







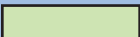


2006 Sexual Violence Services in Virginia

Reported in VAdata

Highlights

-  The sexual victimization of children was the primary concern for half of all victims (adult and children) seeking services.
-  30% of all individuals seeking services were children and youth.
-  Fewer than half of the individuals receiving crisis services indicated that the incident had been reported to law enforcement.
-  34 Sexual Assault Service Providers were able to educate and train nearly 100,000 people in 2006, approximately .01% of Virginia's population.
-  56% of the individuals who used physical resistance (self-defense) to remove the threat of sexual violence reported that it was unhelpful or counterproductive. Only 14% reported it helpful.

Recommendations

-  Secure funding to provide comprehensive services to children and youth who have experienced or been exposed to sexual violence.
-  Expand prevention programming for children, youth, and adults to prevent sexual violence before it occurs.
-  Increase the availability of community education and training programming through Sexual Assault Crisis Centers across the Commonwealth so that family, friends, and allied professionals are prepared to respond to victims effectively.
-  Enhance public safety, promote offender accountability, and increase victims' immediate access to services by:
 - Requiring law enforcement agencies to develop written policies on responding to sexual violence; and
 - Releasing and promoting the model Sexual Assault Response Team protocol developed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

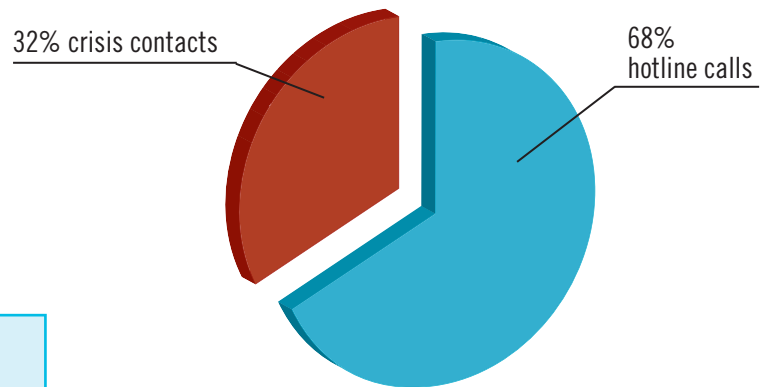
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Crisis Services

Sexual Violence Service Providers responded to 13,194 crisis situations in 2006 and provided 40,655 services to victims, family members, friends, and allied professionals. In addition to hotline calls, advocates responded to 4,284 crises in person.

Personal safety continues to be a primary concern for victims in crisis.



13,194 Crisis Contacts

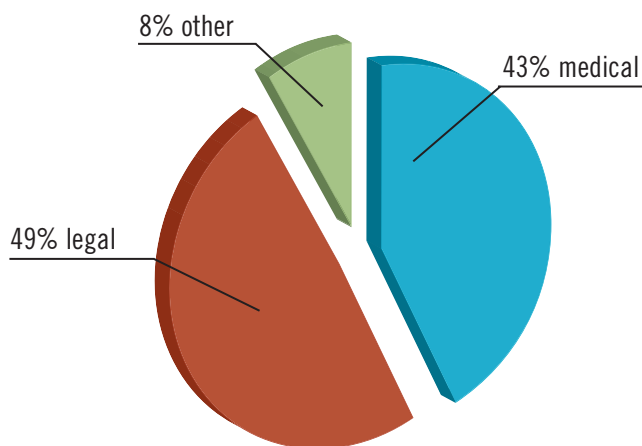
1 in 3 crisis contacts responded to safety concerns.

1 in 5 crisis contacts were with allied professionals. Allied professionals rely on sexual assault service providers as a critical resource when assisting victims in crisis.

22%

of crisis contacts were with family & friends who were also affected by the sexual violence.

Accompaniment Services



Type of Accompaniments in 2006

Sexual violence is a violent crime that is terrifying and often difficult to report to law enforcement. Legal, medical, and other accompaniments are critical services to address the emotional needs of victims, help minimize additional trauma, and to facilitate the reporting process.

Medical exams may also be difficult for individuals who have been sexually violated. Medical accompaniments offer support to victims during medical exams in the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault/rape, as well as to victims seeking other health care services.