

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE **FATALITY REPORT**

2024





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 20 years.

Pennsylvania doesn't 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.*



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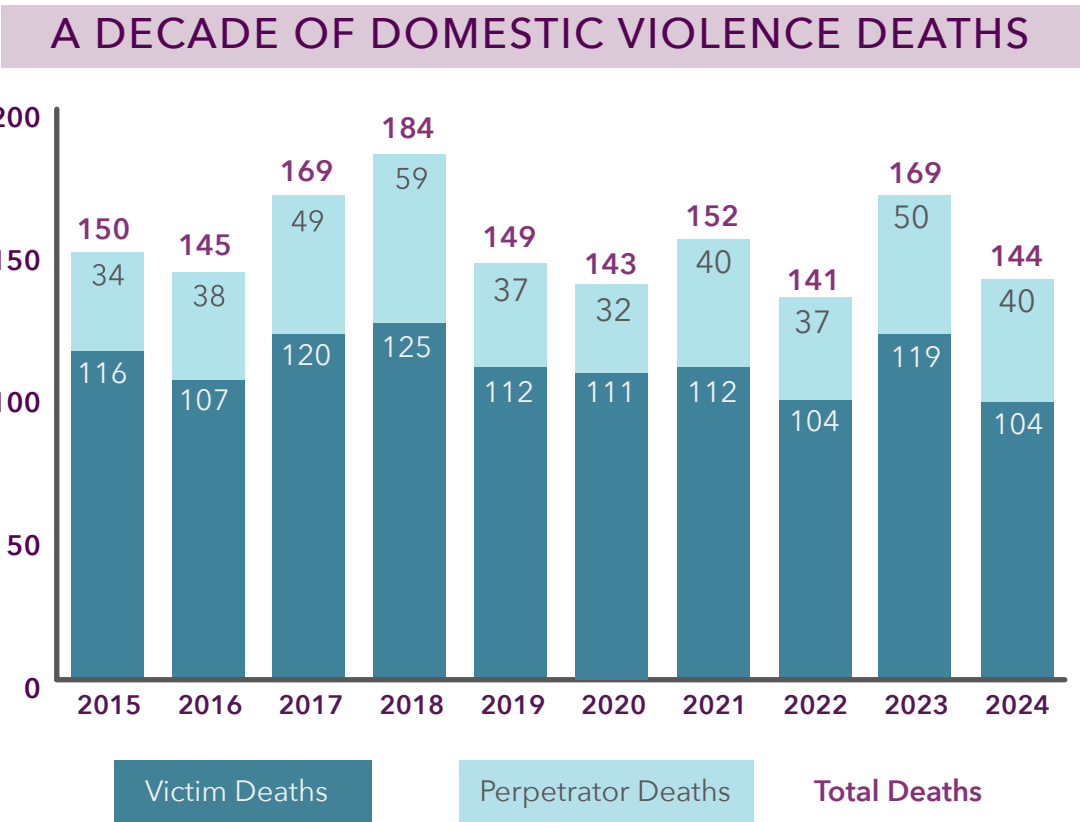
REPORT OVERVIEW

In the last ten years, more than 1,500 victims and perpetrators died in domestic violence-related incidents in Pennsylvania.

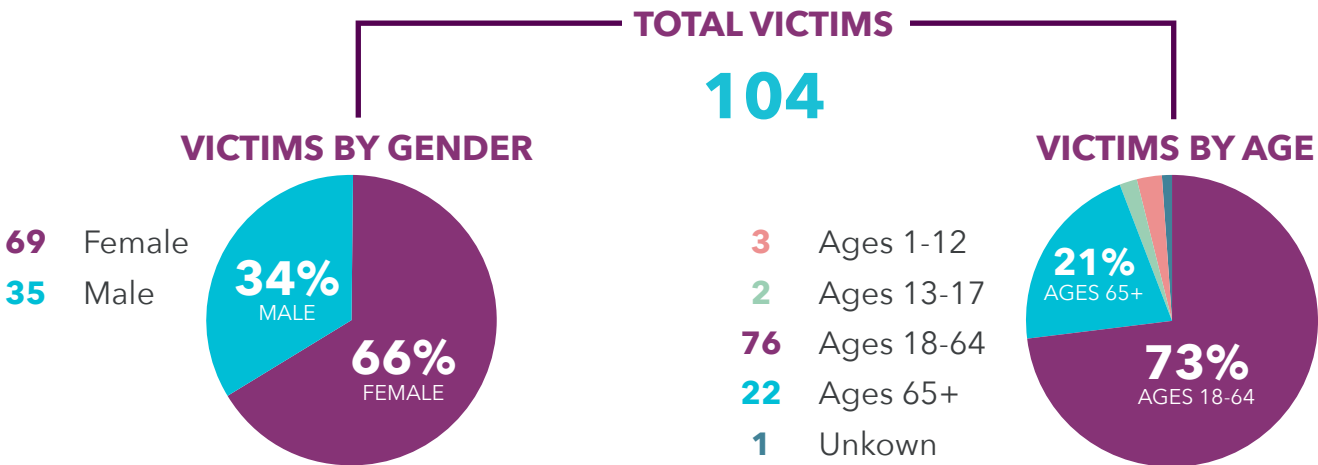
Those killed included women, children, and men of all ages, races, sexual orientations, and socio-economic groups.

In 2024, **104 victims** lost their lives to domestic violence in Pennsylvania. This number includes **69 females** and **35 males**.

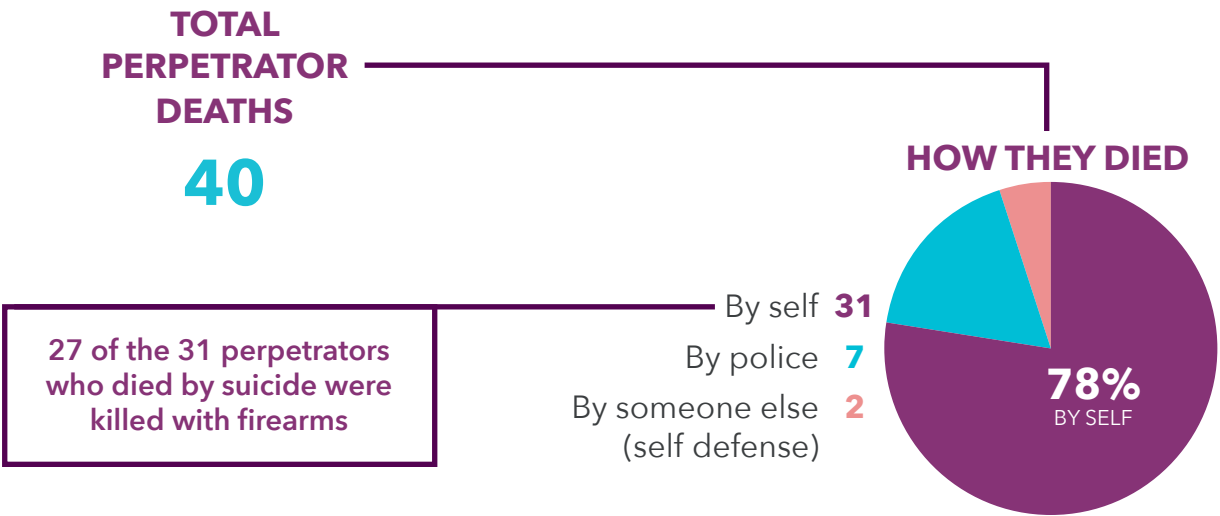
Additionally, there were **40 perpetrator** deaths.



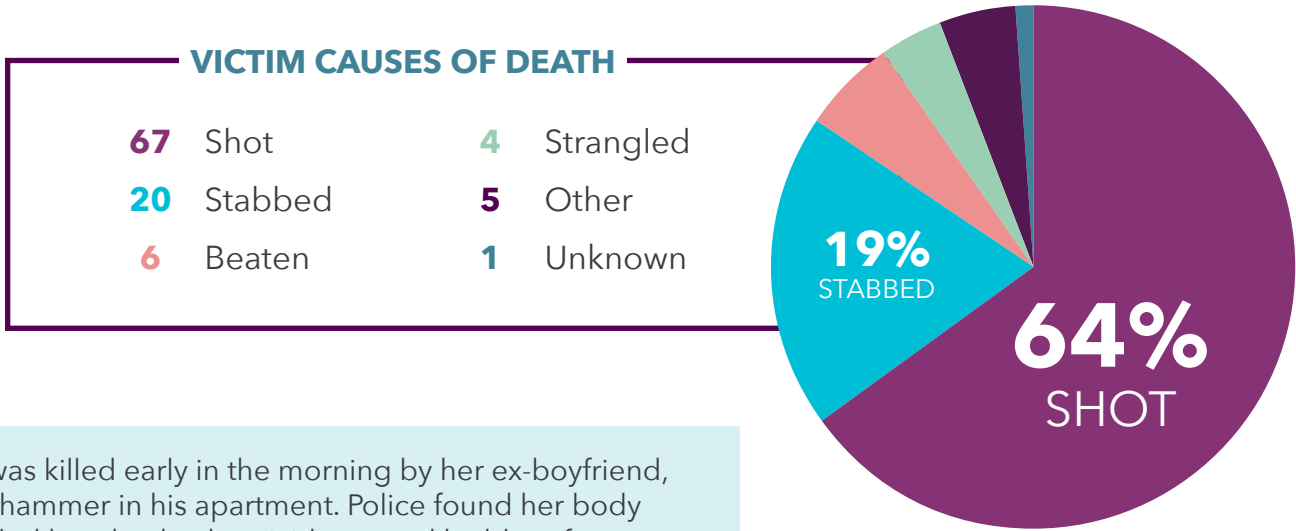
2024 VICTIM DEATHS



2024 PERPETRATOR DEATHS



HOW THEY WERE KILLED



A Victim’s Story

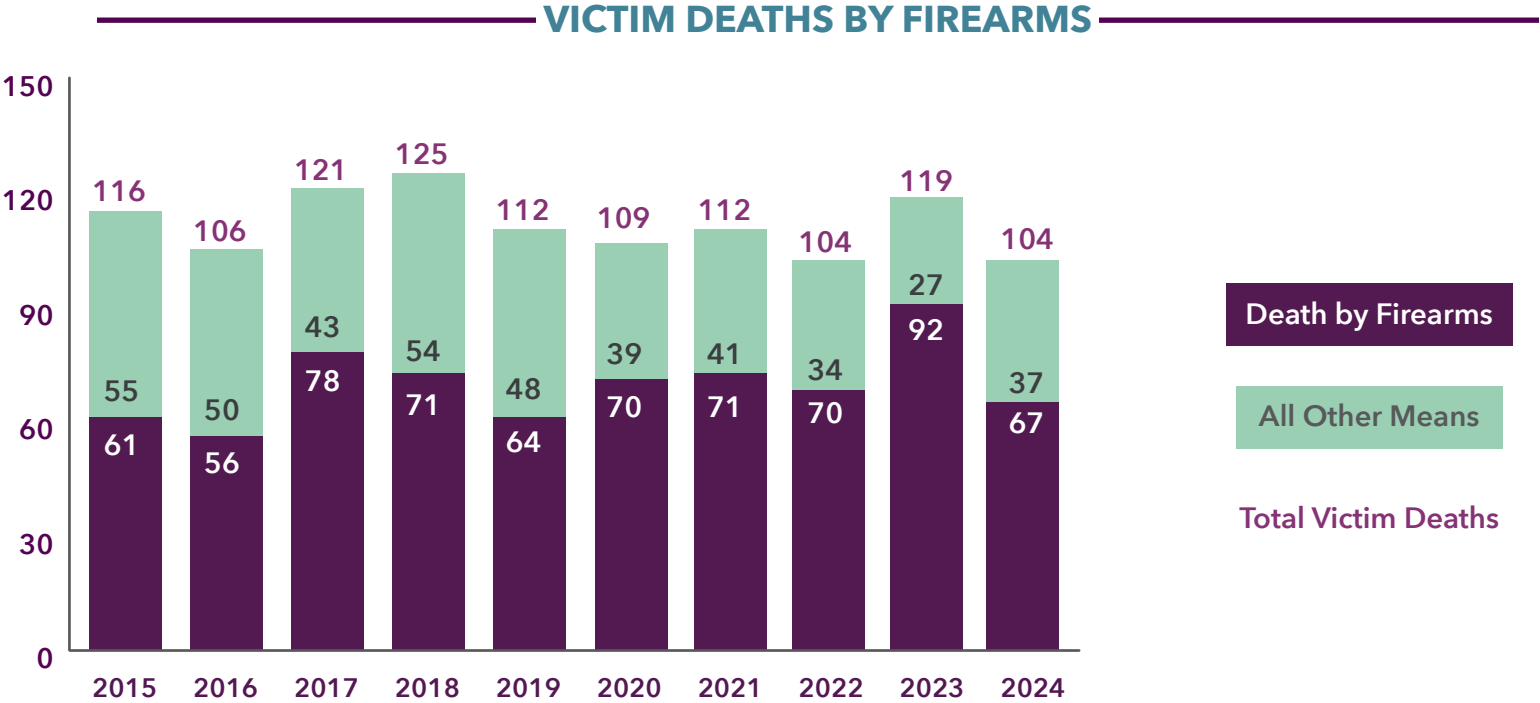
A woman in her 30’s was killed early in the morning by her ex-boyfriend, who struck her with a hammer in his apartment. Police found her body after a 911 call and ruled her death a homicide caused by blunt-force trauma. The two had dated earlier in the year but broke up months before the incident. Loved ones remembered her as kind, creative, and always willing to help others.

A Victim’s Story

A teenager was killed during a police shootout involving her boyfriend, just a day after filing an emergency protection order against him, expressing fear for her life. Despite being served with the order early morning, he traveled to where she was staying and opened fire, killing her mother and injuring three other people. The shooter then fled with the girl, leading police on a high-speed chase that ended in a deadly shootout. She was found in the truck afterward with multiple gunshot wounds. In her petition, she described past abuse, including being locked in a room, harassed, and having her accounts hacked.

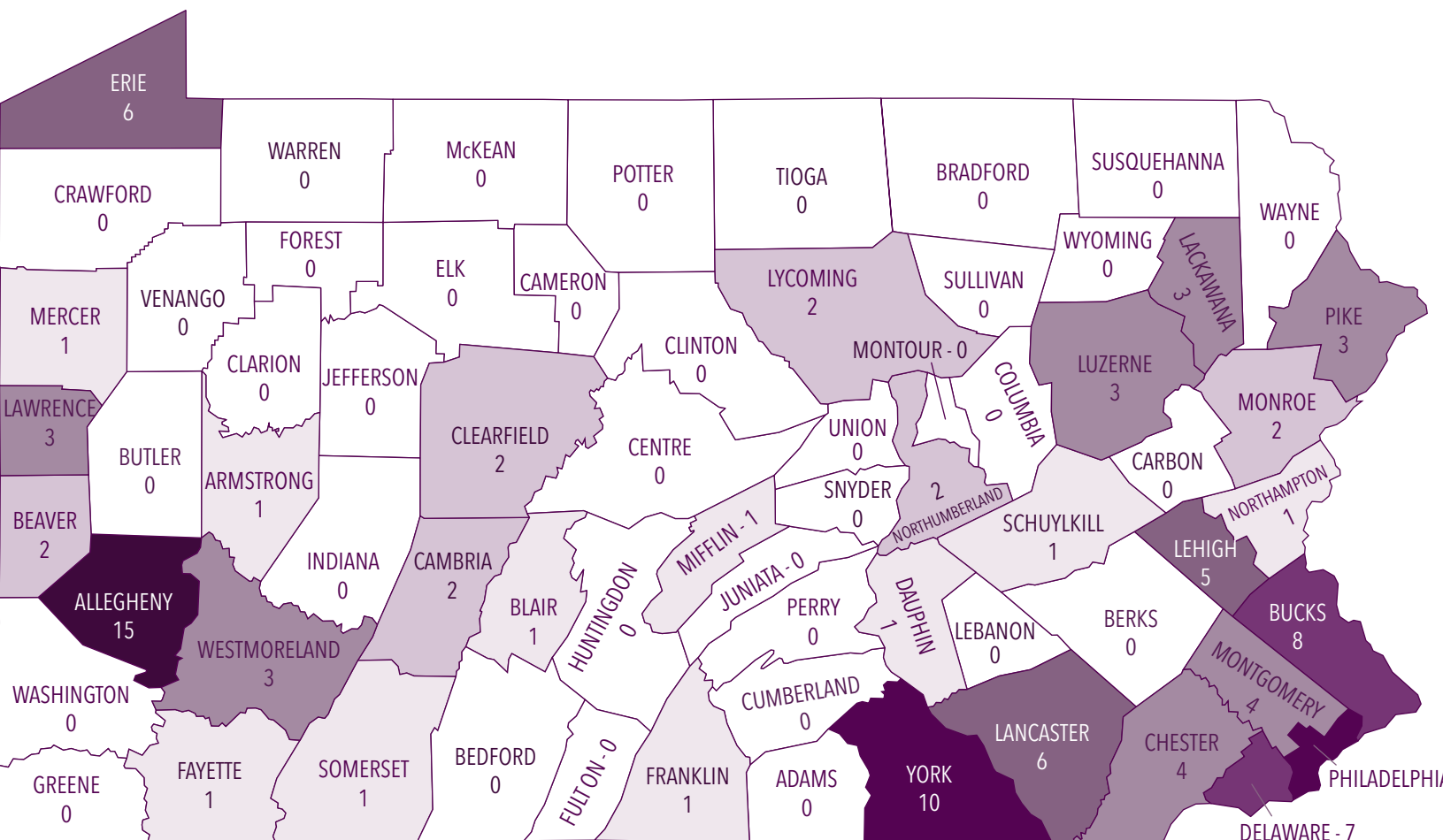
A Victim’s Story

A 21-year-old university student has been charged with the murder of his 20-year-old girlfriend, who was a student at the same school. Police responded to a medical emergency call early in the morning and found the victim with signs of blunt force trauma; she was pronounced dead at the scene. The suspect was arrested at the residence and faces multiple charges, including murder, reckless endangerment, and tampering with evidence. The victim was a third-year nursing student remembered for her compassion and dedication to helping others. University officials expressed deep sorrow over the loss and described her as having a bright future. In response, the university is offering counseling and support services. They also shared resources for those experiencing domestic violence, encouraging anyone in need to seek help. The tragedy has deeply affected the campus community.



TOTAL NUMBER OF VICTIMS BY COUNTY

In 2023, **119 victims** lost their lives to domestic violence in Pennsylvania.



WHO ARE THE PERPETRATORS

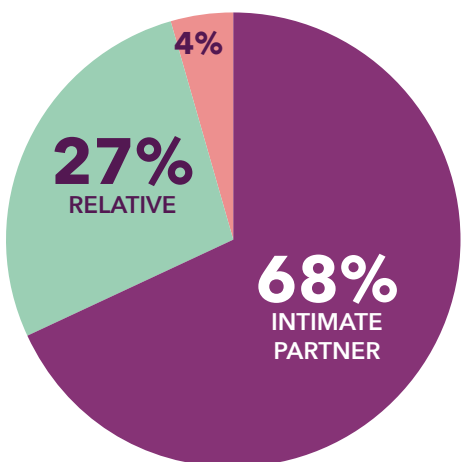
PERPETRATOR GENDER

13
FEMALE

103 MALE

VICTIM RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR

69 FEMALE VICTIMS



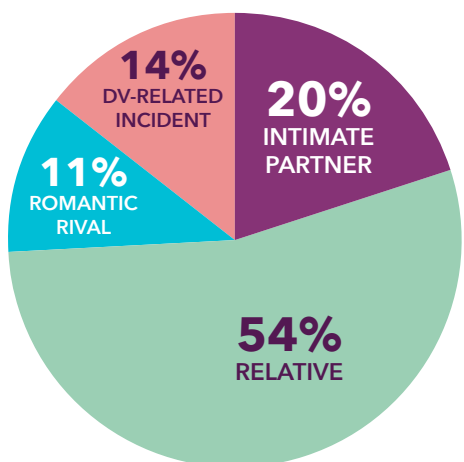
47 Killed by a current or former intimate partner

19 Killed by a relative

0 Killed by a **romantic rival**

3 Killed in domestic violence related incidents

35 MALE VICTIMS



7 Killed by a current or former intimate partner

19 Killed by a relative

4 Killed by a romantic rival


5 Killed in domestic violence related incidents

PCADV'S LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

In October 2012, PCADV adopted the Maryland Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) 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 programs.

Since its implementation a decade ago, more over 46,800 LAP screens have been conducted in Pennsylvania by law enforcement. As a result, over 500 victims have sought services from LAP-participating domestic violence programs.




46,826
LAP
Screens


18,482
Victims
Accessed Services

HOMICIDE DASHBOARD

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and made possible by STOP Grant funding, PCADV in collaboration with the Penn State Data Center, Institute for State and Regional Affairs at the Pennsylvania State University of Harrisburg, developed and maintains 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



A Victim's Story

A special education compliance monitor and teacher was killed in a murder-suicide. Police found her and a man dead from gunshot wounds in an apartment, believing he shot her before taking his own life. She was a well-loved member of her school community, known for her compassion and dedication. In her honor, the school created a scholarship to be awarded to a student who reflects her spirit. Her loss is deeply felt by students, staff, and families.

A Victim's Story

An 18-year-old high school senior was fatally shot while trying to protect a friend from a domestic assault, just weeks before his graduation. He was killed after entering an apartment where the woman's boyfriend, who had been attacking her, opened fire. Remembered as brave, loyal, and hardworking, he had been looking forward to graduating and building a safer life with his family.

HONORING VICTIMS

WHO LOST THEIR LIVES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA (2024)

Diane L. Clark
Callie Hughes

Fayette County - 1
Shaquisa Sims

Franklin County - 1
Marcia D. Mackley

Lackawanna County - 3
Stacie Ann Powers
Walter Harmon
Walter Cahgon Reyes

Lancaster County - 6
Elliot Corbin, III
Jami A. Harrison
Diane L. Shephard
Ann M. Sellers
Carmen Martinez-Silva
Kimberly Day

Lawrence County - 3
Omar Javarty Hakim
Rebecca Elaine Frank
Albert Rotz

Lehigh County - 5
Helen Knieriem
Carol Hartung
Stephen S. Fistner
Livi E. Beltran Fernandez
Hector Manual Garcia Gomez

Luzerne County - 3
Carrie Boneforte

Tameeka Tucker
Lonnie Davis

Lycoming County - 2
Ronald Dailey, Jr.
Alisha Charee Seese

Mercer County - 1
David E. Frew

Mifflin County - 1
Carrie Shoop

Monroe County - 2
Robert Lozano
Joann Alberti

Montgomery County - 4
William Carter
Durdona Sultanova
Elizabeth Shea
Jessica Zipkin

Northampton County - 1
Celeste Kistler

Northumberland County - 2
Brandi Hauck
Kyle Brent Christensen

Philadelphia County - 10
Lethanaphone Onesy
Elsa Aberra Bein
Ondria Glaze
Alma Barberena
Angela Trejo

Elijah Deloach
Milan Jones
Lola Karabaeva
Ivelisse Lugo
Melody Riveria

Pike County - 3
Margie Finlay
Jacqueline Winkler
Jeffrey Winkler

Schuylkill County - 1
John A. Gustites

Somerset County - 1
Eric Miller

Westmoreland County - 3
Diana Rebold
Amy Shipley
Theresa "Terri" Day

York County - 2
Amaris Morales Berrios
Hector Vargas

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
Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties

ARISE
Lawrence County

AWARE
Mercer County

Blackburn Center
Westmoreland County

CAPSEA
Elk and Cameron Counties

Center for Victims
Allegheny County

Centre Safe
Centre County

Community Action/Crossroads Project
Jefferson and Clearfield Counties

Congreso De Latinos Unidos
Philadelphia County

Crisis Center North
Allegheny County

Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County
Delaware County

Domestic Violence Center of Chester County
Chester County

Domestic Violence Intervention of Lebanon County
Lebanon County

Domestic Violence Service Center
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

Family Services/ Domestic Abuse Project of Blair County
Blair County

HAVEN of Tioga County
Tioga County

HAVIN
Armstrong County

Huntingdon House
Huntingdon County

Laurel House
Montgomery County

Lutheran Settlement House
Philadelphia County

PPC Violence Free Network
Venango County

Roads to Peace
Clinton County

SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone)
Clarion County

Safe Berks
Berks County

Safe Journey
Erie County

Safe Monroe
Monroe County

SafeNet
Erie County

Schuylkill Hope Center
Schuylkill County

Sullivan County Victim Services
Sullivan County

The Abuse Network
Mifflin and Juniata Counties

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

Transitions of PA
Union, Snyder, and Northumberland Counties

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley
Lehigh and Northampton Counties

Victim Outreach Intervention Center
Butler County

Victim Services Inc.
Cambria and Somerset Counties

Victims Resource Center
Wyoming County

Victims' Intervention Program
Wayne and Pike Counties

Women Against Abuse
Philadelphia County

Women In Need
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

Women's Center of Montgomery County
Montgomery County

Women's Resource Center
Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties

Women's Services
Crawford County

Your Safe Haven
Bedford County

YWCA Bradford/McKean Victims' Resource Center
McKean County

YWCA Hanover/Safe Home
Adams County

YWCA North Central PA Wise Options
Lycoming County

YWCA of Greater Harrisburg Violence Intervention & Prevention Services
Dauphin County

YWCA York/ACCESS
York County



National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.799.7233
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.