



Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Life Saving & Changing Support & Services Funding

FY 2017

DCF Line 4800-1400 programs proposed to move to DPH Line 4513-1130
Program Descriptions

General Community-based Support and Advocacy

The line item provides funding to local domestic violence programs to provide free and confidential support and advocacy to victims/survivors and their families in their local neighborhoods. This can include safety planning, accessing housing/shelter as well as medical and legal advocacy. The majority of victims/survivors of domestic violence are served in community-based settings. Some of these community-based programs also provide safe homes that are accessed when shelter space is full.

Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline—SafeLink ((877)-785-2020)

The line item provides funding for a free, confidential, 24-hour, seven days a week, crisis hotline statewide that provides safety planning and immediate access to all local programs across the Commonwealth.

Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter

The line item funds free and confidential emergency shelter for victim/survivors of domestic violence and their children. Individuals who access shelter are also connected with advocates who provide an array of community-based support services.

Domestic Violence Housing Stabilization (Transitional Housing)

The line item supports programs to provide victims/survivors and their families with additional stabilization after leaving emergency shelter, provide supportive services and assistance with seeking permanent housing, training, education and/or employment in order to become economically self-sufficient.

Domestic Violence Housing Stabilization Flex Funds and Advocacy

Flexible funding enables some domestic violence programs to access money to prevent homelessness of victims and their children by stabilizing and/or securing housing. Funds can be used to pay for assistance with rent, utilities and emergency supports, such as lock changes or moving. Programs ensure follow up with all victims receiving flex funds support and document its efficacy.

Child Witness to Violence Services

This portion of the line item funds twelve programs that provide clinical intervention and support to children who have been exposed to domestic violence and their non-offending caregivers.

Supervised Visitation Centers

This portion of the line item funds centers where children can have safe contact with the parent who is abusive, while supporting non-offending caregivers. These services are built on the understanding that a child and a victimized parent are equally at risk and that services must, therefore, address safety for both.

Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse, Mental Health Shelters

These programs provide intensive support services for victims who struggle with co-occurring issues. Programs are designed to provide trauma informed services for adult victims and their children by addressing the co-occurrence of mental health and/or substance abuse along with domestic violence.