## West Virginia Family Protection Services Board

## 2023 Annual Report



Family Protection Service Board Courtney Saunders December

#### Introduction

The West Virginia Family Protection Services Board (FPSB) was established by the passage of the Domestic Violence Act of 1989. The seven-member board is appointed by the governor to ensure that programs working toward the elimination of domestic violence are adequately funded and provide quality services.

#### **Roles of the Family Protection Services Board**

Duties of the FPSB are set forth in the W.Va. Code §48-26-301, W.Va. Code §48-26-401, and W. Va. Code §48-26-402, as well as in Legislative Rules Title 191, Series 1 through 5. These duties include, but are not limited to:

- Monitoring compliance with standards through the licensure of domestic violence programs, batterer intervention, and prevention programs, and monitored visitation and exchange programs.
- Allocating the West Virginia Family Protection Fund, generated from marriage and divorce fees to regional licensed domestic violence programs across the state that provide shelter and outreach advocacy to victims of domestic violence and their children.
- Allocating the Domestic Violence Legal Services Fund generated through civil court filing fees and state funds for victims' representation in civil cases.

### **Board Membership**

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints five members to serve threeyear terms: a director of a licensed domestic violence program, a member of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence Board of Directors, a representative of a batterer intervention and prevention program licensed by the FPSB, a representative of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and a member of the public. The two additional members are the Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) and the Chair of the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency and Correction or their designees. A listing of board membership is as follows:

#### **Emily Larkins, Chair**

Director of a Licensed Domestic Violence Program - Family Crisis Intervention Center P.O. Box 695 Parkersburg, WV 26102 Telephone: (304) 428-2333

#### Kimberly Sanford Sizemore, Vice Chair

Representative-Licensed Batterer Intervention & Prevention Program Putnam County Day Report Center 236 Courthouse Drive, Suite 8 Winfield, WV 25213 Telephone: (304) 204-1406

#### Quewannocii C. Stephens Sr.

Designated by the Chair-Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency & Corrections Bureau of Juvenile Services 1200 Quarrier Street Charleston, WV 25301 Telephone: (304) 558-9800

#### **Courtney Saunders**

FPSB Coordinator 350 Capitol Street Charleston, WV 25301 Telephone: (304) 352-4534

#### Pepper Arrowood

West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals State Capitol Building, Room E-100 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, WV 25305 Telephone: (304) 558-0145

#### Alice Hamilton

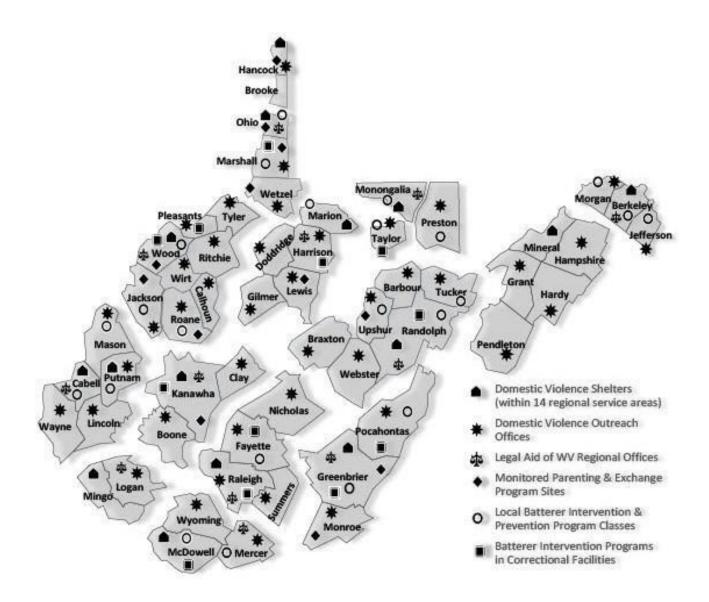
Designated by the Cabinet Secretary WV Department of Health and Human Resources 350 Davis Street Princeton, WV 24739 Telephone: (304) 887-1128

#### Arlene Hudson

Citizen Representative 500 Virginia Street East, Suite 400 Charleston, WV 25301 Telephone: (304) 552-7901

#### Amanda McComas

Representative-West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence P.O. Box 403 Huntington, WV 25708 Telephone: (304) 529-2382



#### **Licensed Domestic Violence Program**

Licensed domestic violence programs in 14 regional service areas provide shelter services, advocacy, outreach services, and community education to all 55 counties. According to the most recent program data, between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, an unduplicated total of 11,557 adults and 1,537 children received shelter and non-shelter services.

- A total of 1,257 adults and children received shelter services.
- A total of 11,793 adults and children received non-shelter services.
- 68,840 shelter nights were provided to victims and their children.
- 149,152 units of service were provided to victims and their children. A unit of service is one hour of direct contact by staff on behalf of a client. An additional 10,077 units of services were donated by volunteers.

- Victims received assistance in filing 6,510 domestic violence petitions.
- 1,248 educational programs for communities, schools, and professionals were conducted, with 42,575 participants.

#### **The West Virginia Family Protection Fund**

The West Virginia Family Protection Fund is allocated by the FPSB to licensed domestic violence programs from fees generated by marriage licenses and divorce filings in West Virginia. The funds are held in a special revenue account administered through DHHR. In FY2023, \$217,830.22 was distributed to the 14 licensed regional domestic violence programs.

#### **Domestic Violence Programs Licensed by the FPSB in FY2023**

Branches, Inc. Amanda McComas P.O. Box 403 Huntington, WV 25708 (304) 529-2382

#### Eastern Panhandle Empowerment Center Katie Spriggs

236 W. Martin Street (304) 263-8522

#### **Family Crisis Center**

Sonya Fazzalore P.O. Box 207 Keyser, WV 26726 (304) 428-2333

#### Family Refuge Center

Stephanie Moore P.O. Box 249 Lewisburg, WV (304) 645-6334

#### A.W.A.Y. WV

Regina Thomas P.O. Box 1476 Beckley, WV 25802 (304) 931-5028

# Family Violence Prevention ProgramResolve Family Abuse Program -- YWCA WheelingYWCA CharlestonLori JonesJulie Britton

1100 Chapline Street Wheeling, WV 26003 (304) 232-0511

HOPE, Inc. Michelle McCord P.O. Box 626 Fairmont, WV 26554 (304) 367-1100

#### The Lighthouse of Change, Inc.

Marissa Collett 3158 West Street Weirton, WV 26062 (304) 797-7733

#### Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center Alexia Jennings

P.O. Box 4228 Morgantown, WV 26504 (304) 292-5100 Julie Britton 1426 Kanawha Blvd., East Charleston, WV 25301 (304) 340-3554

Stop Abusive Family Environments (SAFE) Alice Walker P.O. Box 669 Welch, WV 24801

Tug Valley Recovery Shelter Kim Ryan P.O. Box 677 Williamson, WV 25661 (304) 235-6121

#### Women's Aid in Crisis J.J. Johnson P.O. Box 2062

Elkins, WV 26241 (304) 636-8433

#### **Civil Legal Assistance Funds**

The Civil Legal Assistance Funds enable domestic violence victims to access legal representation. Using these funds, local licensed domestic violence programs refer victims for legal representation at protective order hearings, divorce and custody hearings, and other proceedings to enhance victim safety. Since 1999, the West Virginia Legislature has authorized funds annually for the Domestic Violence Legal Services Fund, which, along with funds generated through civil filing fees, are allocated by the FPSB. In FY2023, \$860,000 was distributed.

Legal Aid of West Virginia, through agreements with the licensed domestic violence programs and assistance from local volunteers and low fee attorneys, opened 689 cases and closed 729 cases in FY2023, providing 30,870.3 hours of service to victims. In cases where Legal Aid of West Virginia is unable to represent the victim due to a conflict of interest, the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence coordinates a conflict fund and reports providing assistance in 32 cases in FY2023.

Regional Legal Aid Office Contact Information is listed on the following page:

#### **Regional Legal Aid Office Contact Information**

#### **State Administrative Office**

922 Quarrier Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Charleston, WV 25301 Phone: (800) 642-8279 (304) 255-4481

#### **Beckley Office**

115 South Kanawha Street Beckley, WV 25801 Phone: (800) 319-4187 (304) 255-0561 Counties Served: Fayette, Nicholas, and Raleigh

#### **Huntington Office**

418 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Huntington, WV 25701 Phone: (866) 313-6129 (304) 697-2070 Counties Served: Cabell, Mason, and Wayne

#### Lewisburg Office

125 Green Lane 327 Ninth Street Lewisburg, WV 24901 Parkersburg, WV 26101 Phone: (866) 401-9391 Phone: (800) 675-7970 (304) 645-3131 (304) 485-7522 Counties Served: Logan and Mingo Counties Served: Calhoun,

#### **Elkins Office**

224 Third Street P.O. Box 229 Elkins, WV 26241 Phone: (866) 400-0196 (304) 635-7600 Counties Served: Barbour, Grant Pendleton, Randolph, Tucker and Upshur

#### **Martinsburg Office**

301 W. Burke Street, Suite B Martinsburg, WV 25401 Phone: (866) 491-8871 (304) 263-8871 Counties Served: Berkeley, Hardy, (304) 232-1260 Hampshire, Jefferson, Mineral, and Morgan

## Logan Office

1519 North Walker Street 107 Stratton Office Logan, WV 25601 Princeton, WV 24740 Phone: (800) 319-4203 Phone: (800) 319-4202 (304) 752-4178 (304) 487-1463 Counties Served: Logan and Mingo Counties Served: Mercer, McDowell, and Wyoming

#### Wheeling Office

The Mull Center 1025 Main Street, Suite 716 Wheeling, WV 26003 Phone: (866) 401-5460 Counties Served: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Tyler, and Wetzel

#### **Morgantown Office**

165 Scott Avenue, Suite 209 Morgantown, WV 26508 Phone: (800) 453-1939 (304) 296-0001 Counties Served: Marion, Monongalia, and Preston

#### **Parkersburg Office**

**Princeton Office** 

Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood

#### Licensed Batterer Intervention and Prevention Programs (BIPPs)

BIPPs are designed as a series of educational classes aimed at holding batterers accountable. In FY2023, 809 batterers participated at class sites operated by 16 local licensed programs. Additionally, 159 individuals participated in BIPPs at 12 correctional centers operated by the West Virginia Division of Corrections.

Community Alternatives to Violence Jo Elliott (304) 262-4424 Counties Served: Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan	McDowell County Day Report Center Virgil Green (304) 436-9009 Counties Served: McDowell	Pocahontas Day Report Center Jodi Zickafoose (304) 799-6651 Counties Served: Pocahontas
Family Violence Prevention Program YWCA Wheeling Lori Jones, (304) 232-2748 Counties Served: Marshall, Wetzel, and Ohio	- Marion County Day Report Center Brandi Corley (304) 333-2441 Counties Served: Marion	<b>Putnam Day Report Center</b> Kimberly Sanford Sizemore (304) 204-1406 Counties Served: Putnam
<b>Fayette County Day Report Center</b> Teresa Gregory (304) 900-5283 Counties Served: Fayette	Mason County Day Report Center Nathaniel Roub (304) 675-7001 Counties Served: Mason	Rape & Domestic Violence Information Center (RDVIC) Cory Russell (304) 292-5100 Counties Served: Preston, Taylor, and Monongalia
Goodwill Counseling & Therapy	Mercer Day Report Center	Tucker County Community
Services Janie Fuller-Phelps (304) 523-9454 Counties Served: Cabell and Wayne	Michelle Stewart (304) 487-8485 Counties Served: Mercer	Corrections Dustin Luzier (304) 478-2833 Counties Served: Tucker
Services Janie Fuller-Phelps (304) 523-9454	Michelle Stewart (304) 487-8485	Corrections Dustin Luzier (304) 478-2833

Licensed Monitored Parenting and Exchange Programs

Licensed Monitored Parenting and Exchange Programs (frequently called visitation centers) enable children to have safe in-person contact with their non-custodial parents. The need for monitored visitation and exchange results from family safety issues such as domestic violence, divorce, and custody disputes. During FY2023, six licensed programs provided 2,248 exchanges and visits for 325 children at nine sites. These visits and exchanges involved 218 custodial mothers, 37 custodial fathers, 30 non-custodial mothers, 208 non-custodial fathers, and six other adults.

#### MonitoredParenting and Exchange Programs Licensed by the FPSB in FY2023

Family Crisis Intervention Center Kids First Program Emily Larkins (304) 428-8721 Counties Served: Jackson, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, Wood, and Pleasants in WV. Washington County, Ohio. Resolve Family Abuse Program Monitored Visitation & Exchange Center Julie Britton (304) 414-0016 Counties Served: Kanawha, Boone, Clay, Lincoln, Putnam, Cabell, Wood, Jackson, Mingo, and Logan

Family Refuge Center Family Visitation & Exchange Center Stephanie Moore (304) 645-6586 Counties Served: Greenbrier, Monroe, Pocahontas and Summers

Family Violence Prevention Program YWCA Wheeling Visitation & Exchange Program Lori Jones (304) 232-2748 Counties Served: Ohio and Marshall The Lighthouse of Change, Inc. Monitored Visitation & Exchange Program Marissa Collett (304) 748-0332 Counties Served: Hancock and Brooke

Tri-County Child Exchange & Visitation Program Beth Burkhart (304) 269-8247 Counties Served: Lewis, Upshur, Braxton, and various surrounding counties