# Table of Contents

Executive Summary .......................................................................................................................... 1  
1. Introduction ................................................................................................................................. 2  
2. Background .................................................................................................................................. 3  
3. Family Violence Expenditure Information ................................................................................... 5  
4. Contract Effectiveness ................................................................................................................... 6  
5. Survivor and Contractor Accomplishments ................................................................................. 7  
   Survivor Accomplishments ............................................................................................................ 7  
   Contractor Accomplishments ......................................................................................................... 7  
6. Conclusion .................................................................................................................................... 9  
List of Acronyms .............................................................................................................................. 10
Executive Summary

Texas Human Resources Code, Section 51.006, requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report each even-numbered year that summarizes data received from family violence centers under contract with the agency for the Family Violence Program (FVP).

In fiscal year 2017, FVP contracted with 71 round-the-clock shelter facilities, 8 nonresidential centers, and 25 special nonresidential projects (SNRP) to provide family violence services. During fiscal year 2017, using additional funding appropriated through the 2016-17 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, FVP contractors were able to support specialized projects, which included economic stability services, legal assistance, mental health services and primary prevention support.

This report provides information on fiscal year 2017 program expenditures and highlights the successes HHSC-funded contractors had in providing family violence services to positively impact the health and well-being of family violence survivors and their children.
1. Introduction

In accordance with Sec. 51.006, this report summarizes the data and reports that the contracted family violence centers submitted to HHSC, and analyzes the effectiveness of the program contracts. This report also includes information on the expenditure of funds for fiscal year 2017 as well as the services provided, the number of persons for whom a service was provided, and other information relating to the provision of family violence services.

The report is due no later than November 1 of each even-numbered year to the governor, lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the Legislative Budget Board, and the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over HHSC.
Human Resources Code, Chapter 51, is intended to promote development of and access to locally based and supported nonprofit services for victims of family violence throughout the state. The statute defines family violence as an act by a member of a family or household against another member of the family or household that:

1. is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, or assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself; or
2. is intended to inflict emotional harm, including an act of emotional abuse.

HHSC administers FVP, which promotes self-sufficiency, safety and long-term independence for people who have experienced family violence or teen dating violence. Escaping family violence is a complicated and often dangerous process that can involve a multitude of support services. Texas’ diverse population means that a variety of approaches are crucial to meeting the needs of family violence survivors from different backgrounds.

To meet the complex needs of survivors, FVP contracts with a network of family violence service providers. These providers give emergency shelter and services to survivors and their children, educate the public, and provide training and prevention support to other agencies. Funding provided by HHSC enables FVP contractors to offer a wide array of emergency supports and prevention services to help people escape the cycle of family violence. Since the program’s inception in 1981, FVP has grown from an original partnership with 6 local shelters, to a shelter and service network currently comprised of 71 round-the-clock shelter facilities, 8 nonresidential centers, and 25 SNRP contracts to provide family violence services.

Residential shelter services include a 24-hour residential shelter, 24-hour hotline, emergency medical services, intervention services, emergency transportation, legal advocacy, educational arrangements, information about employment and job training services, community education, referrals to community services, and coordinated services with law enforcement. Nonresidential centers provide the same support services as the shelter centers, but do not provide residential shelter.
SNRP contracts offer specialized services to survivors of family violence. SNRP contractors also provide child advocacy education and prevention activities in schools, community education, job training, legal advocacy, parenting services, transitional assistance, and outreach to traditionally under-served populations and geographic areas.

The additional funding for capacity building allocated in the 2016-17 General Appropriations Act enabled 26 FVP contractors to provide capacity building family violence services, including legal representation, primary prevention, and economic stability services that include childcare, rental, or educational assistance. These specialized services provide critical assistance to survivors to enable them to live a life free from family violence.

As also required by Chapter 51, FVP contracts with a statewide family violence coalition, the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV), to provide training and technical assistance to family violence service providers. HHSC collaborates with TCFV on a variety of projects, including program enhancement services, the Family Violence Texas State Plan, education and outreach, and various workgroups that help improve services to survivors of family violence.
3. Family Violence Expenditure Information

Expenditure information includes multiple funding sources that support FVP. The program receives funding from the federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to Title XX Transfer Funds, and state general revenue. Fiscal year 2017 FVP expenditures are outlined below.

Table 1. FVP Annual Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Finance</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FVPSA</td>
<td>$6,373,012.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSBG</td>
<td>$1,054,001.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANF to Title XX</td>
<td>$11,280,265.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Revenue</td>
<td>$10,739,621.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,446,899.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FVP provides oversight of funds throughout the contracting lifecycle through contract development, budget and plan of operation review and approval, technical assistance, programmatic and fiscal onsite monitoring review, and contract close-out.
4. **Contract Effectiveness**

FVP contractors deliver vital services to family violence survivors and their children. In 2017, approximately 92 percent of FVP clients surveyed reported an increased knowledge of community resources and safety planning. HHSC funding for these programs is only a small part of the total resources leveraged to meet survivor needs. Local funding support also comes from communities, gifts from individuals, corporate grants, city and county governments, private foundations, and other federal resources. Family violence programs accredit HHSC funding for helping ensure critical emergency services will be available to as many survivors as possible.

Table 2 provides information on client statistics from fiscal year 2017.

**Table 2. Fiscal Year 2017 Texas Family Violence Client Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clients Served</th>
<th>71,090</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>46,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>25,027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Denied Due to Lack of Space 41%*

* Percentage is based on the total number of hotline callers seeking shelter.

HHSC requested an additional $3 million for FVP in the 2020-21 biennium Legislative Appropriations Request. These additional funds are expected to help address the denial of individuals seeking shelter due to lack of space.
5. Survivor and Contractor Accomplishments

**Survivor Accomplishments**

HHSC funding has a significant impact on the lives of survivors of family violence and their children. Client success stories assist in providing positive feedback to the efforts of FVP initiatives. The following is a compilation of stories provided to HHSC through contracted family violence centers:

A survivor of family violence and human trafficking sought services after enduring kidnapping and physical and sexual assault. Through the family violence organization, she received case management and legal and employment assistance, and was connected with counseling services provided by another non-profit that specialized in human trafficking services. The survivor obtained employment and transitioned to a housing program where she is able to live for 24 months while receiving services specific to her needs.

A woman was violently assaulted and her perpetrator then fled the country with the couple's young daughter. Due to the severity of the injuries the women sustained, she required 24-hour care. The shelter accommodated this need and worked closely with law enforcement, medical care facilities, the criminal justice department, and local legal resources to help the woman recover. Through this coordinated effort and with the assistance of law enforcement, the young woman was reunited with her daughter, was granted full custody, and today lives in a stable, healthy, and safe home.

**Contractor Accomplishments**

FVP service providers seek-out and implement innovative, trauma-informed services. Some of these efforts include enhanced staff training to better deal with survivors who are victims of human trafficking and working with law enforcement and district and county attorneys to enable programs to more effectively communicate with members of the judicial system. FVP service providers are also working with local schools to provide teen dating violence education on school campuses and several have programs that provide youth conflict resolution skill building, emotional understanding, and therapeutic counseling.
In fiscal year 2017, FVP contractors used exceptional item funding to support specialized projects, including economic stability services, legal assistance, mental health services and primary prevention support. Through this funding, family violence organizations provided 3,080 clients with legal assistance and 6,549 clients with economic supports. FVP contractors also hosted 1,710 family violence presentations on the primary prevention of violence, reaching a total of 55,079 adult and child participants. These efforts raise public awareness of the issue of family violence and help create a network of stakeholders invested in bringing an end to family violence.
6. Conclusion

For the past three decades, FVP has provided critical support to victims in Texas by working to reduce and prevent family violence. HHSC provides critical funding and support for the majority of the shelter and nonresidential centers available to survivors in Texas. Without HHSC-funded centers, survivors would have limited options and reduced access to family violence centers throughout the state.

HHSC and family violence centers statewide are committed to helping survivors achieve self-sufficiency and live a life free from violence. Some counties lack core emergency services, and in some densely populated urban areas, the need exceeds service availability. FVP is dedicated to ongoing collaboration with program stakeholders and community partnerships to balance program expansion and service enhancement. The program strives to support enhanced and culturally-specific services to underserved populations.

FVP is also committed to building stronger relationships with FVP service providers through increased communication efforts and provision of technical assistance. The program will continue to improve service quality by enhancing the contract monitoring process, evaluating outcome measures, and requesting more detailed programmatic information from the FVP providers. In addition, the program will explore strategies to promote positive outcomes and ensure funding is used as effectively as possible. With a focus on the future, FVP will continue to employ and promote best practices for serving families who have experienced family violence and will seek opportunities for continuous improvement, as well as increased outreach to those not currently being served by the program.
## List of Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FVP</td>
<td>Family Violence Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVPSA</td>
<td>Family Violence Prevention and Services Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHSC</td>
<td>Health and Human Services Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNRP</td>
<td>Special Non-Residential Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSBG</td>
<td>Social Service Block Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANF</td>
<td>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCFV</td>
<td>Texas Council on Family Violence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>