Introduction from the Executive Director

This seventh Annual New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard contains data from 2007 through 2013. After seven years of collecting data from a broad range of agencies, many trends confirm what providers are seeing in the field. We also continue to add information each year as more and more agencies include screening for domestic violence into their regular practice.

Consistent with trends from previous years, several numbers have increased in 2013, such as strangulation offenses charged in arrests and arraignments and use of firearms in intimate partner homicides. However, since 2012, we have seen some significant decreases, particularly in intimate partner assaults, which increased by 6% from 2011 to 2012 but decreased by 3% from 2012 to 2013, and in intimate partner assaults where females were the victim, which were up 6% in 2012 and were down 4% in 2013. Still, despite the decrease in total homicides in New York State in 2013, intimate partner homicides in New York State during that same time period increased by 11%.

One particularly notable change in 2013 was the 21% decrease in statewide hotline calls coming into the NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline, and the 19% decrease in New York City hotline calls. This decrease could be due to a variety of factors. Generally, when individuals call these centralized hotlines, they are provided with the phone number to their local domestic violence program so they can access a variety of local services. It is possible that this referral practice has led more callers to contact their local programs directly instead of calling the statewide hotlines first. Additionally, as law enforcement continues to make itself more available and accessible to victims and the community, it is likely that more callers are also reaching out to police immediately, and bypassing the hotlines altogether, particularly in emergency situations.

This year, we added a new data point to the Dashboard by partnering with the New York State Office for the Aging (OFA) in an effort to examine whether and how older adults are being screened for domestic violence and what services and resources they are seeking in response. The addition of these data is extremely helpful in determining the specific experiences and needs of the rapidly growing population of older adults as we attempt to provide more specialized services to address those needs.

At the time of this posting, we regret that we were unable to provide data on local domestic violence hotlines, residential and non-residential service provision to children and adults, and domestic violence shelter denials of children and adults for 2013, as this information was not yet available. However, the information will be accessible through the NYS Office of Children and Family Services website upon publication of their 2013 annual report, and we will also provide a revised 2013 Dashboard on the OPDV homepage at that time. We encourage you to visit both agency websites for updates.

The source agency for data referenced in each statement is indicated at the end of the sentence. Published source material is footnoted. Statistics cited represent data for the 2013 calendar year and are statewide, unless otherwise indicated. The 2007 Dashboard offered a full explanation of each system from which this data was taken, including an explanation of terminology. Since then, we have only explained data points that are new that year.

Thank you for reviewing the seventh Annual Dashboard: it reflects a commitment across agencies to screen for domestic violence, and share their information with all of you. OPDV staff work diligently to compile and present it in a way we hope will be of use. We encourage you to read it together with the 2013 NYS Domestic Violence Annual Report, which contains a broader summary of the work of our state agencies, as well as a few other community stakeholder organizations. Data is only part of the story, but it is an important part.

Gwen Wright
Executive Director
The following agencies contributed to the 2013 Domestic Violence Dashboard Project:

- New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)
- New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)
- New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)
- New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)
- New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)
- New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS)
- New York State Office for the Aging (OFA)
- Office of Court Administration (OCA)
- Safe Horizon

The Domestic Violence Dashboard Project is a product of the New York State Domestic Violence Advisory Council.

The goals of the Advisory Council are to:

Make recommendations regarding strategies for the prevention of domestic violence.

Assist in the development of appropriate policies and priorities for effective intervention, public education and advocacy.

Facilitate and assure communication and coordination efforts among state agencies and between different levels of government, state, federal, and municipal, for the prevention of domestic violence.
PUBLIC SAFETY

Strangulation

In 2013, strangulation offenses charged in arrests and arraignments in New York State increased 3% over 2012, with NYC experiencing a 9% increase, while the rest of the state experienced a 4% decrease. (DCJS)

![Strangulations Charged in NYS 2011-2013](chart)

Homicide

From 2012 to 2013, total homicides decreased 6.5% statewide from 688 to 643. The number of intimate partner homicides increased 16%, from 75 to 87 during that same time period. (DCJS)

![Intimate Partner Homicides 2008-2013](chart)

In 2013, firearms were used in 27 of the 83 intimate partner homicides (32.5%). In 2012, firearms were used in 32% of intimate partner homicides (24 of 75). (DCJS)

![Domestic Violence Probation Cases](chart)

Law Enforcement and Community Supervision

In 2013, there were 112,094 total assaults reported by police agencies outside of New York City. Of these, 28% (31,106) were committed by intimate partners; females were the victim in 80% of these assaults, which was also the case in 2012. (DCJS)

Since 2012, total assaults are down 6% and intimate partner assaults are down 3%, and intimate partner assaults where females were the victim are also down 4%. (DCJS)

In 2013, police outside New York City responded to 187,710 domestic incidents, a 5% decrease from 2012. (DCJS)

In 2013, local probation departments added 34,182 new criminal court probation cases to their caseloads, a small decrease from 2012, when 34,956 new cases were added. Of the new cases added in 2013, 5,498 were domestic violence cases. This was an increase from 2012, when 5,217 domestic violence cases were added.

The percentage of all new cases that were identified as domestic violence cases increased from 14.9% in 2012 to 16.1% in 2013, despite the 2.2% decrease in overall cases.

Local probation departments also handled an additional 72 Family Court cases statewide during 2013, dropping from 103 Family Court cases handled in 2012. (OPCA)

In 2013, 22% of the 27,569 parolees under Community Supervision (parole) were identified as having a history of domestic violence. (DOCCS)

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1Source: DCJS, Computerized Criminal History system (as of 3/25/2014).

2The data are based on DIRs received and, based on experience with backlogs from previous years, numbers will increase as more DIRs are submitted.
PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Courts
The 39 Domestic Violence (DV) Courts heard 26,891 new cases in 2013, a 5.2% decrease from 2012. (OCA)

In 2013, the 42 Integrated Domestic Violence Courts around New York State served 2,443 new families (a slight decrease from 2,696 in 2012) and handled 13,649 new cases (down from 14,799 in 2012). (OCA)

Of the 300,236 total orders of protection issued by NYS Courts in 2013, 209,729 were required to be recorded in the UCS’ Domestic Violence Registry. This represents a 4% decrease from the 218,570 orders of protection that were required to be recorded in the UCS’ Domestic Violence Registry out of a total 304,239 in 2012. (OCA)

In 2013, 17% of the family offense filings in NYS Family Courts fell under the expanded definition of “intimate relationship.” Of these, nearly 5% were made by individuals in current or former same-sex relationships.

PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE

Public Assistance
In 2013, applicants for public assistance indicated danger due to domestic violence 21,194 times, a 2% decrease from 2012. (OTDA)

In 2013, Family Violence Option (FVO) waivers were granted to 11,050 applicants under the Temporary Assistance Program, representing a 5% decrease from 2012. (OTDA)

Domestic Violence Services
In 2013, the number of crime victims’ claims paid to domestic violence victims was 1,990. This showed a 3% increase from 2012. Overall, the amount of money paid for domestic violence claims has decreased by 22%, from $3,191,279 in 2012 to $2,504,462 in 2013 (OVS)

The number of claims paid to sexual assault victims decreased by 6%, from 818 in 2012 to 771 in 2013, while the amount of money paid for sexual assault claims in 2013 was $968,933, up from $863,776 in 2012. (OVS)

A total of 108,599 domestic violence and sexual assault hotline calls were received by the New York State Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline and the Safe Horizon/NYC Hotline in 2013.

- New York State’s English and Spanish Domestic and Sexual Violence (D&SV) Hotlines received 8,881 calls in 2013, a 21% decrease from 2012. (OPDV)
- The New York City Domestic Violence Hotline received 997,188 calls in 2013, a 19% decrease from 2012. (Safe Horizon)

In 2013, NYS D&SV Hotline calls came from:

[Graph showing applications for public assistance]

Ages of Primary Victims who called the Hotline in 2013:

[Graph showing primary victim age distribution]

1 Hotline data from NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) was not available at the time of posting.
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE (continued)

Of Primary Victims who called the Hotline, 88% were female and 12% were male.

Overall, the Hotline received the highest call volume (65%) from NYC and Long Island (Kings, New York, Queens, Bronx, Suffolk, Nassau and Richmond).

In 2013, 36% of older adults who self-reported as victims of domestic violence were referred to police, 23% were referred to Adult Protective Services, 18% to DV Service Providers, and 14% to “Other services.” Nine percent were not referred for additional services. (OFA)

Teen Dating Abuse

In 2013, 1,018 family offense petitions were filed by individuals under the age of 21 in New York State Family Courts under the expanded definition of “family or household member.” This is a slight decrease of 2% from 2012, when 1,039 were filed, but shows a more significant decrease of 12% from 2010 when 1,151 were filed by this same age group. The 2013 data show an overall decrease that brings this number close to the 2009 total of 1,014. (OCA)

In 2013, there was one reported IP homicide where the (female) victim was 19 years of age. Although this number remained the same from 2012, in which there was also one reported IP homicide where the (female) victim was 19 years of age, there has been an overall decrease in IP homicides of victims aged 16 to 19 since 2008. (DCJS)

In 2011, two teens within this age group were killed by an intimate partner, while in each of the previous four years, three teens were killed by an intimate partner. (DCJS)

Health Care and Substance Abuse

In 2013, OASAS treatment providers reported the following victim identification information:
- The percentage of primary clients who identified as victims increased slightly from 12% in 2012 to 12.5% in 2013
- The percentage of significant others who identified as victims decreased slightly from 22.8% in 2012 to 22.2% in 2013
- The percentage of all clients who identified as victims increased slightly from 12.1% in 2012 to 12.5% in 2013

In 2013, OASAS treatment providers reported the following perpetrator identification information:
- The percentage of primary clients who identified as perpetrators increased slightly from 5.7% in 2012 to 5.9% in 2013
- The percentage of significant others who identified as perpetrators decreased from 5.9% in 2012 to 4.6% in 2013
- The percentage of all clients who identified as perpetrators increased slightly from 5.8% in 2012 to 5.9% in 2013.