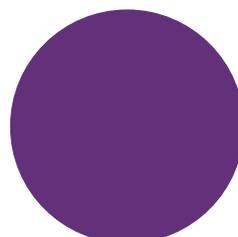
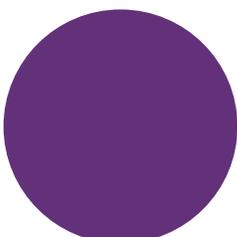
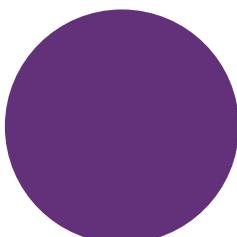
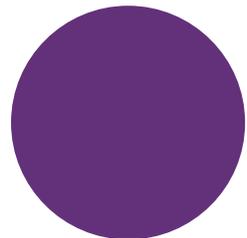
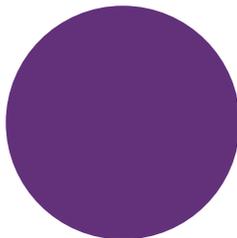
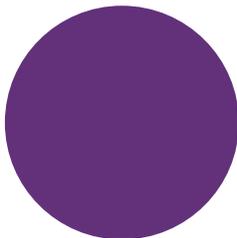
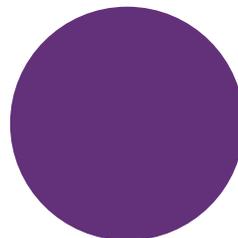
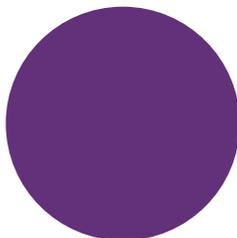
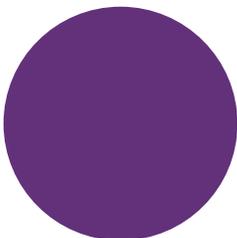
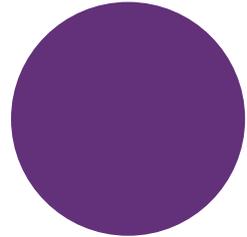
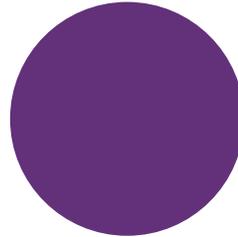
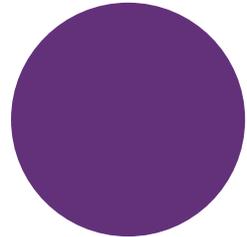


2018 Annual Report



domestic & sexual violence
Prevention Coalition

WELCOME

If I were to sum up 2018 in a phrase, it would be “continuity and change.” This year was a bridge between the successes of our past and our stretch toward the future.

- 2018 began with a revised mission statement that continues our focus on promoting safety for those impacted by interpersonal violence.
- We started new programs including the Strangulation Task Force, the Housing Stability Program, and the Underserved Minority Advocacy Project., and a new event, Listen Up!
- We continued time-honored programs our community has come to expect and rely on, including the Candidates Forum and Legislative Updates.
- We updated a long-standing resource to guide survivors through the criminal justice system.
- We put our values to paper that have long been a part of our work.
- We re-organized standing committees.
- We continued to forge new partnerships and strengthen enduring ones.
- We ended the year with a name change, but one that still communicates our commitment to prevention through a coordinated community response.

Throughout the year I have been reminded of the phrase “Never forget the bridge that brought you across.” The foundation of our rich history helps us build the vibrant, violence-free future we envision.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has participated and supported our work in ending domestic, dating, and sexual violence and stalking.

It continues to be an honor to grow together, to serve this community, and to continue working toward our mission to create safety and end violence.

Stephanie Theakston, MSW



Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition, Coordinator



domestic & sexual violence
Prevention Coalition

MISSION & VALUES

Mission

To create a culture of safety and empowered stakeholders through advocacy, education, collaboration, and service coordination for communities impacted by interpersonal violence.

Core Values & Guiding Principles

In an ongoing effort to evaluate and articulate our work, DSVPC has developed and adopted core values. While these values have long been part of our efforts, putting them in writing lets the community know what matters most in the work we do. These values will continue to guide us as we strive to foster a culture of safety.

Survivor-Centered:

Practices are centered on and responsive to survivors and those they care about. Practices are trauma-informed, culturally sensitive, and nonjudgmental. Survivors are the experts in their unique experiences, providing the foundation for the practices and interventions they receive.

Community Accountability:

Survivors are never responsible for the abuse. It is the responsibility of the community to change the culture of tolerance to intolerance of abuse and coercive control, to hold offenders accountable, and to focus on offender behavior rather than the behavior of the survivor.

Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination:

No single organization or system offers the solution to interpersonal violence. Fostering open communication, transparency, and respectful coordination across agencies increases our collective capacity to hold offenders accountable and serve survivors.

Intentional Access:

All survivors deserve access to systems, services, and resources. Identifying and removing barriers that limit or deny access is critical to increasing safety for survivors.

Scope of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence and Stalking:

Practices and interventions are informed by the understanding that interpersonal violence is a pattern of purposeful behavior that includes coercion, intimidation, emotional harm, and assault that may vary in scope, severity, and duration. Establishing safety and accountability is an ongoing process.

Anti-Oppression:

We oppose all forms of oppression. While our work is rooted in the historical context of violence against women, oppressions such as racism, sexism, homophobia/heterosexism, classism, ableism, ageism, xenophobia, and others contribute to the perpetuation of interpersonal violence.

ACTIVITIES

Safe Housing

A lack of housing assistance can lead survivors to remain in or return to a relationship with a violent partner. When survivors are connected to resources, the risk of continued violence decreases. The need for more support resources is why we created two programs to assist survivors with safe housing.

With funding from a Victim's of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, DSVPC started the [Housing Stability](#) program to assist survivors in maintaining or securing housing. In the first year we were able to provide \$24,687 in housing stability funds to 38 adult survivors. These funds also benefited 61 children, for a total of 99 individuals who benefited from this program.

\$24,687 in housing stability funds to 38 adult survivors and 61 children

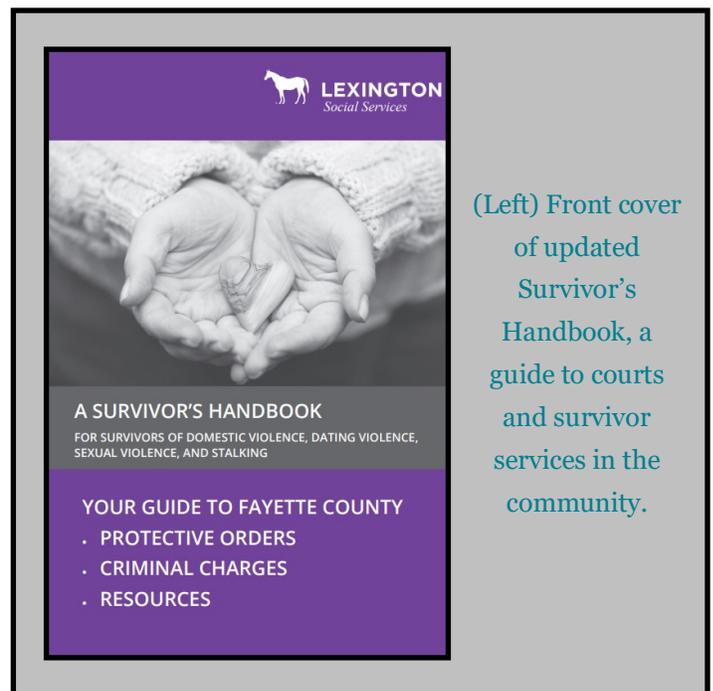
The [Safe Measures](#) program, funded through the Department of Social Services, helps increase safety and autonomy of survivors wishing to remain in their current homes but are unable to do so safely because of ongoing threats from an abusive partner. DSVPC provides survivors with critical safety enhancements, such as lock changes, security cameras, window alarms, and more. In 2018 we assisted 35 adult survivors and their 47 children, increasing safety for a total of 82 individuals.

Survivor's Handbook

In April, DSVPC printed an updated version of the Survivor's Handbook, providing the most current information on legal protections and community resources for survivors. DSVPC members contributed valuable insight to make this publication as accurate and as useful as possible.

Thousands of these handbooks have been distributed among DSVPC member agencies and are given to every person who petitions for a protective order in Fayette County.

For the first time we've also provided this handbook online in an easy-to-navigate format. It is our hope more survivors will find the resource and the help and support they need.



(Left) Front cover of updated Survivor's Handbook, a guide to courts and survivor services in the community.

Listen Up!

In April, DSVPC launched a brand new festival, Listen Up!, to amplify survivors' voices, highlight the diversity of survivors and their experiences, and provide an interactive opportunity for allies to show their support.

The first year was a tremendous collective effort among DSVPC, GreenHouse17, Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center, Transylvania University, Lexington Public Library, Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning, and other community partners.

The festival included powerful testimony from survivors through speak outs and poetry readings, thoughtful panel discussions, film screening and discussion, art activities, dance performances, a market, and many other events.

We are so proud of the great start and are excited to make this an annual event.

Strangulation Task Force

Building off previous efforts to strengthen the community's response to strangulation in the context of intimate partner violence, DSVPC created the Strangulation Task Force in February.

At least 45% of survivors in our community have been strangled one or more times

We immediately began working toward ambitious goals: strengthening evidence for the prosecution of strangulation crimes, advocating for a state felony strangulation law, enhancing victim response services and injury related health care, educating the community on the health risks caused by strangulation, and collecting data on the scope of the problem in Fayette County.

Using data collected from survivors filing for protective orders, we found at least 45% have been strangled one or more times.

In the first year, members of the task force have provided training to law enforcement and emergency medical services, improved healthcare screening for strangulation, and developed educational literature for survivors.

Legislative Updates

In 2018, DSVPC continued the long tradition of distributing weekly bulletins on resolutions and bills introduced in Kentucky's General Assembly. Updates were given on proposed bills involving interpersonal violence, child welfare, vulnerable adults, victims rights, and more.



(Above) Participants in Interfaith Panel

(Below, Left) Adoptable dog from Lexington Pit Crew

(Right) Volunteers registering voters

Underserved Victim Advocacy Project & Green Dot

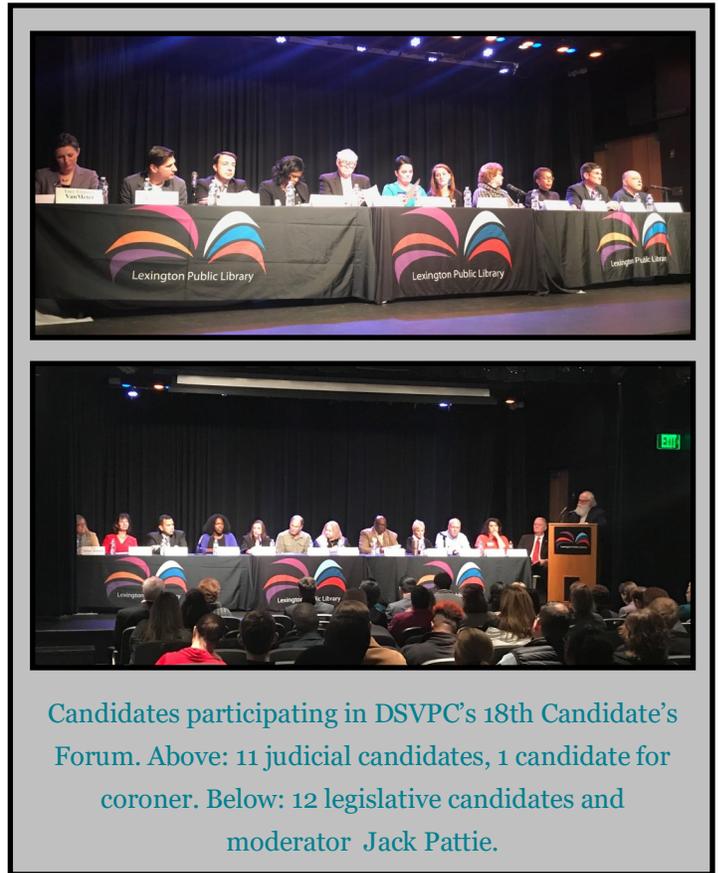
With funding from a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, DSVPC hired two new staff members in July. In their position as Resource Liaisons, these staff are working to increase outreach and access of services for survivors in underserved communities, with a focus on immigrant, limited English speaking, and African American communities. The Resource Liaisons are using the Green Dot model and other evidence-based strategies to engage members of these communities to raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence, to increase access to and use of available resources, and to create a culture of prevention within these communities.

DSVPC hired two new staff members to work with underserved communities

In August, DSVPC hosted a four-day Green Dot training for people interested in helping launch this initiative. Participants became certified in



(Above) Participants in Lexington's Community Green Dot Training



Candidates participating in DSVPC's 18th Candidate's Forum. Above: 11 judicial candidates, 1 candidate for coroner. Below: 12 legislative candidates and moderator Jack Pattie.

the Community Green Dot model and are now qualified to provide community trainings as a way to equip community members with the tools needed to change behavior and create social change to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

Candidates' Forum

The DSVPC's 18th Candidates' Forum provided opportunity for candidates to share their positions and ideas on issues related to domestic and sexual violence and helped voters make informed decisions on Election Day. We were very fortunate to have Jack Pattie from WVLK to moderate the event.

DSVPC invited candidates from contested legislative and judicial races in Fayette County and 23 candidates participated. All 12 legislative candidates to commit to voting in favor of a felony strangulation law!

Domestic Violence Awareness

Each year we use Domestic Violence Awareness Month to raise awareness about domestic violence. In 2018, we had a record number of people participate in Wear Purple Day. We also had several businesses, such as North Lime Coffee and Donuts, Sam's Hotdogs, and J. Renders, participate by incorporating the color purple into products.



Staff from (1) the Nest Center for Women and Families, (2) Commonwealth Attorney's Office, (3) Circuit Court Clerk's Office, & (4) Chrysalis House show their support by wearing purple.



(Above) Lexington Police Department Special Victims Unit participate in Wear Purple Day

Workplace & Domestic Violence

Domestic violence doesn't just occur in the home. Every day it comes to work with both perpetrators and survivors. This year, DSVPC began seeking ways to encourage employers to increase survivor safety and economic stability through workplace policy. With assistance from Councilmembers Jennifer Mossotti and Kathy Plomin, DSVPC met with representatives from the Lexington Chamber of Commerce and the Society for Human Resource Management to discuss the idea of model policy and ways to provide assistance in addressing employers' ongoing training needs. It is our hope Lexington can become a model city for survivor support in the workplace.

Members

Executive Committee

Chair: Kelly Wells, County Attorney's Office, Victim Advocate

Vice Chair: Diane Fleet, GreenHouse17, Assistant Director

Secretary: Sgt. Jeremiah Harville, Lexington Police Department, Sergeant

Treasurer: Chris Ford, Lexington Department of Social Services, Commissioner

Ex-Officio

Rashmi Adi-Brown, CHES Solutions, Director of Div. of Family and Youth Services

Ken Armstrong, Lexington Department of Public Safety, Commissioner

Hon. Traci Brislin, Fayette Family Court, Chair

Emmanuel Caulk, Fayette County Public Schools, Superintendent

April Davis, KY Cabinet for Health & Family Services, Service Region Admin.

Hon. Catherine DeFlorio, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, VAWA Attorney

Connie Godfrey, Lexington Adult & Tenant Services, Director

Taryn Henning, Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center of the Bluegrass, Director (Interim)

M.E. Kobes, Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center of the Bluegrass, Director

Lisa Minton, Chrysalis House, Director

Chief Joe Monroe, UK Police Department, Chief

Duane Osborne, Friend of the Court's Office, Friend of the Court

Kathy Plomin, Lexington City Council, Councilmember

Hon. Lou Anna Red Corn, Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Commonwealth Attorney

Vince Riggs, Fayette County Circuit Court, Clerk

Hon. Larry Roberts, County Attorney's Office, County Attorney

Joanna Rodes, Lexington Family Care Center, Director

Winn Stephens, Children's Advocacy Center, Director

Isabel Gereda Taylor, Global Lex, Multicultural Affairs Coordinator

Darlene Thomas, GreenHouse17, Director

Angela Wallace, SANE, Director

Chief Lawrence Weathers, Lexington Police Department, Chief

Denise Wells, Nursing Home
Ombudsman Agency of the Bluegrass,
Ombudsman

Jeffery White, The Nest, Director

Sheriff Kathy Witt, Office of Fayette
County Sheriff, Sheriff

Appointed

Rep. Kelly Flood, KY House of
Representatives, Representative

Ashley Hill, Transylvania University,
Director of Student Wellbeing

Dr. TK Logan, UK Center on Drug &
Alcohol Research, Professor

Committees

Patricia Acosta

Robin Anderson

Rania Belmadani

Claire Brickman

Cliff Bryant

Erica Bybee

Jenna Cassady

Dawana Cobb

Tiffany Compton

Britt Coye

Sara Davis

Emily Kessinger

Lenzi Dodgen

Leticia Hagerman

Cornetta Harris

Kim Harrison

John Hayne

Hunter Hickman

Ashley Hinton-Moncer

Lori Houlihan

Angelia Hunter

Jennifer Johnson

Alicia Knox

Carolynn Lee

Nicky LeGood

Susan Lemay

Angie Maldonado

Robert Mason

Kellie McClure

Jessica Mohler

Katie Mooney

Amber Morgan

Melissa Moore Murphy

Jennifer Paul

Briana Persley

Kathy Phillips

Ginny Redmon

Jason Rothrock

Julie Scalos

Brittany Scordo

Jill Smith

Dawnita Tivis

Jessica Tope

Amy Ward

Melinda Weathers

Ann Welch

Kristen Wilson

Staff

Stephanie Theakston
Program Coordinator

Buddha Adikari
Program Specialist

Dani Rodgers
Program Specialist