

# CENTER for VICTIM RESEARCH

*Building an evidence base for victim services*

## Response to Underserved Victims of Sexual and Domestic Violence Survey

**Author(s) of Instrument:**

Sherri Johnson

**Key References:** Publications related to this instrument

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. (2007). Virginia's response to underserved victims of sexual and domestic violence and domestic violence prevention and response advisory board.

**Primary Use/Purpose:** This section describes what this instrument was designed to measure.

The purpose of this survey is to improve our understanding of the training needs (response-related and prevention-related) for service providers and allied professionals that provide services to persons who have experienced or been impacted by domestic or sexual violence, specifically persons from the following populations: older or aging persons, persons with mental illness, and persons with disabilities.

**Background and Development:** How and why this instrument was developed.

This survey was conducted to assess how professionals are currently working with traditionally underserved populations.

**Psychometrics (if applicable):** Any testing of this instrument.

N/A.

**Link to Instrument:** Link to the instrument if available.

See attached.

**Submitted by:** James McDonough submitted this instrument to the CVR Instruments Collection and certified permission to publicly share this instrument.

## Underserved Populations - Training Needs Assessment Survey

The purpose of this survey is to improve our understanding of the training needs (response-related and prevention-related) for service providers and allied professionals that provide services to persons who have experienced or been impacted by domestic or sexual violence, specifically persons from the following populations:

- older or aging persons,
- persons with mental illness, and
- persons with disabilities.

For the purpose of this survey,

- *Domestic violence is defined as a pattern of physically, sexually, and/or emotionally abusive behaviors used by one individual to assert power or maintain control over another in the context of an intimate or family relationship.*
- *Sexual violence is defined as conduct of a sexual nature which is non-consensual, and is accomplished through threat, coercion, exploitation, deceit, force, physical, or mental incapacitation, and/or power of authority.*

Please answer the following survey questions to help us to better assist those who serve and support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence from these underserved populations, gain a clearer understanding of current services, and identify the training needs of service providers.

**Thanks in advance for your participation!**

### Identification Information

*Your response to the questions in the "Identification Information" section is not required but is appreciated and will help us to target where training is most needed.*

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Program/Agency Name:**

**Program/Agency Mailing Address:**

**Phone Number** (xxx) xxx-xxxx

**Email Address:**

### Agency Information

**\*1. Please select from the following options those that best describe your program/agency.**  
(select all that apply)

Direct services provider  
Local agency  
Local government agency  
State government agency  
Statewide agency  
Other (describe)

**\*2. Does your agency provide domestic violence/sexual violence (DV/SV) services to any of the following underserved populations: (1) persons who are older or aging, (2) persons with mental illness, or (3) persons with disabilities? (select one)**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

(if 2 = yes)

**\*2a. Please estimate how many victims in each group your agency provided DV/SV services to during the last 3 years (since January 2010).**

(enter 0 if you didn't serve any victims in a particular group)

Group Type	Approximately how many victims were served since Jan 2010?
Persons who are older or aging	_____
Persons with mental illness	_____
Persons with disabilities	_____

**\*3. Are you aware of any other state or local DV/SV direct service providers who provide meaningful and/or specialized services to persons who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, and/or persons with disabilities?**

- Yes
- No

(if 3 = yes)

**3a. Please provide the name(s) of the other state or local DV/SV service providers, then briefly describe the population(s) they serve (older/aging, mental illness, disabilities) and the services they provide.**

**Training Information**

**4. Please review each of the listed types of training in the left column, then:**

- If you or your staff received that type of training in the past 12 months, select "training was received" to the right of the training.
- If you know that the type of training was available, but was not attended by you or your staff in the past 12 months, select "training was available but not attended."
- If the training was not received and you don't know if it was available, leave both boxes blank for that training type.

<b>Types of Training</b>	<b>Training was Received</b>	<b>Training was Available but not Attended</b>
Advocacy - criminal justice related	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advocacy - civil court	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advocacy - caregiver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criminal justice - investigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Criminal justice - prosecution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Case management/coordination of services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinated community response	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social service coordination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confidentiality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outreach services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information and referral	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing - emergency shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing - long-term affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing - transitional housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural competency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perceptions of populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crisis intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medical/dental/health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counseling/support groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protection/protective orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic violence services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual assault services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4a. If there are other relevant types of training that were not listed in the previous table, please describe them and indicate if the training was received or if it was available but not attended.**

**4b. Please tell us what training would benefit those in their work as it relates to these populations, or tell us anything else about training related to these underserved populations that you think we should know.**

**\*5. Do you know of any specific training needs for service providers and other allied professionals with regard to the provision of services to victims of DV/SV who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, and/or persons with disabilities?**

Yes  
No

*(If 5 = yes)*

**5a. Please list and describe the training needs of service providers and other allied professionals with regard to the provision of services to these underserved populations.**

**\*6. Do you know of any gaps in service provision for victims of DV/SV who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, and/or persons with disabilities?**

Yes  
No

*(If 6 = yes)*

**6a. Please list and describe gaps in service provision for victims of DV/SV who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, and/or persons with disabilities.**

**\*7. Are you aware of any current training curricula available that would be useful for training service providers and allied professionals who may work with victims of DV/SV who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, and/or persons with disabilities?**

Yes  
No

*(if 7 = yes)*

**7a. Please list the name(s) of the curricula or provide information that will help us identify and locate the curricula.** *(Include names of curricula available in Virginia, nationally, or in other states in the past 5 years.)*

**8. Please provide any additional comments or information about your agency's training needs with regard to providing services to DV/SV victims who are aging or older, persons with mental illness, and persons with disabilities.**

*(If 2 = no)*

Since you did not respond "yes" when asked if your agency provides domestic violence/sexual violence services to any of the underserved populations (persons who are older or aging, persons with mental illness, or persons with disabilities), you won't be asked to complete the follow-up questions specific to such services.

However, if there is anything you think we should know regarding services or training that would assist in service provision to these underserved populations, please provide it here.

# Thank you for taking the time to complete this important survey.

## Virginia's Response to Underserved Victims of Sexual and Domestic Violence

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your responses will help guide state recommendations for providing a culturally competent response to sexual and domestic violence.

1. What type of agency/discipline do you primarily represent? *(select one)*

- Batterer Intervention Providers
- Commonwealth's Attorneys
- Court Personnel (clerk, court services, intake, etc.)
- Healthcare Providers
- Judges
- Law Enforcement Officers
- Legal Aid Attorneys
- Magistrates
- Medical Examiners
- Mental Health Professionals
- Probation and Parole Officers
- School Officials
- Sexual and/or Domestic Violence Service Providers
- Social Service Program Providers
- Victim/Witness Advocates
- Other (specify):

1a. Are you a Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) Caucus member or a participant in one of the Action Alliance Caucuses (women of color, Latina, and/or survivor)?

Yes

No

(if 1a = yes)

1b. Please indicate the nature of your involvement with the VSDVAA? *(select all that apply)*

VSDVAA Caucus Member

Participant in an Action Alliance Caucus (women of color, Latina, and/or survivor)

*Please use the following guide in responding to question 2. (Also see [map](#))*

**Central East** (Amelia, Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Essex, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King & Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Louisa, New Kent, Northumberland, Nottoway, Powhatan, Prince George, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties, and the City of Richmond)

**Central West** (Albemarle, Amherst, Appomattox, Augusta, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Greene, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nelson, and Prince Edward Counties, and cities within this area)

**Eastern**(Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach; Counties of Accomack, Brunswick, Gloucester, Greensville, Isle of Wight, James City, Mathews, Middlesex, Northampton, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, and York)

**Northern** (Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church; Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William)

**Northwestern** (Clarke, Culpeper, Fauquier, Frederick, Madison, Orange, Page, Rappahannock, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren Counties, and cities within this area)

**Southwestern** (Carroll, Giles, Pulaski Counties and west)

**Western** (Alleghany, Bath, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Henry, Highland, Montgomery, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Roanoke, and Rockbridge Counties, and cities within this area)

2. Which region of Virginia do you represent/does your agency serve? *(Select one. For agencies serving multiple regions, select the region your agency primarily serves or is located in.)*

- Central East
- Central West
- Eastern
- Northern
- Northwestern
- Southwestern
- Western

3. What is the overall effectiveness of your locality's/jurisdiction's response to sexual and domestic violence? *(select one)*

- Very Effective
- Somewhat Effective
- Somewhat Ineffective
- Not Effective

*(if 3 = Very or Somewhat Effective)*

3a. You responded that your locality's/jurisdiction's response to sexual and domestic violence is effective. We'd like to hear more about what's not working. Please provide a description of two or three practices in your community that make the response effective.

*(if 3 = Very or Somewhat Effective)*

3b. You responded that your locality's/jurisdiction's response to sexual and domestic violence is ineffective. We'd like to hear more about what's working. Please provide a description of two or three practices in your community that could be improved.

**Please use the following definitions to guide you in answering question 4:**

**African Americans/Blacks:** Persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Africa and who are regarded as such by the community of which this person claims to be a part (see [Code of Virginia § 2.2-1604](#)), as well as recent persons from places such as Africa, the Caribbean, or the West Indies.

**Immigrants:** Persons who are not U.S. Citizens (by birth or naturalization) who may or may not have legal status/documentation to be able to reside legally in the United States in accordance with federal immigration laws (see [Code of Virginia § 18.2-307.1](#)).



Older Adults: Persons age 60 years or older (see [Code of Virginia § 51.5-116](#)).

Persons with Limited English Proficiency: Persons who are unable to communicate effectively in English because their primary language is not English and they have not developed fluency in the English language (see [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Civil Rights, Limited English Proficiency](#)).

4. Thinking about the sexual and domestic violence response system in your locality/jurisdiction, which of the following populations is most underserved with regard to their needs: *(select one)*
- African Americans/Blacks
  - Immigrants
  - Older Adults
  - Persons with Limited English Proficiency