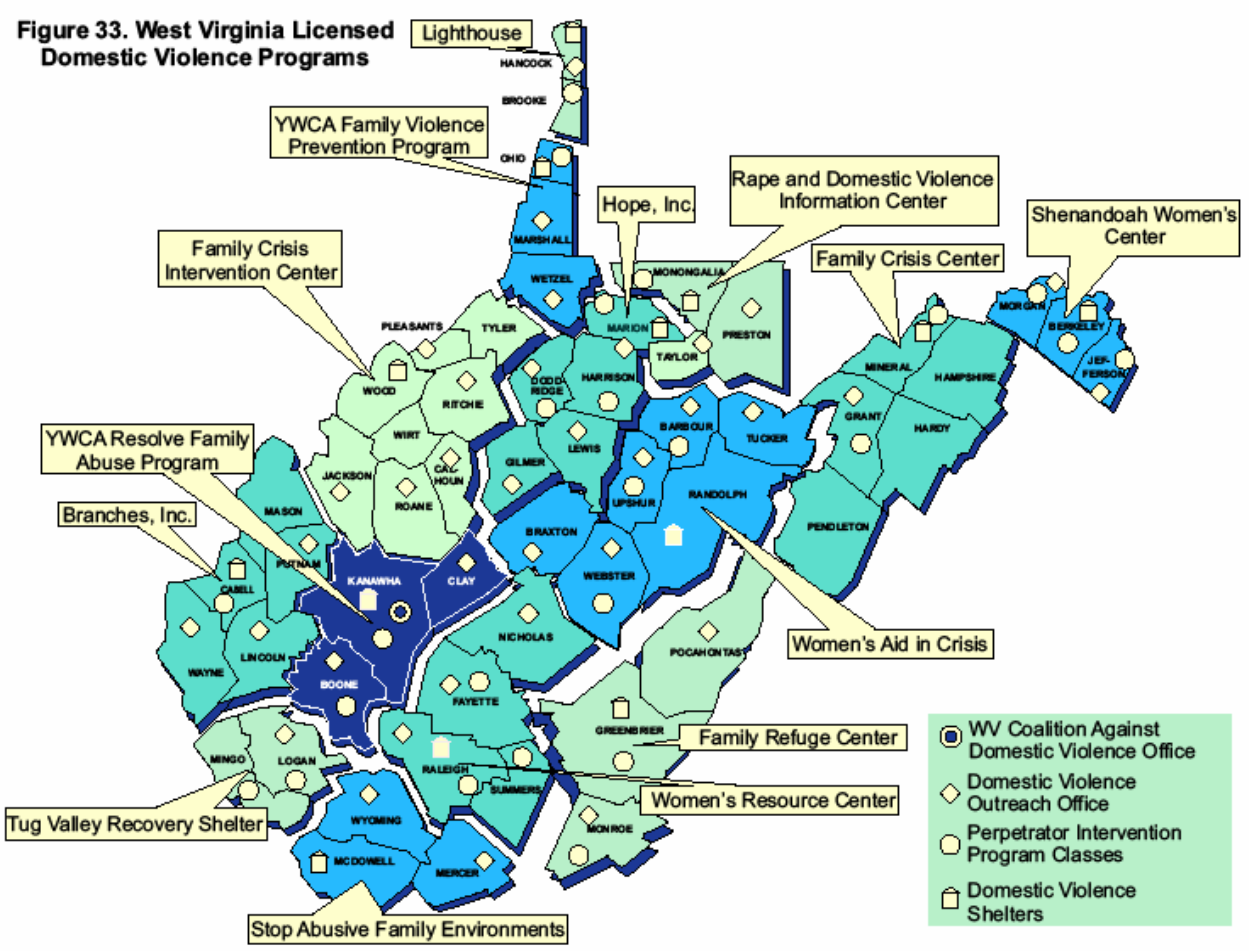


Domestic Violence Program Utilization, FY 2003-2004

Safety for a victim of domestic violence is the first priority when a domestic violence incidence occurs. In fiscal year (FY) 2003-2004, West Virginia had 13 licensed domestic violence service providers in the state operating under the auspices of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV). The programs, which now number 14, offer referral services, advocacy, aid in acquiring domestic violence protection orders, and educational and public service presentations to promote awareness of the problem of domestic violence, in addition to providing emergency shelter to victims and their families. Figure 33 below shows the location and scope of the 14 programs.

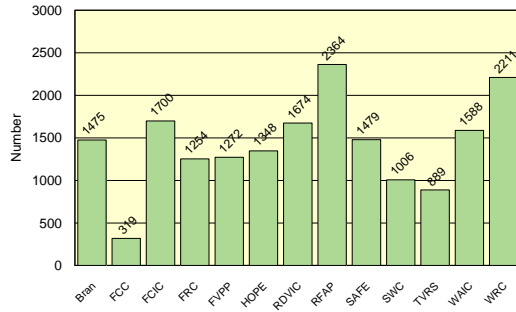


The WVCADV maintains a significant database with statistics compiled by its current 14-member licensed domestic violence service providers around the state. Statistics available from the WVCADV include shelter utilization, non-shelter contacts with program staff, services provided to communities and schools, domestic violence petitions filed, and victim and abuser characteristics, as well as information in many other areas of interest to policy planners and public officials. These data are available on the coalition's website: <http://www.wvcadv.org>. Table 12 lists the member programs, the counties served by each, and telephone contact information.

Table 12. West Virginia Licensed Domestic Violence Programs, 2007		
Program	Counties Served	Telephone Information
Branches, Inc. (BRAN)	Cabell, Lincoln, Mason, Putnam, Wayne	(304) 529-2382 (888) 538-9838 (voice/TTY)
Family Crisis Center (FCC)	Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton	(304) 788-6061 (304) 788-6556 (TTY only) (800) 698-1240
Family Crisis Intervention Center (FCIC)	Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, Wood	(304) 428-2333 (800) 794-2335 (voice/TTY)
Family Refuge Center (FRC)	Greenbrier, Monroe, Pocahontas	(304) 645-6334 (voice/TTY)
YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP)	Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel	(304) 232-2748 (800) 698-1247 (voice/TTY)
HOPE, Inc. (HOPE)	Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion	(304) 367-1100 (304) 367-1101 (TTY only)
The Lighthouse	Brooke, Hancock	(304) 797-7233 (304) 797-0002
Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center (RDVIC)	Monongalia, Preston, Taylor	(304) 292-5100 (304) 263-8522 (TTY only)
Resolve Family Abuse Program (RFAP)	Boone, Clay, Kanawha	(304) 340-3549 (800) 681-8663 (voice/TTY)
Stop Abusive Family Environments (SAFE)	McDowell, Mercer, Wyoming	(304) 436-8117 (voice/TTY)
Shenandoah Women's Center (SWC)	Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan	(304) 263-8522 (voice/TTY)
Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (TVRS)	Mingo, Logan	(304) 235-6121 (voice/TTY) (800) 340-0639
Women's Aid in Crisis (WAIC)	Barbour, Braxton, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur, Webster	(304) 636-8433 (800) 339-1185 (voice/TTY)
Women's Resource Center (WRC)	Fayette, Nicholas, Raleigh, Summers	(304) 255-2559 (voice/TTY)

During FY 2003-2004, a total of 18,579 individuals (adults and children) were served in some capacity⁹ (shelter or non-shelter assistance) by the 13 licensed domestic violence programs operating in West Virginia at that time. The number of individuals given assistance ranged from 319 at the Family Crisis Center to 2,364 at the Resolve Family Abuse Program (Figure 34).

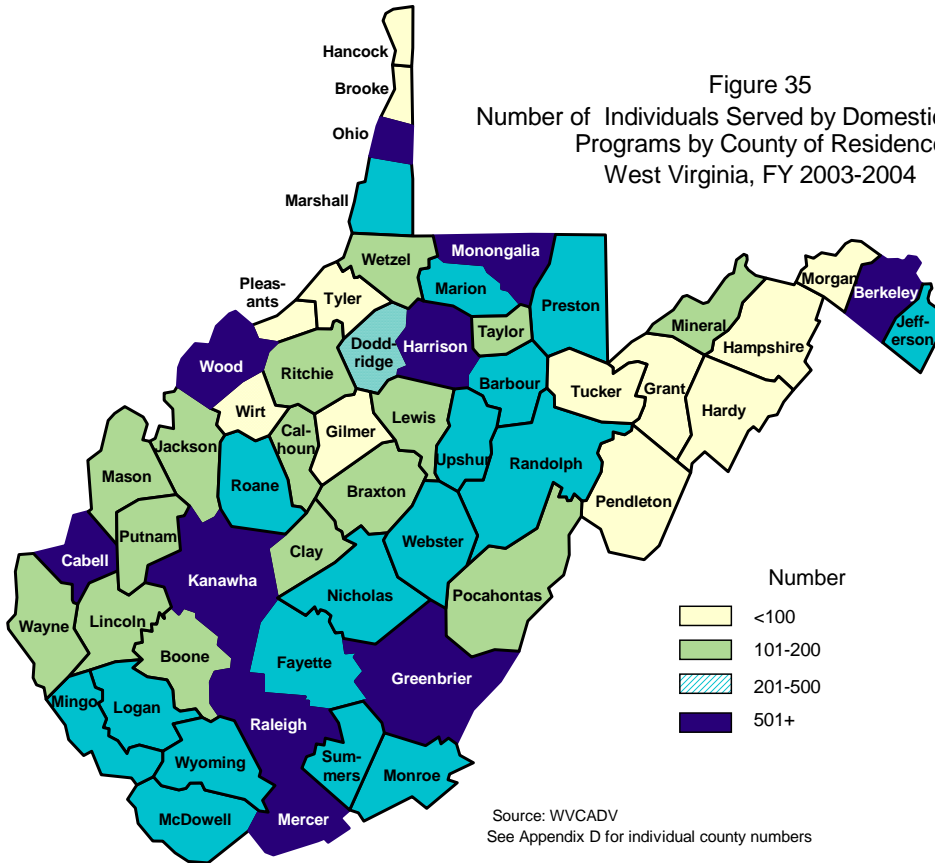
Figure 34. Total Number of Individuals (Adults and Children) Served by Domestic Violence Programs by Program West Virginia, FY 2003-2004



WV total: 18,579 individuals
Source: WVCADV

The map below (Figure 35) illustrates the number of individuals served by a domestic violence program by the individual's county of residence. These ranged from 16 Pendleton County residents to 1,948 residents of Kanawha County. Services were also provided to 644 residents of other states. (Individual county data are found in Appendix D.)

Figure 35
Number of Individuals Served by Domestic Violence Programs by County of Residence West Virginia, FY 2003-2004

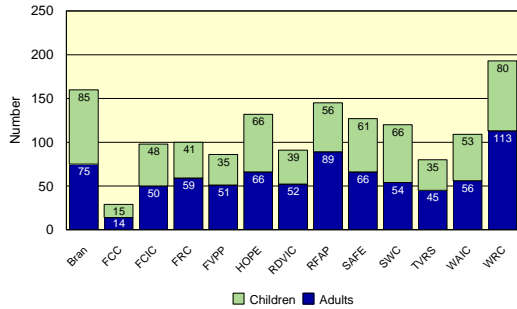


Source: WVCADV
See Appendix D for individual county numbers

⁹ There were a total of 31,782 non-shelter contacts and 2,762 shelter visits made to the 13 programs in FY 2003-2004.

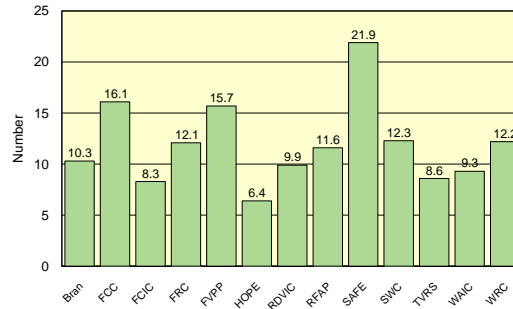
In FY 2003-2004, 1,470 persons received shelter for at least one night at one of the 13 programs around the state, 790 adults and 680 children. Figure 36 shows the breakdown of persons receiving shelter by location. Shelter stays averaged 12.4 nights overall, ranging from an average of 6.4 nights at HOPE, Inc., to an average of 21.9 nights at Stop Abusive Family Environments (Figure 37).

Figure 36. Total Number of Individuals Receiving Shelter at Domestic Violence Shelters by Program West Virginia, FY 2003-2004



WV total: 1,470 persons (680 children, 790 adults)
Source: WVCADV

Figure 37. Average Number of Nights per Shelter Stay at Domestic Violence Shelters by Program West Virginia, FY 2003-2004



WV average: 12.4 nights per shelter stay
Source: WVCADV

The WVCADV, through its member programs, provides education and public awareness programs to communities and schools. One hundred professional programs, 371 community programs, and 855 school programs were presented statewide in 2003-2004, reaching 62,283 individuals (Table 13).

Table 13 Community Services Provided by West Virginia Licensed Domestic Violence Programs FY 2003-2004				
Program	Community Programs	School Programs	Professional Programs	Total Number of Persons Attending
BRAN	34	1	9	1,519
FCC	10	13	4	706
FCIC	47	225	19	9,720
FRC	49	73	0	2,418
FVPP	21	46	0	1,138
HOPE	22	122	13	8,190
RDVIC	13	16	3	1,614
RFAP	15	34	13	3,243
SAFE	9	10	5	565
SWC	35	15	11	3,625
TVRS	9	12	2	412
WAIC	79	227	21	26,264
WRC	28	61	0	2,869
Total	371	855	100	62,283

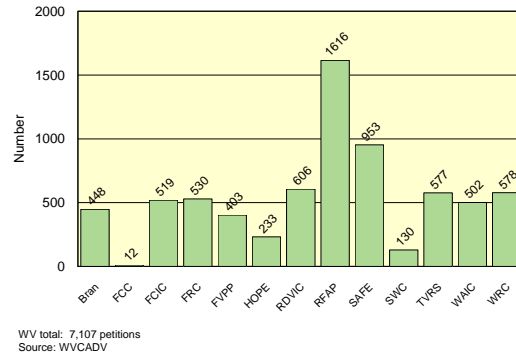
Domestic Violence Protection Orders

One tool available through the court system to provide protection to a victim and family members is a domestic violence petition (DVP), or protective order. A protective order is a court order designed to stop an abuser from further abusing, harassing, stalking, threatening, or intimidating the victim. West Virginia law provides for two types of protective orders: (1) emergency protective order and (2) final protective order.

The person who is seeking protection, the petitioner, files a petition for a protective order in magistrate court. An emergency hearing is held at which time an emergency protective order may be issued, which provides immediate protection from the abuser. A full court hearing is scheduled in family court, usually within 10 days, during which a final protective order may be entered, but the emergency court order remains in effect until an order is entered by the family court. If a divorce is pending between the parties and a temporary divorce order is in effect when the domestic violence petition is filed, the magistrate may consider only those incidents that occurred after the entry of the temporary divorce order. In these cases, the protective order is called a temporary emergency protective order, which is in effect until the family court enters an order in the case. The final domestic violence protective order is effective for 90 or 180 days but the 90-day order may be extended for another 90 days upon request.

In addition to ordering the abuser to stop all forms of harassment and abuse and cease contact with the petitioner, protective orders may include provisions granting the petitioner possession of a house and/or car, awarding temporary custody of or temporary visitation with minor children, ordering temporary support, or ordering the abuser into a batterers' treatment program. The terms of a protective order can also order the abuser to relinquish any firearms or ammunition in his/her possession. The first violation of a protective order is punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000. Second and subsequent violations have stiffer penalties.

Figure 38. Number of Domestic Violence Petitions Recorded by Program West Virginia, FY 2003-2004



There is currently no statewide database of protective orders filed. However, those associated with persons served by the state's licensed domestic violence programs are recorded in the database maintained by the WVCADV. Figure 38 shows the number of these DVPs recorded in FY 2003-2004 by program. The number of DVPs reported ranged from a low of 12 through the Family Crisis Center to a high of 1,616 through the Resolve Family Abuse Program.