



**FYSB** Family & Youth Services Bureau

Family Violence Prevention & Services Program

# State & Tribal Domestic Violence Services

FVPSA  
FACT SHEET

## FYSB Mission

To support the organizations and communities that work every day to put an end to youth homelessness, adolescent pregnancy and domestic violence.

## FVPSA Purpose

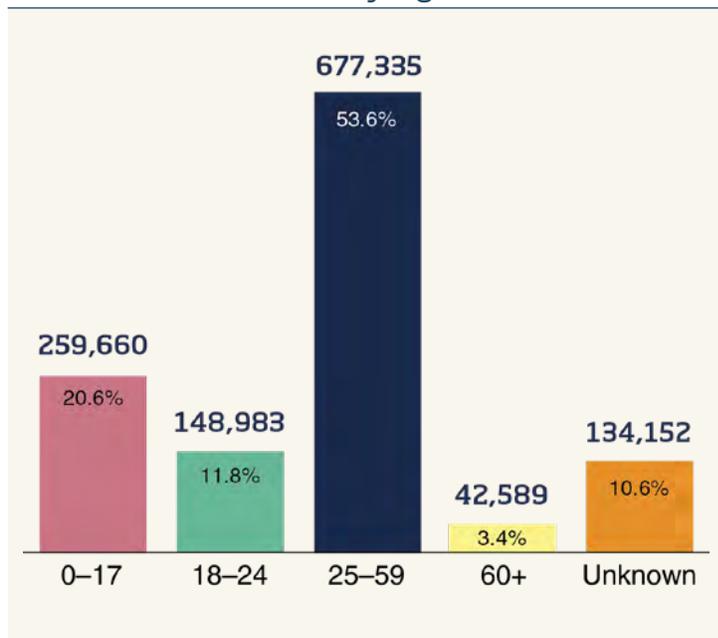
The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act helps states, territories, and tribes provide emergency shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence and their dependents.

## Overview of Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Funding

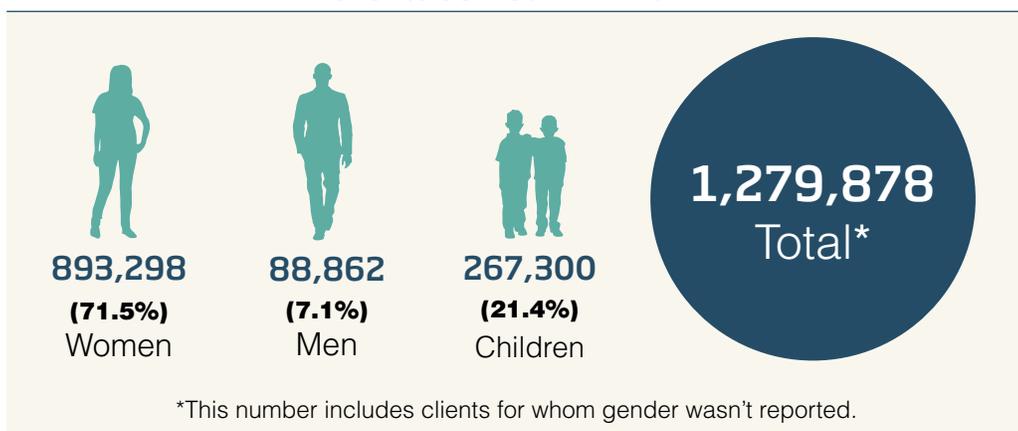
The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), an office of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families at the Administration for Children and Families, administers funding through the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) to ensure provision of emergency shelter and other non-shelter support services, such as victim advocacy, crisis counseling, safety planning, support groups, information and referrals, legal aid, and housing assistance to address domestic violence and dating violence ([42 U.S.C. § 10401-10414](#)). Appropriated funds are allocated through three types of formula grants to states and territories for distribution to local programs, to Tribes, and to state domestic violence coalitions. FVPSA also funds competitive discretionary grants to national, special issue, culturally specific, and emerging or current issue resource centers to provide training, technical assistance, and systems-based advocacy across the United States, and to a national domestic violence hotline which helps victims of domestic violence access immediate crisis counseling, safety planning, and local resources from highly trained, compassionate advocates.

Generally, the FVPSA appropriation has been approximately \$150 million, with an additional \$8 million for the national domestic violence hotline. Of those funds, 90% is distributed via FVPSA formula grants based on population to every state,

Victims Served by Age in FY 2017



Clients Served in FY 2017



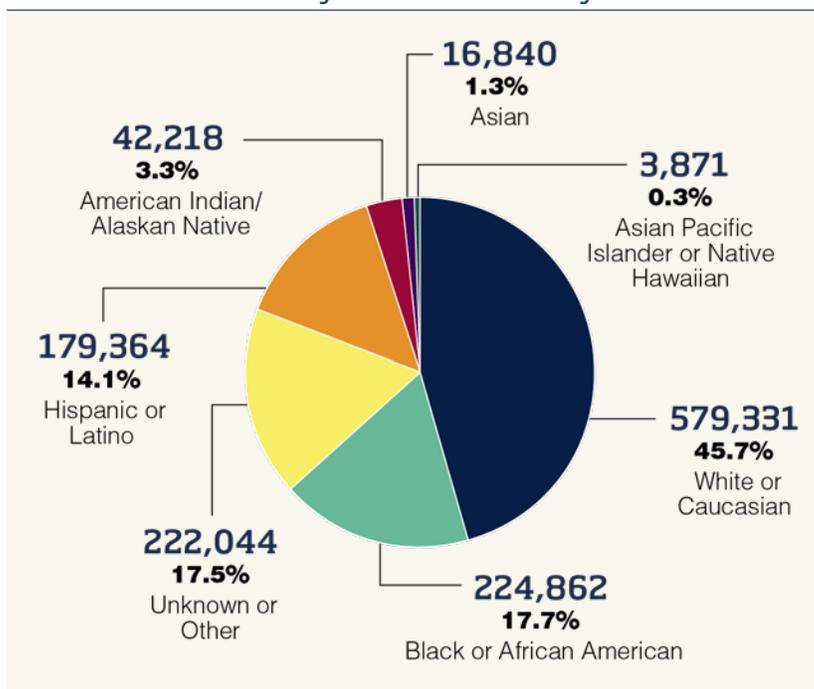
the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four U.S. territories for community-based services (70%), state domestic violence coalitions (10%), and Native American Tribes (including Alaska Native villages) and tribal organizations (10%). Twenty-five percent of appropriations that exceed \$130 million are set aside for grant programs that enhance services to abused parents and their children.

## Provision of Shelter and Supportive Services

FVPSA formula grants are distributed through states and territories then provided through a sub-awardee process to local public, private, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations to provide shelter and non-residential supportive services to individuals experiencing domestic violence and their children. All federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for FVPSA Tribal Formula grants. These programs may operate their own shelter facility, contract with hotels, or use volunteer safe homes to meet the emergency shelter needs of victims. A large majority of clients served each year access non-residential supportive services only, such as victim advocacy, crisis counseling, safety planning, support groups, information and referrals to other community-based services, legal aid, and housing assistance, among other services.

State and local domestic violence programs and tribes conduct a wide variety of education and community outreach activities to the general public to prevent and raise awareness of domestic violence. Examples include speaking at high schools and colleges, tabling at public and private events, hosting Domestic Violence Awareness Month events in October, and providing training for allied professionals and others in the community.

Victims Served by Race or Ethnicity in FY 2017



**Advocacy** is defined as restoring agency and self-determination to individuals experiencing domestic violence, and empowering them with information and emotional support to make the best decisions for themselves and their families. Advocates act as companions, both to individuals and as a voice across multiple service systems. They support people in shelters, answer calls on the crisis line, facilitate support groups for adults and children exposed to domestic violence, accompany victims to court or other appointments, provide individual one-on-one counseling, facilitate referrals, and partner with community-based organizations to improve local service systems, among other supportive services.