



# **Domestic Violence Program Annual Report**

**Larry Hogan**  
Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford**  
Lt. Governor

**V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.**  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Submitted by:  
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Contact: Ellen Blonder  
410-697-9293 | [ellen.blonder@maryland.gov](mailto:ellen.blonder@maryland.gov)

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## Executive Summary

During the 2011 Legislative Session, House Bill 739 was passed, which transferred oversight and funding responsibilities for sexual assault crisis programs and domestic violence programs to the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention from the Department of Human Resources. Comprehensive Domestic Violence programs including private and nonprofit organizations as well as government agencies, are eligible to submit one application for Domestic Violence Program funding. In FY 2018, \$2,014,827 in State general funds and \$1,552,827 in Federal funds were made available for this grant program.

The primary purpose of the Maryland Domestic Violence Grant program is to provide safe refuge and support services to victims of domestic violence and their children. Services may include a 24-hour hotline, safe accommodations, therapeutic counseling, legal counseling, and court accompaniment. Funds may also be used to support community awareness activities and abuser intervention services.

## Introduction

During the 2011 Legislative Session, the Maryland Department of Human Resources (now the Department of Human Services) proposed legislation to transfer the Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis/Sexual Assault Programs to the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention. This transfer became effective July 1, 2011 through the passage of House Bill 739. The Maryland Domestic Violence Program is a statewide program that makes temporary shelter environments and supportive services available through a network of local domestic violence service programs.

## Program Purpose

The Domestic Violence programs funded provide comprehensive services to meet the specific needs of domestic violence victims and their families. Providing these services locally increases the likelihood that victims will benefit from these services and that there will be appropriate linkages to other community-based services as needed. Additionally, provision of services at the local level fosters a coordinated community approach to serving domestic violence victims that includes partnerships with law enforcement, courts, hospitals, local departments of social services, and other related support agencies.

Services are provided through a network of community-based domestic violence programs and are available in every county in Maryland as well as Baltimore City (See Appendix B for a map of Domestic Violence Service Providers in Maryland by County). Domestic Violence Program funds are used to provide safe refuge and support services to victims of domestic violence and their children. Services include a 24-hour hotline, safe accommodations and board, therapeutic counseling, legal counseling, and court accompaniment. Funds are also used to support community awareness activities and abuser intervention services. These programs consist of both private and nonprofit agencies, and governmental agencies.

The domestic violence programs are funded through State General Funds and Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These programs must provide specialized services that reflect awareness of and sensitivity to the needs of underserved populations and implement their programs in accordance with State and Federal regulations or guidelines.

Unserved and underserved victim populations targeted for outreach and services include: individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues, older adults, individuals with disabilities, those with limited English proficiency, immigrants, people in same-sex relationships, teens, military families, male victims, and individuals and families living in rural areas of the

State where access to services may be limited. Each program develops and implements a plan for outreach to and engagement of unserved or underserved populations. While the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention requires all domestic violence programs to identify and provide services to unserved and underserved populations, it does not require the programs to adopt one standard approach for outreach and intervention. Programs develop and implement their own outreach efforts as defined by their understanding of the specific needs of their respective jurisdictions.

## Legislation and Data

In 2012, HB1146/SB647 "Domestically Related Crimes" was signed into law to help improve the recording and tracking of domestic violence crimes. Under the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting Program the definition for a domestically related crime is now:

"Any crime committed by a suspect (respondent) against a victim who is a person eligible for relief, as defined in §4-501 of the Family Law Article or who had a sexual relationship with the suspect within 12 months before the commission of the crime. This also includes homosexual relationships."

Maryland does not have a distinct crime of domestic violence, therefore, the new law helps law enforcement, advocates, prosecutors and judges better protect domestic violence victims and set more appropriate conditions for abusers. In 2013, to better align with Maryland Law, the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program expanded the definition of domestic violence to include ten additional relationships (below).

A "person eligible for relief", as defined in §4-501 of the Family Law Article includes:

- The current or former spouse of the respondent;
- A cohabitant of the respondent;
- A person related to the respondent by blood, marriage, or adoption;
- A parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild of the respondent or the person eligible for relief who resides or resided with the respondent or person eligible for relief for at least 90 days within 1 year before the filing of the petition;
- A vulnerable adult;
- An individual who has a child in common with the respondent.

Prior to 2013, the only reported relationships between domestic violence victims and offenders were husband, wife and cohabitant (Table 1). In addition, "intimate partner" now refers to a victim who had a sexual relationship with the suspect within 12 months before the commission

of the crime. As domestic violence data reporting was expanded to include additional relationships, there was an increase in the total number of Domestic Violence crimes statewide. (Table 2).

**TABLE 1: Number of Domestic Violence Crimes - Spouse Relationship**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>*2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Spouse:</b>					
Husband	1,974	1,889	1,866	1,754	1,766
Wife	4,843	4,883	4,761	4,148	4,223
Cohabitant					
Heterosexual Male	2,727	2,537	2,460	2,257	2,310
Heterosexual Female	8,261	7,868	7,342	6,514	6,607
Homosexual	404	438	388	382	395
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>18,209</b>	<b>17,615</b>	<b>*16,817</b>	<b>15,055</b>	<b>15,301</b>

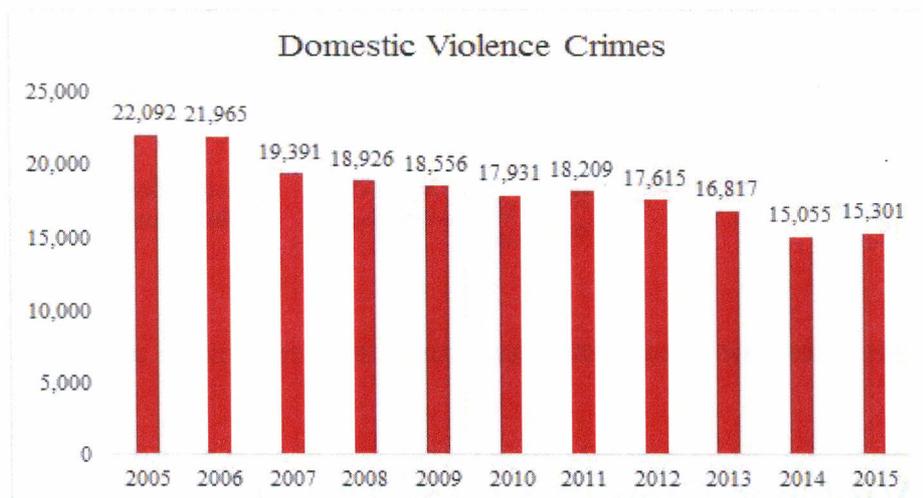
**TABLE 2: Number of Domestic Violence Crimes - Non-Spouse Relationship**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Relationships Reported as of 2013</b>					
Sibling (brother or sister)	N/A	N/A	1,636	1,691	1,791
Niece, Nephew, Aunt, Uncle Cousin, In-law	N/A	N/A	562	660	866
Grandchild or Grandparent	N/A	N/A	232	280	328
Child (son or daughter) or Stepchild	N/A	N/A	2,149	2,274	2,601
Parent or Stepparent	N/A	N/A	2,533	2,729	3,143
Vulnerable Adult	N/A	N/A	47	73	56
Individual with a child in common	N/A	N/A	1,378	1,638	1,922
Heterosexual Male Intimate Partner	N/A	N/A	630	649	978
Heterosexual Female Intimate Partner	N/A	N/A	1,651	2,014	3,252
Homosexual Intimate Partner	N/A	N/A	150	179	296
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>18,209</b>	<b>17,615</b>	<b>*27,785</b>	<b>27,242</b>	<b>30,534</b>

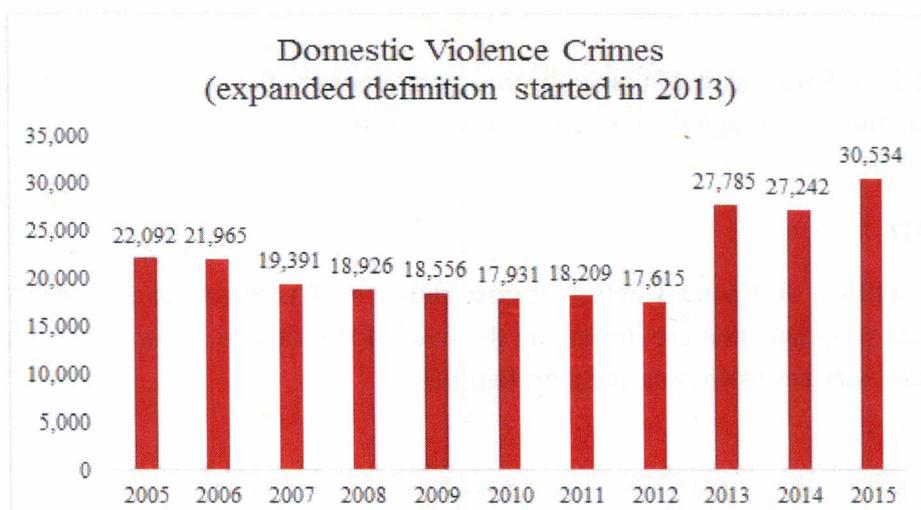
Note: \*In 2013, domestic violence data reporting was expanded to include additional relationships and reflect changes in Maryland Law. This change explains the increase in the total number of Domestically Related Crimes reported.

As of the time of this report, complete and verified Uniform Crime Reporting data is only available through Calendar Year 2015. Based on the previous definition of domestic violence, there were a total of 15,301 domestic violence crimes reported statewide in 2015, compared to 15,055 crimes in 2014 (Chart 1). This represents a 1.6% increase in the number of domestic violence crimes from 2014 to 2015, and a 30.7% decrease since 2005. Under the new and expanded law, an additional 15,233 domestically related crimes were captured in 2015, representing the inclusion of more types of domestic relationships (Chart 2).

**CHART 1: Total Number of Domestic Violence Incidents under the Previous Definition of Domestic Violence; Source: Maryland Uniform Crime Report**

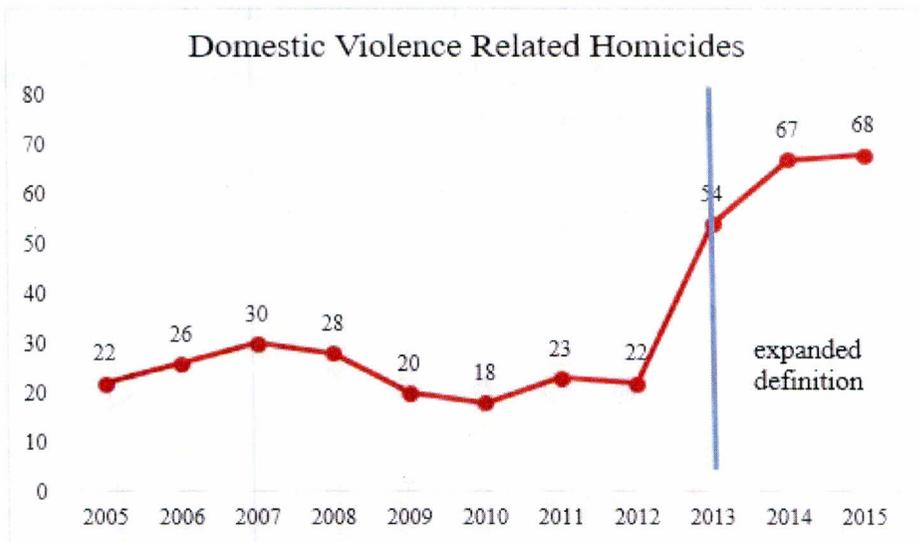


**CHART 2: Total Number of Domestic Violence Incidents under the Expanded Definition of Domestic Violence; Source: Maryland Uniform Crime Report**



In 2015, there were 60 female homicides, and 43 juvenile murder victims. There were 68 homicides determined to be domestically related in 2015 (Chart 3). These numbers are also reflective of the expanded definition of domestic violence.

**CHART 3: Domestic Violence Related Homicides; Source: Maryland Uniform Crime Report**



## Domestic Violence Grant Program Awards

The Domestic Violence Grant program is funded through State general funds and Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

In FY 2018, \$3,567,654 was made available for this grant program. See Appendix A for a listing of current projects funded through the FY 2018 Domestic Violence program.

## Conclusion

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention will continue to provide funds to Domestic Violence programs that are improving the lives of the victims in our communities and that provide needed services to victims and their families.

## Appendix A

**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-0001

**Award Amount:** \$54,500

**Project Title:** Provider Training

**Implementing Org:** House of Ruth Maryland, Inc.

**County:** Baltimore City

**Project Summary:** The House of Ruth Maryland's Domestic Violence Initiative program will help decrease gaps in service for domestic violence Victim Service Organizations and Abuse Intervention Programs, increase programs prepared for certification, and foster collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program offers domestic violence trainings to four regions across the state. The program provides opportunities for certification and service-enhancing regional collaboration. Grant funds provide training costs.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1701

**Award Amount:** \$162,985

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center, Inc. (SARC)

**County:** Harford

**Project Summary:** The Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center, Inc.'s (SARC) Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in the State of Maryland. The program provides a 24-hour helpline, crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, and legal advocacy and representation. Grant funds provide salary support, contractual services, and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1702

**Award Amount:** \$169,196

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Family Crisis Resource Center, Inc.

**County:** Allegany

**Project Summary:** The Family Crisis Resource Center, Inc.'s Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in the state of Maryland. The program provides 24 hour hotline, safe shelter, crisis intervention and supportive services, information and referrals to other community resources, individual and group counseling, legal

and medical advocacy and accompaniment, advocacy with other systems, Abuse Intervention Program, and community and outreach training. Grant funds provide salary support. Grant funds provide salary support, contractual services, and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1703

**Award Amount:** \$113,000

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** TurnAround, Inc. (Baltimore County)

**County:** Baltimore County

**Project Summary:** TurnAround's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides comprehensive services to adult and child victims/witnesses that include advocacy, crisis response, trauma therapy and safe placement. All services are available 24-hours a day 7 days a week. Grant funds provide salary support, operating expenses, and contractual services.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1705

**Award Amount:** \$183,251

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

**County:** Anne Arundel

**Project Summary:** The YWCA's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides emergency shelter, counseling, 24-hour hotline, safety planning, and prevention services to residents residing in Anne Arundel County. Grant funds provide salary support and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1706

**Award Amount:** \$126,919

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** CASA Citizens Assisting and Sheltering the Abused, Inc.

**County:** Washington

**Project Summary:** CASA's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides core, mandated services to victims of domestic violence and their families in Washington County. Services include a

24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, information and referral services, counseling, legal services, specialized services for children, accompaniment, and supportive services. Grant funds provide salary support, travel, contractual services, and training.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1707

**Award Amount:** \$364,410

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Family & Children's Services of Central MD

**County:** Baltimore City

**Project Summary:** The Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides an array of services to domestic violence victims in Baltimore and Carroll counties and their children. Services include a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, crisis and continuing counseling, information and referrals, legal services, specialized services for children, legal and medical accompaniment, Abuser Intervention Program, and supportive services. Grant funds provide salary support and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1709

**Award Amount:** \$171,573

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County, Inc.

**County:** Baltimore County

**Project Summary:** The Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County, Inc.'s Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of crime in the State of Maryland. The program provides a 24-hour hotline, victim advocacy, community education and outreach, counseling, emergency shelter, case management, Abuse Intervention Program, and information and referrals. Grant funds provide salary support.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1727

**Award Amount:** \$114,836

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Resource Center (Dove Center)

**County:** Garrett

**Project Summary:** The Dove Center's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. Services include shelter, counseling, hotline, information and referral, advocacy and accompaniment, outreach services, education and prevention activities, supportive services, specialized services for children, and Abuse Intervention Services. Grant funds provide salary support and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1729

**Award Amount:** \$461,997

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** House of Ruth Maryland, Inc.

**County:** Baltimore City

**Project Summary:** The House of Ruth Maryland Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide support to intimate partner violence victims and their families in the Baltimore Metropolitan Region. The program provides comprehensive crisis and ongoing support services which increase awareness of IPV and services, decrease victims' risk of further incidents and harm, and increase safety for victims and their families. Services include 24-hour hotline services, crisis and ongoing counseling, emergency shelter, legal services, community education and training, and Abuse Intervention Program. Grant funds provide salary support, operating expenses, and travel.

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**Award Number:** DOMV-2018-1736

**Award Amount:** \$92,160

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Center for Abused Persons

**County:** Charles

**Project Summary:** The Center for Abused Persons' Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides crisis intervention, individual, family and group counseling, 24-hour outreach and accompaniment, legal services, emergency shelter, and other supportive services for victims of domestic violence. The program also provide Abuse Intervention Program services for abusers. Grant funds provide salary support and contractual services.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1622

**Award Amount:** \$137,212

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Calvert County Health Department

**County:** Calvert

**Project Summary:** The Calvert County Health Department's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies intended to serve victims of domestic violence in the State of Maryland. The program provides 24-hour helpline services, individual and group counseling, victim advocacy services, outreach and education services to the community as well as shelter at the Safe Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter. Grant funds provide salary support.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1701

**Award Amount:** \$250,813

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Family Crisis Center, Inc. of Prince George's County

**County:** Prince George's

**Project Summary:** The Family Crisis Center, Inc. of Prince George's County's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in the State of Maryland. The program's main function is to provide safe housing and supportive services to women and their children fleeing domestic violence. Available services include emergency shelter, case management, counseling, and a 24-hour crisis hotline. Grant funds provide salary support.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1702

**Award Amount:** \$128,972

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Life Crisis Center, Inc.

**County:** Wicomico

**Project Summary:** The Life Crisis Center, Inc.'s Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of Domestic Violence in the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. The program provides 24-hour hotline services, emergency shelter, crisis counseling, Abuse Intervention Program, information and referrals, legal services, specialized services for children, legal and medical accompaniment, supportive services, and community education to serves

victims in Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset Counties. Grant funds provide salary support and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1704

**Award Amount:** \$219,045

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence

**County:** Talbot

**Project Summary:** The Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in Kent, Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot and Queen Anne's Counties, located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Crisis and support services are provided to rural and underserved victims of domestic violence. Services include hotline services, crisis counseling, shelter, medical accompaniment, legal advocacy, court accompaniment, outreach, and training. Grant funds provide salary support, operating expenses, contractual services, and travel.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1705

**Award Amount:** \$172,648

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** HopeWorks of Howard County, Inc.

**County:** Howard

**Project Summary:** HopeWorks of Howard County, Inc.'s Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and their families in Howard County, Maryland. The program promotes holistic evidence-based healing strategies to reflect the individual needs of domestic violence victims by providing a variety of therapeutic counseling services. Services include individual and group counseling, emergency shelter, legal assistance, community education and outreach, 24-hour crisis hotline, and medical accompaniment. Grant funds provide grant funds provide salary support and contractual services.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1708

**Award Amount:** \$130,000

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Cecil County Department of Social Services

**County:** Cecil

**Project Summary:** The Cecil County Government's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in the State of Maryland. Through the Cecil County Department of Social Services, the program provides a variety of services to victims of domestic violence to include temporary safe shelter accommodations, individual, group and crisis counseling, case management, 24-hour hotline services, legal services, court and hospital accompaniment, transitional housing, children's services, information and referral, education, advocacy, and outreach. Grant funds provide salary support, contractual services, and operating expenses.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1710

**Award Amount:** \$124,514

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Walden Sierra, Inc.

**County:** St. Mary's

**Project Summary:** The Walden Sierra's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in the State of Maryland. The program provides services to adult and child victims in St. Mary's County. Services include a 24-hour hotline, crisis services, counseling, referrals, coordinated services, and access to ongoing therapy while also supporting engagement efforts designed to create and sustain community partnerships toward domestic violence prevention. Grant funds provide salary support, operating expenses, travel, and training.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1722

**Award Amount:** \$207,623

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Heartly House, Inc.

**County:** Frederick

**Project Summary:** Heartly House, Inc.'s Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to domestic violence victims in Frederick County. The program provides a 24-hour hotline, crisis intervention and advocacy, emergency shelter, short-term individual and group counseling, safety planning, and referral to other Heartly House and/or community services, and community education and outreach. Grant funds provide salary support, travel, and contractual services.

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**Award Number:** FVPS-2017-1723

**Award Amount:** \$182,000

**Project Title:** Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services

**Implementing Org:** Montgomery County, Maryland

**County:** Montgomery

**Project Summary:** The Montgomery County Government's Comprehensive Domestic Violence Services program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence in Montgomery County, Maryland. Services include on-going crisis intervention, victim advocacy, safety planning, case management, and court accompaniment. Grant funds provide salary support.