

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR THE
PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ANNUAL REPORT 2013



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INTRODUCTION

The NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence is proud to produce our sixth Domestic Violence Annual Report. This report serves as New York's official report on the cross sector response to domestic violence, and represents the progress made by the 14 ex-officio and 9 appointed members of the Domestic Violence Advisory Council, to enhance safety for domestic violence survivors and victims while holding the people who have hurt them accountable for their actions.

In 2013 the state saw access to the Order of Protection Registry expanded to allow correctional facility staff and parole officers access to orders of protection, thereby increasing safety for survivors and maintaining accountability for perpetrators. The passage of financial abuse laws recognizes the role economics play in victim's lives. And, the prohibition on arresting victims for violating orders of protection when they are the protected party, was a long time coming, but proof that New Yorkers want to do right by victims!

Legislative action is but one way that New York State supports victims. In 2013, in a partnership with singer/songwriter/ performer Natalie Merchant, OPDV produced public service awareness announcements encouraging bystanders to take action. At the same time, the production of three videos/DVDs that can be viewed together or individually send the message: "Don't Do Nothing" if you know someone is being abused, whether it is a coworker or classmate, or someone in your own family. Both the PSAs and the videos are on YouTube, making them accessible to anyone.

And to better prepare professionals to respond to domestic violence, new trainings and job aids were created. This year, through state agency collaborations, trainings on the connection between gang violence and domestic violence were developed and conducted around the state; enhanced training for child protective workers was developed; and tools for staff of senior centers were created and distributed. A new brochure, "Understanding and Preventing Mistreatment of Seniors" is designed to help family members, and older adults themselves, identify intimate partner abuse when it happens.

OPDV completely revised and updated its important publication, "Finding Safety and Support," to be more informative than ever, with new sections and an interactive on-line version. In addition, new material has been added to the website to address the needs of teens and those who care about them, as well as information for older adults. And a web-based "Guiding Principles for Community Domestic Violence Policy" serves as the long-awaited update to the 1997, "Model Domestic Violence Policy for Counties."

The NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team was organized in 2013 pursuant to Section 525 (10) of New York State Executive Law, and conducted two reviews. The state also began to look at the issue of high risk teams and lethality assessments by providing funding to pilot a project in the Capital Region.

A lot has happened this past year, yet there is so much more to be done. The NYS Domestic Violence Advisory Council is committed to improving the lives of victims and survivors, and providing professionals with the training, tools, education and procedures they need do the best job they can. The breadth and depth of the work being done by the members of the Advisory Council show New York's commitment to improving the response to, and prevention of, domestic violence in our state.

NYS EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Public Education & Awareness

The NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence conducts public education and outreach to increase understanding of domestic violence by the general public and specific audiences and, ultimately, to change the social norms and behaviors that allow domestic violence to continue. Here are some ways in which OPDV raised awareness in 2013.

“Shine the Light on Domestic Violence” by Turning NYS Purple

Two thousand thirteen was the sixth year of OPDV’s public awareness initiative to turn the State purple during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Purple is the color used to spread awareness of domestic violence and in 2013, Niagara Falls, Times Square, city halls and county court houses in the state turned purple. Participants included non-profit and domestic violence service providers, private businesses, elected officials, universities, government agencies, law enforcement agencies, the faith community and individuals. Some creative ideas included purple flags representing number of people served, purple painted pinkies, and a competition to “Paint the Post Purple” on a military base. Participants availed themselves of downloadable resources in OPDV’s online Toolkit, including posters, brochures and wallet cards.

The “Shine the Light on Domestic Violence” campaign continues to grow and has become self-sustaining as organizations are incorporating these activities into their annual calendars. Though smaller in scale than “pink for breast cancer,” the campaign has similarly taken on a life of its own, with participants planning their own activities at the local level. OPDV will continue to support and promote the campaign each year and continue to post photos on its Facebook page.

For more information visit the [OPDV public awareness website](#).

OPDV e-Bulletin

OPDV published four issues of its e-Bulletin covering substantive topics such as Enhancing Child Welfare Domestic Violence Practice, Economic Abuse and Domestic Violence, Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy for Dating Violence, Coercive Control, Child Abduction, Working With Deaf Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence, Protecting Indian Women with the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 and the Intersection of Gang Culture and Domestic Violence. The Bulletin also highlights local and State government programs that deserve statewide recognition.

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Nearly 2,000 individuals receive the e-Bulletin, and it has been used in trainings across the state.

For more information visit the [OPDV public awareness website](#).

For the Media

OPDV participated in several press initiatives in 2013, sometimes in partnership with other agencies. OPDV provided information to the Governor's office for his announcement of their Executive Director's appointment. OPDV also contributed to the Governor's press release kicking off Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which announced the official proclamation and the annual Shine the Light on Domestic Violence campaign. OPDV joined with the Manhattan Borough President's office for the third time to promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" initiative at a press event as Times Square was illuminated in purple.

OPDV hosted a media event and public screening of the set of videos (Finding Safety & Support: The Video) and PSAs promoting the theme, "Don't Do Nothing." Musician Natalie Merchant, who is featured in the PSAs, spoke at the event. A press release was distributed statewide.

OPDV partnered with the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services to promote further awareness of the year-old program SAVIN-NY, the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification Network-New York.

OPDV collaborated with the NYS Office for the Aging to issue a press release announcing a new brochure for older adults and a desk reference for senior center staff.

For more information see [press releases](#).

OPDV Websites

The total number of OPDV webpages viewed in 2013 was 309,756. The website is OPDV's primary means for disseminating information to professionals, victims, systems, constituents, and the media. The homepage is regularly updated, often featuring web banners that proclaim awareness events including Stalking Awareness Month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month, Crime Victims' Rights Week, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Major content additions to the website in 2013 include the following new and/or substantially updated information and resources: 2013 New York State Domestic Violence and Related Laws; Child Protective Services Training; Guiding Principles for Community Domestic Violence Policy; Health Care Information for Professionals; Intimate Partner Violence in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ)

Relationships; Mistreatment of Older Adults; and Understanding Domestic Abusers. The website was utilized to disseminate the following items: New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard Project – 2012 Data and the Domestic Violence Annual Report 2012. The website is regularly updated with new, topical information.

For more information, visit the [OPDV website](#) .

OPDV also maintains *Respect Love, Love Respect*, a discrete website with corresponding Facebook and Twitter pages dedicated to teen dating violence and dating abuse. The total number of *Respect Love* webpages viewed in 2013 was 12,977. The website has interactive features like a healthy relationships quiz and provides a multitude of resources on many subject areas related to dating abuse, such as how to identify dating abuse, statistics, advice for parents, healthy relationships, stalking and sexual assault, technology and abuse, bystander intervention and resources for college campuses. In 2013, OPDV began plans to update the website with new information and more interactive features.

For more information visit the [Respect Love website](#).

Social Media

OPDV’s Facebook page features regular posts, which also appear on a Twitter feed, covering awareness activities, topics in the news, grant opportunities, suggestions for how people can get involved, links to resources and links to the OPDV website. By the end of 2013, there were 2,376 fans of the page. There were 329 followers on Twitter.

OPDV’s page on Facebook is: www.facebook.com/NYSdomesticviolence

OPDV’s Twitter is: www.twitter.com/NYSOPDV

OPDV’s “Respect Love, Love Respect” Facebook and Twitter pages feature regular posts covering awareness activities, news topics of interest to young people, questions for them to consider and answer, links to resources and links to the Respect Love and OPDV websites. The Respect Love Facebook page had 1,012 fans by the end of 2013. There were 32 followers on Twitter.

The “Respect Love, Love Respect” page on Facebook is:

www.facebook.com/respectloveNYS

The Twitter is: www.twitter.com/respectloveNYS

OPDV also maintains a YouTube channel. The set of three videos: “Finding Safety & Support: The Video” was posted on YouTube, along with the two PSAs featuring Natalie Merchant.

The YouTube channel is: www.youtube.com/NYSdomesticviolence

e-Alerts

OPDV gathers news of available grants, upcoming conferences, and resources of potential interest to domestic violence service providers and consolidates them into a monthly e-mail called an OPDV e-Alert. The e-Alerts are distributed to nearly 1,700 recipients and are designed to share information that is more time-sensitive than what is typically covered in OPDV's quarterly e-newsletter, the OPDV Bulletin. On occasion, a news item of great significance warrants a special e-Alert be sent in addition to the regularly scheduled monthly e-mail, such as announcing the passing of new legislation.

Publications

The following new publications were developed for 2013:

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)

OPDV developed three new on-line Information Guides:

- [Teen Dating Violence: Information for Teens](#)
- [Teen Dating Violence: Information for Parents](#)
- [Teen Dating Violence: Bystander Intervention, Prevention and Education](#)

OPDV in collaboration with NYS Office of Children and Family Services and NYS Office for the Aging and Life Span of Rochester, developed and distributed “[Understanding and Preventing Mistreatment of Seniors](#).” This brochure is a preventive tool designed to bring awareness to the older adult population in New York State about how they might be mistreated and by whom. Referral information is also included.

OPDV developed [Desk Reference: Recognizing and Responding to Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation](#) for staff working in senior citizen centers. It offers important information regarding the signs of abuse, mistreatment and/or financial exploitation as well as referral information.

OPDV produced and distributed the following reports:

- [New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard Project - 2012 Data](#)
- [Domestic Violence Annual Report 2012](#)

OPDV developed [Guiding Principles for Community Domestic Violence Policy](#) in collaboration with the Empire Justice Center and subject matter experts from across the state. This web document provides valuable information for community systems and organizations interested in developing domestic violence policy.

OPDV produced a set of videos called “Finding Safety & Support: The Video” and corresponding public service announcements. DVDs are available and videos can be viewed at www.YouTube.com/NYSdomesticviolence.

NYS Department of Health (DOH)

The Department of Health developed [Stop Sexual Violence: a Sexual Violence Bystander Intervention](#) for use by organizations and individuals who work with youth and young adults. The toolkit is intended for use by middle and high school teachers, college professors, faculty members, administrators, youth group leaders, faith leaders and other

youth program coordinators. The tool kit provides an overview of existing programs and resources that utilize the bystander intervention approach.

Policies, Projects & Programs

During 2013, the following members of the NYS DV Advisory Council developed new policies and/or participated in domestic violence projects and programs:

NYS Office for the Aging (OFA)

- NYSOFA completed the planning phase and began implementation of the federal Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions grant from the Administration for Community Living to pilot an intervention focusing on reduction and prevention of financial exploitation of older adults. Two pilot sites (Manhattan and Finger Lakes) are implementing enhanced multi-disciplinary teams, which include a forensic accountant, to work on complex financial exploitation cases. Additionally, a training curriculum was developed in partnership with the Office of Children and Family Services, Bureau of Adult Services and local partners, and will be implemented to train financial professionals about financial exploitation. The curriculum has been piloted and is undergoing revisions for further implementation in the upcoming years of the grant initiative.
- NYSOFA worked with OPDV to develop and release a desk reference and brochure about elder abuse for dissemination to Senior Centers across the state.
- NYSOFA contractor, Lifespan of Greater Rochester, provided 208 individuals with domestic elder mistreatment services/direct social work intervention in a 10 county catchment area, working with law enforcement, aging service providers, financial institutions, Adult Protective Services, the courts and other agencies as appropriate.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OFA website](#).

NYS Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)

- Information for the OASAS Client data system is gathered, system-wide, at time of discharge. Questions are asked to determine whether or not a particular individual was, at any point in the treatment process, identified as a victim or

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perpetrator of intimate partner violence (IPV)/domestic violence (DV). In 2012 OASAS also added the rate of identification of significant others into our data set. In 2013, 208,829 treatment recipients reported the following:

- Identification of Victims
 - The percentage of primary clients who identified as victims increased slightly from 12% to 12.5%.
 - The percentage of significant others who identified as victims decreased slightly from 22.8% to 22.2%.
 - The percentage of all clients who identified as victims increased slightly from 12.1% to 12.5%.
- Identification of Perpetrators
 - The percentage of primary clients who identified as perpetrators increased slightly from 5.7 % to 5.9%.
 - The percentage of significant others who identified as perpetrators decreased from 5.9% to 4.6%.
 - The percentage of all clients who identified as perpetrators increased slightly from 5.8 % to 5.9 %.
- Overall Rates
 - The overall rates of identification represent a much smaller incidence of co-occurring domestic violence and substance use disorders than has been cited by national statistics. OASAS continues to track data and investigate this disparity.
- In keeping with the OPDV focus area for 2013 a Workplace Plan was developed to provide greater awareness of the IPV/DV policies and resources available to OASAS employees. An ongoing Domestic Violence Workgroup, which consists of OASAS employees, implemented the following initiatives to address this goal:
 - The IPV/DV policy is posted on the OASAS intranet.
 - IPV/DV contacts were made at each OASAS facility and those individuals were forwarded OPDV posters containing local IPV/DV resources. The contacts then posted them in the lounge/lunch areas at their respective OASAS facilities.
 - IPV/DV information was integrated into the mandatory workplace violence training that all OASAS employees received.
 - OASAS recognized October IPV/DV Awareness Month with presentations for employees at various OASAS facilities and an agency-wide promotion to “Wear Purple” on the designated day.
- System Wide OASAS Workgroup

- OASAS sustained an ongoing cross-sectional employee workgroup that addresses issues related to IPV/DV services for employees as well as services for clients.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OASAS website](#).

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

- Eleven Child Protective/Domestic Violence (CPS/DV) collaboration projects continued to be funded. CFSR data showed domestic violence to be one of the most frequent risk factors in indicated CPS cases. In each funded project a domestic violence advocate is located at the CPS office and typically provides case consultation, participates in home visits and cross training and works jointly with case workers to develop safety plans with victims of domestic violence and their children. DV and CPS staff also participate in workgroups to case conference and to develop joint case practice protocols. In 2013, approximately 2,065 families received specialized services through the collaboration projects. In 90% of the indicated CPS reports in the project, the children remained safely with the non-offending parent. In 88% of the unfounded reports, families were able to access necessary supports and services.
- OCFS continued to work with the Center for Human Services Research at the University of Albany to evaluate the impact of the CPS/DV collaborations. The multi-stage study has provided insight into the effectiveness of co-location as a model and gathered information to improve CPS/DV collaborative practice. The study was conducted over a two-year period and concluded in 2013. Findings showed that collaborative programs produced multiple benefits. Overall, co-location of a DVA in a CPS office fostered positive case practice and improved system relationships. More findings and the full evaluation reports are available on the CHSR website at <http://www.albany.edu/chsr/csp-dv.shtml>.
- OCFS was awarded a \$775,000 Hurricane Sandy Emergency Grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The purpose of these funds is to support domestic violence survivor needs resulting from displacement as a result of Hurricane Sandy. These funds are available to licensed Residential and approved Non-Residential Domestic Violence providers which currently receive FFVPSA funding from OCFS, and that are located in one of the following counties deemed impacted by Hurricane Sandy: the five boroughs of New York City (Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Queens), Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, and Westchester.

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- In 2013, OCFS approved a proposal for a trial of the first pet friendly DV shelter in New York State. The Urban Resource Center in Manhattan submitted the proposal and the plan includes a six month trial period for clients with small pets other than dogs and an additional six month trial that will include dogs. This is an important new project because many DV victims are reluctant to leave abusive situations if they cannot take their pets with them.
- OCFS participated in the New York State Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team in 2013. The team is coordinated by OPDV and consists of a combination of representatives from state agencies as well as local agencies and systems. The team is tasked with examining domestic violence deaths in New York in an effort to improve the system's response to domestic violence.
- On October 16, 2013, OCFS participated in New York State's "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" day in recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The fifth annual OCFS "Purple Day" was conducted. All OCFS employees were encouraged to support domestic violence awareness by wearing purple to work and lobby lights in the OCFS buildings were purple for the week. Employees from the Domestic Violence Unit staffed display tables, answered questions, and disseminated literature.
- A domestic violence guidance document was developed for the Healthy Families New York home visiting program. Entitled "Working with Families Where There May be Domestic Violence," it provides guidance for home visiting staff on recognizing DV in a household and working with families who are experiencing DV.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OCFS website](#).

NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)

- Additional DOCCS staff attended the 8-hour Domestic Violence and the Workplace training which allows supervisory staff to be a resource to employees who are victims of domestic violence and to ensure that assistance is available for safety planning and referrals to community resources.
- Departmental policy was updated to clearly define where orders of protection will be secured for confidentiality of victimized staff.

- Access to the Domestic Incident Report (DIR) database has allowed Correctional Facility staff to obtain accurate information about orders of protection (OPs). Often, offenders come in to DOCCS with an OP from a local or Family court that are unrelated to the commitment crime. With access to the DIR system, DOCCS is now able to determine if there are steps that need to be taken to instruct inmates not to violate the conditions set forth in the OP. Negative visit, telephone and correspondence lists are established to further reduce the likelihood the offender will have unwanted contact with the victim.
- Correctional Facility and Community Supervision staff participated in October Domestic Violence Awareness Month by posting domestic violence information throughout report sites. Staff wore purple and/or wore purple ribbons.
- Bake sales were held at several correctional Facilities with funds raised forwarded to local domestic violence service programs.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [DOCCS website](#).

Office of Court Administration (OCA)

- Unified Court System implemented the New York State Domestic Violence Advocate Assisted E-Petition Project, providing a user-friendly website for domestic violence advocates to assist litigants in creating a legally sufficient Family Offense petition necessary to obtain a Family Court Order of Protection. The web-based interview available through ProBono.net collects data that is electronically submitted directly to the statewide Family Court case management database, where the Court can easily review the information and quickly docket the case, saving the litigants and the court significant time and improving the accuracy of Family Offense filings. In 2013 the interview was completed in 13 counties statewide, and 1,499 family offense dockets were created using the system. It is expected to be implemented in each county statewide by the end of 2014.
- New York State courts issued a total of 300,236 orders of protection in 2013 showing a slight decline from 304,239 in 2012, of which 209,729 were required to be recorded in the UCS' Domestic Violence Registry.
- 17% of the family offense filings in New York State Family Courts fell under the expanded definition of "intimate relationship," a 1% increase from 2012. Of these, nearly 5% were made by individuals in current or former same-sex

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- relationships, approximately a 1% increase from 2012. This number has remained relatively stable since the 2008 passage of Expanded Access.
- New York State integrated domestic violence (IDV) courts use a “one family-one judge” model to bring before a single judge in Supreme Court the multiple criminal, family and matrimonial disputes for families where domestic violence is an underlying issue. In 2013, 2,443 new families and 13,649 new cases entered the 42 IDV courts around the state. Since 2012 the number of families served decreased by 9%, while the number of cases handled decreased by 8%.
 - The 39 New York State Domestic Violence Courts (DVCs), each staffed by a designated judge, heard 26,891 new cases in 2013, a 5% decrease from 2012.
 - Continued operation of three youthful offender domestic violence courts (YODVC’s) in Brooklyn, Bronx and Yonkers. These YODVC’s handle cases involving teen defendants tailored to the particular circumstances of adolescent defendants; they work with programs developed for teens and have available intensive advocacy aimed at supporting complaining witnesses, many of whom are teens as well. The 348 cases are included above in the statistics for the DV courts.
 - Continued drafting a Spanish translation of the order of protection to be piloted in 2014.
 - Began focus groups to inform the drafting of a firearms surrender protocol.
 - Worked with the Center for Court Innovation regarding incarcerated women’s re-entry and intimate partner violence.
 - Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OCA website](#).

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

Office of Criminal Justice Operations

- Maintained the state’s electronic Domestic Incident Report (DIR) Repository, which provides law enforcement agencies with cross-jurisdictional access to DIRs, allowing them to more effectively respond to incidents of domestic violence and enhance officer and victim safety. DIRs are completed whenever the police respond to a domestic incident-related call for service; those paper

documents are sent to DCJS, which captures the data contained in them electronically. The repository allows the reports to be searched by victim or offender name, incident address or document number. DIRs are filed by more than 550 police agencies in the 57 counties outside of New York City. During 2013, there were 189,152 DIRs entered into the repository and as of Dec. 31, 2013 there was a total of 767,393 DIRs. More than 200 police agencies had access to the repository at the end of last year.

Office of Public Safety

- Worked with agencies participating in Operation IMPACT, which targets the 17 jurisdictions outside of New York City that report 80 percent of the crime in the state, to encourage those agencies to develop strategies to better target domestic violence. The following counties participate in IMPACT – Albany, Broome, Chautauqua, Dutchess, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Rensselaer, Rockland, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester – and the following activities occurred in 2013:
 - In the 2013-14 Request for Assistance cycle, all IMPACT jurisdictions were strongly encouraged to design a domestic violence reduction strategy. They were also required to participate in the Domestic Incident Report Repository, and to submit the Domestic Incident Report flag on arrest cards.
- Thirteen of the 17 jurisdictions also opted to identify a domestic violence reduction strategy. OPDV reviewed and provided input to DCJS on the content of all of the proposals, and has provided support to all jurisdictions through technical assistance and training.

Office of Justice Research and Performance

- DCJS was represented on the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. The Team's work commenced in March 2013 via a two day training event. The first case review occurred in June 2013, with a second case review completed in November 2013. For additional information on the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, please visit:
<http://opdv.ny.gov/professionals/fatalrev/index.html>.

Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA)

- Probation Domestic Violence Liaisons
 - Through OPCA's coordination, each probation department has an identified Probation Domestic Violence Liaison who serves as a primary point of contact for Domestic Violence related matters. A directory of these liaisons, updated by OPCA on 9/23/2013, can be found at:

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<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/opca/pdfs/probation-domestic-violence-liaisons-list.pdf>.

- Management of Interstate Transfer DV Offenders
 - OPCA's Interstate Office continues to screen incoming DV cases and runs NCIC/III record checks, performs DIR Searches, Order of Protection Inquiries and checks the sex offender registry on all incoming DV offenders. Any crucial information received as a result of performing said searches is forwarded to local probation departments via email.
 - In 2013 the unit managed 130 DV cases transferred in to New York.
 - In 2013 the unit managed 39 DV cases transferred out of New York.
- Chapter 491 of the Laws of 2012
 - Through State Probation Directors Memorandum 2013, OPCA informed New York's 58 probation departments of the new Domestic Violence Laws enacted through Chapter 491 of the Laws of 2012. In their Annual Plans submitted in 2013, probation departments and ATI programs which operate Pre-Trial Services Programs were further asked to offer comment regarding their practices as related to certain provisions of these new laws.
- Annual Probation Plan
 - OPCA's Annual Probation Plan package completed by each probation department includes a series of questions which reflect their Domestic Violence related efforts. In response to submitted plans, OPCA provided follow up guidance in 2013, encouraging access to the DCJS DIR Repository to certain departments who appeared to not be using, or under-utilizing that tool.
- NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team
 - The NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team membership includes a representative from OPCA, as well as the Director of a County Probation Department. The Team's work commenced in March 2013 via a two day training event. The first case review occurred in June 2013, with a second case review completed in November 2013. For additional information on the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, please visit: <http://opdv.ny.gov/professionals/fatalrev/index.html>.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [DCJS website](#).

NYS Education Department (SED)

- In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, illuminated the SED building in purple.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [SED website](#).

NYS Department of Health (DOH)

- The Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Health Home Visitation (MIECHV) initiative supports Nurse Family Partnership programs in Kings, Monroe, Nassau, Onondaga and Bronx counties and Healthy Families New York programs in Bronx, Erie and Kings Counties. Funded programs provide home visiting services to Medicaid-eligible families and are required to screen for domestic violence, refer for relevant services and assist clients with completing a safety plan as appropriate. From October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013, 1,105 women were served, of whom 1,010 were screened for domestic violence.
- The Family Planning Program contracts with 49 providers with 188 clinic sites and provided reproductive health care services to 344,916 clients in 2013. These programs have operating certificates authorized by DOH to operate as an Article 28 facility, so they are required to screen for domestic violence. Each family planning program must also provide annual training to staff on domestic violence, develop policies and procedures for domestic violence screening, and provide a narrative response regarding its efforts to identify domestic violence in its annual report.
- The Community Health Worker Program is an outreach, home visiting, information and referral program and it served 3,000 high-risk pregnant and postpartum women and their families in 2013. Community Health Workers provide information, education and referrals on a variety of topics which may impact maternal, infant and child health outcomes, including domestic violence.
- DOH funds 50 Rape Crisis and Sexual Violence Prevention Programs (RCSVPP's) at 72 sites throughout New York State. In 2013 RCSVPP programs:
 - Served approximately 31,547 clients.
 - Provided 2,959 multi-session educational programs to 19,226 young people.
 - Provided 1,110 professional trainings to 20,268 professionals including law enforcement officers, school personnel, social workers, district attorneys and health care providers. Topics included prevention of

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bullying, healthy relationships, gender roles, self-esteem, communication skills, role of bystanders and other prevention topics.

- The Rape Crisis and Sexual Violence Prevention Program (RCSVPP) provided 2,959 multi-session educational programs to 19,226 young people. RCSVPPs conducted these prevention education programs in schools, colleges and community locations.
- NYSDOH has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Child Abuse Referral and Evaluation (CARE) program of the University Health Care Center in Syracuse to establish the Child Abuse Medical Provider (CHAMP) program. This program supports a network of medical providers specially trained to examine pediatric patients suspected of being sexually abused. The goal of the CHAMP network is to improve access to quality medical care for suspected child sexual abuse victims through the provision of training webinars and on-line education. CHAMP offered six webcasts on child abuse between 10/2012 and 9/2013, with 507 participants. In addition, 82 participants successfully completed the CHAMP Evaluating Child Sexual Abuse (ECSA) on-line interactive coursework.
- The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Program provided services for 2,575 acute cases that presented within 96 hours of the assault. NYSDOH approves SAFE training programs, SAFE hospitals and specialty trained health professionals as SAFE Examiners work to ensure that victims of sexual violence are provided with competent, compassionate and prompt care, while providing the most advanced technology associated with sexual assault forensic evidence collection and preservation. There are 40 SAFE Centers of Excellence in New York State, approximately 267 Examiners and 10 DOH approved SAFE training programs.
- Information from OPDV's 2013 Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month was sent to the Comprehensive Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention initiative and the Personal Responsibility Education Program organizations for dissemination in the communities they serve.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [DOH website](#).

NYS Department of Labor (DOL)

- The Department of Labor has an electronic incident report system primarily for workplace violence prevention. The system transmits the incident report to the

- appropriate staff person to address the incident, and keeps track of the progress of the incident management for oversight.
- For the management of domestic violence incidents, Labor has added a checkbox for “domestic violence.” Any staff member reporting an incident can indicate that the incident was related to domestic violence. This will trigger appropriate intervention on behalf of the victim.
 - Labor has also added a field for “Order of Protection/Restraining Order.” This will alert appropriate security officers to the danger posed to the victim and will enable them to get law enforcement assistance in the event that a perpetrator came to one of their buildings.
 - The above information is accessible by Executive Management and is kept confidential.
 - For every incident of domestic violence, a staff person is assigned to resolve the incident. The staff person assigned can inquire of the victim and update the unusual incident record if the incident was related to domestic violence.
 - Reports are able to be run on the system and identify locations where domestic violence incidents have occurred so that appropriate safeguards are in effect at the location to protect the victim and the rest of the workforce.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [DOL website](#).

NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)

- OMH employees helped raise awareness by participating in Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the following ways:
 - DV support staff displayed and disseminated information.
 - Many employees wore purple, including the hospital Executive Directors who were gathered for a meeting that day.
 - Collected cell phones to donate to domestic violence programs.
 - Changed the lighting and signs to purple for the month.
 - Played DV themed movies for brown bag discussion in October.
 - Utilized domestic violence tool kit to distribute printed materials and e-versions.
- Reusable banners were printed with material from the OPDV website.
- Mass emails were sent with statistics and references for assistance.

- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OMH website](#).

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)

- **NYS Domestic Violence Advisory Council**
 - The Council met twice in 2013 providing domestic violence information and updates from member agencies and systems.
 - Released the 2012 New York State Domestic Violence Annual Report.
 - Council Members reported out on their efforts for the 2013 focus topic of “Domestic Violence and the Workplace.”
 - Identified “LGBT Domestic Violence Victims and Perpetrators – Screening, Services & Referrals” as the Council’s topic for 2014.
- **Domestic Violence and the Workplace**
 - **Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy.** All NYS agencies and participating municipalities revised their Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policies to include specific information regarding orders of protection (OP). Employees are now clear where and to whom they can provide copies of their OP, and what happens to that information after it has been brought forward. It is hoped this update will encourage more employees to provide a copy of their OP to the appropriate workplace designee, creating a safer work environment for them, and for the rest of the workforce.
 - **2013 Bi-Annual Domestic Violence and the Workplace Report.** All NYS agencies have a Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy in place and report pertinent domestic violence information to OPDV twice a year. The following reflects the information reported by NYS agencies for 2013:
 - 285 incidents of DV occurred in the workplace.
 - 199 employees reported that they were involved in DV (victim or perpetrator).
 - 152 employees reported that others were victims of DV.

- 345 employees requested DV information.
 - 300 referrals were made to NYS DV service providers.
 - 240 orders of protection were disclosed to agencies.
- **Capstone Team.** OPDV was awarded the opportunity to supervise a team of graduate students from NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service as part of the NYU Capstone Project. The students researched and analyzed the efficacy of the NYS Domestic Violence and the Workplace program by conducting a literature review comparing the comprehensiveness of the NYS program versus other states and made recommendations of action steps that OPDV could take to improve the program and/or reporting in order to make the state workplace safer for victims of domestic violence and their colleagues. Their suggestion of more explicit information for employees on how orders of protection will be handled by the workplace was implemented through a policy revision (see above).

- **Fatality Review Team**

The provision of the legislation that created the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team became effective in April 2013. The activities of the team in 2013 included:

- The appointment of team members, which began in 2012, was completed.
- Team members participated in a two-day training conducted by the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative. The training included learning from the national experts how to conduct fatality reviews as well as creating the process by which the NYS team operates.
- The team developed a mission statement, guiding principles, and a confidentiality agreement. Information about the project was developed and posted to the OPDV website, including a referral form that can be used by the general public to refer a case to the team for possible review.
- A secure, confidential website for the sharing of information between team members and individuals who provide records to the team was developed and initiated.
- The team conducted 2 two-day case reviews of intimate partner fatalities that occurred in New York State. These intensive reviews were conducted in communities where the fatalities occurred and included meeting with local responders who were involved in the cases.

- **Guiding Principles for Community Domestic Violence Policy**

In 2012 OPDV received a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant-American Recovery and Reinvestment Grant, to update the 1997 Model Policy for Counties. This project was completed in 2013. The web document was a collaborative effort between OPDV, the Empire Justice Center and subject matter experts across the

state. It provides valuable information for community systems and organizations who are thinking about developing a domestic violence policy. In addition to General Guiding Principles that would apply to all systems and organizations, there is detailed information for:

- Law Enforcement
 - Community Corrections
 - Prosecutors/Civil Attorneys
 - Courts
 - Education
 - Health Care
 - Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder
 - Workplace
 - Public Assistance & Public Housing
- **Respect Love, Love Respect**

OPDV conducted a focus group of teens to critique the Respect Love, Love Respect website. This information is being used to restructure the design of the website in an effort to make the content more current and the site user friendly.

- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OPDV website](#).

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)

- Continued supervision of social service districts' implementation of the Family Violence Option (FVO) which provides domestic violence screening of all applicants for Temporary Assistance (TA) and if appropriate, the referral of TA applicants or recipients to district Domestic Violence Liaisons (DVLs). DVLs are trained to assess the needs of DV victims and to provide waivers from any TA program requirements (i.e., employment, child support) that might further endanger the victim.
- Continued to make training on the Family Violence Option and other domestic violence issues available to county Domestic Violence Liaisons (DVL) through our contracts with the Professional Development Program (PDP) and OPDV. In 2013, 27 counties sent a total of 42 workers to the three-day DVL Institute.
- Actively encouraged employees of OTDA to demonstrate support for Domestic Violence Awareness Month by wearing purple to work on October 16th. In

October, OTDA also made domestic violence information available to employees through the use of a staffed outreach table in the building lobby.

- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OTDA website](#).

NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS)

- During National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 21 – April 27, 2013, numerous domestic violence awareness events were posted on the OVS website calendar.
- During Domestic Violence Awareness Month OVS worked with the OGS Building Manager of the Shirley A. Chisholm State Office Building located at 55 Hanson Place in Brooklyn to turn the building façade purple.
- State employees at the Brooklyn office and at 80 South Swan Street in Albany and 65 Court Street in Buffalo were encouraged to wear purple on October 17 to enhance awareness and display solidarity in opposition to domestic violence in all its forms.
- Completed the required update of the Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policy addressing the handling of orders of protection and filed the bi-annual reports with OPDV.

For more information visit the [OVS website](#).

2013 Services

Direct services are provided by some members of the NYS Advisory Council. Below is a snapshot of those services for 2013:

NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse services (OASAS)

- Bronx Addiction Treatment Center (ACT) Domestic Violence Program
 - An average of 51 patients were screened for domestic violence/intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) each month for a total of 612. This is a decrease from last year, which was related to a decrease in overall admission. 20% of those screened reported being perpetrators or victims of DV/IPV.
 - 409 patients completed 4 sessions/workshops on IPV psycho-education. They reported gaining an awareness of DV/IPV. The number of patients receiving this intervention decreased by 43 patients due to a decrease in overall admission.
 - 74 women attended 4 DV counseling and peer support group sessions and were offered an opportunity to share their story. There were 10 LGBT patients who participated in the group and identified as victims. Overall, 60% who attended reported being victims and 50% of those who attended were able to develop a safety plan with aftercare referral offered at discharge. This year there was a significant increase in female participation in these groups with reports that some heard about the IPV/DV program from former patients.

For more information visit the [OASAS website](#).

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

- OCFS has oversight of 162 licensed residential domestic violence programs and 87 approved non-residential programs. These programs provided residential services to 15,536 adults and children and non-residential services to approximately 41,600 adults and children. Technical assistance was provided through a variety of sources to all residential and non-residential domestic violence programs. Through its home and regional offices, OCFS staff provided on-site monitoring and technical assistance in program and policy development,

as well as in licensing, financial and contract issues. The effects of the technical assistance have included improved quality of services, improved documentation of program impacts, and improved coordination among stakeholders.

- OCFS licenses and approves domestic violence programs and distributes Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FFVPSA) funds, if available, to support the viability of residential and non-residential programs. In 2013, FFVPSA funds were allocated equally to all approved residential and non-residential domestic violence programs in the state on a non-competitive basis. Each of the 93 applicants was eligible to receive an award of up to \$34,984 to support general operating expenses, health and safety improvements and/or program enhancements.
- OCFS utilizes the internet based DV Information System to identify information that will be useful to programs and communities in identifying trends and gaps to assist in further supporting and enhancing services for victims of domestic violence.
- New York State Children and Family Trust Fund awarded new grants in 2013, and supports four programs whose primary focus is supporting families affected by domestic violence.
- Orange County Safe Homes: Agency is supported with \$80,000 for co-location of Domestic Violence (DV) advocate at the CPS office to provide protocol development, case consultation, home visits, cross-training, and jointly work to safety plan for DV victims and their children.
- Children's Aid Society: Agency is supported with \$80,000 to provide victim support services, abusive partner education and intervention, child therapy, and abusive partner intervention and therapeutic visitation services.
- Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families: Agency is supported with \$98,000 for the Children's Therapy Program addressing trauma symptoms of children who have witnessed domestic violence; child-parent psychotherapy for children 0-5, and case management and support services for parents.
- Westchester Jewish Community Services: Agency is supported with \$91,430 to support parents and their children ages 3-6, providing comprehensive case management, home-visiting, access to evidence-based trauma-informed mental health treatment, and a host of social, recreational, and other supportive resources to build protective factors and increase child safety.

For more information visit the [OCFS compendium website](#).

NYS Department of Labor

- Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants who identify that they quit their job because of domestic violence may be able to collect UI benefits. In 2013, 645 victims of domestic violence were paid UI benefits.

For more information visit the [DOL website](#).

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)

- ***Hotline***

New York State supports a statewide victim hotline providing English and Spanish language crisis and referral services. In 2013, the Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline responded to 8,881 calls. For detailed information regarding the demographics of these calls, please visit [NYS Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline](#).

In 2013, in conjunction with the vendor, OPDV agreed to combine the two separate – English and Spanish language – hotlines into one multi language 24-hour number. The change will occur in 2014 and will be seamless.

- ***Victim Resource Services***

Through a partnership with the Office of Victim Services and OPDV, the Victim Resource Coordinator provided compensation claims assistance, telephone support, information and referral, criminal justice support advocacy, emergency assistance, and personal advocacy for 153 callers and 203 emails and written correspondence in 2013. Victims of crime call for help with many issues, including but not limited to: systems failures (police, courts and social services), immediate crisis, lack of permanent housing, advocacy and appropriate referrals.

For more information visit the [OPDV website](#).

NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS)

- Made payments on 1,990 domestic violence claims for reimbursement.
- Paid \$2,504,461.60 in compensation to domestic violence claimants to cover costs such as: medical, counseling, loss of wages, essential personal property and funerals.

- Made 22 payments to domestic violence victims for moving/storage expenses totaling \$15,200.
- Made 2 payments to domestic violence victims for security device expenses totaling \$577.
- Made 5 payments to domestic violence victims for shelter expenses totaling \$710,171.
- Provided \$7,142,655 in federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds and \$1,428,531 in state Criminal Justice Improvement Act (CJIA) funds to victim assistance programs that serve domestic violence victims.
- Funded 45 domestic violence programs, 28 sexual assault programs, 19 dual domestic violence and rape crisis programs and 83 comprehensive programs that service both victims of domestic violence and sexual assault victims for a total of 175 programs across the state.
- Funded victim assistance programs served 105,969 primary and 7,488 secondary domestic violence victims.

For more information visit the [OVS website](#).

Training

The following trainings were provided by NYS Advisory Council Members:

NYS Office for the Aging (OFA)

- NYSOFA received a three-year federal Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions grant from the Administration for Community Living in 2012, which draws on existing research and promising practices to pilot test interventions that can help reduce and prevent incidents of elder abuse. As one component of the grant initiative, 200 financial professionals were trained within the grant's pilot sites (Manhattan and Finger Lakes) about financial exploitation, other forms of elder abuse, and the laws and protections concerning financial exploitation prevention and follow up.
- Sixty-four NYSOFA staff members completed on-line Domestic Violence and the Workplace training through the Statewide Learning Management System.
- NYSOFA contractor, Lifespan of Greater Rochester, provided 66 training events on elder abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, scams and frauds, reaching 1,867 individuals. Lifespan of Greater Rochester also provided 27 trainings to 601 professionals on the recognition and reporting of elder mistreatment and neglect.

For more information visit the [OFA website](#).

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

- David Mandel presented a two-day Safe and Together Model™ training for the OCFS funded CPS/DV collaborations in June 2013. This training encouraged the CPS caseworkers to take a different approach when investigating CPS cases involving DV to improve outcomes for victims and their children. Attendees were shown how the non-offending parent's strengths and preventive strategies can be used to effectively implement a safety plan for the family and empower the adult victim. They also learned techniques for holding the offending parent accountable while supporting the victim and children.
- David Mandel and his staff trained the State Central Register staff on how to use concepts from his Safe and Together Model™ when interviewing callers

regarding DV situations. Holding the abuser accountable and exploring the non-offending parent's protective actions during the interview were stressed.

For more information visit the [OCFS website](#).

NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)

- 1,086 recruits and 34 in-service employees were trained in domestic violence.

For more information visit the [DOCCS website](#).

NYS Office of Court Administration (OCA)

- The Unified Court System offered the following domestic violence related training statewide to judges, court staff and attorneys for the children:
 - National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence enhancing Judicial Skills
 - National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence Enhancing Judicial Skills in Adolescent Relationship Abuse Cases
 - Federal Violence Against Women Act and Firearms Law
 - New York State Domestic Violence Update
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Trans-gender Domestic Violence Issues
 - Active Military and Veterans' Domestic Violence Issues
 - Witness Intimidation and Recantation in Civil & Criminal Domestic Violence Cases
 - Recognizing & Responding to Stalking in the 21st Century
 - Intimate Partner Violence and Veterans
 - Understanding & Addressing Women's Use of Force
 - How Language Helps Shape Our Response to Violence Against Women
 - Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence: The Interrelationship

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Training

- Access to Justice Initiative for Online Order of Protection Petition Drafting
- Domestic Violence Issues in the Disabled/Elderly Population
- Matrimonial Seminar: Domestic Violence in Matrimonial Actions
- Domestic Violence and Family Law Legislative Update
- Overview of the Family Court Act
- Advocacy for Children in Domestic Violence Cases: Effective Representation of a Child's Position
- Interviewing Children in the Midst of High Conflict Cases
- Assessing Risk in the Context of Domestic Violence
- Child Custody & Access: Understanding the Impact of Domestic Violence When Advocating for Children
- Interrupting the Cycle of Violence
- Adolescent Dating Violence and Risk Behavior
- Domestic Violence Dynamics (including the Comings & Goings exercise)
- Risk Assessment
- Weapons Surrender Procedures
- Traumatic Bonding
- Stress Management
- Domestic Violence for Town & Village Courts
- Domestic Violence Procedures for Town & Village Court Clerks

For more information visit the [OCA website](#).

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

Office of Public Safety

- DCJS offered the following training in 2013:
 - Basic Course for Police officers: 34 trainings, 473 participants.
 - Pre-Employment Police Basic Training: 8 trainings, 102 participants.
 - Course in Police Supervision: 20 trainings, 310 officers.

Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA)

- The Fundamentals of Probation Practice (FPP) training course for new probation officers was offered by OPCA twice in 2013, with a total of 60 persons attending. In advance of attending FPP, the trainees must complete a pre-requisite Domestic Violence course accessed through the Integrated Justice Portal. The FPP course itself includes modules on Domestic Violence, and Specialized Supervision, and a role play activity which includes an interview with a DV offender.
- Additionally, the 2013 NYS Probation Officers Association Annual conference, supported by OPCA, included a Domestic Violence workshop among the presentations offered.

For more information visit the [DCJS website](#).

NYS Department of Health (DOH)

- DOH Bureau of Maternal and Child Health (BMCH) worked with staff from the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) to assess the training needs of family planning providers, maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting programs and maternal and infant community health collaborative; this assisted OPDV to develop training opportunities that would address the specific needs of several major program initiatives managed by the BMCH. The training capacity of OPDV was presented at a family planning provider conference call and a follow-up survey was distributed to all 50 family planning programs to collect information about recommended topics for training and how to best deliver the training to staff working in the family planning setting.
- BMCH staff worked with OPDV staff to develop a training workshop to be delivered to all newly funded maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting services and redesigned maternal and infant community health collaborative programs on domestic violence and how to address domestic violence issues within each program area.

For more information visit the [DOH website](#).

NYS Department of Labor (DOL)

- Several DOL employees completed the full-day Domestic Violence and the Workplace training.
- 3,907 DOL workers completed the online training provided by the Governor’s Office of Employee Relations as well as additional training provided by DOL.

For more information visit the [DOL website](#).

NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)

- OMH offered a full-day Domestic Violence and the Workplace training in November 2013 that was webcast to various facilities around the state.

For more information visit the [OMH website](#).

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)

OPDV provided the following training in 2013:

- **Child Protective Services (CPS)**
282 CPS workers completed the two day OPDV state mandated “Domestic Violence Training for CPS Workers.” These 17 skills-based, interactive trainings help CPS workers better understand how domestic violence impacts the families they work with and assist them in their case work practice.
- **Child Welfare (CW)**
291 CW workers completed the voluntary two-day OPDV “Domestic Violence Training for Child Welfare Workers.” These 16 trainings were skill-based and highly interactive, providing an understanding of how domestic violence impacts families.
- **Healthy Families New York (HFNY)**
OPDV developed content material for a computer based training (CBT) for Healthy Families New York. The intent of the CBT is to assist Healthy Families staff to recognize the signs of possible domestic violence situations in their case load, broach the subject with the non-offending parent and provide services and referral.
- **Protective Services for Adults (PSA)**

- OPDV developed content material for a Protective Services for Adults computer based training. This CBT will assist PSA workers to recognize the signs of possible domestic violence situations, to assist when possible and make appropriate referrals.
- **Teen Dating Violence**
Several informal trainings/presentations were provided to state agencies on the topic of teen dating violence and prevention.
 - **Gang Violence**
In collaboration with NYS Commission of Corrections, OPDV provided three sessions of “Gang Violence Collateral Damage: Silent Victims” to 227 professionals. The training focused on gang violence and its impact on victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
 - **Local District Social Services (LDSS) Training**
OPDV provided one-day domestic violence training sessions for LDSS staff. The purpose is to train Temporary Assistance, Child Support Enforcement and Employment Workers at local districts about the barriers related to domestic violence. In 2013 this course was held 23 times with 394 staff trained.
 - **Family Violence Option/Domestic Violence Liaison Training Institute (DVLTI)** The DVLTI is a collaborative effort coordinated by the State University of New York (SUNY), Professional Development Program (PDP) with training and technical assistance from OPDV. Three 3-day mandatory institutes provided 42 participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the job responsibilities of the Domestic Violence Liaison position, as required by law.
 - **Homeless Shelter Training**
OPDV conduct four one-day domestic violence training sessions for homeless shelter staff in New York City each calendar year. This course provides the staff of NYC homeless shelters with fundamental knowledge on the issue of domestic violence so that staff can better understand/interact with victims. In 2013 OPDV conducted the 4 sessions, providing training for 82 homeless shelter staff.
 - **Domestic Violence and the Workplace**
44 Domestic Violence and the Workplace trainings were offered, including three webcasts, with 1,252 state employees trained. One session of Domestic Violence and the Workplace Train the Trainer was held for seven participants.
 - **Law Enforcement**
30 Law Enforcement trainings were delivered to 549 officers. These trainings covered the following topics:
 - NYS Mandatory Arrest and Primary Aggressor Laws
 - Orders of Protection

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Training

- Effective Use of DIRs and the DIR Repository
- Appropriate Criminal Charges, Including Strangulation and Stalking
- Evidence Collection
- New Legislation

Law Enforcement presentations included:

- Police Response to Domestic Violence: Continuing to Move Forward, 2 sessions for the annual Nassau County Family and Domestic Violence Conference, 90 participants.
- Domestic Violence Updates and 2012 Legislative Changes, Spring 2013 Conference of Law Enforcement Training Directors of New York State, 40 participants.
- Interviewing, NYS OPCA, 6 sessions, 6 probation officers.
- Strangulation in the Context of Intimate Partner Abuse, Rensselaer County Sexual Assault Response Team Annual Conference, 20 participants.
- 14 Hour Basic Course for Police Officers, Department of Environmental Conservation Police and NYS Forest Rangers, 48 participants.
- Police Supervision, Zone 5 Academy, 22 participants.
- Domestic Violence Legal Updates, Ulster County Domestic Violence Information Forum, 120 participants.
- Strangulation Review, Health Cares about Domestic Violence Day - Clinton County Hospital, 20 participants.
- Strangulation, Legal Updates and Effective Use of the DIR, Clinton County Law Enforcement, 28 participants.
- Trauma-Centered Services, YWCA of Genesee County, 60 participants.
- DIR Repository and Legal Updates, 13th Annual Westchester County Police Interactive Training Conference, 150 participants.
- Law Enforcement Response and Legal Updates, Fulton County Domestic Violence Task Force, 19 participants.
- Law Enforcement Response to Domestic Violence, Bryant & Stratton College, 80 participants.
- Police Response to Domestic Violence: Continuing to Move Forward, Keynote for 2013 Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium Trauma Conference, 130 participants.
- Basic Course Recruit Curriculum Certification Program, NYS domestic violence instructors, 10 participants.

- **Health Care**

Under contract with DOH, several webinars were developed, pilot tested, revised and delivered to providers. The following webinars were delivered to 25 family planning and maternal and child health providers:

- Domestic Violence and Health Care Awareness
- Domestic Violence and Health Laws
- Domestic Violence as a Maternal and Child Health Issue

- You Can Make a Difference: Discussing Domestic Violence

Several of the webinars included recommendations on screening promoted by the Institute of Medicine as well as the Affordable Care Act.

In New York City, OPDV continued to raise awareness on the issue of screening for domestic violence. The majority of requests centered on dealing with immigrant women and cultural issues when screening. The following presentations were provided:

- 1 training for 40 providers on screening female patients.
- 15 presentations on cultural competency and immigrant women for nearly 700 providers.

In upstate New York, the following presentations were delivered:

- Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse – 28 participants, court staff and community participants in DV and drug courts.
- Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse: Enhancing Your Response to Victims & Offenders – 34 participants, attorneys, judges, law enforcement and advocates.
- Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking – 18 participants, Schenectady County Domestic Violence Task Force.
- Domestic Violence as a Public Health Issue – 29 participants, 2nd year medical students, Albany Medical Center.
- Domestic Violence & Maternal Child Health – 42 participants, physician assistant students, Albany Medical Center.

For more information please visit the [OPDV website](#).

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)

- Training on DV issues was provided to local district staff statewide and to workers at homeless shelters in New York City. In 2013 one-day training sessions were attended by 394 social service workers from 26 counties. Four one-day sessions were also provided to 82 NYC homeless shelter staff.

For more information visit the [OTDA website](#).

NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS)

- Provided Domestic Violence and the Workplace Training for 76 OVS employees.

For more information visit the [OVS website](#).

APPOINTED COUNCIL-MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Many nonprofit and District Attorney offices do tireless work across the state. Their voices and work are represented by the nine (9) appointed members of the Council, and some of their contributions are outlined below.

New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV)

The New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence launched a multi-faceted plan to address capacity building for core services, expand membership and outreach, build collaborations in New York State and nationally, as well as expand program development, resource development, policy analysis and training and technical assistance initiatives. A summary of 2013 includes the following:

- **Statewide Coordination and Participation** – continued working with various state agencies to advocate on behalf of member programs and the survivors they serve. NYSCADV is a member of the NYS Domestic Violence Advisory Council, NYS VAWA Advisory Group, NYS Office of Victim Services Advisory Group and the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team.
- **Training and Technical Assistance** – Assisted member programs in providing trauma-informed, survivor-centered services by providing guidance regarding state and national laws, rules and regulations and information about best practices. In addition, NYSCADV staff provided technical assistance and support to dozens of groups, allies, coalitions, programs and agencies via telephone, email, webinars, trainings, mailings, website, site visits and technical assistance packets.
- **Regional Meetings** – Attended regional meetings and provided information, resources and updates regarding statewide and national initiatives and responded to training and technical assistance requests.
- **Domestic Violence Counts 2013: A 24-hour Census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services** – On September 17, 2013, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) conducted a one-day unduplicated count of adults and children seeking domestic violence services in the United States. NYSCADV participated, and a key finding from the Census indicated that New York has the 3rd largest demand for domestic violence services in the country. On the day of the Census, 4,589 victims were served in New York. Just as important, there were 572 unmet requests for services (primarily counseling, housing, legal representation and financial assistance).

- **Domestic Violence and Disaster Response Project** – In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy and other recent and far ranging disasters in New York State, NYSCADV began the implementation of a groundbreaking disaster relief project in conjunction with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, the National Domestic Violence Hotline, the New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women and the New Jersey Family Violence Prevention and Services Program state administrator. With technical assistance and support from the US Department of Health and Human Services, NYSCADV began project activities which include developing training on domestic violence in disaster response situations for disaster relief staff, volunteers and domestic violence advocates. In addition, NYSCADV participated in public awareness campaigns and built collaborations to strengthen disaster response throughout the state.

- **Culturally-Specific and Underserved Populations** – NYSCADV conducted several activities in conjunction with culturally specific service providers and representatives from underserved communities, including the following:
 - Immigrant and migrant populations.
 - Tribal technical assistance and support activities.
 - LGBTQ technical assistance and support activities.

- **Domestic Violence Prevention**
 - Completed participation in the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) Project in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
 - Released NYSCADV’s [“Strategic Direction for the Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence in New York State.”](#)

For more information visit the [NYSCADV website](#).

Saratoga County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services (DVRC)

Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County provided:

- Crisis intervention and support services for 743 survivors of relationship or sexual abuse.

- Emergency Shelter – 2,725 bed nights of emergency shelter for 63 women and 47 children.

- Supportive Housing – 58 persons (26 adults and 32 children) received safe housing in independent apartments through our New View Housing programs, a total of 10,281 bed nights of housing.
- Hotline Crisis Response – responded to 1,172 hotline calls.
- Supportive Victim-Assistance Services – In-person support services to 631 survivors of intimate partner violence through direct counseling, legal, shelter and economic stability services.
- Legal Advocacy – 90 persons received legal advocacy, assistance with 125 petitions for orders of protection, temporary custody or temporary support and legal clinics to provide pro bono legal services to 19 abuse survivors.
- Employment Assistance – 32 unemployed women were assisted in finding jobs.
- Economic Empowerment – 62 women participated in Project Hope and Power, an 8 week financial literacy program.
- Rape Crisis Services – 34 sexual assault victims received advocacy and follow-up services accessing forensic examinations, as well as counseling and support services to assist 112 primary and secondary victims of sexual assault.
- Community Alliance Program – sustained this innovative community mobilization program to create social change to reduce relationship violence.
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention – educational programs provided services to 4,103 youth.
- Workplace Toolkit – DVRC collaborated with Cengage Learning to develop a domestic violence workplace toolkit for businesses throughout Saratoga County. The toolkit contains information for general workplace awareness, resources to help managers and business owners respond when relationship abuse impacts the workplace, and referral information to local resources. This toolkit is provided at no cost to Saratoga County businesses.

For more information visit the [DVRC website](#).

Sanctuary for Families (NYC)

Sanctuary for Families provided services to 10,125 women, men, and children including the following:

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Appointed Council-Member Activities

- Crisis Intervention: Safety planning, advice, and referrals to 2,300 clients.
- Counseling: Individual and family counseling, support groups, and psychiatric services in multiple languages for 760 adults and 460 children and teens.
- Children and Teen Services: Educational advocacy, tutoring, childcare, afterschool support services, family movie nights with facilitated discussions, and other non-counseling services to 2,500 children and teens.
- Legal Services: Advocacy and representation to 2,800 clients in family law, matrimonial, immigration, public benefits, and other specialty areas; legal advice, screenings, and referrals to an additional 1,920 clients.
- Shelter: Safe refuge and supplementary services to 509 women and children at five crisis and transitional shelters (approximately 200 each night).
- Career Training: In-house job readiness and hard skills training workshops preparing 150 clients for living-wage, service sector jobs with instruction in MS Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, typing, and basic literacy.
- Economic Empowerment Services: Career planning, economic advocacy, job placement assistance, housing and public benefits assistance, personal finance education, and referrals for 650 clients.
- Financial Assistance: \$362,500 in carefully screened, need-based emergency and stability grants for nearly 400 clients, for expenses such as rent for eviction prevention, college tuition, and furniture for clients fleeing violent homes.
- Literacy Programming: New literacy programming for parents and children in partnership with the New York Public Library, providing address requirement waivers for library cards for families in confidential shelters, and reading help in multiple languages/at all literacy levels.

Sanctuary's lawyers and social workers provide an extensive program of professional training and awareness-building outreach, which last year reached 16,000 individuals on the crime of domestic violence and resources available to its victims. Sanctuary delivers outreach at schools, hospitals, neighborhood and community centers, religious institutions, and other venues to reach potential clients, parents, teens, concerned community members and community leaders. Our broad professional training programs reach other service provider staff and volunteers, police, judges, district attorneys, pro bono attorneys, and many others on topics ranging from risk assessment and safety planning, immigrant clinical and legal issues, and the effects of domestic violence on children. These efforts greatly leverage Sanctuary's capacity to reach many more abuse victims and children in need.

Domestic Violence Annual Report 2013
Appointed Council-Member Activities

- 215 trainings reached 7,843 individuals.
- 318 outreaches reached 9,077 individuals.

For more information visit the [Sanctuary for Families website](#).

LEGISLATION

Several laws were enacted in 2013 to increase protections for domestic violence victims, including protections against economic abuse and inappropriate arrest. Access to the statewide order of protection registry was expanded to include additional criminal justice professionals, increasing the accountability of offenders in correctional facilities and on parole. Two critical laws, Mandatory Arrest and the increased maximum length allowed in criminal orders of protection, were extended for two more years. Some of the new laws are summarized below. For more information and a complete list of domestic violence-related laws passed in 2013, please visit: http://www.opdv.ny.gov/law/summ_year/sum13.html

- ***Financial/Economic Abuse***

In order to address financial and economic abuse, certain crimes of identity theft, larceny and coercion have been added to the list of family offenses in the Family Court Act and the criminal procedure law. The new law also adds a new condition that can be included in orders of protection, requiring the abuser to return specified “identification documents,” such as a passport, immigration papers, social security card, benefits or insurance card, etc., to the protected party.

- ***Arrest of Victim for Order of Protection Violation Prohibited***

This law prohibits victims of domestic violence from being held in any way legally responsible for violation of an order of protection under which they are the protected party. The law takes effect immediately and applies to all orders of protection currently in effect. This prohibition will be explicitly stated on New York State’s order of protection forms: “This order of protection will remain in effect even if the protected party has, or consents to have, contact or communication with the party against whom the order is issued. This order of protection can only be modified or terminated by the Court. The protected party cannot be held to violate this order nor be arrested for violating this order.”

- ***Corrections and Parole Officer Access to Order of Protection Registry***

Certain local and state corrections officers, and parole officers, will now be allowed to access the statewide order of protection registry. Accessing the registry will allow officers to determine if an inmate or parolee is subject to an Order and what conditions must be followed in the Order.

- ***New Phone Number***

This law requires phone companies to provide a new phone number, if requested by a domestic violence victim who has an order of protection -- within 15 days of

the request and at no charge to the victim. This applies to land lines, but not cell phones. This option is added to the current requirement that phone companies provide an unlisted phone number or an alternative listing to victims who request one.

- ***Visitation/Custody of Child Conceived as Result of Sexual Offense***

This law restricts the parental rights of individuals convicted of certain sex offenses: rape first/second degree, course of sexual conduct against a child first degree, predatory sexual assault and predatory sexual assault against a child. When a child is conceived as a result of these offenses, the law will now presume that granting custody to, or visitation with, the offender is not in the best interest of the child. The law also prohibits notifying the offender of certain proceedings involving the child, such as foster care or adoption.

For more information and a complete list of domestic violence-related laws passed in 2013, please visit: http://www.opdv.ny.gov/law/summ_year/sum13.html.

LEADING THE FIELD

The NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence is seen as a reliable resource for information on domestic violence. In 2013, OPDV was contacted by media for interviews, background, and opinions, often following major national or local news events. OPDV's Executive Director was interviewed and quoted on television, newspapers and podcasts. She also spoke at a major event hosted by musician Natalie Merchant and is featured in a resulting documentary. Senior staff was featured in an educational video program on human trafficking.

OPDV officials provided guidance to government and advocacy groups throughout the United States. The Executive Director spoke at the United Nations Briefing on Ending Gender Violence. She also represented New York State at a national gathering to discuss best practice and reasonable response to Family Court cases involving domestic violence and custody. A presentation on the "State of Domestic Violence" was made at the Zonta International Conference in Lake George to celebrate Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

OPDV officials also served as panelists, faculty and panel moderators at conferences, webinars and legal symposia. Events included: the National Judicial Institute on "Enhancing Skills in Domestic Violence Cases," hosted by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and Futures without Violence, funded by the Federal Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women and a conference for the Criminal Justice Educators Association of the State of New York regarding sexual assaults and the military.

OPDV published "Guiding Principles for Community Domestic Violence Policy," a collaborative web document that provides information for community systems and organizations considering the development of a domestic violence policy. The Fatality Review Team conducted two reviews. OPDV produced a set of three videos and accompanying public service announcements encouraging people to get involved when they see domestic violence.

OPDV frequently provides support to other state agencies to assist them with development of new publications and projects. In 2013, OPDV worked with DCJS on promoting use of the SAVIN-NY program and supporting implementation of the Domestic Incident Report Repository; the NYS Commission of Correction to collaborate on new gang violence trainings; the NYS Office of Children and Family Services on Family Engagement strategies; the NYS Office of Victim Services and the Crime Victims Task Force on Crime Victim's Rights Week and the annual Brick Memorial Dedication Ceremony; and the NYS Department of Health on the federally-funded Healthy Families initiative.

In 2013, OPDV contracted with Albany Law School to continue work on the Immigration Project providing legal services to domestic violence victims with unclear or undocumented immigration status. OPDV also executed contracts with a local jurisdiction to pilot a High Risk Response Team for domestic violence cases and began laying the groundwork for that Team to begin functioning.

OPDV granted requests from other states to reproduce OPDV publications, gave permission for OPDV materials to be used in college textbooks, and provided assistance to undergraduate and graduate students from colleges, universities and law schools. The University of Texas modified and translated sections of Finding Safety & Support to be used for training community health workers.

PLANS FOR 2014

OPDV and the Domestic Violence Advisory Council look forward to a busy 2014 and the opportunity to better serve victims of abuse, their families and the people who assist them. Some of the important activities planned for the upcoming year include:

- The launch of computer based training, in conjunction with OCFS, for healthy family programs and adult protective service staff on domestic violence;
- Development of training specifically for supervisors on Domestic Violence in the Workplace;
- Comprehensive revision of the Domestic Violence Incident Report lead by DCJS including community input;
- Coordinating an interagency work group on confidentiality and reporting requirements for domestic violence residential and non-residential programs;
- Collaborating with NYSCADV on a confidentiality packet for domestic violence residential and non-residential programs;
- Establishment of a process to review, discuss and summarize domestic violence research;
- Publishing an evidence based paper on programs for abusers in NYS;
- Creating and publishing brochures and “Info Guides” on domestic violence on college campuses;
- Enhancing public awareness of domestic violence in teen dating relationships;
- Promoting the Natalie Merchant concert video “Shelter”;
- Continued emphasis on public awareness of bystander intervention;
- Partnering with OTDA, DCJS and the NYS Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force on anti-human trafficking initiatives;
- Roll out of a fellowship program to assist domestic violence programs with staffing difficulties, to be established in memory of a deceased OPDV staff member;

- Conduct 2 fatality reviews;
- Investigate the feasibility of lethality assessments and high risk teams in NYS;
and
- Comprehensive overhaul of the OPDV website for teens, “Respect Love, Love Respect” that incorporates feedback from youth.

NEW YORK STATE

OPDV MISSION:

To improve New York State's response to and prevention of domestic violence with the goal of enhancing the safety of all New Yorkers in their intimate and family relationships.

OPDV VISION:

To create a State in which communities and systems are committed to supporting and promoting equality, dignity and respect so that individuals can feel safer in their intimate and family relationships.

The NYS Domestic Violence Advisory Council is coordinated by OPDV. Its members:

Harry Bronson

NYS Assembly

Maggie Fronk, Executive Director

Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County

James Murphy III, District Attorney

Saratoga County District Attorney's Office

Seny Taveras, Consultant

Sharon Townsend, Vice Dean for Family and Matrimonial Law,

New York State Judicial Institute

Nicole Trabold, Ph.D., University of Rochester, School of Nursing

Helene Weinstein, Assemblywoman

Angela Yeboah, Attorney

Sanctuary for Families

NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence

NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault

NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

NYS Department of Health

NYS Department of Labor

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

NYS Education Department

NYS Office for the Aging

NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services

NYS Office of Children and Family Services

NYS Office of Court Administration

NYS Office of Mental Health

NYS Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

NYS Office of Victim Services