

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM)!

Each business day in October, we send out a “DVAM: Did You Know?” highlighting interesting research findings and statistics or best practices in preventing and responding to domestic violence.

The following is a compilation of our 2014 DVAM: Did You Know? emails:

- October 1, 2014: Raising Awareness of Domestic Violence in Fairfax County
- October 2, 2014: Dating Violence & Pregnancy
- October 3, 2014: The Lethality of Domestic Violence
- October 6, 2014: Fairfax County’s Coordinated Community Response to DV
- October 7, 2014: Involving Community Members in our Response to DV
- October 8, 2014: Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day
- October 9, 2014: The Connection between Animal Abuse & Domestic Violence
- October 10, 2014: Serving Victims who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender (LGBT)
- October 14, 2014: The Connection between Domestic Violence & Homelessness
- October 15, 2014: Campus Sexual Assault
- October 16, 2014: Batterer Intervention Programs
- October 17, 2014: Financial Abuse
- October 20, 2014: Child Witness to Domestic Violence
- October 21, 2014: Practicing self-care to heal from vicarious trauma
- October 22, 2014: Faith Communities Responding to Domestic Violence
- October 23, 2014: Characteristics of Domestic Violence (National BJS Statistics)
- October 24, 2014: DVAC & Military Stats
- October 27, 2014: Domestic Violence in the Workplace
- October 28, 2014: Supervised Visitation
- October 29, 2014: The Connection between Witnessing Domestic Violence and Teen Dating Violence
- October 30, 2014: Domestic Violence and HIV
- October 31, 2014: Fairfax County’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that two-thirds of Americans believe that domestic violence is a serious problem and yet just more than 1 in 3 have ever talked about it?*

A recent [national survey](#) also found:

- Domestic violence is seen as **more serious** by African-Americans (78 percent) and Hispanics (68 percent), than White non-Hispanics (64 percent).
 - African-Americans (51 percent) and Hispanics (46 percent) are talking about domestic violence **more** than White non-Hispanics (33 percent).
- **More than half** (54 percent) of parents have never discussed domestic violence with their children. This ranked far behind other topics that are more commonly discussed including safe driving (85 percent), avoiding alcohol and drugs (84 percent), dangers of smoking (80 percent), keeping personal finances secure (70 percent), healthy eating (70 percent) and sex education (68 percent).
- **Most Americans** (58 percent) agree that the news media and entertainment industry have a responsibility to shed light on domestic violence, yet **3 in 4** believe (77 percent) they are not discussing it enough and are inaccurately portraying it (73 percent).

Given the recent national dialogue on the issue, hopefully these statistics will improve. However, it's up to each of us to raise awareness on the prevalence,

dynamics, and impact of domestic violence on individuals and families in our community.

**The Allstate Foundation Silent Weapon: Domestic Violence and Financial Abuse; FYI Consulting; July 2014*

What can we do?

- **Use social media to spread the word!** Post or tweet responsible media articles on the subject or simple facts about the issue. Find sample posts and tweets like these each day in the *DVAM Did you Know?* this month:

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month! Did you know that two-thirds of Americans believe that domestic violence is a serious problem and yet just more than 1 in 3 have ever talked about it? Visit <http://purplepurse.com/trends/> for warning signs and tips for starting the conversation today! For help, call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273.

#DVAM #DYK? 2/3 of Americans believe #domesticviolence is a serious problem yet only 1 in 3 talk about it #NoMoreViolence #FairfaxCounty

- **Start the conversation!** Fairfax County is joining providers from across the region today for a *Metro Day of Action*, distributing materials and starting conversations with passengers at all WMATA metro stations.

Even if you can't staff a metro station today, you can be a safe person for a family member, friend, neighbor, or coworker to talk to about violence in their relationship:

- [What to say when you think someone is being abused](#)
- [What to say if you suspect someone is using abusive behavior](#)

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that girls who are victims of dating violence are 4 to 6 times more likely than non-abused girls to become pregnant?*

Dating violence and teen pregnancy are intricately linked. Research indicates that teen girls who are in abusive relationships are at a greater risk of becoming pregnant. Also, for many teens, the violence and abusive behaviors begin or increase at the time that they become pregnant.

At least one fourth of adolescent mothers, and as many as 50-80 percent, are in abusive relationships before, during or after their pregnancies.

Factors such as forced sexual activity, birth control sabotage and risky sexual behaviors contribute to the higher rates of teen pregnancy.

Sources: Break the Cycle's Teen Pregnancy, Parenting, and Dating Violence; Healthy Teen Network's Interpersonal violence and Adolescent Pregnancy: Prevalence and Implications for Practice and Policy

What can we do?

- **Get Educated!**
 - [The Facts on Adolescent Pregnancy, Reproductive Risk, and Exposure to Dating and Family Violence](#)
 - [Intimate Partner Violence and Teen Pregnancy Prevention](#)
 - [Teen Pregnancy and Violence](#)

- **Support your partners in addressing teen and campus dating violence.**
 - Attend George Mason University's [Fear 2 Freedom and Take Back the Night events](#) on October 7th (RSVPs necessary).
 - Visit the [DASH \(Dating Abuse Stops Here\) website](#) to learn about their work providing presentations in our schools.
 - Attend Northern Virginia Community College's (NOVA's) Take Back the Night event at their Annandale Campus on October 28th. A resource fair starts at 6:30pm and a rally at 7pm in the CF Quad (outside). Free parking is available in the B lots.
 - Visit JCADA's [AWARE website](#) to learn more about their *It's Not Love* workshops and attend their [5K event](#) this Sunday.

- **Use social media to spread the word!**
 - DVAM: Did you know that girls who are victims of dating violence are 4 - 6 times more likely than non-abused girls to become pregnant? It's time to address dating violence in our schools and our communities! For help, call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273.
 - DYK Girls who are victims of dating violence are 4 - 6 times more likely than non-abused girls to become pregnant. #DVAM #FairfaxCounty

October 3, 2014: Lethality of Domestic Violence

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know domestic violence is a leading cause of homicide in Fairfax County?

We are fortunate to live and work in a safe community, with an extremely low homicide rate and proactive public safety efforts. However, each year, about half of the homicides in the county involve domestic violence.

Reviews of the county's 2009 and 2010 domestic violence-related homicides revealed:

- 60% involved a firearm as the fatal agent
- 57% of the offenders had threatened to kill the victim prior to the murder
- 53% of the homicides occurred following separation or termination of the relationship (break-up)
- 33% of the victims had experience prior domestic violence victimization

These and other lethality indicators can help us better identify cases at most risk of lethality. Within the next year, our domestic violence community will be implementing lethality assessment tools system-wide in order to better predict and prevent domestic violence-related homicides in our community.

Sources: Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team [2012](#) and [2013](#) Annual Reports

What can we do?

- **Get Educated!**
 - Explore the [2012](#) and [2013](#) Annual Reports of the [Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team](#)

- Review the [2012 Family and Intimate Partner Homicide Report](#) from the Virginia Department of Health [*For comparison purposes, the county's team reviews intimate partner and intimate partner-associated homicides (pages 7-12).*]
- Read the White House's Fact Sheet on [The Obama Administration's Commitment to Reducing Domestic Violence Homicides](#)
- For more information on the two programs featured on the fact sheet, visit:
 - [Maryland Lethality Assessment Program](#)
 - [Domestic Violence High Risk Team Network](#)
- **Use social media to spread the word!**
 - DVAM: Did you know that domestic violence is a leading cause of homicide in Fairfax County? DV-related homicides are predictable and preventable. Please help spread the word that services and support are available. For help, call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273.
 - DYK Domestic violence is a leading cause of homicide in Fairfax County? Help is available: 703-360-7273 (24 HR) #DVAM
<http://bit.ly/ffxdv>

October 6, 2014: Fairfax County's Coordinated Community Response to DV

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that the combination of efforts of the many participants in a coordinated community response actually reduces future domestic violence?

A coordinated community response involves law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, probation officers, courts, judges, offender service providers, and mental health, housing, and other human service providers in developing and implementing policies and procedures that improve interagency coordination and lead to more uniform responses in domestic violence cases.

While it can be difficult to measure the effectiveness of a coordinating council or team (such as our Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy, and Coordinating Council or the DV Network), studies have shown that providing this forum for interagency communication and collaboration can help increase victim safety and autonomy, promote offender accountability, and reduce recidivism and future violence.

The following elements are listed as important for creating and maintaining positive change through coordinating councils:

- Responding to, and learning from, key events that draw attention to gaps in the system
- Leadership from different sources
- Activities of coordinating councils
- Involvement of advocates in promoting change
- Shift in awareness and attitude

Source: VAWNet's *Evaluating Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence*:
www.vawnet.org/domestic-violence/summary.php?doc_id=379&find_type=web_desc_AR

What can we do?

- **Get Educated! Learn more about our community's coordinated response:**
 - [Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy, and Coordinating Council \(DVPPC\)](#)
 - [DV Network](#)
 - [Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team](#)
 - [FCIA DV Prevention Committee](#)

- **Get Involved!**
 - The DVPPCC meets quarterly, on the third Thursday of the month, from 7:30am – 9:30am in the Massey A Level Conference Room.
 - While DVPPCC membership is designated by its charter and bylaws, the meetings are open to the public.

 - The DV Network meets monthly (except August), on the third Tuesday of the month from 10am – 12pm, typically in the Fairfax County Government Center.
 - DV Network meetings are open to all. They are drop in style meetings (no RSVP necessary) where providers can network, learn and discuss issues and trends, and share agency and event information.

 - The FCIA DV Prevention Committee meets the second Thursday of the month from 1:30pm – 3:30pm, typically at the Fairfax County Pennino Building. For more information, please email [Sandy Chisholm](#).

- **Use social media to spread the word!**

- DVAM: Did you know that a coordinated community response to domestic violence really works? By working together, we can increase victim safety and reduce future violence in our community. For more information about Fairfax County's coordinated response, visit: www.fairfaxdvcommunity.org. For help, call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273.
- DYK that by working together we can reduce #domesticviolence in our community? Get involved: <http://bit.ly/ffxdv> #DVAM #NoMoreViolence

October 7, 2014: Involving Community Members in our Response to DV

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that almost half (47%) of Fairfax County's 2009 & 2010 intimate partner homicides involved a bystander?

In the county's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team's 2013 Annual Report, bystanders were defined as people (family, friends, or neighbors) whom either directly heard threats to kill or knew about ongoing violence in the relationship but felt they could not intervene.

Understanding the dynamics of domestic violence can help community members better identify domestic violence and stalking, however, many people report that even if they know about the violence, they do not know what to do with the information or how to assist in keeping the victim safer in the violent relationship.

Following the reviewed homicides, when friends or family members were interviewed by law enforcement, they reported feeling equally as helpless—that even though they had either witnessed prior violence or heard specific threats, they either did not understand the potential severity of the violence or did not feel they could intervene.

What can we do?

We can encourage family members, friends and neighbors to take steps to help. Each of us has the power to reach out to someone we love and tell them that abuse is not their fault; love shouldn't hurt; and safety is possible.

- **Get Educated!**
 - [Attend the Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services' Brown Bag lunch on Thursday, October 9th](#)
 - [Read this article on how important a friend can be for a victim of domestic violence](#)
- **Talk to your friends, family members, and community organizations about domestic violence.**
 - [Share these tips on Ways Family & Friends Can Help](#)
- **Use social media to spread the word!**
 - DVAM: Did you know that friends, family & community members are an important link to safety for victims of domestic violence? For tips on how to help, visit thehotline.org/help or call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273.
 - #DVAM DYK friends, family & community members are an important link to safety for victims of #domestic violence? Call 703-360-7273 for help.

October 8, 2014: Health Cares about Domestic Violence Day

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that women who have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime were more likely to report having asthma, diabetes, frequent headaches, chronic pain, and poor physical and mental health?

The good news is that an intervention by a health provider has been shown to make a difference in health behaviors and outcomes:

- Women who talked to their health care provider about the abuse were *far more* likely to use an intervention.
- At a 2-year follow-up, women who were screened for abuse and given a wallet-sized referral reported fewer threats of violence and assaults.
- A majority of the women do not have recurrent abusive relationships and health care costs go down after abuse ends.
- One randomized control trial found that when assessment is coupled with education, harm reduction and referrals to services, intimate partner violence can be reduced and the health status of women improved.
- Another new randomized control trial found that a brief intervention during pregnancy can decrease partner violence victimization and related poor pregnancy outcomes.
- Yet another randomized control trial found that women who received a brief intervention reported fewer incidents of birth control interference and were more likely to leave relationships that were unhealthy and unsafe.

Source: http://www.healthcaresaboutipv.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/3/files/2012/09/FWV-screening_memo_Final.pdf

What can we do?

New [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#) recommendations on intimate partner violence, combined with the new guidelines in the Affordable Care Act that ensures that select U.S. health plans will now cover annual screening and counseling for lifetime exposure to IPV, provide the opportunity to reach thousands more adults and children with preventative messages and improve the health and safety of current victims of abuse.

Locally, the [Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax](#) has created a group to promote county-wide implementation of evidence-based Intimate Partner Violence/Sexual Violence screenings in health care provider offices and later in other settings, such as schools and community centers.

- **Get Educated!**

- [Read this Fact Sheet on Health Care and Domestic Violence](#)
- [Learn about the provisions in the Affordable Care Act that help victims of domestic and sexual violence](#)

- **Talk to your health care provider about getting involved.**

- [Bring this information about studies validating the effectiveness of screening.](#)
- Share our county's [2-page resource list](#) and [fact sheets](#) with them to distribute to their patients.
- Visit this [How to Screen page](#) for more information

- **Use social media to spread the word!**

- Use the graphics from Futures without Violence in your social media posts: <http://www.healthcaresaboutipv.org/advocacy-tools/social-media/>

- DVAM: Did you know that victims who talk to their doctor about abuse are 4 times more likely to see help? For more info, visit: <http://bit.ly/1xuefiP>. For resources, call Fairfax County's 24-hour Hotline: 703-360-7273 or visit: www.fairfaxdvcommunity.org.
- #DVAM DYK that victims who talk to doctors about abuse are 4x more likely to seek help? Visit <http://bit.ly/1xuefiP>
#NoMoreViolence
- Did you know your relationship affects your health? Oct 8th is Health Cares About #DomesticViolence Day #HCADV. To learn more, visit <http://bit.ly/1xuefiP> #DVAM

October 9, 2014: The Connection between Animal Abuse & Domestic Violence

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that between 25% and 40% of battered women are unable to escape abusive situations because they worry about what will happen to their pets or livestock should they leave?

Additionally, 71% of pet-owning women entering women's shelters reported that their batterer had injured, maimed, killed or threatened family pets for revenge or to psychologically control victims; 32% reported their children had hurt or killed animals.

Source: www.americanhumane.org/interaction/support-the-bond/fact-sheets/understanding-the-link.html.

What can we do?

- ✓ **Get Educated.**
 - [Keeping your Pets Safe](#) (blog from National Domestic Violence Hotline)
 - [Facts About Animal Abuse & Domestic Violence](#)
 - Learn about [Virginia's protective order provision](#) that allows petitioners to ask for possession of their companion animal (most family pets qualify).

- **Support your community partners' events.**
 - October 18, 2014: Fairfax County Police Department's [K-9 Krawl 5K](#)
 - October 25, 2014: Doorways [Howl-o-week Dog Walk for the Homeless](#)
- **Refer victims who need assistance to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter's Pet Haven project.**
 - Victims can access the animal shelter for temporary housing for their pet (up to 60 days) or to obtain help in finding a new home for their pet.
 - Email the Animal Shelter at FCPDPetResources@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-0208.
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that between 25% and 40% of battered women are unable to escape abusive situations because they worry about what will happen to their pets or livestock should they leave? [Fairfax County's Animal Shelter](#)'s Pet Haven program provides victims help for their pets. Email FCPDPetResources@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-0208 for more information.
 - #DVAM DYK that @fairfaxanimals will shelter #domesticviolence victims' pets for up to 60 days? Call 703-324-0208 for info.
#NoMoreViolence

October 10, 2014: Serving Victims who Identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender (LGBT)

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that the 2013 Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was the first federal law with an LGBT non-discrimination provision?

This groundbreaking provision ensures that LGBT victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking are not denied, on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, access to the critical services that VAWA grants support (including many of our services here in Fairfax County).

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Read:
 - [FAQs on the nondiscrimination provision of VAWA](#)
 - [Domestic Violence in the LGBT Community: It's Time For a Change](#)
 - [Why Talking about Domestic Violence in the Transgender Community Matters](#)
 - Explore the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) National Training & Technical Assistance Center on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Cultural Competency:

- Website: <http://avp.org/resources/training-center>
- Toll-free warmline: 1-855-AVP-LGBT (1-855-287-5428) Mon – Fri 10am - 6pm
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Accessible Instant Messaging AIM: AVPlgbt
- Email: info@ncavp.org
- **Examine how your organization can better learn to serve lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender victims of violence.**
 - Check out this guide from the Virginia Anti-Violence Project (http://avp.org/storage/documents/Training%20and%20TA%20Center/VAVP_LGBTQ-Inclusive_Model_Policies.pdf) and learn how to implement model policies and best practices.
 - For help with specific cases, call the **Virginia LGBTQ Partner Abuse and Sexual Assault Helpline**: 1-866-356-6998 (M-F 8am to 8pm).
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that the 2013 Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is the first federal law with an LGBT non-discrimination provision? Visit: <http://nnedv.org/policy/issues/vawa.html> for more information. In Fairfax County, call 703-360-7273 for help and resources.
 - #DVAM DYK that Fairfax County services for victims of #domesticviolence are available regardless of sexual orientation? For help: 703-360-7273.

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that during a 2014 point-in-time survey of people who were homeless in Fairfax County, 33% of all persons in families were homeless due to domestic violence?

This percentage represents an increase from 27% in 2013, and parallels these national statistics on the topic:

- Between 22 and 57% of all homeless women report that domestic violence was the immediate cause of their homelessness.
- Additionally, 38% of all victims of domestic violence become homeless at some point in their lives.
- A victim of domestic violence will often leave an abuser multiple times before finally escaping the violence, therefore, experiencing multiple periods of homelessness.
- Over 90% of homeless women have experienced severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives, and 63% have been victims of intimate partner violence as adults.
- In a 2006 report by the U. S. Conference of Mayors, 44% of the cities surveyed identified domestic violence as the primary cause of homelessness.
- Over 80% of survivors entering shelters identified “finding housing I can afford” as a need, second only to “safety for myself” (85%).

- The average stay (nationally) at an emergency homeless shelter is 60 days, while the average length of time it takes a homeless family to secure housing is 6-10 months.

Sources: [Highlights from the 2014 Point-in-Time Count of People Experiencing Homelessness; Domestic Violence, Housing, and Homelessness](#) fact sheet (and cites within)

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - [Read NNEDV's Domestic Violence, Housing, and Homelessness fact sheet.](#)
 - Learn about our county's [Office to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) and our domestic violence-specific programs:
 - Emergency Shelters:
 - [Artemis House](#) (part of [Shelter House Inc.](#)): 24-hour intake
 - [Bethany House of Northern Virginia](#): 8:30 am – 5:30pm intake
 - Transitional Housing:
 - **CHRP** – Dept. of Family Services with [Shelter House](#) and [United Community Ministries](#)
 - [Journeys](#) –United Community Ministries
 - [NOVACO](#) – Shelter House
 - [Safe Places](#) – Christian Relief Services
 - [Safe Shores](#) – Homestretch.
- **Speak out about our need to increase the capacity of both emergency shelter and affordable housing options in the county.**

- As long-term housing options become scarcer, victims are staying longer in emergency domestic violence shelters. As a result, shelters are frequently full and must turn families away. As a community, we need to address both our inadequate emergency bed capacity as well as the need for affordable housing options for victims to transition to after shelter.
- Attend the Fairfax County Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee (CCFAC)'s public forum to help identify housing and other human services needs to be addressed in the county's FY 2016-2020 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
 - *The public forum will be held on October 20, 2014 at 5:30pm in South County: <http://www.effordable.org/articles/2014-10-10-publichearing.html>*
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that during a 2014 point-in-time survey of people who were homeless in Fairfax County, 33% of all persons in families were homeless due to domestic violence? In Fairfax County, call 703-360-7273 for shelter and housing options.
 - #DVAM DYK 1/3 of Fairfax Co homeless families are homeless due to #domesticviolence? Shelter is available: 703-360-7273.
#NoMoreViolence

October 15, 2014: Campus Sexual Assault

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that sexual assaults on college campuses are most likely to occur in the first 3 months of school—in September, October and November?*

According to the same study:

- Freshmen and sophomores are at greater risk for victimization than juniors and seniors.
- Most victims of physically forced or incapacitated sexual assault were assaulted by someone they knew.
- The majority of victims reported that they told someone they knew, such as a family member, friend, roommate, or intimate partner.
- However, only a small minority reported the sexual assault to a law enforcement agency.
 - Those who were sexually assaulted when they were incapacitated (e.g., from alcohol or drug use) were least likely to report.
 - The most common reason for non-reporting was that “they did not think it was serious enough to report”.

*Krebs, C.P., Lindquist, C.H., Warner, T.D., Fisher, B.S., & Martin, S.L. (2007). [*The Campus Sexual Assault \(CSA\) Study*](#). National Institute of Justice.

** http://www.npr.org/2014/10/01/352757107/campus-sexual-assault-law-now-includes-language-on-same-sex-violence?utm_source=npr_email_a_friend&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20141001&utm_campaign=storyshare&utm_term=

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - [Learn about the Campus SaVE Act](#), which was passed by Congress in 2013 as part of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, clarifies the rights of victims to go to local police, get referrals for health care, and be guaranteed a fair hearing process.
 - Visit Futures without Violence's "[The Other Freshman 15](#)" website which includes information on Title IX and the Clery Act which addresses schools' responsibility to prevent and respond to sexual assaults and action plans for students, parents, alumni and administrators.
 - Direct victims of sexual assault who want more information to: <https://www.notalone.gov>.

- **Refer victims of sexual assault to on-campus or off-campus services.**
 - [George Mason University WAVES Victim Services](#): 703-380-1434 (24-Hour) or 703-993-9999
 - [Northern Virginia Community College \(NOVA\) Sexual Assault Services](#): 703-338-0834 (24 hour)
 - [Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services](#): Hotline 703-360-7273; Counseling: 703-324-5730
 - [Victim Services Section, FCPD](#): 703-246-2141
 - FACT (Forensic Assessment & Consultation Team), Inova Fairfax Hospital (24-hour intimate partner & sexual assault forensic exams): 703-776-6666

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - Check out the national [It's On Us](#) campaign website for tips and ideas.

- DVAM: Did you know that sexual assaults on college campuses are most likely to occur in the first 3 months of school (Sept, Oct, and Nov)? For help in Fairfax County, call the 24-hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline: 703-360-7273.
- #DVAM DYK sexual assaults on campus are most likely to occur the 1st 3 mos of school (Sept/Oct/Nov)? Help is available: 703-360-7273.

October 16, 2014: Batterer Intervention Programs

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that there is a difference between anger management classes and batterer intervention programs?

Batterer intervention programs are an integral part of any comprehensive approach to domestic violence.

As part of our coordinated community response, batterer intervention programs (BIPs) address anger but their primary focus is on helping people build skills for making non-violent choices.

These programs also:

- Connect with their client's partners, including assessing lethality risk and safety planning with the victim
- Assess substance abuse and mental health status of the client and refer them to appropriate treatment (in addition to the BIP)
- Make referrals to other members of our DV Network and collaborative partners, including supervised visitation, parenting classes, or self-sufficiency services

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Read this chart for a list of general differences between anger management and BIPs:
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/dv/desktools/DifferenceBetweenAM_BI.pdf.

- For a more in depth analysis of BIPs, explore [Certified Batterer Intervention Programs: History, Philosophies, Techniques, Collaborations, Innovations, and Challenges.](#)
- Come hear directly from BIP graduates! Attend the Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services' ADAPT program's panel discussion on [How ADAPT Changed My Life](#), next Wednesday, Oct. 22nd from 1:30 – 3:30pm in the Pennino Building, Room 200.
- **Refer* offenders to a certified batterer intervention program in Fairfax County:**
 - [Northern Virginia Family Service – Multicultural Human Services Batterer Intervention Program](#)
 - [OAR of Fairfax County Violence Intervention Program](#)
 - [Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services ADAPT \(Anger & Domestic Abuse Prevention & Treatment\) Program](#)

**Offenders can be court-ordered to attend a BIP through a civil protective order (either a family abuse protective order through the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court or an acts of violence protective order through General District Court), as a condition of a criminal adjudication (deferred adjudication or sentence), or they can sign up for the programs directly (self-refer).*

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know batterer intervention programs are an integral part of our county's response to domestic violence? For more information, call the 24-hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline: 703-360-7273.
 - #DVAM DYK batterer intervention programs are an integral part of addressing #domesticviolence? More info: 703-360-7273 #NoMoreViolence

October 17, 2014: Financial Abuse

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that 96% of victims of domestic violence who are employed experience problems at work due to abuse?

Domestic violence threatens the safety and security of survivors and their families. This national crisis affects individuals, families, communities, and businesses. That's why [The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program](#) was created to help survivors of domestic violence realize that safer and brighter futures for themselves and their families are within reach.

**Source: <http://www.clicktoempower.org/newsroom/facts-on-domestic-violence-economic-abuse>*

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Read:
 - [Rutgers Study Proves Financial Education Key to Recovery after Leaving Violent Relationships](#)
 - [Financial Abuse Takes a Heavy Toll on Domestic Violence Survivors](#)
 - [Financial Abuse: 6 signs and what you can do about it](#)
 - [NNEDV's Financial Abuse page](#)

- Check out [these financial tools and resources](#) from the Allstate Foundation to help victims of domestic violence better prepare for their future.
 - Refer clients to the Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services' Housing & Economic Specialist at DVAC: 703-246-4573 for more information on area financial education classes.

- Use social media to spread the word.
 - DVAM: Did you know that 96% of victims of domestic violence who are employed experience problems at work due to abuse? Visit the Allstate Foundation's [Click to Empower](#) for financial tools and resources. In Fairfax County, call 703-360-7273 for help.

 - #DVAM DYK that 96% of #domesticviolence victims experience problems at work? Visit [Click to Empower](#) or call 703-360-7273 in Fairfax Co.

October 20, 2014: Child Witness to Domestic Violence

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that almost half of children who witness domestic violence intervene in some way?

Research indicates:

- 49.9% Yelled for the abuser to stop
- 43.9% Tried to get away
- 23.6% Called for help

Additionally, 1 in 3 children (31%) who witnessed partner violence reported being physically abused themselves (compared to only 4.8% of those children who did not witness partner violence).

The 2011 Fairfax County Youth Survey revealed that 7% of students answered 'Yes' to "My parent has had his/her body hurt from actions (such as punching, kicking, choking, shoving, and pulling of hair) by a spouse/partner."

With a projected enrollment of 186,785 students in Fairfax County Public Schools this year, this means over 13,000 students in our school district *admit* to witnessing *physical* violence between their parents.

Also here in Fairfax County, 17% of child protective services intakes involve domestic violence and 43% of children entering foster care reported witnessing domestic violence.

*Sources:

<https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Fact%20sheet%20on%20Children%20Exposed%20to%20IPV%202013.pdf> (and cites within);

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/demogrph/youthpdf.htm>; 2014 DVPPCC Annual Report (coming soon)

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Read:
 - Fairfax County DV Network's [The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children fact sheet](#)(page 25)
 - [Children: The Silent Victims of Domestic Violence](#) (CNN article)
 - Futures Without Violence [Promising Futures: Best Practices for Serving Children, Youth, and Parents Experiencing Domestic Violence](#)
 - Boston Medical Center's [Child Witness to Violence Project](#)

- **Refer to local services for children who witness domestic violence.**
 - [Department of Family Services' Domestic Violence Unit](#)
 - [Fairfax CASA](#) (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
 - [Fairfax County Area Primary Mental/Behavioral Health Resources](#)
 - Fairfax County Public Schools [School Social Work Services](#)
 - [Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Counseling Services](#)

- **Raise awareness and attend Supervisor Cook's [Stop the Silence – End the Violence event](#) this Wednesday, Oct 22nd from 4:30 – 6:30pm**

at Coyote Grill in Fairfax. The event will support two local nonprofits – Fairfax CASA and Artemis House.

▪ **Use social media to spread the word.**

- DVAM: Did you know that over 13,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools have witnessed physical violence between their parents? There are services available for child witnesses to domestic violence. In Fairfax County, call 703-360-7273 for help.
- #DVAM DYK that 13k Fairfax Co students report witnessing #domesticviolence between their parents? Services are available: 703-360-7273.

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that between 40% and 85% of helping professionals develop vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue, and/or high rates of traumatic symptoms?

The following statistics reflect rates of vicarious trauma for specific professions:

- *Social Workers, MSW*: 70% exhibited at least one symptom of secondary traumatic stress (Bride, 2007).
- *Social Workers*: 42% said they suffered from secondary traumatic stress (Adams et al., 2006).
- *Social Workers, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*: 65 % had at least one symptom of secondary traumatic stress (Bride, 2007).
- *Therapists, Sexual Assault*: 70% experienced vicarious trauma (Lobel, 1997).
- *Immigration Judges*: Higher burnout levels than hospital physicians and prison wardens (Curtis, 2010).
- *Law Enforcement*: 33% showed high levels of emotional exhaustion and reduced personal accomplishment; 56.1% scored high on the depersonalization scale (Hawkins, 2001).
 - Only 15% of LE professionals were willing to seek personal counseling as a result of vicarious trauma vs. 59 % of mental health professionals (Bell, et al., 2003).

- *Forensic Investigators, Internet Crimes Against Children*: 36% of investigators were experiencing moderate to high levels of secondary trauma (Perez et al., 2010).
- *Child Welfare Workers*: 50% experienced traumatic stress symptoms in severe range (Conrad & Kellar-Guenther, 2006); 34% met the PTSD diagnostic criteria, due to secondary traumatic stress (Bride 2007).

It's a proven fact that we hold on to trauma. How can somebody who's holding so much trauma be of service to someone else if they're full up? You've got to empty the glass." - Mariska Hargitay

Long-term effective work in this field depends on our integrating self-care into our work and our lives. We can all help each other heal from vicarious trauma by promoting self-care and resiliency through both [organizational and individual solutions](#).

*Source: <http://www.olgaphoenix.com/statistics-painful-truth-about-vicarious-trauma/> (and cites within); <http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/learn/vicarious-trauma>

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - [The Brain, Body, and Trauma](#) e-learning course from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center
 - [Heal](#) the Healers newsletter by the Joyful Heart Foundation
 - [Self Care and Trauma Work](#) by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center
 - [The importance of self-care](#) by the National Domestic Violence Hotline
 - [Self Care for Survivors](#) by RAINN
- **Support our partner's events to promote self-care and resiliency for clients and for ourselves.**
 - **October 25, 2014:** The Women's Group of Mt. Vernon will host their 10th Annual **Grand Day** in celebration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month from 11am -3pm at the Gum Springs Community

Center (8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306). Email womensgroupmv@hotmail.com for free registration (lunch and childcare provided).

- **November 14, 2014: *Storytelling that Heals***, an event hosted by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance's Wild Women of Wisdom group, will be held from 10am – 3pm at the UU in Glen Allen. Visit <https://app.etapestry.com/cart/VirginiaSexualDomestic/cart2/category.php?ref=645.o.190268623> for more information and to register.

- **Take some time to have fun.**
 - Come out and relax at Supervisor Cook's [Stop the Silence – End the Violence event](#), which will support Fairfax CASA and Artemis House. See you there from 4:30 – 6:30pm tomorrow, Wednesday, October 22nd.

 - Don't forget to **Purple Out** on Thursday, October 23rd. Send your purple pictures to me (sandy.bromley@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-215-2429) to show our community how your office/team/group is raising awareness of domestic violence.

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - Want some creative inspiration to **Purple Out**? Watch and share this awesome PSA created by our Doorways colleague, Melanie Carlson:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8EqTsuABhQ>.

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that an overwhelming majority of faith leaders surveyed (74%) underestimate the level of sexual and domestic violence experienced within their congregations?

This [survey](#), conducted by Life Way Research, reveals an unrealized potential within churches for the prevention of and response to sexual and domestic violence. Not only can that lack of awareness by faith leaders lead to infrequent discussions of the issue from the pulpit, it can also result in a lack of appropriate support for victims.

Additionally, only 56% of pastors are adequately familiar with local resources that specifically address sexual and domestic violence, creating missed opportunities for victims to access services.

Though this survey showed that churches are currently falling short of their potential, there was encouragement: **81% of pastors said they would take appropriate action to reduce sexual and domestic violence if they had the training and resources to do so**—revealing a great opportunity to turn this uncertain and unprepared group into powerful advocates for prevention, intervention, and healing.

**Sources: http://imaworldhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/PastorsSurveyReport_final.pdf*

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**

- Read [Broken Silence: A Call for Churches to Speak Out](#) (June 2014 report on the survey of protestant pastors)
- Visit [Faith Trust Institute's](#) website for materials to share with your faith leaders

- **Ask your faith leaders to join the [Faith Communities In Action FCIA Domestic Violence Prevention Committee](#), starting with attending their annual training:**
 - **October 29, 2014:** FCIA DV Prevention Committee will host their *annual First Steps for Clergy and Faith Leaders* training from 8:30am to 1pm at Annandale United Methodist Church (6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003). Please click on the link above to register.

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that an overwhelming majority of faith leaders surveyed (74%) underestimate the level of sexual and domestic violence experienced within their congregations? Faith leaders can serve as a first point of contact for many victims in our community. Visit faithtrustinstitute.org for more information.

 - #DVAM DYK faith leaders often (74%) underestimate the level of sexual & domestic violence experienced within their congregations?

October 23, 2014: Characteristics of Domestic Violence (National BJS Statistics)

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that the rate of domestic violence (both intimate partner violence and family abuse) declined 67% between 1994 and 2013?

Between 2003 and 2010:

- Domestic violence accounted for 21% of all violent victimization
- Intimate partner violence (15%) accounted for a greater percentage of all violent victimizations than violence committed by immediate family members (4%) or other relatives (2%).
- Current or former boyfriends or girlfriends committed most domestic violence.
- The majority of domestic violence was committed against females (76%) compared to males (24%).
- A similar percentage of violence by intimate partners and immediate family members was reported to police (56% each). An estimated 49% of violence by other relatives was reported to police.
- Most domestic violence (77%) occurred at or near the victim's home.
- Intimate partner violence resulted in injuries more often than violence perpetrated by immediate family members and other relatives.
- A weapon was involved in a larger percentage of violence committed by other relatives (26%) than intimate partners (19%) and immediate family members (19%).

*Sources: http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/C-SPAN_DV2_oct2014_5.pdf;
<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ndvo312.pdf>

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.** Check out this slide show conducted by BJS this month, along with the corresponding research:
 - **BJS Victimization Statistics Chief Discussed Domestic Violence Live on C-SPAN**
Michael Planty, chief of Victimization Statistics with the Bureau of Justice Statistics, appeared live on C-SPAN's *America by the Numbers* segment of *Washington Journal*. Here are the BJS [domestic violence slides](#) and [keys to the slides](#). Other full BJS reports on domestic violence include [Nonfatal Domestic Violence, 2003-2012](#) (NCJ 244697, April 2014); [Intimate Partner Violence: Attributes of Victimization, 1993-2011](#) (NCJ 243300, November 2013); and [Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2010](#) (NCJ 239203, November 2012).
- **Continue raising awareness of the prevalence and impact of domestic violence in our community.** Use social media to spread the word:
 - DVAM: Did you know that the rate of domestic violence declined 67% between 1994 & 2013? Let's continue raising awareness of this issue in order to end domestic violence! Check out how Fairfax County is raising awareness:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/123832335@No7/sets/72157648922049462/> #PurpleThursday #PurpleOutDMV #DVAM
 - #DVAM DYK that #domesticviolence declined 67% between 1994-2013? Keep raising awareness to end DV! #PurpleThursday #PurpleOutDMV [Open Twitter link from within the Flickr album: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/123832335@No7/sets/72157648922049462/>]

October 24, 2014: DVAC & Ft. Belvoir Collaboration

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that DVAC has seen a 346% increase in military families served in the last 6 months?

The increase is likely a result of enhanced collaboration and cross-training with Ft. Belvoir's Family Advocacy Program and Sexual Harassment and Assault Response Program (SHARP).

Other July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 DVAC statistics:

- 964 victims served - **62% increase** from FY13
 - ~**80** cases per month
- **979 children impacted**
 - 60% under the age of 8
- **32%** of clients have **Limited English Proficiency**

**Source: DVAC Grant Progress Reports & DVPPCC 2014 Annual Report (coming soon)*

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Learn more about DVAC and all of its agency partners:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/domesticviolence/dvac (links to each partner agency on the right side of the page).

- Coordinate victim and offender services with the Ft. Belvoir Family Advocacy and SHARP Programs:
 - Family Advocacy Program:
 - 24-hour Hotline: (703) 229-2374
 - Office: (703) 805-1832
 - <http://www.belvoirmwr.com/Facilities/ACS/#fap>
 - SHARP Program:
 - 24-hour Hotline: 703-740-7029
 - Office: 703-805-4718 or 703-740-6016
 - <https://www.belvoir.army.mil/sharp/>

- **Attend the DVAC Open House on Thursday, October 30th from 2-4pm for a tour and to meet all of the DVAC partner agencies.**
 - For more information, click [here](#).

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that Fairfax County's DVAC has seen a 346% increase in military families served in the last 6 months? DVAC services are free and confidential: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/domesticviolence/dvac. Visit their [Open House](#) next Thursday 10/30 for a tour!

 - #DVAM DYK #FairfaxCounty has a one-stop shop for victims of #DomesticViolence? Domestic Violence Action Center (DVAC): 703-246-4573

October 27, 2014: Domestic Violence in the Workplace

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that 20% of employees report knowing about a colleague who works in their current organization who had been victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV)?

Psychology Today discusses how IPV can threaten corporate culture:

A very serious consequence for employers is that IPV can send a “ripple effect” through a corporate culture. Witnessing a co-worker being hurt or harassed can result in vicarious stress; studies indicate that seeing a co-worker bullied results in anxiety.

Further, depression and lack of engagement at work can be contagious. Another co-worker not performing at his or her best because of IPV may reduce team morale. Research suggests that people may “catch” depressive thinking from others.

For example, college roommates of depressed individuals may be more likely to demonstrate negative thinking and depressed mood. A problem for one employee can quickly become a problem for many employees, increasing turnover rates and costs for companies.

*Sources: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/227266.pdf>;
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/brick-brick/201406/intimate-partner-violence-threatens-corporate-culture>

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**

- [The Facts: Workplace Impact of Domestic and Sexual Violence and Stalking](#) (Futures without Violence)
- [When Abusive Partners Come to Work](#) (Break the Cycle blog)
- [Why the NFL Domestic Violence Cases Matter to You and Your Workplace](#) (Forbes article)
- **Increase collaborations among the domestic violence community and local businesses.**
 - Work to enhance our business community's response to domestic and sexual violence by offering awareness education for their staff and unions and providing them with resource materials.
 - Educate employers about the importance of victim privacy and safety and what kinds of employment protections may be provided to victims.
 - Develop relationships with employers to encourage them to hire victims who are rebuilding their lives after escaping violence.
- **Encourage your workplace to adopt a policy on domestic violence.**
 - Workplace policies can provide clear guidelines on how employers will prevent and address these dangerous and damaging forms of violence in the workplace, yet more than 70% of United States workplaces do not have a formal program or policy that addresses workplace violence.
 - Creating a workplace policy doesn't have to be hard. Check out <http://www.workplacesrespond.org/learn/model-policy> for a model policy and an interactive tool that helps organizations develop a policy that fits their agency size and location.

- You can also share: [American Bar Association's Model Workplace Policy on Employer's Responses to Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking](#)
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that 20% of employees report knowing about a colleague who works in their current organization who had been victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV)? Help them connect victims and offenders with services in Fairfax County: <http://bit.ly/ffxdv> or call 703-360-7273.
 - #DVAM DYK 20% of employees know a #domesticviolence victim at work? Share #FairfaxCounty's services: <http://bit.ly/ffxdv> or 703-360-7273

October 28, 2014: Supervised Visitation

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that Fairfax County's Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court offers two supervised visitation and exchange programs that can be utilized by the community?

The Stronger Together Program and Safe Haven Program both provided a safe, secure, and child-friendly environment to allow non-custodial (visiting) parents to visit with their children. Families who utilize the program often have safety concerns or other issues and want to ensure the safety of the children while they visit with their parent. Below are some of the similarities and differences between the two programs:

Safe Havens Program**Stronger Together Program****Funding Source**

Grant funded through the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

Funded by Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Services Unit.

Client Referral

Any county agency or nonprofit organization may refer clients. Clients may also refer themselves. Both parents must agree to use the program.

Referrals are also taken from all Fairfax County courts and courts from other counties with a party who resides in Fairfax County.

Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judges are the only individuals with the ability to refer clients to the program. Clients must have a court order from the court stating Stronger Together is to provide services.

Client Issues

Clients must have one of the following: intimate partner violence, stalking, dating violence or child abuse. There does not have to be an official finding by the court or other agency, only the allegation by a parent.

Other issues such as substance abuse, mental health or parental absence may be present, but parties must be experiencing an issue listed above to qualify.

Parties may be referred due to issues related, but not limited to: domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health, child abuse, parent re-introductions or any other instance where the court finds it appropriate.

Services Provided

Supervised visitation and limited supervised exchange services are offered. Weekend exchanges from Friday to Sunday are not available at this time.

Supervised visitation and supervised exchange services are offered. Weekend and holiday exchanges are available from Friday to Sunday as scheduled.

Residential Requirements

In a community referral, one parent must be a Fairfax County resident.

The Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court must have jurisdiction over the case.

Length of Stay

Until the parties return to court, by

As ordered by the court or 12 services

parties make other arrangements.

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Fees | Services are free of charge. | Fees charged on a sliding scale. |
| Who to contact: | Brittany Vera, Program Coordinator 703-246-2595. | Lori Wymore-Kirkland, Program Coordinator 703-246-2378. |

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Supervised Visitation: [What Courts Should Know When Working with Supervised Visitation Programs](#) (*Center for Court Innovation report*)
 -
 - [Working with Abusive Fathers in Supervised Visitation](#) (*guide from Futures without Violence*)
 - [Pioneers in Our Backyard](#) (page 11) and [Promoting Promising and Evidence Based Practices](#) (page 16) (*National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges newsletter articles on child trauma*)
 - *Note: all of the articles in this newsletter focus on trauma-informed practices and are all good.*

- **Attend the DVAC Open House on Thursday 10/30 and ask for a tour or Safe Havens and Stronger Together supervised visitation and exchange centers.**
 - Tours are available from 2pm – 4pm on Thursday or you can contact [Lori Wymore-Kirkland](#) or [Brittany Vera](#) to schedule a tour on a different day.

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that Fairfax County offers two supervised visitation and exchange programs for victims of domestic violence? Call 703-246-3040 for more information.
 - #DVAM DYK #FairfaxCounty offers 2 supervised visitation options for victims of #domesticviolence? Call 703-246-3040 for more info.

October 29, 2014: The Connection between Witnessing Domestic Violence and Teen Dating Violence

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that Fairfax County teens who witness domestic violence at home are at higher risk of becoming victims of teen dating violence?

Teens who witness domestic violence are also:

- **Twice as likely** to report **controlling behaviors** in their dating relationships.
- **Three times as likely** to report **verbal abuse** in their dating relationships.
- **Three times as likely** to report **coerced sex** in their dating relationships.
- **Almost four times as likely** to report **physical abuse** in their dating relationships.
- **More likely to bully** others and be bullied.
- **More likely to be depressed** and think about **suicide**.
- **More likely to use drugs**.

*Sources:

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/prevention/pdfs/youth_survey_tda_presentation.pdf
; <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/demogrph/youthpdf.htm>

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**

- Learn more about [Fairfax County's Prevention System](#), and check out their great materials:
 - [Prevention Toolkit](#)
 - The toolkits's [Teen Dating Abuse](#) page, which includes a [presentation](#) and [video](#) containing youth survey results that can be shared
- Read this NIH study: [The Effects of Child Abuse and Exposure to Domestic Violence on Adolescent Internalizing and Externalizing Behavior Problems](#)
- **Refer to local services for children who witness domestic violence and teens who are experiencing dating violence.**
 - [DASH \(Dating Abuse Stops Here\)](#)
 - [DVAC \(Domestic Violence Action Center\)](#)
 - [Department of Family Services' Domestic Violence Unit](#)
 - [Fairfax CASA](#) (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
 - [Fairfax County Area Primary Mental/Behavioral Health Resources](#)
 - Fairfax County Public Schools [School Social Work Services](#)
 - [Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Counseling Services](#)
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - Follow the county's Prevention unit on Twitter: @ffxyouththrive
 - DVAM: Did you know that Fairfax County teens who witness domestic violence at home are at higher risk of becoming victims of teen dating violence? They are almost 4 times more likely to experience physical abuse by a dating partner. Help is available: 703-360-7273.

- #DVAM DYK #FairfaxCounty teens who witness #domesticviolence are 4X more likely to experience physical dating abuse? Help: 703-360-7273

October 30, 2014: Domestic Violence and HIV

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that over half (55%) of women living with HIV experienced intimate partner violence?

This is considerably higher than the national prevalence among women overall (36%).

Victims of domestic violence are **48% more likely** to be infected than women in non-violent relationships.

Women experiencing DV are at a higher risk for HIV/AIDS because they might:

- Be forced to have **sex with an infected partner**
- Have **limited ability to negotiate safe sex practices**

HIV-positive women who have been recently abused are more than **4 times** as likely to experience **antiretroviral therapy failure** or to **not practice safe sex** compared to women who have not been recently abused.

In a study of HIV service providers, 24% reported at least one patient who **disclosed their HIV status** and then **experienced physical abuse**.

45% of providers had patients who **feared physical abuse** upon disclosure.

*Sources: <http://nnedv.org/projects/otherprojects/dv-hiv-aids.html>;
http://nnedv.org/downloads/HIV/HIV_Toolkit/11_Combined_DV_HIV_Provider_Fact_Sheet_FINAL.pdf (and cites within)

What can we do?

- **Get Educated.**
 - Explore NNEDV's [DV & HIV/AIDS Toolkit](#), including:
 - [Fact Sheet about HIV/AIDS & Domestic Violence](#)
 - [Tips for Domestic Violence Service Providers](#)

- **Explore options for improving organizational practices to better serve victims who may also have HIV/AIDS.**
 - [Starting the Discussion about HIV/AIDS](#)
 - [HIV Power & Control Wheel](#)

- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - DVAM: Did you know that over half (55%) of women living with HIV experienced intimate partner violence? This is considerably higher than the national prevalence among women overall (36%). Help is available: 703-360-7273.
 - #DVAM DYK over half (55%) of women living with HIV experienced intimate partner violence? Help is available: 703-360-7273

October 31, 2014: Fairfax County Celebrates Domestic Violence Awareness Month

DVAM: Did You Know?

Did you know that the Fairfax County Domestic Violence Community held over 31 events this month?

That is more than 1 event per day of Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Thanks to each of you, we reached thousands of residents—raising awareness and increasing their capacity to respond to domestic violence in our community.

What can we do?

- **Check out some of what we did.**
 - DVAM 2014 Flickr Slide Show:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/123832335@No7/sets/72157648922049462/>
 - Sheriff's Office Observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month:
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sheriff/news/2014/domestic-violence-awareness.htm>
 - [FCPD] Agency Observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month:
<http://fcpdnews.wordpress.com/2014/10/03/agency-observes-domestic-violence-awareness-month-purple-ribbons-placed-on-cruisers/>
 - Firefighters go purple for domestic violence, pink for breast cancer:
http://www.allfairfax.com/2014/10/firefighters-go-purple-for-domestic_3.html

- Supervisor Cook's Awareness Event:
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2014/oct/29/addressing-domestic-violence/>
 - K-9 Krawl:
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2014/oct/23/k-9-krawl-raises-awareness/>;
[http://www.wtop.com/?nid=893&sid=3725076](http://www.wtop.com/?nid=893&sid=3725076;);
 - DV Network's Dunn-Chadwick Family Law Fellowship:
http://www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org/enews/profile_10_14.html
-
- **Use social media to spread the word.**
 - Continue to post and tweet about domestic violence all year.
 - Share our DVAM 2014 Flickr Slide Show:
<https://flic.kr/s/aHsk5AYUMm>
 - Use this link to the Fairfax DV Community website:
<http://bit.ly/ffxdv>.