

ADVOCACY IN VIRGINIA 2020



70,252
survivors
received help
from hotline services



25,061 adults
and **6,406**
children received
advocacy services

**DURING
COVID-19**



5,762
adults + children
received shelter



216,968
nights of shelter
were provided

Stay-at-home orders and wide-spread closures left many survivors of violence isolated or trapped at home, meaning that discreet and stealth methods for accessing crisis services became vital.

contact via email
increased by

89%

contact via text/chat
increased by

223%

contact via mail
increased by

60%

Throughout the pandemic, agencies and shelters remained open. Advocates quickly adapted to meet survivors' needs, providing virtual support, safety planning, and emergency hotel stays.

Some of the unique challenges from this time:



**longer
shelter stays**



**court
closures**



**funding
losses**



**shelter-in-place
orders**

SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES DO MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE.

VIRGINIA SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION ALLIANCE | VSDVALLIANCE.ORG

n=2,735 survey respondents, 2020 Documenting Our Work Survey. VAdata, Action Alliance
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