

Consolidated Grant Program to Address Children and Youth Experiencing Domestic and Sexual Assault and Engage Men and Boys as Allies

VAWA 2013 authorized the Consolidated Grant Program to Address Children and Youth Experiencing Domestic and Sexual Assault and Engage Men and Boys as Allies (Consolidated Youth or CY Program), which consolidated the purpose areas from four pre-existing VAWA-funded programs: the Children and Youth Exposed to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Stalking Program (Children Exposed to Violence or CEV Program), the Engaging Men and Youth in Preventing Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program (Engaging Men and Youth or EMY Program), the Services, Training, Education and Policies to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking in Secondary Schools Grant Program (STEP Program), and the Services to Advocate for and Respond to Youth Grant Program (Youth Services Program), and added new purpose areas as well.

CONSOLIDATED YOUTH PROGRAM GRANTEE INCORPORATE CEV, EMY, STEP, and Youth services purpose areas, including teen dating violence awareness prevention, programs that respond to children's exposure to violence in their homes through services and training, and engaging men as leaders and role models.

56 Grantees Reporting

Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2017, 56 unique grantees reported activities funded by the CY Program.

1,027 Child Victims Served

On average, grantees served or partially served 1,027 child victims during each 6-month reporting period.

56,623 People Reached

Grantees reached a total of 56,623 people at community-wide events.

Findings from a nationally representative study of children exposed to violence, showed that one-third of respondents experienced a physical assault in the past year, and 13% of those aged 14-17 experienced sexual assault or abuse in that time. Another large national study found that among high school adolescents, 11.7% of female and 7.4% of male students experienced physical dating violence, and 15.6% of female and 5.4% of male students experienced sexual dating violence (Finkelhor et al., 2015; Olsen et al., 2017).



WA • Grantee Perspective

Our work to prevent dating, domestic, and sexual violence against LGBTQ youth continues to be an innovative force in our communities. We were able to expand our Q-LAB prevention work with youth in high schools using storytelling this year. Creating youth generated and adult supported messages of support around consent, boundaries, building strong social networks, as well as breaking silence around vulnerable identities proved to be powerful for young people. Q-LAB advocacy programming continues to be informed by all that the NW Network has learned from our communities and our ongoing evaluation work. We continue to center youth voices in our direct service work and are expanding community-based solutions for their healing through our partnerships with organizations, coalitions, and community-driven anti-violence efforts

NW NETWORK OF BI, TRANS, LESBIAN AND GAY SURVIVORS OF ABUSE, WASHINGTON



NY • Grantee Perspective

The Ali Forney Center has been able to hire two licensed psychotherapists who provide trauma-informed therapeutic interventions utilizing a harm reduction model. During this time 50 young people who reported experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking and wanted therapy, were connected to an OVV-funded therapist. AFC has also been able to hire an outreach worker who provides a presence online and in person disseminating information to potential clients about the many services AFC provides. AFC is able to have the personnel to create and strengthen alliances and network with like-minded agencies such as the Anti-Violence Project and the Center for Anti-Violence Education. The services provided through our legal aid partner, Urban Justice Center, have been expanded to provide our clients with more legal support and advocacy. AFC staff were able to be trained by the Center for Anti-Violence Education on topics such as de-escalation techniques and trauma-informed responses.

THE ALI FORNEY CENTER, NEW YORK

Grantees must provide culturally, linguistically, and community relevant services to meet the needs of underserved populations, or referrals to existing services within their community.

Grantees engage in the following purpose areas:

- Provide services for children and youth exposed to domestic/sexual violence, including youth victims of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, such as direct counseling, advocacy, or mentoring, and must include support for the non-abusing parent or the child's caretaker;
- Provide training, coordination, and advocacy for programs that serve children and youth (such as Head Start, child care, and after-school programs) on how to safely and confidentially identify children and families experiencing domestic violence and properly refer them to programs that can provide direct services to the children and family; and
- Create public education campaigns and supporting community organizing to encourage men and boys to work as allies to women and girls, endeavoring to prevent domestic/sexual violence.

VAWA 2013 clarified that victim services and legal assistance include services and assistance to **victims of domestic/sexual violence who are also victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.**

General Grant Information

Information for this report was submitted by **56** individual grantees for the July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017 progress reporting period.

9 (16%) grantees reported that their grants specifically addressed tribal populations.

Staff

Grant-funded staff provide training to professionals who work with children; training and public education to engage men and youth in ending violence; and victim services to child victims and children indirectly exposed to domestic/sexual violence. **Being able to hire staff is critical to the overall function and success of programs.**

- **54** (96%) grantees used funds for staffing needs.
- Grantees funded an average of **106** full-time equivalent (FTE) staff during each 6-month period.
- Grantees most often used these staffing funds to support program coordinators and mental health professionals.

Table 1 | Staff supported with CY grant funds, July 2015–June 2017: **Selected groups**

Staff funded	6-month average	
Total FTE staff funded	106	
Program coordinators	26	25%
Mental health professionals	14	13%
Administrators	13	12%
Trainers	13	12%
Case managers	7	7%
Counselors	7	7%
Victim advocates	7	7%
Outreach workers	6	6%
Child advocates	5	5%

NOTE: Data presented for the most frequently reported categories only (≥5%).

Training

Grantees provide training to social service and healthcare professionals, educators and other school staff, child care providers, and other professionals to improve the professional identification of and response to children exposed to domestic/sexual violence. **This training improves the professional response to victims and increases offender accountability.**

- **45** (80%) grantees used funds for training.
- Grantees convened a total of **1,000** training events.
- Grantees trained a total of **21,157** people.
- Most often these trainings reached educators (**21%**), social service organization staff (**11%**), and youth organization staff (**7%**).

Community Organizing/Mobilization and Prevention

Grant-funded staff assist in community organizing and mobilization, encouraging men and boys to work as allies to prevent physical and/or sexual violence and build safe, supportive, and accountable communities.

- **17** (30%) grantees used funds for community organization/mobilization and prevention.

Community Organizing Events

Grantees provide community-wide events, such as school presentations and public forums, for members of the communities they are working in.

- Grantees hosted a total of **809** community-wide events.
- Grantees reached a total of **56,623** people at community-wide events.
 - Grantees most frequently hosted public forums (**28%**), school presentations (**27%**), culturally specific events (**18%**), and information tables (**13%**).



VT • Grantee Perspective

HOPE Works used this grant to expand its child and youth services and complete the long-awaited work of bringing a clinical therapist to our agency to house on-site clinical services within our center. [We also used grant funds] to co-create a sex trafficking coordinated community response task force for Chittenden County. Our new clinical services are now available for referral for all MOU partners, as well as with our local community health centers, our hospital and its Forensic Nursing Program (SANE program), our campus populations, local police departments, transitional housing programs for incarcerated youth reentering the community, and with staff from youth spaces and centers.

HOPE WORKS, VERMONT



FL • Grantee Perspective

CEV Program funding allowed CSA prevention education to be offered to all thirteen Neighborhood Centers for Families (NCFs) in Orange County, as well as the more than twenty Head Start/Early Head Start sites in the county. CEV funding has made possible the in-progress development of an online training module specifically designed for youth care providers. This training will be a tool to expand CSA awareness and prevention training to more child-serving organizations that may not have the resources to develop their own CSA training materials. CEV funding has expanded bi-lingual (Spanish-English) advocacy services to ensure access to these services to all families in need of them. CEV program funding has enabled recurring training on CSA-related topics to new child protective services staff, Guardian ad Litem and dependency case management staff, which is critical due to high turnover in these positions and the opportunity these professionals have to identify and connect child victims to specialized services.

ORLANDO HEALTH INC., FLORIDA

Programs and campaigns may increase men's awareness about gender-based violence, encouraging them to commit to ending it by becoming formally involved in violence prevention efforts, and/or by being a role model and vocal proponent of respectful relationships in their own families and communities (Casey et al., 2013; Casey, Tolman, Carlson, Allen, & Storer, 2017; Tolman et al., 2017).



CA • Grantee Perspective

Because of the funding for the Engaging Men project, Peace Over Violence has been able to take our work with youth leaders to more specific communities, primarily youth of color in South LA. The work with the EM troupe has enabled us to strengthen our youth outreach and to bring more diverse voices into our Youth Over Violence youth leadership group. Through this project, we have also been able to deepen our relationships with community partners in South LA, including our project partners, the Amazing Grace Conservatory and the Brotherhood Crusade. These relationships are key to reaching populations who might not normally access POV services, such as the young men of color who work with Brotherhood Crusade. These partnerships have also strengthened our presence within the community, as there are now three major organizations advocating on behalf of the messages of the project.

PEACE OVER VIOLENCE, CALIFORNIA

Ongoing Community Organizing Activities

In addition to community-wide events, grantees provided ongoing community organizing/mobilization and prevention activities, such as educational courses and leadership/mentoring trainings, to targeted groups of men and youth.

- Grantees provided **226** ongoing community organizing activities.
 - The most common types of ongoing activities provided were leadership/mentorship trainings (**42%**) and educational courses (**32%**).
- Grantees provided these ongoing activities to **15,252** people.
 - Grantees most frequently reached elementary, middle, high school, and university students (**42%**); unaffiliated adult community members (**22%**); and culturally specific community group members, both youth and adults (**19%**), through these ongoing activities.

Public Education/Awareness Campaigns

Grantees create public education campaigns encouraging men and boys to work as allies with women and girls to prevent domestic/sexual violence.

- **14** (25%) grantees used funds for public education/awareness campaigns.
- Grantees provided a total of **237** public education/awareness campaigns.
- Grantees most frequently supported online social media (**19%**), print materials (**18%**), and media articles/opinion editorials (**12%**).

Services for Child Victims, Children Indirectly Exposed, and their Non-Abusing Parents/Caregivers

Child victims and children indirectly exposed to violence need comprehensive support services that meet a wide array of needs to help them become and remain safe from violence.

- **27** (48%) grantees used funds for victim services.

Child Victim Services

Grantees may provide child victims with individual or group counseling services; offer education advocacy with the child's school; assist the child and accompanying parent or caregiver in obtaining a protection order; and provide safety planning, court accompaniment, shelter, and/or transportation.

- Grantees provided services to an average of **1,027** child victims during each 6-month period.
- **99%** of child victims who sought services received them during each 6-month period.

During each 6-month period, on average, grantees provided:

- Child advocacy services to **642** victims;
- Support group/counseling services to **486** victims; and
- Crisis intervention services to **369** victims.

Child Victims Seeking Services

Grantees serve child victims of domestic/sexual violence. Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2017:

- The majority of victims served or partially served were victims of **sexual assault** (52%).

Figure 1 | Provision of child victim services by CY Program grantees, by type of victimization

Child victims served and partially served by type of victimization (6-month average)

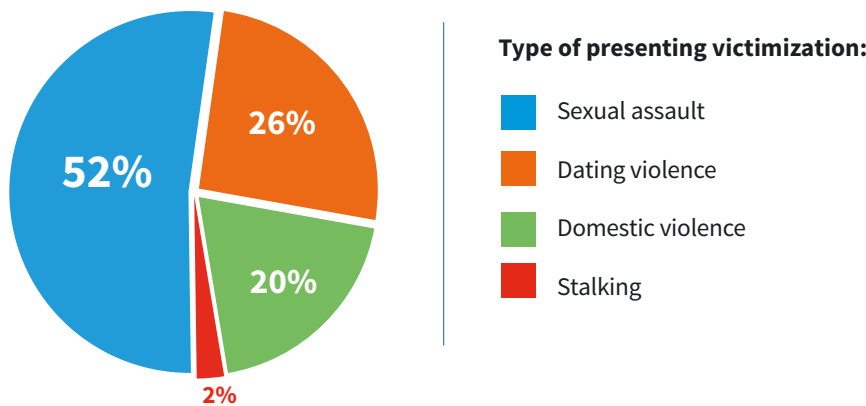


Table 2 | Child victims seeking services with CY grant funds, July 2015–June 2017

Child victims seeking services	6-month average	
Total child victims seeking services	1,033	
Child victims served	934	90%
Child victims partially served	93	9%
Child victims not served	6	1%

NOTE: “Partially served” represents victims who received some but not all of the service(s) they requested, provided those services were funded under the CY Program grant. “Not served” represents victims who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, provided those services were funded under the CY Program grant.



NC • Grantee Perspective

The CEV program funding allowed for new school-based partnerships to be developed which subsequently led to teacher training on the signs and symptoms of children exposed to violence. This in turn led to an increase in referrals of students in need of crisis intervention, treatment, parent support, and referral. Funding also allowed for new programming partnerships with the culturally-based center with the addition and enhancement of after school programming and specialized summer enrichment programs. The CEV program funds also allowed for a continued strengthening of the relationship with child protective services, including an understanding of the legal parameters of CPS and the assistance that can be given to children exposed to violence.

30TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-SEXUAL ASSAULT ALLIANCE, NORTH CAROLINA



MA • Grantee Perspective

CEV funding has allowed us to saturate Springfield, MA with prevention workshops. Prior to receiving CEV funding, the YWCA was limited in providing prevention workshops. In providing these workshops we have been able to provide education and dispel myths and untruths that are so common in our community. We have been able to open the doors for our young people to have conversations about their experiences with domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. This has also allowed us to create a foundation of trust with these young people and in turn we have identified many young people who have been victims of violence. We also have been able to streamline our community response to teen dating violence. We have been able to assemble a team of key stakeholders in the community that can work together to both treat and prevent dating violence in their respective systems. We work with representatives from community organizations, the local police, school and the district attorney’s office.

YWCA OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS



ND • Grantee Perspective

CY funds have allowed us to update our community strengths and needs assessment, augmenting a collection of prevalence data on domestic, dating, and sexual violence and stalking relating to children and youth, as well as data on young adults, ages 18-24. Through the CYP, we are now able to sustain critically important prevention and intervention initiatives without the interruption of services. Funding to provide therapy for ages 0-24 is a major gap, and 16% of the individuals on our counseling waiting list were between the ages of 18-24. Without CYP funding, we would have had to drastically reduce trauma-informed therapy for children and youth and would not be able to expand our focus to young adults.

COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION CENTER, NORTH DAKOTA

Child Victims' Relationship to Offender

Grantees serve child victims of domestic/sexual violence. Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2017:

- The child victims most frequently served or partially served were victimized by a **family member** (35%).
- The remaining child victims were most commonly victimized in the context of the **child's dating relationship** (26%) or by an **acquaintance** (18%).

Figure 2 Type of victimization by relationship to offender: **Dating violence** (6-month average)

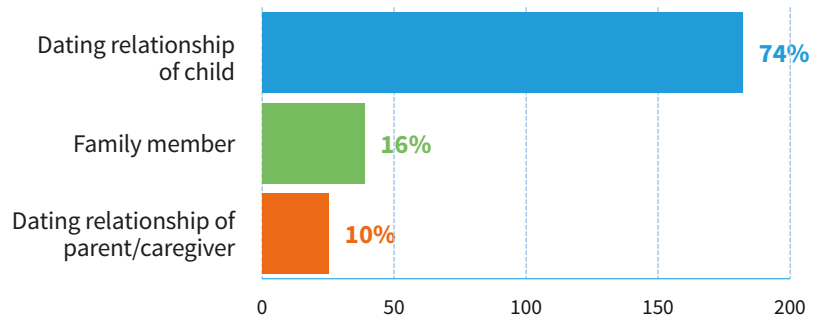


Figure 3 Type of victimization by relationship to offender: **Sexual assault** (6-month average)

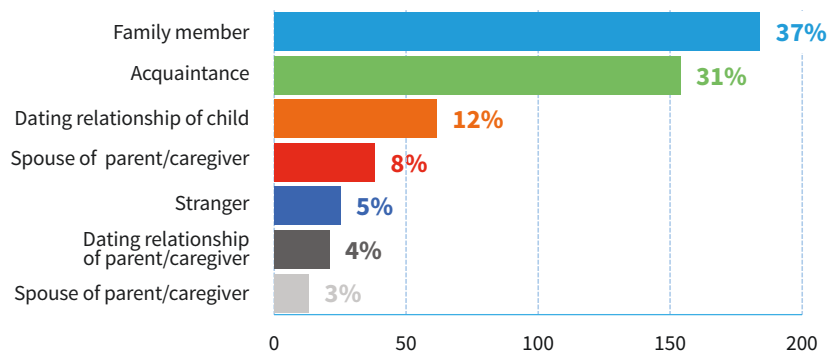
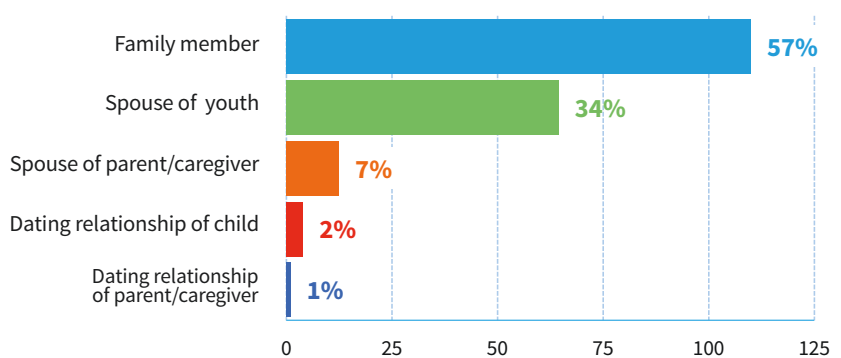


Figure 4 Type of victimization by relationship to offender: **Domestic violence** (6-month average)



Reasons Child Victims Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, grantees noted the following barriers as reasons why child victims were not served or were only partially served:

- Program reached capacity;
- Program unable to provide service due to limited resources;
- Victim did not meet eligibility or statutory requirements;
- Transportation; or
- Services inappropriate or inadequate for children with mental health issues.

Services for Children Indirectly Exposed to Violence

Grantees provide a variety of services to children indirectly exposed to domestic/sexual violence, including child advocacy, crisis intervention, and individual or group counseling. Children indirectly exposed to violence may also require assistance with school- and/or health-related issues, transportation needs, and legal issues. **These comprehensive support services address a wide variety of needs to help children become and remain safe from violence.**

- Grantees provided services to an average of **1,259** children indirectly exposed to violence during each 6-month period.
- **97%** of children indirectly exposed to violence who sought services received them during each 6-month period.

During each 6-month period, on average, grantees provided:

- Child advocacy services to **772** children;
- Support group/counseling services to **518** children;
- Crisis intervention services to **464** children; and
- Education advocacy to **367** children.

Children Indirectly Exposed to Violence Seeking Services

Grantees serve children indirectly exposed to domestic/sexual violence. Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2017:

- The majority of children served or partially served were indirectly exposed to **domestic violence** (88%).



Tribal • Grantee Perspective

The CEV program funding has allowed us to work more closely with the youth in the community, building one-on-one relationships with children who have been exposed to or who are victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Through this grant we are able to assist children with emergency clothing, hygiene products, and food. It has also allowed us to eliminate homelessness for a couple of children by providing rental assistance to the family.

KALISPEL TRIBE OF INDIANS



FL • Grantee Perspective

This funding allows Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA) to have a prevention educator solely focus on engaging men and boys in Palm Beach County to prevent domestic violence. AVDA's Violence Prevention Educator has been able to maintain existing relationships within the community as well as reach out to other community members specifically around violence against women as a men's issue. This funding gives youth an opportunity to develop public education materials to bring the message to a larger audience as well. Their role in the development of the public education campaign will promote leadership skills and connectedness to their community, in support of the project goal of preventing violence against women and girls.

FLORIDA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



VT • Grantee Perspective

The Consolidated Youth funding has allowed Chittenden County organizations the opportunity to work together in new ways. Most notably, this program has allowed us to greatly expand our work with homeless youth; build capacity and direction for a partnering LGBT youth organization to provide victim advocacy and prevention services; provide therapeutic interventions and counseling as a new free service housed at a local rape crisis center; co-create and co-facilitate with law enforcement a sex trafficking task force; and expand prevention work with both younger and older youth.

HOPE WORKS, VERMONT

Figure 5 Provision of services to children indirectly exposed to violence by CY Program grantees, by type of violence

Children served and partially served by type of victimization (6-month average)

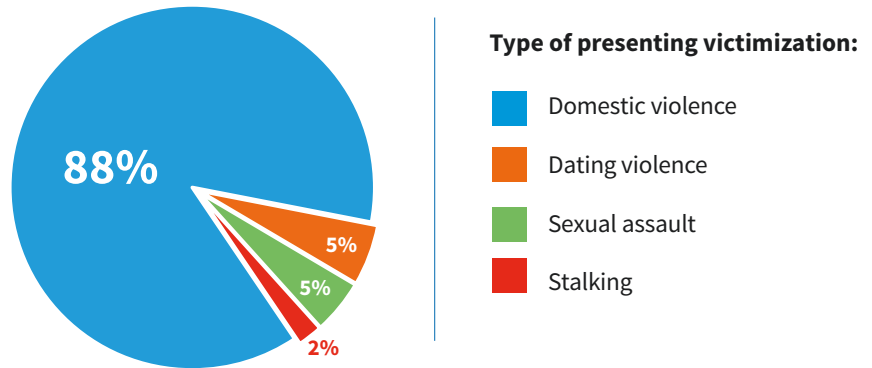


Table 3 Children indirectly exposed to violence seeking services with CY grant funds, July 2015–June 2017

Children seeking services	6-month average	
Total children seeking services	1,300	
Children served	1,176	90%
Children partially served	84	6%
Children not served	41	3%

NOTE: "Partially served" represents children who received some but not all of the service(s) they requested, provided those services were funded under the CY Program grant. "Not served" represents children who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, provided those services were funded under the CY Program grant. During the 2-year reporting period, one child was partially served in one of the 6-month reporting periods.

Indirectly Exposed Children's Relationship to Offender

Grantees serve children indirectly exposed to domestic/sexual violence. Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2017:

- The children most frequently served or partially served were indirectly exposed to violence by a **family member** (50%).
- The remaining children were most commonly exposed to violence by a **spouse or intimate partner of a parent/caregiver** (39%) or **dating partner of the parent/caregiver** (10%).

Figure 6 Type of indirect exposure by child’s relationship to offender:
Domestic violence (6-month average)

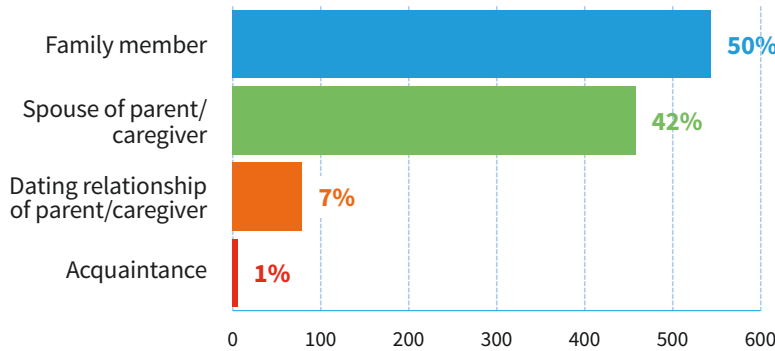
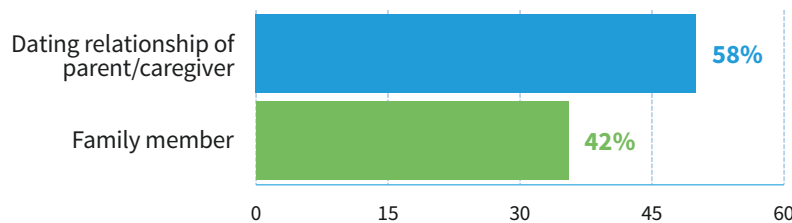


Figure 7 Type of indirect exposure by child’s relationship to offender:
Dating violence (6-month average)



NOTE: Numbers for relationship to offender were too small to compute for sexual assault and stalking victimizations.

Reasons Children Indirectly Exposed to Violence Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, grantees noted the following barriers as reasons why children indirectly exposed to violence were not served or were only partially served:

- Program reached capacity;
- Services inappropriate or inadequate for children with mental health issues;
- Victim did not meet eligibility or statutory requirements; or
- Program unable to provide service due to limited resources.

Demographics of Children Served and Partially Served

Grantees served or partially served an average of **1,027** child victims and **1,259** children indirectly exposed to violence during each 6-month period. The child victims most frequently served or partially served were **white** (50%), **female** (75%), and between the ages of **13 and 17** (40%). Children indirectly exposed to violence were most frequently **white** (40%), **female** (52%), and between the ages of **0 and 12** (76%).



VT • Grantee Perspective

Throughout the last year of this grant, the program coordinator was actively engaged in the Youth Advocacy Task Force and the Sexual Violence Task Force. Both are initiatives to share best practices, maintain professional standards, and represent LGBT youth concerns in decision-making on topics like sexual health education standards in Vermont, and the inclusion of consent and sexual violence in those standards. LGBT youth in Vermont rarely have access to comprehensive sexual health information in school settings, so advocacy for increased access to accurate information becomes imperative both to promote healthy sexual relationships and to confer age-appropriate information about consent to all Vermont youth. As a member of the Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force, the program coordinator was able to add input to the state’s Technical Assistance Resource Guide, a tool for educators in Vermont to incorporate sexual violence prevention education into health education curriculum.

HOPE WORKS, VERMONT

A recent survey of 1,141 high-risk youth who had been exposed to violence found that at particular points during early adolescence, boys may be at equal risk of experiencing teen dating violence as girls. While the fear caused by victimization seems to impact girls more intensely, these data indicate a need to consider the impacts of teen dating violence across age and gender (Reidy et al., 2016).



TX • Grantee Perspective

The CEV funding allowed us to bundle our entire continuum of services into a single programmatic model implemented in a single school district. By bundling our services in a single community, we are able to maximize any potential positive outcomes. Our Student Assistance Programs (SAPs) model is a school-based approach that allows us to offer multiple services managed in a way that allows them to be bundled to meet the specific needs of individual student participants. The higher the need of the student the more services potentially available to the student. Prior to the CEV funding, SafeHaven has never before been able to offer services in such an organized continuum.

SAFEHAVEN OF TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Table 4 Demographic characteristics of children served with CY grant funds, July 2015–June 2017

Characteristic	6-month average			
	Child victims		Children indirectly exposed	
	N	%	N	%
Race				
American Indian or Alaska Native	40	4%	79	6%
Asian	22	2%	44	4%
Black or African American	176	19%	275	22%
Hispanic or Latino	236	25%	355	29%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	10	1%	12	1%
White	466	50%	490	40%
Unknown (missing)	99		24	
Gender				
Female	718	75%	633	52%
Male	234	25%	590	48%
Total	1,027		1,259	
Unknown (missing)	75		37	
Age				
0–12	219	22%	935	76%
13–17	395	40%	263	21%
18–24	364	37%	31	3%
Total	1,027		1,259	
Unknown (missing)	75		37	
Other				
Children with disabilities	70	7%	58	5%
Children who are Deaf or hard of hearing	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
Children with limited English proficiency	32	3%	53	4%
Children who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	34	3%	36	3%
Children who live in rural areas	220	21%	577	46%
Children who are homeless/runaways	211	21%	46	4%
Children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex	243	24%	27	2%
Children with mental health issues	185	18%	117	9%

Support Services and Referrals for Non-Abusing Parents/Caregivers

In addition to services for children, grantees provide support services and referrals to non-abusing parents/caregivers of child victims and children indirectly exposed to violence. Grantees may either provide these services directly, or refer parents to other agencies.

- Grantees provided support services to an average of **470** non-abusing parents/caregivers.
- Grantees provided referrals to an average of **349** non-abusing parents/caregivers.

During each 6-month period, grantees provided the following services and/or referrals to non-abusing parents/caregivers:

- Advocacy services;
- Case management services; and
- Support group/counseling services.

Shelter Services

Grantees provided emergency housing to an average of **67** non-abusing parents/caregivers and **120** accompanying family members for a total of **17,102** bed nights.

Remaining Areas of Need

Grantees noted that **service providers face additional challenges when working with underserved populations**, particularly:

- English language learners;
- LGBTQ youth;
- Homeless youth;
- African American youth; and
- Immigrant and refugee communities.

Many emphasized the importance of **considering multiple oppressions** when designing programming and services for these populations.



MN • Grantee Perspective

Ever since the shelter opened as a result of the project in August 2015, it is clear the need is there and even exceeds our current capacity to provide shelter to youth and young adults experiencing dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual violence or stalking. The shelter filled to capacity within a short period of time and remains at full capacity consistently. A common trend we've noticed with young people is that they tend to stay in shelter for much longer periods in order to reach their goals due to their many challenges. We also consistently hear from both young people and other service providers there is a lack of shelter programs who have the capacity to serve young people with multiple victimizations, and particularly those who have experienced sexual exploitation.

TUBMAN, MINNESOTA



CA • Grantee Perspective

We also continue to face a competition of needs when it comes to supporting victims/survivors. In the South LA community, as in many places, violence against women can very often be overshadowed by other issues that have significant unhealthy and unsafe impacts on community members, such as poverty and systemic racism. As service-providers, it is important for us to identify what the communities who we work with need to feel heard, especially when they do not always see the institutions that are in place as being safe for them to access, such as law enforcement. By working with partners in different collaborations, we can more readily work together to connect risk and protective factors across multiple forms of violence and therefore address a wider range of issues.

PEACE OVER VIOLENCE, CALIFORNIA



NY • Grantee Perspective

In the broader homeless youth provider community, LGBT specific issues are still widely misunderstood. Being able to provide support to young people who have experienced these traumas is crucial, but also considering their identities within the context of abuse is important. More training for staff outside our agency would be helpful, but even internally - being able to have deeper trainings on trauma, violence prevention, and skills for helping youth avoid future exposure would be helpful.

THE ALI FORNEY CENTER, NEW YORK



NY • Grantee Perspective

Too often young people (particularly young men) are bombarded with messages that promote different forms of violence as inevitably normal. While we cannot block and erase these messages, we seek with our programming to make these young men critical consumers and analyzers of the violent messages being aimed at them. These additional survival skills are needed to both avoid and deter violence since what are often lacking are positive visible models of success in avoiding violence or violent situations.

VERA HOUSE, NEW YORK

Grantees expressed a need for **more education and outreach for youth and families, and more training for service providers and those who work with young people**, including:

- Early prevention education for elementary and middle school students;
- Programming for men and boys;
- Information for parents and guardians on healthy relationships, violence prevention, and ways to discuss violence and sexual abuse with their children;
- Training for teachers and school personnel to identify signs of exposure to violence and make appropriate referrals; and
- Strategies for addressing inconsistencies among service providers' understandings of mandated reporting requirements.



WA • Grantee Perspective

Accessible mental health services are lacking in our community. Local youth behavioral health surveys, which are distributed to all 8th and 10th graders in the county, point specifically to the need for these services for youth who identify as LGBTQ+ and Native youth. In 2016, the results of this survey showed that 33% of Native youth indicated that they had “seriously considered suicide in the past year.” Similarly, 32% of youth who identify as gay or lesbian and 54% of youth who identify as bisexual report that they have seriously considered suicide, compared to 11% of those who identify as straight.

BELLINGHAM-WHATCOM COUNTY COMMISSION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, WASHINGTON

Many grantees also mentioned the importance of **meeting the basic needs of young victims**, particularly **secure emergency and long-term affordable housing and mental health services**.



FL • Grantee Perspective

Another area of continued need is accessible prevention and awareness training to all facilities and agencies working with children combined with training on indicators, grooming techniques, statistics, prevalence, and reporting requirements. Programs still in need of targeting for provision of CSA training include youth sports programs, programs for children with special needs, church or other after school or summer camp programs.

ORLANDO HEALTH, INC., FLORIDA