

# IMPACT REPORT 2020-2021



---

1 5 t h   A n n i v e r s a r y

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



March 28, 2022

Dear Friends,

Last year, we persisted through year two of the COVID-19 pandemic and celebrated our 15 Year Anniversary as an independent organization. We have grown tremendously since we incorporated in 2006, but what has remained constant is our commitment to ensuring accessibility and effectiveness for survivors in crisis.

I am eager to share with you how we enacted that commitment this past year. Some of our major wins include:

1. Supporting **11,448 survivors**, which is 4,164 more than the year before (a **57% increase**), providing crisis housing to 801 individuals and families, on-call dispatch to 364, and emergency transportation to 1,320;
2. Pushing forward many systems advocacy issues, including **advancing alternatives to justice** and greater access to the Crime Victims Compensation Program; and
3. Breaking ground on the **brand new facility for our SAFE Space Crisis Shelter!** Construction is on schedule and we plan for project completion by August 2022.

Getting to this point in DC SAFE's history has truly been a labor of love. Thank you for being a part of it. You all inspire me everyday to believe that one person can make a difference and that resiliency abounds when there is understanding, support, and tenacity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ana Natalia Otero', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ana Natalia Otero

Co-founder and Executive Director

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4 **DC SAFE Client Demographics**
- 5 **Programmatic Impact Data**
- 6 **DC SAFE Systems Map**
- 7 **Fundraising Snapshot**
- 8 **Building the SAFE Space Crisis Shelter**
- 9 **Systems Advocacy: Budget Season**

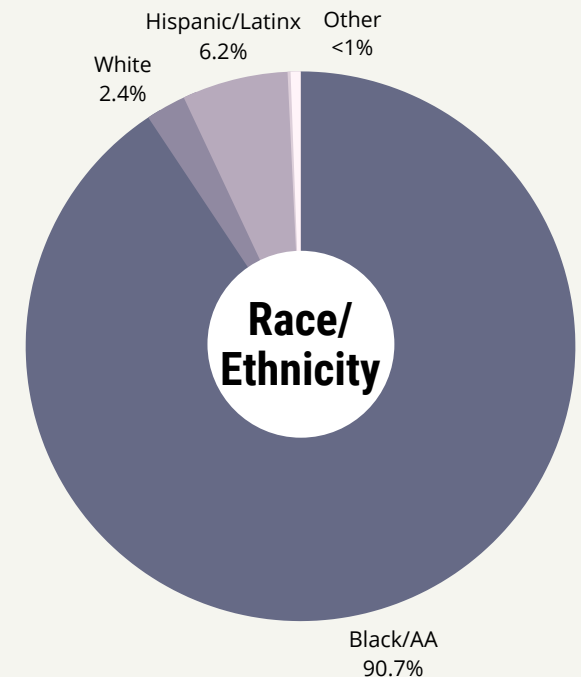
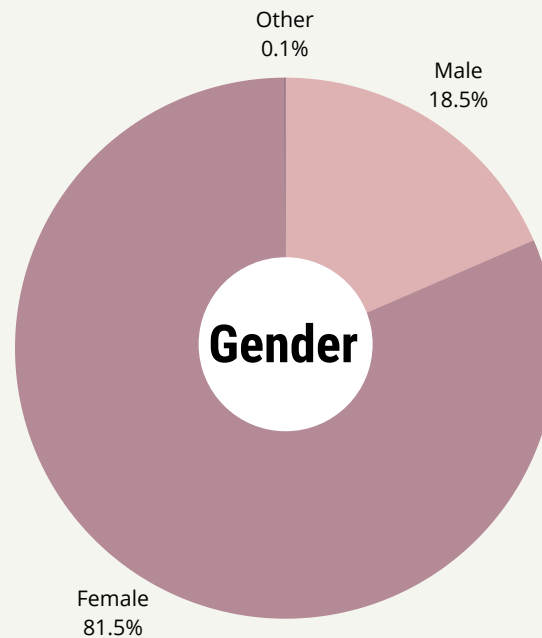
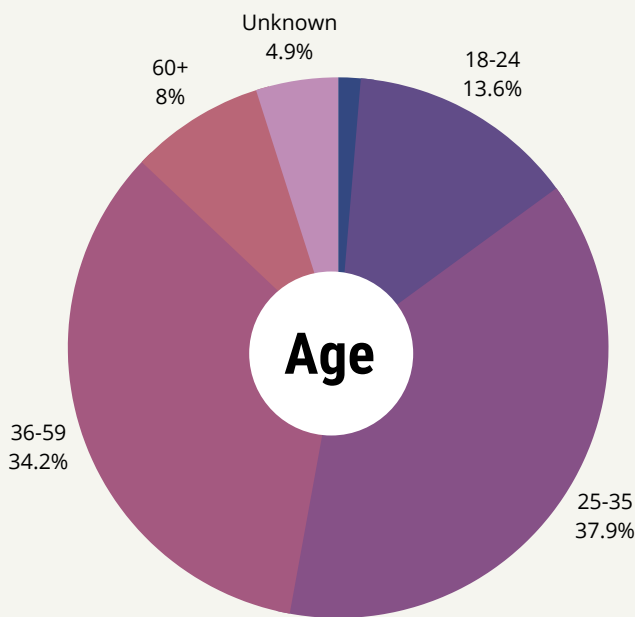
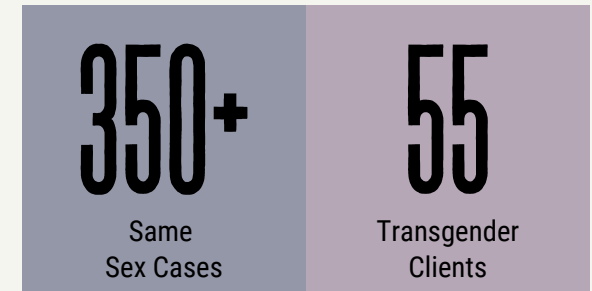


# CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

**Total Clients: 11,448**

All demographic data is voluntarily self-reported by clients.  
Intimate Partner Violence is abbreviated as IPV.

## LGBTQ+



## VICTIMIZATION TYPES

IPV	NON-IPV	STALKING	SEXUAL ASSAULT
7,357	3,080	119	187

## DISABILITY DATA

PHYSICAL	MENTAL	LEARNING	OTHER
101	330	43	109

# PROGRAMMATIC IMPACT DATA

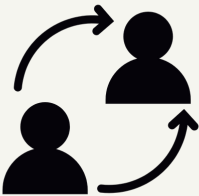
## Supportive Advocacy



**1,490** clients served at the NW DV Intake Center & remotely



**285** petitions written for civil protection orders



**515** legal referrals



**867** court accompaniments

## Crisis Intervention



**42,525** incoming calls received to the Crisis Response Line



**1,320** emergency Uber & taxi rides provided



**155** emergency lock-changes facilitated for survivors



**364** dispatches for On-Call Advocates to provide in-person crisis support

## Crisis Shelter



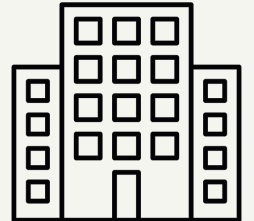
**281** survivors housed at the SAFE Space Crisis Shelter



**107** connections to on-site mental health services



**393** clients assisted with Crime Victims Compensation applications



**520** emergency hotel placements



**882** high-risk clients connected to expedited services

## Lethality Assessment Program

**375** LAP alerts sent to government and partner agencies



# D C S A F E S Y S T E M S M A P

REFERRAL SOURCE

DC Superior Court/ Domestic Violence Intake Centers	DHS via the POWER Program	Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)	DC Victim Hotline	DC Hospitals	Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA)	DHS via Virginia Williams Family Resource Center	Sexual Assault Referral Continuum 	Other Partner Orgs
---	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------------	--------------	---	--	---------------------------------------	--------------------

## Crisis Response Line

- 24/7 bilingual hotline for first responders
- Provides tangible assistance immediately following domestic violence incidents
- ACCIÓN: la línea de emergencia is a dedicated number to the Response Line for Latinx survivors provided in partnership with the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs

OFICINA DE LA ALCALDESA DC PARA ASUNTOS LATINOS

## Lethality Assessment Project (LAP)

- List of 15 questions used to assess clients for their level of risk for re-assault or homicide
- Results are used to triage services internally and externally

DC SAFE SERVICES

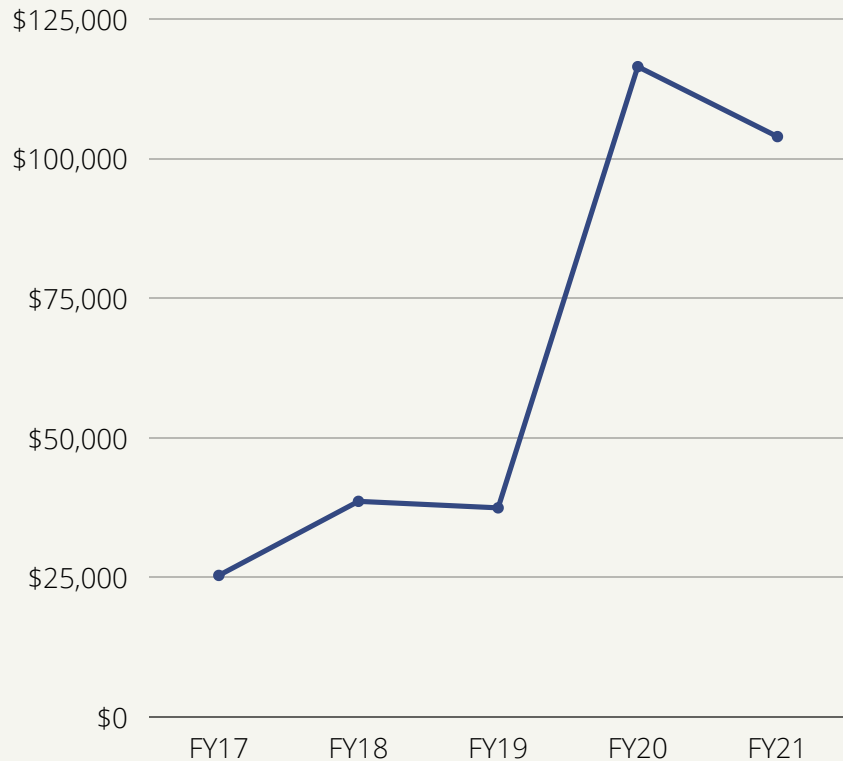
<b>Supportive Advocacy Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safety Planning</li> <li>▪ Lethality Assessment</li> <li>▪ Drafting Petition for Temporary/Civil Protection Order</li> <li>▪ Legal Information</li> <li>▪ Referrals for Crime Victims Compensation Program, Legal Services, Counseling, and More</li> </ul>	<b>Crisis Intervention Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Safety Planning</li> <li>▪ Lethality Assessment</li> <li>▪ Lock Changes</li> <li>▪ Transportation</li> <li>▪ Shelter/Hotel Placement</li> <li>▪ Legal Information</li> <li>▪ Referral for Forensic Exam</li> <li>▪ Other Resource Referrals</li> </ul>	<b>LAP Alerts/LAP Continuum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ After a High-Risk survivor is identified, partner orgs and city agencies are alerted through a 24-hour central email, triggering enhanced and expedited responses citywide</li> </ul>	<b>SAFE Space Crisis Shelter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Up to 20 days of low barrier housing</li> <li>▪ Apartment-style units</li> <li>▪ Placement within one hour</li> <li>▪ Priority for High-Risk clients</li> <li>▪ Case management and exit planning</li> <li>▪ On-site mental health services</li> </ul>
--	---	--	--

SYSTEMS ADVOCACY

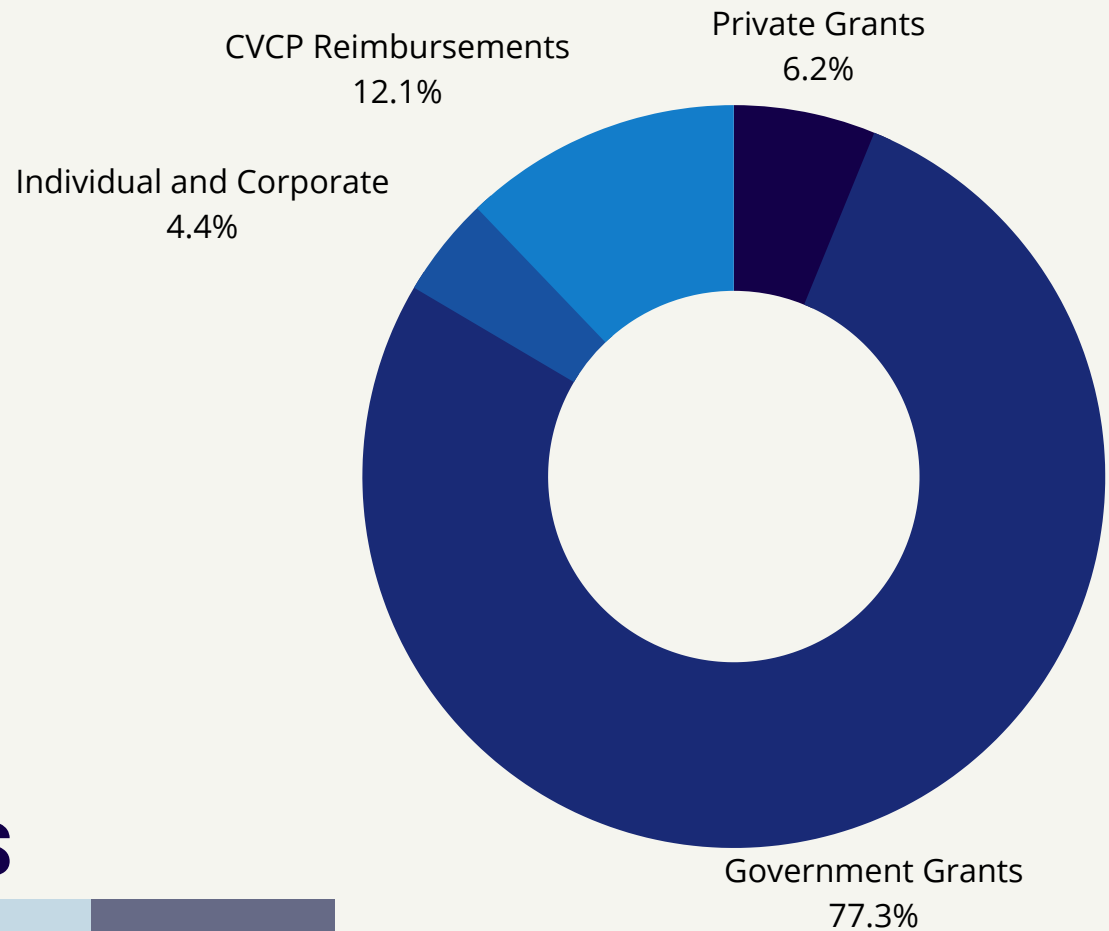
<h3> Legal Continuum</h3>	<h3> Court-based Resources</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency Temporary Protection Order</li> <li>Temporary/Civil Protection Order</li> <li>Anti-Stalking Order</li> <li>Extreme Risk Protection Order</li> <li>Crime Victims Compensation Program</li> </ul>	<h3> High-Risk Domestic Violence Initiative (HRDVI)</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Our LAP program is a part of the HRDVI, which is a city-wide partnership created in 2009 to address cases that show a higher chance of escalating to lethal violence.</li> <li>▪ The HRDVI is further comprised of the Critical Case Response Team (CCRT) and the Domestic Violence Systems Review Team (DVSRT). The CCRT allows LAP partners to refer urgent cases for multidisciplinary action within 24 hours of notification, while the DVSRT completes comprehensive case reviews to make recommendations for systems change.</li> </ul>	<h3> Formal Community Housing Partners</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DHS-Virginia Williams Family Resource Center</li> <li>▪ DC Housing Authority</li> <li>▪ The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness</li> </ul>
<h3> POWER Program</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ POWER offers exemptions from TANF requirements for survivors of domestic violence</li> </ul>	<h3> Mental Health Continuum</h3>	<h3> Domestic Violence Housing Continuum</h3>	

# FUNDRAISING SNAPSHOT

## INDIVIDUAL GIVING TRENDS



## FY21 REVENUE SOURCES



## PRIVATE GIVING METRICS



# BUILDING SAFE SPACE



*After nearly five years of pre-development planning, we officially broke ground on our new shelter facility in spring 2021. SAFE Space is the only shelter in the District that can make 24/7 immediate placements for survivors and families within an hour of a domestic violence incident. **With 30 apartment-style units, the new facility will triple current capacity!** We envision a community-owned building that emblemizes public trust, inclusivity, and self-determination. Expanding SAFE Space will ensure that survivors have access to secure housing, support services, and other necessities. We are on target to complete construction in August 2022 and welcome survivors and families as soon as September!*



# SYSTEMS ADVOCACY: BUDGET SEASON

To ensure the success of expanded operations due to COVID-19 and our new shelter facility, we are advocating for additional funding from the city for our FY23 operations. Here is a snapshot of our needs and recommendations.

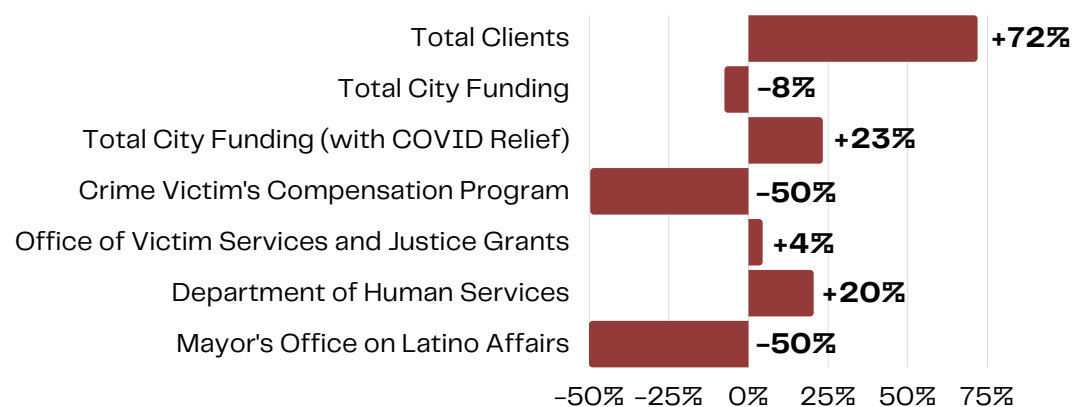
## FUNDING CRISIS SHELTER



As of last year, 40% (up from 15%) of shelter clients cannot access or do not wish to engage with the Crime Victims Compensation Program, which has historically been the largest contributor to our shelter program. **We need funding for shelter operations that ensures access to safe housing is not dependent on participation with law enforcement or the criminal justice system.**

## CLIENT VS. FUNDING TRENDS

% Change in Client Base vs. Funding by Source since FY 2018



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Reinvest in the Shelter Fund.

The Shelter Fund was created in 2007 to ensure adequate funding in times of emergency and continue the city's investment in capital projects for survivors.

We call on the city to do right by its original intent and use it as a vehicle for support during FY 2023.

### Use a multi-disciplinary approach.

The District already relies upon a multi-disciplinary response to domestic violence, from mental health to law enforcement to victim advocacy. Funding should be multi-agency to reflect this reality and strengthen the coordinated infrastructure.



**WE THANK YOU**  
**FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF**  
**OUR PROGRAMS**

**SURVIVORS AND ADVOCATES FOR EMPOWERMENT, INC.**

P.O. BOX 7412, WASHINGTON, DC 20044 | 202.506.2901

INFO@DCSAFE.ORG | WWW.DCSAFE.ORG