

Subject: DHS- Violence Intervention Program Update

**FY 2018 Proposed Budget
Budget Work Session Follow-up**

4/10/2017

The following information is provided in response to a request made by Ms. Katie Cristol at the work session on 3/24/2017, regarding statistics on Doorway's service delivery of the Violence Intervention Program.

Historically, the Violence Intervention Program has been run by DHS staff. In 2016, the program was contracted out to Doorways and the program was renamed Revive. The Revive program provides free, confidential, trauma-focused counseling, crisis intervention, safety planning, and advocacy services to victims of domestic violence (DV), sexual assault (SV), and/or stalking in the Arlington community. Individual and group counseling are tailored and offered in multiple languages. Services are offered at different times of the day and evening and at a variety of locations across the County to reduce barriers to care. With additional State funding, Doorways was able to hire two positions dedicated to serving children and youth, filling a notable gap in the community's response to supporting survivors. In addition, in January 2017, a Victim Advocate position was added to support case management needs for immigrant clients with more complex needs. Each of these additions resulted from highly restricted State grants that are specific to these special populations and service expansion.

The following is a summary of activities and impact during the first 8 months of the program July-Feb. *Please note that some State positions started later in FY 2017 (between Oct and Dec. 2016) and, therefore, reflect only a few months of services.*

Referral Rate, Persons Served, Client Demographics

- Over 300 people were referred to Revive since July 2016; now averaging 30 new referrals per month.
- Currently serving 125+ clients per month including: adult, youth/young adults (15-22), and children exposed to violence in homes. Of those clients,
 - 43% identify as Hispanic/Latino
 - 41% identify as Immigrant
 - 13 languages spoken other than English including: Spanish, Arabic, Mandarin, and Hindi
 - 81% of clients reported being victims of domestic violence and 48% reported being sexually assaulted in their lifetime
 - 30% of clients were seen for counseling for both DV and SV incidents
- Children and Youth positions funded by State are part-time; both populations now have waitlists for services.

In FY 2018 (the first full-year of operations), staff anticipate serving 350+ adults, youth and children.

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Program Activities

- Individual counseling to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault (youth and adult)
- Weekly support groups in English and Spanish to adult survivors of DV (6-10 survivors each)
- Weekly support groups to children exposed to DV (offered in tandem with adult support groups)
- Weekly support groups to survivors of sexual assault in English and Spanish
- Weekly support groups and presentations offered for teen survivors of teen dating violence and/or sexual assault (offered at Revive Counseling Center, Arlington Community High School, DHS Teen Clinic, Arlington Career Center).

Community Outreach/Education Activities

- Provided presentations to service providers/meetings with Child Protection Services (CPS) and Foster Care team, Child and Family Services Division (Crisis Assessment Center and mental health services), Public Health team, Arlington Public School Social Workers Department, Virginia Hospital Center – Emergency Department and Nurses team, among others.
- Provided ongoing training at Arlington County Police Department Officer Roll Calls, and new officer training in working with persons impacted by abuse and assisting with coordination of services.

Program Development

- Secured and built out new rental space to serve as Revive Counseling Center in same building as Doorways main office to maximize efficiency. Doorways leveraged landlord relationship to secure lease at below-market rate.
- Center is confidential, welcoming, and offers therapeutic setting and resources. Despite modest space, it is designed to offer concurrent sessions for support groups of different ages, art therapy, and individual counseling to maximize services at peak hours of client availability for service (evenings, early mornings, lunch hour, after school).
- Created new data collection system and protocols to support program evaluation and reporting of needs, impact and quality assurance.
- Recruitment of volunteers that can provide activities for young children that are not receiving services but are accompanying their parent or sibling to counseling sessions.

Program Impact

Client Surveys: Client surveys are a significant source of program evaluation data and are a primary evaluation source for State sexual and domestic violence funding. Every other month, Doorways administers client surveys to learn firsthand from clients what is effective, and where program adjustment could yield greater impact. Each quarter, staff tally client surveys and analyze their input. Feedback from clients' surveys administered

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between January and March 2017 reflect the critical need Revive Services is meeting for community members in overcoming effects of abuse and trauma:

- 88% of Revive clients engaging in counseling report increased understanding and knowledge of the impact of trauma and domestic/sexual assault
- 75% of Revive clients report increased knowledge of resources available for them and their families in the community
- 82% of Revive clients reported a reduction of symptoms because of the services they have received through the program.

Data is collected for teen support groups/presentations via participant surveys at the end of sessions:

- 87% of young survivors of sexual assault or teen violence reported increased awareness of risk for bullying and intimidation and were able to identify at least two protective skills to address such actions

In FY 2018, the Revive client data system will offer additional tools for evaluating impact based on pre- and post-client assessments. This element of the database was not activated in FY 2017 due to program start up and expansion activities. However, the system has been utilized for tracking need, referrals, demographics and other basic programming.