NEW YORK STATE | Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence:

2025 YEAR-END REPORT

In 2025, the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) strengthened its role as the State's leading agency dedicated to ending domestic and gender-based violence and improving the systems that survivors and families rely on. Grounded in OPDV's mission to create a survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive gender-based violence service delivery system, the agency advanced policy, training, funding, prevention, and systems change across every point of contact where survivors seek help.

Guided by Governor Kathy Hochul's priorities of strengthening families and enhancing public safety, OPDV focused its work on prevention, accountability, and coordinated responses that reduce harm, prevent future violence, and support long-term safety and stability for survivors, children, and communities.

"When systems are built to believe survivors, prioritize safety, and hold people who cause harm accountable, New York becomes safer and stronger for families and communities." — OPDV

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: APRIL 2025

Governor Hochul and OPDV Release Survivor-Informed Reports on Discovery Reform

Governor Hochul and OPDV released a package of reports informed by **more than 1,400 survivors, advocates, and justice partners**, highlighting the urgent need to modernize discovery practices to better protect crime victims while strengthening accountability.

STATEWIDE REACH 2025

- **7,400+** professionals trained across public safety, courts, social services, healthcare, education, and workplaces
- **12,000** hotline contacts answered via phone, text, and chat in 20+ languages
- **1,400+ survivors, family members, and stakeholders engaged** through listening sessions, fatality review, and policy development
- **Millions of New Yorkers** reached through statewide public awareness and prevention campaigns

ADVANCING THE GOVERNOR'S PRIORITIES: FAMILIES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OPDV's work reflects the understanding that **survivor safety, family stability, and public safety are inseparable**. By strengthening responses to domestic and sexual violence across systems, OPDV helps prevent escalation, reduce repeat victimization, and support healthier families and safer communities statewide.

In 2025, OPDV:

- Strengthened frontline public safety responses to better protect survivors and children
- Expanded prevention and accountability efforts to reduce violence and improve trust in institutions
- Centered survivor voices to inform policy, training, funding, and system reform
- Expanded training to judges and court employees to improve the legal system's response to victims of domestic violence and their children
- Increased and updated public safety education, including local police, EMS, probation, and parole
- Trained almost 400 Judges and court staff on understanding coercive control and its impact on children, technology facilitated gender based violence, and understanding domestic violence lethality
    - Courts are the primary system that Survivors encounter significant challenges, and training judges makes them better able to provide survivor-centered and trauma informed courtrooms

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH SURVIVOR-CENTERED SYSTEMS

Expanding Probation Partnerships

OPDV significantly expanded its partnership with the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), particularly the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA). Together, OPDV and OPCA delivered **three Fundamentals of Probation Module 23 trainings** and developed a new **Advanced Gender-Based Violence Supervision Training** for experienced probation officers.

- **80+ probation professionals trained statewide**
- Emphasis on survivor-centered practice, trauma-informed supervision, cultural responsiveness, and technology-facilitated abuse
- Improved supervision of high-risk cases, enhancing survivor safety and offender accountability

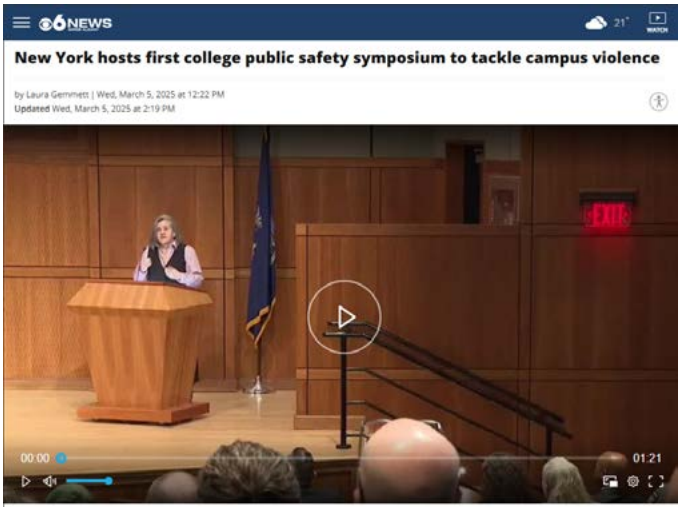
Probation Guidance Document

OPDV and OPCA collaborated on a comprehensive **Probation Guidance Document** to standardize survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices across all GBV-related probation cases statewide. Piloting continues into 2026.

Expanding College Public Safety Partnerships

OPDV held the first annual Campus Public Safety Symposium in March 2025. After hearing from campus public safety during Enough is Enough site visits that they are in need of training on domestic and gender-based violence response, OPDV started planning an event. The symposium brought together those who respond to and assist victims of intimate partner violence on college campuses.

- 137 attendees from 33 difference colleges and universities from across New York State
- Campus public safety, security, law enforcement, title ix coordinators, DEI coordinators and state/local law enforcement were in attendance



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: MARCH 2025

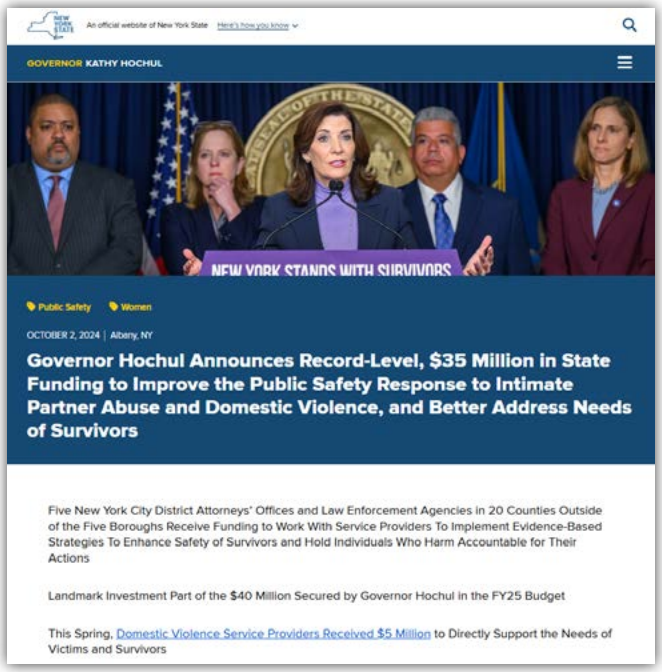
WRGB CBS 6 - New York hosts first college public safety symposium to tackle campus violence

TRANSFORMING LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES TO ADVANCE SAFETY AND TRUST

After years of collaboration, OPDV and DCJS completed a major revision of the Domestic Incident Response curriculum in the **Basic Course for Police Officers (BCPO)**. In September 2025, the Municipal Police Training Council approved the updated curriculum.

Key enhancements include:

- Integration of OPDV's three pillars
- Expanded instruction on strangulation and traumatic brain injury
- Updated family offense charging guidance
- Instructor workshops and refresher courses



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: APRIL 2025

Governor Hochul Announces Statewide Public Safety Investments to Strengthen Domestic Violence Response

Beginning in January 2026, every new police recruit in New York State will receive this survivor-centered training—representing a lasting investment in public safety and trust.

- OPDV Facebook Reel—*Domestic Violence Incident Response Training*

ADDRESSING EMERGING THREATS: TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

OPDV prioritized addressing **technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV)** as a critical and growing public safety issue, including stalking, coercive control, sextortion, and misuse of digital evidence.

Through a federally funded initiative with **Sanctuary for Families on Cybercrimes Enforcement**, OPDV:

- **Held five Survivor Listening Sessions** informed training development
- **Created four system-specific curricula** for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges/judicial staff and public safety telecommunicators
- **Trained over 215 criminal justice professionals** to include 115 judges/judicial staff and 100 law enforcement

Safeguarding Teens from Online Sexual Exploitation Initiative

A 2024 Governor's State of the State initiative, *Safeguarding Teens from Online Sexual Exploitation*, directed OPDV to create training resources and a public awareness campaign around technology-facilitated abuse. OPDV:

- Partnered with Brown University to conduct statewide research with the public on the issue of youth online safety
- Created 3 trainings to educate professionals and the public on TFGBV 101, Sextortion 101, and AI and GBV 101, reaching 1413 people
    - In the final quarter of 2025 alone, **200+ professionals** were trained, closing a critical gap in public safety response and modernizing accountability mechanisms
- Held the Digital Threats, Real Harm: Empowering and Protecting Youth in the Digital Safety Era Summit in October 2025 with 125 attendees
    - Summit Highlights Video

MEDIA & PUBLIC AWARENESS INTEGRATION

POWER DOWN SPEAK UP

Power Down, Speak Up Campaign (Safeguard Teens Initiative)

OPDV Instagram Reel—*Technology-Facilitated Abuse Awareness*

ELEVATING SURVIVOR VOICES TO DRIVE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

A core function of OPDV's **Gender-Based Violence Program and Prevention (GBVPP) Bureau** is ensuring survivor voices directly inform policy, programming, and system reform statewide.

Population Specific Providers Tour

In response to changes at the federal level to roll back DEI initiatives and culturally specific programming for marginalized populations, OPDV went on the road to visit local population-specific providers **in all 10 regions of NYS.** These visits allowed OPDV to hear directly from these populations about the fears and challenges posed by these changes. As a result of these meetings, OPDV reinforced New York's commitment to supporting all victims and survivors, no matter who they love, where they come from, or how they identify. OPDV connected providers to available New York-specific services and programs, like direct cash payments for survivors through the SAFE funds program, the NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline, and seats at the table for OPDV's Gender-Based Violence Regional Councils.

- Social Media Spotlight—*Population Specific Provider Tour*

Survivor Listening Sessions

In 2025:

- → **25 survivors** participated in TFGBV-focused listening sessions
- → **Five partner programs statewide** supported implementation
- → **Findings** were published to inform policy, training, and system reform
- → Planning began for **housing-focused listening sessions**, recognizing housing stability as foundational to family safety

Survivor Listening Sessions ensure systems evolve based on lived experience rather than assumption.

DIRECT SUPPORT TO HELP SEEKERS

OPDV—through GBVPP—provided **direct, survivor-centered support** throughout 2025.

- **200+ help seekers supported**, including individuals contacting OPDV via the Governor's Office
- Support included emotional support, safety planning, and referrals to shelters, legal services, housing, and mental health care
- All services delivered using survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive practices

STRENGTHENING STATEWIDE INFRASTRUCTURE

New York State Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline

In 2025, OPDV completed a competitive procurement selecting **Unity House** as the Hotline operator.

January–September 2025 data:

- **9,587 phone calls**
- **716 text contacts**
- **1,998 chat contacts**
- Services in **20+ languages**
- **11,968 referrals** to shelters, legal services, housing, healthcare, and law enforcement

NEW YORK STATE DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE HOTLINE

TEXT.	CALL.	CHAT.
844.997.2121	800.942.6906	OPDV.NY.GOV

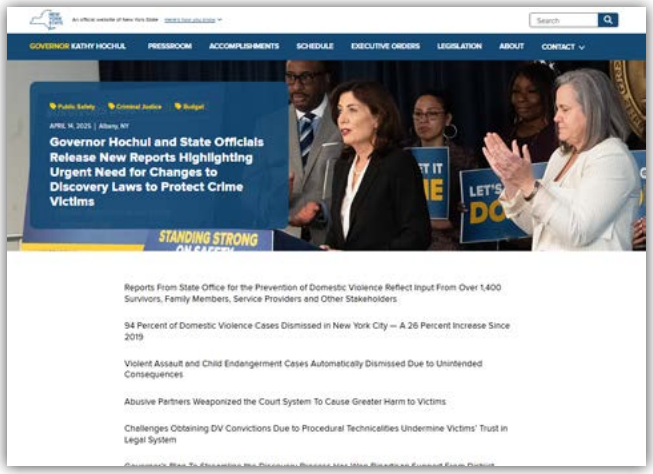
The Hotline provides 24/7/365 access to survivor-centered support statewide.

- https://opdv.ny.gov/chat

LEGAL BUREAU: ACCOUNTABILITY, PREVENTION, AND SYSTEM LEARNING

Discovery Reform and Survivor Safety

OPDV's Legal Bureau advanced survivor-centered implementation of New York's discovery laws, focusing on survivor privacy, digital evidence, and preventing retraumatization while upholding due process.



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: APRIL 2025

Governor Hochul & OPDV Release Discovery Reform Reports to Protect Crime Victims

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (FRT)

In 2025, the FRT:

- Completed **four fatality reviews**
- Engaged **50+ local stakeholders** across four counties
- Provided ongoing technical assistance to support implementation of recommendations

Survivor-Centered Enhancements

For the first time, the FRT heard directly from:

- A homicide victim's mother
- A survivor of a near-fatal domestic violence incident

Participants described the experience as meaningful and healing.

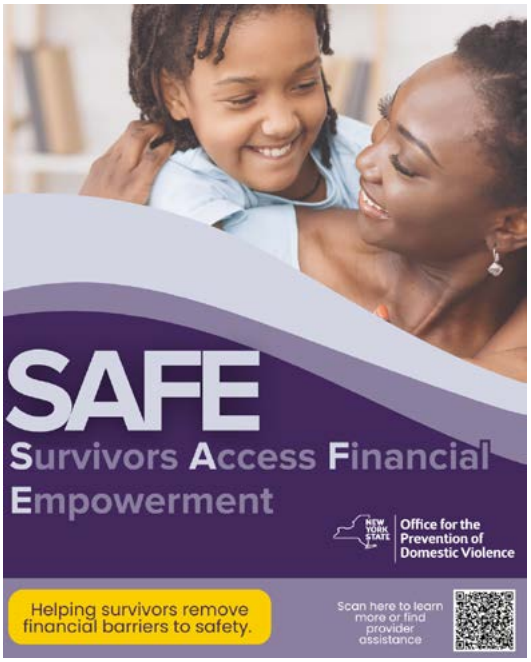
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Second FRT Comprehensive Report Highlighted by Governor Hochul

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES THROUGH ECONOMIC STABILITY AND HOUSING

Survivors Access Financial Empowerment (SAFE) Funding—Direct Dollars to Survivors

Through the **SAFE program**, OPDV ensured funding flowed through **local domestic violence programs only**, delivering flexible financial assistance directly to survivors for housing, relocation, utilities, transportation, and childcare. OPDV secured SAFE funding for the next three years, totaling $15 million in state funds to directly support victims and survivors.



SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT:

OPDV made multiple posts raising awareness for SAFE funds throughout the year

Gender-Based Violence Regional Councils (Housing)

In 2025, OPDV rebranded its Domestic Violence Regional Councils as Gender-Based Violence Regional Councils (GBVRC). Both Spring and Fall sessions focused on housing and were held in all 10 regions of NYS. GBVRCs serve to bring community stakeholders together for thoughtful conversations.

- → **1,092 participants statewide**
- → Emphasis on Housing First approaches
- → Cross-agency collaboration (OTDA, OCFS, OCA, DCJS, and local partners)

WORKPLACES, EDUCATION, AND PREVENTION

Gender-Based Violence in the Workplace Policy

To address the impact of gender-based violence in the New York State Workforce, Executive Order 17, signed in 2022, required the adoption of Domestic Violence and the Workplace Policies by all NYS agencies. Expanding on that, effective November 5, 2025, employers who seek to do business with New York State as a bidder for competitive contracts must implement a Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace policy. OPDV led implementation of the State's Gender-Based Violence in the Workplace policy for:

- State employees
- Vendors seeking New York State procurement contracts

This extended survivor-centered workplace protections to thousands of employees statewide.

Workplace–State Agency Policy:

- 217 DVALs completed the mandatory full-day training facilitated by OPDV
- Two new training opportunities offered:
- Safety Planning–60 DVALs attended
- OPDV reports webinar (Fatality review, SLS, and GBVRC)
- 108 DVALs attended

Workplace – Expansion

- 99 State Agency employees trained through bidder webinars
- 194 prospective bidders attended bidder webinars
- 94 technical assistance requests, all responded to.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

Check out OPDV's new GBV Workplace Training Videos

Enough is Enough (EIE)

OPDV strengthened technical assistance and survivor engagement across EIE-funded campuses.

- → Technical assistance transitioned to **The Alliance**
- → **20+ survivor submissions** informed program improvements

EIE 2024-2025

- → 2,092 new victims/survivors were referred EIE grantees during the reporting period.
- → 1,399,040 is the estimated number of survivors reached by EIE grantees in their efforts to increase awareness about anonymous reporting options

COMMUNICATIONS, PREVENTION, AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

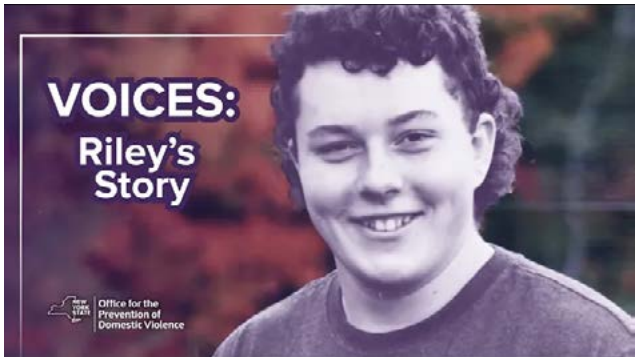
OPDV's communications and prevention efforts amplified survivor-centered messaging statewide through:

Power Down Speak Up

Through a combination of targeted video, audio, and static ads and social media posts, the Power Down Speak Up campaign delivered important information about technology-facilitated gender-based violence and youth. Messaging about how to recognize and respond to potential threats, help educate and protect youth, and hold those who harm accountable was strategically targeted to different audiences, including:

- Youth
- Parents/caregivers
- Educators
- Law Enforcement

The campaign delivered over 5.9 million ad, video, and audio impressions, with 14,142 clicks on the ads linking to OPDV's Power Down Speak Up webpage. A featured video detailing 15-year-old Riley Basford's experience with sextortion and subsequent suicide has been viewed more than 97,000 times, with 60% of viewers watching the story in its entirety.



MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

VOICES Video | Riley's Story

Men and Boys Pilot – ASPIRE NY

In partnership with former NFL player and College Football Hall of Famer Don McPherson, OPDV launched a pilot program to bring McPherson's concept of aspirational masculinity to men and boys across New York. Aspirational masculinity aims to end men's violence against women by removing the stigma of so-called toxic masculinity and shifting the conversation from telling boys and men what not to be to encouraging them to live in AWE (Authentic, Whole, and Evolving). ASPIRE NY brings men and boys into critical conversations about mental health, healthy relationships, and positive self-awareness. Between March and December 2025, OPDV and Don McPherson delivered ASPIRE NY messaging to approximately 90 participants at YMCA and SUNY locations across the state.

SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

OPDV Facebook Reel—*Aspire NY Recap Video*

Long Island Hotline Campaign

Following the abrupt closure of the Safe Center in Long Island, OPDV launched an emergency public awareness campaign to disseminate information about the New York State Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline to Nassau County. Through targeted radio and social media ads, posts let Long Islanders know the hotline is always available and ready to assist victims and survivors in need. The campaign ran from March through June of 2025 and resulted in a notable increase in calls from Long Island to the hotline.

SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

OPDV LinkedIn Post—*Long Island Hotline Ad*

OPDV Facebook Reel—*Long Island Hotline Ad*

Purple on the Plaza

To mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month, OPDV hosted the first-ever Purple on the Plaza Ceremony. Held on October 6th, the ceremony featured local musicians and poignant speeches from survivors, including Joseph Petito, father of DV victim Gabby Petito. The moving ceremony was attended by state and local leaders, advocates, victims and survivors and their families, and members of the general public.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

Purple on the Plaza Recap video

NY State Fair

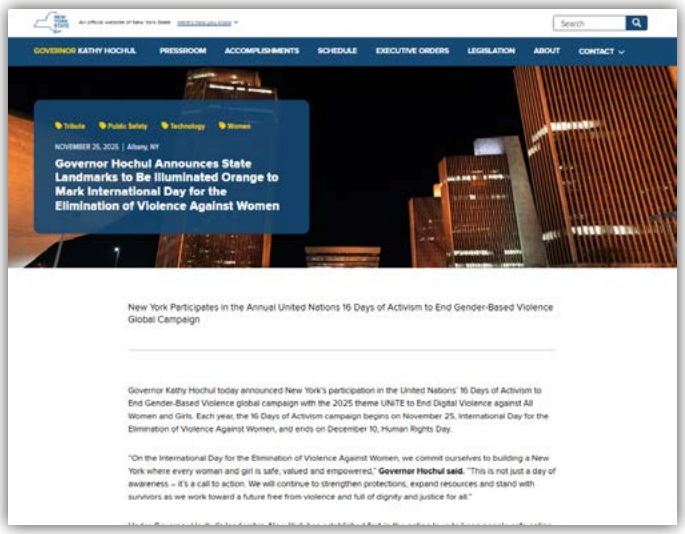
In 2025, OPDV revamped its NY State Fair presence to include a new interactive display. With touch-screen capabilities, fairgoers were encouraged to learn about healthy relationships, technology-facilitated abuse, and how to spot deepfake photos.

SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

OPDV Facebook Reel—*Kelli at the State Fair*

16 Days of Activism

For the second consecutive year, OPDV participated in UN Women's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. This year's theme focused on technology-facilitated abuse. For each of the 16 days, OPDV encouraged followers on its social media pages to participate in an act of activism, sharing resources and activities to educate and engage.



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: NOVEMBER 2025

Governor Announces Participation in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Together, these efforts reached **millions of New Yorkers**, ensuring awareness of resources and prevention strategies.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

As OPDV enters 2026, the agency remains committed to ensuring New York State's response to domestic and gender-based violence is survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive across all systems.

Key priorities include expanding coordinated community responses, deepening prevention efforts, elevating survivor voices in policymaking, and strengthening accountability across public safety, social service, education, workplace, and community systems.

Through this work, OPDV will continue translating learning into action—creating safer communities where survivors are believed, families are strengthened, and systems work together to prevent violence.