

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Statistics, Consequences, and Prospects for the Future

### Introductory Objectives

By the  
numbers....

Why it  
matters...

Who's doing  
great work?

- ☐ What does domestic violence look like in NC & what are the costs?
- ☐ What do you we know nationally?
- ☐ What are the promising best practices?

### North Carolina's Homicide Rates

Why this work is important.

### NCGS §143B-901

Reporting system and database on certain domestic-violence-related homicides; reports by law enforcement agencies required; annual report to the General Assembly

The Department of Public Safety, in consultation with the North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission, the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, and the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police, shall develop a reporting system and database that reflects the number of homicides in the State where the offender and the victim had a personal relationship, as defined by G.S. 50B-1(b). The information in the database shall also include the type of personal relationship that existed between the offender and the victim, whether the victim had obtained an order pursuant to G.S. 50B-3, and whether there was a pending charge for which the offender was on pretrial release pursuant to G.S. 15A-534.1. All State and local law enforcement agencies shall report information to the Department of Public Safety upon making a determination that a homicide meets the reporting system's criteria. The report shall be made in the format adopted by the Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, no later than February 1 of each year, with the data collected for the previous calendar year.

## 2013 DOJ Homicide Statistics

108

Reported  
Domestic  
Violence  
Homicides

- Victims
  - 62 Women
  - 46 Men
- Perpetrators
  - 88 Men
  - 27 Women

<http://www.ncdoj.gov/getdoc/43e3cd15-65fb-409a-a71d-726f3dc92bf8/2013-Report-on-Domestic-Violence-Related-Homicides.aspx>

## 2014 NCCADV Homicide Rates

64

Homicides

Based on  
Interpersonal  
Relationships  
(smaller  
grouping  
than DOJ)

- Victims
  - 49 Women
  - 15 Men
- Between January 1 & March 8, 2015
  - 7 Homicides
  - 2 Homicide-Suicide

## Non-Homicide Statistics

## AOC Chapter 50B Statistics

- 2010 Filing Statistics
  - 33,546 Complaints Filed
  - 12,390 Orders granted in whole or part
  - 9,994 Involuntary Dismissals
  - 6,912 Voluntarily dismissed or settled
  - The rest either abandoned, withdrawn, moot, or pending.

<http://www.nccourts.org/Citizens/SRPlanning/Statistics/DCivilCase.asp>

## Districts with the most filings

- District 26 (Mecklenburg): 2,858
- District 10 (Wake): 2,231
- District 12 (Cumberland): 2,209
- District 18 (Guilford): 1,523
- District 25 (Burke, Caldwell, Catawba): 1,164
- District 21 (Forsyth): 1,155
- District 27A (Gaston): 1,103
- District 11 (Harnett Johnston, Lee): 1,091
- District 5 (New Hanover, Pender): 1,068
- District 4 (Duplin, Jones, Onslow, Sampson): 1,062

## 2013-2014 Services Provided by Domestic Violence Agencies & Shelter Programs

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Domestic Violence Services           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 116,052 calls requesting assistance:</li> <li>■ 55,275 clients receiving some form of supportive services</li> <li>■ 38,369 clients receiving court-based assistance</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Shelter Services           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5,393 kids up to the age of 17 were in shelters</li> <li>■ 7,017 adults between 18 and 59 were in shelters</li> <li>■ 191 adults 60+</li> <li>■ 656 disabled people</li> <li>■ Shelters were full 8,086 days, causing referrals to other shelters 2,648 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|--|

County Breakdown at:

<http://www.councilforwomen.nc.gov/stats.aspx>

## Economic Impact of Domestic Violence

2014 statewide conducted by UNC Charlotte Belk School of Business Professors Stephen Billings & Jennifer Troyer. Underwritten by Wells Fargo Foundation in support of the Jamie Kimble Foundation.

## Methodology & Findings

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>Annual prevalence of victimizations and annual costs of domestic violence were estimated for the State and for counties. Data was gathered from government studies, government data, and academic studies.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Annually, they estimate that 157,193 adult North Carolinians (1.6%) are victims of domestic violence.</li> <li>□ Domestic violence costs NC \$307,856,298 annually.</li> <li>□ That's \$32.26 per resident, per year.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## Itemized Bill

- ▣ Physical health care costs: \$123,868,070 (40.2%)
- ▣ Mental healthcare costs: \$57,139,656 (18.6%)
- ▣ Value of loss of life from homicide: \$42,830,534 (13.9%)
- ▣ Court costs: \$38,674,122 (12.6%)
- ▣ Incarceration costs: \$24,940,844 (8.1%)
- ▣ Value of loss of work productivity: \$8,936,865 (2.9%)
- ▣ Value of lost property: \$7,106,696 (2.3%)
- ▣ Police costs: \$4,359,498 (1.4%)
- TOTAL \$307,856,298

These are considered conservative numbers & do not include shelter costs.

## National Statistics & Studies

## National Violence Against Women Survey

- ▣ Nearly 25% of women and 7.6% of men were raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former live-in partner, spouse, or dating partner in their lifetime.
- ▣ Approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/181867.pdf>

## Nonfatal Crimes—DOJ Stats.

- ▣ Intimate partner violence made up 20% of all nonfatal violent crime experienced by women in 2001.
- ▣ Intimate partners committed 3% of the nonfatal violence against men.

Callie Marie Rennison, U.S. Dep't of Just., NCJ 197838, *Bureau of Justice Statistics Crime Data Brief: Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2001* (2003), available at <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ipv01.pdf>

## Fatal Crimes—DOJ Stats.

- In 2000, 1,247 women and 440 men were killed by an intimate partner. In recent years, an intimate partner killed approximately 33% of female murder victims and 4% of male murder victims.  
<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ipv01.pdf>
- According to NNEDV: on average 3 women are killed by a current or former partner every day.

## Guns & Domestic Violence

- When abusers have guns, they inflict more severe abuse: Access to firearms yields a more than **five-fold increase in risk of intimate partner homicide**. Jacquelyn C. Campbell et al., *Risk Factors For Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results From A Multi-Site Case Control Study*, 93 *Am. J. of Public Health* 1089, 1092 (2003), abstract available at <http://www.aiph.org/cgi/content/abstract/93/7/1089>
- Of females killed with a firearm, almost **two-thirds** were killed by their intimate partners. The Violence Pol'y Ctr., *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2002 Homicide Data: Females Murdered by Males in Single Victim/Single Offender Incidents*, at 7 (2004), available at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2004.pdf>

## Mass Murder & Domestic Violence

Forthcoming research by Everytown for Gun Safety establishes that in 57% of the mass shootings between January 2009 and June 2014, the perpetrator killed an intimate partner or family member.

<http://everytown.org/documents/2014/10/guns-and-violence-against-women.pdf>

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/03/opinion/to-stop-violence-start-at-home.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/03/opinion/to-stop-violence-start-at-home.html?_r=1)

Costs of **5.3 million intimate partner victimizations** among US women ages 18+ each year

- 2 Million injuries and 1,300 deaths.
  - 550,000 injuries requiring medical attention; 145,000 requiring hospitalization for one or more nights.
  - 18.5 million mental health care visits by victims of IPV every year.
  - 13.6 million days of lost productivity:
    - US women lose 8 million days of paid work each year because of IPV.
    - 5.6 million days are lost from household chores each year because of IPV.
- [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pub/ipv\\_cost.html](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pub/ipv_cost.html)

## Children & Domestic Violence

- 15.5 million U.S. children live in families in which partner violence occurred at least once in the past year, and seven million children live in families in which severe partner violence occurred.
- The majority of U.S. nonfatal intimate partner victimizations of women (two-thirds) occur at home. Children are residents of the households experiencing intimate partner violence in 43% of incidents involving female victims.

[http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children\\_and\\_Families/Children.pdf](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Children.pdf)

### Impact of Domestic Violence on Kids

[http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children\\_and\\_Families/Children.pdf](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Children.pdf)

- A Michigan study of low-income pre-schoolers finds that children who have been exposed to family violence suffer symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, such as bed-wetting or nightmares, and are at greater risk than their peers of having allergies, asthma, gastrointestinal problems, headaches and flu.
- Children of mothers who experience prenatal physical domestic violence are at an increased risk of exhibiting aggressive, anxious, depressed or hyperactive behavior.
- Females who are exposed to their parents' domestic violence as adolescents are significantly more likely to become victims of dating violence than daughters of nonviolent parents.
- Children who experience childhood trauma, including witnessing incidents of domestic violence, are at a greater risk of having serious adult health problems including tobacco use, substance abuse, obesity, cancer, heart disease, depression and a higher risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Physical abuse during childhood increases the risk of future victimization among women and the risk of future perpetration of abuse by men more than two-fold.

## Physical Impact on Children

- "Childhood IPV exposure has been repeatedly linked to higher rates of myriad physical health problems in children. ... Highly stressful environmental exposures, such as exposure to IPV, cause children to repeatedly mount the "fight or flight" reaction. Although this response may be adaptive in the short term, repeated activation of the autonomic nervous system and hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis results in pathologic changes in multiple systems over time; some experts refer to this effect as the biologic embedding of stress."
- "Childhood exposure to IPV increases both the incidence and severity of childhood asthma by means of a mechanism related to chronic activation of the HPA axis. Specifically, such chronic activation and the associated cortisol release may lead to an excess of type 2 helper T (Th2) cells relative to type 1 helper T (Th1) cells, which can in turn lead to airway inflammation and hyperreactivity, thereby increasing the risk of an onset of asthma."

Megan Bair-Merritt et al., Silent Victims—An Epidemic of Childhood Exposure to Domestic Violence, N. Eng. Med. (October 31, 2013)

<http://libproxy.lib.unc.edu/login?url=http://search.proquest.com/libproxy/lib.unc.edu/docview/1447633431?accountid=14244>

## Ace Study

### ACES: Adverse Childhood Experiences

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Contact sexual abuse
- Alcohol/drug abuser in the home
- Incarcerated household member
- Someone mentally ill, chronically depressed, institutionalized, or suicidal in the home
- Domestic violence
- One or no biological parents
- Emotional or physical neglect

### ACE Score

- Calculated by tallying the total number of childhood stressors in a standardized questionnaire. The higher the score, the greater the likelihood for:
  - Coronary artery disease
  - Cancer
  - Chronic bronchitis or emphysema
  - Hepatitis or jaundice
  - Skeletal fractures
  - Diabetes
  - Smoking
  - Sexually transmitted diseases
  - Poor self-rated health

[http://www.scaany.org/resources/documents/ace\\_study\\_summer2009.pdf](http://www.scaany.org/resources/documents/ace_study_summer2009.pdf)

## Promising NC Practices

## Pitt County--LAP

- Pitt County is one of four counties in the country to receive federal funding for a Domestic Violence Homicide Initiative
  - ▣ Pay for a lethality assessment program coordinator.
  - ▣ Follow up and track DV cases to determine future risk
  - ▣ Officer training
  - ▣ **UNC researcher who will use the data collected to create a profile for predicting lethality.**

## MOVE PROGRAM

- Mothers Overcoming Violence through Education and Empowerment: SAFE CHILD; Interact; UNC School of Social Work
- Serves mothers who have experienced emotional and/or physical abuse in a dating or marital relationship. Through group discussions and support from others who have had similar experiences, the program reduces isolation and builds self-esteem for the mothers. Mothers gain an increased understanding of domestic violence and its impact on themselves and their children and they learn strategies to deal with and overcome the challenges in their lives.
- MOVE reinforces positive parenting, enabling mothers to feel more competent and confident in their parenting role. The 13-week program focuses on positive parenting skills and enhancing family strengths.
- The UNC School of Social Work has researched the long-term outcomes of mothers who have participated in MOVE. These moms report an increased ability to protect their children from abuse and violence, improved attitudes toward parenting, and stronger coping skills. They also report reduced symptoms of depression, stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

## Enough is Enough

Media-based state-wide effort to raise awareness of Violence against Women.

Roots in Mecklenburg, but Statewide

<http://www.enoughviolence.com>

- North Carolina Council for Women (NC Dept of Administration agency)
- North Carolina Domestic Violence Commission
- Safe Alliance
- Fifth Street Ministries/My Sister's House
- Mecklenburg County Community Support Services Women's Commission Division
- Volunteers representing corporate, law enforcement, legal experts, marketing and communication fields

## Statewide Partners

- NCCADV
  - Over 90 domestic violence agencies across the state.
  - Legislative Advocacy Training and Education Programs
  - [www.nccadv.org](http://www.nccadv.org)
- Legal Aid of North Carolina
  - Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative
  - Battered Immigrant Project

## What other partnerships can we think about?

Sheriff/Doctor Team

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2015/03/10/377566905/a-sheriff-and-a-doctor-team-up-to-map-childhood-trauma>