ADVOCACY WORKS

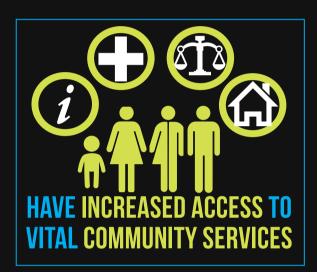
RESEARCH SHOWS THAT ADVOCACY ENHANCES THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE.¹











SURVIVORS CONSISTENTLY TELL US THAT SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES HELP THEM BUILD TRUST AND RESTORE HOPE.²

97%

93%

FELT SUPPORTED BY STAFF IN DETERMINING THEIR PATHWAY TO HEALING

KNOW ABOUT MORE WAYS TO PLAN FOR THEIR SAFETY

92%

85%

KNOW MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY
RESOURCES & HOW TO ACCESS THEM

FEEL THEIR CHILDREN ARE HAVING MORE POSITIVE INTERACTIONS WITH OTHERS

FEEL MORE HOPEFUL ABOUT THEIR LIVES

VIRGINIA LAUNCHED THE STATEWIDE PROJECT, DOCUMENTING OUR WORK.

IN 2009 TO COLLECT DATA ON THE RANGE OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS AND THE IMPACT THESE SERVICES HAVE ON SURVIVORS AND COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE.

THIS IS WHAT SURVIVORS TOLD US.

"I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HAPPY IN MY LIFE AND NEITHER HAS MY SON." NUMBER OF SURVEYS COLLECTED FROM SURVIVORS 2010 - 2015

"THESE SERVICES
CHANGED MY LIFE,
HELPED ME TO BE MORE
OPEN, AND I GREW
FROM HEARING THE
EXPERIENCES OF OTHERS."

ADVOCACY WORKS

VIRGINIA'S 62 SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES ARE THE COMMUNITY'S FRONT LINE RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE.

405.428 132.03 **CALLS TO HOTLINE ANSWERED ADULTS AND CHILDREN SERVED**

PEOPLE SERVED BY SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES $2010 - 2015^3$



7% RECEIVED HELP MEETING BASIC FINANCIAL NEEDS





87% RECEIVED HELP ACCESSING MEDICAL SERVICES



90% RECEIVED HELP WITH THE LEGAL SYSTEM



88% RECEIVED HELP WITH TRANSPORTATION



92% RECEIVED HELP WITH IMMIGRATION CONCERNS



94% RECEIVED HELP ADDRESSING EMOTIONAL NEEDS

"I'M VERY FORTUNATE THAT I FOUND A PLACE WHERE I WAS ABLE TO GET THE **SERVICES I NEEDED** THE SHELTER HAS **PUT ME IN TOUCH** WITH THE COMMUNITY **RESOURCES THAT ARE HELPFUL TO ME** AND HAS GIVEN ME HOPE TO START ON THE JOURNEY TO A BETTER LIFE."



 $oldsymbol{9}4\%$ received help with the impact of violence on relationships with family and friends

THESE VITAL SERVICES DECREASE A SURVIVOR'S RISK OF EXPERIENCING ABUSE AGAIN WHILE INCREASING ACCESS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES, SUSTAINING SOCIAL SUPPORT, AND IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

ADVOCACY WORKS, AND IT'S HAVING A HUGE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE.

"I FEEL THAT I'M ABLE TO WORK AND CAN **NOW EMOTIONALLY AND FINANCIALLY CARE** FOR MY 13 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER. I CAN SEE **MYSELF ACTUALLY SUPPORTING US AND** HAVING A NORMAL LIFE. THANK YOU!"

Notes--

¹Source: Sullivan, C.M. (2012, October). Advocacy Services for Women with Abusive Partners: A Review of the Empirical Evidence, Harrisburg, PA: National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. Retrieved 6/20/16: http:// www.dvevidenceproject.org.

²Source: 2010 – 2015 Documenting Our Work Survey, VAdata and 2010 – 2015 Statewide Domestic Violence Report, **VAdata**

³ Ibid.

Source of all service statistics: VAdata, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

LEADING VOICE A'S Œ

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