

West Virginia
STOP Violence Against Women
Project Evaluation
FY04



Final Report

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STOP Programs Administration

As the State's criminal justice planning agency, DCJS was designated by the Governor as the state agency responsible for the administration of the STOP Programs in West Virginia. A total of \$1,093,721 in STOP funds were made available in July of 2005 to fund projects to better respond to violence against women. Funds were awarded to eligible STOP teams and statewide projects based on submission of a grant proposal and review process conducted by the West Virginians Against Violence Committee (WVAVC). Members of the WVAVC were appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety. Data were provided by the WVCADV and county STOP team members.



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Grants Awarded and Funds Expended

Twenty-seven STOP teams, five statewide initiatives, and this evaluation were awarded funds for the Project Year 2004 (July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006). The funds awarded and expended are listed for each grant. The grants are listed by the primary county in which the team was formed.

Grants Awarded and Funds Expended

Grant Number	STOP Team	Awarded	Expended
04-VAW-001	McDowell County	\$ 18,936.00	\$ 18,903.75
04-VAW-002	Upshur County	\$ 37,668.00	\$ 37,394.16
04-VAW-004	Ohio County	\$ 72,513.00	\$ 72,513.00
04-VAW-006	Wood County	\$ 37,470.00	\$ 35,405.91
04-VAW-007	Greenbrier County	\$ 45,763.00	\$ 43,763.00
04-VAW-008	Monroe County	\$ 15,445.00	\$ 12,995.00
04-VAW-009	Calhoun County	\$ 24,776.00	\$ 24,082.02
04-VAW-010	Pleasants County	\$ 20,061.00	\$ 4,910.83
04-VAW-011	Roane County	\$ 19,050.00	\$ 19,050.00
04-VAW-012	Clay County	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,661.29
04-VAW-013	Jefferson and Berkeley County	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,279.21
04-VAW-015	Kanawha County	\$ 57,718.00	\$ 57,671.02
04-VAW-016	Cabell County	\$ 53,346.00	\$ 53,346.00
04-VAW-017	Putnam County	\$ 25,808.00	\$ 25,808.00
04-VAW-018	Mingo County	\$ 64,650.00	\$ 64,648.69
04-VAW-019	Logan County	\$ 44,555.00	\$ 44,551.31
04-VAW-021	Grant County	\$ 21,154.00	\$ 21,154.00
04-VAW-022	Mineral County	\$ 21,335.00	\$ 20,325.65
04-VAW-024	Marshall County	\$ 18,196.00	\$ 18,196.00
04-VAW-025	Randolph County	\$ 23,037.00	\$ 21,646.45
04-VAW-026	Preston County	\$ 47,520.00	\$ 47,516.64
04-VAW-027	Monongalia County	\$ 76,435.00	\$ 76,252.96
04-VAW-028	Mercer County	\$ 14,900.00	\$ 14,899.56
04-VAW-029	Gilmer County	\$ 34,930.00	\$ 30,675.37
04-VAW-030	Fayette County	\$ 24,407.00	\$ 24,407.00
04-VAW-031	Nicholas County	\$ 19,632.00	\$ 19,632.00
04-VAW-032	Raleigh County	\$ 69,087.00	\$ 62,154.82
Grant Number	State-Wide Initiative	Awarded	Expended
04-VAW-003	Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$ 36,168.00	open
04-VAW-005	Foundation for Rape Information & Services	\$ 43,367.00	open
04-VAW-014	Division of Criminal Justice Services-CJSAC	\$ 18,323.00	open
04-VAW-020	Prosecuting Attorneys Institute	\$ 9,516.00	open
04-VAW-023	Supreme Court of Appeals	\$ 50,955.00	open

Report Highlights

STOP Team Contacts

- ❖ STOP team victim contacts were very similar to unique victim contacts reported by victim service providers, however, a slightly larger proportion of male victims (18.2%) were reported by STOP team members when compared to unique victims served by victim service programs (14.2%).
- ❖ A larger proportion of single victims (44.0%) was reported by STOP team members compared to the proportion reported by victim services (32.2%).

Unique Victims

- ❖ The unique victims served were predominantly female, white, and adults.
- ❖ Approximately 4.0% of victims were persons in later life.
- ❖ Most victims had at least a high school education or GED (24%).
- ❖ Full-time employment was reported for 19.0% of the victims.
- ❖ Emotional abuse (74.0%) was reported most frequently as the victim's reason for seeking services.
- ❖ Over one-third of unique victims reported a history of adult victimization (36.1%).
- ❖ Nearly seventy percent of unique victims reported being a direct victim of domestic violence or sexual assault (69.5%).
- ❖ A total of 4,738 (29.1%) of unique victims indicated that they had reported the violence to the police.
- ❖ Few victims required emergency medical attention (3.6%) and less than one percent (0.6%) of victims required a hospital stay.

Services

- ❖ Case management was the most frequently provided service with an average 2.80 hours of service per unique victim.
- ❖ Legal advocacy and personal advocacy were the second most frequently provided services.
- ❖ Visitation services had the highest mean service hours, with an average of 11.67 service hours per unique victim.

Abuser Contacts

- ❖ Of all abuser contacts, 84.0% were males abusing females. Only 6.3% of male abusers had male victims.
- ❖ Of the 464 female abusers, there was nearly an equal number of male (51.3%) and female (48.7%) victims.
- ❖ Male abusers and female abusers were equally likely to abuse children (16.2%, 16.8%).
- ❖ Male abusers were slightly more likely to victimize adults (82.0%) compared to female abusers (80.8%).
- ❖ Female abusers were somewhat more likely to victimize a person in later life (2.4%) compared to male abusers (1.7%).
- ❖ An examination of the race/ethnicity of the abuser and the victim indicates that the vast majority of the abuser contacts were intra-racial (93.6%). The remaining 6.4% of abuser contacts were interracial.
- ❖ The most often reported weapon used against the victim was the abuser's fists (29.5%).
- ❖ Abusers threatened and/or used firearms in 4.4% of the contacts.
- ❖ Other means of force reported include the destruction of property and/or pets, breaking and entering, throwing objects, biting, choking, and kicking, assault with a motor vehicle, arson, and harassment.

Domestic Violence Cases Reported by Prosecutors

- ❖ The majority of domestic violence cases involved a domestic battery charge (69.6%).
- ❖ The second most frequently charged offense was violation of a protection order (10.5%).
- ❖ The number of cases decreases as the offense seriousness increases. For example, fewer than 2.0% of the total cases involved charges for sexual assault, stalking, and homicide.
- ❖ Harassment, particularly harassing phone calls, was the most frequently charged other offense.
- ❖ The majority of cases are resolved through dismissals and pleas of guilty.
- ❖ Slightly more than one-third (35.9%) received a successful disposition (e.g., no contest, found guilty, or guilty plea). While over one-half of prosecution cases were dismissed, withdrawn, or resulted in not guilty verdicts (56.0%).
- ❖ The most frequent sentencing outcome is jail (41.0%).
- ❖ The least serious offense, domestic battery was most likely to receive pretrial diversion.
- ❖ More serious offenses, such as third offense domestic violence, all degrees of sexual assault and homicide received the harshest sanction of prison.

Participation, Strength of Evidence and Disposition Outcomes

- ❖ In cases that included participation from the victim and a law enforcement officer only, 82.9% resulted in a favorable outcome.
- ❖ When victims, advocates, and law enforcement officers participate in the prosecution of cases, victims received a favorable outcome in 71.0% of the cases.
- ❖ Cases with advocate only participation or no participation from any group were least likely to result in a favorable outcome for the victim.
- ❖ Cases involving weak evidence were far more likely to receive unfavorable dispositions (59.1%) than moderate or strong cases.
- ❖ Across all levels of evidence strength, participation of the victim and law enforcement consistently yielded the most favorable case dispositions, closely followed by participation of the victim, law enforcement, and an advocate.
- ❖ Victim only, victim and advocate, advocate only and no participation cases were far more likely to receive unfavorable case outcomes regardless of the strength of evidence.

STOP Violence Against Women Team Member Survey

- ❖ The primary purpose of the survey is to measure team members' and other responder's attitudes, perceptions, and knowledge of the collaborative effort in their community.
- ❖ STOP team members reported that on average 41.5% of their total caseload deals with violence against women.
- ❖ On average, the largest proportion of cases involve domestic violence (63.0%) followed by sexual assault (16.3%), dating violence (6.2%), and stalking (4.4%).
- ❖ STOP team members reported attending on average two trainings per year dealing with topics in domestic violence, at least one training per year dealing with sexual assault and less than one training per year in the areas of stalking and dating violence.
- ❖ Domestic violence advocates had the highest average number of monthly contacts with other STOP team members at 12.5, closely followed by law enforcement officers with an average of 10.6 contacts per month.
- ❖ No respondents reported that they had no knowledge of victim advocate's, law enforcement officer's, and prosecutor's legal and procedural roles and responsibilities.
- ❖ 12.8% of respondents reported having "very little" knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of health care providers.

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- ❖ Nearly forty percent of respondents reported “quite a bit” of understanding of the roles and responsibilities of victim advocates (38.5%), law enforcement officers (39.1%), and prosecutors (39.4%).
 - ❖ A majority of respondents reported a “great deal” of knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of advocates (41.3%), and law enforcement officers (47.3%) .

Elements of Collaboration

- ❖ The majority of STOP team members reported that collaboration was “very important” (54.0%) when responding to violence against women.
- ❖ No respondents rated collaboration as “not important at all” or “not too important” when responding to violence against women.
- ❖ Trusting and respectful relationships had the highest mean rating at 5.56.
- ❖ Leadership had the second highest mean rating with 5.36.
- ❖ Demonstrating a shared vision had a mean rating of 5.32.
- ❖ STOP teams are able to manage conflict effectively and communicate well with each other.
- ❖ The mean rating for external communication was 4.97 with approximately two-thirds of respondents giving STOP teams a positive rating.
- ❖ Evaluation also had the highest percentage of respondents rating STOP teams poorly (i.e., the team never evaluates their performance) (6.2%).

STOP Team Member’s Rating of VAWA Objectives

- ❖ Most respondents agree that a collaborative response *has* been provided to female victims of violence in WV.
- ❖ Many respondents feel that the efficiency of services has been improved.
- ❖ Many respondents feel that the level of services for female victims has increased as result of VAWA funding. However, they also feel that more services and funding are needed for victims of domestic violence.
- ❖ Overall, most respondents feel that the awareness and understanding of violence against women and its consequences *has* increased.
- ❖ Respondents also indicated additional training was needed for all responders to violence against women and specifically for law enforcement and prosecution.
- ❖ Respondents have less confidence that programs addressing stalking are in place as indicated by the mean rating of 3.49.

Statistical Summary of Persons Served

This section provides a detailed statistical summary of victims served from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The FY04 STOP teams completed and submitted 2,622 demographic forms to the CJSAC for each victim served in each month by law enforcement or victim services. All STOP team members who are advocates with one of the 13 licensed domestic violence programs receiving STOP funds provided their data on victims served

through the database maintained by West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV). A total of 5,339 monthly unique victim contacts (victims counted only once for each month they were served) were reported by these team members in the database. Prosecutors were not required to submit demographic forms during FY04.

Table 1. Number of Contacts Served by STOP Team by Agency Type for FY04 (N = 7,961)

STOP Team	Demographic Forms by Agency Type		Total Forms	WVCADV Database	Total Contacts
	Victim Services	Law Enforcement			
Berkeley & Jefferson	N/A	N/A	N/A	149	149
Cabell County	66	N/A	66	404	470
Calhoun County	N/A	0	0	439	439
Clay County	N/A	3	3	N/A	3
Fayette County	N/A	N/A	N/A	201	201
Gilmer County	N/A	54	54	64	118
Grant County	N/A	N/A	N/A	71	71
Greenbrier County	N/A	N/A	N/A	353	353
Kanawha County	200	27	227	12	239
Logan County	N/A	114	114	N/A	114
Marshall County	N/A	45	45	N/A	45
McDowell County	N/A	142	142	N/A	142
Mercer County	69	N/A	69	N/A	69
Mineral County	N/A	6	6	137	143
Mingo County	N/A	82	82	473	555
Monongalia County	N/A	605	605	524	1,129
Monroe County	N/A	79	79	297	376
Nicholas County	N/A	N/A	N/A	222	222
Ohio County	N/A	195	195	393	588
Pleasants County	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	33
Preston County	N/A	139	139	231	370
Putnam County	N/A	297	297	N/A	297
Raleigh County	N/A	0	0	220	220
Randolph County	N/A	228	228	297	525
Roane County	N/A	N/A	N/A	819	819
Upshur County	N/A	96	96	N/A	96
Wood County	N/A	175	175	N/A	175
Total	335	2,287	2,622	5,339	7,961

Note: N/A means there was no funded STOP team member required to submit the demographic forms.

Contacts by STOP Team

Demographic forms were primarily submitted by law enforcement STOP team members. However, two teams have victim service providers/advocates who submitted demographic forms since they do not work for one of the licensed domestic violence programs. Because each team member submits a demographic form for each victim contact each month and unique identifiers are not collected, estimates in Table 1 will contain duplicate victims. Grant numbers reported in the WVCADV database were used to determine the number of contacts by VAWA funded advocates and to which STOP team they were credited. To remain consistent with the demographic forms, each victim served was counted only once for each month they received services. It can be assumed that all contacts in the database were made by victim services.

As indicated in Table 1, the Monongalia County STOP Team reported the greatest number of contacts during FY04 (1,129). Over half of the STOP team contacts were made by law enforcement team members. Roane County STOP Team reported the second largest number of contacts with 819.

An analysis of the demographic characteristics of STOP team victim contacts indicates that proportionately STOP team contacts are very similar to unique victims reported by victim service providers to the WVCADV with two exceptions. First, a slightly larger proportion of male victims (18.2%) were reported by STOP team members when compared to unique victims served by victim service programs (14.2%). Second, a larger proportion of single victims (44.0%) was reported by STOP team members compared to the proportion reported by victim services (32.2%).

These differences are likely an artifact of different data collection efforts. For example, a large proportion of STOP team contacts are reported by law enforcement officers whereas only contacts with victim service providers are reported in the unique victim file obtained from the WVCADV. It may be that single victims and/or male victims are less likely to come into contact with victim service providers and more likely to be counted through contact with law enforcement.

Given that the unique victim contacts are comparable to the STOP team victim contacts, with the two noted

Table 2. Demographic Characteristics of Unique Victims Served (N = 16,259)

Demographic Characteristic	N	%
Age (mean = 31.9; SD = 15.1)		
Adult (18-59)	9,836	80.2
Child (0-17)	1,948	15.9
Later Life (>59)	481	3.9
Gender		
Male	2,311	14.2
Female	13,945	85.8
Race/Ethnicity		
White	12,943	93.9
Black	503	3.6
Other*	337	2.4
Education level		
Less than High School	1,247	7.7
Some High School	1,701	10.5
High School Diploma/GED	3,904	24.0
Some College	1,246	7.7
College/Professional	667	4.1
Technical/Trade School	163	1.0
Relationship status		
Single	5,231	32.2
Married	5,266	32.4
Separated	1,160	7.1
Divorced	1,665	10.2
Widowed	168	1.0
Lesbian/Gay Partner	50	0.3
Economic status		
Homemaker	2,412	14.8
Full-time Employment	3,094	19.0
Part-time Employment	942	5.8
Unemployed	2,690	16.5
Retired	251	1.5
Student	1,749	10.8
Food Stamps	2,730	16.8
Medical Card	2,901	17.8
Housing Assistance	421	2.6
TANF	594	3.7
Eligible WW Works	222	1.4
Social Security Income	1,486	9.1
*“Other” includes the following categories contributing less than 1.0% of the total: Asian (0.2), Hispanic (0.6), Multi-Racial (0.9), Middle Eastern (0.1), Native American (0.4), Pacific Islander (0.2).		
Note: Columns may not equal 16,259 due to missing values and overlap in some categories. Percentages based on the number of valid cases reported for each variable, except for “employment status” which is based on the total number of unique victims		
Source: WVCADV Database		

Table 3. Percentage of Unique Victims Served by Victim Service Program for FY04

Victim Service Program	%	N
Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.	7.2	1,171
Family Crisis Center, Inc.	2.1	338
Family Crisis Intervention Center of Region V, Inc.	9.8	1,585
Family Refuge Center	7.1	1,146
Family Violence Prevention Program	8.3	1,353
HOPE, Inc.	6.4	1,042
Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center	9.8	1,592
Resolve Family Abuse Program	8.6	1,396
SAFE	7.9	1,290
Shenandoah Women's Center	7.0	1,139
Tug Valley Recovery Shelter Association, Inc.	4.5	738
Women's Aid in Crisis	7.5	1,216
Women's Resource Center	12.6	2,054
The Lighthouse	1.2	199
Total	100.0	16,259

Source: WVCADV Database

exceptions, the next section will discuss the demographic characteristics of unique victims served by victim service programs. Moreover, the unique victim data file contains additional demographic characteristics to analyze.

Unique Victims Served

Of all the contacts reported in the WVCADV database, 16,259 were unique victims during the year. Table 3 shows the distribution of unique victims served by victim service program. The information presented is representative of all unique contacts reported by victim service programs from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Some duplication may occur if a victim received services from multiple advocates or multiple programs.

As indicated in Table 2, the unique victims served were predominantly female, white, and adults. Of the 16,256 victims whose gender was reported, 85.8% were female and 14.2% were male.

Race was known for 13,783 of the victims. The majority of the victims were white (93.9%) while 3.6% were black. The remaining 2.4% included Native American, Hispanic, multi-racial, Asian, Middle Eastern, and Pacific Islander victims.

Age was known for 12,265 of the unique victims. The majority of the victims were adults (80.2%). However, 15.9% of the victims were juveniles. The average age of the victims was 31.9 years old. Approximately 4.0% of victims were persons in later life.

Relationship status was reported for 13,540 of the victims. The distribution of single and married victims was nearly equal with 32.2% and 32.4%, respectively. A modest percentage of unique victims were either

Table 4. Percentage of Unique Victims by Source of Referral to Victim Service Program (N = 12,515)

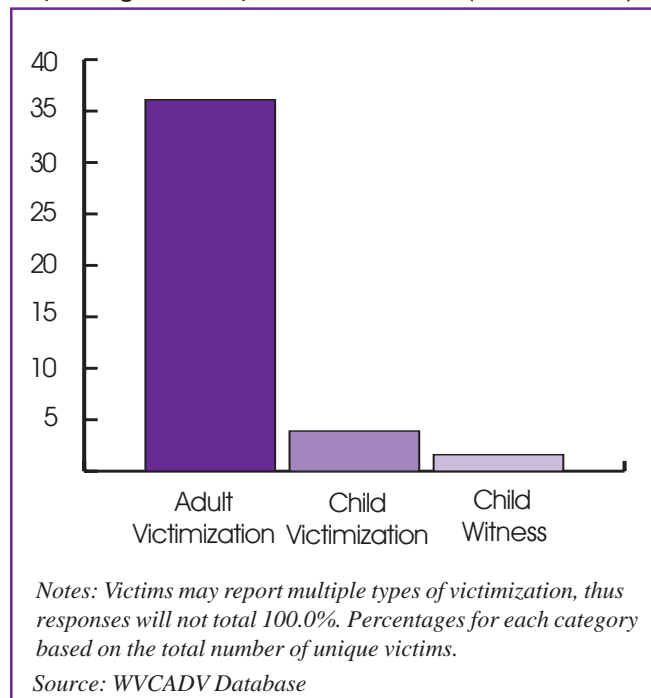
Referral Source	Percentage of Unique Victims
Self/Friend	30.9
Magistrate	25.0
Law Enforcement	10.6
Legal Services	6.7
Former Client	4.6
Family Law Judge	4.1
Social Services	2.9
DHHR	3.0
Medical	3.0
Family Member	2.9
Shelter	2.1
Therapist	1.0
Other*	3.1

*"Other" includes the following categories contributing less than 1.0% of referrals: School (0.8), Church/Minister (0.4), Outreach Office (0.4), Private Attorney (0.4), Public Service Announcement (0.1), Child Protective Services (0.7), Allied Organization (0.3)

Note: Percentages may not equal 100.0% due to rounding. The referral source was unknown for 3,744 of cases.

Source: WVCADV Database

Graph 1. Percentage of Unique Victims Reporting a History of Victimization (N = 16,259)



divorced (7.1%) or separated (10.2%). While less than 1.0% of unique victims reported having a lesbian or gay partner.

Most victims had at least a high school education or GED (24%), however many victims reported having less than a high school education (18.2%). Less than five percent (4.1%) of unique victims reported obtaining a college or professional degree.

The economic status of unique victims was determined by employment status and receipt of public assistance (government benefits). Both variables are measured as “check all that apply” thus there is overlap among the categories. Many victims reported that they were not employed full-time. Approximately 30.0% of unique victims were either unemployed (16.5%) or were homemakers (14.8%). Others reported that they were students (10.8%), employed part-time (5.8%), or were retired (1.5%). Full-time employment was reported for 19.0% of the victims.

Many victims reported that they receive some form of public assistance. The most frequent types of assistance were food stamps (16.8%) and a medical card (17.8%). Roughly 9.1% of unique victims receive social security benefits. Few unique victims reported receiving housing assistance (2.6%), TANF benefits (3.7%), and eligibility for WV works program (1.4%).

In regards to physical characteristics only 2.4% of unique victims reported being pregnant while a slightly higher proportion reported a physical (4.9%) or mental (4.6%) disability.

The source of the referral to the domestic violence program was reported in the database for each victim contact. The referral status was known for 12,515 unique victims. Most victims (30.9%) sought services from the programs as a result of a self-referral or a referral from a friend (Table 4). Magistrates referred 25.0% of victims while law enforcement referred 10.6%.

As indicated in Graph 1, over a third of the 16,259 unique victims reported a history of adult victimization (36.1%). Being victimized as a child was reported by 3.9%, while 1.6% reported witnessing abuse/assault as a child.

Nearly seventy percent of the 16,259 unique victims reported being a direct victim of domestic violence or sexual assault (69.5%). Nearly ten percent of unique victims reported being an indirect victim (8.3%) or witness (1.4%) to domestic violence.

The victim’s reason for seeking services is presented in Graph 2. Of the 16,259 unique victims, emotional abuse (74.0%) was reported most frequently as the victim’s reason for seeking services. Physical abuse

Graph 2. Percentage of Unique Victims by Reason(s) for Services (N = 16,259)

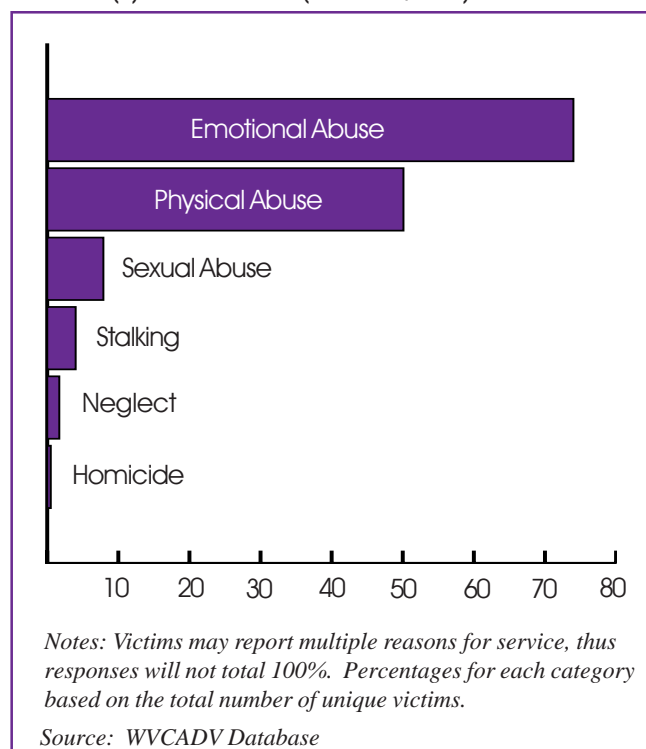


Table 5. Number of Service Hours by Unique Victim Served

Type of Service	Total Service Hours	Mean	SD	Unique Victims
Crisis Counseling	6,156	1.60	3.48	3,840
Follow-up Service	8,039	2.80	11.34	2,874
Therapy	1,960	4.09	5.73	479
Hotline Counseling	2,736	.64	.74	4,297
Information & Referral	3,148	.69	1.10	4,559
CJ Support/Advocacy	1,765	.85	1.41	2,067
Financial Assistance	120	.64	.55	186
Legal Advocacy	9,004	1.48	3.24	6,090
Compensation Claims	14	.49	.54	29
Personal Advocacy	9,022	3.08	10.66	2,922
Case Management	24,973	2.80	11.00	8,905
Visitation	8,161	11.67	16.33	699
Safety Planning	107	.47	.34	229
Other	15,909	7.07	31.36	2,248

Source: WVCADV Database

was reported in 50.1% of the victim contacts. Sexual abuse (7.9%), stalking (4.0%), and neglect (1.7%) were reported less frequently. Homicide (0.1%) was reported in less than 1.0% of contacts with unique victims. A total of 4,738 (29.1%) of unique victims indicated that they had reported the violence to the police. Few victims required emergency medical attention (3.6%) and less than one percent (0.6%) of victims required a hospital stay.

Services

The type of service provided is reported in the Coalition's database. The services are those provided by victim service programs. Table 5 shows the total number of service hours for unique victims served as well as the average number of service hours per victim for each type of service provided.

Case management was the most frequently provided service with 24,973 service hours for 8,905 unique victims (Table 5). In other words, victims received on average 2.80 hours of service for case management. Legal advocacy and personal advocacy were the second most frequently provided services. Roughly 9,000 total service hours were provided to unique victims for each

of these types of services. Unique victims received on average 1.48 hours of service for legal advocacy and 3.08 hours of service for personal advocacy. An average of 2.80 hours of service for follow-up services was provided to victims.

Approximately 8,161 total service hours were provided to 699 unique victims for visitation services. The highest mean service hours provided to unique victims was visitation services with an average of 11.67 service hours per unique victim. The second highest mean service hours was for other services (7.07), however there is no description of the other services provided in the WVCADV database. Although total service hours for therapy (1,960) was much smaller than many of the other areas of service, victims received on average 4.09 service hours per unique victim.

Unique victims received on average less than one hour of service for the following services: hotline counseling (0.64), information and referral (0.69), criminal justice support and advocacy (0.85), financial assistance (0.64), compensation claims (0.49) and safety planning (0.47).

Abusers

Information about the abuser was collected in the Coalition's database and on the demographic forms. The analyses include 4,564 abusers whose victim was served by a victim advocate or law enforcement from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006.

Most abusers were male, white, and adults. Of the 4,206 abusers whose gender was reported, 89.0% were males. Only 11.0% of abusers were females. Of the 3,924 abusers whose race/ethnicity were reported, the majority were white (92.4%). Nearly 6.0% were black (5.8%). Less than 2.0% of abusers were Asian (0.1%), Hispanic (0.4%), multi-racial (0.4%), Middle Eastern (0.4%), and Native American (0.6%).

Age was reported for 3,542 of the abusers. The average age of the abuser was 36 years old. The most frequently reported age was 27 years old. Approximately 1.2% of the abusers were juveniles.

The abuser's relationship to the victim was reported for 4,405 of the contacts. Table 6 shows the distribution of the abuser's relationship to the victim as well as a graph depicting collapsed categories. Nearly all victims knew their abuser in some way. The abuser was most frequently reported to be the spouse of the victim (34.1%) or significant other (15.5%). A very small

percentage of contacts involved a lesbian/gay partner (0.3%). As indicated in the graph with Table 6, 23.6% of the abuser contacts involved a family member (i.e., parent, son/daughter, step parent or other relative). A smaller portion of abuser contacts involved an acquaintance (5.0%). The graph depicts acquaintance combined with the parent's significant other (1.3%). Less than one percent of the abusers were strangers (0.5%) to their victims.

Graph 3 shows the percentage of abuser contacts by factor(s) identified by victims as contributing to the perpetration of abusive behavior. Information regarding contributing factors to abuse was not collected on the demographic forms thus the data presented is from the WVCADV database only. A history of abuse was reported as a contributing factor to the violence for 57.0% of the abusers. This includes situations where the abuser may have been a child witness or victim of violence or may have previously abused someone. Alcohol/Drugs (42.6%), stress (15.0%), and unemployment (7.8%) were also reported as contributing factors to the abusers' violence.

The following comparisons were derived from the WVCADV database only. A comparison of male and female abusers by gender and the age class of the victim (i.e., adult, child, and people in later life) shows some

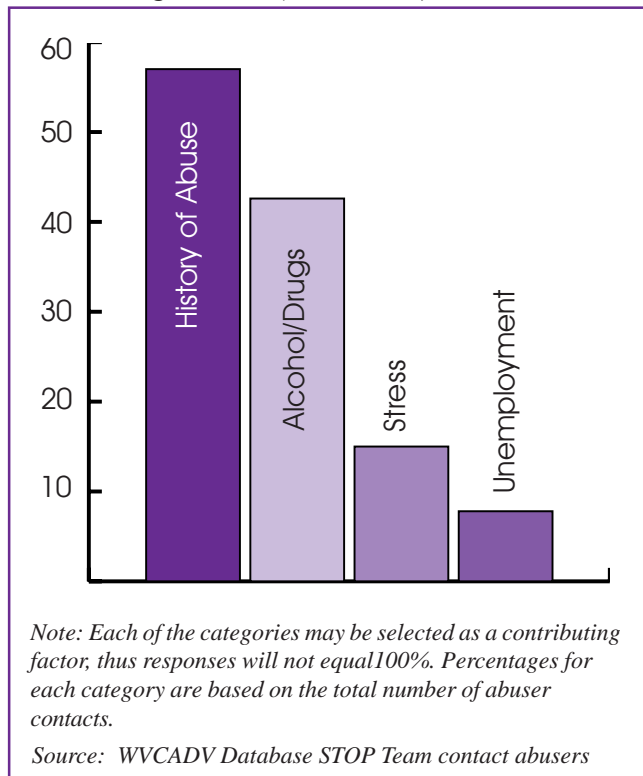
Table 6. Abuser's Relationship to the Victim (N = 4,405)

Relationship	N	%
Spouse	1,502	34.1
Significant Other	684	15.5
Former Significant Other	574	13.0
Parent	498	11.3
Former Spouse	348	7.9
Other relative/In-law	319	7.2
Acquaintance	160	3.6
Son/Daughter	122	2.8
Step Parent	102	2.3
Parent's Significant Other	60	1.4
Stranger	24	0.5
Lesbian/Gay Partner	12	0.3

Note: The relationship was unknown or missing in approximately 159 cases. Percentages based on the number valid cases. Percentages may not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

Source: WVCADV Database STOP Team contact abusers and Demographic Form contact abusers

Graph 3. Percentage of Abuser Contacts by Contributing Factors (N = 4,312)



variation in offending patterns. Of all the abusers, 84.0% were males abusing females. Only 6.3% of male abusers had male victims. Of the 464 female abusers, there was nearly an equal number of male (51.3%) and female (48.7%) victims.

Male abusers and female abusers were equally likely to abuse children (16.2%, 16.8%). Male abusers were slightly more likely to victimize adults (82.0%) when compared to female abusers (80.8%). Female abusers were somewhat more likely to victimize a person in later life (2.4%) when compared to male abusers (1.7%).

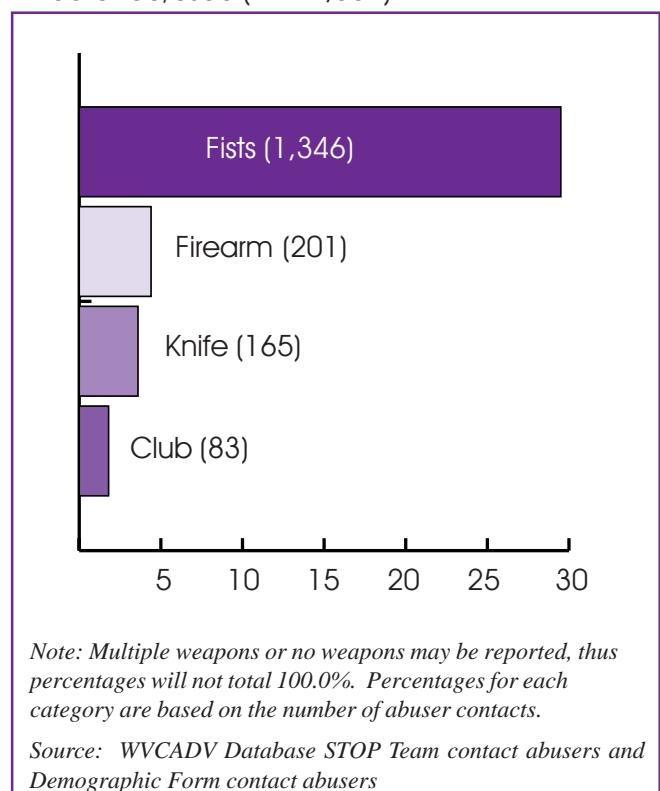
An examination of the race/ethnicity of the abuser and the victim indicates that the vast majority of the abuser contacts were intra-racial (93.6%). In order to make this comparison, race/ethnicity was collapsed into white and non-white categories. Non-white includes all other racial/ethnic categories other than white. The remaining 6.4% of abuser contacts were interracial. Of these, 4.5% of abuser contacts involved nonwhite abusers and white victims while only 1.9% of cases involved white abusers and nonwhite victims.

Weapons

The type of weapon(s) threatened and/or used was reported for each of the 252 abuser contacts reported on demographic forms and the 4,312 STOP Team abuser contacts in the database (Graph 4). The abuser's fists (29.5%) were most often reported as the weapon used against the victim. In 4.4% of the contacts abusers threatened and/or used firearms. Knives (3.6%) and clubs (1.8%) were also reported.

Other means of force reported include the destruction of property and/or pets, breaking and entering, throwing objects, biting, choking, and kicking, assault with a motor vehicle, arson, and harassment. Forms of emotional and financial abuse were also reported.

Graph 4. Percentage of Weapons Threatened/Used (N = 4,564)



Domestic Violence Cases Reported by Prosecution Team Members

A prosecution tracking form was developed by the Division of Criminal Justice Services to gather information on domestic violence cases reported by VAWA funded STOP team prosecutors. The tracking form captures victim information including the victim's age, gender, and participation in the prosecution as well as case specific information such as the offense charge, the offense disposition, and the actual sentence imposed by the court. Each VAWA funded STOP team prosecutor completed a tracking form for each case disposed over a one-year period between July 2005 and June 2006.

STOP team prosecutors in 13 WV counties submitted a total of 1,793 tracking forms (Table 7). It should be noted that county information was missing in 51 of the cases. Approximately 75% of the tracking forms were submitted from 5 of the 13 counties. The counties of Raleigh (20.3%), Wood (20.6%), Cabell (9.6%), Logan (10.1%), and Ohio (14.1%) had the greatest percentage of cases reported by STOP team prosecutors. Greenbrier (2.8%), Upshur (3.8%), Monroe (1.0%), and Preston (5.0%) counties each reported 5.0% or less of the total number of cases handled by STOP team prosecutors. Both Clay and Gilmer Counties each reported fewer than 1.0% of the cases.

Victims

The 1,793 cases reported by the STOP team prosecutors resulted in a total of 1,898 individual victims. Of the 1,898 victims, most of the victims were female and above the age of 18 years old. In fact, only approximately one in five victims were male (20.5%). Although male victims represent a small percentage of all victims reported by STOP teams, this represents a slight increase (2.5%) in the proportion of male victims when compared to the FY02 evaluation results. It should be noted that the victim's gender is not known for 120 of the cases.

A vast majority of cases involved victims above 18 years of age (92.4%). Of the 1,793 cases, only 136 cases (7.6%) contained at least one victim under the age of 18 years old. However, these 136 cases

Table 7. Cases Referred to STOP Team Prosecutors by County

<u>County</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Cabell	167	9.6
Clay	1	---
Gilmer	8	---
Greenbrier	49	2.8
Logan	176	10.1
Mingo	52	3.0
Monongalia	159	9.1
Monroe	18	1.0
Ohio	246	14.1
Preston	87	5.0
Raleigh	353	20.3
Upshur	67	3.8
Wood	359	20.6
Total	1,742	100.0

Notes: Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding. County was unknown or missing for 51 cases. Percentages based on the total number of valid cases. Percentages less than one not reported

Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data

produced a total of 147 victims and a majority of these victims were female. Nearly 60.0% of the victims under the age of 18 years were female victims.

Most cases involved only a single victim of either gender. A total of 1,669 cases (93.1%) involved a single victim, 38 cases (2.1%) involved two victims, 10 cases (1.5%) involved three or more victims. A total of 44 cases involved both male and female victims. These 44 cases yielded 107 victims that were equally distributed across gender groups.

An analysis of victim and offender relationships suggests that most victimizations occur among spouses and other intimate partnerships (Table 8). Approximately 73.0% of the cases involved a spouse (24.7%), boyfriend/girlfriend (33.0%), intimate partner (7.6%), or cohabitating partner (7.4%). Other less prevalent relationships include estranged spouse (5.2%), parent (4.2%), sibling (4.3%), and child (5.1%). Very few cases involved extended family members (2.4%) or other household members (1.6%).

Table 8. Victim's Relationship to the Offender
(N = 1,793)

Relationship	N	%
Spouse	442	24.7
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	591	33.0
Intimate Partner	136	7.6
Cohabiting Partner	133	7.4
Estranged Spouse	94	5.2
Parent	75	4.2
Sibling	76	4.3
Child	92	5.1
Other Family Member	43	2.4
Ex-spouse	28	1.6
Other Household Member	28	1.6
In-law	32	1.8
Step-child	9	0.5
Step-parent	7	0.4
Child of Intimate Partner	12	0.7
Grandparent	7	0.4
Lesbian/Gay Partner	8	0.4
Grandchild	1	0.1
Total	1,793	100.0

*Notes: Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.
Percentages based on the total number of valid cases.
Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data*

Offense Charges and Case Dispositions

To examine offenses charged and case dispositions, analyses were conducted on the total number of cases reported by STOP team prosecutors, including cases with both single and multiple charges. First, analysis of case dispositions for those cases with a single offense charge allow for an examination of the degree of congruence between the original offense charge and the final offense charge disposed. Finally, analysis of all case dispositions (single and multiple offense cases) provides information regarding how domestic violence cases are likely to be disposed by prosecution team members.

Of the 1,793 prosecution cases, approximately 93.5% consisted of a single charge while only 6.5% contained multiple charges. This resulted in a total of 1,676 cases in which a single offense was charged and 117 cases where multiple charges were filed. Charge offense information was missing in 23 or 1.4% of the cases. The distribution of single charge offense cases is presented in Table 9. The majority of the cases involved a domestic battery charge (69.6%). The second most frequently charged offense was violation of a protection order (10.5%). The number of cases decreases as the

Table 9. Distribution of Charges and Dispositions for Cases Involving a Single Offense Charge

Offense	Charges		Dispositions	
	N	%	N	%
Domestic Battery	1,151	69.6	1,104	69.2
Domestic Assault 1st	153	9.3	145	9.1
Domestic Assault 2nd	43	2.6	39	2.4
Domestic Assault 3rd	20	1.2	19	1.2
Sexual Assault 1st	8	0.5	3	0.2
Sexual Assault 2nd	6	0.3	6	0.4
Sexual Assault 3rd	7	0.4	9	0.6
Stalking	7	0.4	6	0.4
Homicide	2	0.1	2	0.1
Violation of Protection Order	174	10.5	174	10.9
Other charges	82	5.0	89	5.5
	1,653	100.0	1,596	100.0

*Notes: Cases may have multiple counts for a single offense charge. The offense charge information was missing for 23 cases. The offense disposition was missing for 90 cases. The remaining 117 cases involved multiple charges. Approximately 107 cases with multiple charges were disposed. Percentages based on the total number of valid cases for charges and for dispositions.
Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data*

offense seriousness increases. For example, fewer than 2.0% of the total cases involved charges for sexual assault, stalking, and homicide.

Harassment, particularly harassing phone calls, was the most frequently charged other offense. Other single offense charges include, aggravated assault and malicious wounding, attempted murder, witness intimidation, child abuse, wanton endangerment, brandishing a firearm, destruction of property, sexual abuse, burglary, grand larceny and probation violation.

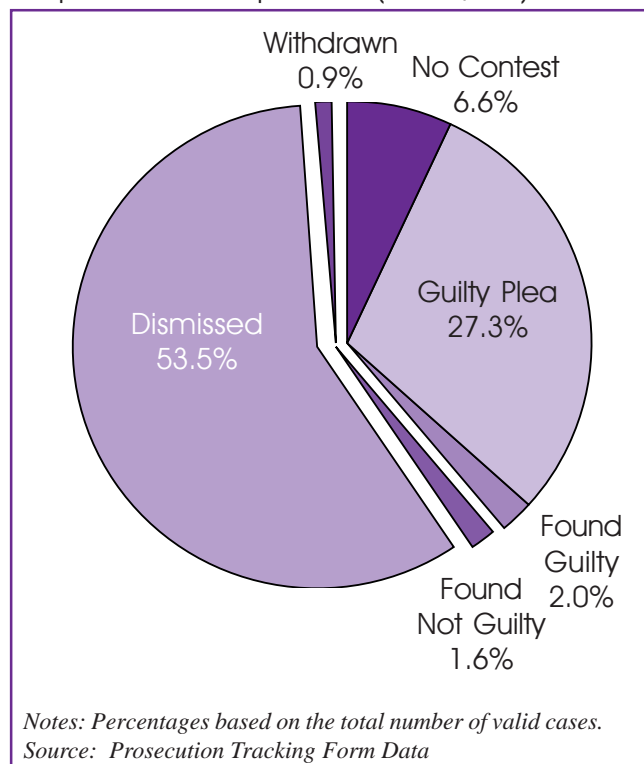
The results reported in Table 9 indicate that some cases were not disposed as they were originally charged. However, there does appear to be greater consistency between the offense charged and the offense disposed than indicated in past reports (e.g., FY02). It should be noted that dispositions include cases that were dismissed or withdrawn.

In general, the majority of cases are resolved through dismissals and pleas of guilty. Very few cases were disposed through a bench trial (42) or jury trial (19). Again, for all of the cases charged by STOP team prosecutors, the most frequent type of disposition was for the case to be dismissed. Prosecutors noted that dismissals were often due to the victims failure to appear on court dates.

Graph 5 shows the distribution of disposition outcomes. A total of 959 or 53.5% cases reported by the STOP team prosecutors (including cases with single and multiple charges) resulted in a dismissal. Less than one percent of all cases were withdrawn prior to disposition ($n = 16$) and slightly over one percent received not guilty verdicts ($n = 28$). Of the cases that resulted in a successful conviction, nearly 30.0% or 489 cases were obtained through guilty pleas. Slightly less than 7.0% or 119 cases were disposed through no contest pleas, and approximately 2.0% or 35 cases were disposed through a determination of guilt.

Based on an examination of the 1,793 prosecution cases, only about one third (35.9%) received a successful disposition (e.g., no contest, found guilty, or guilty plea). While over half of prosecution cases were dismissed, withdrawn, or resulted in not guilty verdicts (56.0%).

Graph 5. Case Dispositions (N = 1,793)



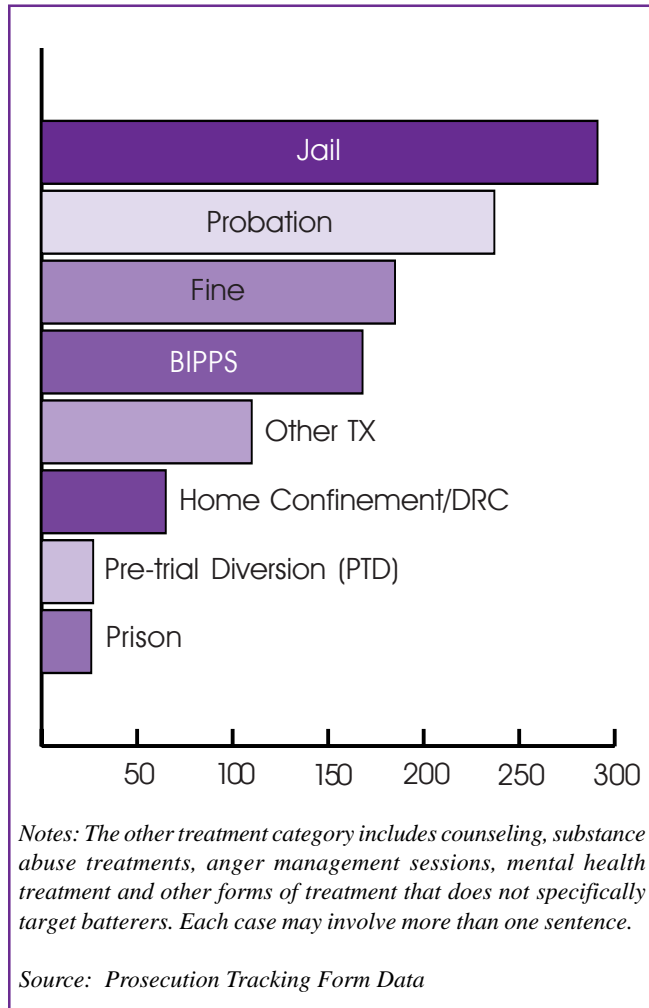
Sentencing

Graph 6 illustrates the distribution of sentences for all cases (including cases with single and multiple charges). A total of 709 sentences were reported for all 1,793 cases. It is important to note that a single case may have multiple charges and multiple sentences.

A vast majority of cases were given a sentence that included one or a combination of three types of sanctions: jail, fine, and probation. The most frequent sentencing outcome is jail. An estimated 41.0% of cases received a jail sentence. Moreover, those who received a jail sentence were often given credit for time served prior to the case disposition. The second most frequent sentencing outcome involved a probation sentence. Approximately one-third of all cases received a sentence of probation (33.4%). Probation was followed closely by the percentage of cases receiving a fine (26.1%). Fines often include court costs.

Interestingly, the least serious offense, domestic battery was most likely to receive pretrial diversion. Pretrial diversion most often included successful completion of a BIPPS program or a treatment program. Other treatment programs include mental health

Graph 6. Distribution of Sentences (N = 709)



treatment, anger management, substance abuse treatment, and counseling. Other treatment sanctions were most often given in conjunction with other sanctions, such as jail, probation, or community corrections (e.g., home confinement or day report center).

Table 11 depicts the distribution of sentences by offense disposition. Again, the results show that jail, probation, and fines are the most frequently used sanctions. In terms of sanctions for specific charges, the results indicate that those offenses most likely to receive time in jail as part of the sentence include domestic battery, first and second offense domestic violence, protective order violations and other charges. Similarly those same offenses are more likely to receive probation and/or community corrections than other offenses.

More serious offenses, such as third offense domestic violence, all degrees of sexual assault and homicide received the harshest sanction of prison. It should be noted that the two cases of domestic battery receiving a prison sentence were cases involving multiple charges of a more serious nature. As noted previously other charges included a number of serious felonies, such as, aggravated assault, malicious wounding, arson, and attempted murder thus other charges were also more likely to receive a prison sentence.

Table 11. Distribution of Sentences by Offense Disposition (N = 709)

	PTD	Fine	Probation	HC/DRC	Jail	Prison	BIPPS	TX
DV Battery	14	98	164	45	184	2	122	81
DV Assault	3	42	25	13	30	0	22	10
DV 2nd Offense	0	0	9	4	14	0	5	5
DV 3rd Offense	0	0	1	0	0	9	1	0
1st Degree Sex Assault	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2nd Degree Sex Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd Degree Sex Assault	0	1	1	0	1	3	1	0
Stalking	0	0	4	2	4	0	2	3
DV Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Protective Order Violation	4	43	15	6	58	0	10	6
Other Charges	2	36	52	10	37	12	14	22

Notes: A single case may have multiple charges and multiple sanctions. This analysis excludes cases withdrawn, dismissed, or found not guilty.

Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data

Participation, Strength of Evidence and Disposition Outcomes

At least one victim participated in 751 or 41.9% of the 1,793 cases reported by STOP team prosecutors. Similarly, advocates tend to provide assistance to victims during the prosecution phase in a majority of the cases (72.5%). According to the prosecutor, law enforcement officers were also available when needed in a majority of the cases (82.2%).

Table 12 displays the results of a chi-square analysis of the relationship between participation from victims, advocates, and law enforcement officers and disposition outcomes. It is expected that cases involving all parties would achieve more favorable outcomes. To conduct this analysis, disposition outcomes were categorized into two groups: favorable and unfavorable. Favorable outcomes included dispositions that were viewed as positive for the victim, such as no contests, plea of guilty, and findings of guilt. Unfavorable outcomes included cases that were dismissed, withdrawn, or the defendant was found to be not guilty.

These findings illustrate that victim, advocate, and law enforcement participation in the prosecution of cases does have an impact on the nature of disposition outcomes. Although all three groups tend to participate in a vast majority of the cases, it appears that victim and officer participation is essential for achieving favorable outcomes in the prosecution of cases. Favorable

disposition outcomes were obtained in the majority of cases involving both the victim and law enforcement officer. In cases that included participation from the victim and a law enforcement officer only, 82.9% resulted in a favorable outcome. When all three groups—victims, advocates, and law enforcement officers—participate in the prosecution of cases, victims received a favorable outcome in 71.0% of the cases. Those cases with advocate only participation or no participation from any group are much less likely to result in a favorable outcome for the victim. In fact, none of the current cases received a favorable outcome with advocate only participation in the prosecution.

In order to better understand factors that may influence case outcomes, a measure was added to the prosecution tracking form asking prosecutors to rate the strength of evidence of a case. Strength of evidence was rated on a 5 point scale with 1 representing “very weak” to 5 representing “very strong.”

As the results in Table 13 suggest, strength of evidence is essential to obtaining favorable dispositions. A chi-square analysis indicates that strength of evidence is significantly related to disposition outcomes. In fact, 64.2% of cases rated as strong and 24.1% of cases rated as moderate received favorable dispositions. Conversely, nearly sixty percent of cases rated as “weak” in terms of evidence received unfavorable dispositions (59.1%).

Table 12. Chi-square Results for the Relationship between Disposition Outcomes and Type of Participation in the Prosecution of all STOP Team Cases

Type of Participation	Disposition Outcome				df	X ²
	Favorable		Unfavorable			
	N	%	N	%		
Victim-Officer-Advocate	412	71.0	128	29.0	7	568.69***
Victim-Advocate Only	1	5.6	17	94.4		
Victim Only	35	29.7	83	70.3		
Officer Only	35	32.7	72	67.3		
Officer-Advocate Only	111	17.3	532	82.7		
Victim-Officer Only	29	82.9	6	17.1		
Advocate Only	0	0.0	59	100.0		
No Participation	17	7.3	216	92.7		

***p < .001

Note: Dispositions favorable to the victim include no contest, plea of guilty, and findings of guilt. Dispositions of unfavorable to the victim include found not guilty, dismissed, and cases withdrawn.

Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data

Table 13. Chi-square Results for the Relationship between Strength of Evidence and Disposition Outcome in the Prosecution of all STOP Team Cases

	<u>Strength of Evidence</u>						df	X ²
	Weak		Moderate		Strong			
<u>Disposition Outcome</u>	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Favorable	55	11.7	113	24.1	301	64.2	2	332.26***
Unfavorable	329	59.1	153	27.5	75	13.5		

***p < .001

Note: Dispositions favorable to the victim include no contest, plea of guilty, and findings of guilt. Dispositions of unfavorable to the victim include found not guilty, dismissed, and cases withdrawn.

Source: Prosecution Tracking Form Data

The previous results indicate both strength of evidence and type of participation are important for impacting case outcomes. However, these findings beg the question of whether the influence of type of participations holds true once strength of evidence is taken into account. A chi square analysis examining the relationship between type of participation and disposition outcomes while controlling for strength of evidence was conducted.¹ The results of the analysis suggests that type of participation has an influence on dispositional outcomes when strength of evidence is held constant.²

As indicated in Table 13, weak cases were far more likely to receive unfavorable dispositions (59.1%) than moderate or strong cases. However, for cases involving weak evidence type of participation was also influential for determining case outcome. For instance, weak cases that involved the participation of the victim and law enforcement (42.9%), or the victim, law enforcement and an advocate (25.5%), or law enforcement only (25.5%) achieved a higher percentage of favorable dispositions when compared to weak cases involving no participation (4.0%), advocate only (0.0%), victim only (13.2%), or law enforcement and advocate (11.0%).

The results in Table 13 suggest that cases involving only a moderate strength of evidence may be equally likely to receive both favorable and unfavorable dispositions. However, the additional analysis found that for moderate strength cases outcomes varied by type of participation. For instance, cases involving the victim and law enforcement (93.8%), or the victim, law enforcement, and an advocate (71.3%) were more likely to receive favorable dispositions when compared to cases involving the other types of participation (e.g., no

participation (0.0%), advocate only (0.0%), law enforcement and advocate (17.3%). No cases with moderate evidence involved the victim only. However, cases involving law enforcement only were nearly equally likely to receive unfavorable (53.6%) and favorable (46.4%) outcomes.

Finally, cases involving strong evidence are more likely to receive favorable dispositions (64.2%). Additional analysis suggests that this relationship holds true only for cases involving the victim and law enforcement (90.9%), the victim, law enforcement, and an advocate (87.6%), law enforcement and advocate (69.0%), and law enforcement only (57.1%). Conversely, cases with strong evidence but no participation (33.3%) or advocate only (0.0%) are less likely to receive a favorable disposition. Victim only cases were equally likely to receive unfavorable (50.0%) and favorable dispositions (50.0%).

Overall, the chi square analysis showed a relationship between type of participation and dispositional outcome for cases involving weak, moderate and strong evidence. Across all levels of evidence strength, participation of the victim and law enforcement consistently yielded the most favorable case dispositions, closely followed by participation of the victim, law enforcement, and an advocate. Victim only, victim and advocate, advocate only and no participation cases were far more likely to receive unfavorable case outcomes regardless of the strength of evidence. These results suggest that a concerted effort on behalf of all participants is likely to produce favorable dispositions.

¹This analysis does not control for other factors that may impact disposition outcomes.

²Significance levels are not reported due to the low expected frequency of some cells.

STOP Violence Against Women Team Member Survey

The previous section underscores the importance of participation on behalf of various stakeholders, i.e., law enforcement, victim services, prosecution and of course the victim in the successful prosecution of cases involving violence against women. Thus, it is important to examine the nature and extent of a coordinated and collaborative response to violence against women. In order to gauge the extent of coordination and collaboration, a survey was developed and mailed to a sample of STOP team members and other collaborators. The primary purpose of the survey is to measure team members' and other responder's attitudes, perceptions, and knowledge of the collaborative effort in their community. In the process of assessing the extent to which collaboration is taking place among STOP team members, however, we are also interested in knowing whether collaboration has increased from previous years and the conditions that impact collaboration.

The following sections will address the survey results. The first section provides a description of the survey respondents. The second section will present the nature and extent of collaborative efforts among current STOP team members and community collaborators. Finally, the analysis compares the results from the current survey to results obtained previously in FY00.

A list of STOP team members and other collaborators was obtained from the grant administrator from which a sample of 220 individuals was randomly selected for participation. The initial surveys were mailed to sample participants during June 2006. A follow up postcard reminding participants to return the completed surveys was mailed in July 2006 and a final request including a copy of the survey was mailed in August 2006. These efforts resulted in a response rate of a little over fifty percent (50.5%) or 111 respondents.

Table 14 shows the distribution of demographic characteristics for the sample of respondents. The sample of respondents was nearly equally distributed across gender groups with 48.6% male and 51.4%

Table 14. Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents (N = 111)

Demographic Characteristics	N	%
Gender		
Male	54	48.6
Female	57	51.4
Race/Ethnicity		
White	99	93.9
Black	9	3.6
Other ^a	2	2.4
Education level		
High School Degree	37	33.3
Associate's Degree	15	13.5
Bachelor's Degree	26	23.4
Master's Degree	16	14.4
LL.B.,J.D.	10	9.0
Other ^b	7	6.3
Degree major		
Criminal Justice/Criminology	19	25.0
Sociology/Social Work	18	23.7
Psychology	9	11.8
Law/Legal Studies	10	13.2
Nursing/Medicine	2	2.6
Other ^c	18	23.7
Current position		
DV Advocate	18	16.2
Law Enforcement Officer	37	33.3
Prosecutor	9	8.1
Health Care Provider	5	4.5
Other ^d	42	37.8
Years in current position		
Mean = 8.6	SD = 7.7	
Years in any position dealing with VAW		
Mean = 13.1	SD = 9.2	

^aOther race/ethnicity includes the following categories contributing less than 1.0% of the total: Hispanic (0.9) and Asian (0.9).

^bOther education includes some college and the police academy.

^cOther degree major includes education, business, engineering, graphic design, public health, political science, religion and theology.

^dOther position includes APS worker, CPS worker, victim services, child advocate, magistrate, sexual assault advocate, legal aid attorney, social worker, mental health services, and public welfare agency.

Notes: Columns may not equal 111 due to missing values. Percentages based on the number of valid cases reported for each variable. Percentages may not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

Source: STOP Team Member Survey

Table 15. Average Proportion of Caseload Involving Violence Against Women for STOP Team Members (N = 111)

	Mean	SD
Total Caseload	41.5	38.5
Domestic Violence	63.0	34.3
Sexual Assault	16.3	23.9
Stalking	4.4	7.6
Dating Violence	6.2	13.0

Source: STOP Team Member Survey

female. Respondents were predominantly white (93.9%) while other racial/ethnic groups were underrepresented (6.0%). Nearly two-thirds of the sample had obtained educational degrees beyond high school (60.3%). Approximately one-fourth of the sample majored in criminal justice/criminology (25.0%) or sociology/social work (23.7%). While an estimated 23.7% had majors in “other” fields such as education, business, engineering, public health, and so forth.

In terms of current position, the sample of respondents was representative of VAW responders with the exception of domestic violence advocates who may be underrepresented at 16.2% of the sample. Law enforcement and prosecution are adequately represented as are other community responders. For example, other position includes individuals from the following agencies; child protective services, adult protective services, victim services, child advocacy, magistrate’s office, legal aid, mental health services, and the department of health and human resources.

Table 16. Average Number of Trainings by VAW Topic (N = 111)

	Mean	SD
Trainings		
Domestic Violence	1.9	5.8
Sexual Assault	1.0	1.6
Stalking	0.6	1.5
Dating Violence	0.4	1.5

Source: STOP Team Member Survey

Survey respondents reported having been in their current position on average 8.6 years (Table 15). However, the standard deviation (7.7) suggests there is a great deal of variation among respondents in number of years in current position. The average number of years in any position dealing with violence against women is slightly higher at 13.1. Again, the standard deviation (9.2) suggests a great deal of variation among respondents in the total number of years in any position dealing with violence against women.

STOP team members reported that on average 41.5% of their total caseload deals with violence against women. On average, the largest proportion of cases involves domestic violence (63.0%). The average proportion of caseload involving sexual assault (16.3%), dating violence (6.2%), and stalking (4.4%) is much smaller.

STOP team members reported that on average they attend nearly two (1.9) trainings per year dealing with topics in domestic violence. (Table 16) Members also reported having attended at least one (1.04) training per year dealing with sexual assault. Members reported that they attend less than one training per year in the areas of stalking (.6) and dating violence (.4).

Nature and Extent of Collaboration

The impetus for a multi-systemic response across agencies resulted from an increasing awareness that violence against women is a complex phenomenon which requires participation from a number of agencies to achieve an appropriate response. While the primary players are law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services, a number of other agencies are also often involved, such as health care providers, child protective services, adult protective services, department of health and human resources and legal aid. A priority of STOP funding is to promote a coordinated and collaborative response among all agency responders.

Essentially, collaboration refers to teamwork, cooperation, or a group effort. Survey items were developed to measure a variety of factors that may influence the nature of collaborative relationships and the extent of collaborative efforts. For instance, the frequency of contacts with team members or other collaborators, the extent to which the respondents

Table 17. Average Number of Monthly Contacts with STOP Team Member (N = 111)

	Mean	SD
Monthly Contacts		
DV Advocate	12.5	24.5
Law Enforcement	10.6	13.1
Prosecutor	8.2	15.2
Health Care Provider	3.4	10.3

Source: STOP Team Member Survey

understand the legal and procedural roles and responsibilities of the key responders to violence against women, and the respondent's attitude toward collaboration may influence the collaborative response.

The frequency of contacts with other STOP team members is important to examine particularly because ongoing communication is important to forming and

maintaining a collaborative relationships. The survey asked respondents to report the average number of monthly contacts as well as the average number of annual STOP team meetings. Table 17 reports the average number of monthly contacts by STOP team member. Domestic violence advocates had the highest average number of monthly contacts with other STOP team members at 12.5, closely followed by law enforcement officers with an average of 10.6 contacts per month. Prosecution had an average of 8.2 contacts per month. Health care providers reported the lowest average number of monthly contacts (3.4).

Table 18 shows the average number of annual STOP team meetings by type of contact. STOP team members reported on average 7.58 in person meetings and less than one (.37) meeting via teleconference or other telecommunication per year.

In addition to the frequency of contacts between STOP team members, it is also important for team members to have a basic knowledge of the legal and procedural roles and responsibilities of key responders to violence against women. Respondents were asked to rate the extent to which they understood the legal and procedural roles of key responders on a five point scale. Table 19 shows the respondent's ratings for victim advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and health care providers. No respondents reported that they had no knowledge of victim advocate's, law enforcement officer's, and prosecutor's legal and procedural roles and responsibilities while only 1.8 reported that they had no knowledge of health care

Table 18. Average Number of Annual STOP Team Meetings (N = 111)

	Mean	SD
Annual Meetings		
In Person	7.6	5.0
Via Teleconference	0.4	2.5

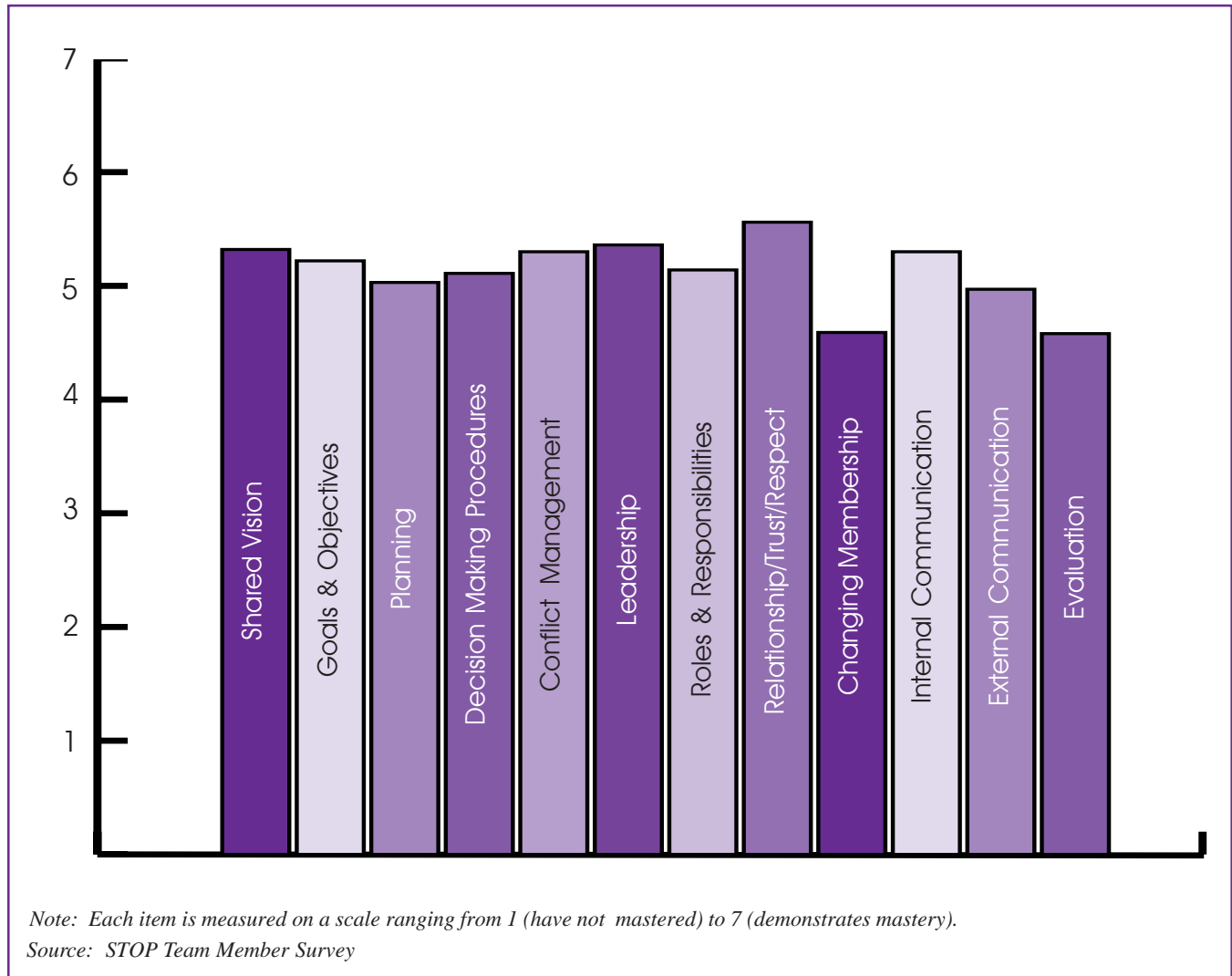
Source: STOP Team Member Survey

Table 19. Respondents' Ratings of the Knowledge of the Legal and Procedural Roles and Responsibilities of Key Responders to Violence Against Women (N = 111)

	Advocate		Law Enforcement		Prosecutor		Health Care Provider	
Rating	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.8
Very little	6	5.5	1	0.9	3	2.8	14	12.8
Some	16	14.7	14	12.7	24	22.0	38	34.9
Quite a bit	42	38.5	43	39.1	43	39.4	35	32.1
A great deal	45	41.3	52	47.3	39	35.8	20	18.3

Notes: Values were unknown or missing for 2 cases. Percentages based on the number of valid cases reported for each variable.
Source: STOP Team Member Survey

Graph 7. Mean Ratings of Collaborative Elements Reported by STOP Team Members (N = 111)



provider's roles and responsibilities. Similarly, an estimated 12.8% of respondents reported having "very little" knowledge of the health care provider's role. Nearly forty percent of respondents reported "quite a bit" of understanding of the roles and responsibilities of victim advocates (38.5%), law enforcement officers (39.1%), and prosecutors (39.4%). Moreover, a majority of respondents reported a "great deal" of knowledge of advocates (41.3%), and law enforcement officers (47.3%). While fewer respondents reported having a "great deal" of knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of prosecutors (35.8%) and health care providers (18.3%)

Attitudes toward collaboration may also contribute to the nature and extent of collaborative efforts in that attitudes may impact a respondent's willingness to collaborate with other agency representatives. The

current survey asked respondents to rate the importance of collaboration for providing a coordinated community response to violence against women. The item was measured on a five point scale ranging from, "not important at all" to "very important." The majority of STOP team members reported that collaboration was "very important" (54.0%). All STOP team members reported that collaboration was "somewhat important," "important," or "very important." In other words no respondents rated collaboration as "not important at all" or "not too important" when responding to violence against women. Victim advocates and law enforcement officers were most likely to rate collaboration as "important" or "very important" when compared to other respondents.

Elements of Collaboration

A collaborative community response is a fluid and multifaceted concept that is difficult to observe. However, research has identified certain elements that are necessary to sustain an ongoing and effective collaborative response. For instance developing a shared vision, defining and measuring goals and objectives, participant planning, and so forth (Burt et al., 1997). Measures of these elements were derived from the “Evaluation Guidebook: For Projects Funded by STOP Formula Grants Under the Violence Against Women Act” by Burt et al., (1997)³ and were used in previous STOP surveys. STOP team members and community collaborators were asked to rate STOP teams on each of the identified elements. The elements are rated on a scale from 1 to 7, with 1 representing “have not mastered” to 7 representing “demonstrates mastery.”

Graph 7 depicts the mean ratings of STOP team members for elements of collaboration. It is notable that there appears to be a great deal of consistency in the mean rating for all collaborative elements. For example, all elements were given a mean rating of at least “5” except for changing membership, external communication, and evaluation. A rating of “5” or greater suggests STOP team members demonstrate an exceptional or above average level of mastery. Very few respondents rated STOP teams a “1” on any of the elements.

Trusting and respectful relationships had the highest mean rating at 5.56. Moreover, one-third of respondents rated STOP teams a “7” (i.e., demonstrates mastery) for this element (31.7%), whereas only 3.0% of respondents rated it poorly. Leadership had the second highest mean rating with 5.36. Again, nearly one-third of respondents gave STOP teams the highest rating, while only 3.0% rated it a poorly (31.7%). Demonstrating a shared vision had a mean rating of 5.32. Nearly three-fourths of respondents gave STOP teams a positive rating for this element (72.3%). These findings suggest that STOP teams demonstrate a shared vision and team members trust and respect each other.

Leadership is mostly effective and shared when appropriate.

As indicated in Graph 7, STOP teams were given a mean rating of 5.30 for both elements of conflict management and internal communication. A little over 75.0% of respondents rated STOP teams positively for these elements, while only 1.0% of respondents rated STOP teams poorly for both elements. This finding suggests that for the most part, STOP teams are able to manage conflict effectively and communicate well with each other.

Three of the collaborative elements were given an overall mean ratings less than 5, however no elements received a mean rating less than 4. The mean rating for external communication was 4.97 with approximately two-thirds (66.7%) of respondents giving STOP teams a positive rating. While most respondents rated this element positively, there is still room to enhance external communication. The mean rating for changing memberships was 4.59 with a little over one-half (52.0%) of respondents rating STOP teams a 5 or higher. In other words, STOP teams may want to develop well defined methods of integrating new agency representatives into the collaborative effort. Overall, the lowest mean rating was for evaluation (4.58%). Evaluation also had the highest percentage of respondents (6.2%) rating STOP teams poorly (i.e., the team never evaluates their performance).

STOP Team Member’s Rating of VAWA Objectives

A key purpose of the survey is to compare the results obtained from the current survey to results from a previous survey of STOP team members (FY00). Statements thought to embody many of the primary objectives of VAWA funding were developed and respondents were asked to rate the extent to which they either agree or disagree with the statements. The scale is included at the bottom of Table 20. The mean ratings from the current study (FY04) were compared to the mean rating obtained previously (FY00) and *t*-test analysis was conducted in order to identify significant differences.

Overall the mean ratings for the current sample were mostly similar to the mean ratings reported previously.

³Burt, Martha R., et al., (1997) *Evaluation Guidebook: For Projects Funded by STOP Formula Grants Under the Violence Against Women Act*. Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

Table 20. STOP Team Member's Rating of VAWA Objectives (FY 2000; N = 51, FY 2004; N = 110)

Survey Item	FY 2000		FY 2004		t
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
1) A collaborative response has <i>not</i> been provided to meet the needs of female victims of violence within WV.	2.88	1.55	2.69	1.32	.82
2) Adequate training has been given to enable all involved to understand the magnitude of the domestic violence problem.	4.14	1.06	3.45	1.35	3.52***
3) Agencies have not been provided enough funds to serve all victims needs.	4.34	1.32	4.72	1.26	-1.76
4) Collaboration has improved among criminal justice victim services and other agencies that provide domestic violence programs and services.	4.37	0.86	4.50	1.06	-.77
5) Law enforcement officers have been trained in evidence collection as it relates to domestic violence incidents.	4.43	0.92	3.83	1.26	3.01*
6) Law enforcement officers have been trained to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women.	4.53	0.78	3.92	1.24	3.24***
7) More services are needed for victims of domestic violence.	4.55	0.97	4.95	1.06	-2.29*
8) Programs addressing stalking are currently in place.	3.66	1.14	3.49	1.01	.94
9) Prosecutors have been trained to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women.	4.04	1.21	3.95	1.07	.45
10) Protocols have been established in the handling of civil and criminal court cases involving violence against women.	3.75	1.09	3.96	1.05	-1.21
11) Specialized law enforcement units have been formed to handle cases involving violence against women.	2.74	1.03	2.98	1.41	-1.07
12) Specialized prosecution units have been formed to handle cases involving violence against women.	3.21	1.29	3.38	1.32	-.77
13) The awareness and understanding of violence against women and its consequences have <i>not</i> increased.	2.76	1.19	2.71	1.25	.27
14) The efficiency of services provided for female victims has <i>not</i> improved as a result of the Violence Against Women Act grant funds.	2.40	1.21	2.57	1.28	-.80
15) The level of services for female victims has increased as a result of the Violence Against Women Act grant funds.	4.76	1.02	4.57	1.18	.97
16) There is poor communication between criminal justice victim services and other agencies dealing with domestic violence programs.	3.08	1.35	3.05	1.29	.15

*p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001

Scale: 1= Strongly Disagree 3= Disagree 5= Moderately Agree
2= Moderately Disagree 4= Agree 6= Strongly Agree

Note: Items in purple are negatively phrased thus lower mean ratings are positive.

Source: STOP Team Survey Data, FY 2000, FY 2004.

It should be noted that some of the statements are negatively phrased, thus lower mean ratings for these items indicate a positive finding. Negatively phrased items are purple, (e.g., #1, #13, #14, and #16). For example, the mean for item #1 suggests that the majority of the respondents disagree with the statement. In other words, most respondents agree that a collaborative response *has* been provided to female victims of violence in WV. In fact, as indicated by the mean rating for item #4, collaboration has improved among key participants. Similarly, as indicated by the mean ratings for item #14 (FY04), many respondents feel that the efficiency of services has been improved.

Many respondents feel that the level of services for female victims has increased as result of VAWA funding (item #15). However, they also feel that more services (item #7) and funding (item #3) are needed for victims of domestic violence. As results from the *t*-test analysis suggest, the mean rating for item #7 for the current sample is significantly different than the mean rating for FY00. In other words, this significant increase suggests that more respondents feel strongly that additional services are needed.

Overall, most respondents feel that the awareness and understanding of violence against women and its consequences *has* increased (item #13). However, respondents also indicated additional training was needed for all responders to violence against women (item #2) and specifically for law enforcement (items #5, #6) and prosecution (item #9). It should be noted that the mean ratings for items #2, #5, and #6 are significantly different from the mean ratings obtained in FY00. These findings suggest that respondents are less likely to agree that adequate training has been provided. Although the mean ratings for item #9 are not significant, the decrease in the current mean suggests that respondents are less likely to agree that adequate training has been provided to prosecutors.

Respondents have less confidence that programs addressing stalking are in place as indicated by the mean rating of 3.49. Other items receiving mediocre ratings include the establishment of protocols in the handling of civil and criminal court cases (3.96) and development of specialized units for law enforcement (2.98) and prosecution (3.38) for responding to violence against women.

Appendices

Appendix A. Federal STOP Program Purpose Areas

Appendix B. West Virginia's STOP Violence Against Women Strategic Plan (FY04)

Appendix C. Data Collection Forms

Victim Demographic Form

Prosecution Tracking Form

Appendix D. STOP Team Member Survey

Federal STOP Program Purpose Areas

1. Training law enforcement officers and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women.
 2. Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women.
 3. Developing and implementing more effective police and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women.
 4. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions.
 5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, developing or improving delivery of victims services to minorities, providing specialized domestic violence court, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women.
 6. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing stalking.
 7. Developing or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in addressing violent crimes against women.
 8. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not support by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
 9. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault.
 10. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.
 11. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.
-

West Virginia's STOP Violence Against Women Strategic Plan (FY04)

It is the mission of the West Virginians Against Violence (WVAV) Committee to increase the awareness and understanding of violence against women and its consequences, reduce the incidence of violence against women, create a safer environment for all women, and provide a collaborative response to the needs of female victims of violence within West Virginia. The following goals and objectives are set forth as a strategic plan to accomplish the mission:

Goal 1: Increase coordination and communication among representatives of the justice system, victim services and health care providers in responding to victims of violence against women.

Objective a: Continue the work of the West Virginians Against Violence Committee to oversee the STOP Violence Against Women Program and the Victims of Crime Act Program.

Objective b: Expand participation on a statewide level to include more than criminal justice and victim service professionals (i.e. legislature, legal services, adult protective services, education professionals, etc.)

Objective c: Increase the number of county teams that consist of, at least, prosecution, victim service providers and law enforcement to plan and implement a coordinated community response to victims of violence against women.

Objective d: Evaluate the impact of funded STOP teams on law enforcement, prosecution and victim services statistics and the degree to which interagency relationships have become institutionalized.

Goal 2: Increase joint training of all professionals and paraprofessionals that provide services to victims of violence against women.

Objective a: Using the model coordinated community response curriculum initially designed for law enforcement, develop sections specific to other groups, including magistrates, circuit and family law judges, prosecutors, corrections officers, probation and parole staff, victim advocates, healthcare providers, and mental health care providers. The curriculum should include at a minimum:

- Dynamics of victimization
- Dynamics and legal issues of sexual assault
- Dynamics and legal issues of stalking
- Dynamics and legal issues of domestic violence
- Collaborative and multidisciplinary response to violence against women

Objective b: Provide coordinated community response training to law enforcement officers from all fifty-five counties using training teams composed of law enforcement officers, domestic violence advocates and prosecutors.

Objective c: Provide eight hours of annual continuing education for law enforcement officers to address crime scene investigation and reporting, evidence collection, full faith and credit, dual arrest, law enforcement responsibility in civil cases, and other topics relevant to violence against women.

Objective d: Provide annual training to improve coordinated community response for Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE).

Goal 3: Increase public awareness of violence against women and prevention efforts.

Objective a: Develop and distribute a service directory of available services for female victims of violence.

Objective b: Assess domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking public awareness and outreach programs to insure that underserved populations are include on the local level.

Goal 4: Improve prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking crimes.

Objective a: Increase the number of assistant prosecuting attorneys committed to the prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases.

Objective b: Develop local protocols in each STOP-funded county to:

- Implement a team approach to prosecution among prosecutors, law enforcement and victim service advocates;
- Support evidence-based/victimless prosecutions; and
- Regularly collect data regarding the disposition of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases.

Objective c: Increase the number of compliance monitors to increase perpetrator accountability in STOP-funded counties that also have licensed perpetrator intervention programs.

Objective d: Provide at least one legal advocate in every STOP-funded county.

Goal 5: Increase services available to victims of violence against women.

Objective a: Expand services and resources for underserved populations, including people with disabilities; elderly victims; victims of racial and ethnic minorities; victims who live in isolated, rural areas; and gay, lesbian and transgender victims.

Objective b: Increase referrals from colleges and universities to licensed domestic violence and sexual assault providers for educational and direct victim services.

Objective c: Increase the number of rural health clinics that will conduct sexual assault examinations with their own staff or the assistance of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner as a consultant.

Objective d: Develop and implement a domestic violence and sexual assault identifications and response protocol at every Joint Council on Accreditation of Hospital (JCAH) accredited medical facility.

WV Violence Against Women Act Programs

Monthly Demographic Form

STOP Team Name: _____

Reporting Team Member: _____

Please write in the number(s) of the appropriate response(s) to each question in the space provided. **If the question does not apply or the information is not available, leave the space blank.** Provide only one response unless otherwise specified. Please complete one form for each person served. Additional instructions and definitions are on the Instructions sheet. **COMPLETE THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE WV DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITION DATABASE.** This information will be added to the coalition database for analysis.

1. 04-VAW- **Grant Number**

2. _____ **Month**

3. _____ **Your Role** on the STOP Team

1. Victim Services 3. Law Enforcement
2. Prosecution 4. Other _____

4. _____ **Age** of Client

5. _____ **Age Status**

1. Child 2. Adult 3. Emancipated Child

6. _____ **New or Continuing** Client?

1. New 2. Continuing

7. _____ **Type of Victimization** (list ALL that apply)

1. Direct Victim 3. Child Witness to Domestic Violence
2. Indirect Victim

8. _____ **Gender**

1. Female 2. Male

9. _____ **Race**

1. White 4. American Indian/Native Alaskan
2. Black/African American 5. Multi-Racial
3. Asian 6. Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

10. _____ **Ethnicity**

1. Hispanic/Latino 2. Not Hispanic/Latino

11. _____ **Physical Characteristics** (list ALL that apply)

1. Pregnant 3. Mental/Emotional Disability
2. Physical/Medical Disability 4. Other _____

12. _____ **City** **Client's Home**

_____ **County**

_____ **State**

_____ **Zip Code**

13. _____ **Economic Status** (list ALL that apply)

1. Homemaker 3. Part Time 5. Retired
2. Full Time 4. Unemployed 6. Student

14. _____ **Number of Children** in the Home

15. _____ **Education** (indicate highest level attained)

1. GED 4. Some college 7. Doctorate
2. HS Diploma 5. Bachelor's 8. Other _____
3. Technical or Trade School 6. Master's

16. _____ **Client's Military Status**

1. Veteran 3. Never Served
2. Active Duty or Reserves 4. Other _____

17. _____ **Gov't Benefits?** (list ALL that apply)

1. Food Stamps 3. Housing 5. Soc. Sec. Benefits
2. Medical Card 4. TANF/WV Works 6. Other _____

18. _____ **Client's Relationship Status**

1. Single 3. Separated 5. Widow(er)
2. Married 4. Divorced 6. Lesbian/Gay Partner

19. _____ **History of Abuse?** (list ALL that apply)

1. Previous Domestic Violence 3. Child Witness
2. Child Victim 4. None

20. _____ **Relationship** of offender to victim

1. Spouse 8. Relative/In-law
2. Former Spouse 9. Son/Daughter
3. Significant Other 10. Acquaintance
4. Former Significant Other 11. Stranger/other
5. Parent 12. Employer
6. Step-Parent 13. Lesbian/Gay Partner
7. Parent's Significant Other 14. Other _____

21. _____ **Reason for Service** (list ALL that apply)

1. Physical Assault/Abuse 4. Neglect
2. Sexual Assault/Abuse 5. Stalking
3. Emotional Assault/Abuse 6. Other _____

22. _____ **Weapons** (list ALL that were threatened or used)

1. Firearm 3. Knife 5. Bat, Club, or Stick
2. Fist 4. Other _____

23. _____ **Was this incident reported to the Police?**

1. Yes 2. No

24. _____ **Was a Domestic Violence Petition Filed?**

1. No, not Filed 3. Yes, Filed but Denied
2. Yes, Filed & Issued 4. Yes, Filed but Dropped

25. _____ **Did victim require Medical Attention?**

1. Yes 2. No

26. _____ **Did victim receive Medical Services?**

1. No 3. Hospital Stay 5. Other _____
2. ER 4. Doctor's Office/Clinic Visit

27. _____ **Use of Firearms** (list ALL that apply)

1. Firearm(s) present on property
2. Firearm(s) talked about
3. Abuser threatened suicide
4. Firearm held by abuser
5. Firearm discharged by abuser

28. _____ **Underserved Geographic Area**

1. Rural Area 3. Underserved Urban Area
2. Tribal Area 4. Other Underserved Area _____

29. _____ **Language Spoken** if client does not speak English.

1. Spanish-Speaking 3. Other _____
2. Asian Language

30. _____ **Underserved Populations** (list ALL that apply)

1. Migrant Farm Worker
2. Immigrant
3. At-Risk Group (incarcerated, prostitute, and/or substance abuser, etc.)
4. Other Underserved Population _____

WV Violence Against Women Act Programs

Instructions

Please write in the number(s) of the appropriate response(s) to each question in the space provided. If the question does not apply or the information is not available, leave the space blank. Provide only one response unless otherwise specified. Please complete one form for each person served.

Please write the name of the STOP Team and your name in the upper portion of the demographic form.

1. Write in the **Grant Number** for the current grant year.
2. Write in **Month** during which services were provided.
3. Write in the number that indicates **Your Role** on the STOP team. If the first three do not apply, please write in your role under #4.
4. Write in the client's **Age**. If not available, leave the space blank.
5. Write in the number corresponding to the client's **Age Status**.
 1. Child: Client is under 18 years old and not emancipated.
 2. Adult: Client is 18 or older.
 3. Emancipated: Client is under 18 years old, but emancipated.
6. Write in a number to indicate if the client is **New or Continuing**. Continuing clients are those that have previously received services since July 1, 2005.
7. Write in as many numbers needed to indicate the **Type of Victimization** the client experienced.
 1. Direct Victim: The client personally experience assault/abuse.
 2. Indirect Victim: The client was impacted by another person's victimization.
 3. Child Witness to DV: The client witnessed assault/abuse as a child.
 4. Batterer or Perpetrator: The client is being served as a batterer.
8. Write in a number to indicate the client's **Gender**.
9. Write in a number that best indicates the client's **Race**.
10. Write in a number to indicate the client's **Ethnicity**.
11. Write in as many numbers needed to describe the client.
 1. Pregnant
 2. Physical/Medical: Impairments substantially limit one or more major life activities.
 3. Mental/Emotional: Impairments substantially limit one or more major life activities.
12. Write in the **Client's Home** city, county, state, and zip code.
13. Write in the numbers that apply to the client's **Economic Status**.
 1. Homemaker: Client does not regularly work for pay.
 2. Full Time Employment: Client is employed 35 hrs or more per wk or regularly provides contracted services.
 3. Part Time Employment: Client is employed less than 35 hrs per wk or periodically provides contracted services.
 4. Unemployed: Client was previously employed, but currently is not.
 5. Retired: Client has voluntarily ended employment and is voluntarily unemployed.
 6. Student: Client is a full or part time student in academic or professional school.
14. Write in the number of **Children** under the age of 18 who live 50% or more of the time in the client's home.
15. Write in a number to indicate the highest level of **Education** obtained by the client.
16. Write in a number to indicate the client's current **Military Status**.
17. Write in the numbers that indicate all the **Gov't Benefits** recieved.

18. Write in a number to indicate the client's current **Relationship Status**.

1. Single: Client has never been legally married.
2. Married: Client is currently in a legal marriage.
3. Separated: Client is legally separated.
4. Divorced: Client is legally divorced and has not remarried.
5. Widowed: Client is widowed and has not remarried.
6. Lesbian/Gay Partner: Client is in a long-term intimate same-sex relationship.

19. Write in as many numbers as needed to indicate the client's **History of Abuse**.

1. Previous Domestic Violence: Client has been abused/assaulted as an adult prior to this incident.
2. Child Victim: Client has been abused/assaulted as a child prior to this incident.
3. Child Witness: Client witnessed abuse/assault as a child prior to this incident.

20. Write in a number to indicate the offender's **Relationship** to the client.

21. Write in the numbers to indicate the **Reason for Service**.

1. Physical Assault/Abuse: Non-sexual bodily harm or injury caused or threatened directly or indirectly.
2. Sexual Assault/Abuse: Unwanted sexual contact, e.g. rape, molestation, incest.
3. Emotional Abuse: Exploitation of client's vulnerability, insecurity, or character in order to demean or control. Includes verbal assault.
4. Neglect: Refusal or failure to provide basic needs to a child or incapacitated adult.
5. Stalking: Following, harassing, or threatening with intent to harm the client or the client's family.

22. Write in the numbers to indicate all the types of **Weapons** threatened or used against the victim in the latest incident.

23. Indicate if any person called or notified any **Police** agency during or after the incident.

24. Indicate if the client requested and recieved a **Domestic Violence Petition**.

25. Indicate if the client required **Medical Attention** for latest incident.

26. Indicate the **Medical Services** received, if any.

27. Write in the numbers that apply to **Firearms** during the latest incident. It is important to list all options that apply, not just the most serious.

1. Firearm(s) present on property: Either client's or abuser's property, including garages, barns, or land.
2. Firearm(s) talked about: Abuser mentioned any firearm.
3. Abuser threatened suicide: Abuser threatened to hurt himself or herself with any firearm.
4. Firearm held by abuser: Abuser touched, lifted, held, or waved any firearm.
5. Firearm discharged by abuser: Regardless of what the bullet hit.

28. Indicate the client's **Geographic Area** if considered an underserved area.

1. Rural Area: Outside of any city limits.
2. Tribal Area: Recognized tribal area.
3. Underserved Urban Area: Within city limits, but with limited services.
4. Other Underserved Area: Describe location of the underserved area.

29. Indicate the **primary Language Spoken** if the client does not speak English.

30. List all of the following **Underserved Populations** the client represents.

1. Migrant Farm Worker
2. Immigrant
3. At-Risk Group: Includes incarcerated, prostitute, substance abuser.
4. Other Underserved Population: Please write in the specific, underserved population the client represents other than non-Caucasian, elderly, and disabled clients.

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Prosecution Tracking Form

Please complete the following form on all domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or other violence against women **cases disposed** from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, and return the forms by the 20th of the month following the disposition month to the Division of Criminal Justice Services - 1204 Kanawha Blvd. E. - Charleston, WV 25301. Please direct questions concerning this form to: Lora Maynard or Cyndi Hamilton - Phone: (304) 558-8814.

STOP Team County: _____

1. What was the **Case Number** assigned?(Complete one form per case.) _____
2. How many **Victims** of each **Gender** (if any) were involved? Female _____ Male _____
3. Did any **Victim** participate in the prosecution? Yes ☐ No ☐
4. Was any **Victim under age 18**? Yes ☐ No ☐
5. What was the **Relationship(s)** of the offender and the victim(s)? (If more than one victim, please indicate the number(s) on the appropriate line(s).)

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. Victim was Spouse | _____ 11. Victim was Grandparent |
| _____ 2. Victim was Estranged Spouse | _____ 12. Victim was Grandchild |
| _____ 3. Victim was Cohabiting Partner | _____ 13. Victim was In-Law |
| _____ 4. Victim was Parent | _____ 14. Victim was Step Parent |
| _____ 5. Victim was Homosexual Relationship | _____ 15. Victim was Step Child |
| _____ 6. Victim was Intimate Partner | _____ 16. Victim was Step Sibling |
| _____ 7. Victim was Boyfriend/Girlfriend | _____ 17. Victim was Ex Spouse |
| _____ 8. Victim was Child of Intimate Partner | _____ 18. Victim was Other Family Member |
| _____ 9. Victim was Sibling | _____ 19. Victim was Other Household Member |
| _____ 10. Victim was Child | |

(For Questions 6 and 8, please indicate how many counts of each offense were charged and disposed.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6. How many offense(s) were charged ? | 8. How many offense(s) were disposed by the courts ? |
| _____ DV-Domestic Battery | _____ DV-Domestic Battery |
| _____ DV-Domestic Assault | _____ DV-Domestic Assault |
| _____ DV-Second Offense | _____ DV-Second Offense |
| _____ DV-Third Offense | _____ DV-Third Offense |
| _____ 1 st Degree Sexual Assault | _____ 1 st Degree Sexual Assault |
| _____ 2 nd Degree Sexual Assault | _____ 2 nd Degree Sexual Assault |
| _____ 3 rd Degree Sexual Assault | _____ 3 rd Degree Sexual Assault |
| _____ Stalking | _____ Stalking |
| _____ Homicide (DV related) | _____ Homicide (DV related) |
| _____ Violation of Protective Order | _____ Violation of Protective Order |
| _____ Other (Specify): _____ | _____ Other (Specify): _____ |

7. Were any of these charges **filed** as criminal charges in court?

_____ Yes - Complete remainder of form before submitting.

_____ No - Stop and submit form.

9. How was the case **Disposed by the court**?
- ☐ 1. Plea
- ☐ 2. Bench Trial
- ☐ 3. Jury Trial
- ☐ 4. Other (Specify): _____
10. What **Date** was the case disposed by the court?
- ____/____/____

11. What was the case **Disposition**? (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Contest | <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Dismissed from court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Plea of Guilty | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Withdrawn from court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Found Guilty | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Other (Specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Found Not Guilty | |

12. What was the **Sentence**?

13. Was the offender **court ordered** to a **Batterers Intervention Program**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

14. Was a law enforcement officer available when needed for this case?

Yes ☐ No ☐

15. Did an advocate assist the victim(s) during this case?

Yes ☐ No ☐

16. How would you rank the overall strength of the evidence in this case? ☐ Very Strong ☐ Strong

☐ Medium Strength ☐ Weak ☐ Very Weak

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Prosecution Tracking Form

Instructions

If you have additional questions or need clarification please contact: Lora Maynard or Cyndi Hamilton – Phone: (304) 558-8814.

- Complete the prosecution tracking form on all domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or other violence against women **cases disposed** from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Questions 1 through 6 should be answered for all cases handled by your office. Disposition information in questions 8 through 15 should only be included when charges are filed as criminal charges in court. Cases that are transferred to a grand jury are not considered disposed until the final disposition from the grand jury hearing.
- Forms should be submitted to the Division of Criminal Justice Services by the **20th of the month** following the disposition month.
- For purposes of this data collection form, a **case** is defined for question 1 as one incident or series of incidents that occurs during one day that may result in multiple charges. If your county uses an individual case number for each charge, list multiple case numbers for this question.
- For purposes of this data collection form, **participation** is defined for question 3 as being involved in helping to prosecute the offender. (For example: the victim testifies against the offender and does not recant.)
- The offenses charged or disposed include the following **offenses**:
 - **Domestic Violence:** §61-2-28(a) Domestic battery
 - **Domestic Violence:** §61-2-28(b) Domestic assault
 - **Domestic Violence:** §61-2-28(c) Second offense
 - **Domestic Violence:** §61-2-28(d) Third offense
 - **1st Degree Sexual Assault:** §61-8B-3 Sexual assault in the first degree.
 - **2nd Degree Sexual Assault:** §61-8B-4 Sexual assault in the second degree.
 - **3rd Degree Sexual Assault:** §61-8B-5 Sexual assault in the third degree.
 - **Stalking:** §61-2-9a Stalking.
 - **Homicide:** §61-2-1 First and second degree murder, §61-2-4 Voluntary manslaughter, §61-2-5 Involuntary manslaughter, and §61-2-7 Attempt to kill or injure by poison.
 - **Violation of Protective Order:** §48-27-902 Violations of protective orders
 - **Other:** Please list all other offenses that are charged or disposed in the case. If possible, provide WV Code Citations instead of the offense name.
 - For the purposes of this data collection form, **Batterers Intervention Programs** in question 13 includes the 10 programs currently licensed by the Family Protection Services Board. Referrals to any other program should be listed in question 12 – Sentence. The 10 programs include:

Common Purpose of the Panhandle

115 Aikens Center, Suite 12
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304-262-4424
Contact: Teresa Gree-Longley

Family Crisis Center

P.O. Box 207
Keyser, WV 26726
304-788-6061
Contact: Penny Sanders

Family Refuge Center

Post Office Box 249
Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901
304-645-6334
Contact: Gloria Martin

Goodwill Industries of KYOWVA, Inc

P.O. Box 7365
Huntington, WV 25776
304-523-7461
Contact: Connie Chapman

HOPE, Inc.

Post Office Box 626
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554
304-367-1100
Contact: Linda Lee Pethtel

Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center

Post Office Box 4228
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505
304-523-7461
Contact: Judy King Smith

Women's Aid in Crisis

P.O. Box 2062
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-8433
Contact: Marcia White

YWCA-Family Violence Prevention Program

1100 Chapline Street
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003
304-232-2748
Contact: Rhonda Hayes

YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program

1114 Quarrier Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
304-340-3570
Contact: Kim Johnson

West Virginia Division of Corrections/ Psi-Med, Inc.

112 California Avenue, Building 4, Room 323
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-2036
Contact: Trudi Blaylock or Teresa McCourt

STOP Violence Against Women Team Member Survey

Training and Experience: We would like to begin by asking you questions about your current position as well as training and experience in dealing with violence against women (VAW) issues. Violence against women refers to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

1. What is your current position? (**Circle one**)

- a. Domestic Violence Advocate
- b. Law Enforcement Officer
- c. Prosecutor
- d. Healthcare Provider
- e. Other (please specify) _____

2. Consider your *entire caseload over the past year*, approximately what proportion of those cases involve violence against women?

3. Consider your cases that involved violence against women over the past year, approximately what proportion of your caseload involves each of the following issues? (**Total should equal 100%**)

- a. Domestic Violence _____
- b. Sexual Assault _____
- c. Stalking _____
- d. Dating Violence _____

4. Over the past year, approximately how many *trainings* have you attended that specifically dealt with each of the following issues?

- a. Domestic Violence _____
- b. Sexual Assault _____
- c. Stalking _____
- d. Dating Violence _____

5. In terms of your efforts to serve the needs of those affected by violence against women, please indicate how **important** is it for you to collaborate with VAW responders from other agencies? (**Circle one**)

- a. Not important at all
- b. Not too important
- c. Somewhat important
- d. Important
- e. Very Important

General Information: Please provide us with information about yourself. This information will be used to group you with others who are like you to determine whether your views are similar.

6. How many total years have you worked **in your current position**? _____

7. How many total years have you worked **in any position** that dealt with violence against women issues? _____

8. Which county-based STOP Team(s) are you a member? _____

9. How many times per year do the members of your county STOP Team(s) hold **scheduled meetings**?

In person _____

By telephone/video-conference _____

10. What is your gender?

- a. Male
- b. Female

11. Which of the following best describes you?

- a. White
- b. Black/African American
- c. Asian/Pacific Islander
- d. Native American
- e. Hispanic (of any race)
- f. Other (please specify)

12. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (**Circle one**)

- a. High School Degree
- b. Associate's (A.A., A.S., etc.)
- c. Bachelor's (B.A., B.S., etc.)
- d. Master's (M.A., M.S., M.S.W. etc.)
- e. LL.B, J.D.
- f. Ed.D, Ph.D., M.D.
- g. Other (please specify) _____

13. Was your degree in (**Circle all that apply**):

- a. Criminal Justice/Criminology
- b. Sociology/Social Work
- c. Psychology
- d. Counseling
- e. Law/Legal Studies
- f. Nursing/Medicine
- g. Other (please specify) _____

Nature and Extent of Collaborations: Next we are interested in knowing how often you collaborate with other VAW responders and the types of activities/services provided in your community.

14. During the past year, please indicate **how often** you had contact with each of the following responders in an average month in the handling of cases involving violence against women. Please include contacts with others in your own profession.

- a. DV advocate(s) _____ times per month
- b. Law enforcement officer(s) _____ times per month
- c. Prosecutor(s) _____ times per month
- d. Healthcare Providers _____ times per month

15. Please rate the extent to which you understand the legal and/or procedural roles and responsibilities of the following responders when handling violence against women cases. (**Circle one for each**)

	Not at all	Very little	Some	Quite a bit	A great deal
Domestic Violence Advocate(s)	1	2	3	4	5
Law Enforcement Officer(s)	1	2	3	4	5
Prosecutor(s)	1	2	3	4	5
Healthcare Providers	1	2	3	4	5

16. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements based upon **activities and/or services provided in your community** for victims of violence against women. Indicate your response by circling the number that corresponds to your level of agreement using the scale below. (**Circle one for each**)

1 = Strongly disagree
4 = Agree

2 = Moderately disagree
5 = Moderately agree

3 = Disagree
6 = Strongly agree

The awareness and understanding of violence against women and its consequences have <i>not</i> increased.	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Collaboration has improved <i>among criminal justice victim services and other agencies that provide domestic violence programs and services.</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

A collaborative response has <i>not</i> been provided to <i>meet the needs</i> of female victims of violence within WV.	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

There is poor communication between criminal justice victim services and other agencies dealing with domestic violence programs.	1	2	3	4	5	6
--	---	---	---	---	---	---

Adequate training has been given to enable all involved to understand the magnitude of the violence against women problem.	1	2	3	4	5	6
--	---	---	---	---	---	---

Law enforcement officers have been trained to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women.	1	2	3	4	5	6
--	---	---	---	---	---	---

Law enforcement officers have been trained in evidence collection as it relates to domestic violence incidents.	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Specialized law enforcement units have been formed to handle cases involving violence against women.	1	2	3	4	5	6
--	---	---	---	---	---	---

Prosecutors have been trained to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women.	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Protocols have been established in the handling of civil and criminal court cases involving violence against women.	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Specialized prosecution units have been formed to handle cases involving violence against women.	1	2	3	4	5	6
--	---	---	---	---	---	---

The *level* of services for female victims *has increased* as a result of Violence Against Women Act grant funds. 1 2 3 4 5 6

The *efficiency* of services provided for female victims has *not improved* as a result of the Violence Against Women Act grant funds. 1 2 3 4 5 6

Programs addressing *stalking* are currently in place. 1 2 3 4 5 6

Agencies have *not* been provided enough *funds* to serve all victims needs. 1 2 3 4 5 6

More *services* are needed for victims of domestic violence. 1 2 3 4 5 6

Attitudes toward Collaboration: This section asks you to respond to statements regarding your attitudes and perceptions toward collaboration with other violence against women responders.

17. Please indicate the degree to which you have positive or negative views regarding your collaborations with VAW responders in each of the following groups, **including others in your own profession.** (Circle one for each)

	Very negative	Negative	Positive	Very positive	No opinion
a. DV advocate(s).....	1	2	3	4	5
b. Law enforcement officer(s).....	1	2	3	4	5
c. Prosecutor(s).....	1	2	3	4	5
d. Healthcare Providers.....	1	2	3	4	5

18. Think about your interactions with each of the following VAW responders *over the past year*. Using the following scale, please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that each group possesses the characteristics below. (Circle one for each, including others in your own profession)

1 = Strongly disagree
4 = Strongly agree

2 = Disagree **3 = Agree**
5 = No basis for judgement

	DV Advocates					LE Officers					Prosecutors					Healthcare Providers				
a. Knowledgeable of <u>their own</u> responsibilities	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
b. Understand <u>your</u> role	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
c. Receptive to collaboration	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
d. Accessible	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
e. Professional	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
f. Dedicated	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
g. Reliable	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
h. Trustworthy	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

19. For each of the items below circle the number that is *most descriptive* of the **current situation for your STOP Team.** (Circle **one** for each)

Shared Vision	1 The Team does not have a shared vision.	2	3	4	5	6	7 The Team has a shared and clearly understood vision.
Goals & Objectives	1 Team members do not understand goals and objectives.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Team members understand and agree on goals and objectives.
Plans	1 The Team does not follow work plans.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Plans are well developed and followed.
Decision Making Procedures	1 The Team does not have an effective decision making procedure.	2	3	4	5	6	7 The Team has effective decision making procedures.
Conflict Management	1 Conflict keeps us from accomplishing anything.	2	3	4	5	6	7 The Team is able to successfully manage conflict.
Leadership	1 Leadership is not shared and is inadequate.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Leadership is effective and shared when appropriate.
Responsibilities & Roles	1 Roles and responsibilities of Team members are not clear.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Team members are clear about their roles and responsibilities.
Relationships/Trust/Respect	1 Team members do not trust and respect each other.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Team members trust and respect each other.
Changing Membership	1 The Team does not have a procedure for new members.	2	3	4	5	6	7 The Team has a procedure for new members.
Internal Communication	1 Team members do not communicate well with each other.	2	3	4	5	6	7 Team members communicate well with each other.
External Communication	1 The Team does not communicate well externally.	2	3	4	5	6	7 External communication is open and timely.
Evaluation	1 The Team never evaluates their performance.	2	3	4	5	6	7 The Team builds evaluation into all activities.

