

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REPORT

2019



## DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to all domestic violence homicide victims, survivors, and those working to end domestic violence in Pennsylvania for future generations.



# ABOUT THE REPORT

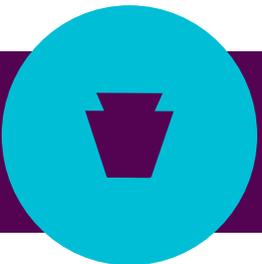
The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence's (PCADV) annual Fatality Report has been the single most reliable source for information about domestic violence-related deaths in Pennsylvania for more than 19 years.

Pennsylvania does not have reporting requirements for domestic violence homicides. PCADV compiles its annual list based on news accounts, police departments, and information received from our 59 local domestic violence programs serving all 67 counties.

PCADV uses a conservative method of identifying domestic violence deaths. We do not include cases where no arrests have been made or where the relationship between victim and perpetrator is unclear. We count fatalities involving current and former intimate partners, family members, police officers, bystanders, interveners, and others such as former partners killed by new partners or new partners killed by former partners.

We exclude child abuse and neglect deaths because they are reported by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. However, we include certain child deaths when the deaths are a direct result of domestic violence. These may include situations where the perpetrator kills the entire family or the children/child to harm the parent.

*\*Our homicide numbers may change on a yearly basis. This depends on when an arrest is made in a domestic violence related homicide; if someone has been acquitted of a homicide; or if it has been determined that the homicide was committed in self-defense.*



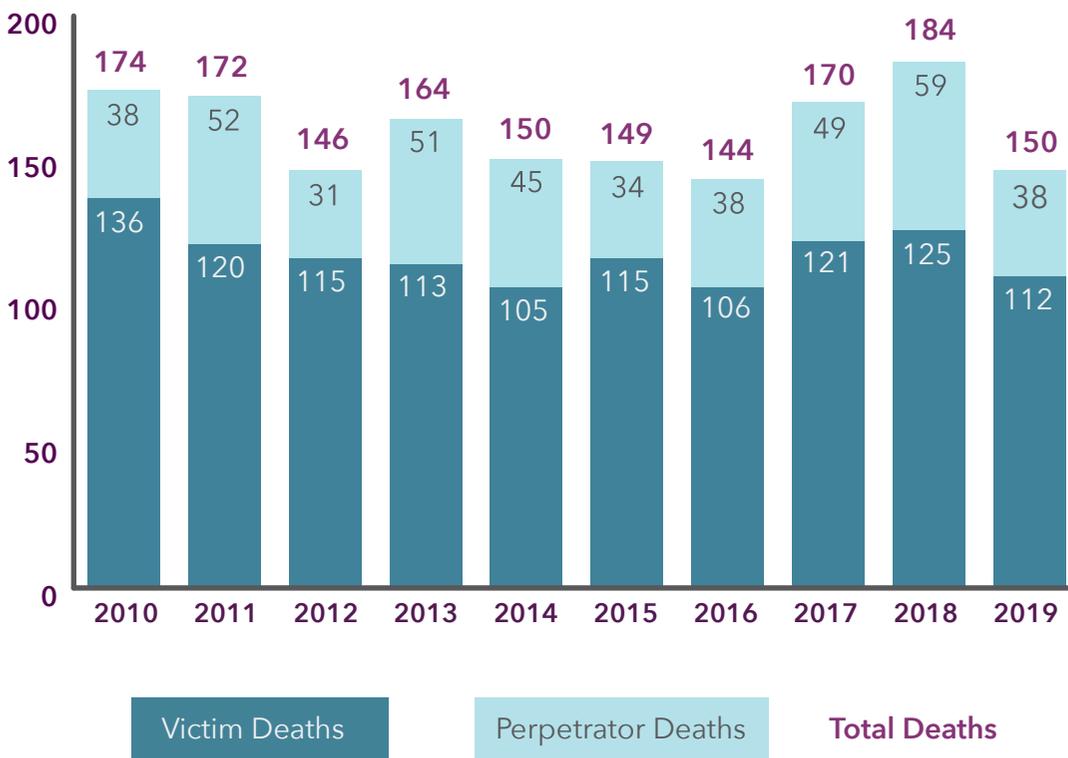
For more information about this report or for media inquiries, contact:

PCADV Public Affairs Department  
717.545.6400 or [publicaffairs@pcadv.org](mailto:publicaffairs@pcadv.org)

In the last 10 years, close to 1,600 victims and perpetrators have died from domestic violence-related incidents in Pennsylvania.

Those killed included women, children, and men of all ages, races, sexual orientations, and socio-economic groups. In 2019, 112 victims lost their lives to domestic violence in Pennsylvania. This number includes 68 females and 44 males. Additionally, there were 38 perpetrator deaths.

## A DECADE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATHS

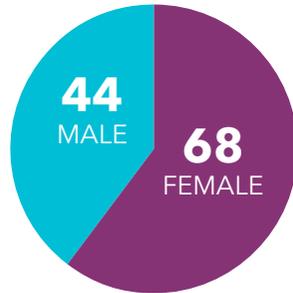


## 2019 VICTIM DEATHS

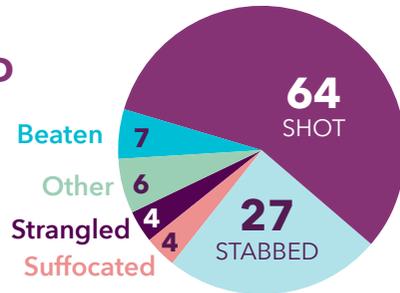
TOTAL VICTIMS

112

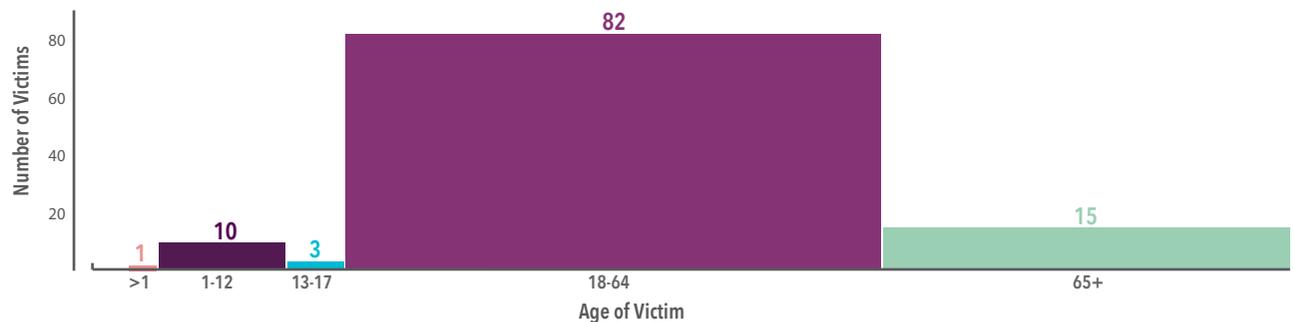
VICTIM GENDER



HOW THEY WERE KILLED



VICTIMS BY AGE

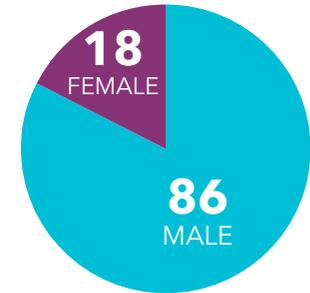


## 2019 PERPETRATOR DEATHS

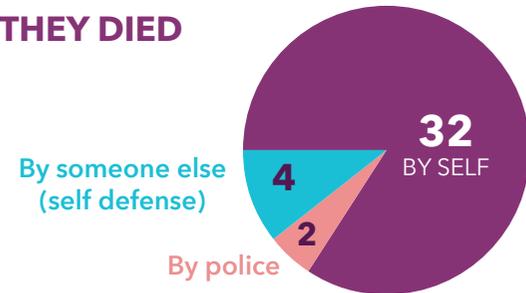
PERPETRATOR DEATHS

38

PERPETRATOR GENDER



HOW THEY DIED



# A MILESTONE IN PCADV'S LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

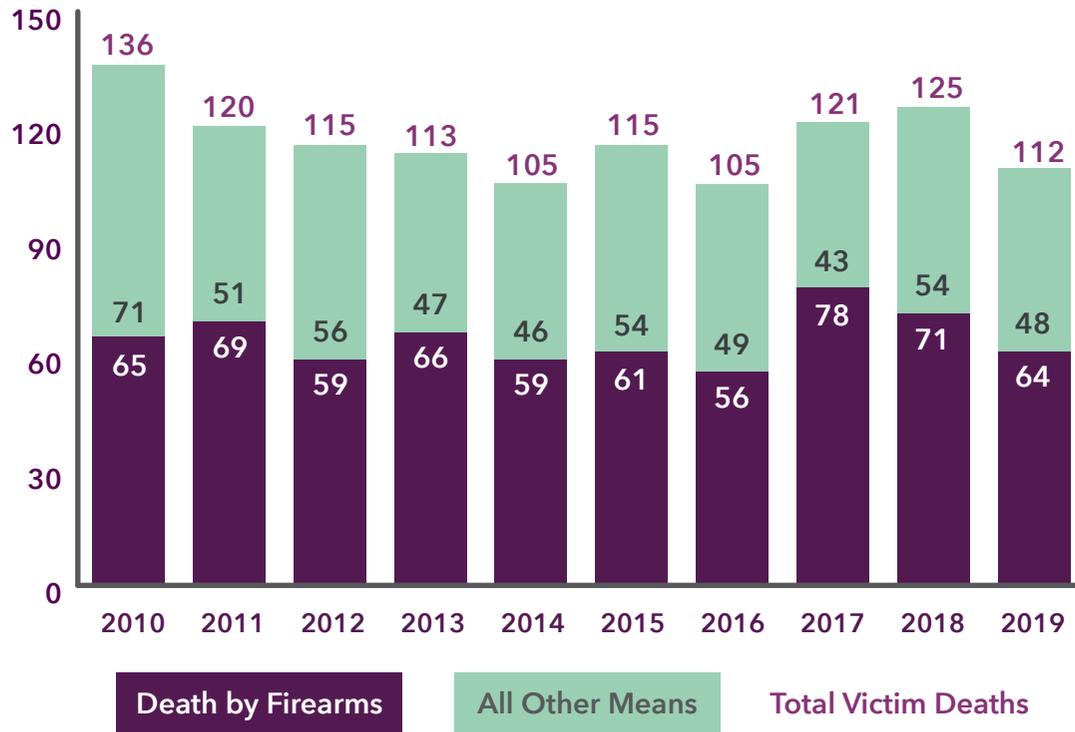
In October, 2012, PCADV adopted the Maryland Lethality Assessment Program in an attempt to address the lethal nature of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). LAP is an evidence-based assessment tool used by law enforcement officers responding to intimate partner domestic violence calls. The tool uses a series of questions to determine if the victim is at an increased risk of lethality and helps connect the victim directly with

services through the local domestic violence program.

In 2019, PCADV reached a milestone with LAP. Since its implementation, more than 25,000 LAP screens have been conducted by law enforcement when responding to intimate partner violence calls. As a result, 11,108 victims sought services from LAP-participating domestic violence programs.



## VICTIM DEATHS BY FIREARMS



## VICTIM STORIES

A 29-year-old man was charged with four counts of criminal homicide in connection with killing his entire family. After purchasing a shotgun, the man took the gun onto the subway and rode home. He then used the weapon to shoot each of his family members in the head. The man's mother and stepfather worked for the same employer. When neither showed up for work, the employer called the police for a wellness check. Police found the couple and their two other children dead shot dead in various places in the house.

*Philadelphia County*

# HOMICIDE DASHBOARD

## VICTIM STORIES

An 80-year-old woman was writing out bills when she was attacked by her 42-year-old son. He allegedly knocked her to the ground and began kicking and stomping her before throwing her down the basement stairs. The man told police that his mother was still breathing after he dragged her across the basement and left her to die. A day later the man called the police and claimed he had killed his mother. The home had a history of domestic disturbance calls to the police.

*Allegheny County*

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and made possible by STOP funding, PCADV in collaboration with the Penn State Data Center, Institute for State and Regional Affairs at the Pennsylvania State University of Harrisburg, has created a publicly-available Homicide

Dashboard. The interactive digital dashboard visually summarizes homicide data we tracked from news accounts, domestic violence programs, and police departments. Information on domestic violence fatalities in PA and the Homicide Dashboard can be accessed at: [PCADV.org/resources/fatalities](https://PCADV.org/resources/fatalities)





# FAMILY VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is often thought of as abuse between two current or former intimate partners, which is why we sometimes also use the terminology intimate partner violence. But domestic violence extends beyond intimate partners. Pennsylvania's PFA Act also defines domestic violence victims as family members, either related by blood or marriage. Pennsylvania's PFA Act defines domestic violence as the occurrence of one or more outlined acts between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood.

Violence against family members is often perpetrated in similar ways to violence against intimate partners. Abusers use tactics of power and control over one or more family members. Emotional, verbal, physical, financial and sexual abuse may be used to harm family members. Unfortunately, sometimes these familial acts of abuse turn deadly.

Over the last decade, PCADV has not only tracked current and former intimate partner homicides, but also domestic violence homicides among family members. In tracking these homicides, we've seen far too many accounts of a single family member killing all the household family members in an act of vengeance, which may have started with one individual living on the home.

We highlight these cases as a reminder that intimate partner violence is not a private matter between two or more romantic partners. It's a public health crisis that infiltrates homes and communities and compromises the safety and well-being of whole families creating lasting impact, especially when children are involved.

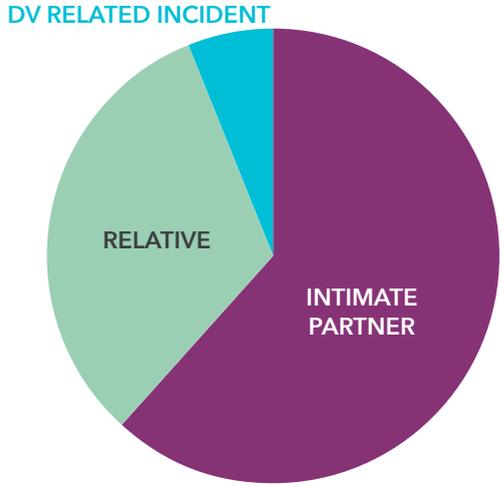
## VICTIM STORIES

A 27-year-old woman attacked her parents, both aged 71, stabbing each with a knife, she also repeatedly hit them over their heads causing blunt-force trauma. The woman killed both of her parents before killing herself with a self-inflicted knife stab to her neck.

*Montgomery County*

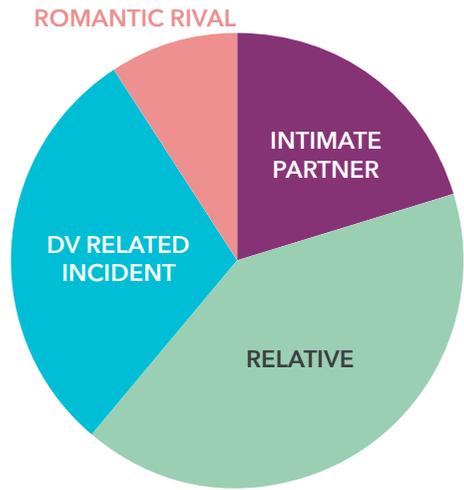
# VICTIM RELATIONSHIP WITH OFFENDER (BY GENDER)

## FEMALE VICTIMS



- 42** Females killed by a current or former intimate partner
- 22** Females killed by a relative
- 4** Females killed in domestic violence related incidents

## MALE VICTIMS

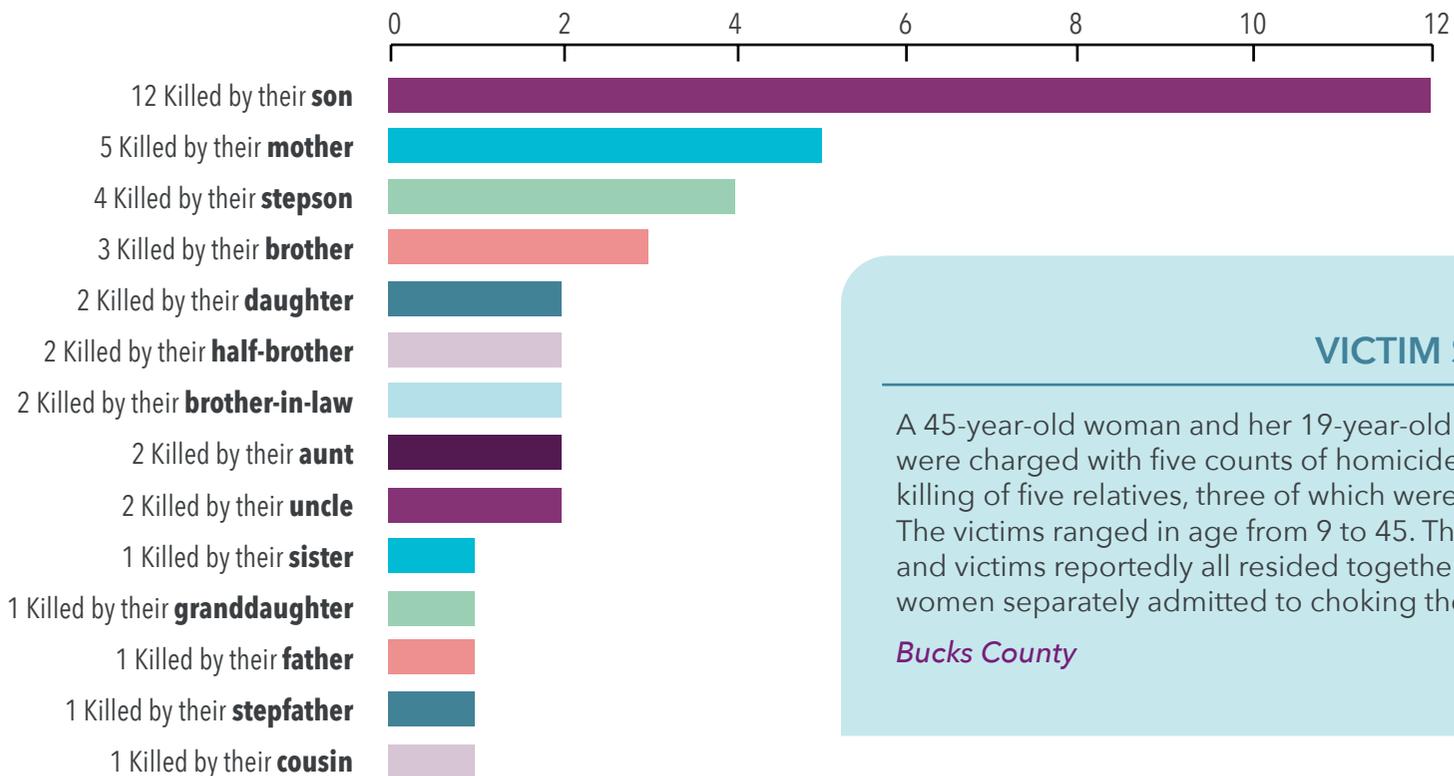


- 9** Males killed by a current or former intimate partner
- 18** Males killed by a relative
- 13** Males killed in domestic violence related incidents
- 4** Males killed by a romantic rival

## VICTIMS KILLED BY A RELATIVE IN THE PAST DECADE

KILLED BY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	TOTAL
SON	7	12	6	7	7	9	7	6	16	12	89
FATHER	7	5	2	8	3	1	6	5	3	1	41
BROTHER	2	1	2	7	3	1	5	0	1	3	25
MOTHER	2	5	4	1	1	0	2	3	1	5	24
DAUGHTER	1	1	0	3	1	3	2	3	1	2	17
GRANDSON	1	0	4	2	0	2	3	1	2	0	15
NEPHEW	1	2	0	0	1	1	3	4	3	0	15
COUSIN	0	0	1	1	1	1	4	1	2	1	12
STEPSON	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	4	10
BROTHER-IN-LAW	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	9
SON-IN-LAW	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	8
STEP FATHER	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	6
GRANDDAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
SISTER	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	4
UNCLE	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	4
AUNT	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
HALF-BROTHER	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
STEP DAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
MOTHER-IN-LAW	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
NIECE	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
STEP GRANDFATHER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>NUMBER SHOT</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>150</b>

## 39 VICTIMS KILLED BY A RELATIVE IN 2019



### VICTIM STORIES

A 45-year-old woman and her 19-year-old daughter were charged with five counts of homicide for the killing of five relatives, three of which were children. The victims ranged in age from 9 to 45. The suspects and victims reportedly all resided together. The women separately admitted to choking the victims.

*Bucks County*

### VICTIM STORIES

A 71-year-old man was allegedly stabbed in the neck and beaten with golf clubs by his 17-year-old granddaughter, her 19-year-old boyfriend and two friends. After beating the man, the suspects took \$30,000 in cash from his basement safe and stole his car.

*Luzerne County*

# HONORING VICTIMS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA (2019)

## **Allegheny County (8)**

Allison Fritzius  
Tre Valorie  
Gerald Dwain Walker  
Kaine A. Williams  
Susan E. Jeffries  
Nalani Johnson  
Margaret Sumney  
Dolores Burdick

## **Bedford County (4)**

Scott Alan Rogers  
Felicia Nicole Barton  
Amanda Jane Figard  
Laina Haney

## **Berks County (4)**

Farrah Wertz  
Joy Strunk  
Joanne DeLuca  
Ira Reed Jr.

## **Blair County (2)**

Cassandra Lynn Appleman  
Sheldon Howard Appleman

## **Bradford County (3)**

Candy Bidlack  
Edwin Bidlack  
Johnnie Johnson

## **Bucks County (8)**

Erika Allen  
Imani Allen  
Jamilla Campbell

Damon Decree Jr.  
Naa'Irah Smith  
Robyn Ryan  
Eric Braxton  
Arthur Hill

## **Butler County (1)**

Mary Jo Kornick

## **Carbon County (1)**

Megan Leland

## **Centre County (3)**

Dean Beachy  
Steven Beachy  
George McCormick

## **Chester County (1)**

Barbara Palladino

## **Clearfield County (1)**

Ronald Williams Jr.

## **Clinton County (1)**

Agnes Rae Neff

## **Columbia County (1)**

Paula S. (Brown) Deeter

## **Crawford County (2)**

Darrin Whitman  
Shannon Whitman

## **Cumberland County (1)**

Linda Brandt

## **Dauphin County (6)**

Nightflower Staats

Joaquim (Joe) Caddell  
Charlotte Chaplin  
Kelly Kearn  
Nancy Parthemore  
Andres Claudio Sr.

**Delaware County (3)**

Stephanie Miller  
She'Kierrah Adams  
Shantel Harmon

**Erie County (1)**

Starleisha Smith

**Franklin County (1)**

Edwin Perez-Huertas

**Greene County (1)**

William Lawrence Worry III

**Lackawanna County (1)**

Barbara Naumann

**Lancaster County (4)**

Dante Welton  
Ian Shannon  
Autumn Ross  
Christine Ross

**Lawrence County (2)**

Mark Mason  
Darren Jevcak

**Lehigh County (2)**

Nestor Luis Ortiz DeLeon  
Yosandra Andralyn -  
Munoz Corporan

**Luzerne County (6)**

Joseph Monka  
Ta'Rese Previlon  
Tara Grob  
Sandra Jones-Shaffer  
Jose Luis Jimenez  
Brittany Reynolds

**Monroe County (3)**

Joevandie Latorre  
Jeanette Sylvia Sancho  
Lydia Alamillo Bulaon

**Montgomery County (8)**

Jinhan Han  
Joshua Shupard  
Johnny Johnson  
Rolando Popsacul  
Sheila Dolan  
Robert McIntyre  
Jeanne Edwards  
Sue Won

**Northampton County (2)**

Maryanne Looby  
Penny VanTassel

**Philadelphia County (22)**

Idrees Muhammed-Poston  
Roany Rondon Ortega  
Marlita Ann Smith  
Ivelisse Rodriguez  
Vera Coward  
Carla Freeman  
Linda Harris

Mahendra Panjroila  
Kimberly Wescott  
Damaya Alcindor  
Maxillie Alcindor  
Max Alcindor  
Leslie Woodson  
Sy-eed Woodson  
Janet Woodson  
Leslie Holmes Jr.  
Jill Millman  
Ena Pressley Wiggins  
Juana Us-Perez  
Yessenia Liberato  
Orlando Green  
Etinosa Brownell

**Schuylkill County (1)**

Terri Lynn Gee

**Somerset County (1)**

Cora Mae Kline

**Washington County (1)**

Joshua Ryan Bowland

**Westmoreland County (1)**

Joan Agnew

**York County (5)**

Duane Dettinger  
Marsha Stewart  
Nicole Cash  
John Fountain  
Mary Fountain



# PCADV LOCAL PROGRAMS

PCADV has a statewide network of local domestic violence programs that are ready to help.

**A Safe Place**  
Forest and Warren Counties

**A Way Out**  
Potter County

**A Woman's Place**  
Bucks County

**Abuse & Rape Crisis Center**  
Bradford County

**Alice Paul House**  
Indiana County

**Alle-Kiski Area HOPE Center, Inc.**  
Allegheny & Westmoreland Counties

**AWARE, Inc.**  
Mercer County

**Blackburn Center**  
Westmoreland County

**C.A.P.S.E.A., Inc.**  
Elk and Cameron Counties

**Center for Victims**  
Allegheny County

**Centre Safe**  
Centre County

**Community Action, Inc. / Crossroads Project**  
Jefferson and Clearfield Counties

**Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc.**  
Philadelphia County

**Crisis Center North, Inc.**  
Allegheny County

**Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County**  
Lawrence County

**Victim Services of Family Services, Inc.**  
Blair County

**Domestic Abuse Project  
of Delaware County, Inc.**  
Delaware County

**Domestic Violence Center  
of Chester County**  
Chester County

**Domestic Violence Intervention  
of Lebanon County, Inc.**  
Lebanon County

**Domestic Violence Service Center, Inc.**  
Luzerne and Carbon Counties

**Domestic Violence Services  
of Cumberland & Perry Counties**  
Cumberland and Perry Counties

**Domestic Violence Services  
of Lancaster County**  
Lancaster County

**Domestic Violence Services  
of Southwestern PA**  
Washington, Greene  
and Fayette Counties

**HAVEN of Tioga County, Inc.**  
Tioga County

**HAVIN, Inc.**  
Armstrong County

**Huntingdon House**  
Huntingdon County

**Laurel House**  
Montgomery County

**Lutheran Settlement House**  
Philadelphia County

**Roads to Peace  
(Clinton County Women's Center)**  
Clinton County

**PPC Violence Free Network**  
Venango County

**SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone), Inc.**  
Clarion County

**Safe Berks**  
Berks County

**Safe Journey**  
Erie County

**SafeNet Domestic Violence Safety Network**  
Erie County

**Schuylkill Women in Crisis**  
Schuylkill County

**Sullivan County Victim Services**  
Sullivan County

**Survivors, Inc.**  
Adams County

**The Abuse Network**  
Mifflin and Juniata Counties

**Transitions of PA**  
Union, Snyder and  
Northumberland Counties

**Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc.**  
Lehigh and Northampton Counties

**Victim Outreach Intervention Center**  
Butler County

**Victims Resource Center**  
Wyoming County

**Victims' Intervention Program**  
Wayne County

**Women Against Abuse, Inc.**  
Philadelphia County

**Women in Need, Inc.**  
Franklin and Fulton Counties

**Women In Transition**  
Philadelphia County

**Women's Center & Shelter  
of Greater Pittsburgh**  
Allegheny County

**Women's Center of Beaver County**  
Beaver County

**The Women's Center, Inc.  
of Columbia/Montour**  
Columbia and Montour Counties

**Women's Center of Montgomery County**  
Montgomery County

**Women's Help Center, Inc.**  
Cambria and Somerset Counties

**Women's Resource Center, Inc.**  
Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties

**Women's Resources of Monroe County, Inc.**  
Monroe County

**Women's Services, Inc.**  
Crawford County

**Your Safe Haven, Inc.**  
Bedford County

**YWCA Bradford Victims' Resource Center**  
McKean County

**YWCA Northcentral PA / Wise Options**  
Lycoming County

**YWCA Greater Harrisburg / Violence  
Intervention & Prevention Services**  
Dauphin County

**YWCA York / ACCESS**  
York County



**National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.779.7233**  
**National Teen Dating Violence Hotline: 1.866.331.9474**

Visit [PCADV.org](https://www.pcadv.org) to find local programs  
by location and services offered.