



FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENTS ACT REAUTHORIZATION (FVPSA)

FVPSA is at the heart of our nation's response to domestic violence services, ensuring that local domestic violence shelters and programs are able to keep their doors open to serve more than 1.3 million victims and their children every year. FVPSA funds nearly 1,600 community-based programs through state formula grants. These programs provide emergency shelter, counseling, legal assistance, crisis intervention, and domestic and dating violence prevention education. **FVPSA expired in 2015 and must be reauthorized with key enhancements in order to meet the growing needs of survivors.**

FVPSA helps communities address domestic violence and serve victims through:

- Local **shelters** and **programs** for adults and children who are escaping violence;
- State **Domestic Violence Coalitions** that coordinate statewide initiatives to address domestic violence;
- Funding for **Tribal governments** to provide essential services to native survivors;
- **National Domestic Violence Resource Network** that provides training and technical assistance to programs;
- **Children's Program** which supports abused parents and their children to disrupt the cycle of violence;
- **DELTA Prevention Grants** which help communities to stop abuse before it starts; and
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline** which is often the first call made by survivors.

Domestic violence program shelters report that they struggle to meet the demand for these critical services. NNEDV releases an annual report entitled *Domestic Violence Counts: A 24-hour **National Census of Domestic Violence Services (Census)***. The report revealed that in just one day in 2018, 74,823 victims of domestic violence received services; however, 9,183 requests for services went unmet due to lack of funding and resources. Some communities and tribes currently have very limited access to FVPSA funds. **Access to FVPSA must be expanded through policy enhancements, increased funding authorization, and significantly increased annual appropriations.**

The Bipartisan FVPSA Improvement Bill introduced by Sen. Casey & Sen. Murkowski:

- **Bolsters and invests** in lifesaving core victim services and shelters.
- **Expands support for and access to culturally-specific programs** by authorizing a new grant program to provide enhanced access to services for racial and ethnic minority populations.
- **Strengthens the capacity of Indian tribes to exercise their sovereign authority** to more fully respond to domestic violence in their communities by increasing resources for tribes, and authorizing funding for tribal coalitions, and authorizing the currently funded Alaska Native Women's Resource Center.
- **Meaningfully invests in domestic violence prevention** by increasing support for evidence-informed, community-based prevention demonstration projects and funding new initiatives that bring these approaches to more communities across the country.
- Creates a new **underserved populations** grant program.
- **Increases the funding authorization level to \$252 million** to respond to very low per-program funding levels and adjust the current formula to increase access to FVPSA funds for programs not currently funded.

About NNEDV

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) represents the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. NNEDV works to make the elimination of domestic violence a national priority, change the way society responds to domestic violence, and strengthen advocacy at the national, statewide, and local levels. Please contact Monica McLaughlin at MMcLaughlin@nnedv.org or Melina Milazzo at MMilazzo@nnedv.org.