Advocacy in Virginia 2020

70,252 survivors received help from hotline services

25,061 adults and 6,406 children received advocacy services

5,762 adults + children received shelter

216,968 nights of shelter were provided

Stay-at-home orders and wide-spread closures left many survivors of violence isolated or trapped at home, meaning that discreet and stealth methods for accessing crisis services became vital.

Contact via email increased by 89%

Contact via text/chat increased by 223%

Contact via mail increased by 60%

Throughout the pandemic, agencies and shelters remained open. Advocates quickly adapted to meet survivors' needs, providing virtual support, safety planning, and emergency hotel stays.

Some of the unique challenges from this time:

- longer shelter stays
- court closures
- funding losses
- shelter-in-place orders

Sexual and domestic violence agencies do more than meets the eye.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance | VSDVAlliance.org

n=2,735 survey respondents, 2020 Documenting Our Work Survey. V4data, Action Alliance

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