



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
JOE MANCHIN III, GOVERNOR  
WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES



FAMILY PROTECTION SERVICES BOARD

# ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

## What is the FPSB?

The Family Protection Services Board (FPSB) was established by the passage of the Domestic Violence Act of 1989. The five-member board is appointed by the Governor to assure that programs working toward the elimination of domestic violence are adequately funded and provide quality services to victims.

The FPSB allocates the West Virginia Family Protection Fund, generated from marriage and divorce fees, to regional family protection programs across the state. It allocates the Domestic Violence Legal Services Fund, generated through civil filing fees, for victims' representation in civil cases. The FPSB also enforces standards for the annual licensure of domestic violence programs and perpetrator intervention programs as well as for the annual certification of monitored parenting and exchange programs. Duties of the FPSB are set forth in the WV Code, Chapter 48, sections 26-401, 26-404 and 26-1005.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF FPSB ACTIVITIES IN FY2007

- Made in-person visits to 40 program sites and convened seven business meetings and one planning retreat.
- Conducted licensure reviews of 14 regional domestic violence programs offering shelter, advocacy and outreach services to all 55 counties.
- Conducted licensure reviews at 14 sites of nine perpetrator intervention programs offering educational classes for batterers. Licensed two new programs.
- Conducted monitored parenting and exchange program certification reviews at 18 sites of eight programs offering visitation and exchange services for children. Certified one new program.
- Made recommendations for the distribution of the West Virginia Family Protection Fund generated from marriage and divorce fees and the Civil Legal Assistance Fund generated from civil court filing fees.
- Worked closely with Legal Aid of West Virginia and the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence to monitor the status of civil legal assistance services to victims of domestic violence.
- Provided advice to eight groups interested in establishing new programs.
- Participated in the organization of an ad hoc committee of the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency and Correction to recommend coordination strategies for statewide agencies involved with Perpetrator Intervention Programs.
- Participated in the VAWA 2005 Collaborative Group to address changes resulting from the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization. Revised West Virginia's licensure process and program requirements to comply with new confidentiality policies.

## BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The *Family Protection Services Board* consists of five members. The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints three members, each to serve a three-year term: a director of a domestic violence program, a board member of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence and a member of the public. The other two members are the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources, or his or her designee, and the Chair of the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency and Correction, or his or her designee.

**Chairperson: [Judy King Smith](#)**

Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center  
P.O. Box 4228  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
Telephone: (304) 292-5100

**[Judith A. Ball](#)**

Family Crisis Intervention Center  
P.O. Box 695  
Parkersburg, WV 26102  
Telephone: (304) 428-2333

**[Barbara Hawkins](#)**

E-3 Woodcrest Addition  
Princeton, WV 24740  
Telephone: (304) 425-0385

**[Kathie King](#)**

(Delegated by Martha Yeager Walker, Secretary,  
West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources)  
350 Capitol Street, Room 617  
Charleston, WV 25301  
Telephone: (304) 558-8839

**[Lora Maynard](#)** (Delegated by Sheriff William R. Laird IV,  
Chair of the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency  
& Correction)

Division of Criminal Justice Services  
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Charleston, WV 25301  
Telephone: (304) 558-8814

## PROGRAMS LICENSED OR CERTIFIED BY THE FPSB IN FY2007

### Licensed Perpetrator Intervention Programs:

**Community Alternatives to Violence**

Carolyn Zdziera  
304-262-4424  
Berkeley Springs, Charles Town  
& Martinsburg

**Fayette County Day Report Center**

Renee Harper  
304-469-2004  
Oak Hill

**Mercer Day Report Center**

Steven L. Collins  
304-487-8485  
Princeton

**Rape & Domestic Violence  
Information Center**

Judy King Smith  
304-292-5100  
Morgantown

**Women's Aid in Crisis**

Karla Schartiger  
304-636-8433  
Buckhannon, Elkins  
& Webster Springs

**WV Dept. of Military Affairs  
& Public Safety**

**Division of Corrections**

Christy Flores  
304-442-7213  
Anthony, Beckley, Denmar, Huttonsville,  
McDowell, Mt. Olive, Northern, Ohio Co.,  
Prunytown and St. Marys  
Correctional Centers

**Wood County Day Report Center**

Hernando Escondon  
304-424-1926  
Parkersburg

**YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program**

Rhonda Hayes  
304-232-2748  
Weirton & Wheeling

**YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program**

GeorgeAnn Grubb  
304-340-3554  
Charleston & Madison

### Certified Monitored Parenting & Exchange Programs:

**Children's Home Society of WV  
Mercer County Family Visitation Center**

Tiffany Kirk  
304-431-2424  
Bluefield & Princeton

**Family Crisis Intervention Center  
Kids First Program**

Ann M. Pifer  
304-428-8721  
Harrisville, Spencer & Parkersburg

**Family Refuge Center  
Family Visitation Center**

Tammy Scott  
304-645-6355  
Lewisburg & Union

**Tri-County Child Exchange & Visitation Program**

Beth Burkhart  
304-269-8247  
Buckhannon, Flatwoods & Weston

**Women's Resource Center  
Family Visitation Center**

Marlene Perdue  
304-255-6906  
Beckley & Fayetteville

**YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program  
Visitation Center**

Carol Helfer  
304-845-5323  
Moundsville, New Martinsville, Weirton & Wheeling

**YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program  
Monitored Visitation & Exchange Center**

Christina Bertelli  
304-610-9118  
Charleston

**LICENSED FAMILY PROTECTION PROGRAMS** in 14 regional service areas provide shelter services, advocacy, outreach services and community education to all 55 counties. Between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007 an unduplicated total of 15,619 adults and their children received shelter and non-shelter services.

- ♦ A total of 1,329 received shelter services including 765 adults and 564 children.
  - ♦ 14,290 received non-shelter services including 12,429 adults and 1,861 children.
  - ♦ 34,184 shelter nights were provided to victims and their children.
  - ♦ 98,905 units of service were provided to victims and their children. *(A unit of service is 1 hour of direct contact on behalf of a client by staff or trained volunteers.)*
- ▣ Victims received assistance in filing 6,677 domestic violence petitions.
  - ▣ 1,647 educational programs targeted to communities, schools and professionals were conducted, reaching 66,588 people.
  - ▣ Volunteers contributed 27,797 hours of service.
  - ▣ In-kind donations, excluding volunteer service hours, were valued at \$981,463.

**CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE** is provided to domestic violence victims who are served by licensed programs and unable to afford legal counsel for protective order hearings, divorce and custody hearings and other proceedings. Since 1999 the West Virginia Legislature has allocated \$150,000 annually to the Domestic Violence Legal Services Fund, which along with funds generated through civil filing fees, is distributed by the Family Protection Services Board.

Through agreements with the licensed family protection programs, Legal Aid of West Virginia attorneys, with assistance from local volunteer and low-fee attorneys, afforded civil legal assistance to 1,621 victims through 14,763 hours of service in fiscal year 2007.

Additional civil court filing fees have been designated by the legislature since 2003 for legal advocacy in cases where a conflict of interest exists with the Legal Aid attorney. Coordinated through the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, legal assistance was provided in 71 instances in FY07.

**PERPETRATOR INTERVENTION PROGRAMS** (PIP) are designed as a series of 32 educational classes aimed at holding batterers accountable for their behavior. In FY07, 766 batterers were enrolled in eight licensed community-based perpetrator intervention programs. Additionally, the Division of Corrections is licensed for batterer educational classes at 10 adult male correctional centers, eight of which were operational during FY07. Data from six of these programs show class enrollment of 242 during FY07.

**MONITORED PARENTING and EXCHANGE PROGRAMS** (frequently called visitation centers) enable children to safely have in-person contact with their non-custodial parents. Monitored exchange means the coordination and observation of movement of the child to the non-custodial parent at the start of the visit and back to the custodial parent at the end of the visit. Monitored parenting involves a visit of the child with the non-custodial parent in the presence of a third person responsible for observing and ensuring the safety of those involved. The need for monitored visitation and exchange results from family safety issues such as domestic violence and divorce and custody disputes.

During FY07, seven certified programs provided exchange and visitation services to 745 children:

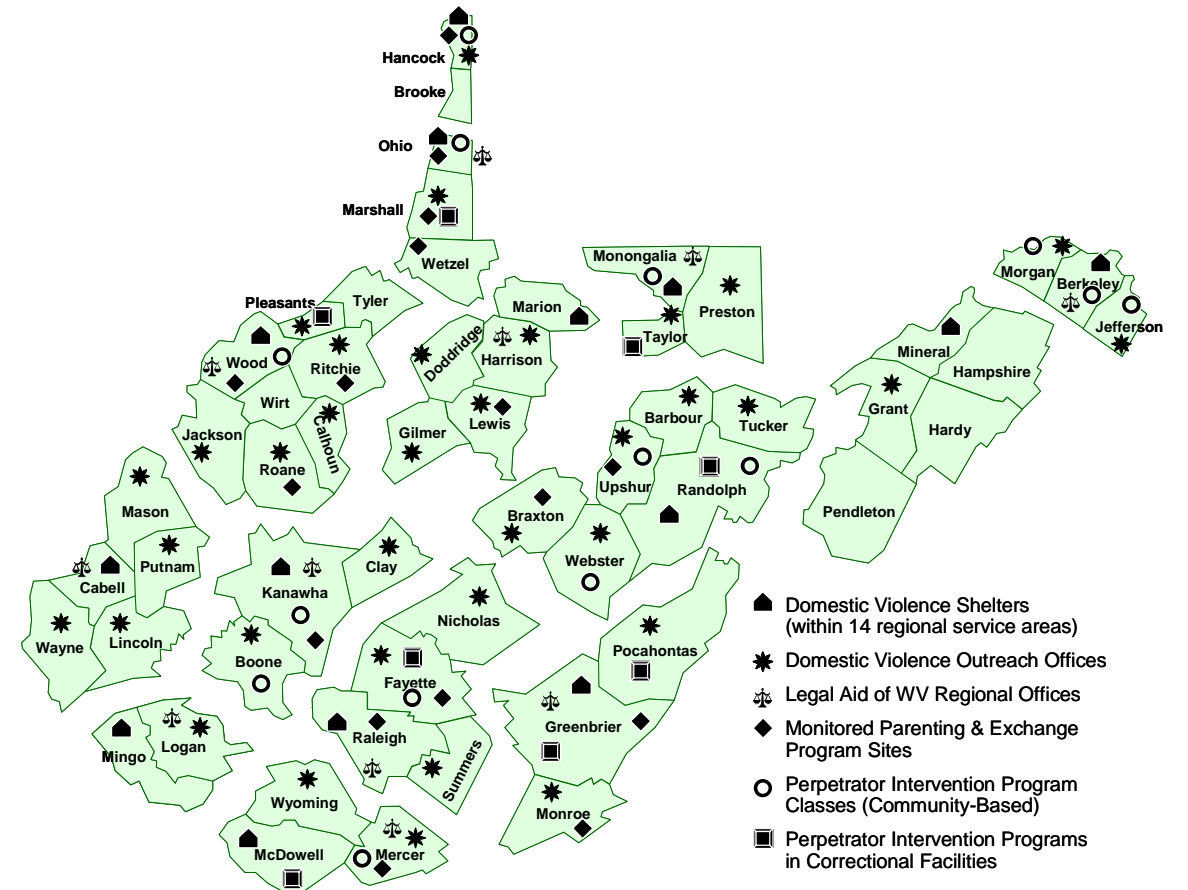
- ♦ Monitored visitation was provided to 516 children from 347 families.
- ♦ Monitored exchange was provided to 229 children from 169 families.

**THE WEST VIRGINIA FAMILY PROTECTION FUND** is allocated by the FPSB to licensed family protection programs from fees generated by marriage and divorce filings in West Virginia. The funds are held in a special revenue account administered through WVDHHR and distributed based on the following formula:

- 50% equal share
- 15% operational budget
- 15% population
- 15% unduplicated persons served
- 5% administrative costs

In FY07, \$319,377 was distributed to the 14 licensed regional family protection programs, with grants ranging from \$17,465 to \$34,345. During that time \$27,553 supported the operations and administration of the FPSB.

## SERVICE AREAS AND PROGRAM SITES FY 2007



## PROGRAMS LICENSED OR CERTIFIED BY THE FPSB IN FY2007

### Licensed Regional Family Protection Programs:

**Branches, Inc.**  
Rhonda Hall  
Huntington, WV  
304-529-2382

**Family Crisis Center**  
Penny Sanders  
Keyser, WV  
304-788-6061

**Family Crisis Intervention Center**  
Judith A. Ball  
Parkersburg, WV  
304-428-2333

**Family Refuge Center**  
Gloria Martin  
Lewisburg, WV  
304-645-6334

**HOPE, Inc.**  
Harriet Sutton  
Fairmont, WV  
304-367-1100

**The Lighthouse**  
Julie Olszewski  
Weirton, WV  
304-797-7233

**Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center**  
Judy King Smith  
Morgantown, WV  
304-292-5100

**Shenandoah Women's Center**  
Ann K. Smith  
Martinsburg, WV  
304-263-8522

**Stop Abusive Family Environments (SAFE)**  
Sharon Walden  
Welch, WV  
304-436-8117

**Tug Valley Recovery Shelter**  
Kim Ryan  
Williamson, WV  
304-235-6121

**Women's Aid in Crisis**  
Marcia White  
Elkins, WV  
304-636-8433

**Women's Resource Center**  
Patricia Bailey  
Beckley, WV  
304-255-2559

**YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program**  
Rhonda Hayes  
Wheeling, WV  
304-232-2748

**YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program**  
GeorgeAnn Grubb  
Charleston, WV  
304-340-3550

## EMERGING ISSUES THAT MERIT MONITORING OR ACTION PLANNING

- ◆ Domestic violence programs are increasingly involved with complex needs of clients, such as substance abuse, chemical dependency and mental health issues, while at the same time programs are experiencing budget and staff cuts. West Virginia's family protection system is not designed to address these concerns. As a result, programs are struggling to meet the communities' and victims' needs with existing resources.
- ◆ Stalking, the primary indicator of lethality, continues to be a major safety issue for West Virginia women. This issue is not adequately addressed in policy or practice.
- ◆ The Family Violence Protection and Services Act (FVPSA) has established changes in requirements for domestic violence data collection and reporting. Several key changes include the addition of qualitative data requirements to document the percent of survivors who, as a result of contact with a domestic violence program have, (1) strategies for enhancing their safety and (2) knowledge of available community resources. New data collection strategies must be implemented to document outcomes. Also, the time frame of reporting will be changed to follow the federal fiscal year.
- ◆ Rapid growth is expected in the establishment of batterer educational classes, primarily due to the interest of community corrections programs. It is vital to coordinate perpetrator programs, especially when the missions of sponsoring entities differ. More standardization of policies, curriculum and training is needed to increase effectiveness. Quality training for Perpetrator Intervention Program facilitators remains a critical issue.
- ◆ Monitored Parenting & Exchange Programs offer a safe environment in which children may visit non-custodial parents, yet this service exists in only 16 counties. The need, endorsed by the courts and parents alike, has surpassed the capability to support such programs financially. Statewide base support remains at approximately \$100,000 annually through the federal Access and Visitation Grant Program. Both sustainability and growth are jeopardized.
- ◆ The need for civil legal assistance for domestic violence victims is expected to continue to grow. Further, there are inequities in the availability of civil legal assistance in some counties.
- ◆ Revisions are needed to update Legislative Rule Title 191, which sets forth FPSB responsibilities and standards for program licensure/certification.