



# VERMONT NETWORK

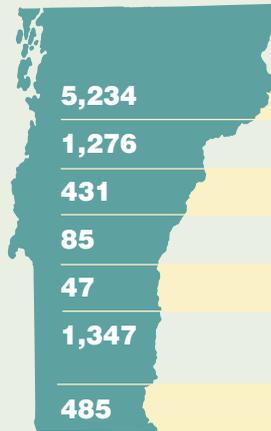
Uprooting the causes of violence so every last Vermonter thrives

## 2019 Data Snapshot

### Member Organizations helped 8,760 people.

- 1,376** . . . . . Children and youth
- 6,619** . . . . . Female-identified adults
- 586** . . . . . Male-identified adults
- 290** . . . . . LGBTQ People
- 597** . . . . . Ethnic/Racial minorities
- 656** . . . . . People with disabilities\*
- 275** . . . . . Elders

\*includes Deaf and hard of hearing people



#### People who were helped experienced:

Domestic Violence
Sexual Violence
Stalking
Sexual Harrassment
Sex Trafficking
Violence or abuse against a friend or family member
Other



**18,921** hotline calls answered.



**1,055** adults accessed support for parenting



**1,376** children and youth connected with an advocate for help with abuse toward a family member or toward themselves.



**2,546** people accepted help with housing, and **1,484** people with economic issues.



**385** people received an advocate's support with health care issues.



**12,065** youth and **4,852** adults were reached through outreach and education.



**3,072** people got help with civil and criminal legal issues.

For a list of member organizations go to [vtnetwork.org/member-program](http://vtnetwork.org/member-program)



### Vermont Network Projects



#### Deaf Vermonters Advocacy Services (DVAS)

24 Deaf and hard of hearing Vermonters accessed culturally relevant support.



#### DIVAS - Advocacy with Incarcerated Women

389 women had access to support and information from advocates at Vermont's only women's prison.



#### Vermont Legal Clinic

This free clinic represented 332 clients: 152 for dating/ domestic violence, 137 for adult rape/sexual assault, 27 for child sexual assault or physical abuse, 12 for stalking, and 4 for elder abuse.



#### Vermont Forensic Nursing Program

This Program trained and supported 72 Credentialed Adult/Adolescent and 18 Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners who cared for 164 adults and 67 children in 14 Vermont hospitals.

### Housing for Survivors

- **Vermont Network member organizations provided**
  - **Emergency Shelter** to 298 adults and 224 children.
  - **Transitional housing** to 85 adults and 64 children.
  - **Emergency motel stays** to 505 adults and 219 children.
- Over the past three years the average length of stay in shelters was 52 days
- **Transitional housing is sorely needed for survivors of violence** – for every 3 beds in domestic and sexual violence shelters there is only 1 transitional housing bed.
- The Vermont Network disbursed \$66,000 to 114 households for **housing stabilization and economic empowerment**.<sup>\*</sup> Due to extreme demand from survivors, **these funds were unavailable for 163 days (44%) of the year.**



<sup>\*</sup> Housing Fund (HOP Grant), Financial Assistance Fund (Allstate Foundation) and Courtney's Allies



### Incarcerated Survivors of Violence

- **80%** of incarcerated women in Vermont are parents of a minor child.<sup>1</sup>
- A 2013 survey found that women in the Vermont Justice system are **twice as likely** as men to have their parental rights terminated.<sup>2</sup>
- **95%** of incarcerated women in Vermont are survivor/victims of sexual and domestic violence.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lund's Kids-A-Part Program Data.

<sup>2</sup> ACLU (2019) *Blueprint for Smart Justice Vermont*

<sup>3</sup> Veilleux, Kylene (2018), unpublished report.

### The Deadly Relationship Between Firearms and Domestic Violence

- **1/2** Half of all homicides in Vermont are domestic violence related – and more than half of those crimes are committed with firearms.<sup>4</sup>
- **77%** Over three-quarters of domestic violence related murder-suicides that occur in Vermont are committed with firearms.<sup>4</sup>
- **6X** Victims of domestic violence are six times more likely to be killed when there is a firearm in the home.<sup>5</sup>
- **8th in the nation:** Vermont's rank for domestic violence homicide in an annual survey of per-capita homicide data.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Vermont Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission, 2018 Report

<sup>5</sup> Violence Policy Center (2001). *A Deadly Myth: Women, Handgun, and Self-Defense*.

<sup>6</sup> Violence Policy Center (2019). *When Men Murder Women*.

### The LGBTQ Community

- **117** people accessed support from **Pride Center's SafeSpace Program** in 2019. People sought help related to:
  - **61%** - hate violence, bias or discrimination
  - **31%** - abuse from a family or household member
  - **15%** - sexual harm.
- **1 in 4** people helped by SafeSpace were homeless at some point in 2019.
- **Transgender youth** are **four times as likely** to have experienced sexual or dating violence compared to their cisgender peers.<sup>7</sup>
- **All of us can make a difference.** LGBTQ youth who believed they mattered to people in their community were **half as likely** to make a suicide plan in the past 12 months as those who did not.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> 2017 Vermont High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)