



2013

Ohio Family Violence Needs Assessment

The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) in conjunction with the Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Committee completed a statewide needs assessment to identify existing gaps when serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

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Ohio Family Violence Needs Assessment

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INTRODUCTION

This report details the results of a comprehensive, statewide needs assessment of community-based services for families and individuals affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Information was solicited from direct service providers in law enforcement, courts, prosecution, non-profit organizations and various other agencies. The two-part assessment will be used by OCJS and the Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council to establish priorities as they work to increase the safety of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims across Ohio.

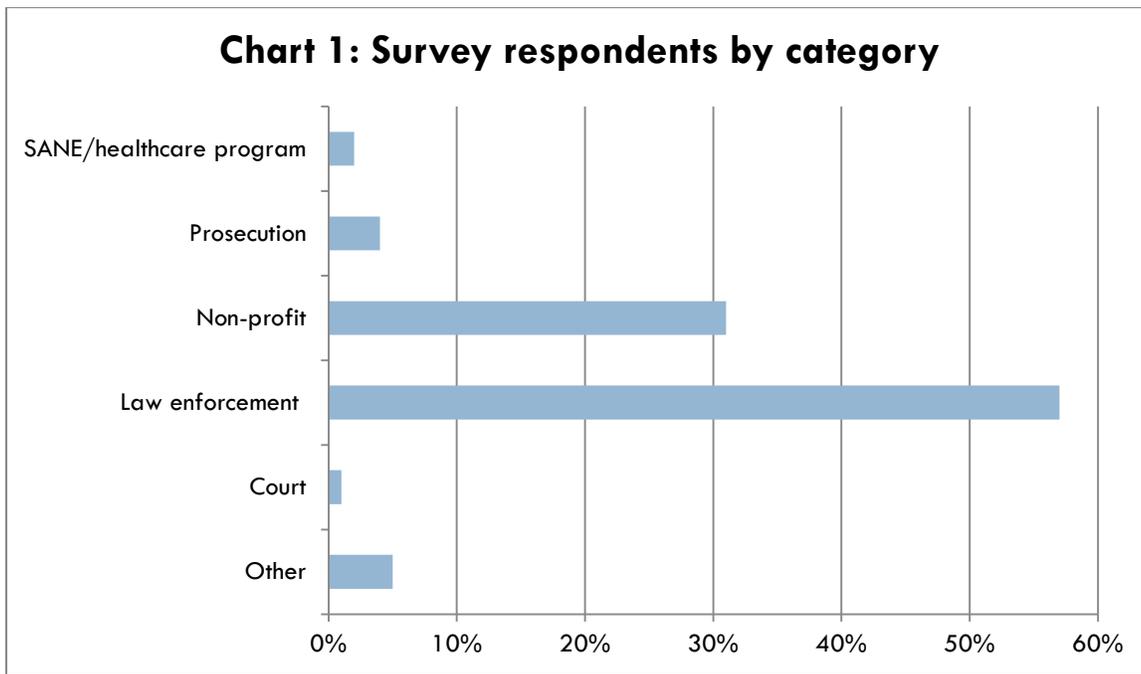
Part I: Online Survey

A survey instrument was developed to gain baseline information from direct service providers prior to conducting the focus groups. Survey results were subsequently used to guide focus group questions. The survey was available for completion February 28 – March 20, 2013 with approximately 71 percent of those who started the survey completing it.¹ Survey participants selected their particular agency type and were directed to questions specific to that area. Once these questions were completed, all survey respondents were routed to a set of questions on funding, training, and underserved communities.

Demographics

As previously stated 71 percent, or 295 individuals, of those who started the survey completed it. The vast majority of these, 56 percent, were law enforcement officials. The complete breakdown can be found in the following chart.

¹ An overall response rate cannot be determined due to the unknown amount of recipients as list-servs were heavily relied upon for mass distribution.



At the conclusion of the survey respondents were asked to identify the counties where they provided services to victims. The results, by category and region, are found in the table below².

Table 1: Survey respondents by category and region served

Category	Northeast Ohio	Northwest Ohio	Central Ohio	Southwest Ohio	Southeast Ohio	All Ohio counties
SANE/healthcare program	57.2%	57.2%	14.3%	14.3%	57.2%	14.3%
Prosecution	25.2%	12.6%	31.4%	12.6%	6.3%	—
Non-profit	55.1%	24.4%	35.2%	29.9%	36.9%	12.2%
Law enforcement	31.0%	11.6%	16.3%	23.4%	7.1%	0.4%
Court	33.4%	16.7%	16.7%	66.8%	16.7%	16.7%
Other	31.6%	13.6%	9.1%	27.0%	4.5%	18.2%

General themes

- ❖ The majority of survey respondents identified information lines —24-hour and toll-free crisis hotlines and general help lines—as being readily available in their communities. Safety planning with victims is also a service that is frequently found in Ohio communities. However, some of the traditionally recognized needs for domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims were identified as lacking. Transportation, transitional housing, child care, and assistance from civil attorneys were all available but insufficient to meet the demand in the community.

² Percentages will not total 100% due to many respondents serving multiple counties.

- ❖ Accessing Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) was not a serious problem according to survey respondents. During focus groups this was found to vary greatly based on the part of the state one resides.
- ❖ Child custody issues were rated as serious/very serious by approximately 40% of respondents.
- ❖ When looking at underserved communities, the majority of survey respondents felt poorly equipped to serve deaf, immigrant, and refugee victims.
- ❖ Lack of funding to sustain programming for victims was a very serious concern for 35 percent of respondents. The majority of survey respondents from non-profit organizations and prosecution had applied to OCJS for STOP VAWA funding in the past. This was found to be in stark contrast to survey respondents from the remaining four categories with over 50 percent of them having never applied to OCJS for STOP VAWA funds.

Agency-specific information

COURTS

- ❖ The majority of survey respondents in this category believed that it was very important to have specialized prosecutors as well as law enforcement for sexual assault and domestic violence cases. Nearly all, 68 percent, of respondents believed batterer intervention services to be critical for their communities.
- ❖ Only 17 percent of respondents had applied for OCJS STOP VAWA funding in the past. When asked what the funding was used for, one respondent stated, 'family violence court mediation.'
- ❖ Training for judges and advocates was rated the highest with 50 percent of the respondents stating training for these two groups of people to be very important.
- ❖ Fifty percent of the respondents indicated that they do not provide services in languages other than English. Less than half, 33 percent, of the respondents provide written materials in languages other than English.
- ❖ Respondents were asked to select the counties they serve. Respondents in this category provided services in the following counties: Cuyahoga, Hamilton, Lorain, Lucas, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ❖ Respondents in this category focused on training needs and spent time answering open-ended questions on the subject. The top three training needs for law enforcement were: (1) explaining and enforcing Civil Protection Orders as well as Temporary Protection Orders, (2) determining the primary aggressor on domestic violence calls, and (3) interviewing skills and victim sensitivity.
 - One officer shared that many times officers are in a rush to arrest and '*arrest the primary offender as opposed to the primary aggressor.*'

Another officer stated, 'From the law enforcement side, a first responder course geared toward interview techniques would be good. Often, officers either gather too little information or they attempt to gain too much detail; especially in dealing with victims of sexual assault.'

- ❖ Other training needs identified include:
 - County-specific training on existing systems, resources available, and protocols

- Report writing
- Legal updates
- Officer-involved domestic violence and/or domestic disputes

- ❖ When asked about training for professionals from other areas, 49 percent of respondents believed that training for advocates and prosecutors was very important.

- ❖ Most respondents in the law enforcement category did not have special units dedicated to domestic violence (65 percent), sexual assault (58 percent), or stalking (70 percent). Those agencies who did have specialized units experienced the following successes as a result:
 - Increased success in prosecutions
 - Better victim support and satisfaction
 - Increased involvement of victim advocates
 - Collaboration with local Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and the Prosecutor's Office.

- ❖ Respondents shared a variety of challenges they experience when serving victims. The challenges listed most frequently include:
 - Victims recanting/victim cooperation and overall failure to prosecute
 - Court system not being aggressive enough—offenders being released from jail within 24 hours
 - Shortage of emergency housing for victims
 - Lack of specialized officers to deal with these types of cases
 - Overall officer apathy when responding to domestic violence calls
 - Handling custodial issues when children are involved

- ❖ Law enforcement officials overwhelming stated they felt poorly equipped when serving deaf and limited-English proficient victims. They also expressed difficulties providing services for victims who are:
 - Developmentally disabled
 - Undocumented
 - Uninsured
 - Homeless

- ❖ The following innovative programs were identified by respondents when assisting underserved communities:
 - Establishing a good working relationship with the mental health court and domestic violence programs
 - Formation of a Hispanic/Latino coalition, hosting monthly meeting for the senior population, and having a detective specifically assigned to work with juvenile suspects as well as victims
 - Hosting a yearly training with the Amish community

- ❖ Approximately 8 percent of respondents had applied for OCJS STOP VAWA funding in the past. Services that were cut due to loss of funding include:
 - Victim advocates
 - Follow up investigations on stalking and sexual assault cases
 - Crime prevention officers including Student Resource Officers

- ❖ Respondents in the Law enforcement section provided services in 61 Ohio counties.

NON-PROFIT

- ❖ Most non-profit providers, 58 percent, reported the sufficiency of hotlines and help lines in their communities. Likewise, safety planning was available and sufficient in most communities. Access to SANEs was noted as sufficient as well.
- ❖ The top three needs respondents reported as insufficient to meet the needs of victims in their communities are: housing, child care, and civil attorneys. The lack of housing identified was for emergencies as well as transitional and long-term needs.
- ❖ Court and non-attorney advocacy were reported to be sufficient for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims.
- ❖ Respondents noted the importance of establishing and expanding specialized units for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The following were rated highest for each crime.
 - Law enforcement sexual assault unit: 59 percent reported it to be very important
 - Prosecution sexual assault unit: 57 percent reported it to be very important
 - Law enforcement domestic violence unit: 56 percent reported it to be very important
 - Law enforcement stalking unit: 44 percent reported it to be very important
- ❖ The following issues were rated as very serious for agencies serving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking:
 - Insufficient funding to maintain general operations (52 percent)
 - Difficulty obtaining affordable housing for victims (49 percent)
 - Inconsistent enforcement of current laws (39 percent)
 - Growing number of victims seeking assistance (33 percent)
- ❖ When asked to rate the importance of training for professionals working with victims, respondents from non-profit agencies listed the following three as most important:
 - Law enforcement (73 percent)
 - Prosecutors (68 percent)
 - Judges (67 percent)
- ❖ In general, respondents in this category were equipped to deal with a diverse population of victims. Refugees served as the group 41 percent of respondents believed they were poorly equipped to serve. Innovative programs for working with underserved communities included:
 - Men's childhood sexual abuse support groups
 - Psychotherapy and advocacy services
 - Satellite offices in more rural counties and linkages to transportation
 - Hiring advocates who are members of underserved communities, including the LGBTQI community
- ❖ When asked to list people in their community for whom providing services is especially challenging, respondents listed the following:
 - Abused women from India
 - Victims with traumatic brain injuries
 - Amish community
 - Chronic runaway trafficked teens
 - Unaccompanied minors
 - Incarcerated men

- ❖ Approximately 43 percent of non-profit providers had applied for OCJS STOP VAWA funding. When asked to list service they were no longer able to provide due to funding constraints, respondents listed:
 - 24-hour staff shelter coverage
 - Advocacy and financial assistance to victims
 - Children's support group
 - Family visitation center
 - Professional counseling to victims without insurance or Medicaid
 - Legal representative in divorce proceedings
 - Crisis outreach positions
 - Life skills programming, budgeting, and parenting classes

- ❖ Several respondents were able to add services due to funding provided by agencies. These included:
 - Transitional housing through OVW funding
 - Community outreach specialist to increase outreach to underserved populations
 - Counseling for victims
 - Special programming to examine services provided to victims with disabilities

- ❖ Non-profit respondents provided services in 76 Ohio counties.

PROSECUTION

- ❖ Sixty-eight percent of respondents reported being extremely successful in keeping victims informed of their case status. The majority of respondents had special units for domestic violence (63 percent), sexual assault (38 percent), and stalking (44 percent). Due to these special units, the following successes were reported:
 - Improved investigation and consistency in prosecution
 - Better communication with victims and subsequent increase in victim involvement due to investigators being able to personally serve victims with subpoenas for court
 - Seamless services in coordination with other service providers

- ❖ The following specialty training areas were listed as necessary for prosecutors when serving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims:
 - Detailed training on sexual assault
 - Emerging trends on cycles of violence and victimization for new prosecutors
 - Training on evidence issues such as hearsay exceptions and the use of experts, including toxicology and DNA
 - Training on how to effectively deal with diverse victims including those who are reluctant to move forward, have non-traditional religious beliefs, and may deal with immigration issues

- ❖ Prosecutors shared the following challenges when working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking:
 - Assisting victims with their financial needs to gain independence
 - Working with judges can be difficult when victims choose to recant or are uncooperative
 - Working with large caseloads but being short staffed

- ❖ Overall, prosecutors believed it is important to develop/expand specialized units for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Special units for law enforcement were rated the most important (63 percent), followed by prosecution (52 percent), and courts (20 percent).

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- ❖ Prosecutors believed in the importance of ongoing training for all sectors of the justice system. The following were listed as most important by respondents:
 - Law enforcement (81 percent)
 - Judges (75 percent)
 - Advocates (75 percent)
 - Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (75 percent)

- ❖ The majority of respondents in this category reported being equipped to serve victims from underserved communities. However the following groups were listed as being challenging to serve:
 - Deaf/hard of hearing victims
 - Victims experiencing mental health issues who cannot be assisted by adult protective services or children services
 - Unaccompanied minors

- ❖ Fifty percent of prosecutors had applied for OCJS STOP VAWA funding in the past. Services they have had to discontinue due to funding constraints include:
 - 24-hour rape crisis hotline
 - Additional advocates including those who assist victims with Civil Protection Orders
 - Family violence prevention program
 - Counseling for child abuse victims
 - Domestic violence prosecutor

- ❖ Respondents in this category provided services in the following counties: Butler, Carroll, Cuyahoga, Erie, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Logan, Mahoning, Marion, Vinton, Warren, and Wyandot.

SANE/HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

- ❖ The majority (57 percent) of sexual assault nurse examiners believed that access to SANEs was available and sufficient in their communities. They also reported hospital and medical advocacy being sufficient to meet the needs of victims in their respective communities. However when asked to address substance abuse and treatment services for victims, nearly 43 percent of respondents believed this area to be insufficient to meet victims' needs.

- ❖ Approximately 29 percent of respondents believed that difficulty obtaining medical care, testing of sexual assault evidence collection kits, and storage as well as testing of anonymous sexual assault evidence collection kits were not serious problems in their communities.

- ❖ The development and expansion of specialized units for domestic violence (57 percent) and sexual assault (57 percent) were very important to respondents in this category. However they did not believe having specialized units for stalking (28 percent) was as important.

- ❖ When asked about interpreting services available for victims respondents reported using interpreter phone lines. Limited/non-English proficient victims were noted as being difficult to serve.

- ❖ Over 71 percent of respondents had not previously applied to OCJS for STOP VAWA funding. No specific programming was reported as being dropped due to lack of funding; however one respondent offered this comment:

'Sexual assault forensic care is well defined but not transferable to patients of elder abuse, domestic violence, or stalking due to budget constraints.'

- ❖ Respondents in the SANE category provided services to victims in the following counties: Belmont, Cuyahoga, Guernsey, Harrison, Medina, Monroe, Montgomery, Muskingum, Noble, Sandusky, Seneca, Williams, and Wood.

OTHER

- ❖ This category of respondents was composed of:
 - County human services, corrections, health educator/violence prevention specialist, liaison between developmental disabilities and mental health court, state prison, university research, unit of local government, victim legal assistance, independent consultant, campus safety, and attorneys
- ❖ Fifty-nine percent of respondents in this category provided services to domestic violence victims. The percentage decreased for sexual assault (41 percent) and stalking (23 percent).
- ❖ The following services were listed as available but insufficient to meet the needs of victims:
 - All forms of housing (emergency, shelter, transitional, and long-term)
 - Civil attorney/legal aid
 - Individual counseling
 - Trauma-trained counselors
 - Support group
 - Substance abuse/treatment services
- ❖ Unlike all other respondent categories, this group identified the need for specialized prosecution units for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking to be more important than special law enforcement units. For both domestic violence and sexual assault, 59 percent of respondents believed it was very important to develop and expand specialized prosecution units compared to only 38 percent for law enforcement.
- ❖ The following issues were reported as being serious or very serious for agencies serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking:
 - Insufficient funding to maintain general operations (59 percent)
 - Ability to provide services to victims with multiple problems (55 percent)
 - Inconsistent enforcement of current laws (45 percent)
- ❖ Law enforcement (68 percent), judges (64 percent), and prosecutors (59 percent) were rated the highest by respondents in this category for needing additional training.
- ❖ When asked to identify persons in their community for whom providing services is challenging, respondents reported this group to include homeless victims and those with chronic AOD and mental health issues.
- ❖ Forty-six percent of respondents in this category had never applied to OCJS for STOP VAWA funding. Due to reductions or loss in funding, respondents reported losing several social work positions and were no longer able to provide clinical intervention for patients on unit.
- ❖ Respondents in this category provided services in the following counties: Belmont, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Harrison, Highland, Jefferson, Lucas, Ottawa, Richland, and Wayne.

Part II: Statewide Focus Groups

After reviewing the information gleaned from the online survey results, members of the Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council met to determine what items they wanted more detail from providers. These topics were narrowed down to the following five questions and utilized in all focus groups:

1. From your perspective, what are the barriers to services for domestic violence victims in your community?
2. From your perspective, what are the barriers to services for sexual assault victims in your community?
3. From your perspective, what are the barriers to services for stalking victims in your community?
4. What barriers do victims face in your community regarding access to interpreters?
5. What do you think would be the most effective intervention; without taking cost into consideration, that would help victims?

A total of seven, 90 minute focus groups were conducted in five Ohio regions: Northwest, Northeast, Central, Southwest, and Southeast.³ In large part to the individuals and agencies that assisted OCJS in determining who to invite from their service area, the focus groups were interdisciplinary and included representatives from all sections of the criminal justice system as well as members of health systems and non-profit organizations.

Overall themes

- ❖ Regardless of region, all focus group participants identified transportation, housing, childcare, and legal aid as great needs for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
- ❖ Nearly all involved shared the need for public education and awareness around what constitutes domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in addition to what services are available for victims.
- ❖ Training for law enforcement, prosecutors, court as well as frontline staff, and advocates was emphasized.
- ❖ Adequate and appropriate access to interpreters varied based on region of Ohio; however there was a universal need for more court-certified interpreters who are well-versed in domestic violence issues.
- ❖ Finally, every group recommended developing holistic, one-stop shops in each of their communities to effectively meet victims' needs.

REGION-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

NORTHWEST OHIO

Barriers when providing services to victims of domestic violence:

- ❖ **Accessing victims**
 - The initial response to a victim is critical and will determine if they seek help in the future. Many times if a victim is lied to or if they do not feel they were helped, they will not cooperate with pressing charges nor will they call for assistance in the future.
 - Many shared frustrations with attempting to contact victims to provide advocacy and follow up services because of incorrect contact information due to report taking and in some cases victims providing incorrect phone numbers. In order to gain the trust of victims, service providers need to build relationships with the communities they serve.
 - Overall advocacy is lacking in the community. There is a lack of knowledge of what services are available in addition to incorrect expectations by victims. Participants suggested more law enforcement/victim advocate partnerships to increase understanding between both parties.

³ A complete list of locations and dates of groups is located in the appendix.

Additionally participants shared that Lucas and Wood Counties operate differently and when a victim has issues in both counties it can be very confusing for them to work through.

❖ **Collaboration**

- There is not enough collaboration among agencies. Oftentimes victims become frustrated because they have to retell their story numerous times and travel to various locations when ultimately they just want the violence to end.

❖ **Mental health services**

- Currently, victims who are not eligible for Medicaid do not receive referrals for mental health services. Some may receive an initial assessment, but not any additional services.

❖ **Transportation**

- It is especially difficult for victims in rural areas to make appointments and court appearances due to the lack of transportation. Victims who are undocumented often experience transportation issues as well because they are isolated from everyone else.

❖ **Custody issues**

- These proceedings are not covered by legal aid. Oftentimes the alleged abuser has all the resources, including access to an attorney, and is able to get split or full custody of the children. When a batterer is able to have an attorney and the victim does not, the process becomes unequal. Legal aid does not work in the juvenile court right now.

❖ **Lack of evidence-based practices in the field**

- In each of the respective fields who serve domestic violence victims there is a lack of focus on best practices. Overall trauma-informed professionals are lacking. For instance, prosecutors may ask for all notes from a victim's counseling sessions which can be traumatizing for the victim. Responses should focus more on trauma.

❖ **Court issues**

- In general the alleged abuser has more access to services than the victim.
- One judge stated that there are a high number of domestic violence cases in his particular municipal court and he believes many are not legitimate. In his opinion the victim wants to get back at someone or wants to win custody of the children. Due to the high number of 'bogus' cases where victims recant, it is difficult to dig out the real cases. Both law enforcement and court officials begin to believe that all similar cases are fabricated. In this particular individual's opinion, victims who cycle through the system and return to their abuser are not real victims. He wants training on how to distinguish the real cases from the 'bogus' ones.
- In response to the judge, many in attendance explained that when victims reconcile with offenders it does not mean they were lying; it could mean they are worried about their safety.
- A few suggested increasing victimless prosecution and using jailhouse calls to aid in the process.

Barriers when providing services to victims of sexual assault:

❖ **Lack of SANEs**

- In contrast to survey results, focus group participants voiced a lack of sexual assault nurse examiners in their communities. The largest reason for the low number of SANEs is the lack of funding. Currently they are not on duty 24/7 and have to be called in. It is also important to note that these nurses not only work with sexual assault victims but with domestic violence victims as well.

- ❖ **The position located at the local university to handle sexual assault reports and cases from students has been eliminated due to funding. This is a major barrier for students on campus.**
- ❖ **Housing**
 - Housing for sex trafficking victims, especially youth victims, is a great concern for some. One participant shared that she is receiving more referrals for victims of sex trafficking and they need housing. This is especially challenging as they have unique needs and tend to fall through the cracks of the system.
- ❖ **Victims have serious issues coming forward because they do not want so many people to know what happened to them and it is inevitable as they move throughout the process.**

Barriers when providing services to victims of stalking:

- ❖ **Public education/awareness**
 - According to the group, no one takes stalking victims seriously when they come forward. They are accused of exaggerating the circumstances and being paranoid. One person suggested developing public service announcements to educate the public on what constitutes stalking.
 - There is a general lack of evidence in stalking situations because victims don't know to save the e-mails and other evidence they may receive from the stalker.

Barriers when accessing interpreters:

- ❖ **Deaf/hard of hearing**
 - There is a general lack of services for the hearing impaired community. Very rarely do interpreters appear on the scene or at arraignment.
 - Since victims communicate with their hands, sometimes law enforcement officials perceive them as being aggressive when in fact they are just trying to communicate what happened to them. Because of this misunderstanding, sometimes both the victim and offender are arrested since there is no interpreter at the scene.
- ❖ **Lack of best practices**
 - Family members are used as interpreters which is not best practice. Spanish speaking staff will also be called in to interpret which is not part of their job duties. Both scenarios are occurring due to a lack of funds to hire or contract out for interpreters.
 - It is rare to get a court-certified interpreter because the process to become certified is so difficult. At the time of the group there were only 43 court-certified interpreters in Ohio.
 - One individual shared that she uses the Certified Language Line but that it can be very expensive.

Most effective interventions for victims:

- ❖ **Have attorneys available at all stages and proceedings.**
- ❖ **Proper advocacy**
 - An advocate should be called to every criminal justice-related scene. Also, victims should have the same advocate throughout the entire process.
- ❖ **Offender accountability**
 - Ensure consistent offender accountability. Place GPS units on defendants when they are placed on bond.

- ❖ **Additional housing (shelter and apartment complex) for victims.**
- ❖ **Education**
 - Educate children on what domestic violence is, focusing on younger children.
 - Educate families on preventing domestic violence in required group sessions.

NORTHEAST OHIO

Barriers when providing services to victims of domestic violence:

- ❖ **Public education/awareness**
 - General lack of awareness of what services exist to help victims. This can lead to repeat victims, shame, and a lack of trust in the system. Sometimes it is not acceptable to come forward to receive help. Many times victim blaming takes place at the community level.
 - Education is also a barrier for law enforcement: there is a lot of ignorance throughout law enforcement that can stretch over to prosecution so there is a need for continual training and education.
 - Education and training are both needed for child protective services as well.
- ❖ **Transportation**
 - Transportation to court and appointments is lacking. This is especially true for immigrant victims who do not drive and are experiencing money issues. The public transportation in the area takes hours and does not operate beyond 8 p.m. near many of the service buildings.
- ❖ **Housing**
 - Fear of losing housing is a barrier to domestic violence victims.
 - Special populations also experience barriers when it comes to securing housing:
 - Older teenagers are separated from their families at the shelter because they will only take younger children.
 - Men have a difficult time finding shelters than can accommodate them.
 - Many victims have an unrealistic view of the shelter system.
- ❖ **Enforcement of CPO/TPO**
 - Many stated frustration with the process of obtaining Civil and Temporary Protection Orders. There is a general distrust in law enforcement by immigrants who may be undocumented.
- ❖ **Counseling is difficult to receive if one does not have health insurance.**
- ❖ **Collaboration**
 - Coordination among service providers is lacking and results in duplication of services which can 'turn off' families to the entire process.
- ❖ **Child/teen issues**
 - Childcare while attending appointments is also a big barrier. Sometime the abuser is the childcare provider.
- ❖ **Financial concerns**
 - Many times victims feel that they will be unable to support themselves without the finances of the abuser.
 - These concerns affect housing and transportation as well.

❖ **Agency operation hours**

- Oftentimes agency hours are not conducive to victims making appointments without missing work.

Barriers when providing services to victims of sexual assault:

❖ **Public education**

- Domestic violence cases are often much more of an immediate crisis whereas sexual assault may have occurred years ago but services were not identified as being accessible at the time. Educate the community that assaults do not need to happen immediately to get services.
- Victims of sexual assault in a relationship or marriage are not aware of what services are available and do not even know they are able to report.
- Bad publicity prevents victims from going forward. Law enforcement often has a bad rap publicly and there is little to no talk about the good things that happen in the communities. Media is a barrier. The testing of long untested rape kits was shared as an upcoming opportunity for positive media exposure.
- Stigma: many believed that the sheer stigma of being a victim of sexual assault is the biggest barrier. Many are reluctant to report or relive the incident. Many believe that to receive services one must go through with criminal prosecution and they do not want to do that.

❖ **Lack of individual counseling**

❖ **Health effects/SANE**

- In Cuyahoga County, sexual assault nurse examiners are readily available. Hubs exist in the area and most hospitals have SANEs and they also have a Sexual Assault Response Team. Accessing a SANE works well in this county.
- There is not enough emphasis on the fact that domestic violence and sexual assault have long term health effects. Health providers often get excluded from grant opportunities because they do not meet the qualifications. Healthcare officials are not seen as advocates.

❖ **Court issues**

- Typically an abuser is only charged with domestic violence or sexual assault and it is important to note that in domestic violence situations there is a lot of sexual assault occurring.
- Sexual assault cases are not a focus at the county prosecutor's office.
- In general felony courts do not like handling sexual assault cases and do not have the training to do so properly.

Barriers when providing services to victims of stalking:

❖ **Recognizing that stalking is a crime**

- Stalking is not widely reported, charged, or even taken seriously. Many times stalking cases are being classified as telephone harassment.
- Empirical research is needed on stalking to know the extent of the problem for the area. Since this is not in place, it is easy to not take it seriously.
- Jurisdictional issues: if the stalking came from a cell phone, then what community and cell phone tower did the messages originate? Collaboration and coordination of services is necessary.

❖ **Public education/awareness**

- With the increase in technology including texts and social media, the general public does not understand that excessive contact via these routes is stalking and not just annoying behaviors.
- Domestic violence units have knowledge around stalking however outside of that unit, education is lacking.

- A local city present shared their use of the STEP grant for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking education in the schools. Additional funding for prevention activities is important.
- ❖ **Perpetrator intervention programs do not work. If a stalker is placed in a domestic violence perpetrator program it does nothing for them. Special programming is necessary.**
- ❖ **There is no stalking support group in Northeast Ohio; it was cut due to loss of funding.**

Barriers when accessing interpreters:

- ❖ **Communication language barrier**
 - It is difficult to have a mechanism in place to get an interpreter to the scene of a crime late at night. In many cases family members or bilingual police officers are used.
 - There are many different dialects within a given language and there needs to be different interpreters able to speak them.
 - Interpreters available are not trained on professional standards of interpreting.
 - Many hospitals do not appreciate what a SANE needs to do to get an interpreter and maintain confidentiality which in turn can be a disservice to the patient by having an additional person in the room while having the rape kit completed. Likewise, some modes of interpretation are insensitive to victims.
- ❖ **Interpreter issues in small communities**
 - Often participants found that interpreters can get personally involved and add their own message while interpreting.
 - Spanish-speaking interpreters that are known by the victim due to the closeness of the community pose a problem. Many times these small communities have a very unfavorable look at the victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault.
 - Many professional interpreters lack training and ethics and it is very difficult to obtain interpretation in a crisis.
- ❖ **The Ohio Supreme Court has interpreter certified services, and they are getting the word out, but it is still difficult to have persons take the test and pass the test. As previously stated, there were only 43 certified interpreters in Ohio at the time of the group. In all court proceedings interpreters must be certified.**
- ❖ **In general, funders will not fund training for interpreters.**

Most effective interventions for victims:

- ❖ **Healthcare education**
 - In the past the field put together protocols with healthcare professionals on how to identify sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. Currently this has been done away with. Everyone at some point is affected by violence and healthcare professionals should go back to asking patients, 'Do you feel safe in your home?'
 - Many physicians believe they are doing a great job; however if the patient does not self-disclose that violence is occurring the physician will not know.
- ❖ **Prevention and education**
 - Educate young children and teens about healthy relationships.
 - Provide services for children who witness violence. Other professionals need to be trained in these areas for victims who do not feel comfortable going to a rape crisis center or domestic violence shelter.
 - Use fatality reviews to set goals for future prevention efforts.

- Domestic violence education should automatically be a part of the curriculum at the college level.
- ❖ **Develop a Family Justice Center that meets the needs of victims in one central location.**
- ❖ **Funding is needed for research to learn what works and what does not in the field.**

CENTRAL OHIO

Barriers when providing services to victims of domestic violence:

- ❖ **Stigma and shame that victims experience.**
- ❖ **Education for the community**
 - Many are not aware of what resources are available and some do not qualify for services.
 - From a refugee and immigrant perspective, women do not know their rights. Education and awareness for this particular community is needed to even recognize what domestic violence is. Service providers also need to be culturally sensitive to victims in these communities.
 - In the Latina community victims often have no photo identification because it is the first thing the perpetrator takes. Therefore they cannot access legal services and is punished by a system that needs additional education.
- ❖ **Children/teenage issues**
 - Transition-age youth victims are very difficult to provide services for. They have one foot in the youth serving world and one in the adult serving world. The domestic violence system does not respond well to that age group. There needs to be a change in how providers serve youth.
 - More providers need education on rights regarding children. Many are at a loss when children are involved in a situation.
 - Resources are not available for teenage victims who are not in a dating relationship but an intimate partner relationship. Providers need to do a better job of bringing together agencies that work with runaway youth, domestic violence cases, and foster care because they are all related.
- ❖ **Housing**
 - The local domestic violence shelter is often full. Therefore there are a high number of men and women fleeing domestic violence in the regular shelter system.
 - There is a lack of transitional services for victims not in immediate or imminent danger.
 - LGBTQI victims experience added complications when seeking housing. It is difficult to find shelter for lesbian, gay, and bisexual victims; however it is absolutely impossible for victims in the transgender community.
- ❖ **Court issues**
 - It was shared that staff at the municipal clerk and/or Common Pleas Clerk of Courts are turning away undocumented victims attempting to file paperwork for protection orders.
 - From the court perspective, providers are operating under a very fragmented system.
- ❖ **Transportation is lacking for victims residing in rural areas of Central Ohio.**
- ❖ **Counseling services**
 - There is a need for immediate counseling, especially for undocumented victims. During the time they are waiting for counseling to begin, their abuser can threaten them with deportation in hopes of changing the victim's mind to move forward with the process.

❖ **Training**

- Many in attendance believed that judges need ongoing training as there is no mandatory training for them currently. In some cases judges award custody or visitation to abusers. They also neglect economic justice opportunities during hearings for Civil Protection Orders as well as custody and divorce hearings.
- Human trafficking needs to be viewed from the domestic violence perspective so that women can access resources. Law enforcement need additional training in this matter.
- Philosophies in the court are conflicting. There needs to be education and training to ensure a consistent message.

❖ **Law enforcement issues**

- On some occasions, law enforcement experience difficulty determining the primary aggressor.
- Providers have found there is a huge difference between law enforcement agencies. The tenor is different based upon where you go. Many times it all depends on the officer who responds to the call. It was noted that younger law enforcement recruits seem to have a better understanding of domestic violence than the more seasoned officers.
- Officers need to have more education regarding the effects of trauma.

Barriers when providing services to victims of sexual assault:

❖ **Victim blaming**

- Victims are often the ones punished after reporting domestic violence and sexual assaults. They have to leave their homes, quit jobs, and may lose financial stability.
- Runaway homeless youth and human trafficking victims may have been in the commission of a crime when they were assaulted and there are no resources available for them. Due to their background, they are less likely to be believed.
- For male victims is it very difficult to come forward and say they have been sexually assaulted due to the stigma attached to it.

❖ **Long court process**

- Victims have to jump through many hoops to get help or seek legal justice.
- Credibility issues of the victim are often used as reasons to drop charges or 'take a plea.'

❖ **Training for law enforcement**

- Most law enforcement officials do not understand the trauma process and that most victims come forward 24 to 48 hours after they have spoken to someone about the assault.

❖ **Lack of awareness and education**

- There is a general lack of awareness by the legal community of understanding the neurobiology of trauma. As professionals we have expectations of how a sexual assault victim should look and act. Oftentimes professionals inadvertently blame the victim as well.

❖ **Counseling and general advocacy**

- Sexual assault victims need appropriate counseling and a case manager to follow them through the entire process.
- Extending the time period of support is vital. Victims of sexual assault need more shelter resources and long-term advocacy services.

❖ **Child victims of sexual assault are often still in the custody of the parent who is the perpetrator.**

- ❖ **Lack of support from hospital administrators leads to a shortage of sexual assault nurse examiners and advocates.**

Barriers when providing services to victims of stalking:

- ❖ **Court processes**

- There are limited legal repercussions for stalking perpetrators. In Common Pleas Court, stalking is a felony of the fourth degree and the perpetrator will only receive 18 months in jail.
- It is difficult for victims to 'prove' they have been stalked. Building a stalking case is incredibly difficult and time consuming. Victims are often left to build their own case and later labeled as neurotic individuals for collecting so much information.
- The length of time to prosecute is long.
- There is much advancement in technology that can help victims be safer such as electronic monitoring of offenders. However there is a lack of funding to take advantage of this.

- ❖ **Education and public awareness**

- There is a general lack of awareness of what constitutes stalking. Additionally most do not know there is protection available.

- ❖ **There is currently no treatment programming for stalkers. They can get into batterer's intervention programming; however it does not do much for them. Stalking perpetrators are a difficult group to treat and victims are at a loss.**

Barriers when accessing interpreters:

- ❖ **Funding**

- Increased funding needs to be provided to agencies for interpretation services.
- For the majority of law enforcement agencies, in particular those with less than 30 officers, the agencies do not have access to qualified interpreters; nor do they have the funding to have various interpreters on retainer or contract.
- Urban counties have the bulk of certified interpreters whereas rural counties have difficulty with the expense.

- ❖ **Pool from small community/lack of interpreters available**

- Victims often refuse to work with interpreters because they are afraid of being known by other people within their small community.
- The small number of available interpreters increases the gap between the call for service and time of actual service.
- There is an overall lack of trust with interpreters because the victim may not always have the same interpreter present which may lead to fear of losing confidentiality. Additionally, many times interpreters believe they know the system and tell victims something outside of the court process.

- ❖ **If a petitioner enters court and they are Limited/Non-English proficient, they are turned away until an interpreter is available. In many cases the victim cannot get the initial ex-parte on the same day they file the petition.**

Most effective interventions for victims:

- ❖ **Education, awareness, and advocacy**

- ❖ **A larger domestic violence shelter needs to be built in Franklin County.**

- ❖ **Increased training for law enforcement, advocates, judges, and court personnel.**

One participant shared: 'Developing some basic cross-cutting core competencies that all service and public service providers are trained in to at least recognize and not re-traumatize individuals through basic interactions. Well intentioned individuals can unknowingly interact in a way that is re-traumatizing for the individual.'

- ❖ **Collaboration**
 - Regular domestic violence task force meetings need to be held.
 - Avoid duplication of services which should lead collaborative efforts to occur in a more positive way.
- ❖ **Qualified, certified interpreters need to be available 24/7. They would be on-duty at a central location and available to respond immediately to any scene with an expected arrival time less than 20 minutes.**
- ❖ **Gather evidence from victims and keep them documented until the victim is ready to go forward with pressing charges without having to start at the beginning.**

SOUTHWEST OHIO

Barriers when providing services to victims of domestic violence:

- ❖ **Advocacy**
 - There is a need for increased legal and general advocacy for victims of domestic violence.
 - It was shared that Legal Aid attorneys are only reimbursed by VOCA if they win. Therefore some attorneys have pressured victims into consent agreements because that is considered a win and this is not always in the best interest of victims.
- ❖ **Compensation for victims is necessary for self-sufficiency.**
- ❖ **Education**
 - Education is needed for the public on what services are available to victims.
 - There also needs to be more education and training on Civil Protection Orders. One participant shared that a CPO was not granted to a victim because both parties were lesbian.
- ❖ **More work should focus on locating adequate immediate and long-term housing for senior victims.**
- ❖ **Transportation for victims in rural areas is difficult. The Warren County Transit was cut due to lack of funding available to sustain it.**
- ❖ **Child custody/support issues**
 - Too many courts in Civil Protection Order cases decline to include child support. Discretion needs to be taken away from judges in these circumstances.
 - Family Child Support Indicator: all attorneys are required to put that indicator on the case if they are notified, however the problem is many are not notified.
- ❖ **Services for children who witness violence are needed.**

Barriers when providing services to victims of sexual assault:

- ❖ **Adequate identification of sexual assault in senior victims is needed.**
- ❖ **Education and training**
 - Many sexual assaults are not reported until the person who caused the assault is out of the household.
 - Community awareness and training for employers who may punish victims for missing work due to court appearances.
 - Law enforcement officials responding to the hospital need more education to understand why an interview is not conducted with the victim without an advocate present.
- ❖ **Rape crisis centers that do exist should have more funding because they provide vital services.**
- ❖ **Victims in rural communities are forced to travel far to access sexual assault nurse examiners.**
- ❖ **Compliance issue: ensure victims are not being billed for sexual assault exams because some currently are being billed.**

Barriers when providing services to victims of stalking:

- ❖ **General diversity:** An individual from a county represented at the focus group shared a story where a petitioner on a protection order case was told that she did not qualify because she was a lesbian. This was subsequently reported to the Attorney General's Office.
- ❖ **Acceptance that stalking is a crime**
 - Oftentimes victims are not believed even when they provide proof such as pictures in court.
 - Stranger stalking is more difficult to prove due to skepticism.
- ❖ **Stalking is usually a by-product from another event and typically is also occurring in domestic violence and sexual assault situations or other violent acts.**
- ❖ **Public/judicial education**
 - There is a lack of education in the community as to what one should do if being stalked.
 - It is difficult to get a jury to convict even when there is specific proof.
 - Menacing or stalking does not require proof of physical presence.
 - There is a high level of skepticism from the judge or magistrate when there is no prior relationship between the victim and perpetrator.
- ❖ **Technology strengths**
 - Law enforcement officials are aware of cyber stalking and are attuned to the ability of people to be able to do this, but there needs to be a realization by the victim that they are being stalked.
 - Law enforcement officials in Warren County have the capability to take cell phones and track data; however they need a reason to do that. Officials need victims to report this information so they can obtain a subpoena. Experts will then analyze the social media activity the mobile device and/or computer.
 - Last year the law allowed electronic monitoring for Civil Protection Order cases, however this new provision did not come with extra funding for the tracking units or additional staff needed for monitoring.

Barriers when accessing interpreters:

- ❖ **Interpreters are cost prohibitive. One participant shared the story where police had not pursued the case of a rape victim who was deaf because they complained they could not afford an interpreter. The advocate worked with ODVN to secure an interpreter. In this case the perpetrator was also deaf so a total of four interpreters were needed.**
- ❖ **Training and education**
 - There is a huge need for training to know a victim's right to language access services.
 - The interpreters that some use need training on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
 - The perpetrator may know the interpreter and the victim may not trust what is being interpreted.

Most effective interventions for victims:

- ❖ **The number of domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers needs to increase. One participant shared that out of the seven counties she works in, Warren County is the best equipped to meet the needs of victims.**

In the smaller rural counties, 'they are lucky if they even do a rape kit or press charges. There is a lack of education and advocacy in the rural counties.'

- ❖ **System coordination: victims need an advocate as a second layer of support to assist them through the entire process.**
- ❖ **Creation of a one-stop shop similar to child advocacy centers would be a great help to victims in the area.**

SOUTHEAST OHIO

Barriers when providing services to victims of domestic violence:

- ❖ **Affordable housing and creating an exit plan from the shelter are barriers to victims.**
 - Housing in the city limits is expensive and many victims end up further out in the county due to lack of affordable housing. The average length of stay at the shelter has tripled over the last eight years.
- ❖ **Transportation**
 - There is no public transportation in Southeast Ohio. Therefore victims must rely on getting rides to appointments. This affects victims following through because they do not have transportation to go to court hearings, counseling, etc.
 - In Meigs County some victims have to travel over an hour for appointments.
- ❖ **Lack of employment opportunities serve as barriers for victims of domestic violence.**
- ❖ **Training**
 - Advocates have had victims tell them law enforcement said, 'if I have to come, then I will arrest both of you and the kids will be taken to children's services.' Training is important for law enforcement.
 - In response, one law enforcement official present shared he believed more officers would participate in trainings if they could get overtime for attendance.
 - Another person suggested adding overtime for law enforcement to attend trainings in the next OCJS Request for Proposal.

- ❖ **Law enforcement agencies are understaffed. It is frustrating for officers to see cases get thrown out in court.**
- ❖ **The area no longer has a visitation center and this is a huge gap in service delivery. One can only estimate how many victims are not leaving their abuser because they do not want to place the children in an unsafe situation.**
- ❖ **Public/community education**
 - Even when cases do go to jury there needs to be more education for jurors to understand why the victim may be acting a certain way.
 - Funding is needed to provide education around Battered Wife's Syndrome.

Barriers when providing services to victims of sexual assault:

- ❖ **There was a general consensus that many believe sexual assaults don't occur in certain Southeastern Ohio counties.**
 - Not many sexual assaults are reported. Some law enforcement officers are untrained in responding to sexual assault complaints and are less than active in taking evidence for sexual assault kits. Police response is less sensitive with sexual assaults than with domestic violence. They are unwilling to file a charge until the rape kit comes back.
 - Occasionally someone will report if a family member was assaulted, but it's a rarity.
 - One county represented shared that they are now pulling files over the last four years and there is a great number of crimes that occurred that were not prosecuted. The new county prosecutor is now looking at these.
 - Counties in this region struggle with severe underreporting of sexual assaults.
- ❖ **Lack of SANEs**
 - One county represented shared a recent incident where a victim was forced to wait for a transport unit from Columbus to take her to a sexual assault exam. The transport arrival time took hours not including the two hours, one way trip.
 - An additional campus grant received allowed staff to bring in officers and trainers to benefit the community in addition to hiring an additional sexual assault nurse examiner.
 - SANEs are trained locally but then are transferred to another part of the hospital so it is difficult to keep them.
- ❖ **Public/community education**
 - Education and outreach to young children is important. Target junior high students so that boys and girls know where to go for help if they are abused.
 - Some sexual assault cases don't constitute rape because they fall outside of the criminal definition. Some college students report there was no force or threat of force, and were initially physically compliant but not wanting to go through with the act. Under statute this is not rape.

Barriers when providing services to victims of stalking:

- ❖ **Unlike all other Ohio regions, it is widely accepted that stalking is wrong and completely unacceptable.**
 - In Athens, there are no problems with prosecuting stalking cases because victims want to go forward with the process. These are the easiest cases to handle because they are keeping a log. It is somewhat difficult with cell phones because it is hard to keep up with technology updates.
 - With stalking there seems to be less shame and more support throughout the process in comparison to domestic violence and sexual assault.

❖ **Training**

- Training is necessary for judges. Some local judges say that the victim has to let the stalker know that they do not want the attention. Advocates and law enforcement normally follow up by sending a letter and calling to make sure there is a record of it.
- Law enforcement officials receive many complaints that individuals are driving around victims' homes and stalking them. However victims are told that it is a main road and everyone can drive on it.

❖ **Public education**

- Many students may not realize that they are being stalked because they do not know what it looks like.
- Many victims are desensitized and don't realize they are a victim. Sometimes the unwanted behavior is not perceived as a threat, rather just annoying.

Barriers when accessing interpreters:❖ **There is an overall lack of diversity in the area. One participant shared that if a victim is not 'White or speaks English they do not know how to serve them.'**

- Spanish and ASL interpreters are the easiest to obtain. Anything beyond those two is difficult.
- There are very few incidences where an interpreter is necessary.
- It is very dangerous for the LGBTQI population in this region of Ohio. Local courts won't recognize domestic violence within same-sex relationships. They will say it is assault, but not domestic violence.
- When a person is culturally different in a fairly monogamous culture it makes it difficult for those victims.

❖ **A local university experiences disproportionate rates of domestic violence among the international student population.**❖ **The Supreme Court is in the process of certifying more interpreters; however they are expensive and many don't want to travel to Southeastern Ohio.****Most effective interventions for victims:**❖ **Massive public education campaign**

- Continuously educating the public will help juries.
- Add a men's component to the education portion. Women's issues should be seen as men's issues. The college campus creates a culture of masculinity.
- Bystander component is an important piece to the education as well. It is everyone's responsibility to help prevent and stop violence.
- This cycle is generational.

❖ **Transitional housing**❖ **Vocational training**❖ **Child care**❖ **Transportation**❖ **Family Justice Centers**

- ❖ **Stiffer penalties for first time offenders and a no-drop policy on the request of the victim. One participant would like to see a special license plate for those convicted of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.**

APPENDIX

Acknowledgements

I would like to share my appreciation to the following individuals for their assistance in completing the focus group portion of the needs assessment. You secured locations and worked out all logistics, invited local providers from your respective areas, and encouraged their participation. Thank you for your continued advocacy efforts in your communities for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Northwest Ohio

Holly Matthews
Demi Heiks

Northeast Ohio

Katie Hanna
Alexandria Ruden

Central Ohio

Melissa Pierson
Annie Murray

Southwest Ohio

Tonia Lake
Janet Hoffman

Southeast Ohio

Robin Bozian
Molly Burchfield

Northwest Ohio (Toledo)—May 16, 2013

Total: 17 participants during two groups conducted

Agencies present: Lucas County Sheriff's Office, YWCA Battered Women's Shelter, Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center, Victim-Witness Assistance, Lucas County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, City of Sylvania, Lucas County Prosecutor's Office, Toledo Municipal Court Judge, Batterer's Intervention Program, Lucas County Children's Services, Cocoon Shelter, Legal Aid, Lucas County Juvenile Court, Domestic Violence Resource Center, Toledo Police Department, City of Toledo Prosecutor's Office, Toledo Municipal Court Clerk of Court.

Southeast Ohio (Athens)—May 29, 2013

Total: 14 participants

Agencies present: Athens City Police Department, Shepherd's House, Southeastern Ohio Legal Services, Serenity House, McArthur Police Department, Ohio University Survivor Advocacy Program, Morgan County Prosecutor's Office/Victim Assistance Program, My Sister's Place, Meigs County Prosecutor's Office/Victim Assistance Program, Meigs County Prosecutor's Office, Marietta Law Director's Office, Marietta College.

Northeast Ohio (Cleveland)—June 3, 2013

Total: 15 participants

Agencies present: Cleveland Police Department, Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center, Cuyahoga County Victim-Witness Assistance, faith-based organization, Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons Inc., Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, SANE, Cleveland Legal Aid, Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence, Department of Public Safety and Justice Affairs, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, Cleveland Municipal Court judge.

Southwest Ohio (Lebanon)—June 5, 2013

Total: 15 participants

Agencies present: Warren County Child Support Enforcement Agency, Abuse and Rape Crisis Shelter of Warren County, Warren County Prosecutor, Warren County Prosecutor's Office/Victim Witness, Senior Service, Legal Aid of Greater Cincinnati, Warren County Sheriff's Office, private attorney, Lebanon Police Department, Ohio Domestic Violence Network.

Central Ohio (Columbus)—June 6, 2013

Total: 41 participants during two groups conducted

Agencies present: Domestic Relations Court, Columbus Public Safety Office, Community Shelter Board, Southeast Mental Health, Franklin County Common Pleas Court, Municipal Court Probation, Sharon Township Police Department, Planned Parenthood of Greater Central Ohio, The Center for Family Safety & Healing, Community Refugee & Immigration Services, SARNCO (Ohio Health), Ohio Hispanic Coalition, Mt. Carmel Hospital SANE, Capital University, Franklin County Commissioner, Columbus Police Department, Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, Asian American Community Services, Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, CHOICES, Legal Aid Society of Columbus, Mt. Carmel Crime and Trauma Services, Chillicothe VA Medical Center, Columbus City Attorney's Office, DOMA, Huckleberry House, Isaac, Brant, Ledman & Teetor LLP.

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

The Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) Program Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) formula grant program is federally administered by the Office of Justice Programs, Office on Violence Against Women within the U.S. Department of Justice, and at the state level by the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). The STOP Program promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhancing advocacy and improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women. It encourages the development and improvement of effective law enforcement, prosecution, courts, advocacy and services in cases involving violent crimes against women. For FAQs on the STOP formula grant program, follow this link: <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/stop-formula-faq.pdf>.

The Ohio Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council and OCJS have collaborated to develop the following needs assessment. It will be used by the Council and OCJS to establish priorities as they work to increase the safety of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims and improve their well-being. This survey is part of a statewide needs assessment of community-based services for families and individuals directly affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.

This survey must be completed by close of business on March 15, 2013 to be included in the needs assessment. The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Your responses are anonymous. Questions marked with an asterisk require a response. Results of this needs assessment will be shared with the public and will be available Fall 2013 on our website www.ocjs.ohio.gov. Please contact Monica Ellis (mlellis@dps.state.oh.us; 614-466-0310) with any questions regarding this survey.

Thank you!

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

*** 1. Please select your type of agency from the list below.**

Court

Non-profit

Prosecution

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)/healthcare program

Law enforcement

Other (please specify)

***2. Do you provide services for victims of domestic violence?**

Yes

No

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

3. Please indicate the extent to which the following services are available in your community to meet the needs of DOMESTIC VIOLENCE victims. Please check only one cell for each type of service.

	Available and sufficient to handle the need	Available but insufficient to handle the need	Service is not available	Unsure
24-hour crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toll-free crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help line (information and referral line)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transitional housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apartment (first month's rent and security deposit)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessible housing for elderly victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to interpreters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial assistance (from a domestic violence agency or outside entity)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supervised visitation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized prosecutors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civil attorneys/legal aid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legal services for immigrant and refugee victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Court/legal advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hospital/medical advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help with victim impact statement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of hearings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of defendant's release from jail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Individual counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Group counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trauma-trained counselors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Support group	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Life skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job placement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information and referral	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Substance abuse/treatment services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

***4. Do you provide services for victims of sexual assault?**

Yes

No

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

5. Please indicate the extent to which the following services are available in your community to meet the needs of SEXUAL ASSAULT victims. Please check only one cell for each type of service.

	Available and sufficient to handle the need	Available but insufficient to handle the need	Service is not available	Unsure
24-hour crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toll-free crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help line (information and referral line)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transitional housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apartment (first month's rent and security deposit)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessible housing for elderly victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SANE available 24/7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to a SANE for forensic evidence collection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to interpreters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized prosecutors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civil attorneys/legal aid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legal services for immigrant and refugee victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Court/legal advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hospital/medical advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help with victim impact statement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of hearings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of defendant's release from jail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Individual counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Group counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rape crisis counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trauma-trained counselors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Support group

Information and referral

Substance abuse/treatment
services

***6. Do you provide services for victims of stalking?**

Yes

No

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

7. Please indicate the extent to which the following services are available in your community to meet the needs of STALKING victims. Please check only one cell for each type of service.

	Available and sufficient to handle the need	Available but insufficient to handle the need	Service is not available	Unsure
24-hour crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toll-free crisis hotline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help line (information and referral line)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emergency housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to interpreters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civil legal counsel/legal representation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized prosecutors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Court/legal advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hospital/medical advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help with victim impact statement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of hearings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of defendant's release from jail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Individual counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Group counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trauma-trained counselors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support group	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information and referral	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Law enforcement

8. How successful is your department in achieving the following?

	Extremely successful	Successful	Moderately successful	Not successful at all	Unsure
Increasing effective intervention with victims and alleged offenders	<input type="radio"/>				
Decreasing the number of cases dropped after an arrest	<input type="radio"/>				
Enhancing collaboration with other agencies	<input type="radio"/>				
Establishing consistent evidence collection	<input type="radio"/>				
Consistently identifying a priority rating of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking calls	<input type="radio"/>				
Accurately determining the primary aggressor	<input type="radio"/>				
Decreasing the number of dual arrests	<input type="radio"/>				

9. In cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, have protocols been developed for the following?

Improving the quality and quantity of physical evidence collection	<input type="text"/>
Timely victim sensitive evidence collection	<input type="text"/>
Expedited transfer of evidence to a forensic lab	<input type="text"/>
Consistent completion of mandatory police reports	<input type="text"/>

10. What specialized training should law enforcement officials receive to assist them in serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking? (Ex. Primary aggressor, enforcement of CPOs, etc.)

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

11. Does your department have a specialized office or unit for:

Domestic violence

Sexual assault

Stalking

12. If yes, what successes have resulted? (Ex. Increased number of cases being investigated, increased victim satisfaction and support for victims, etc.)

13. What challenges have you experienced in working on cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking?

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Prosecution

14. How successful is your office in achieving the following?

	Extremely successful	Successful	Moderately successful	Not successful at all	Unsure
Consulting with victims throughout the process	<input type="radio"/>				
Keeping victims informed on their case status	<input type="radio"/>				
Ensuring victims are familiar with the criminal court system, its processes and protocols	<input type="radio"/>				
Effectively dealing with reluctant/recanting victims	<input type="radio"/>				
Utilizing rape shield law to protect sexual assault victims	<input type="radio"/>				
Completion of comprehensive evidence collection	<input type="radio"/>				
Utilizing expert testimony	<input type="radio"/>				

15. Does your office have a specialized office or unit for:

Domestic violence	<input type="text"/>
Sexual assault	<input type="text"/>
Stalking	<input type="text"/>

16. If yes, what successes have resulted? (Ex. Increase in consistency of prosecution, improved investigation and victim involvement, etc.)

17. What specialized training should prosecutors receive to assist them in serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking?

18. What challenges have you experienced in working on cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking?

Court

19. Rate the importance of the following:

	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not very important
Developing judicial resource guides (bench books)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized domestic violence dockets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized prosecutors for domestic violence and sexual assault cases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialized law enforcement units for domestic violence and sexual assault cases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Batterer intervention services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. Does your court apply for STOP VAWA funds to improve your response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking?

- Yes
 No

21. What types of court-based programs have been supported with STOP VAWA funds?

General

22. Rate the importance of developing/expanding specialized domestic violence units for each of the following:

Law enforcement

Courts

Prosecution

23. Rate the importance of developing/expanding specialized sexual assault units for each of the following:

Law enforcement

Courts

Prosecution

24. Rate the importance of developing/expanding specialized stalking units for each of the following:

Law enforcement

Courts

Prosecution

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

General

25. Rate the seriousness of the following issues currently facing agencies serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking:

	Very serious	Serious	Somewhat serious	Not a serious problem	Unsure
Insufficient funding to maintain general operations	<input type="radio"/>				
Ability to provide services to victims with multiple problems	<input type="radio"/>				
Growing number of victims seeking assistance	<input type="radio"/>				
Inadequate legal representation for victims	<input type="radio"/>				
Difficulty obtaining affordable housing	<input type="radio"/>				
Inconsistent enforcement of current laws	<input type="radio"/>				
Lack of services for specific populations	<input type="radio"/>				
Difficulty obtaining medical care	<input type="radio"/>				
Difficulty accessing SANEs at local hospitals	<input type="radio"/>				
Testing sexual assault evidence collection kits/backlog	<input type="radio"/>				
Storage and testing of anonymous sexual assault evidence collection kits	<input type="radio"/>				
Prosecuting drug facilitated sexual assault cases	<input type="radio"/>				
Child custody cases involving reports of child sexual abuse	<input type="radio"/>				
Difficulty obtaining child care	<input type="radio"/>				

Training

26. Rate the importance of training for the following groups in serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not very important
Civil attorneys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Probation officers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Judges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Court staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prosecutors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff/volunteers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Law enforcement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advocates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medical professionals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SANEs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Counselors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Underserved communities

27. How often does your agency serve the following underserved communities?

Persons with a mental illness	<input type="text"/>
Persons with a mental health disorder	<input type="text"/>
Developmentally disabled	<input type="text"/>
Deaf/hard of hearing	<input type="text"/>
Immigrants	<input type="text"/>
Refugees	<input type="text"/>
Limited English proficient	<input type="text"/>
Elderly	<input type="text"/>
Appalachian	<input type="text"/>
Lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender	<input type="text"/>
Men	<input type="text"/>
Teens/adolescents	<input type="text"/>
Children	<input type="text"/>
Persons with substance abuse/addiction issues	<input type="text"/>
Asian/Pacific Islander	<input type="text"/>
Arab/Middle-Eastern	<input type="text"/>
Black/African American/Caribbean/West Indies	<input type="text"/>
Native/Indigenous	<input type="text"/>
Hispanic/Latino	<input type="text"/>

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

28. Please indicate how well equipped your agency is to serve the following underserved communities:

Persons with a mental illness	<input type="text"/>
Persons with a mental health disorder	<input type="text"/>
Developmentally disabled	<input type="text"/>
Deaf/hard of hearing	<input type="text"/>
Immigrants	<input type="text"/>
Refugees	<input type="text"/>
Limited English proficient	<input type="text"/>
Elderly	<input type="text"/>
Appalachian	<input type="text"/>
Lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender	<input type="text"/>
Men	<input type="text"/>
Teens/adolescents	<input type="text"/>
Children	<input type="text"/>
Persons with substance abuse/addiction issues	<input type="text"/>
Asian/Pacific Islander	<input type="text"/>
Arab/Middle-Eastern	<input type="text"/>
Black/African American/Caribbean/West Indies	<input type="text"/>
Native/Indigenous	<input type="text"/>
Hispanic/Latino	<input type="text"/>

29. What innovative programs do you have to serve victims from underserved communities?

30. Does your agency provide services in languages other than English?

- Yes
 No

31. Does your agency provide written materials in languages other than English?

- Yes
 No

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

32. What process does your agency have in place to provide interpreter services?

33. Are there any people in your community for whom providing services is especially challenging? If so, please describe the group as specifically as possible and which services are most problematic. (Examples may include crisis hotlines for Spanish-speaking populations or counseling for an unaccompanied minor.)

34. Are there services for underserved communities that you feel your agency does not provide and should? If so, what are those services?

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Funding

35. Have you ever applied for STOP VAWA funding through OCJS?

36. Please list in the space below services your agency is no longer able to provide due to reductions in funding.

37. Please list in the space below services your agency has added or dropped due to the type of programs funding agencies will support. Be sure to indicate whether the service(s) was added or dropped.

OCJS STOP VAWA Survey

Service area

38. Please select the counties served by your agency.

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All Ohio counties | <input type="checkbox"/> Guernsey | <input type="checkbox"/> Muskingum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adams | <input type="checkbox"/> Hamilton | <input type="checkbox"/> Noble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allen | <input type="checkbox"/> Hancock | <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ashland | <input type="checkbox"/> Hardin | <input type="checkbox"/> Paulding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ashtabula | <input type="checkbox"/> Harrison | <input type="checkbox"/> Perry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athens | <input type="checkbox"/> Henry | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickaway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auglaize | <input type="checkbox"/> Highland | <input type="checkbox"/> Pike |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belmont | <input type="checkbox"/> Hocking | <input type="checkbox"/> Portage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Holmes | <input type="checkbox"/> Preble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butler | <input type="checkbox"/> Huron | <input type="checkbox"/> Putnam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carroll | <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson | <input type="checkbox"/> Richland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Champaign | <input type="checkbox"/> Jefferson | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clark | <input type="checkbox"/> Knox | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandusky |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clermont | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake | <input type="checkbox"/> Scioto |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinton | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence | <input type="checkbox"/> Seneca |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbiana | <input type="checkbox"/> Licking | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coshocton | <input type="checkbox"/> Logan | <input type="checkbox"/> Stark |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crawford | <input type="checkbox"/> Lorain | <input type="checkbox"/> Summit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cuyahoga | <input type="checkbox"/> Lucas | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumbull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Darke | <input type="checkbox"/> Madison | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuscarawas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defiance | <input type="checkbox"/> Mahoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Union |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delaware | <input type="checkbox"/> Marion | <input type="checkbox"/> Van Wert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Erie | <input type="checkbox"/> Medina | <input type="checkbox"/> Vinton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fairfield | <input type="checkbox"/> Meigs | <input type="checkbox"/> Warren |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fayette | <input type="checkbox"/> Mercer | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Franklin | <input type="checkbox"/> Miami | <input type="checkbox"/> Wayne |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fulton | <input type="checkbox"/> Monroe | <input type="checkbox"/> Williams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gallia | <input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geauga | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan | <input type="checkbox"/> Wyandot |

Greene

Morrow

Thank You

We appreciate your time in completing this survey. Thank you for your continued efforts in providing meaningful services to all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Please visit the OCJS Grants website for future funding solicitations: <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/grants.stm>.