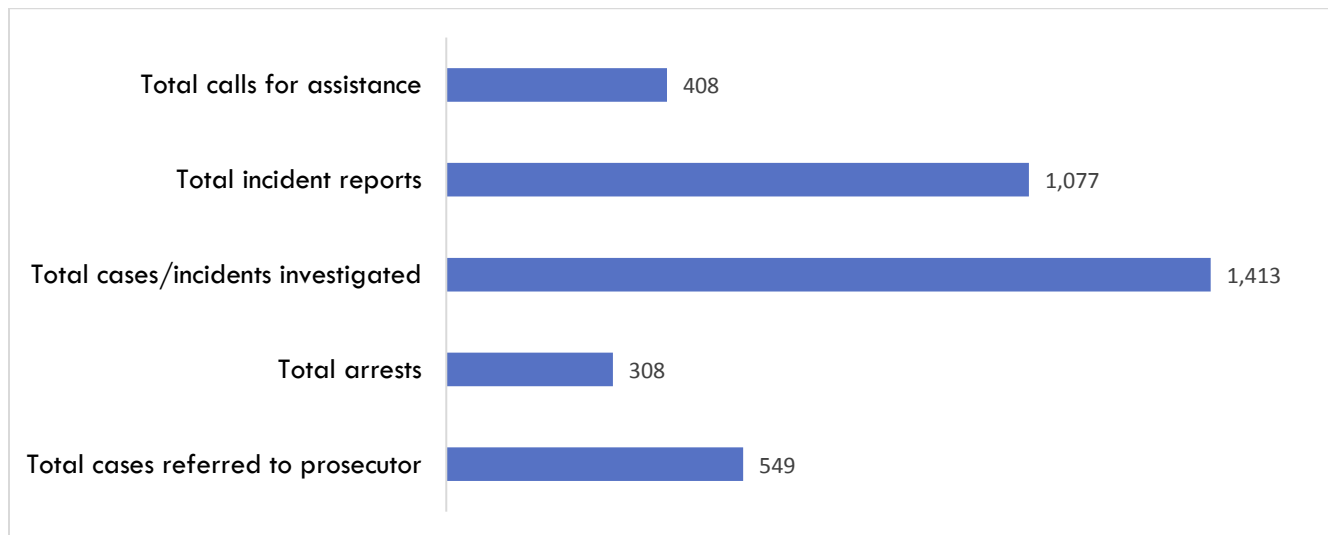
Funded staff positions ⁸	FTEs	% of all funded staff
Victim advocate	133	35%
Program coordinator	68	18%
Trainer/educator	31	8%
Administrator	28	7%
Support staff	19	5%
Outreach worker	16	4%
Attorney	14	4%
Counselor	12	3%
Victim assistant	10	3%
Law enforcement officer	9	2%
Child advocate	8	2%
Legal advocate	7	2%
Prosecutor	6	2%
Investigator (prosecution-based)	4	1%
Probation officer/offender monitor	3	1%
Paralegal	2	1%
Sexual assault nurse/sexual forensic examiner	2	1%
Translator/interpreter	2	1%
Information technology staff	1	<1%

⁸ Categories are rounded to the nearest whole number and only categories with at least one FTE after rounding are included.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- **16** grantees used funds for law enforcement (11% of all grantees reporting).

Law enforcement activities on sexual/domestic violence, and child sexual abuse cases⁹



PROSECUTION

- **9** grantees used funds for prosecution (6% of all grantees reporting).

Cases received, accepted for prosecution, declined, or transferred:¹⁰

- **698** cases were received;
- **505** cases were accepted for prosecution; and
- **190** cases were declined.

Cases disposed of:¹¹ **325**

Cases resulting in convictions or deferred adjudications:¹² **242**

- **74%** of all cases disposed of resulted in a conviction or deferred adjudication.
- **72%** of domestic violence/dating violence cases resulted in a conviction or deferred adjudication: 147 cases out of 203 disposed of.

⁹ The number of arrests includes 18 arrests for violation of bail bond and 68 arrests for violation of protection order. This number does not include dual arrests.

¹⁰ Cases accepted, declined, or transferred in the current reporting period may have been received by prosecution in a previous reporting period.

¹¹ Cases disposed of in the current reporting period may include cases received by prosecution in a previous reporting period.

¹² Deferred adjudications account for 14% of all convictions, 20% of domestic violence/dating violence convictions, and 14% of stalking convictions.

- **67%** of sexual assault cases resulted in a conviction or deferred adjudication: 6 cases out of 9 disposed of.
- **78%** of stalking cases resulted in a conviction or deferred adjudication: 7 cases out of 9 disposed of.
- **100%** of child sexual abuse cases resulted in a conviction or deferred adjudication: 9 cases out of 9 disposed of.

PROBATION AND PAROLE

- **6** grantees used funds for probation (4% of all grantees reporting).
- Total number of offenders: **278**

Dispositions of violations of probation¹³

Probation officers monitor offenders to review progress and compliance with conditions of probation. The data reported below reflect the sanctions imposed for violations that were disposed of during the current reporting period.

Protection orders: **12**

- **7** (58%) had partial or full revocation of probation,
- **3** (25%) received verbal/written warning, and
- **2** (17%) received additional conditions.

New criminal behavior: **13**

- **9** (69%) had partial or full revocation of probation,
- **3** (23%) received verbal/written warning, and
- **1** (8%) received additional conditions.

Failure to attend mandated batterer intervention program (BIP): **8**

- **6** (75%) had partial or full revocation of probation, and
- **2** (25%) received verbal/written warning.

Failure to attend offender treatment program (not including BIP): **13**

- **7** (54%) had partial or full revocation of probation,
- **5** (38%) received additional conditions, and
- **1** (8%) received verbal/written warning.

¹³ Partial or full revocation of probation results in incarceration.

Other condition of probation or parole: 76

- **37** (49%) had partial or full revocation of probation,
- **21** (28%) received verbal/written warning,
- **10** (13%) had no action taken, and
- **8** (11%) received additional conditions.

Offender monitoring

- **215** offenders received **1,610** face-to-face monitoring contacts.
- **182** offenders received **361** telephone monitoring contacts.
- **178** offenders received **539** unscheduled surveillance contacts.

Outreach to victims

In addition to offender monitoring, probation officers also contact victims as an additional strategy to increase victim safety.

- **21** victims received **61** contacts.