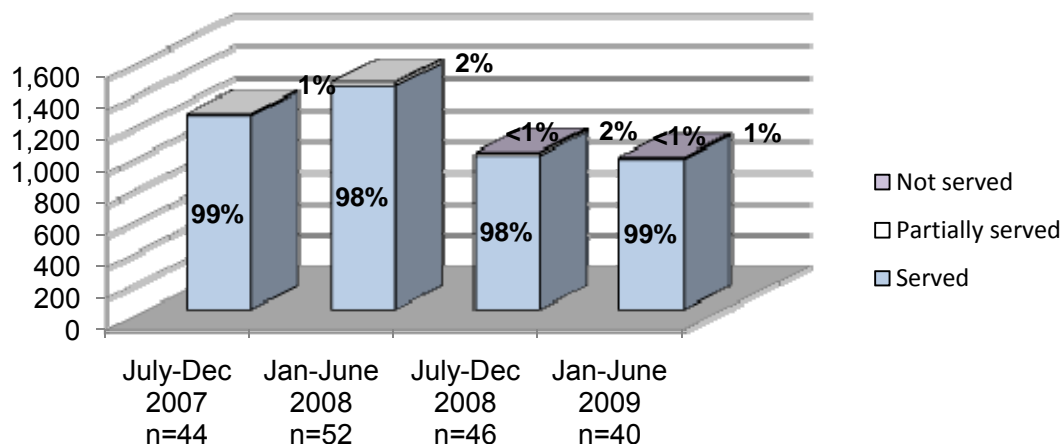


- Number of individual grantees using funds for victim services: 68 (74 percent of grantees).⁹⁷
- Campus Program grantees provided services to an average of 1,166 victims/survivors⁹⁸ of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking to help them become and remain safe from violence in a six-month reporting period.

Figure 5. Provision of victim services by Campus Program



n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTE: "Partially served" represents victims/survivors who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Campus Program grant. "Not served" represents victims/survivors who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Campus Program grant.

Victims Seeking Services

July-December 2007:

- 1,247 victims/survivors sought services from Campus Program grantees.
- Of these, 1,247 (100 percent) victims/survivors received services.

January-June 2008:

- 1,448 victims/survivors sought services from Campus Program grantees.
- Of these, 1,448 (100 percent) victims/survivors received services.

July-December 2008:

- 1,002 victims/survivors sought services from Campus Program grantees.
- Of these, 999 (99.7 percent) victims/survivors received services and 3 (<1 percent) were not served.

⁹⁷This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

⁹⁸This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Our attorney finalized a divorce in a particularly violent case that involved many legal issues, including jurisdiction and service by publication, which would have made it impossible for the client to achieve the same results pro se. The client has moved across the country on more than one occasion to escape her abuser. With the attorney's assistance, the client was able to have a very restrictive parenting plan ordered by the court and obtain a permanent order of protection. The attorney was also able to get a court order as part of the divorce, allowing the client to change her name and her children's names without providing further notice to the abuser.

- *DOVES, Montana*

Legal Outcomes

Legal Assistance Program grantees report on the results achieved after legal services have been provided in cases for which there was a final disposition. Legal outcomes are defined broadly to include provision of information, referral, and advice services only; provisions of brief services; and legal representation resulting in negotiated resolution, court decision, and/or administrative decisions. Grantees report on the disposition of each legal matter they addressed that was resolved. Table 24 presents the number of outcomes achieved for victims/survivors in each of the five categories of legal matters most frequently reported and the percentages of those outcomes within each legal matter by the most frequently reported types of outcomes.

➤ Number of issues disposed of: 123,922

Table 24. Outcomes of legal matters addressed by Legal Assistance Program

Legal matter	Outcomes (N = 123,922)		Information/ referrals/ advice (%)	Court decision (%)	Brief services (%)	Negotiated resolution/ filed action (%)
	Number	Percent				
Protection order	32,468	26	34	37	13	9
Divorce	26,886	22	45	22	16	9
Child custody/ visitation	24,426	20	44	24	13	10
Child/spousal support	13,836	11	42	27	12	11
Immigration	10,501	8	33	5	10	10

NOTES: Outcomes data represent issues disposed of, not the number of victims/survivors. Percentages for outcomes are based on the number of issues disposed of in each category; not all categories of outcomes or legal matters are included. This table presents outcomes from all four reporting periods.

Our VAWA staff has achieved excellent outcomes through the LAV grant. We have been able to help victims with their immediate needs by obtaining numerous TPOs (temporary protection orders) based on spousal and dating violence. Most importantly, we help victims with their deeper and more complex immigration legal issues, such as obtaining approvals for I-360, adjustment of status applications, and I-751 applications. In addition, we have been able to secure U-visas for some clients. Thanks to the grant

awarded by OVW, we have the resources necessary to help victims of domestic violence with their immigration issues, an underserved need in Georgia.

- *Latin American Association, Georgia*

Pro Bono Attorneys and Law Students

There are many ways in which the civil justice system can address the needs of victims/survivors of violence. Law schools, licensure programs, continuing legal education programs, pro bono projects, and law firms can provide and receive training on the many complex legal issues that victims/survivors face. Organizations can also establish mentoring programs, supported by local and state bar associations, that offer expert consultation to lawyers handling civil litigation for victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Organizations may also coordinate efforts among law firms and law schools, victim service organizations, and legal services programs to provide quality representation to victims/survivors. Pro bono programs at state and local bar associations and law firms can provide legal representation to victims/survivors. In addition to providing individual representation, some firms sponsor or coordinate pro bono projects in partnership with domestic violence programs, law schools, and legal service agencies.

From July 2007 to June 2009, Legal Assistance Program grantees recruited 5,606 pro bono attorneys, trained 5,649, and mentored 4,355. Pro bono attorneys accepted 6,836 cases and completed 4,918 cases over the four reporting periods. During the same period, grantees recruited 3,329 law students, trained 4,080, and mentored 3,498. Law students worked on an average of 2,550 cases per reporting period.

The pro bono mentoring attorney's ... daily activities include oversight of the Pro Bono Program, including both our case-referral program and our Information and Referral Hotline, in addition to maintaining her own caseload. She continues to screen applicants and recruit and train volunteers for the program. During this reporting period she conducted several recruitment activities including presentations recruiting at the Alaska Bar Convention, a recruitment breakfast with the Ketchikan Bar Young Attorneys Section, and continued web-based attorney recruitment.

- *Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*

Remaining Areas of Need

Legal Assistance Program grantees regularly cited the need for more civil legal services and outreach about the availability of civil legal services, particularly in rural communities. The civil legal needs most often mentioned involved the lack of attorneys to represent low-income victims/survivors in cases involving divorce, custody, visitation, employment discrimination, and housing issues, and in stalking cases.

Grantees spoke of inaccessible roads in some rural communities, the lack of public transportation, long waiting lists for emergency, transitional, and long-term housing, and the need for financial resources and assistance for rural victims/survivors.

Victims/survivors who are immigrants, Hispanic-Latino, or American Indian, victims who are older, and those living in rural areas were the most often mentioned as underserved populations. Grantees identified complicated issues in serving elders who are often totally dependent on those who are abusing them and have no source of income, no marketable skills, and no knowledge of available resources in their communities. The need for training for judges and court staff on the rights of immigrants and refugees and on immigration laws, particularly regarding U-visas, was described by a large number of grantees.

Dating violence was also regularly referenced by grantees as an “area of need”, who cited the limited number of service providers trained to work effectively with teen victims/survivors of domestic and dating violence -- especially high risk, homeless, and LGBTQ youth, and the need for teens to have qualified representation when obtaining protection orders.

Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Assistance Program (formerly known as the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grants Program)

The Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Assistance Program (Rural Program) was established by Congress in 1994. The Violence Against Women Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005) expanded the scope of the Rural Program to include sexual assault and stalking and modified the eligibility criteria as well as the statutory purpose areas under which projects must be implemented. The Rural Program recognizes that victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking who live in rural areas face challenges that are rarely encountered in urban areas. The geographic isolation, economic structure, social and cultural pressures, and lack of available services in rural communities significantly compound the problems faced by victims seeking to end the violence in their lives. The unique circumstances of rural communities affect the ability of the criminal justice system to respond, investigate and prosecute sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases. In addition, socio-cultural, economic, and geographic barriers hinder the ability of victim advocates to learn of and assist victims. The Rural Program enhances the safety of victims and their children by supporting projects uniquely designed to address and prevent these crimes in rural America by the addressing the following purpose areas:

- To implement, expand, and establish cooperative efforts and projects among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim advocacy groups, and other related parties, to investigate and prosecute incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- To provide treatment, counseling, advocacy, and other long- and short-term assistance to adult and minor victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in rural communities, including assistance in immigration matters.
- To work in cooperation with the community to develop education and prevention strategies directed toward such issues.

As indicated by the purpose areas, the Rural Program provides jurisdictions with an opportunity to design community responses, policies, and programs to address their unique social, economic, and geographic conditions. It encourages collaboration between victim advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, pre-trial service

personnel, probation and parole officers, and faith- and/or community-based leaders to address and overcome the problems of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and ensure that victim safety is paramount in providing services to victims and their children.

The Rural Program funding allowed us to hire advocates and place them in rural agencies and communities where there had NEVER been victim services before. We were able to build collaborative relationships with law enforcement in small rural areas where the officers had never worked with an advocate before. At the beginning of this project, many officers told our advocates that there was NOT a domestic violence problem in their area. The officers felt it was an alcohol or drug problem, but not a domestic violence problem. This funding allowed us to provide domestic violence, stalking, strangulation, sexual assault and victim safety training with the officers. The agencies in the small rural areas do NOT have funding for training, so several of the officers we provided training to had never been to a training focused on domestic violence, stalking, strangulation or sexual assault. In Owyhee County, there had never been advocates of any type. With this funding, we placed an advocate in the sheriff's office and the prosecutor's office. We provided ongoing specialized training on domestic violence and victim safety. Before this grant, the sheriff's office and the prosecutor did not get along and hardly ever discussed or worked together on cases. Our advocate opened up communication between the sheriff's deputies and the prosecutor. She developed a collaboration plan and a protocol that both the sheriff and prosecutor agreed to. By the end of this grant, the sheriff and the prosecutor not only meet regularly with each other, but refer cases to the advocate and include her in the case staffing meetings they have. Previously there was no protocol for victim safety while obtaining an order of protection. Now the advocate works with the victims on a safety plan. The court house is small with only one courtroom and no security of any type. The advocate worked with the sheriff and the prosecutor to develop a plan to improve victim safety in the courthouse and while obtaining protection orders. This funding allowed us to provide coordinated community response training to 28 agencies and develop and implement a community response plan in Canyon and Owyhee counties. With the funding for this grant, five advocates were hired and worked with the small rural areas in southwest Idaho providing services for victims where NO services had been before. With the funding, we implemented system-wide changes with law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and within the community, that would hold offenders more accountable and improve the safety of victims.

- *Advocates Against Family Violence, Inc., Idaho*

During this progress reporting period we had the highest number of victims come forward to report that they had been sexually assaulted. Our population in Hoopa is only 3,000 and there were ten sexual assault victims that came forward. I believe that this is a result of our collaborative efforts, coordinated community response and our educational and awareness activities. We are becoming very visible in the community and everyone is recognizing that we can no longer tolerate sexual assault or child sexual abuse. A total of 61 victims came forward during this six

month period. This is two percent of our total population. I know that the figure is higher and that if we continue to be funded more and more victims will come forward. We know that the rates of victimization in Indian country are very high, but I believe that the figures are truly higher than what has been portrayed in the media. The victims in our very rural and remote location have never had services before this funding came in 2004. They have had 5 years to get adjusted to the fact that there are confidential and free services in their community.

- *Niwhongwh Xw E Na Wh*

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 195 individual Rural Program grantees¹³⁰ for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 156
- January–June 2008: 107
- July–December 2008: 160
- January–June 2009: 142

Twenty-nine percent of Rural Program grantees reported that their grants specifically addressed tribal populations; these grantees identified approximately 119 unique tribes or nations they were serving or intended to serve.

Staff

Rural Program-funded staff provide victim services, training, outreach, advocacy, counseling, and court and medical accompaniment to increase victim safety and offender accountability. Being able to hire staff is critical to the overall function and success of programs.

We have hired a new attorney to serve as pro bono coordinator. Because this staff person was formerly one of our pro bono attorneys, he has considerable knowledge of recruiting and training new pro bono attorneys. We have also hired a new VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) legal assistant. This position is such an integral part of our team, as they are the first point of contact for clients needing our services. In addition, having an assistant allows the attorneys and representatives to take on more clients with complex cases and have more availability to conduct trainings and education sessions. The third position we were able to fill is that of the Proyecto Unica VAWA advocate. This is a new position for our program. The staff person hired has a very strong background in providing domestic violence services. She also possesses a great deal of knowledge of community resources available. We find that the main needs of our clients are in the

¹³⁰This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

areas of: shelter and domestic-violence services, family law, and public benefits for their U.S. born children.

- *Catholic Charities, Oregon*

We have hired a sexual assault advocate and a law enforcement advocate, both of whom are actively providing services under the rural grant. The sexual assault advocate has already seen increased reports of sexual assaults in her position in our domestic violence shelter, and is actively providing counseling and case management for those clients, as well as outreach clients. We have a SANE/SART (sexual assault nurse examiner/sexual assault response team) training scheduled for March 2010. The law enforcement advocate has met with law enforcement officers from four of our five counties and provided trainings for them, and is assisting with calls related to the purpose of this grant. She has also applied to take part in a lethality-assessment project, which will assist in training officers on how to be proactive in preventing domestic-violence homicides. Both of these advocates are working on the development of a domestic violence coordinating council and a sexual assault interagency council.

- *Women's Crisis Center, Kentucky*

Grantees most often used grant funds for victim advocates and program coordinators.

Table 25. Full-time equivalent staff funded by Rural Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	147	105	153	138
Total FTE staff funded	561	455	549	526
Victim advocates	189	148	180	140
Program coordinators	77	64	92	81
Trainer/educators	42	45	53	64
Support staff	42	32	40	38
Administrators	46	30	38	34
Outreach workers	38	29	30	51
Children's advocates	29	32	28	24
Legal advocates	23	16	22	23
Counselors	16	13	17	23

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

Training

Quality training of professionals is necessary for the development of an effective coordinated community response (CCR) to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating

violence, and stalking. Nearly all Rural Program grantees provide training on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking victimization issues to victim advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, court personnel, probation officers, child protection staff, and mental health and other professionals. This training improves professional responses to victims/survivors and increases offender accountability.

The most common topics for training events were domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; advocate response; safety planning for victims/survivors; confidentiality; sexual assault overview, dynamics, and services; dating violence overview dynamics, and services; coordinated community response; and law enforcement response.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training: 170 (87 percent of all grantees)¹³¹
- Total number of training events: 4,308
- Total number of people trained: 62,083

Table 26. People trained with Rural Program funds: selected professional positions

Position	People trained (N = 62,083)	
	Number	Percent
Victim advocate	9,394	15
Law enforcement officer	7,112	11
Multidisciplinary group	5,901	10
Educator	4,610	7
Health professional	4,080	7
Child protective services	4,067	7

NOTE: Data presented for the six most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

Choctaw Project SAFE (Striving for an Abuse-Free Environment) and collaborating partners have been able to implement key strategies to more effectively serve victims, as well as prevent future violence. Funding has allowed us the assurance that our health care, law enforcement, victim advocates, and educators are being equipped with the knowledge and strategies to address domestic and dating violence in our Choctaw Nation area. Choctaw Project SAFE continues to facilitate the law enforcement with current domestic violence CLEET training (Council on Law Enforcement Education and *Training*) twice a year as well as facilitate the finances for the tribal and non-tribal nurses to attend SANE (sexual assault nurse examiner) training.

- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

¹³¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Training activities funded by the rural grant have increased the knowledge of advocates at local domestic violence and sexual assault programs throughout the state about barriers faced by immigrant victims/survivors as well as the resources, services and immigration assistance available to them. As a direct result of the training, staff of the Cultural Services Project have experienced a significant increase in the number of calls on the statewide Spanish Crisis Line and have increased the number of technical assistance contacts to local programs, direct services to undocumented victims/survivors, and assistance with immigration applications. The rural grant also provided the funding for a two-day rural statewide conference in May. The conference focused on addressing mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and cultural concerns faced by victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Sessions included trauma and dissociation, interpreters and translators, substance abuse and gender, immigration issues, human trafficking, LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, and intersex) issues related to domestic violence/sexual assault and support groups for women with multiple abuse issues, among others. The ability to contract with national speakers to present at this conference and share their expertise would not have been possible without the rural grant funding. Additionally, the rural grant funding has provided opportunity to use web-based conferences (webinars) as a training method. This is especially useful in rural areas, as travel time, budget cuts, and weather issues have interfered with scheduled videoconferences and "in-person" training during the history of this grant. All of the network programs have the software and internet connection speed to participate effectively in the webinars.

- *Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition*

Community Education

Rural Program grantees provide general information to the community to increase awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Community education can be used as a tool to connect people in a community who have a common goal of building safe, supportive, and accountable communities.¹³²

The most common topics for community education events were: domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; dating violence overview, dynamics, and services; domestic violence prevention program; safety planning; healthy relationships/domestic violence prevention (grades 6–12); and healthy relationships/domestic violence prevention (community).

Number of individual grantees using funds for community education: 171 (88 percent of grantees)¹³³

¹³²Community education is not the same as training. Training involves providing information to professionals on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or child victimization that enables an individual to improve his or her response to victims/survivors as it relates to their role in the system.

¹³³This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- Total number of education events: 12,344
- Total number of people educated: 470,869

Table 27. People educated with Rural Program funds: selected groups

Group	People educated (N = 470,869)	
	Number	Percent
Middle/high school students	150,727	32
Community members	139,521	30
Elementary school students	59,270	13
Community groups	28,475	6
University/college students	25,750	5
Faith-based groups	17,471	4

NOTE: Data presented for the six most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

The rural grant outreach coordinator works diligently to inspire other staff to help inform victims and the public of program services. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October), the program provided education to schools and other public meetings. The program created silhouettes of Native American women who have been killed by their batterers, and placed them at different locations throughout the reservation. These silhouettes are painted royal purple with red faces and red hearts; they are made out of plywood. The silhouettes were very effective in promoting public awareness. The program created corsages out of silk flowers, made bracelets and necklaces out of beads and distributed these throughout the reservation, along with a poem about domestic violence. Most of the flowers and beads were donated to the program; therefore the cost for this endeavor was minimal, and all who received these gifts were very pleased and became much more aware of domestic violence. In addition to this, a ringing of the bells by many churches on the reservation was done to promote even more awareness to the public.

- Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

One of the most rewarding goals we've accomplished through support from the Rural Grant was the education and networking with LDS (Mormon) leadership. In September of 2007, after two years of work, we presented to more than 100 local and regional clergy, representing 80 congregations in our region. The LDS church is known for having all of the resources they need within their church, so to be allowed to present in a regional meeting with that many clergy in attendance was extraordinary. The presentation was very well received and we've had requests from around the state to present in other regions. We immediately began receiving calls from the local congregation leaders for assistance in working with domestic violence victims and have developed working relationships with several of them. This is so valuable to victims because many times they turn to their church

leader first. They have resources that we don't have and we have resources that they don't have so the victim is more likely to receive what she needs.

- *Family Crisis Center, Inc., Idaho*

Victim Services

Victims/survivors need comprehensive support services that encompass a wide array of needs. Advocacy and support may be provided to the victim/survivor as they are seeking a protection order; providing accompaniment during medical procedures such as a sexual assault forensic examination; providing safety planning; accompaniment to court; transitional housing assistance, or access to supervised visitation and exchange services.

Regardless of race, ethnicity, ability or sexual orientation, when sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking occurs in a rural area, unique problems are encountered that significantly influence whether a victim/survivor will remain in a battering relationship. Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking victims/survivors in rural areas are isolated both physically and emotionally. Employment opportunities may be scarce and victims/survivors may not have access to transportation or even phone service. Accessing services may become impossible for the victim/survivor, who most likely has no experience with “the system” to begin with and is overwhelmed with the prospect of overcoming the obstacles.

The batterer’s reputation for violence may be such that few members of the rural community are willing to risk retaliation by offering the victim/survivor shelter. Given the dynamics of a rural environment, it is not uncommon for the batterer to be well-known in the community, or even related to one or more of the individuals working within the criminal justice system. Often, domestic violence shelters are not available in the immediate area, or, if there is a shelter in the area, it may be full to capacity. If a victim/survivor chooses to stay at a shelter, the whole town (including the batterer) may soon know her/his location. Anonymity and security become additional obstacles for the victim/survivor and her/his children.

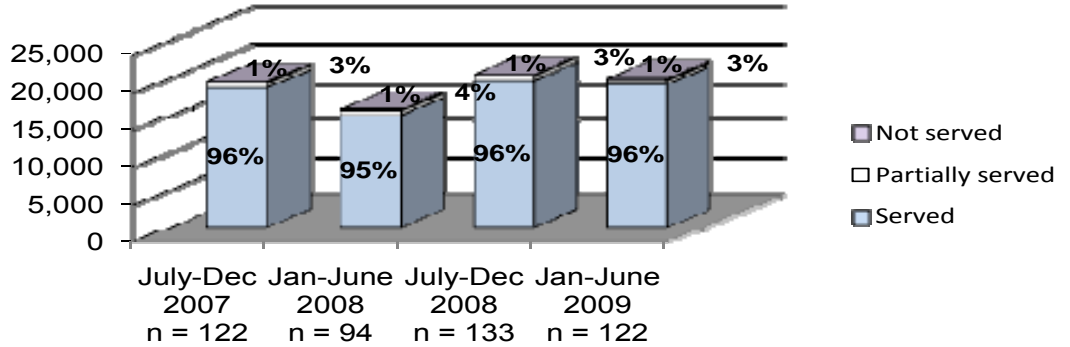
- Number of individual grantees using funds for victim services: 177 (91 percent of grantees)¹³⁴
- Rural Program grantees provided services to an average slightly higher than 18,500 victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking¹³⁵, as well as helping 8,000 child victims become and remain safe from violence in a six-month reporting period.¹³⁶

¹³⁴This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹³⁵This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods, however, grantees only addressed sexual assault and stalking during the last two reporting periods of this report (July-December, 2008 and January – June, 2009).

¹³⁶This number represents a calculated average of the first two six-month reporting periods reflecting the changes in the Rural Program statutes (July-December 2007 and January – June 2008).

Figure 10. Provision of victim services by Rural Program



n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTES: "Partially served" represents victims/survivors who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Rural Program grant. "Not served" represents victims/survivors who sought services and did not receive service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Rural Program grant.

Victims Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 19,468 victims/survivors sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 19,283 (99 percent) victims/survivors received services and 185 (1 percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 15,839 victims/survivors sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 15,615 (99 percent) victims/survivors received services and 224 (1 percent) were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 20,384 victims/survivors sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 20,243 (99 percent) victims/survivors received services and 141 (1 percent) were not served.

January–June 2009:

- 19,848 victims/survivors sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 19,614 (99 percent) victims/survivors received services and 234 (1 percent) were not served.

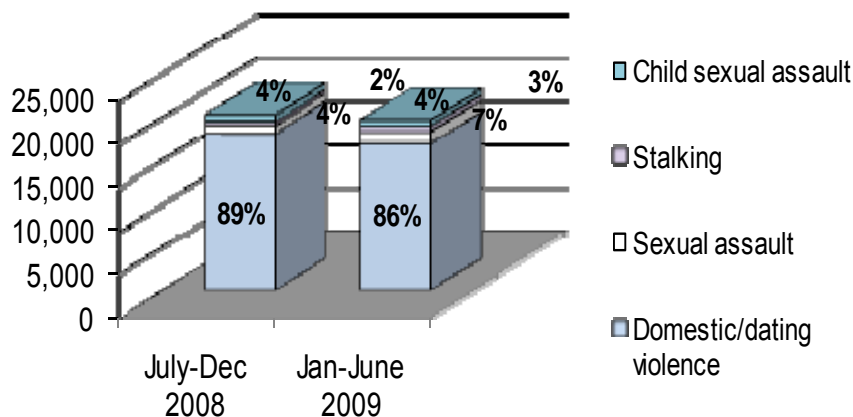
Reasons Victims Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, the following barriers were noted most frequently by grantees as reasons why victims/survivors were not served or were only partially served:

- Victim/survivor did not meet statutory requirements
- Program unable to provide service due to limited resources/priority setting
- Services were not appropriate for victim/survivor
- Transportation
- Program reached capacity

More than 85 percent of victims/survivors served during the last two reporting periods received services for domestic violence and dating violence.¹³⁷ There was a slight increase in the percentage of victims/survivors receiving services for sexual assault and stalking.

Figure 11. Provision of victim services by Rural Program, by type of victimization¹³⁸



The majority of victims/survivors served or partially served were victimized by a current or former spouse or intimate partner (70–82 percent).

¹³⁷ Due to the statutory changes in VAWA 2005, data reflects provision of services for only the last two of four reporting periods included in this report (July-December, 2008 and January-June, 2009).

¹³⁸ The overall number of victims/survivors served represents an unduplicated count; this means that each victim/survivor is counted only once by each grantee, regardless of the number of times that victim/survivor received services during each reporting period. Because victims/survivors can only be counted once, they must be reported under only one primary victimization. It is not uncommon for victims/survivors to experience more than one type of victimization (e.g., domestic violence and stalking, or domestic violence and sexual assault), but that fact is not reflected in the reported percentages of sexual assault, domestic violence/dating violence, stalking, and child sexual abuse victims/survivors served.

Table 28. Relationship to offender of victims/survivors served by the Rural Program

Relationship to offender	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2008	Percentage range
Spouse or intimate partner	14,325	11,473	13,632	13,252	70-82
Dating relationship	1,474	1,199	1,946	2,150	8-11
Other family or household member	969	800	2,635	2,500	6-14
Unknown	1907	1,607	1,938	1,687	Na

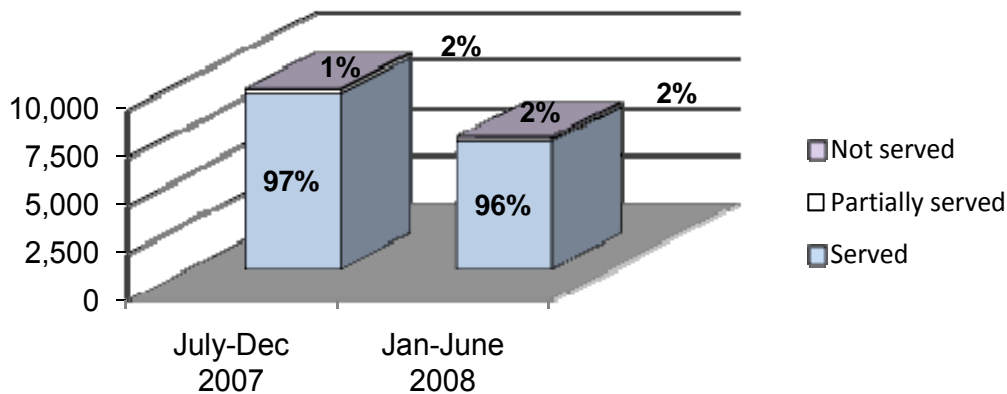
Na = not applicable

NOTES: Because victims/survivors may have been victimized by more than one offender, the number of relationships reported may be higher than the total number of victims/survivors served. Not all reported relationships are represented in the table. Percentages are based on known relationships only.

Services for Children of Domestic Violence Victims

The well-documented relationship between domestic violence and child abuse indicates an urgent need to increase collaboration among child welfare agencies, courts, domestic violence programs, and other service providers. Rural Program grantees developed easily accessible interventions, especially those that focused on strengthening, or, whenever possible, restoring the bond between the battered parent and the children. Placing non-abusing parents at the center of decision-making with respect to their children and empowering these parents to make choices that enhance their safety and their children's safety will help restore healthy, nurturing environments in which children can thrive.

Figure 12. Provision of services to children by Rural Program¹³⁹



Children Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 9,417 children sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 9,366 (99 percent) children received services and 51 (1 percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 6,938 children sought services from Rural Program grantees.
- Of these, 6,807 (98 percent) children received services and 131 (2 percent) were not served.

Reasons Children Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each report period, the following barriers were noted most frequently by grantees as reasons why victims/survivors were not served or were only partially served:

- Victim/survivor did not meet eligibility or statutory requirements
- Program was unable to provide services because of limited resources/priority setting
- Services were not appropriate for victim/survivor

The majority of children served or partially served were victimized by a parent or other caretaker (89 percent).

¹³⁹Due to the statutory changes in VAWA 2005, data reflect provision of services to victims/survivors of child abuse only for the first two of four reporting periods included in this report (July-December, 2007 and January-June, 2008).

Table 29. Children's relationship to offender served by Rural Program

Relationship to offender	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	Percentage
Parent/other caretaker	7,266	5,774	89
Other family or household member	846	671	10
Unknown	1,290	545	Na

Na = not applicable

NOTES: Because children may have been victimized by more than one offender, the number of relationships reported may be higher than the total number of children served. Not all reported relationships are represented in the table. Percentages are based on known relationships only.

Demographics of Victims and Children Served and Partially Served

Rural Program grantees served or partially served an average of 18,500 victims/survivors in a six-month reporting period.¹⁴⁰ The majority of those victims/survivors were female (90–94 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (44–60 percent). The more than 8,000 children served or partially served were most likely to be female (54–55 percent) and between the ages of 0 and 6 (4–14 percent).

Table 30. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors and children served by Rural Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
American Indian	5,285	3,599	2,788	2,615	14–20
Asian	432	315	268	268	1–2
Black or African American	1,192	1,596	1,000	911	4–7
Hispanic or Latino	4,692	4,219	3,458	2,883	16–19
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	99	42	847	52	<1–5
White	15,072	11,891	10,192	11,869	55–64
Unknown	2,036	1,686	1,925	1,128	Na
Gender					
Victims/survivors					
Female	17,459	14,142	17,628	17,583	90–94
Male	1,130	902	1,820	1,862	6–10
Unknown	694	571	795	169	Na

¹⁴⁰This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Table 30. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors and children served by Rural Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Children					
Female	4,671	3,503	Na	Na	54–55
Male	3,823	2,932	Na	Na	45–46
Unknown	872	372	Na	Na	Na
Age					
0–6	3,737	2,715	822	920	4–14
7–12	3,178	2,328	703	719	4–12
13–17	2,130	1,747	1,081	1,009	5–9
18–24	4,720	3,800	4,342	4,077	18–23
25–59	11,590	9,310	11,131	10,989	44–60
60+	945	550	531	821	3–4
Unknown	2,439	1,972	1,633	1,079	Na
Victims/survivors					
People with disabilities	1,420	1,179	1,391	1,420	7–8
People with limited English proficiency	1,880	1,944	2,358	1,741	9–12
People who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	948	1,177	1,544	1,118	5–8
People who live in rural areas	14,961	11,908	17,879	17,362	76–89
Children					
People with disabilities	213	138	Na	Na	2
People with limited English proficiency	399	195	Na	Na	3–4
People who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	369	262	Na	Na	4
People who live in rural areas	7,384	5,303	Na	Na	78–79

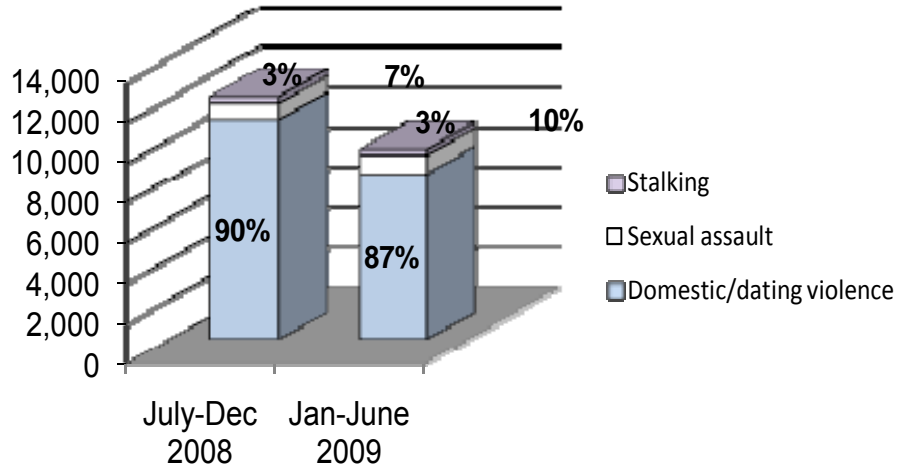
Na = not applicable

NOTES: Data include victims/survivors and children who were fully or partially served. Because some victims/survivors identify with more than one race/ethnicity, data may exceed the total number of victims/survivors served. Percentages based only on victims/survivors and children for whom the information was known. Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, victims/survivors of child abuse are reported only during the first two reporting periods of this report.

Secondary Victims¹⁴¹

Rural Program grantees provided services to an average of 10,769 secondary victims. Secondary victims are individuals who are indirectly affected by the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking—(i.e., children, siblings, spouses or intimate partners, grandparents, other affected relatives, friends, neighbors, etc.)

Figure 13. Provision of services to secondary victims by Rural Program, by type of victimization¹⁴²



Types of Victim Services

Rural Program grantees provide an array of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. These services include victim advocacy (actions designed to help the victim/survivor obtain needed resources or services), crisis intervention, and support group/counseling. Victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking often need a variety of services, including help with material goods and services, health-related issues, school-related issues, financial and transportation needs, employment, and legal issues. Women with children also need assistance with child care, counseling, and other matters related to their children. Research indicates that women who work with advocates are more effective in accessing community resources and that it is essential for advocacy and other human service programs to recognize the need for a comprehensive response to the needs of survivors (Allen et al., 2004).

¹⁴¹Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, data was collected on secondary victims during the last two reporting periods of this report only (July-December, 2008 and January-June, 2009).

¹⁴²The overall number of secondary victims/survivors served represents an unduplicated count; this means that each secondary victim/survivor is counted only once by each grantee, regardless of the number of times that secondary victim/survivor received services during each reporting period.

All victims/survivors receive safety planning, referrals, and information as needed.

Grantees report that the following services were provided most frequently (not a complete list) over the four six-month reporting periods¹⁴³:

Victims:

- Victim advocacy: 46,130
- Crisis intervention: 38,417
- Individual/group support: 23,682
- Civil legal advocacy: 22,749
- Criminal justice advocacy: 18,625

Children:

- Child advocacy: 6,807
- Victim advocacy: 6,146
- Support group/counseling: 5,381
- Crisis intervention: 5,222
- Civil legal advocacy: 1,377

AAFV has provided services to victims of domestic violence through a network of offices and partner agencies. This has allowed AAFV advocates to expand community access in all six counties. Since the advocates are placed in and have an office at the law enforcement office or prosecutor's office, they are able to provide services at the first initial contact and lessen the trauma by providing immediate crisis intervention. Critical information regarding services and safety planning information have been made available at all partner agencies throughout the six county region. All of these brochures and information sheets are available in English and Spanish. Advocates conduct a lethality assessment with each victim to determine safety concerns and to develop an individual safety plan. Another advantage to having the advocate placed in a partner agency has been increased trust and a sense of working together as a team instead of each agency doing their own thing. A positive outcome has been increased communication and open dialogue on ways to improve the way systems respond to domestic violence in each community. Since AAFV offers a host of services including crisis intervention, emergency shelter, food, transportation, case management, and safety planning - this partnership directly benefits law enforcement and the judicial offices by allowing them to focus on holding the offender accountable while we (advocates) focus on the needs of the victim.

- Advocates Against Family Violence, Inc., Idaho

One of the most effective benefits to this project has been the rural transportation assistance that we are able to provide to victims either through direct gas assistance or through advocate

¹⁴³Victims/survivors and children were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, victims/survivors and children may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods. Services to children were only reported during the first two reporting periods of this report. Only the most frequently reported categories of services are presented.

provided transportation with the agency minivan. We have been able to transport victims to medical appointments, court hearings and meetings with social services. Being able to have a focus on providing services to victims from the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has also contributed to providing more comprehensive services overall to this diverse population. Through our work with the community, we are sowing the seeds of permanent change. We are currently accessing victims utilizing Temporary Assistance to Needy Families to provide job employment support through our New Directions Education and Job Skills Training Program in partnership with Career Options. We are also establishing some unique ties through this program as a means of exploring the development of additional transportation opportunities within the community and some possible SAFE Homes for emergency temporary shelter.

- *Abused Adult Resource Center, North Dakota*

As a result of Rural Program funding, we were able to provide transportation to a significantly increased amount of victims. We were also able to provide advocacy and outreach services on a regular basis in the villages, which has led to an increase in victims/survivors seeking support services, and being able to access safety. It has also led to an increase, in particular, to the number of sexually abused children accessing our Child Advocacy Center--and this, in turn, has led to a greater number of non-offending caregivers receiving the support services they need to help their children recover. When we fly child victims to our facilities, we also fly their non-offending caregivers. We flew two caregivers this reporting period, and these caregivers should be noted as secondary victims. We are also noting an increase in village Mom's referring their adult daughters to our services.

- *South Peninsula Women's Services, Alaska*

Shelter Services

Rural Program grantees provided emergency shelter and transitional housing to 7,795 victims/survivors and 8,751 family members for a total of 326,079 bed nights over the four six-month reporting periods.

Table 31. Victims/survivors receiving emergency shelter and/or transitional housing assistance by the Rural Program: July 2007 – June 2009

Shelter service	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2008	Total
Emergency shelter					
Victims/survivors	2,030	1,724	1,628	1,703	7,085
Family members	2,248	1,842	1,745	1,693	7,528
Bed nights	65,355	62,595	82,700	43,980	254,630
Transitional housing					
Victims/survivors	187	228	144	151	710
Family members	250	378	306	289	1,223
Bed nights	14,441	19,613	19,385	18,010	71,449

NOTES: Victims/survivors and family members may have received emergency shelter or transitional housing in multiple reporting periods.

Our children's program has also been active in working with kids in shelter to provide them emotional support and information about how the violence they have witnessed has impacted their lives. Our program works to repair the harm that the batterer's violence has done to the relationship between the mother and child. The kids have participated in art therapy, Friday night fun nights, holiday parties, field trips and one-on-one time with advocates. The general response from mom's and their kids is that they feel more welcome and comfortable in shelter. These focused activities help to take pressure off the mother's by offering services that are fun and educational for their children. There are regular exchanges between the parent and advocate so that any concerns can be addressed immediately.

- Crisis Intervention Shelter Service, Iowa

Hotline Calls

- Out of a total of 71,828 hotline calls received, over half (39,127) were from victims/survivors.¹⁴⁴

Victim-Witness Notification/Outreach to Victims/Survivors

- Grantees reported a total of 9,940 unsolicited letters, phone calls, or visits to victims/survivors.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴This number reflects data for the last two reporting periods only (July – December, 2008 and January– June, 2009). Number of calls is not unduplicated.

¹⁴⁵This number reflects data for the last two reporting periods only (July – December, 2008 and January– June, 2009). Number of calls is not unduplicated.

Criminal Justice

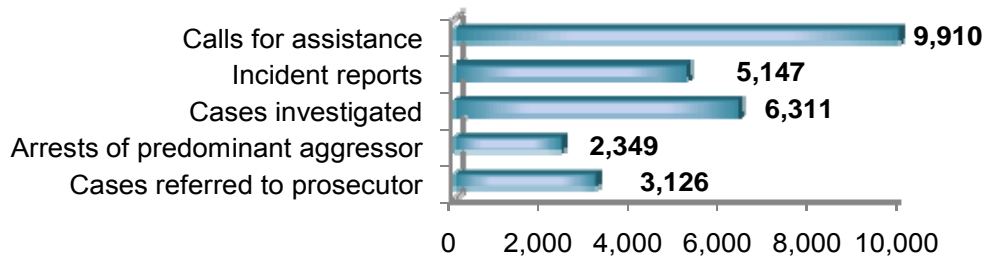
The Rural Program promotes a CCR that includes representatives from victim service agencies, child welfare agencies, law enforcement, prosecution, courts, probation, health care providers, and public and private community resources.

Law Enforcement

The role of law enforcement is crucial in responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The response and attitude of law enforcement officers influences whether or not victims/survivors will report these offenses (Davis & Maxwell, 2002; Jolin et al., 1998), and whether appropriate evidence will be collected to allow prosecutors to convict offenders in court. Law enforcement officers should be proactive and aggressive in addressing these matters. In response to studies about arrest deterrence, law enforcement offices across the country began to adopt “pro-arrest,” “mandatory arrest,” and “primary aggressor” policies beginning in the 1980s. Subsequent replication studies indicate that arrest is associated with less repeat offending (Maxwell, Garner, & Fagan, 2001). A meaningful and serious response by law enforcement agencies that includes arrest, providing victims with information pamphlets, taking down witness statements and helping victims/survivors secure protection orders, were all associated with reduced re-abuse (Klein, 2008a; Wordes, 2000).

- Number of individual grantees using funds for law enforcement: 28 (14 percent of grantees)¹⁴⁶

Figure 14. Law enforcement activities in Rural Program sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and child sexual abuse cases for all reporting periods¹⁴⁷



NOTE: Grantees report only on law enforcement activities that are funded under the Rural Program and they may receive funds for one or for a number of these activities. Therefore, no relationships can be inferred or comparisons made between activities reported here.

¹⁴⁶This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁴⁷Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, data was collected on sexual assault, stalking and child sexual abuse during the last two reporting periods of this report only (July-December, 2008 and January-June, 2009).

Referrals to victim services

- Law enforcement staff made 1,482 victim/survivor referrals to governmental and nongovernmental victim services.¹⁴⁸

Victims are often frightened by law enforcement. We feel that the availability to grant us the funding to provide our victims with a representative of law enforcement has helped to ease this fear. Our assigned officer works directly with victims to help them understand that their presence is to help aid them in their needs.

- Colorado River Regional Crisis Shelter

During this grant period, there was a significant increase in the reported teen dating violence cases that occurred in high schools. And what was especially noticeable was the fact that one offender had multiple victims. This grant funded specialized investigator enabled all the cases to be fully investigated in an effort to reach all the victims and provided them services. This involved many hours of investigative time and many charges. The cases were successfully prosecuted by the grant funded prosecutor after meeting with the victims. Based on the quality of the investigations, each case resolved with pleas to the charges without trials.

- Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Vermont

Remaining Areas of Need

The most prevalent remaining area of need across programs was related to current economic conditions. Grantees reported significant service gaps, particularly for their American Indian and immigrant populations. There is a continuous struggle to meet basic needs such as: affordable housing, employment, food security, and transportation. In addition, grantees reported a need for assistance with relocation expenses, prescription costs, health care services, and day care services. It is clear that these needs are critical to assisting victims/survivors in establishing safety and self-sufficiency for themselves and their children. Lack of confidentiality is an additional barrier. Grantees identify their struggle with engaging victims/survivors in services based on this issue. Finally, grantees reported an overwhelming need for additional services for offenders (i.e., sex offender treatment programs) and earlier intervention and education programs for youth.

¹⁴⁸Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, data were collected on victim/survivor referrals by law enforcement during the last two reporting periods of this report only (July-December, 2008 and January-June, 2009).

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program

The Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program (Supervised Visitation Program) provides an opportunity for communities to support the supervised visitation and safe exchanges of children—by and between parents—in situations involving sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, child abuse, or stalking. The goals of the program are to ensure the safety of adult and child victims of domestic violence during supervised visits and exchanges and to reduce the risk of further abuse, injury, or abduction during supervised visits and monitored exchanges. Specifically, Supervised Visitation Program grantees must address the following:

- Provide supervised visitation and safe exchange of children by and between parents in situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, child abuse, sexual assault, or stalking;
- Protect children from the trauma of witnessing domestic or dating violence or experiencing abduction, injury, or death during parent and child visitation exchanges;
- Protect parents or caretakers who are victims of domestic and dating violence from experiencing further violence, abuse, and threats during child visitation exchanges; and
- Protect children from the trauma of experiencing sexual assault or other forms of physical assault or abuse during parent and child visitation and visitation exchanges.

The Supervised Visitation Program provides funding to state and local units of government to develop new supervised visitation and exchange services or enhance existing services. Grantees are required to develop community-based consulting committees to plan and implement safe visitation and exchange services and to effectively train project staff and volunteers to address unique needs of target populations. Grantees must build their work around an understanding of family violence, and they are required to establish minimum safety and security measures at their visitation and exchange sites. In addition, grantees are required to develop and implement standards, policies, and procedures regarding security, intake, case referral, recordkeeping, and confidentiality.

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 94 individual Supervised Visitation Program grantees¹⁴⁹ for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 75
- January–June 2008: 67
- July–December 2008: 77
- January–June 2009: 65

Ten percent of Supervised Visitation Program grantees reported that their grants specifically addressed tribal populations; these grantees identified 23 unique tribes or nations they were serving or intended to serve.

Staff

Supervised Visitation Program staff provide supervised visitation and safe exchange for children, develop community consulting committees, and establish statewide training and technical assistance projects to increase supervised visitation and safe exchange options.

Grantees most often used grant funds for supervision staff.

Table 32. Full-time equivalent staff funded by Supervised Visitation Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	71	66	69	62
Total FTE staff funded	230	199	191	151
Supervision staff	87	80	82	67
Program coordinators	81	58	51	36
Administrators	20	18	17	19
Security	25	26	26	16

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

Since we have begun implementation we have been able to expand to seven days a week, and increase program hours by 17 hours per week. We have new staff, hired and trained, one of which is bilingual. We will be able to serve an additional 100 families per year, and in turn reduce the amount of time families are placed on a wait list for services. Monroe County's designated domestic violence agency, Alternatives for Battered Women, has

¹⁴⁹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

hired a court advocate to provide in-court support and advocacy to adult victims and facilitate referrals to the Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program and ensure that the process does not further compromise their safety.

- *Monroe County, New York*

Training

Supervised Visitation Program grantees train law enforcement, court staff, legal staff, guardians ad litem, victim advocates, social service agency staff, and child welfare workers to help them improve the response to children and families with a history of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or child abuse. The training is designed to help agencies and staff give equal regard to the safety and best interests of children and their non-offending parents, given that the period immediately following separation can be a time of heightened danger both for adult victims of domestic violence and their children. For those grantees operating visitation centers that were originally created to focus exclusively on the needs of the child, grant funding has enabled them to train their staff to account for domestic violence and meet the safety needs of *all* family members so that children may maintain a relationship with the noncustodial parent in a safe and secure environment.

The most common topics for training events were: domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; supervised visitation and exchange; safety planning; dynamics relating to non-offending parents and offending parents; and confidentiality.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training and/or staff development: 86 (91 percent of grantees)¹⁵⁰
- Total number of training events: 1,048
- Total number of people trained: 10,660

¹⁵⁰This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

**Table 33. People trained with Supervised Visitation Program funds:
Selected professional positions**

Position	People trained (N = 10,660)	
	Number	Percent
Law enforcement officer	1,394	13
Child welfare	1,131	11
Multidisciplinary group	1,036	10
Social service staff	974	9
Victim advocate	865	8
Attorney/law student	864	8

NOTE: Data presented for the six most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

The funds from the Supervised Visitation Program have allowed the center to build multidisciplinary relationships across barriers that were never breached in the past. The criminal and family-law courts have come together on multiple projects as a result of, and since the inception of, this grant program and subsequent creation of the visitation center in Dallas. The collaborative relationships formed have resulted in the creation of a multidisciplinary training committee that includes a family law judge, a criminal court judge, attorneys and domestic violence advocates (including the visitation center) that have produced two local trainings on legal issues and domestic violence, with the intent to do so annually going forward. Additionally, the family law courts have become involved with Court Partnership, an entity in Dallas that has historically only worked with the criminal courts.

- County of Dallas, Texas

[Funding] has provided the opportunity to offer much needed training to community partners, including domestic violence advocates, county and circuit judges and key government officials. This valuable training not only educates, but it also starts conversations and precipitates changes that have had a domino affect in our community...The ideas and inspiration as well as concrete examples of what other communities are successfully accomplishing has already had an impact on the system of services in the communities this project serves.

- Okaloosa County, Florida

Staff Development

Grantees train their staff to increase the safety of families during supervised visitation and exchange; staff are also trained about sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and child abuse. The same staff may attend multiple events.

- Total number of staff attending staff development events: 1,342
- Total number of staff development events: 1,665

With funding from OVW we have increased our capacity to provide quality services to children, victims of battering, and men who have abused their partner through supervised visitation and exchange services. We have developed program principles and guidelines that help visitation center workers provide high quality services, and allow us the flexibility to respond to the unique needs of each family.

- Contra Costa County, California

Policies

Supervised Visitation Program grantees develop and implement policies and procedures regarding security and safety, intake, case referral, documentation, and confidentiality.

- Number of individual grantees using Supervised Visitation Program funds to develop or implement policies: 90 (96 percent of grantees)¹⁵¹

The policies most commonly developed, revised, or implemented with Supervised Visitation Program funds included: center operation procedures such as recordkeeping and report writing; confidentiality; flexible hours of operation; service provision procedures such as court feedback procedures, child-friendly measures, and supervised exchange procedures; and various safety and security measures.

Recent policy changes around recruitment of staff and volunteers have made our commitment to cultural competency and representing the communities we serve more codified. Since these changes, we have hired a Somali-speaking staff, are in the process of hiring a Hmong-speaking staff and have made sure to continue to provide our services in Spanish as well. This has led to an expansion of services in terms of being able to provide services to non-English-speaking families. Additionally, based on our collaborative work, this has increased the number of referrals for our services in more diverse communities.

- Ramsey County, Minnesota

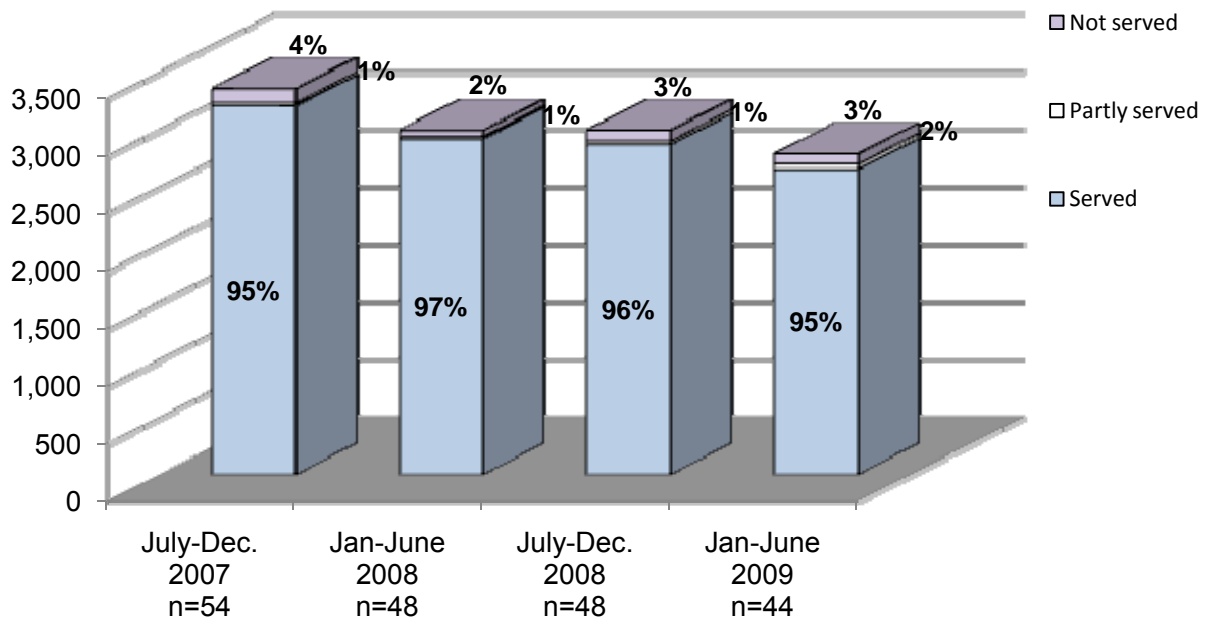
¹⁵¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Services

Supervised Visitation Program grantees provide an array of services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and their children. New grantees spend the first 12 months of their project conceptualizing and developing supervised visitation and exchange services through a collaborative process, and they begin providing services only after completing all planning activities. Services include one-to-one supervised visits, group supervised visits, and supervised exchanges.

- Number of individual grantees using funds to provide services to families: 67 (71 percent of grantees)¹⁵²
- Supervised Visitation Program grantees provided services to an average of 2,938 families in a six-month reporting period¹⁵³

Figure 15. Provision of services to families by Supervised Visitation Program



n= number of grantees reporting services to families.

NOTES: "Partially served" represents families who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Supervised Visitation Program grant. "Not served" represents families who sought services and did not receive the services(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Supervised Visitation Program grant.

¹⁵²This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁵³This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Families Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 3,352 families sought services from Supervised Visitation Program grantees.
- Of these, 3,225 (96 percent) families were served or partially served and 127 (4 percent) families were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 2,988 families sought services from Supervised Visitation Program grantees.
- Of these, 2,935 (98 percent) families were served or partially served and 53 (2 percent) families were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 2,989 families sought services from Supervised Visitation Program grantees.
- Of these, 2,895 (97 percent) families were served or partially served and 94 (3 percent) families were not served.

January–June 2009:

- 2,784 families sought services from Supervised Visitation Program grantees.
- Of these, 2,695 (97 percent) families were served or partially served and 89 (3 percent) families were not served.

Reasons Families Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, the following barriers were noted most frequently by grantees as reasons why families were not served or were partially served:

- Program rules were not acceptable to the family
- Transportation problems
- Services were not appropriate for party(ies)
- Program reached capacity
- Family was not accepted into program¹⁵⁴
- Hours of operation

Demographics of Families Served and Partially Served

Collectively, supervised Visitation Program grantees served or partially served an average of 2,938 families in each six-month period.¹⁵⁵ The majority of custodial parents were white (70-75 percent), female (76-77 percent), between the ages of 25 and 59 (83-85 percent), with children between the ages of newborn to 6 (49-52 percent). Noncustodial parents were most likely to be white (66-72 percent), male (72-76 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (86-88 percent).

¹⁵⁴ The most common reason why qualified families were not accepted into the program was the client's refusal to agree to program rules.

¹⁵⁵ This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Table 34. Demographic characteristics of parents and children served by Supervised Visitation Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
American Indian/Alaska Native	593	393	557	562	4-6
Asian	305	244	152	233	2-3
Black/African American	947	999	1,047	1,136	9-12
Hispanic/Latino	1,138	1,164	1,108	1,049	11-12
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	229	265	19	167	<1-3
White	7,764	7,266	7,161	6,359	69-73
Unknown	666	241	396	188	Na
Gender					
Custodial parents					
Female	2,472	2,264	2,226	2,046	76-77
Male	733	663	651	635	23-24
Unknown	24	10	20	14	Na
Noncustodial parents					
Female	774	720	806	726	24-28
Male	2,439	2,200	2,078	1,964	72-76
Unknown	19	16	11	5	Na
Children					
Female	2,484	2,090	2,148	1,930	48-50
Male	2,454	2,238	2,207	2,066	50-52
Unknown	0	108	16	0	Na
Age					
Custodial parents					
13–17	4	2	6	12	<1
18–24	488	391	399	333	13-16
25–59	2,612	2,483	2,341	2,184	83-85
60+	44	31	45	79	1-3
Unknown	81	30	106	87	Na
Noncustodial parents					
13–17	1	1	3	2	<1
18–24	405	309	341	288	11-13
25–59	2,702	2,550	2,400	2,231	86-88
60+	38	34	42	73	1-3
Unknown	86	42	109	101	Na

Table 34. Demographic characteristics of parents and children served by Supervised Visitation Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Children					
0–6	2,392	2,201	2,155	2,064	49–52
7–12	1,909	1,683	1,683	1,500	38–39
13–17	607	509	493	424	11–12
18–24	15	6	3	3	<1
Unknown	15	37	37	4	Na
Other					
People with disabilities	472	327	486	431	3–5
People with limited English proficiency	335	312	228	252	2–3
People who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	243	240	221	267	2–3
People who live in rural areas	3,703	3,493	3,004	2,708	30–34

Na=not applicable

NOTES: Data include families who were fully or partially served. Because some individuals identify with more than one race/ethnicity, data may exceed the total number custodial parents, non-custodial parents, and children served. Percentages are based only on individuals for whom the information was known.

Types of Services

Grantees report that the following services were provided most frequently to families over the four six-month reporting periods¹⁵⁶:

- 65,602 one-to-one supervised visits were provided to 6990 families
- 62,391 supervised exchanges were provided to 3,445 families
- 13,432 group supervised visits were conducted with 1,521 families
- 1,029 telephone monitoring sessions were provided to 74 families

During each six-month reporting period, approximately one-third of families receiving services completed services or services were terminated. Sixty percent of the families discontinued involvement because threats ceased, there was a change in the court order, mutual agreement, or treatment was completed; 25 percent were terminated because they habitually did not keep appointments or did not comply with program rules. The remaining participants terminated services or completed the program because the child refused to participate or at the center supervisor's discretion.

Safe Haven funding has allowed for the development and expansion of family visitation and supervision services in all four counties including Maui, Kauai, three locations in Hawaii county

¹⁵⁶Families were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period.

(Hilo, Kona and Waimea), and Oahu (Kalihi and Waipahu). Services were offered in new locations reaching families in rural communities who had not previously been served. Evening and weekend hours at existing sites were added which allowed for more flexibility in scheduling and accommodating work hours. Funds were also utilized to secure new space so that services could be provided in more secure and confidential environments. Both agencies reported that prior to Safe Haven funding, visitation and exchange services were limited with fewer families served and many turned away or wait-listed.

- *Hawaii Department of the Attorney General*

Sunflower Kids provided 60 hours of supervised visitation services to Spanish-speaking families during the current reporting period through contracts with three Spanish-speaking monitors. Sunflower Kids is one of few programs that offer supervised visitation services for families with limited English proficiency in Kentucky.

- *Lexington Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky*

Community Measures

Supervised Visitation Program grantees are mandated to report parental abduction data for the entire jurisdiction receiving funds. However, grantees report difficulty in obtaining data on parental abductions because many jurisdictions do not collect this information. Between July 2007 and June 2009, grantees reported the following abductions in the jurisdictions they serve:

- Criminal parental abductions¹⁵⁷: (516)
- Civil parental abductions: (1,648)

Remaining Areas of Need

Supervised Visitation grantees consistently mentioned the need for expanded service capacity within their visitation centers, including additional locations, increased hours, and more staff, with a particular emphasis on the need for enhanced safety and security measures.

Competent advocacy at each step of the process was identified as particularly vital for families who are often involved in the criminal legal, civil legal, family court and child welfare systems simultaneously. Supervised Visitation grantees stated that training for judges, court clerks, law enforcement, tribal leaders, and mental health and substance abuse providers must occur regularly to ensure safety, with training

¹⁵⁷Although parental abduction is a crime in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, often parental abduction constitutes a crime only in cases in which a custody order has been violated. In other states, no custody order is required for parental abduction to be considered a criminal offense. In civil cases, the court has the authority to address the welfare or the return of the child as well as to impose sanctions, such as fines or restraining orders, on parents who violate court orders. Civil remedies may also include compensation to the injured parent and/or child. Criminal courts, in contrast, focus on the offender and may issue a warrant for the arrest of the offending parent.

areas of need including: the tactics of the offender, holding offenders accountable, and the effects of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Transportation to visitation centers was seen by many Supervised Visitation grantees as difficult due to the lack of public transportation systems in many areas, the long distances involved in traveling within rural communities, and the limited income of many victims and offenders.

Grants to State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program

The Grants to State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program (State Coalitions Program) funds state-level coalitions to collaborate and coordinate with relevant federal, state, and local entities. State sexual assault coalitions and state domestic violence coalitions have played a critical role in the implementation of VAWA, serving as a collective voice to end violence against women through collaboration with federal, state, and local organizations. Coalitions consist primarily of organizational members (e.g., sexual assault programs, domestic violence programs, tribal victim services agencies, and other victim services agencies) but may also include members who are individuals.

Statewide sexual assault coalitions provide direct support to member rape crisis centers through funding, hotlines, training and technical assistance, public awareness, legal advocacy, data collection, and public policy advocacy. Statewide domestic violence coalitions provide comparable support to member domestic violence shelters and service providers. In some states and territories, these support services are provided through a dual domestic violence/sexual assault coalition. A number of states have more than one sexual assault and/or domestic violence coalition.

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 87 individual State Coalitions Program grantees¹⁵⁸ for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July-December 2007: 83
- January-June 2008: 67
- July-December 2008: 80
- January-June 2009: 83

Thirty-eight percent of the grantees reporting were domestic violence coalitions, 38 percent were sexual assault coalitions, and 24 percent were dual sexual assault/domestic violence coalitions.

¹⁵⁸This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Staff

State Coalitions Program staff provide training, education, and technical assistance to help end violence against women and hold offenders accountable. Grantees most often used funds for program coordinators and administrators.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for staff: 86 (99% of all grantees)¹⁵⁹

The communications coordinator position made it possible to strengthen WVCADV's ability to coordinate statewide public awareness activities and policy analysis. As a result, WVCADV took successful steps toward increasing public visibility of the issue of domestic violence, examining policy implications for victims, strengthening external public relations, and influencing public perceptions and responses to domestic violence. This program funding supported the work of WVCADV's Public Awareness Advisory Committee (PAAC). PAAC provided guidance and leadership in developing WVCADV's first statewide public awareness campaign, first statewide survivors' network, and first year-round public awareness strategic plan.

- West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The Training and Technical Assistance Programs director worked with local domestic violence programs on examining their shelter rules and policies, developing a volunteer corps, issues of cultural competency, and becoming more inclusive in their work. The director also provided trainings on working with substance-abusing women. Trainings have also been done for allied professionals on cultural competency, basics of domestic violence, and safety planning. The Training and Technical Assistance Programs director is continuing work with two supervised visitation programs to help them develop best practices in responding to the needs of survivors and their children, including safety planning and assessing for domestic violence in all of their participants. The Training and Technical Assistance Programs director has made contact with the four new executive directors of shelter programs to ensure that they felt welcomed and knew how to contact ODVN for resources and technical assistance.

- Ohio Domestic Violence Network

¹⁵⁹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Table 35. Full-time equivalent staff funded by State Coalitions Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	83	65	80	82
Total FTE staff funded	117	90	111	109
Program coordinators	45	36	39	36
Administrators	31	20	28	27
Support staff	11	10	11	10
Technical assistance providers	9	5	7	8
Trainers	7	6	6	7
Systems advocate	6	3	6	8

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

Training

As states, territories, and communities develop coordinated responses to reduce violence against women, high-quality training is of paramount importance in the development of effective strategies. Grantees train coalition members and other professionals to improve their response to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and to increase offender accountability.

The most common topics of training events were: advocate response to victims/survivors; safety planning for victim/survivors; issues specific to victims/survivors who live in rural areas; confidentiality; law enforcement response; collaboration; domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; outreach to diverse/underserved populations; and coordinated community response.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training: 87 (100 percent of all grantees)¹⁶⁰
- Total number of training events: 4,045
- Total number of people trained with State Coalitions Program funds: 106,911

¹⁶⁰This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Table 36. People trained with State Coalitions Program funds: selected professional positions

Position	People trained (N =106,911)	
	Number	Percent
Victim advocates	35,184	33
Multidisciplinary	19,538	18
Law enforcement officers	9,220	9
Health professionals	4,647	4
Child welfare workers/children's advocates	3,400	3
Attorneys/law students	2,705	3

NOTE: Data presented for the six most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

The Catholic Church has participated in our annual conference by sending clergy to attend. They have invited us in to teach on "domestic violence 101" at pre-Cana (marriage preparation) and confirmation classes. They have also worked with us to create a training on domestic violence for new deacons and have supported the belief that it is not the survivor seeking safety that is dishonoring the marriage, but the abuser.

- *New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

The domestic violence and mental illness training was developed and has been delivered to audiences across the state that include domestic violence shelter staff, advocacy organizations, and mental health professionals. This training includes information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, Fair Housing Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and how those laws apply to the organizations and agencies that provide services for victims who have experienced violence. As a result of this training and the information provided, domestic violence shelters have requested specific language and bullet points around these laws and client rights so that they can provide this information to those they serve and also post in their shelter to further educate staff.

- *Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence*

Technical Assistance

State Coalitions Program grantees provide technical assistance to member programs through site visits and other consultations. Consultations may include in-person, telephonic, electronic, or other types of contact with programs. The goal of technical assistance is to improve the response of professionals and organizations to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking by improving organizational infrastructure; developing, revising, and implementing policies, protocols and procedures; and providing materials on relevant issues.

The most common topics of technical assistance included the following: curricular and training issues, coordinated community response, state policies and practices, program development, local policies and practices, and victim service administration and operations.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for technical assistance: 87 (100 percent of grantees)¹⁶¹
- Total number of technical assistance site visits: 3,924
- Total number of other technical assistance consultations provided: 143,687
- Total technical assistance (site visits and consultations) provided: 147,611

The "Broken Vows" workshop provided by the [Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence] Women of Color Task Force (WOCTF) to clergy/lay leaders is increasingly in demand as the work of the task force is recognized and recommended within the faith community. These sessions have resulted in an increase in the number of contacts from the faith community seeking technical assistance, resources and/or training.

- Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Coalition staff provided technical assistance to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Public Safety, the STOP grant administrator, the attorney general's Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program, other state agencies, schools, law enforcement, health-care personnel, and social-service agencies, as needed. In addition, we co-hosted three workshops with the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Multi-cultural Affairs, for advocates from across the state.

- Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Products

State Coalitions Program grantees develop and revise a variety of products for distribution, including brochures, manuals, training curricula and materials, newsletters, and videos. The purpose of the products is to provide standardized information to professionals and organizations about sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The target audiences for the products include member organizations and other local, statewide, and tribal agencies that address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, the general public and victims/survivors.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for products: 79 (91 percent of grantees)¹⁶²
- Total number of products developed or revised: 1,497

¹⁶¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁶²This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- Total number of products used or distributed: 6,419,361¹⁶³

MCADSV is the recognized source in the state of Missouri for free printed training and resource materials for the many varied audiences, programs and individuals working to meet the needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funds allow MCADSV to meet this need without cost, which removes a barrier that would prevent significant numbers of programs and services from receiving the materials they require in their advocacy with women and children. Free distribution of these materials directly translates into greater public awareness, education and enhanced domestic and sexual violence services. Wide distribution of the service-referral directories provides the resource necessary for service providers to refer survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their children to the programs and services they need.

- Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

We have started sending state, tribal, and federal judges quarterly packets of legal cases and information related to domestic violence and sexual assault in an effort to get them all thinking in the same direction. We use State Coalitions Program funding to pay staff to do the research, make copies, create mailing lists and pay for postage. The member programs get the same information as the judges do.

- South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Underserved Populations

Grantees used funds to develop or enhance standards of service for populations that are underserved because of geographic location (e.g., rural isolation), underserved racial and ethnic populations, underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, immigrant status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the state planning process in consultation with the attorney general. Grantees identified underserved populations, developed materials for underserved populations, organized caucuses to increase participation by members of underserved populations, and initiated other activities as the need became apparent.

- Number of individual grantees using funds to address underserved populations: 84 (97 percent of grantees)¹⁶⁴

Grantees also used funds to identify gaps in services for victims/survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence who were members of underserved populations. Grantees used funds to support training and technical assistance on conducting outreach, providing appropriate and accessible services for underserved victims/survivors, and on appropriate response of the criminal justice system to the unique needs of these types of victims.

¹⁶³This number includes 5,320,681 website page views.

¹⁶⁴This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Funding has enabled us to improve culturally appropriate services to underserved populations and to increase the participation rate of historically underserved populations in coordination meetings. We developed and are coordinating a Community of Color Task Force to explore the issues survivors and victims encounter when seeking services. Funds have allowed us to provide consistently requested anti-oppression, cultural competency, and anti-racism trainings to local programs and community partners. Staff is currently participating on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) steering committee and work group with the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC). PREA was signed into law in an effort to address the long-standing problems that prisons, jails, and other detention facilities have had with sexual violence. This allows us to work on behalf of survivors who are in the criminal justice system, as well as to assist in building relationships between DOC and local programs to develop new and promising programming to meet the unique needs of this underserved population.

- Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

The Training and Technical Assistance director collaborated with the Supreme Court Interpreter Services to provide a two-day training for interpreters on working with domestic violence cases. This training was attended by 38 interpreters, representing multiple languages and countries of origin. The focus of the training was to educate interpreters about the dynamics of domestic violence as they work closely with immigrant and refugee communities, and [they] are in a unique position to provide education about resources and to provide support that mainstream case workers and advocates are not in a position to do. An additional outcome from the training has been several calls from interpreters seeking technical assistance or requesting referrals for women in their communities.

- Ohio Domestic Violence Network

The full-time diversity coordinator visits with all 22 local domestic violence coalitions in a two-year period to assist in the identification of which communities are not at the table, in strategies to invite representatives of underserved groups, and ways help people to become more fully engaged in the discussions. Focus groups and training at the annual diversity conference have resulted in increased understanding of how to reach out to African Americans, Native Americans, Asian and Pacific Islanders, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual) community, and people with disabilities in recent years.

- Utah Domestic Violence Advisory Council

Remaining Areas of Need

The remaining areas of need most often cited by Coalitions Program grantees included economic self-sufficiency for the victim/survivor and services for trafficking victims/survivors.

Grantees documented the need for more cost-efficient and accessible training to be provided through teleconferences. The professionals seen as most in need of training

are law enforcement, judges, prosecutors, service providers, health-care workers, and school and government employees.

Regularly cited is the need for protocol and policy development, with a particular emphasis on sex-offender management, bullying, and protection order issuance and enforcement.

Other needs mentioned with regularity were housing - emergency, transitional, and long-term - for victims/survivors and new enhanced services for underserved populations, with an emphasis on victims/survivors who are immigrants and those who live in rural communities.

STOP Violence Against Indian Women Discretionary Grant Program

The STOP (Services • Training • Officers • Prosecutors) Violence Against Indian Women Discretionary Grant Program (STOP VAIW Program)¹⁶⁵ provided federal funds to American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments to develop and strengthen the tribal justice system's response (including law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and courts) to violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women and to improve services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The STOP VAIW Program encouraged tribal governments to develop and implement effective strategies tailored to their unique circumstances. American Indian and Alaska Native populations have historically been underserved with respect to victim services, legal protection, and offender accountability in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. In addition to the lack of culturally appropriate services for victims, tribal law enforcement, and tribal courts are in dire need of financial and technical support.

The STOP VAIW Program supported tribal governments' efforts to implement a coordinated and integrated approach to reducing violent crimes against American Indian and Alaska Native women and enhancing their safety. Because tribes reflect great diversity of history, geographic location, language, socioeconomic conditions, and retention of traditional spiritual and cultural practices, an effective, single approach across tribal nations is unlikely. STOP VAIW Program grantees were charged with developing and applying strategies that addressed their uniqueness as sovereign nations in addition to the commonalities of culture.

The STOPVAIW has been the initial building block of funding for our family violence services program. Creating a program to address the needs of victims and their families within and surrounding the Tribal Nation, and also address systems change while striving to do tribally-specific work, has benefited the tribal community greatly. Systems change or social justice with accountability has been key thus far in community safety while balancing consciously, not eroding, sovereignty. We are fortunate that our relationship with the U.S. Attorney's Office and their Victim Program has strengthened as we meet on a regular basis. Because tribal folks continue to move from reservation to reservation (as is custom) the contacts and training with other

¹⁶⁵ Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, the STOP VAIW grant program was replaced with the Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program. The STOP VAIW Program, therefore, is no longer making grant awards but data from the final recipients continue to be reported.

surrounding nations is important to ensure common language, common practice, and safety within our communities. WE CONTINUE TO EXIST!

- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians

I know that we would have not been able to engage our federal partners in a conversation about sexual assault on this reservation had it not been for this opportunity. We were able to take this issue beyond the conversation stage and actually develop a working checklist protocol that would not have happened without this grant funding. That fact is: we did it. The local tribal and federal responders took on the issue of how cases should ideally proceed for successful prosecutions to occur and produced a working outline of the process. Participating departments worked on their own sections and gave us their best-practice ideas regarding these cases. None of that would have happened without the grant and people at OVW who saw the situation as one of importance and followed that up with pilot projects. At this point I can safely say, "What we all thought would never happen can and was accomplished by dedicated people, both tribal and federal." This would not be a product; it would have remained on our wish list. Now we have it as a document that is worthy of consideration to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable.

- Hannahville Indian Community

The STOP Violence Against Indian Women Grant has been a god-send to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe since the inception of the program. There would not be a program, advocacy, resource referral, help for victims and their children, if not for the STOP Grant. That's it. There wouldn't be any place for victims to go to for help. It has provided program staff to advocate for victims and their children in court, housing, employment seeking, medical, counseling, support group, etc.

- Coeur d'Alene Tribe

STOP funding has allowed us to provide culturally competent advocacy services to victims and to integrate these services into the activities funded by other grants, such as civil legal assistance. Our ability to provide probation monitoring services to tribal courts has improved accountability of offenders and strengthened the judicial response to domestic violence. Without the advocates supported by STOP funding, victims/survivors would have fewer options for leaving an abusive environment. Without the probation officer, offenders would not be supervised for compliance with conditions of parole. STOP funding is one of the cornerstones of our ability to offer comprehensive services to reduce violence in our tribal communities. With STOP funding we have been able to strengthen our services to victims/survivors and their children. We have been able to reinforce the position that domestic violence is unacceptable and offenders must be held accountable for their actions. The advocates and probation officer are also a critical component of the PeaceKeepers Training and Technical Assistance Team which has a recognized reputation for expertise in addressing the topics of domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse in a culturally relevant way. STOP funding has been necessary for PeaceKeepers to be able to enhance response to

domestic violence within the Eight Northern Pueblos by providing training to law enforcement and court personnel, and technical assistance to develop and implement more effective policies and services related to violent crimes against women and the elderly.

- *Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council*

General Grant Information¹⁶⁶

Information for this chapter was submitted by 64 individual STOP VAIW Program grantees¹⁶⁷ for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 63
- January–June 2008: 45
- July–December 2008: 39
- January–June 2009: 15

Staff

STOP VAIW Program staff provided training to victim services providers, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges and court personnel, probation officers, and batterer intervention services to ensure a coordinated response to violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. In addition to training, program staff advocated for victims/survivors in shelters, police stations, prosecutors' offices, and courts. They also answered hotline calls, provide counseling and transportation, and participate in coordinated community response (CCR) efforts.

Table 37. Full-time equivalent staff funded by STOP VAIW Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	57	41	37	12
Total FTE staff funded	87	72	54	15
Victim advocates	25	27	23	6
Program coordinators	18	17	10	3
Administrators	8	5	6	1
Law enforcement officers	8	6	3	1
Support staff	6	4	3	2

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

¹⁶⁶Due to statutory changes in VAWA 2005, the STOP VAIW grant program was replaced with the Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program. Therefore, the number of grantees for this program decreases each reporting period as grantees spend down their existing funds.

¹⁶⁷This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

The STOP VAIW grantees most often used grant funds for victim advocates. STOP VAIW advocates provide culturally appropriate services and training to “mainstream” shelter staff, law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges on culturally appropriate methods of assisting victims/survivors from the many tribal Nations.

We have recently hired on a probation officer through the tribe, starting in the final six months of the grant. With this added position batterers are being tracked and held to their release requirements. The probation officer makes sure the batterers are following through with their counseling requirements as well as all other court ordered stipulations. The probation officer enforces the batterers' accountability. We are also working on bridging the gap between the investigating officers and the prosecution department in hopes of being able to eventually go to trial without having to have the victims testify unless they choose to.

- Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe

The project funds a portion of the prosecutor and prosecutor's secretary positions in order to ensure proper handling and tracking of domestic violence (DV) cases. The prosecution unit collaborates closely with the law enforcement, tribal criminal investigators and probation in order to address all realms of prosecuting cases. The project's DV compliance officer monitors all DV calls that are reported to the prosecutor's office in order to ensure that all cases are being handled properly and are receiving due process throughout the criminal justice system and probation orders. He works closely with the prosecutor's office and law enforcement in order to track cases with the DV probation officer in order to monitor perpetrators from arrest to compliance with court ordered sanctions. The compliance and probation officers work with the Men's Re-education Program, where batterers are court ordered to attend the 26 week program. We hope that this position will alleviate the "fall in between the cracks" problem and that all victims are receiving proper justice.

- Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Training

Grantees train professionals to improve the response to American Indian and/or Alaska Native victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and to increase offender accountability. STOP VAIW Program grantees provide training on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking issues to victim advocates, tribal elders, tribal law enforcement officers, tribal prosecutors, court personnel, probation officers, and mental health and other professionals. Grantees train these professionals on the dynamics of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking to strengthen an effective CCR to these crimes.

The most common topics for training events were: advocacy for American Indian and Alaska Native women; domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; cultural issues specific to American Indians and Alaska Natives; and issues that apply to victims living in rural areas.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training: 50 (78 percent of grantees)¹⁶⁸
- Total number of training events: 307
- Total number of people trained: 6,104

Table 38. People trained with STOP VAIW Program funds: selected professional positions

Position	People trained (N = 6,104)	
	Number	Percent
Multidisciplinary group—tribal	775	13
Tribal elder	596	10
Tribal gov't/Tribal gov't agency staff	524	9
Law enforcement officers—tribal	442	7
Social service organization staff—tribal	405	7
Victim advocate—tribal	350	6

NOTE: Data presented for the six most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

The coordinator of this grant project along with a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) who was trained by the funding of this grant provided a presentation in November to regional medical, behavioral, law enforcement, child protection workers and community members throughout the region. The regional group that attended this presentation were brought to Sand Point in conjunction with a regional meeting of the Alaska Native Women's Coalition. The SANE nurse and project coordinator provided the attending group with the framework of the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) program and how it has thus far benefitted the region by providing a coordinated response to sexual assault. The SANE nurse explained her training process and the role she plays in the event of a sexual assault. The project coordinator explained the benefits to the region for having the ability to institute a coordinated response to sexual assault. SART teams are now organized in the two largest villages with continuing efforts being made to provide continuity and sustainability well into the future. This grant and the knowledge that was disseminated throughout the region has raised awareness of the issue of sexual assault.

- *Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.*

Victim Services

The availability of a wide range of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking is a critical part of a coordinated community response. Victims may need crisis intervention, comprehensive support, and advocacy services that may include legal advocacy to secure a protection order,

¹⁶⁸This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

medical and counseling services from health care professionals, services from victim advocates, including safety planning or accompaniment to court.

Studies indicate that American Indian and Alaska Native women report higher rates of victimization than women from any other ethnic or racial background (National Institute of Justice, 2002; Rennison, 2001; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000a). It is crucial that services be provided in a manner that addresses the specific cultural needs of American Indian and Alaska Native women. The lack of culturally sensitive and appropriate services for these victims/survivors can pose daunting barriers to safety, justice, and healing. For example, women may choose not to engage in services or may terminate from services early if they fail to incorporate issues of culture and language.

The Program has grown remarkably and has expanded its services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, elder abuse, and stalking. Our hours have been extended into the late evening two to three nights a week. The Program collaborates with the Verizon Company which supplies victims with cell phones for usage during times of crisis. The Program has collaborated with the surrounding community, including a faith-based organization and the Women's Center in Coeur d'Alene, 30 miles away, to provide safe shelter for victims.

- *Coeur d'Alene Tribe*

Currently we are breaking the isolation felt by many of our women by doing a cultural craft during each meeting. During the crafting activities they are lowering down the walls that each may have put in place many years ago. We are able to talk about trauma and criminal trauma and how it fuels behaviors that isolate us from supporting each other.

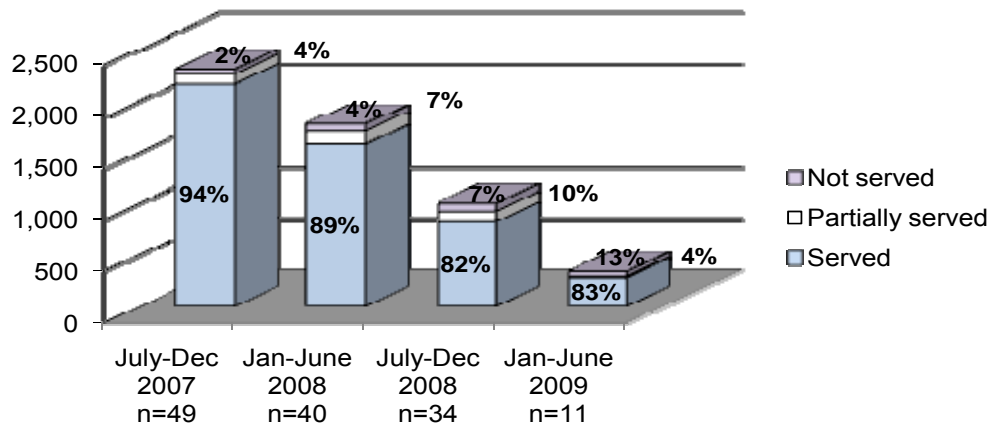
- *Hannahville Indian Community*

- Number of individual grantees using funds for victim services: 56 (88 percent of grantees)¹⁶⁹
- STOP VAIW Program grantees provided services to an average of 1,292 victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and/or stalking in a six-month reporting period.¹⁷⁰

¹⁶⁹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁷⁰Victims/survivors were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, victims/survivors may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods.

Figure 16. Provision of victim services by STOP VAIW Program



n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTES: "Partially served" represents victims/survivors who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the STOP VAIW Program grant. "Not served" represents victims/survivors who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the STOP VAIW Program grant.

Victims Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 2,300 victims/survivors sought services from STOP VAIW Program grantees.
- Of these, 2,255 (98 percent) victims/survivors received services and 45 (2 percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 1,769 victims/survivors sought services from STOP VAIW Program grantees.
- Of these, 1,703 (96 percent) victims/survivors received services and 66 (4 percent) were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 993 victims/survivors sought services from STOP VAIW Program grantees.
- Of these, 919 (93 percent) victims/survivors received services and 74 (7 percent) were not served.

January–June 2009:

- 334 victims/survivors sought services from STOP VAIW Program grantees.
- Of these, 290 (87 percent) victims/survivors received services and 44 (13 percent) were not served.

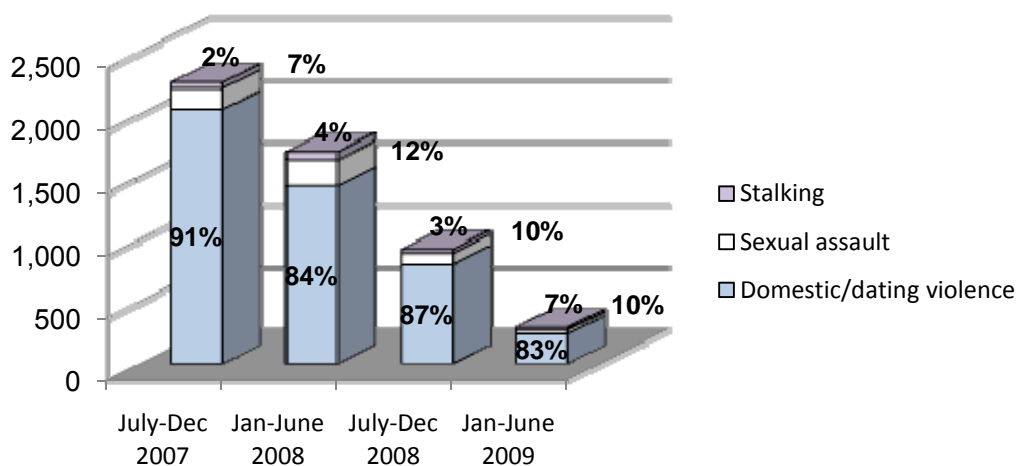
Reasons Victims Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, the following barriers were noted frequently by most grantees as reasons why victims/survivors were not served or were only partially served:

- Transportation
- Program reached capacity
- Victim/survivor’s geographic or other type of isolation
- Did not meet eligibility or statutory requirements

More than 80 percent of victims/survivors served during each of the four reporting periods received services for domestic violence and dating violence.

Figure 17. Provision of victim services by STOP VAIW Program, by type of victimization¹⁷¹



The majority of victims/survivors served or partially served (73–78 percent) were victimized by a current or former spouse or intimate partner.

¹⁷¹The overall number of victims/survivors served represents an unduplicated count; this means that each victim/survivor is counted only once by each grantee, regardless of the number of times that victim/survivor received services during each reporting period. Because victims/survivors can only be counted once, they must be reported under only one primary victimization. It is not uncommon for victims/survivors to experience more than one type of victimization (e.g., domestic violence and stalking, or domestic violence and sexual assault), but that fact is not reflected in the reported percentages of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and child sexual abuse victims/survivors served.

Table 39. Relationship to offender of victims/survivors served by the STOP VAIW Program

Relationship to offender	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Spouse or intimate partner	1,587	1,297	717	222	73-78
Other family or household member	255	223	114	25	9-13
Dating relationship	174	114	97	13	5-10

NOTES: Because victims/survivors may have been abused by more than one offender, the number of relationships reported may be higher than the total number of victims/survivors served. Not all reported relationships are represented. Percentages are based on known relationships only.

Demographics of Victims Served and Partially Served

STOP VAIW Program grantees served or partially served an average of 1,300 victims/survivors in a six-month reporting period.¹⁷² The majority of those victims/survivors were American Indian and/or Alaska Native (90–95 percent), female (91–97 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (60–73 percent).

Table 40. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors served by STOP VAIW Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
American Indian/Alaska Native	2,013	1,465	773	276	90–95
Asian	3	0	2	0	<1
Black/African American	24	12	16	0	1–2
Hispanic/Latino	18	29	19	5	1–2
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	3	3	0	0	<1
White	197	111	50	9	3–9
Unknown	37	102	62	0	Na
Gender					
Female	2,058	1,559	861	281	91–97

¹⁷²This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Table 40. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors served by STOP VAIW Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Male	193	111	58	9	3–9
Unknown	4	33	0	0	Na
Age					
0–17	132	139	70	12	4–9
18–24	427	378	247	58	20–30
25–59	1,485	1,036	490	213	60–73
60+	86	45	14	7	2–4
Unknown	125	105	98	0	Na
People with disabilities	118	86	63	14	5–7
People with limited English proficiency	4	10	4	2	<1-1
People who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	1	3	1	0	<1
People who live in rural areas	1,386	920	403	242	44–83

Na = not applicable

NOTES: Data include victims/survivors who were fully or partially served. Because some victims/survivors identify with more than one race/ethnicity, data may exceed the total number of victims/survivors served. Percentages based only on victims/survivors for whom the information was known.

Types of Victim Services

STOP VAIW Program grantees provide an array of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. These services include victim advocacy (actions designed to help the victim obtain needed resources or services), crisis intervention, and legal advocacy (assistance navigating the criminal and/or civil legal systems). A victim/survivor may request counseling to help her cope emotionally, and at the same time request access to a shelter to keep her and her children safe. Most victims/survivors have not been exposed to the justice system, so assistance from an advocate can help them navigate through the various processes.

All victims/survivors receive safety planning, referrals, and information as needed.

Grantees report that the following services are provided most frequently (not a complete list) over the four six-month reporting periods¹⁷³:

- Victim advocacy: 3,637
- Hotline calls: 3,073
- Support group and counseling services: 2,860
- Crisis intervention: 2,758
- Transportation: 2,249

Criminal Justice

The matter of jurisdiction in Indian country can often pose a significant barrier. Determining the appropriate agency to respond to an incident on tribal lands can be extremely confusing. There are many different jurisdictional scenarios, depending on whether the state is affected by Public Law 280 or similar statutes¹⁷⁴, and whether the tribe has a criminal justice system (full or partial). Additionally, there are jurisdictions that do not have reservations, or even continuous Indian land. Because of this complicated jurisdictional legal landscape, there often are misunderstandings and disputes about which jurisdiction is responsible. To add to the confusion, even if tribal law enforcement, a tribal prosecutor, and a tribal court system exist, there are limitations to the types of crimes and individuals that can be prosecuted under tribal law. A non-Native offender cannot be prosecuted in a tribal court, because the tribe has no jurisdiction over non-Natives. Many grantees whose tribal communities have a criminal justice system have developed or instituted important changes in tribal codes pertaining to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Some have revised state laws to be more culturally relevant, while others have formulated entirely new codes based on ancestral laws that had been historically successful before European influences.

Law Enforcement

The STOP VAIW Program supports tribal law enforcement activities to end sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking against American Indian and Alaska Native women. Tribal law enforcement officers respond to emergency calls for assistance, interview the initial and best witnesses, and are often familiar with the personalities and circumstances involved. Every other agency including prosecution is dependent upon them for their information and understanding of a case. For this

¹⁷³Victims/survivors were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, victims/survivors may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods.

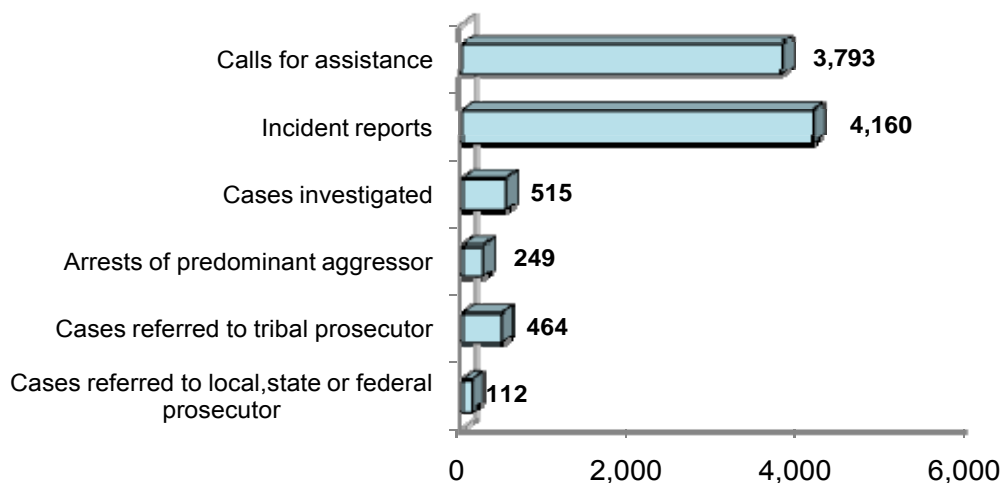
¹⁷⁴Public Law 280 transferred federal criminal jurisdiction over Indian country in selected states to the states. This confusion can result in serious delays in responding to crimes committed, or worse, in no response at all. Delays can occur as law enforcement agencies in different jurisdictions attempt to sort out who should respond to the call. In states not affected by Public Law 280, the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Bureau of Indian Affairs has jurisdiction in many cases. Tribal justice systems, where they exist, had concurrent jurisdiction over certain cases before the passage of the Tribal Law & Order Act in 2010. The maximum sentence a tribal government could impose was one year in jail and a fine of not more than \$5,000.

reason, it is not uncommon for tribal law enforcement officers to provide continuing assistance throughout the entire length of the case. Further, the manner in which tribal law enforcement responds to a call is critical. Their response and attitude may influence whether victims/survivors will report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking offenses, and whether appropriate evidence will be collected to enable prosecutors to successfully bring cases against offenders.

There have been many efforts to change the way tribal justice systems are structured. However, tribes have retained their authority to determine the legal structure and forums used in administering justice (Tribal Law and Policy Institute, 2008). While some tribes have chosen to adopt “mainstream” criminal justice approaches, others are choosing to employ their own traditional manner of justice. Tribal law enforcement is generally highly respected, as their initial assessment of a crime and the impact it will have on their community is usually accurate. Regardless, it is clear that tribal law enforcement is a vital component of the peacekeeping and accountability process for the Tribal Nations that they serve.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for law enforcement: 12 (19 percent of grantees)¹⁷⁵

Figure 18. Law enforcement activities in STOP VAWI sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases for all reporting periods



NOTE: Grantees report only on law enforcement activities that are funded under the STOP VAWI Program and they may receive funds for one or for a number of these activities. Therefore, no relationships can be inferred or comparisons made between activities reported here.

The STOP VAWI Program funding has allowed the Santee Dakota Tiwahe Service Unit (DTSU) Domestic Violence Program to expand the Tribal law enforcement unit to assign an officer that is

¹⁷⁵This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

appropriately trained to investigate violent crimes against women on the Santee Reservation. The Santee Tribal Law Enforcement is to notify the DTSU Domestic Violence Program Advocate of an incident within 48 hours, as written in the Tribal Domestic Violence Codes. On every call the officer who was trained in the area of DV/SA [domestic violence/sexual assault] has called me, regardless of outcome to ensure services. Another point that comes to mind is that the officer who was trained is quick to be positive, supportive, and respectful when dealing with the victims and perpetrators.

- *Santee Sioux Nation of Nebraska*

Remaining Areas of Need

The most commonly expressed remaining areas of need cited by STOP VAIW grantees was for additional services and increased accountability and collaboration with federal partners. Tribes are often located in rural, isolated communities. Lack of available housing options and economic resources, along with the absence of efficient public transportation systems are critical issues. The waiting list for transitional housing can be as long as a year, if it is available at all. Many shelters both on and off of the reservation are struggling to have beds available for the victims and their children. Financial assistance is a critical need. Poverty on the reservations and lack of employment opportunities create tremendous hurdles for the victims attempting to leave the abuser. Further, there is serious need for trained sexual assault nurse examiners along with sexual assault advocacy programs. Reporting of sexual assault continues to be significantly underreported.

Transitional Housing Assistance Grants Program

The Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program (Transitional Housing Program) funds programs that provide transitional housing and supportive services to victims/survivors, their children, and other dependents. Grant-funded programs provide housing units, rental vouchers, and victim-centered services such as case management, housing advocacy, counseling, job training, child care, transportation, and other assistance.

The scope of the Transitional Housing Program is to provide holistic, victim-centered transitional housing services that move individuals to permanent housing. Grants support programs that provide assistance to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services. It is critical that successful transitional housing programs provide a wide range of flexible and optional services that reflect the differences and individual needs of victims/survivors and allow them to choose the course of action that is best for them. Transitional housing programs may offer individualized services such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services as well as practical services such as licensed child care, employment services, transportation vouchers, telephones, and referrals to other agencies. Trained staff and case managers may also be available to work with victims/survivors to help them determine and reach their goals.

Housing First is a unique model that allows woman-defined advocacy and allows women an opportunity to move towards economic self-sufficiency not only with financial support, but long-term advocacy, support, and safety planning. This program is also committed to facilitating greater access to services for immigrant and refugee women. We hope to have additional bilingual facilitators. These programs allowed us to offer our first REAP (Realizing Your Economic Action Plan) class in Spanish as well as advocates and staff that can provide support and advocacy to women who have not accessed our services. In addition to this program and funding, ROW (Redevelopment Opportunities for Women) as an agency, is currently in the midst of launching its Multilingual Access Project (MAP) in order to recruit, train and provide interpretation services to other service providers within the community for Spanish, Bosnian, and Vietnamese individuals needing greater access to services. In addition, there are five transitional housing participants who are saving through our IDA (individual development accounts program) and are all receiving a

3:1 match in their savings. This will allow IDA participants more purchasing power when they use their IDA accounts to purchase assets.

- Redevelopment Opportunities for Women, Missouri

The Transitional Housing Program funding pays for four housing units which currently house four residents including immigrant victims and US citizen victims of human trafficking and sexual assault. All of these trafficking victims are women that have suffered from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. The provision of housing for these women not only protects them from having to potentially return to their traffickers or abusers in order to have a place to live and food to eat, but also enables them to take control of their lives and take advantage of the resources made available to them by Polaris Project and through our partner agencies.

- Polaris Project, Washington, D.C.

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 214 individual Transitional Housing Program grantees¹⁷⁶ for July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 198
- January–June 2008: 195
- July–December 2008: 198
- January–June 2009: 147

Seven percent of Transitional Housing grantees reported that their grants specifically addressed tribal populations; these grantees identified 267 unique tribes or nations they were serving or intended to serve.

Provision of Housing

The ability to provide housing is seen by grantees as a vital part of supporting victims/survivors in leaving their abusers by allowing them to live safely in the community. Grantees note that without housing, a victim/survivor must often choose between becoming homeless or remaining with the abuser.

There are at least five victims of family violence with children yearly from the Catholic Social Service emergency shelter for victims of family violence who do not have the necessary financial resources to afford housing in the community. As a result, victims often find themselves either returning to the abusive home or are homeless as they go from one home to the other, or even to the

¹⁷⁶This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

homeless shelter. The Transitional Housing funding is a prevention tool to avert victims from returning to abusive homes or becoming homeless.

- *Catholic Charities of Agana, Guam*

The percentage of programs that used funds to directly support housing units rose from 57 percent in the July-December, 2007 reporting period to 75 percent in the January-June, 2009 reporting period.

Table 41. Percentage of grantees using Transitional Housing Program funds to support housing units

	July-Dec 2007	Jan-June 2008	July-Dec 2008	Jan-June 2009
Grantees using funds for housing units	57%	65%	68%	75%

Transitional Housing Program grantees use a variety of strategies to provide housing to victims/survivors, their children, and other dependents. Some programs use funds to support either program-owned or rented units, while other programs use rental assistance vouchers to provide housing to victims/survivors.

Table 42. Number and type of housing units funded by Transitional Housing Program grantees

Staff funded	July-Dec 2007	Jan-June 2008	July-Dec 2008	Jan-June 2009
Program-owned units	263	274	287	268
Program-rented units	177	196	277	230
Vouchers/rent subsidies	712	757	882	847

Housing Assistance

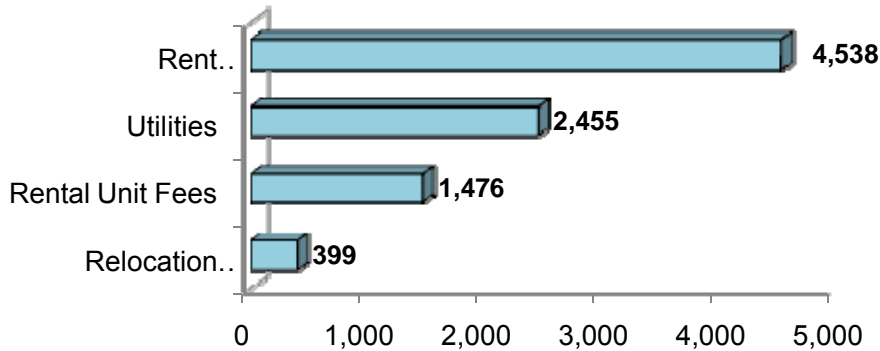
In addition to funding housing units, Transitional Housing Program grantees assist victims/survivors with security deposits, rental assistance, and utility payments to enable them to obtain housing.

[Funding] has allowed us to collaborate with law enforcement, community, and faith-based organizations to advocate on behalf of women and their children victimized by domestic violence and link with other supportive services that are not easily or conveniently accessible to the victims for relocation and transition toward self-sufficiency, especially since we are providing services in the Lower Mississippi Delta region. Aside from a few churches offering limited assistance to victims such as one-time rental assistance, food or clothing, tangible resources are difficult for the survivors to secure. We are able to provide safe, affordable, well maintained housing that helps families move in the right direction toward self-sufficiency. Because of this funding, we can provide housing in

several scattered sites which provides victims the opportunity to relocate out of the immediate area of danger.

- *Bright Beginnings Family Services, Greenville, Mississippi*

Figure 19. Number of victims/survivors provided with housing assistance by Transitional Housing Program



NOTE: Victims/survivors may have received these services during each six-month reporting period.

Increasing Accessibility of Housing and Services

Some grantees have targeted services to reach typically underserved populations. A number of programs used funds to support housing units that were accessible to people with disabilities:

- July-Dec 2007: 434 units
- Jan-June 2008: 457 units
- July-Dec 2008: 538units
- Jan-June 2009: 499 units

Using funds to support accessible housing units allows programs to house underserved populations.

These monies have provided a safe refuge for older women by supporting the transitional housing program facilities and operation. Traditional domestic violence housing programs generally serve mothers with young children, and are not geared to meet the needs of an older victim with grown children. In addition, the older victim does not always meet traditional programs' eligibility requirements of working or attending school. This funding has helped the DOVES transitional Housing Program provide unique and specialized assistance to an under-served population.

- *Area Agency on Aging Region One, Inc., Arizona*

The Transitional Housing grant has been hailed by victims and victim advocates as the "best grant ever" to help victims in

Wyoming successfully leave abusive relationships. Because of the rural nature of Wyoming, transitional housing units are scarce, and in most instances domestic violence/sexual assault programs were able to assist a victim with "safe housing" in a motel for a maximum of three days due to budget constraints. The programs that were fortunate to have shelters could house victims/survivors in most cases for a maximum of 30 days. The grant has allowed programs in many parts of Wyoming to help find victims permanent housing, giving them the financial, emotional and social support needed to be successful in their attempt to live life free from abuse.

- *Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*

Transitional Housing Program grantees have also used funds to provide services and resources to victims/survivors with limited English language skills, or who are deaf/hard of hearing. The percentage of grant programs that used grant funds to provide interpretation services, language lines, translation of documents, and/or telecommunication devices for deaf or speech-impaired victims/survivors increased from 13 percent in the July-December, 2007 reporting period to 25 percent in the January-June, 2009 reporting period.

We are new to the field of transitional housing (first started in the fall of 2006 when we finished building our facility). We are finding that more victims do not return to their abuser because of transitional housing specifically designed for deaf and deaf-blind women is available to them. Having clients and their children in-house makes a huge difference in how much we can do in a short time.

- *Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services, Washington*

With the addition of the bilingual/bicultural case manager, the Interlace Program has been able to exceed their expectations of serving Hispanic families with limited English. . . Her work within the community, along with other outreach organizations, has enabled Latino women to seek shelter that otherwise might have felt there was nowhere to turn. The funding has also allowed us to provide housing counseling to all of the Interlace participants including those with limited English.

- *Affordable Housing Coalition, North Carolina*

Staff

Staff hired with Transitional Housing Program funds provide direct services to victims/survivors, children, and other dependents, as well as program administration.

Obtaining permanent housing can be difficult for victims/survivors of domestic violence, and funding for our program has allowed us to provide clients with more concentrated housing advocacy, on-going/long term assistance which allows us to troubleshoot when problems arise, and also allows us to oversee the entire housing application process. Without funding for a housing specialist our program would not have the time or the resources to provide

individualized/in-depth advocacy and case management to our clients in the areas of housing and economic empowerment.

*- Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation,
New York*

Staff time provided through this program has allowed housing participants the opportunity to have personalized case management. Although all participants have had common issues, each has had unique needs. Two participants were able to obtain housing large enough to accommodate the return of their children from foster care. They each took advantage of case management to help accomplish the tasks listed in the family case plan. They were able to celebrate the return of their children. Four participants have been able to access funding to support them in a licensed nurse's aide program. They have completed the course and obtained employment in that field.

- Coos County Family Health Services, New Hampshire

Transitional housing has allowed our agency to provide more comprehensive, specialized services to victims of domestic violence. With the addition of the on-site counselor, victims who are reluctant to become engaged in the counseling process at mental health agencies feel less threatened to enter counseling within our transitional housing facility. Barriers such as transportation and conflict with time are also eliminated, since the counselor will adjust their schedule to meet the needs of the victims/survivors in transitional housing. An additional case manager has assisted victims/survivors in accessing mainstream services within a shorter period of time. More personal advocacy and support is given to assist residents in advocating to obtain needs and services. The job coach has done individual career assessments, assisted victim/survivors in completing resumes and job searches, accompanied them to the Work Force Center, provided information, applications, prerequisites, funding sources, and guidelines for training programs.

- Friends of Yates, Inc., Kansas

Table 43. Full-time equivalent staff funded by Transitional Housing Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	185	189	194	143
Total FTE staff funded	225	240	234	170
Case managers	86	92	88	73
Program coordinators	29	28	32	23
Victim advocates	22	23	23	11
Administrators	18	21	14	11
Child advocates/counselors	13	14	18	12
Housing advocates	14	17	15	8
Transitional services advocates/coordinators	15	17	13	9

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

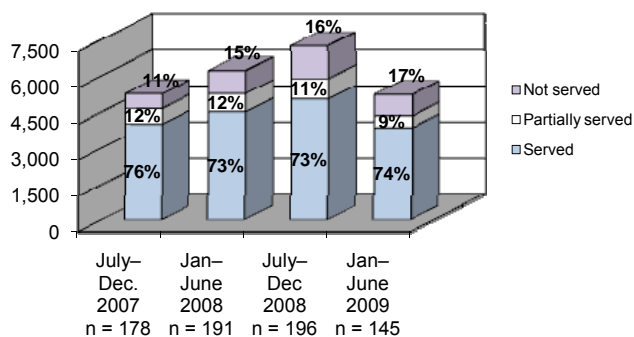
Victim Services

Transitional Housing Program grantees provide a broad array of services to victims/survivors, their children, and other dependents, including housing and housing advocacy, case management, crisis intervention, and counseling. It is critical that successful Transitional Housing programs provide a wide range of flexible and optional services that reflect the differences and individual needs of victims/survivors and allow them to choose the course of action that is best for them. Victims/survivors often require individualized assistance to overcome barriers to economic self-sufficiency. This assistance is a step toward housing stability for victims/survivors and their dependents.

- Number of individual grantees using funds to provide victim services: 211 (99 percent of grantees)¹⁷⁷
- Transitional Housing Program grantees provided services to an average of 5,006 victims/survivors¹⁷⁸

¹⁷⁷This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁷⁸This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods. This includes victims/survivors only. Children and other dependents are reported in subsequent sections.

Figure 20. Provision of victim services by Transitional Housing Program

n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTES: “Partially served” represents victims/survivors who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Transitional Housing Program grant. “Not served” represents victims/survivors who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Transitional Housing Program grant.

The funding has given us the opportunity to help stabilize families and enable them to be eligible for Housing Choice Vouchers and provided survivors an opportunity to establish credit in their own name. In addition, this program enables survivors with the opportunity to maintain a relationship with supportive services over an extensive period of time. One client recently transitioned out of the program and became a first-time homeowner, which would not have been possible without this bridge to independence. This funding continues to provide a bridge between emergency and permanent housing.

- *Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of New Orleans, Louisiana*

Victims Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 5,245 victims/survivors sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 4,646 (89 percent) victims/survivors received services and 599 (11 percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 6,200 victims/survivors sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 5,253 (85 percent) victims/survivors received services and 947(15 percent) were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 6,889 victims/survivors sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 5,791 (84 percent) victims/survivors received services and 1,098 (16 percent) were not served.

January–June 2009:

- 5,212 victims/survivors sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 4,333 (83 percent) victims/survivors received services and 879 (17 percent) were not served.

Number of Victims, Children and Other Dependents Not Served or Partially Served Solely due to Lack of Available Housing

Transitional Housing Program grantees using funds to support housing units are asked to report on how many victims/survivors, children, and other dependents they are unable to fully serve due to capacity issues related solely to lack of available housing units.

Table 44. Number partially served or not served due solely to lack of available housing

	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Victims/survivors	483	652	374	334
Children	738	868	409	401
Other dependents	3	4	5	5

Other Reasons Victims, Children and Other Dependents Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, the following barriers were noted by the greatest number of grantees as reasons why victims/survivors, children, and other dependents were not served or were only partially served:

- Program reached capacity
- Victim/survivor did not meet eligibility or statutory requirements
- Program rules not acceptable to parties
- Services not appropriate for parties
- Services inappropriate or inadequate for people with substance abuse issues
- Services inappropriate or inadequate for people with mental health issues

The majority of victims/survivors served or partially served were victimized by a current or former spouse or intimate partner (83-85 percent).

Table 45. Relationship to offender of victims/survivors served by the Transitional Housing Program

Relationship to offender	July-Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Current/former spouse or intimate partner	4,022	4,816	4,819	3,811	83–85
Other family member	291	435	406	346	6–8
Acquaintance	Na	Na	52	109	1-2
Current or former dating relationship	352	385	477	324	7–8
Stranger	Na	Na	28	26	<1-1
Unknown	279	630	330	269	Na

Na = not applicable

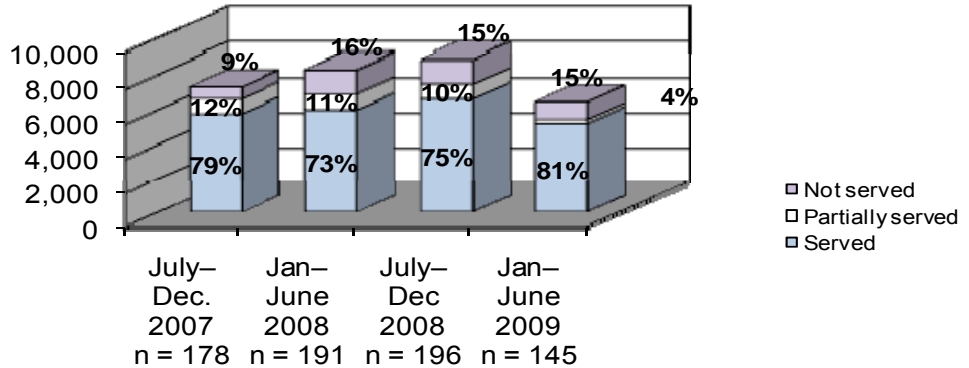
NOTES: Because victims/survivors may have been victimized by more than one offender, the number of relationships reported may be higher than the total number of victims/survivors served. Not all reported relationships are represented in the table. Percentages are based on known relationships only.

Services for Children and Other Dependents

Transitional Housing Program grantees provide housing and other supportive services including counseling, child care, transportation, and advocacy to children and other dependents of victims/survivors who are receiving Transitional Housing services. Secure and stable housing is a critical need for children; unstable housing, including homelessness, negatively impacts children's cognitive, emotional, and behavioral development (Schmitz, Wagner, & Menke, 1995). Studies indicate that domestic violence may affect the emotional and social development of children as well as children's functioning in school (Edleson, 1999a; Wolfe, Crooks, Lee, McIntyre-Smith, & Jaffe, 2003). Grantees respond to the needs of thousands of children each grant period, as well as other dependents that a victim/survivor may be supporting.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁹Other dependents may be people in the household that the victims/survivors are supporting, such as older relatives or adult children still living with a parent.

Figure 21. Provision of services to children and other dependents by Transitional Housing Program



n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTES: “Partially served” represents children/other dependents who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Transitional Housing Program grant. “Not served” represents children/other dependents who sought services and did not receive the service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Transitional Housing Program grant.

Children and Other Dependents Seeking Service

July-December 2007 (7,235 children and 78 dependents):

- 7,313 children and other dependents sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 6,640 (91 percent) children and other dependents received services and 673 (9 percent) were not served.

January-June 2008 (8,190 children and 80 dependents):

- 8,270 children and other dependents sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 6,908 (84 percent) children and other dependents received services and 1,362 (16 percent) were not served.

July-December 2008 (8,729 children and 103 dependents):

- 8,832 children and other dependents sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.
- Of these, 7,468 (85 percent) children and other dependents received services and 1,364 (15 percent) were not served.

January-June 2009 (6,331 children and 126 dependents):

- 6,457 children and other dependents sought services from Transitional Housing Program grantees.

- Of these, 5,459 (85 percent) children and other dependents received services and 998 (15 percent) were not served.

Demographics of Victims/Survivors Served and Partially Served

Transitional Housing Program grantees served or partially served an average of 5,006 victims/survivors. The majority of those victims/survivors were: white (41-52 percent), female (99 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (77-78 percent).

Table 46. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors served by Transitional Housing Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
American Indian	317	516	900	803	7-19
Asian	72	98	99	79	2
Black or African American	809	936	1167	817	18-21
Hispanic or Latino	952	888	918	596	14-21
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	35	27	38	40	1
White	2281	2331	2447	1933	44-51
Unknown	293	532	317	187	Na
Gender					
Female	4,556	5,167	5,749	4,280	99
Male	35	54	31	49	1
Unknown	55	32	11	4	Na
Age					
0–6	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
7–12	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
13–17	12	31	18	38	<1-1
18–24	840	1003	1089	841	19-20
25–59	3392	3832	4353	3221	77-78
60+	123	118	105	70	2-3
Unknown	279	269	226	163	Na
Other					
People with disabilities	491	556	658	473	11
People with limited English proficiency	570	561	551	379	9-12
People who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	452	478	432	318	7-10
People who live in rural areas	1,213	1,207	1,206	967	21-26

Na = not applicable

NOTES: Data include victims/survivors, children and other dependents who were fully or partially served. Because some victims/survivors, children or other dependents identify with more than one race/ethnicity, the number of race/ethnicities reported may exceed the total number of victims/survivors, children or other dependents served. Percentages are based only on victims/survivors, children and other dependents for whom the information was known.

Demographics of Children and Other Dependents Served and Partially Served

Table 47. Demographic characteristics of children and other dependents served by Transitional Housing Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
Children					
American Indian	568	728	1269	904	9-17
Asian	107	110	117	100	2
Black or African American	1245	1465	1648	1220	20-24
Hispanic or Latino	1697	1375	1557	1139	21-28
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	73	58	97	103	1-2
White	2465	2479	2609	1913	36-40
Unknown	601	829	332	166	Na
Other dependents					
American Indian	13	10	8	10	8-19
Asian	3	5	0	5	0-7
Black or African American	11	12	18	12	16-20
Hispanic or Latino	10	13	27	13	15-27
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	1	1	1	0-7
White	29	26	45	26	39-45
Unknown	7	12	16	12	Na
Gender					
Children					
Female	3,103	3,386	3,970	2,665	52-55
Male	2,896	3,132	3,280	2,500	45-48
Unknown	568	314	118	173	Na
Other dependents					
Female	443	39	61	64	53-61
Male	29	35	39	51	39-47
Unknown	1	2	0	6	Na
Age					
Children					
0–6	2856	3197	3585	2488	48-50
7–12	2111	2111	2430	1730	33-35
13–17	1016	1168	1226	939	17-18

Table 47. Demographic characteristics of children and other dependents served by Transitional Housing Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
18–24	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
25–59	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
60+	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
Unknown	584	356	127	181	Na
Other dependents					
0–6	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
7–12	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
13–17	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na
18–24	55	55	86	93	76-89
25–59	15	13	5	8	5-21
60+	1	4	6	10	1-9
Unknown	2	4	3	10	Na
Other					
Children					
Children with disabilities	218	201	215	169	3
Children with limited English proficiency	217	233	261	318	3-6
Children who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	135	188	176	162	2-3
Children who live in rural areas	1,720	1,551	1,563	1,329	21-26
Other dependents					
Dependents with disabilities	5	12	11	9	7-16
Dependents with limited English proficiency	5	4	12	14	5-12
Dependents who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	7	5	11	13	7-11
Dependents who live in rural areas	30	24	25	36	25-41

Na = not applicable

NOTES: Data include victims/survivors, children and other dependents who were fully or partially served. Because some victims/survivors, children or other dependents identify with more than one race/ethnicity, the number of race/ethnicities reported may exceed the total number of victims/survivors, children or other dependents served. Percentages are based only on victims/survivors, children and other dependents for whom the information was known.

Types of Victim Services

Transitional Housing Program grantees provided an array of support services designed to enable victims/survivors who are fleeing sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking, to locate and secure permanent housing. Economic stability is required for victims/survivors to maintain stable housing for themselves and their children. In order to assist victims/survivors in achieving long term economic security, grant programs often provide services to assist families in healing from abuse and integrating into the community. Crisis counseling, case management, housing advocacy, transportation, counseling, child care services, financial counseling, employment counseling, children's activities, and educational assistance were provided by grantees to victims/survivors, their children, and other dependents.

Grantees report that the following support services were provided most often (not a complete list) to victims/survivors over the four six-month reporting periods¹⁸⁰:

- Case management: 13,728
- Housing advocacy: 10,195
- Counseling/support group: 9,877
- Other victim/survivor advocacy¹⁸¹: 9,714
- Crisis intervention: 9,587
- Financial counseling: 6,227

The ability of victims/survivors to provide financially for themselves, their children, and other dependents can lead to long term stability and security, including maintaining permanent housing. Programs funded by Transitional Housing Grants can provide more than crisis counseling; they can give the victim/survivor time and support needed to establish economic self-sufficiency.

Prior to receiving this funding, we could only try to find housing for our clients who were in need of transitional housing. The local market is difficult at best and out of many clients' price range. We can now provide this service and the subsequent support services that will allow people to take the time to better ready themselves to handle life on their own. Each success is testament to the need and value of this program.

- Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council

Housing advocates are a vital link between victims/survivors and local housing providers. Victims/survivors frequently experience difficulty in procuring housing due to prior violence, and too often lose housing because of current and past actions of their abusers (National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 2007). Staff with knowledge of various housing programs provided effective advocacy to prevent victims/survivors from losing housing or services.

¹⁸⁰Victims/survivors were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, victims/survivors may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods. Only the most frequently reported categories of services are presented.

¹⁸¹ Other victim/survivor advocacy includes actions designed to help the victim/survivor obtain resources or services such as health care, social services, etc.

The collaboration that was developed between the Choctaw Nation Housing and local housing authority programs has been helpful in locating permanent housing for the victims. Without the Project HOUSE program, victims of domestic violence would not have an advocate, advocating for them with their specific housing needs.

- *Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma*

Linking survivors with training and educational opportunities is often described as a way to increase long-term employment opportunities for victims/survivors. Grantees provide assistance to victims/survivors in job search skills, resume writing, interviewing, and job referrals.

In addition, through ongoing financial management, budgeting, and other support services, survivors have been empowered to make informed choices in their lives and take control of their future. This year, we have two survivors, whom after having gone through the Transitional Housing Program were able to not only sign their own leases, choose and move into their own apartments, obtain support services but in addition, were able to open their own small businesses through the financial management and budgeting classes offered to participants. We are very proud of their accomplishment!

- *Dwa Fanm, New York*

Transitional Housing grantees provide a wide range of services to support victims/survivors to achieve self-sufficiency.

Besides housing, we are now able to provide ongoing support by assisting with utility or childcare bills, etc., when they find themselves in a real financial crunch. We give them encouragement and support through individual life-skill counseling, support groups, and workshops that address financial management and resources; thrifty living; stress relief; self-esteem; educational resources; parenting skills; and goal setting and achievement.

- *Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse, Utah*

The Transitional Housing Program funding has created an opportunity for the YWCA Crisis Services and Families in Transition to offer a 12-week psycho-educational support group for victims/survivors of domestic violence twice a year. During the most recent offering of the group, the women explored several relevant topics such as communication, the impact of domestic violence on children, and online resources such as support groups. Having an opportunity to utilize a support group where the survivors are stabilized in housing and have the ability to explore more fully the impact that domestic violence has had on their life, and the lives of their children, is a rare circumstance. The feedback has been positive from those who have participated thus far, and the partnership will continue to provide this opportunity for survivors in transitional housing.

- *Families in Transition, New Hampshire*

Types of Services for Children and Other Dependents

The effects on children of being exposed to domestic violence are well documented (Edleson, 1997). Children who are exposed to domestic violence exhibit aggressive and antisocial behaviors as well as fearful behaviors, they are more likely to have symptoms of anxiety, depression, and trauma. Children living with perpetrators of domestic violence are at risk themselves for abuse (Edleson, 1999b). Children who have lived with domestic violence in the home may need support to help them understand and cope with such violence, and other supports to help them develop socially, behaviorally, emotionally, and academically. Programs which provide case management and advocacy services to children can increase access to health, mental health, and other services tailored to individual children. Some programs provided direct services designed to increase children's social and emotional development, such as support groups and children's activities. Other services provided were concrete, including transportation, child care, or clothing.

This funding has allowed Bolton Refuge House to continue operation of the Children's Center - the only group-licensed daycare facility in the state serving primarily victims of domestic violence and their children. The Bolton Refuge House has the unique ability to maintain confidentiality and a safe space for the child victims/witnesses of domestic violence. Because the adult survivors sometimes need to work jobs that are outside of normal daycare operating hours, the Bolton Refuge House Children's Center has often been able to be open during these unusual hours.

- *Bolton Refuge House, Inc., Wisconsin*

The most common supports provided to children and other dependents by Transitional Housing funded programs are the following:

- Case management: 12,541
- Children's activities: 8,174
- Crisis intervention: 6,200
- Other victim/survivor advocacy: 6,076
- Counseling/support group: 5,174
- Child care: 4,715

Transitional Housing and Destination Upon Exit

Transitional housing grant funds can be used to house victim/survivors for up to 18 months.¹⁸² After their stay in grant-funded housing, victim/survivors most often were reported as moving to permanent housing of their choice.

¹⁸²By statute, a grantee may waive the 18-month restriction for no more than 6 months for victims/survivors who have made good-faith efforts to acquire permanent housing and have been unable to acquire permanent housing. This restriction was extended to 24 months by VAWA 2005. The six-month waiver provisions still apply.

Table 48. Number of victims/ survivors in each destination category upon their exit¹⁸³

Destination upon exit	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage Range
Permanent housing of choice (Section 8, return to home, rent or purchase housing)	382	385	496	354	76-82
Temporary housing with family or friend	36	65	63	55	8-13
Transitional Housing (other than grant-funded program)	19	24	38	15	3-6
Health Care Facility/substance abuse treatment program	10	7	4	13	1-3

Victims/Survivors Perception of Risk of Violence Upon Exit

Victim/survivors most often reported perceiving a lower risk of violence after their stay in transitional housing supported housing units.

Table 49. Number of victims/ survivors who indicated each of the following perceptions about their risk of violence upon exit

Perception about the risk of future violence	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Lower risk of violence	334	354	447	310	79-85
Equal risk of violence	25	42	48	30	6-9
Greater risk of violence	3	16	12	12	1-4
Does not know	32	34	35	40	6-10
Unknown (did not ask victim/ survivor)	140	107	114	89	Na

Follow-up Support Services

If grantees use funds for housing units and supportive services, grantees must provide a minimum of three months follow-up support services to victims/survivors after their stay in transitional housing units. These follow-up services are intended to continue to connect victims/survivors and their families with assistance from the program.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for follow-up services: 118 (55 percent of grantees)¹⁸⁴

¹⁸³Only the most frequently reported destinations are presented.

The following types of funded follow-up services are most often reported:

Victims/Survivors:

- Case management: 1,363
- Other victim/survivor advocacy: 874
- Counseling/support group: 619
- Crisis intervention: 471
- Housing advocacy: 445
- Financial counseling: 311

Children and Other Dependents:

- Case management: 1,313
- Other victim/survivor advocacy: 529
- Children's activities: 386
- Counseling/support group: 265
- Child care: 193
- Crisis intervention: 172

Additionally, the funding has allowed CCH (Colorado Coalition for the Homeless) to provide supportive services to victims of domestic violence that have exited CCH's transitional housing program into permanent housing, but who have indicated that they are still in need of assistance related to their domestic violence. These victims frequently contact FSS (Family Support Services) after exiting transitional housing for follow-up support. In addition, victims of domestic violence that exit transitional housing are contacted by FSS staff on a regular basis for the first year after exiting. These follow-ups allow FSS caseworkers and the domestic violence services coordinator to provide needed support to help ensure self sufficiency, such as enrolling in group counseling, continued individual counseling or legal advocacy.

- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Colorado

Remaining Areas of Need

Transitional Housing grantees cited economic self-sufficiency for victims/survivors and their children as the most significant area of remaining need. Affordable housing was the most often mentioned need, with long waiting lists of up to two years for low-income housing, with lack of money for security deposits, rent, and utilities topping the list. Transitional Housing programs indicated a lack of bed space in their facilities to accommodate all victims/survivors and their children, as well as single victims/survivors. Lack of transportation was described as increasing the difficulty for victims/survivors in traveling to court and medical appointments, and the challenges in maintaining employment without a vehicle.

Transitional Housing grantees mentioned the challenges in serving Native American and Latino victim/survivors, and victim/survivors and their children who live in rural

¹⁸⁴This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

communities. Particular challenges encountered in serving immigrants and refugees involved the lack of benefits available, the need for easily accessible interpreters and ESL classes, the provision of legal advocacy, and the necessity of training on the application and use of available legal options.

The need for the development of consistent policies on protection orders, and the difficulties in enforcing attendance in batterer's intervention programs (BIPs) for offenders from rural communities due to geographic distances and lack of transportation was also noted.

Grants to Support Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions

The purpose of the Grants to Support Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions (Tribal Coalitions Program) is to build the capacity of survivors, advocates, Indian women's organizations, and victim services providers to form nonprofit, nongovernmental tribal domestic violence, and sexual assault coalitions to advance the goal of ending violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. Studies indicate that Indian women suffer a disproportionate level of intimate-partner violence and sexual assault. The National Crime Victimization Survey reveals rates of intimate partner violence nearly three times higher for American Indian and Alaska Native (23.2 percent) women than White (8.1 percent) women and over twice the rate for Black (11.2 percent) women (Rennison, 2001). Given these staggering statistics, Tribal Coalitions Program grant funds are awarded to increase awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault against American Indian and Alaska Native women; enhance the response at the tribal, federal, and state levels; and identify and provide technical assistance to coalition members and tribal communities in an effort to enhance access to critical services.

A coalition is a group of individuals, victim services providers, and/or organizations working together for a common purpose -- to make more effective and efficient use of resources to create visibility for the issues addressed by members, to establish leadership of members on those issues and to utilize the power of the membership to create critical social change. Tribal domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions support efforts to develop tribal leadership to effect social change and systemic reform to end violence against Indian women, ensure the safety of Indian victims/survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and promote the accountability of offenders. The leadership and expertise of Indian survivors who have been battered and/or sexually assaulted or persons who are working with victims/survivors are critical to the successful development and operation of tribal domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions.

In Indian Country, if you drove through and saw the despair and hopelessness, due to the way our people have been treated historically and continue to be treated to this day, which contributes to high rates of violence against Indian women that exceed any other group in the nation, that gives you the funders the [picture of] all the work you have supported us to do. That work brings back hope and empowers the people to take a stand to end violence against Native women. This is more than numbers. The impact of these programs is profound now and will be for the next seven generations, our future. The elders say that in any

deliberation you must consider the impact on the next seven generations. So, with that, we give thanks for the work you do for us in Washington and all that you must deal with in the political arena - the overwhelming work. Just know that, in partnership, we are making a difference in the lives of women, and creating safety for women and holding offenders accountable.

- *Community Resource Alliance, Minnesota*

General Grant Information

Information for this report was submitted by 29 individual Tribal Coalition Program grantees¹⁸⁵ for the period July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2009. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 21
- January–June 2008: 17
- July–December 2008: 26
- January–June 2009: 21

Seventy-two percent of the grantees were dual sexual assault/domestic violence coalitions, 14 percent were domestic violence coalitions, 7 percent were sexual assault coalitions, and 7 percent were tribal governments.

Staff

Tribal Coalitions Program staff provide training, education, and technical assistance to help end violence against Indian women and hold offenders accountable.

Grantees most often used grant funds for administrators. Administrators hire staff and collaborate with agencies in the tribal communities. They also provide training for law enforcement, prosecution, and court staff.

Table 50. Full-time equivalent staff funded by Tribal Coalitions Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	17	17	22	20
Total FTE staff funded	37	40	53	37
Program coordinators	12	14	16	12
Administrators	11	12	17	13
Support staff	6	7	7	5

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

¹⁸⁵This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Training

Grantees train professionals to improve their response to American Indian and/or Alaska Native victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. High quality training also helps increase offender accountability. Tribal Coalitions Program grantees trained professionals across a broad spectrum: victim advocates, tribal elders, tribal law enforcement officers, tribal prosecutors, court personnel, probation officers, and health and mental health professionals.

The most common topics for training events were: advocacy for American Indian and/or Alaska Native women; cultural issues specific to American Indians and/or Alaska Natives; tribal strategies to address sexual assault or domestic violence; dynamics and history of violence against American Indian and/or Alaska Native women; and sexual assault overview, dynamics, and services.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training: 18 (62 percent of all grantees)¹⁸⁶
- Total number of training events: 271
- Total number of people trained: 8,475

Table 51. People trained with Tribal Coalitions Program funds: selected professional positions

Position	People trained (N = 8,475)	
	Number	Percent
Multidisciplinary group	2,500	29
Domestic violence program staff (tribal – 631; non-tribal – 245)	876	10
Tribal community group member	678	8
Sexual assault program staff (tribal – 111; non-tribal – 489)	600	7
Tribal gov't/tribal gov't agency staff	383	5

NOTE: Data presented for the five most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

Training in the past provided by other organizations has been a “one size fits all” mentality. It is rare that a training has a specific topic that focuses around Native American concepts, values, cultures, and dynamics. Community members on Native land or within its exterior boundaries appreciate our training because they are introduced to Native specific curriculum and how to acculturate one’s method when responding to Native American people. The training has also filtered into the non-Native programs, organizations and governments that invite us to co-facilitate or collaboratively provide training. This collaboration provides cross-referencing and begins to build community cross-cultural

¹⁸⁶This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

relationships. This method provides more cultural awareness and a connectedness for the Native American victims. Our community is tri-ethnic (Hispanic, Anglo and Native American) and by verbally, visually, and openly discussing violence against Native America women and teaching that it is not traditional, a new respect has taken place, and there is more protection for the victims, not just blaming.

- *Our Sister's Keeper Coalition, Inc., Colorado*

Community Education

Community education is designed to increase awareness of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women, inform community members about what they can do to respond, and offer guidance on how people may help a family member or friend who has been victimized. Outreach activities may include distributing information at community gatherings such as powwows, basket-weaving and beading circles, bake sales, and parades.¹⁸⁷

- Number of individual grantees using funds for community education: 20 (69 percent of grantees)¹⁸⁸
- Total number of education events: 327
- Total number of people educated: 16,448

Table 52. People educated with Tribal Coalitions Program funds: selected categories

Category	People educated (N = 16,448)	
	Number	Percent
Tribal community members	4,828	29
Tribal students	3,212	20
Tribal community groups	1,680	10
Tribal government staff	753	5
Tribal victims/survivors	716	4
Tribal community advocacy organizations	656	4
Tribal elders	617	4

NOTE: Data presented for the seven most frequently selected categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

We honor the murdered woman and her family by giving each family a "star quilt" made by community elders. Spiritual leaders conduct a "Wiping of the Tears Ceremony" for family and community healing and a feast to culminate the healing ceremony.

¹⁸⁷Community education is not the same as training. Training involves providing information on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking that enables an individual to improve his or her response to victims/survivors as it relates to their role in the system.

¹⁸⁸This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Public education is provided by a keynote speech, handouts and brochures, and information booths. Volunteers construct, paint and transport the life size 'Silent Witness' silhouettes to the event. The local event center is rented to accommodate a large crowd. Commemorative coffee cups are distributed to participants and we encourage discussion in the community about violence against women. A local youth drum group supports us with appropriate songs throughout the event.

- *Community Resource Alliance, Minnesota*

Staff and board members have participated in sweat lodges which cleared their minds, bodies, and spirits. If Native people do not take care of themselves, they are in no position to show others how to increase their safety. Women's talking circles were held so Native women could share their stories and show others how to make baskets, dream catchers and blankets etc. Storytelling with humor, sharing a part of who you are, improves your self-worth. Listening to others and how they survived life's challenges also increases your strategies to keep safe. Many individuals gave supportive feedback on our educational activities. They listened, they asked for additional information, (handouts, phone numbers etc.), and at one educational event I was asked by three ladies to assist them with personal protection orders. They were given the opportunities and options to increase their safety.

- *Lori Jump, Michigan*

The Full Moon Ceremony is an opportunity for women to use a spiritual practice to share experience, create sisterhood, and initiate steps toward healing for Native women, especially as a survivor of sexual assault. It also validates that restoring these practices is important in the work and that they are available in our community. They are still practiced and useful for Native women in our community. Inherent in Ojibwa and Dakota language are values and concepts regarding relationships. Using specific word references shifts our way of thinking to culturally relevant values and beliefs that shape our world. Learning elementary words provides inspiration for individuals to learn more and want to preserve their tribal identity. Shawl-making with MIWSA allowed us to bring our membership together for a common cause. Shawls are a traditional piece of clothing recognizable in our community and worn at events. Coalition members came together to teach each other the skill of shawl-making while we were meeting; the shawls had predetermined colors and were worn at Capitol Days in Minneapolis to distinguish ourselves from dominant culture *sexual assault/domestic violence* programs and to create capacity and solidarity amongst Native women. Incorporating storytelling to convey information provides women with an outlet to share their experiences...

- *Mending the Sacred Hoop, Minnesota*

Technical Assistance

Tribal Coalitions Program grantees provide technical assistance to programs to help other professionals and organizations improve their response to American Indian and

Alaska Native victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, and to help other professionals and organizations improve organizational infrastructure. Tribal coalitions develop, revise, and/or implement policies, protocols, procedures, and/or training. Grantees provide technical assistance through site visits and/or other types of consultations, including in-person, telephonic, electronic, or other types of contact with member programs.

The most frequent areas of technical assistance were: developing or enhancing culturally appropriate services for underserved populations; law enforcement response to domestic violence; and curricula and training issues.

- Number of individual grantees using Tribal Coalitions Program funds for technical assistance: 21 (72 percent of grantees)¹⁸⁹
- Total number of other technical assistance consultations provided: 3,749
- Total number of technical assistance site visits: 332
- Total assistance (site visits and consultations) provided: 4,081

Finally being able to conduct outreach with tribes in Arizona has been such a rewarding experience because so much information has been gained. Meeting tribal programs face-to-face has provided the groundwork for developing solid working relationships with tribes and has provided the forum to identify training and technical assistance needs. Meeting with tribal domestic violence task forces/committees has allowed *Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition* (SWIWC) to talk about the rates of violence, the response to the violence in terms of systems and protocols, and collaboration. Tribes were so thankful for the opportunity to meet with someone - a resource - who could provide them assistance in developing their communities' response to domestic violence/sexual assault and to help them get connected to outside resources. They also requested onsite training and technical assistance because most tribes did not have the funding to send their staff out for training. This is something that SWIWC felt good about. It's a need that is unique to SWIWC and as a coalition, it's a way to reach out to tribes and increase their capacity to respond and address the physical and sexual violence in their communities.

- *Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition, Arizona*

Policies

Tribal Coalitions Program grantees develop, revise, and implement policies to provide standardized guidance to organizations and professionals on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking against American Indian and Alaska Native women.

Types of policies most frequently developed, revised, and implemented included: appropriate response to underserved populations; victim services standards of service; confidentiality; protection order policies for law enforcement; and training standards for staff and volunteers.

¹⁸⁹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- Number of individual grantees using Tribal Coalitions Program funds for developing, revising, and/or implementing policies: 14 (48 percent of grantees)¹⁹⁰

We have come to realize that we are working with 11 separate Nations and that we as a coalition must honor and respect each and every tribal custom, tradition, and teaching when walking onto their land(s). We have learned to listen and to allow growth as it happens. It may sometimes be difficult because there are deadlines and there are requirements to fulfill the responsibility that we have all accepted through commitment to the cause and to our mission statement and to our funding agencies.

- *American Indians Against Abuse, Inc., Wisconsin*

Products

Tribal Coalitions Program grantees develop and revise a variety of products addressing violence against women. These products may include brochures, manuals, training curricula and materials, newsletters, and videos. The purpose of distributing these materials is to provide information to other professionals and organizations on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking against American Indian and Alaska Native women.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for products: 16 (55 percent of grantees)¹⁹¹
- Total number of products developed or revised: 296
- Total number of products distributed: 76,357

A considerable amount of outreach was conducted during this reporting period to contact other tribal programs and Native advocates to increase awareness by distributing a brochure to inform programs and Native women about the services of the Tribal Coalition. There was a particular emphasis on urban programs and Native staff. These advocates lack support and resources in their ability to become more visible and be identified as a resource for Native women within non-native programs.

- *Mending the Sacred Hoop, Minnesota*

Remaining Areas of Need

The majority of Tribal Coalitions Program grantees reported a strong need to build and strengthen relationships between tribal and non-tribal communities, most specifically with federal courts and government. This effort would help to ensure that non-Native offenders committing acts of violence against Native women would not fall through the cracks and avoid or escape prosecution. Diversifying collaborations between tribal law enforcement, tribal judiciary, medical and mental health

¹⁹⁰This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁹¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

professionals, tribal governments, and other relevant parties at all levels would create an environment in which victims/survivors would be more likely to report these crimes and seek services. Lack of immediate response and follow-through to incidents of violence was noted as a significant reason why victims/survivors report reluctance in coming forward. Further, lack of offender accountability erodes trust and perpetuates both low rates in reporting to criminal justice agencies and of other help-seeking by victims/survivors.

Tribal Coalitions Program grantees continue to report the need for an increase in services in isolated communities. Poverty and substance abuse are viewed as contributors to the escalation of violence in tribal communities. Service expansion is critical to more competent response to the rising needs of these communities.

Grantees further noted a continued need for training and education that allows women to be able to openly and comfortably discuss and report crimes of sexual assault. There is anecdotal knowledge that many more sexual assaults are occurring than are being reported. Grantees cited that victims/survivors fear family retaliation, peer pressure or embarrassment in coming forward.

There is also a critical need to address the issue of trafficking of Native women. This appears to be an issue that has garnered little attention but is recognized by the tribes as a serious form of violence against Native women.

Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program

The Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program (Tribal Governments Program) encourages grantees to implement or strengthen victim services to victim/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking by holding offenders accountable, educating professionals and the community, and providing various services to families affected by violence.

The Tribal Governments Program supports the following purpose areas: implement culturally competent governmental strategies to reduce violence and increase safety for Indian women; enhance ability and response to aid victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking; support work on tribal justice interventions; develop a community response to education and prevention of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking; protect the safety of victim/survivors and their children by providing supervised visitation and exchange; provide transitional housing, support services, and financial assistance to victims/survivors; and provide legal assistance so that victims/survivors can seek justice.

The scope of the Tribal Governments Program is specially focused on addressing the sexual assault of Indian women and includes the following priority areas: training professionals on the appropriate response to sexual assault and helping them develop protocols, and training and certification of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE).

The Emmonak Woman's Shelter would not have been open without this funding. Many victims would have nowhere to go. Women would continue to go to churches, steam houses, willows, under 18-20 footer skiffs, or neighbors for safe shelter. When on-call advocates are called or notified, the shelter opens. Many times victims do not want to go to the police because of family ties. If the shelter was open full-time, women would walk to the shelter, knowing someone would be there to open the door. Village women choose to stay in the village. Many do not leave the village or have left the village only for medical visits to the hospital. This is the only village-based shelter in our region; the nearest shelter is 140 air miles southeast of Emmonak. This grant has opened doors to keep women and children alive and safe from abuse.

- Emmonak Women's Shelter, Alaska

A survivor's story (see below) is what makes our Lummi Victims of Crime (LVOC) program effective to provide them support, listen, and give them the tools to move forward.

" Phase 1: I will try to be as brief as I can, which will nearly be impossible. I'm writing this letter on support of the LVOC. I would like to share a little bit of my situation. I have seven children, a 3-year old grandchild and another on the way. Oh yeah I'm 36 years old. I have a victim of sexual violence since my first memories at about 4 years old. The physical abuse started when I was 17 and the sexual abuse continued. I was continuously raped in the same room as my children. The beatings were daily for nearly five years. He went to prison and I got heavily into drugs and alcohol. Phase 2: Throughout this fog and haze I married my childhood sweetheart. We drank too much; so after another child, we divorced. I stayed single for years. Then it happened again. I met a Native that treated me like a queen. I ignored all the red flags and wouldn't believe the stories I heard. We had children, and the beating, mental and verbal abuse got worse. To make a long story short, I was stabbed 14 times, teeth knocked out, collapsed lung, broken ribs, dislocated jaw, beaten beyond recognition for a 12-hour period. I was forced to dig my own grave. Thank God I was too weak. What I'm trying to say is until this last time of a near death experience I never knew there was help for me. I woke up in the hospital with my new advocate sent by LVOC a heaven sent angel in my book. I had a dedicated Native American woman advocate sitting by my side telling me I'm okay. She gave me hope. She was with me every step of the way during my physical recovery, my mental recovery and my chemical dependency recovery. I got into counseling, in-patient treatment, and got to my doctor appointments because of her and LVOC. She made me aware of programs that were meant for me."

- Lummi Indian Nation

Tribal Governments Program funding has also allowed us to assist victims/survivors financially in escaping the abuse and getting back on their feet. With economic times as tough as they are, it is extremely helpful to be able to assist this population of women and children in order to better their way of life. Overall, the Tribal Governments Program funding has allowed Legal Aid of Nebraska's Native American Program to develop a specific practice area of representing victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and/or dating violence, and stalking. The resources to create such a practice area did not previously exist.

- Legal Aid of Nebraska

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 145 individual Tribal Government Program grantees¹⁹² for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009 progress report period. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of grantees reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 73
- January–June 2008: 71

¹⁹²This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- July–December 2008: 131
- January–June 2009: 123

Staff

Tribal Governments Program staff provide victim services, training, outreach, supervised visitation, law enforcement activities, prosecution, court services, supervision of offenders, and batterer intervention programs to increase victim safety and offender accountability. Being able to hire staff is critical to the overall function and success of programs.

The percentage of grantees using Tribal Governments Program funds for staff increased from 73 percent in the first reporting period to 97 percent in the last reporting period. Grantees most often used grant funds for victim advocate positions.

Table 53. Full-time equivalent staff funded by Tribal Governments Program

Staff funded	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009
Grantees using funds for staff	53	65	111	119
Total FTE staff funded	89	126	191	215
Victim advocates	27	35	62	75
Administrators	11	16	28	26
Program coordinators	12	15	22	22
Support staff	7	7	12	13
Batterer intervention program staff	6	8	12	13
Law enforcement officers	5	6	10	11
Trainer/educators	3	6	5	6

FTE = full-time equivalent

NOTE: Staff categories do not add to total FTEs because only the most frequently reported categories are presented.

Tribal Governments Funding Program also allowed Maehnowesekiyah to hire a female co-facilitator. Having a healthy, strong woman work with male offenders often results in the men being able to recognize and learn about their partner's views, attitudes and reactions to abuse. This is very difficult to portray with a male-only facilitator. Group members often cite learning about "a woman's perspective" as very important to their treatment experience.

- *Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin*

Prior to receiving this funding, there was no designated advocate that tribal members could contact for assistance in domestic violence situations. The unfortunate result was that many just never reported the incident or, due to lack of assistance, they were just afraid to proceed with any protection orders. They also had no one to really confide in who would, in turn, refer them to other

services they needed such as counseling and groups. The funding allowed the Tribe to hire a full time advocate who is available to assist victims from the beginning. The police immediately contact the advocate so she can offer assistance including helping with protection orders, going to court with the victim, referring them to other services, and assisting them in the search for housing if they need to move. Because this position has been funded by this grant, more victims will seek the needed services and will not be falling through the cracks and, hopefully, not have to experience the trauma again.

- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Training

Quality training to professionals is necessary for the development of an effective coordinated community response to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The training of professionals builds a safer community for all members. A majority of Tribal Governments Program grantees provide training on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking issues to batterer intervention staff, health professionals, and victim advocates. This training improves professional responses to victims/survivors, and increases offender accountability.

The most common topics for training events were: advocacy for American Indian and/or Alaska Native women; cultural issues specific to American Indians and/or Alaska Natives; domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; and sexual assault overview, dynamics, and services.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for training: 53 (37 percent of grantees)¹⁹³
- Total number of training events: 290
- Total number of people trained: 7,973

Table 54. People trained with Tribal Governments Program funds: selected professional positions

Position	People trained (N = 7,973)	
	Number	Percent
Health professionals (407 tribal—413 non-tribal)	820	10
Victim advocates (332 tribal—384 non-tribal)	716	9
Multidisciplinary group (510 tribal—173 non-tribal)	683	9
Government agency staff (530 tribal—71 non-tribal)	601	8

NOTE: Data presented for the four most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

¹⁹³This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

Our domestic violence and sexual assault program has been providing several different types of trainings to many different communities and target audiences. Not being a reservation-based tribe we have had to work very closely with our local non-Native communities. We have provided cultural competency trainings to services providers, community partners, county task forces, and victim advocate centers. We have provided training around violence against Native women and a holistic approach to healing. Our hope is that any non-Native agency that has a Native women or family seeking services will be able to be aware of the cultural needs of that individual and make the referral to our Tribal program. This has worked very well with our community partners. We have received referrals, we have co-advocated, and have been able to provide technical assistance after the training was over. Our program wholeheartedly feels that Native women are receiving better services due to these trainings and are safer as a result.

- *Cowlitz Indian Tribe*

Our Village & Legal Services Coordinator, funded entirely by this grant program, provided two "Heart of the Grizzly" trainings at the *Women are Sacred Conference* in Oakland, California in June 2009. The training focused on sexual assault of Native women in rural Alaska with a special emphasis on the impact of substance abuse and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). The first day she had 15 participants. Then the word went around and the next presentation was standing room only. This was her first professional training in this kind of forum, and the response from conference participants was very gratifying. Several commented on the evaluations that it was a "life-changing" experience.

- *Bristol Bay Native Association, Inc.*

Community Education

Community education increases awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking issues. Community education can be used as a tool to connect people in a community who have a common goal of building safe, supportive, and accountable communities.¹⁹⁴ A high number of grantees provided education to community members.

The most common topics for community education events were domestic violence overview, dynamics and services; domestic violence/dating violence prevention program; dating violence overview, dynamics and services; youth awareness of sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking; and healthy relationships/domestic violence/dating violence prevention (community).

- Number of individual grantees using funds for community education: 98 (68 percent of grantees)¹⁹⁵

¹⁹⁴Community education is not the same as training. Training involves providing information to professionals on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking that enables an individual to improve his or her response to victims/survivors as it relates to their role in the system.

¹⁹⁵This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- Total number of people educated: 45,384

Table 55. People educated with Tribal Governments Program funds: selected groups

Group	People educated (N = 45,384)	
	Number	Percent
Community members	19,748	44
Students	10,281	23
Community groups	4,198	9
Tribal elders	2,809	6

NOTE: Data presented for the four most frequently reported categories only. Numbers represent totals for all four reporting periods.

In early December of 2007 a region tele-video conference took place which included the villages of Sand Point, King Cove and Akutan. The meeting was attended by community and tribal members, medical and behavioral staff, law enforcement, elders, clergy, and child welfare workers. Also in attendance were consultants from the Alaska Native Women's Coalition and from Unalaskan's Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence. The meeting solidified the focus groups and opened discussion on the best ways to proceed with media and awareness raising campaigns. Suggestions included radio interviews, distribution of pamphlets, poster design contests, educational information in the school system, and a logo design. A week later the project coordinator flew to King Cove and met with the focus group in that community. Attending were elders and students from the school along with other community members and clinic staff. The students attending the meeting agreed to work on video and poster ideas to raise awareness on domestic violence and sexual assault. Several of the elders attending expressed their desire to go to the school on a regular basis to interact with the students. In addition, school personnel agreed that the upcoming projects were a constructive outlet for the students and beneficial to the community at large.

- *Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.*

Outreach Activities

- A total of 1,310 activities were conducted throughout the four six-month reporting periods. The most common outreach activities were education exhibits, such as the Clothesline Project, Silent Witness, and information tables.

Victim Services

Tribal Governments Program grantees provide a wide range of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

These services are a critical part of a coordinated community response and may include victim advocacy, legal services, and/or transitional housing. Services may be provided by a victim services agency, legal services organization, or staff providing victim services within law enforcement, prosecution, or the court system. Services from victim advocates may include safety planning or accompaniment to court; transitional housing assistance; or access to supervised visitation and exchange services.

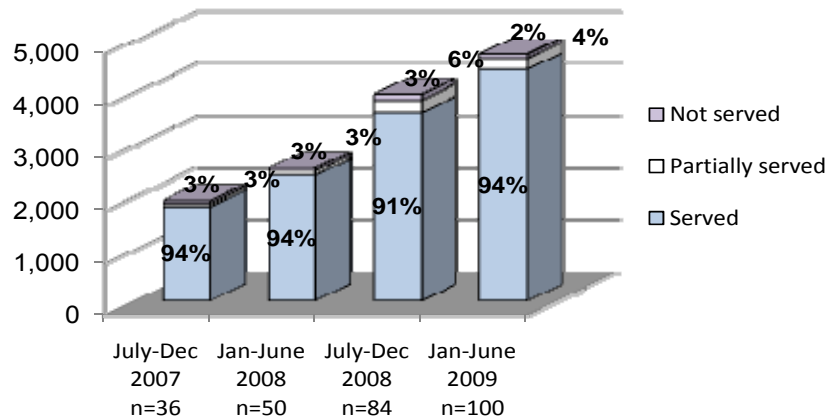
Studies indicate that American Indian and Alaska Native women report higher rates of victimization than women from any other ethnic or racial background (National Institute of Justice, 2002; Rennison, 2001; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000a).

To eliminate violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women and to support the recovery of victims, it is crucial that services be provided in a manner that addresses the specific cultural needs of American Indian and Alaska Native women. The lack of culturally sensitive and appropriate services for these victims/survivors can pose additional barriers. For example, women may choose not to engage in services or may terminate from services early if they fail to incorporate issues of culture and language.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for victim services: 110 (76 percent of grantees)¹⁹⁶
- Tribal Governments Program grantees provided services to an average of 3,209 victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking to help them become and remain safe from violence in a six-month reporting period.¹⁹⁷

¹⁹⁶This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

¹⁹⁷This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Figure 22. Provision of victim services by Tribal Governments Program

n = number of grantees reporting victim services

NOTES: "Partially served" represents victims/survivors who received some service(s), but not all of the services they requested, if those services were funded under the Tribal Governments Program grant. "Not served" represents victims/survivors who sought services and did not receive service(s) they were seeking, if those services were funded under the Tribal Governments Program grant.

Victims Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 1,920 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 1,864 (97 percent) victims/survivors received services and 56 (3percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 2,549 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 2,487 (98 percent) victims/survivors received services and 62 (2 percent) were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 3,957 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 3,846 (97 percent) victims/survivors received services and 111 (3 percent) were not served.

January–June 2009:

- 4,720 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 4,638 (98 percent) victims/survivors received services and 82 (2 percent) were not served.

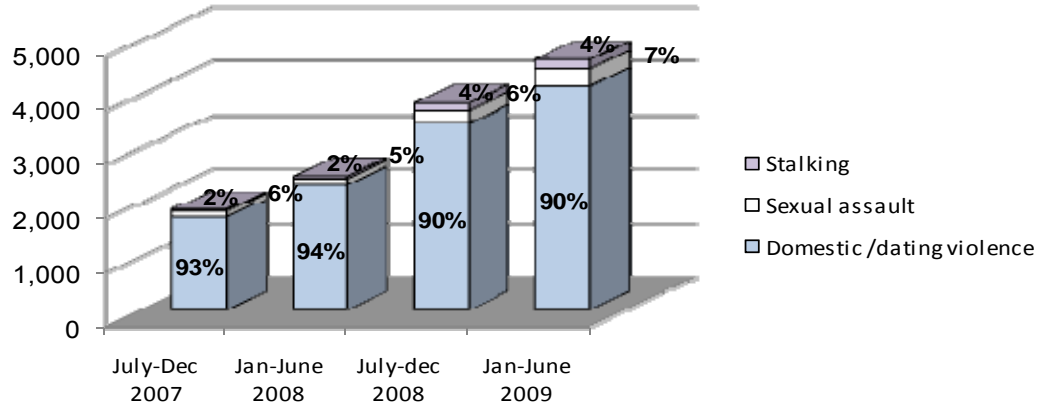
Reasons Victims Were Not Served or Were Partially Served

During each reporting period, the following barriers were noted most frequently by grantees as reasons why victims/survivors were not served or were partially served:

- Did not meet statutory requirements.
- Program rules not acceptable to victim/survivor
- Conflict of interest
- Services not appropriate for victim/survivor
- Services inappropriate or inadequate for victims/survivors with mental health issues

More than 90 percent of the victims/survivors served during the four reporting periods received services for domestic violence and dating violence. There was a slight increase in the number of victims receiving services for sexual assault and stalking during the last two reporting periods.

Figure 23. Provision of victim services by Tribal Governments Program, by type of victimization¹⁹⁸



¹⁹⁸The overall number of victims/survivors served represents an unduplicated count; this means that each victim/survivor is counted only once by each grantee, regardless of the number of times that victim/survivor received services during each reporting period. Because victims/survivors can only be counted once, they must be reported under only one primary victimization. It is not uncommon for victims/survivors to experience more than one type of victimization (e.g., domestic violence and stalking, or domestic violence and sexual assault), but that fact is not reflected in the reported percentages of sexual assault, domestic violence/dating violence, and stalking victims/survivors served.

The majority of victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking served or partially served were victimized by a current or former intimate partner (76-80 percent).

Table 56. Relationship to offender of victims/survivors served by the Tribal Governments Program

Relationship to offender	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Current/former intimate partner	1,442	1,819	2,991	3,666	76-80
Other family or household member	167	288	500	651	9-14
Dating relationship	131	165	310	229	5-8
Acquaintance	61	72	119	209	3-4

NOTES: Because victims/survivors may have been victimized by more than one offender, the number of relationships reported may be higher than the total number of victims/survivors served. Not all reported relationships are represented in the table. Percentages are based on known relationships only.

Demographics of Victims Served and Partially Served

Tribal Governments Program grantees served or partially served an average of 3,209 victims/survivors in a six-month reporting period.¹⁹⁹ The majority of those victims/survivors were American Indian/Alaska Native (91-93 percent), female (93-94 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (61-68 percent).

¹⁹⁹This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

Table 57. Demographic characteristics of victims/survivors served by Tribal Governments Program

Characteristic	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2009	Percentage range
Race/ethnicity					
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,729	2,184	3,439	4,181	90-93
Asian	0	3	1	7	<1
Black or African American	4	10	25	30	<1-1
Hispanic or Latino	11	21	24	23	1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	2	6	4	<1
White	119	177	311	345	6-8
Unknown	1	91	48	57	Na
Gender					
Female	1,697	2,252	3,585	4,303	93-94
Male	117	182	237	328	6-7
Unknown	50	53	24	7	Na
Age					
13–17	179	111	171	236	4-10
18–24	475	683	930	1,122	24-27
25–59	1,145	1,628	2,600	2,897	61-68
60+	65	65	145	217	3-5
Unknown	0	0	0	166	Na
Other					
People with disabilities	101	140	169	192	4-6
People with limited English proficiency	27	25	36	38	1
People who live in rural areas	1,631	1,938	2,439	2,724	59-88

Na = not applicable

NOTES: Data include victims/survivors who were fully or partially served. Because some victims/survivors identify with more than one race/ethnicity, data may exceed the total number of victims/survivors served. Percentages based only on victims/survivors for whom the information was known.

Services to Children

Tribal Governments Program grantees provided services to an average of 1,408 children of victims/survivors over the four reporting periods. Services including child care, transportation and counseling were provided an average of 2,096 times.

Types of Victim Services

Tribal Governments Program grantees provide an array of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking including victim advocacy (actions designed to help the victim/survivor obtain needed resources or services), civil legal advocacy/court accompaniment (assisting a victim/survivor with civil legal issues, e.g., preparing paperwork for protection orders, accompanying a victim/survivor to a protection order hearing, administrative hearing, or other civil proceeding, and all other advocacy within the civil justice system), and crisis intervention. Victims/survivors often need a variety of services, including help with material goods and services, health, school, financial, transportation, employment, and legal issues.

All victims/survivors receive safety planning, referrals, and information as needed.

Grantees report that the following services were provided most frequently (not a complete list) to victims/survivors over the four six-month reporting periods²⁰⁰:

- Victim advocacy: 7,323
- Crisis intervention: 5,764
- Counseling services/support group: 4,163
- Civil legal advocacy/court accompaniment: 3,860
- Transportation: 3,800

Receiving this grant has allowed the Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation to employ a victim advocate. The victim advocate's duties entail assisting victims of domestic violence which encompasses the majority of the criminal cases prosecuted in the community. Victim rights, emergency financial assistance, court orientation, court escort, crisis intervention, assistance in filing court documents, safety issues/options, and victim advocacy, are all done on a daily basis. Assisting victims with emergency shelter and emergency financial assistance are also available to victims and their family/children.

- Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

Hotline calls

- Grantees reported a total of 22,036 crisis or information and referrals calls received by an agency's hotline or office telephone.

Victim-witness notification/outreach to victims/survivors

- Grantees reported a total of 4,458 letters, phone calls, or visits to victims/survivors.

²⁰⁰Victims/survivors were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, victims/survivors may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods. Only the most the frequently reported categories of services are presented.

Shelter/Transitional Housing Assistance

The Tribal Government Program grantees provide emergency shelter or transitional housing to victims/survivors and family members. Emergency shelter can include nights in safe houses or hotel/motel accommodations. Victims/survivors and their family members received assistance with costs associated with clothing, food, rental unit fees, transportation, and utilities.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for shelter/transitional housing services: 53 (37 percent of grantees).²⁰¹

Tribal Governments Program grantees provided emergency shelter and transitional housing to 1,330 victims/survivors and 1,693 family members for a total of 59,629 bed nights during the four six-month reporting periods.

Table 58. Victims/survivors receiving emergency shelter and/or transitional housing assistance by the Tribal Governments Program: July 2007 – June 2009

Shelter service	July–Dec 2007	Jan–June 2008	July–Dec 2008	Jan–June 2008	Total
Emergency shelter					
Victims/survivors	125	261	316	469	1,171
Family members	142	247	368	660	1,417
Bed nights	3,033	6,699	13,436	22,299	45,467
Transitional housing					
Victims/survivors	1	31	61	66	159
Family members	1	66	85	124	276
Bed nights	90	2,175	2,585	9,312	14,162

NOTES: Victims/survivors and family members may have received emergency shelter or transitional housing in multiple reporting periods.

Since the approval to provide financial assistance to victims, the program has been very effective in this area. Program funds have assisted clients with transitional housing assistance on a one-time basis. This has also brought back their sense of self-esteem and restored balance in their lives.

- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

Before getting the grant, the Blackfeet Domestic Violence Program relied on off-reservation shelters. Most of these shelters were not culturally specific to meet Indian victims needs. Also, there were racial barriers and covert racism occurring, which was often

²⁰¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they received funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

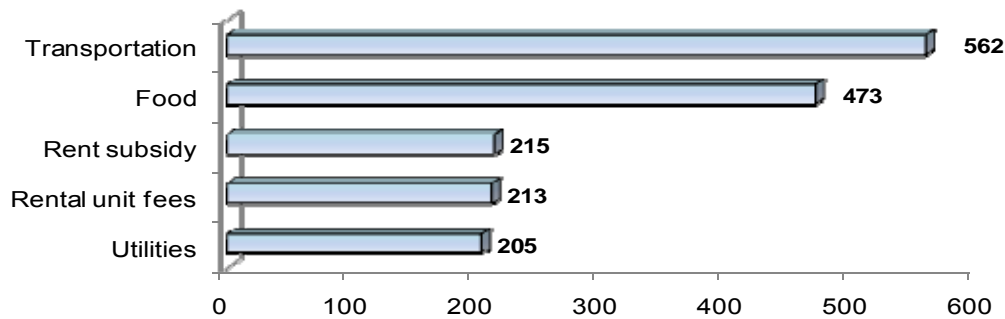
difficult to prove. When a victim left the reservation, often she left her social and family support system. If the victim could not make it on her own, she often returned to the abuser. We could not expect the victim to start a new life alone with her children. This is not culturally consistent. With a shelter in place, the victim has her family support system in place, as well as her spiritual activities to attend.

- *Blackfeet Tribal Business Council*

Housing Assistance

In addition to transitional housing, Tribal Governments Program grantees assist victims/survivors with transportation, food, clothing, security deposits, rental assistance, relocation expenses, and utility payments to enable them to maintain or procure housing.

Figure 24. Number of victims/survivors provided with housing assistance by Tribal Governments Program



Legal Services

The Tribal Governments Program grantees provide legal services to victims/survivors. Services are provided by grant-funded lawyers, paralegals, or specially appointed advocates who provide legal services.

Most grantees provided legal assistance with protection orders and divorce.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for legal services: 24 (17 percent of grantees).²⁰²
- Total number of legal issues²⁰³ addressed: 1,113

²⁰²This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

²⁰³Legal issues represent the total number of new and pending matters for which victims received assistance. Victims are counted only once for each legal issue addressed during each six-month reporting period.

- Total number of victims/survivors receiving assistance with legal issues: 718
- Total number of victims/survivors who received assistance with multiple legal issues: 380 (53 percent of those receiving legal services)

The Women's Legal Advocacy Program (WLAP) has allowed the tribe to offer legal services which would not otherwise be available to tribal members. The project paralegal has provided the following services to clients: crisis intervention, drafting, and assistance with filing legal documents in Tribal and Superior Court, including protection orders and assistance in the areas of divorce, child custody, child support, visitation, and related matters. The paralegal has also provided outreach and referrals, when appropriate.

- Bishop Indian Tribal Council

Supervised Visitation

The Tribal Governments Program grantees provide an array of supervised visitation and/or exchange services to families. These services include, but are not limited to, one-on-one supervised visits, group supervised visits, supervised exchanges, and telephone monitoring.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for supervised visitation: 5 (3 percent of grantees).²⁰⁴
- Tribal Governments Program grantees provided services to an average of 27 families.²⁰⁵

Families Seeking Services

July–December 2007:

- 16 families sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 15 (94 percent) families received services and 1 (6 percent) were not served.

January–June 2008:

- 31 families sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 30 (97 percent) victims/survivors received services and 1 (3 percent) were not served.

July–December 2008:

- 25 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 25 (100 percent) victims/survivors received services and 0 were not served.

²⁰⁴This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

²⁰⁵This number represents a calculated average of all four six-month reporting periods.

January–June 2009:

- 41 victims/survivors sought services from Tribal Governments Program grantees.
- Of these, 36 (88 percent) victims/survivors received services and 5 (12 percent) were not served.

The majority of custodial parents were American Indian and/or Alaska Native (47-79 percent), female (73-82 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (42-87 percent), with children between the ages of 0 and 6 (33-67 percent). Noncustodial parents were most likely to be American Indian and/or Alaska Native (40-83 percent), male (53-76 percent), and between the ages of 25 and 59 (61-90 percent).

Grantees report that the following services were provided most frequently to families over the four reporting periods.²⁰⁶

- 892 one-to-one supervised visits were provided to 81 families
- 321 supervised exchanges were provided to 20 families

Our goal of providing a safe environment for families has been achieved. We have good communication with Tribal Security as well as the local sheriff's department. The visitation center is monitored by camera in and outside of the building. The doors are pad locked and coded. Also, the format of visitations, (i.e., the non-custodial parent being the first one to arrive and the last to leave allows for the custodial parent to arrive and leave) at ease. Supervised visitation enables children to remain in contact with their non-custodial parent while still building the relationship between the child and parent. This effectively allows the parents to work on their issues outside of the visits with the children and at the same time allowing the child to maintain a relationship with both parents in a safe environment. This also allows the child to see the non-custodial parent without incident, providing heightened safety for the family.

- *Southern Indian Health Council, Inc.*

Criminal Justice

The matter of jurisdiction in Indian Country can often pose a significant barrier. Determining the appropriate agency to respond to an incident on tribal lands can be extremely confusing. There are many jurisdictional scenarios, depending on whether the state is affected by Public Law 280 or similar statute²⁰⁷, and whether the tribe has

²⁰⁶Families were reported once for each category of service received in each reporting period. However, families may have received multiple services in the same reporting period and the same service(s) in multiple reporting periods. Only the most frequently reported categories of services are presented.

²⁰⁷Public Law 280 transferred federal criminal jurisdiction over Indian country in selected states to the states. This confusion can result in serious delays in responding to crimes committed, or worse, in no response at all. Delays can occur as law enforcement agencies in different jurisdictions attempt to sort out who should respond to the call. In states not affected by Public Law 280, the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Bureau of Indian Affairs has jurisdiction in many cases. Tribal justice systems, where they exist, have concurrent jurisdiction over certain cases for which the maximum sentence is 3 years in jail and a fine of not more than \$5,000 which is a result of the passage of the Tribal Law & Order Act in 2010.

a criminal justice system (full or partial). Additionally, there are jurisdictions that do not have reservations, or even contiguous Indian land. Because of this complicated jurisdictional legal landscape, there often are misunderstandings and disputes about which jurisdiction is responsible. To add to the confusion, even if tribal law enforcement, a tribal prosecutor, and a tribal court system exist, there are limitations to the types of crimes and individuals that can be prosecuted under tribal law. A non-Native offender cannot be prosecuted in a tribal court because the tribe has no jurisdiction over non-Natives. Many grantees whose tribal communities have a criminal justice system have developed or instituted important changes in tribal codes pertaining to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Some have adapted state laws in their own codes to be more culturally relevant, while others have formulated entirely new codes based on ancestral laws that had been historically successful before European influences.

Law Enforcement

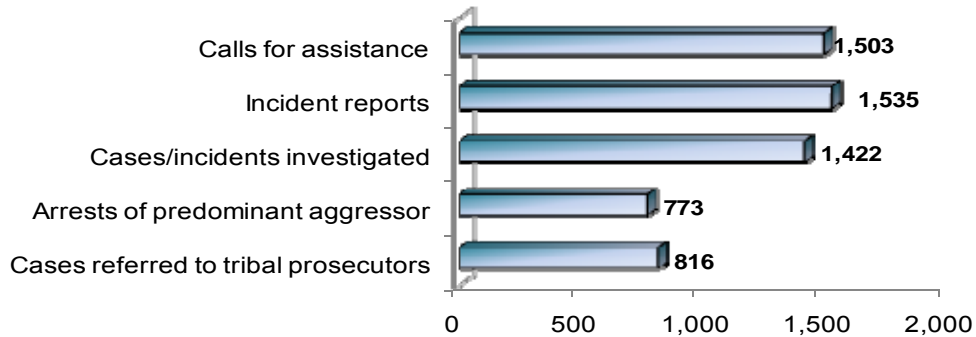
Law enforcement officers are crucial to the justice and prevention of victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking. Tribal law enforcement officers respond to emergency calls for assistance, interview the initial and best witnesses, and are often familiar with the personalities and circumstances involved. Every other agency including prosecution is dependent upon them for their information and understanding of a case. For this reason, it is not uncommon for tribal law enforcement officers to provide continuing assistance throughout the entire length of the case. Further, the manner in which tribal law enforcement responds to a call is critical. Their response and attitude may influence whether victims will report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking offenses, and whether appropriate evidence will be collected to allow prosecutors to successfully bring cases against offenders.

There have been many efforts to change the way tribal justice systems are structured, however tribes have retained their authority to determine the legal structure and forums used in administering justice (Tribal Court Clearinghouse, 2008). While some tribes have chosen to adopt “mainstream” criminal justice approaches, others are choosing to employ their own traditional manner of justice. Tribal law enforcement is generally highly respected as their initial assessment of a crime and the impact it will have on their community is usually accurate. Regardless, it is clear that tribal law enforcement is a vital component of the peacekeeping and accountability process for the Tribal Nations that they serve.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for law enforcement: 15 (10 percent of grantees)²⁰⁸

²⁰⁸This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees may have received funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

Figure 25. Law enforcement activities in Tribal Governments Program sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases for all reporting periods



NOTE: Grantees report only on law enforcement activities that are funded under the Tribal Governments Program and they may receive funds for one or for a number of these activities. Therefore, no relationships can be inferred or comparisons made between activities reported here.

Table 59. Law enforcement activities in Tribal Governments Program sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking cases for all four reporting periods, by type of victimization

Activity	Sexual Assault	Domestic violence/dating violence	Stalking	Total activities
Calls for assistance	100	1,344	59	1,503
Incident reports	98	1,388	49	1,535
Cases/incidents investigated	97	1,276	49	1,422
Arrests	12	759	2	773
Referrals of cases to tribal prosecutor	31	759	26	816

Funding has allowed our agency to dedicate one officer to the Domestic Violence Program and expand law enforcement services to victims of domestic violence to include both Native American and non-Native women who reside within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo of Pojoaque. Our agency has also increased domestic violence efforts with other local law enforcement agencies to include the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Departments and the Bureau of Indian Affairs resulting in a positive impact on domestic violence. In the future the increased cooperation will aid in more effective and efficient response to domestic violence within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo of Pojoaque.

- Pueblo of Pojoaque

Funding a detective dedicated to investigating violence against women is critical. The investigation and ultimate conviction of a violent perpetrator sends the message that violent crimes will be investigated and those found guilty will be punished under the laws. In addition, this process helps the victim in the healing process. It lets the victim know that violence will not be tolerated. Also, tribal reservations that are known for having aggressive professional law enforcement and investigators create concern amongst violent perpetrators who tend to prey on women who may be vulnerable and not as protected. A well-trained law enforcement agency can be a prevention tool used to discourage the violent offender.

- Lummi Indian Nation

Prosecution

Tribal prosecutors play a significant role in securing safety and justice for Native victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. By developing and implementing effective, victim-centered policies and procedures, prosecutors can increase the likelihood of victim cooperation throughout the criminal justice process (Tribal Court Clearinghouse, 2008). Prosecution of offenders varies by state and tribal Nation. Given the complex jurisdictional issues, providing police and prosecutors with the tools, resources, and expertise to correctly identify specific sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking offenses and enhance charges and sentences consistent with statutes is essential. Incorporating the voice of the victims/survivors, coupled with the proper charging of abusers (Native and non-Native), followed by prosecution, safeguards victims and their children from further abuse and reduces overall recidivism by criminal abusers. While simply prosecuting without regard to the level of risk that specific abusers pose has not been shown to deter further criminal abuse, (Belknap et al., 2000; Davis, Smith, & Nickles, 1998; Fagan, Friedman, Wexler, & Lewis, 1984; Friday et al., 2006; Gross et al., 2000; Hirschel et al., 2007) a number of studies have found that prosecution can reduce subsequent arrests and violence (Ford & Regoli, 1993; Garner & Maxwell, 2008b; Gover et al., 2003; Jolin et al., 1998; Tolman & Weisz, 1995; Wooldredge & Thistlethwaite, 2005; Wooldredge, 2007). The key to reduced recidivism is not prosecution per se, but sentencing that imposes meaningful sanctions in direct proportion to offender danger.

Tribal Governments Program grantees that use funds for prosecution activities may pursue prosecution by making referrals to appropriate external agencies and/or by prosecuting case referrals received. Domestic violence cases may include any assaults, battery, vandalism or other offenses that occurred in a domestic violence incident.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for prosecution: 5 (3 percent of grantees)²⁰⁹

²⁰⁹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

- Prosecutors received 1,176 sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking case referrals and filed charges in 1,013 (86 percent) of the cases.

Table 60. Disposition of cases by prosecutors funded by the Tribal Governments Program for all four reporting periods

Activity	Number
Total number of cases disposed of	385
Total number of cases dismissed	135
Total number of convictions (including deferred adjudications)	249
Total number of victim/survivor referrals to tribal victim services	135

Courts

There is widespread variety in the types of tribal court systems, and the laws are unique to each tribal nation. Some tribal courts resemble Western-style courts, where written laws and rules of court are applied. Many tribes deploy traditional means of resolving disputes, including the use of peacemaking, elders’ councils, sentencing circles, and banishment. Many tribes establishing new tribal courts, or enhancing established ones, are developing hybrid or blended systems that will incorporate traditional dispute resolution processes and procedures that have proven effective within their culture and communities, while also ensuring that the “rule of law” and due process are operative.

Courts funded by the Tribal Governments program conduct a range of activities.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for court activities: 3 (2 percent of grantees)²¹⁰

Table 61. Disposition of court cases funded by the Tribal Governments Program for all four reporting periods

Activity	Number
Total number of new cases	569
Total number of cases disposed of	141
Total number of cases dismissed	49
Total number of convictions (including deferred adjudications)	92

The court review hearings implemented by project staff were enhanced when the Tribe hired a judge who had experience with domestic violence cases and had received training. His addition to our court system has had a positive impact on the prosecution of offenders and holding them accountable. We have also established

²¹⁰This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

a good relationship with him, and we can usually get our protection orders signed immediately. The project personnel walk them directly to him. He reads and signs them and returns the papers immediately. It has been a great source of comfort for our victims.

- Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Tribal Probation/Offender Monitoring

Offender monitoring occurs when the court schedules probation or court reviews to determine whether offenders are complying with the terms of their sentences.

- Number of individual grantees using funds for review activities: 9 (6 percent of grantees)²¹¹
- 1,511 offenders received 3,748 face-to-face monitoring contacts throughout the four reporting periods.

Table 62. Probation activities funded by the Tribal Governments Program for all four reporting periods

Activity	Number
Total number of offenders	2,037
Total number of offenders who completed probation	317
Offenders completing probation without violations	168
Offenders completing probation with violations	149

Without the Tribal Governments program we would not be able to directly assist Native victims of domestic violence, and we would not be able to hold offenders accountable for their actions through our probation service. In this area, victim services are in short supply; when they are available an issue such as transportation to the service provider can negate the existence of the service. It is gratifying to be able to transport most of our clients where they need to go. Our probation service, while holding the offenders accountable, also does this in a respectful manner, teaching violators that respect and not force is the preferred way to address people.

- Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council

Remaining Areas of Need

Overall, tribes indicated a critical need for improved relationships with federal, state, and local partners, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, FBI, federal and state prosecutors, and state and tribal law enforcement agencies. Tribes report slow response, lack of follow-up, and little, if any, victim notification, all of which not only jeopardize victim safety but also create an environment ripe for further incidents. Tribes also expressed a need for stiffer penalties for habitual offenders. To

²¹¹This number reflects an unduplicated count of grantees; grantees are only counted once, even if they reported data in more than one six-month reporting period.

this end, the need for domestic violence and sexual assault registries was also commonly expressed. These registries would reduce the ability of the perpetrators to move from reservation to reservation or to states, concealing their past abusive crimes. Finally, grantees expressed a need for a judicial review process for offenders that would allow victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking to have a voice in dealing with the offender.

Another pressing need noted by tribes was an increase in safe housing options. In particularly remote and rural areas, the availability of housing is woefully limited. It was reported that victims/survivors will often choose to stay in the abusive situation due solely to the lack of available housing in the community and their significant discomfort in seeking shelter outside the community. Affordable housing is also an issue. Given the economic environment, fuel costs, food costs, lack of employment options, child care costs, etc., victims/survivors are often faced with a dilemma that at times may cause them to reconsider leaving the abusive situation.

Tribes expressed an ongoing and overwhelming challenge when dealing with non-Native providers: the need to explain why culturally relevant services are required for Native victims/survivors. Not only is this a daunting task, but one that is critical to creating safe, confidential options for victims/survivors outside of often close-knit tribal communities.

Finally, many tribes discussed the need to address the impact on the family and community from sexual assault against adults and children. Most communities do not have specialized services available to address these issues. The need for resources and tools is fundamental to the healing process.

Technical Assistance Program

Since 1995, OVW's Technical Assistance Program (TA Program) has provided OVW grantees with the training, expertise, and problem-solving strategies they need to meet the challenges of addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. OVW's technical assistance projects offer educational opportunities, conferences, peer-to-peer consultations, site visits, and tailored assistance that allow OVW grantees and others to learn from experts and one another about how to effectively respond to crimes of violence against women.

The primary purpose of the OVW TA Program is to provide direct assistance to grantees and subgrantees to enhance the success of the local projects they are implementing with OVW grant funds. In addition, OVW is focused on building the capacity of criminal justice and victim services organizations to respond effectively to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and to foster partnerships between organizations that have not traditionally worked together to address violence against women, such as faith- and community- based organizations.

General Grant Information

Information for this chapter was submitted by 195 individual TA Program projects located in 113 agencies for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009. Unless otherwise noted, data were included for all four six-month reporting periods. The number of projects reporting in each six-month period was as follows:

- July–December 2007: 95
- January–June 2008: 98
- July–December 2008: 158
- January–June 2009: 136

Training

Technical assistance providers offer training events to OVW grantees to enhance services for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; to improve offender accountability; and to promote coordinated community responses to reduce violence against women.

The most common topics of training events were: advocate response, domestic violence overview, dynamics, and services; coordinated community response; safety planning for victims/survivors; and confidentiality.

- Number of individual TA Program projects using funds for training: 144 (75 percent of all projects)²¹²
- Total number of training events: 2,464
- Total number of people trained with TA Program funds: 112,073

Technical Assistance

TA Program projects provide technical assistance to OVW grantees through site visits, consultations, responses to information requests, and referrals. Technical assistance activities are provided to OVW grantees in order to assist their work in a comprehensive and consistent manner. These activities may include, among other things: providing guidance on developing, revising, and implementing policies, protocols and procedures; building a coordinated community response and community support; and overcoming barriers to effective service delivery.

The most common topics of technical assistance included: collaboration, curricula and training issues, response to domestic violence victims/survivors, policy/protocol development, and program development.

- Number of individual TA Program projects using funds for technical assistance: 111 (58 percent of projects)²¹³
- Total number of technical assistance site visits: 1,039
- Total number of other technical assistance consultations provided: 36,157
- Total number of information request responses: 37,684
- Total number of referrals: 17,389
- Total technical assistance activities provided: 92,269²¹⁴

Underserved Populations

TA providers use funds to develop or enhance standards, protocols, or procedures for underserved populations and to encourage the representation of underserved populations in coordination activities. Populations may be considered underserved because of geographic location (e.g., rural isolation), composition of racial and ethnic populations, and populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, immigrant status, or age).

- Number of individual TA Program projects using funds to address underserved populations: 119 (62 percent of projects)²¹⁵

²¹²This number reflects an unduplicated count of projects; projects are only counted once, even if they received funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

²¹³This number reflects an unduplicated count of projects; projects are only counted once, even if they received funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

²¹⁴ This number is the total of all the technical assistance activities listed above including site visits, consultations, information requests, and referrals.

Individual TA Program projects engaged in specific activities to address underserved populations in the following ways²¹⁶:

- Developing materials for underserved populations: 68
- Identifying gaps in services: 95
- Identifying underserved populations: 72
- Encouraging representatives of historically underserved groups to participate in meetings: 66
- Coordinating a task force/caucus to address issues concerning underserved populations: 32
- Training/technical assistance regarding culturally appropriate services for historically underserved populations: 82

Selected Technical Assistance Providers

The work of four OVW TA providers is highlighted below. Each of these providers receives funding from OVW to offer training and technical assistance to grantees from a specific OVW grant program. The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) provides technical assistance to Transitional Housing Assistance Program Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault (Transitional Housing) Program grantees. The Vera Institute of Justice (Vera), through their Accessing Safety Initiative, works with Education, Training, and Enhanced Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities (Disability) Program grantees. The Battered Women’s Justice Project (BWJP) is a national technical assistance provider for Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders (Arrest) Program grantees. The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WCADV), through their National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), supports the work of Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence and Abuse of Women Later in Life (Abuse in Later Life) Program grantees.

National Network to End Domestic Violence, Transitional Housing Program

NNEDV assists Transitional Housing grantees in developing and implementing comprehensive programs that will best serve the needs of victims/survivors looking for long-term, safe, affordable housing options in their communities. Across the country, local transitional housing programs face increasingly complex cases, growth in demand for services, and lack of resources. These programs need support and information to ensure that the needs of victims/survivors who are transitioning from shelter to a safe home of their own are met.

NNEDV keeps grantees connected so that they have the opportunity to continuously learn from each other; to share resources, knowledge, and experience; and to support each other. For example, if one grantee has knowledge about and experience working

²¹⁵This number reflects an unduplicated count of projects; projects are only counted once, even if they received funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

²¹⁶ These numbers reflect an unduplicated count of projects; projects are only counted once, even if they receive funds in more than one six-month reporting period.

with state housing authorities on the availability of safe and affordable housing for victims of violence, they can provide support to a grantee who is navigating housing issues in another state. Because NNEDV is knowledgeable about all of the work of the grantees, local projects can be easily matched for peer support and technical assistance as needed. Finally, through close connections with Transitional Housing grantees and OVW staff, NNEDV is in the unique position of completing a knowledge loop around emerging issues and challenges in the field. This closed loop of information strengthens the national, state, and local response to domestic and sexual violence and ultimately saves lives.

Just wanted to tell you (NNEDV) that I appreciate, as I am sure others do as well, these training opportunities and websites to check out. My world can get pretty small unless someone helps expand it. Thanks.

- *Friendship Home, Nebraska*

Thank you (NNEDV) for providing a very helpful training! Because I am new to this position, I learned a LOT! Thank you also for taking time to answer my personal questions. You were very patient with my lack of knowledge!

- *Every Woman's Place, Michigan*

Thank you (NNEDV) so much for your hard work - the conference was very informative and motivating. Not only do I have some ideas that I think will be helpful but I am energized to make a difference with my clients.

- *ADVOCAP, Wisconsin*

Working exclusively with Transitional Housing Program grantees, NNEDV conducted 1,210 technical assistance activities, including nine site visits, 870 other consultations, responses to 107 information requests, and 224 referrals. NNEDV staff spent 990 hours providing technical assistance during the two years covered by this report. NNEDV also conducted 19 training events, trained a total of 1,209 professionals, and spent 162 hours conducting training between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

Table 63: NNEDV technical assistance activities

Reporting Period	Site visits	Technical assistance			Training			Hours spent on training
		TA consultations	Information request responses	Referrals	Hours spent on TA	Training events	People trained	
JD'07	2	300	25	20	490	4	355	39
JJ'08	3	184	33	100	170	4	270	45
JD'08	2	176	15	47	130	3	130	19
JJ'09	2	210	34	57	200	8	454	59
Totals	9	870	107	224	990	19	1,209	162

Vera Institute of Justice – Center on Victimization and Safety, Accessing Safety Initiative

Through the Accessing Safety Initiative, Vera provides comprehensive training and technical assistance to the recipients of OVW's Disabilities Grant Program to improve services for individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals who are survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Vera fosters multi-disciplinary collaborations between disability and victim services organizations, provides consultation to enhance organizational capacity to serve survivors with disabilities and Deaf survivors, and delivers training to better equip service providers and criminal justice personnel to work with survivors with disabilities. These services create more safe and accessible options for survivors across the country.

Vera has helped disability organizations develop and implement screening tools to identify people who have experienced domestic or sexual violence and implement procedures that ensure grant-funded staff provides basic safety planning and other crisis interventions to survivors. Vera has also helped rape crisis centers and domestic violence programs remove physical, attitudinal, and programmatic barriers that prevent people with disabilities from using those services; created policies and procedures to provide people with disabilities the accommodations they need to fully participate in programming; and made their services more welcoming to people with disabilities.

Vera has fostered formal relationships between disability and victim services organizations. Together, they have developed inter-agency agreements to share resources, address confidentiality, effectively make referrals, and successfully work together to serve survivors with disabilities. Through the design of OVW's grant program, Vera's technical assistance, and the hard work and dedication of the grantees, organizations receiving funds from the Disability Grant Program are better equipped to serve survivors with disabilities. As a result, survivors with disabilities in grant-funded communities, who historically could not access services they needed for safety, are now finding their disability providers to be more responsive to violence against women issues and their violence against women providers to be more accessible.

The supports available through the grant have been extremely valuable. Technical assistance from Vera Institute, grantee meetings, conference calls/meetings with project directors, and the availability of the OVW officer have provided the needed resources to support our work on systemic change. We believe that our community level efforts will mirror the same benefits. The time invested in the planning process as well as available supports through the grant will be the key to promoting systems change.

- Department of Human Services, Illinois

Technical assistance from OVW, from the VERA Institute of Justice, and local technical assistance has provided strong guidance and momentum for the work of the Collaborative. Attendance at conferences and all-sites has been invaluable in creating new

perspectives, understanding barriers and challenges, and in networking.

- *30th Judicial District Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Coalition, North Carolina*

Working exclusively with Disability Program grantees, Vera conducted 3,191 technical assistance activities, including 430 site visits, 2,484 consultations, responses to 262 information requests and 15 referrals. Vera staff spent 4,928 hours providing technical assistance during the two years covered by this report. Vera also conducted 17 training events, trained a total of 878 professionals, and spent 220 hours conducting training between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

Table 64: Vera technical assistance activities

Reporting Period	Technical assistance					Training		Hours spent on training
	Site visits	TA consultations	Information request responses	Referrals	Hours spent on TA	Training events	People trained	
JD'07	110	689	82	15	1,296.50	4	230	45
JJ'08	81	763	51	0	1,463.10	4	181	36
JD'08	146	496	62	0	888.00	6	356	83
JJ'09	93	536	67	0	1,280.50	3	111	56
Totals	430	2,484	262	15	4,928.10	17	878	220

Battered Women's Justice Project

Projects funded under the Arrest Program support enhancement of a community's coordinated response to crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking, and encourage collaborative partnerships between criminal justice agencies and victim service providers. BWJP is a national resource center on civil and criminal justice responses to domestic violence that provides technical assistance to Arrest Program grantees. Since 1996, BWJP has delivered training and technical assistance on emerging issues and innovative practices through national conferences, multi-disciplinary workshops, professional institutes, on site consultations, teleconferences, videoconferences and webinars. To stay in touch with the needs of the field, BWJP also surveys grantees every few years and subsequent technical assistance efforts address their concerns.

The impact of this technical assistance can be seen in unsolicited feedback to BWJP from the grantees. The following note from a local prosecutor to BWJP refers to training it provided on how to address witness intimidation by defendants:

I just wanted to follow up with you about the training we had at our correctional center. I think it went really well and the materials I had, especially the clip from the Wisconsin case, were all very powerful. I've been working with the administration for years to try to address some serious issues going on at our facility with no success. Now that we've gotten our correctional officers invested

in this process, I think we'll see some changes. Thank you for your help!

The District Attorney's Council in Oklahoma requested that BWJP staff conduct trainings for a number of teams from jurisdictions around the state:

With the help of your expertise and knowledge, we were able to ... assist our newly formed Coordinated Community Response Teams in responding to domestic violence in their communities. The participant evaluations proved to be very complimentary ... One participant commented on the most valuable part of the training, "It did not explain how to set up our CCR team, but even better ... It taught a thought process for us to build and problem-solve a whole variety of issues."

BWJP delivers Advocacy Institutes to Arrest grantees whose vital work both supports individual victims and promotes change in criminal justice agencies on behalf of all victims. These participatory training institutes are designed to enhance the effectiveness of advocates working to improve criminal justice responses in their communities. A recent attendee at an Advocacy Institute on system's change wrote:

I am planning on sharing some of the tools you gave us with the rest of my team here at the YWCA in Yakima. I really appreciate all of your time and effort that was put into this training - it was an amazing experience and I hope to utilize all of the skills I learned. Thank you!

Constant changes in public policy and case law continuously present challenges to the grantees' efforts to enhance victim safety and offender accountability. The vibrant training and educational events conducted through BWJP provide grantees with timely analysis of the implications of emerging issues and with opportunities to network with peers to swiftly promote promising ideas and practices across jurisdictions.

The grant funds have enabled the DV [domestic violence] Division to bring to Mississippi speakers of national renown, including representatives from BWJP, to bring the best and most current practices to our state, and provide valuable knowledge to our practitioners. Without grant funding, holding a statewide domestic violence conference would have been an impossibility. Additionally, DV Division staff and project partners have been able to attend national training around the county on a number of issues, including stalking and the development of CCR. And without the creation of this division, progress on the development of an offense report database and domestic violence protective order registry would not have occurred.

- Mississippi Attorney General's Office

Working exclusively with Arrest Program grantees, BWJP conducted 4,107 technical assistance activities, including 25 site visits, 14 consultations, and responses to 4,068 information requests, BWJP staff spent 2,540 hours providing technical assistance during the two years covered by this report. BWJP also conducted 104 training events, trained a total of 5,983 professionals, and spent 1,121 hours conducting training between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

Table 65: BWJP technical assistance activities

Reporting Period	Technical assistance					Training		Hours spent on training
	Site visits	TA consultations	Information request responses	Referrals	Hours spent on TA	Training events	People trained	
JD'07	5	0	969	0	500	34	1,059	321
JJ'08	8	0	869	0	500	17	812	160
JD'08	12	2	999	0	500	32	2,194	286
JJ'09	0	12	1,231	0	1,040	21	1,918	354
Totals	25	14	4,068	0	2,540	104	5,983	1,121

“JD” refers to the June to December project reporting period; “JJ” refers to the January to June project reporting period.

Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)

NCALL serves Abuse in Later Life Program grantees, other OVW grantees and technical assistance providers, and potential OVW grantees by providing information, consultation, and training. Since elder abuse is still an emerging field, many OVW grantees and local domestic violence and sexual assault advocates work with younger victims but require training and technical assistance to provide services to older adults. Likewise, adult protective service workers and professionals working in aging networks may be unfamiliar with the power and control dynamics present in domestic violence cases. Technical assistance and training have improved how these professionals respond to older victims/survivors.

NCALL has worked with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Family Violence Prevention Fund to create model national curricula on elder abuse for law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges. These training curricula have been extremely well received and are ensuring that justice professionals hold offenders accountable.

The technical assistance provided by NCALL enhances coordination and communication among professionals working on a local level as well. NCALL works with grantees and their partner agencies to build or enhance a coordinated community response to abuse in later life. As a result of improved communication and collaboration, many local providers have changed policies, protocols, and practices to address elder abuse. Without the training and tools provided by NCALL, previous grantees were unable to build partnerships and improve collaboration.

Effective technical assistance helps local providers by linking them with national experts and resources, as well as other grantees. With access to these resources, grantees no longer have to reinvent the wheel but rather can adapt proven, existing materials to their local circumstances. Given the complexity of elder abuse cases, grantees benefit significantly from the support, information, training, and

consultation they receive from NCALL and other OVW technical assistance providers.

NCALL has heard very positive remarks from grantees regarding the [Abuse in Later Life Program] grants. Many have communicated to us the changes that they are seeing in their communities in response to abuse in later life/elder abuse. Law Enforcement and justice personnel are reporting they are more aware of elder abuse cases when responding to situations/cases that in the past, they would not have identified as abuse. Additionally, grantees are reporting that working relations between agencies are being strengthened as a result of the efforts to work together on these projects.

- *National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life, Wisconsin*

Working exclusively with Abuse in Later Life Program grantees, WCADV conducted 20 training events, trained a total of 1,336 professionals, and spent 5,047 hours conducting training between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

Table 66: WI Coalition Against DV Abuse in Later Life Grants Program training activities²¹⁷

Reporting Period	Training events	People trained	Hours spent on training
JD '07	9	488	1,186.50
JJ'08	4	104	2,069.00
JD'08	3	592	1,791.00
JJ'09	4	152	n/a
Totals	20	1,336	5,046.50

“JD” refers to the June to December project reporting period; “JJ” refers to the January to June project reporting period.

²¹⁷No technical assistance data is presented in this table because the Abuse in Later Life Program reporting form does not have a section on technical assistance. Please note that, as of January 2009, Abuse in Later Life Program grantees reported training events differently from earlier reporting periods.

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