

Statewide Impact

Kentucky's 15 State-Designated Domestic Violence Programs Serve All 120 Counties

Federal grants are vital to supporting the local infrastructure that provides essential services to survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) and their children, such as crisis lines, emergency shelter, housing, food assistance, transportation, mental healthcare, support obtaining protective orders, and more. A significant loss of federal funding would have immediate and severe consequences for survivors and their families, putting critical services they rely on for safety, stability, and recovery at risk.

Our network of programs provide services that are mandated by Kentucky state law and regulations. We also provide legally required training and essential technical assistance to government agencies, organizations, and other community partners.

Our 15 member programs are Kentucky's primary infrastructure for providing lifesaving services to survivors of IPV and their children. Our work is supported by more than \$16 million from a variety of federal programs.



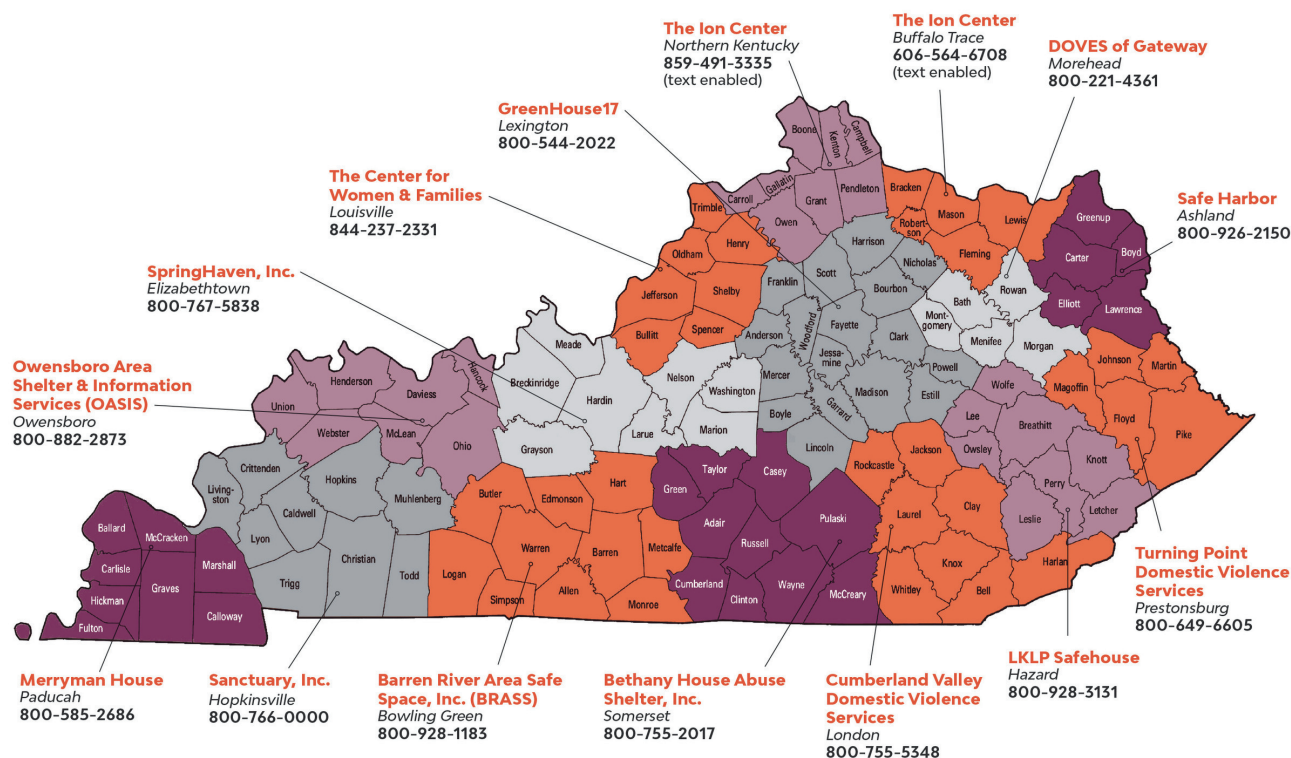
Kentucky united against violence.

ZEROV.org | PHONE 502-209-5382

111 Darby Shire Circle | Frankfort, KY 40601

Domestic Violence Hotline **800-799-SAFE (7233)**

Kentucky's Domestic Violence Shelter Programs



What's At Stake

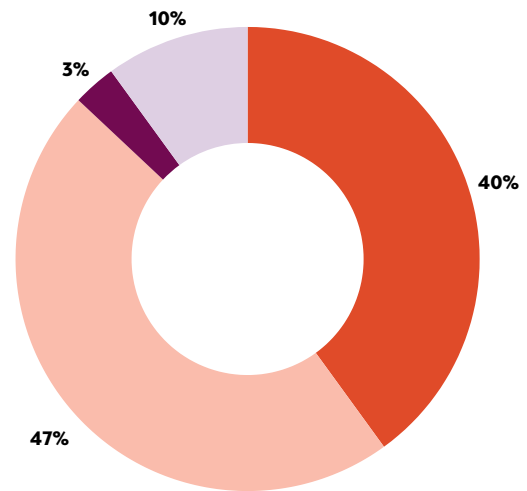
Statewide Funding Overview

Federal Funding: \$16,060,826 (40%)

State Funding: \$18,747,637 (47%)

Local Funding: \$1,115,694 (3%)

Private Funding: \$3,824,524 (10%)



Statewide Losses

If all federal funding is eliminated:

- 10,105 fewer survivors would receive nonresidential supportive services.
- 514 fewer survivors and their children would receive emergency shelter.
- 14,309 fewer people and survivors reached through community, public awareness, outreach, and training activities.
- 1,200 fewer children would receive safe and supervised visitation

Services Provided Across the State

These services are provided to survivors in emergency shelter, supportive housing, or the broader community.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • 24-hour Crisis Lines | • Housing Assistance |
| • Emergency Shelter | • Financial Education and Help Reaching Economic Independence |
| • Legal/Court Advocacy | • Job Search Assistance and Free Tax Preparation |
| • Case Management and Safety Planning | • Transportation |
| • Support Groups and Individual Counseling | • Food Assistance |
| • Children's Groups and Services | • Hygiene Products Assistance |
| • Parenting Classes | • Clothing Assistance |
| • Drug And Alcohol Services or Referrals to Substance Use Programs | |

Member Programs and ZeroV

- Between ZeroV and its 15 member programs, we stand to lose **\$20,193,898 of total funding if federal grants are eliminated.**
- **1,541 survivors and their children received their housing** through ZeroV and our network of 15 member programs in FY24.



What's At Stake

"While there are MANY organizations that help in one specific area, domestic crisis programs deal with the whole person, holistically.... We respond to persons with mental illness, addictions, trauma, youth and family needs, law enforcement, prosecutors, social services, the faith community, and family resource centers."

– Dr. Mary Foley, Merryman House Executive Director

Broader Impact to Communities: Our Network Helps Strengthen our Public Health and Public Safety Infrastructure

If federal funding is eliminated or reduced, the reductions in force and services that we would be forced to make would significantly strain other service providers that depend on our network of programs to support survivors of IPV. Social workers, healthcare providers, law enforcement, and housing programs all depend on our services to address the immediate and long-term needs of survivors. Without adequate funding, we would have to dismantle much of the critical service infrastructure we've built over the last 50 years, leaving remaining service providers to manage IPV-related cases without sufficient resources or expertise.

For example, social workers would face higher caseloads and struggle to connect survivors with needed services. Hospitals and health departments would see an increase in domestic violence-related cases, but with limited access to follow-up care or resources, these survivors may experience repeated trauma. Police would find it more difficult to support survivors who need a safe place to stay, which could impact the effectiveness of their interventions. Housing programs could see a higher demand for emergency housing, and we are already experiencing a nation-wide housing shortage.

The broader community would also feel the impact, as our work directly contributes to reducing violence and death, supporting the health and safety of families, and helping individuals regain independence. If we have to reduce or eliminate services due to a lack of federal funding, survivors may face even greater barriers to escaping life-threatening situations, leading to increased strain on emergency services, healthcare systems, and other support networks. The ripple effect of diminished resources would affect everyone, potentially leading to more pervasive issues like homelessness, mental health crises, and long-term economic instability in the community. Investing in domestic violence programs not only helps individuals escape abuse, but it also saves taxpayer money in the long run by reducing these broader societal costs.



What's At Stake

Our network provides a variety of services and supports to the broader public safety and public health infrastructure. With the reduction or loss of federal funding, the following services would be reduced or eliminated.

Loss of Support to Law Enforcement:

- Once they have completed their initial emergency response, whether for domestic disturbance or a protective order violation, law enforcement officers often rely on domestic violence programs to provide IPV-specific supports that help survivors find immediate and long-term safety.
- Two of our member programs, Merryman House and The Center for Women and Families, support local law enforcement agencies with their Lethality Assessment Programs and two more of our programs are working to launch similar collaborations in their regions.
- Several of our programs provide IPV-specific training to help officers understand intimate partner violence, what to look for when they're in the field, and how to take a trauma-informed approach to supporting survivors.

Loss of Support to Healthcare Providers:

- Our programs often serve as the discharge location for emergency rooms and behavioral health units seeking to discharge patients who have experienced IPV.
- Mental Health professionals and practitioners are required by law to provide information to IPV victims, including how to access local DV programs.

Loss of Support to Courts:

- Our member programs assist local courts by helping survivors file for protective orders.
- Several member programs offer domestic violence education classes for people who are court-ordered to attend.
- The court process is often confusing, intimidating, and overwhelming for petitioners to protective orders. Domestic violence court advocates make things easier by working with survivors to help them understand that process, their options, and by providing emotional support, filling a crucial role that no other individuals in the court system fill. This makes protective order hearings run more efficiently and effectively and judges in Kentucky understand and appreciate the value of the presence of advocates in their courtrooms.

Loss of Support to Community Coordinated Response Efforts:

- Staff from our programs sit on fatality review boards, participate in local situation tables that coordinate care for clients in need of a range of services, and work closely with other local service providers who may need help supporting clients experiencing IPV.

What's At Stake

Loss of Community Awareness, Prevention, and Outreach Services:

- Our programs provide training and technical assistance to community members, professionals, organizations, and businesses to help them support their family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, clients and employees who are experiencing IPV.
- Several programs provide IPV training to students in professional schools, such as nursing students, psychology students, and medical students.
- Several programs provide prevention and healthy relationship education to local middle and high school students.

Loss of Support to Local Economy:

- Our programs provide numerous supports to individuals who seek to return to the workforce. They often pay for employment-related expenses, such as uniforms, background checks, and drug tests, provide transportation, and connect clients to local businesses that want to provide job opportunities to survivors. Many programs also help survivors pursue higher education to further career goals and expand job options.
- Our network helps expand Kentucky's housing stock through the development of rental units for low- to moderate-income renters, specifically, survivors of IPV.

Weakened Disaster Preparedness:

- Natural disasters often lead to stress and pressure that can escalate IPV. With the increasing frequency of severe weather, we need to ensure our critical infrastructure for supporting survivors remains fully funded and operational.

"Our region has been impacted by significant flooding twice now- once in the summer of 2022, and again in February 2025. Due to this significant stressor to our community, there has been a rise in domestic violence cases and interpersonal violence."

- Aline Rose, Director of LKLP SafeHouse

The Risk of Federal Funding Cuts to Other Service Providers Also Threatens Domestic Violence Providers' Ability to Support Survivors

- We try to provide wholistic services but we're not capable of doing that without federal programs like Medicaid and SNAP or referrals to other service providers whose services are supported by federal funding, such as legal aid programs, housing programs, health departments, community mental health centers, substance use and recovery programs, and more. Loss of federal funding to any of these programs and services would be detrimental to our ability to help survivors build safe and thriving lives for themselves and their children.