



VERMONT NETWORK

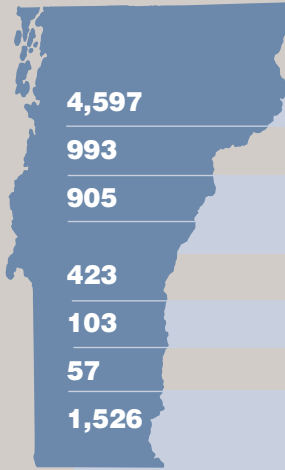
Uprooting the causes of violence so every last Vermonter thrives

2020 DATA SNAPSHOT

Member Organizations Helped 7,799 People

Supporting survivors throughout the pandemic

- 1,389** . . . Children and youth
- 5,823** . . . Women
- 482** Men
- 258** LGBTQ people
- 645** Ethnic/racial minorities
- 649** People with disabilities and Deaf / hard-of-hearing people
- 274** Elders



People who accessed support experienced:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Violence
- Children affected by domestic violence
- Stalking
- Sexual Harrassment
- Sex Trafficking
- Violence or abuse against a friend or family member

* For a list of member organizations go to www.vtnetwork.org/member-program



17,137 hotline calls answered.



835 adults accessed **support for parenting**



412 people received an advocate's support with **health care** issues.



1,612 people were assisted with **economic** or **employment issues**.



2,651 people accessed help with **civil and criminal legal issues**.



7,213 youth and **3,115** adults were reached through **outreach and education**.

Homelessness and Housing



3,629 people received advocacy and support related to their housing.

Shelter

400 people stayed in shelter for **31,471 bednights**, including 169 children of whom 97 were aged 0-6

Motel/Safehomes

826 people stayed in motels for **34,363 bednights**, including 251 children of whom 135 were aged 0-6

Transitional Housing

90 people accessed **transitional housing**, including 49 children



** Data above is fiscal year 2020 (7/1/19 – 6/30/20).
*** Photography by Kelli Risitano

COVID 19 Response: Meeting the Moment

Vermont Forensic Nursing Care

Vermont's 97 credentialed Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) cared for 318 adults and 67 children impacted by sexual harm and other violence and abuse – **almost twice as many patients compared to 2019**. The Vermont Network houses the statewide SANE Program which trains and supports these providers.

Accessible Support Using Technology

Web, text and messaging-based advocacy more than doubled during the pandemic, compared to the same period in 2019, as Network member organizations adapted to changing conditions, adding new access points for survivors who were isolated or stuck at home with someone who was harming them.

Stable Housing is Fundamental to Survivors

The Vermont Network's housing fund assists survivors and their families throughout the state to **move from unsafe housing, housing insecurity or homelessness into safe, stable housing**.

In a typical year the Vermont Network is able to support approximately 40 households with a total of \$28,500 in a six month period. From July 2020 to December 2020, with the addition of Coronavirus Relief Funding, the Vermont Network has **provided financial assistance to 65 households with a total of \$96,042.68**.

Fostering Connectedness

Vermont Network's Askable Adults Social Media Campaign and skill-building tools have helped adults support and connect with children and youth in their lives, **reaching more than 3,200 Vermonters during the pandemic**. At a time when we are all faced with uncertainty and isolation, children and youth benefit more than ever from having trusted adults who are approachable, skilled at listening, and easy to talk to.

Reentry After Incarceration

The Vermont Network secured CARES Act funding through the Vermont Department of Corrections and invited several organizations – Vermont Works for Women, Mercy Connections, Women's Justice & Freedom Initiative, and the DIVAS project of the Vermont Network -- to form a coalition, share allocated funding and **collectively coordinate critical employment and support services for over 75 women released from jail** during the pandemic.

The vast majority of women incarcerated in Vermont have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence. Supporting women to successfully reintegrate in their communities and achieve economic independence must be a priority in the criminal justice system in order to disrupt recidivism.



Justice for Victims Legal Clinic

This free clinic

represented 370 clients: 230 for domestic violence, 115 for sexual violence, and 25 for stalking.



DIVAS – Advocacy with Incarcerated Women

265 women accessed support and information from DIVAS advocates at Vermont's only women's prison.



Deaf Vermonters Advocacy Services (DVAS)

26 Deaf and hard of hearing Vermonters accessed culturally relevant support.