



SFPD DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
RESPONSE

EXPANDING IMPACT, DEEPENING COLLABORATION  
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2025

PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

# OVERVIEW / AGENDA

01 Domestic Violence Response Specialist Role

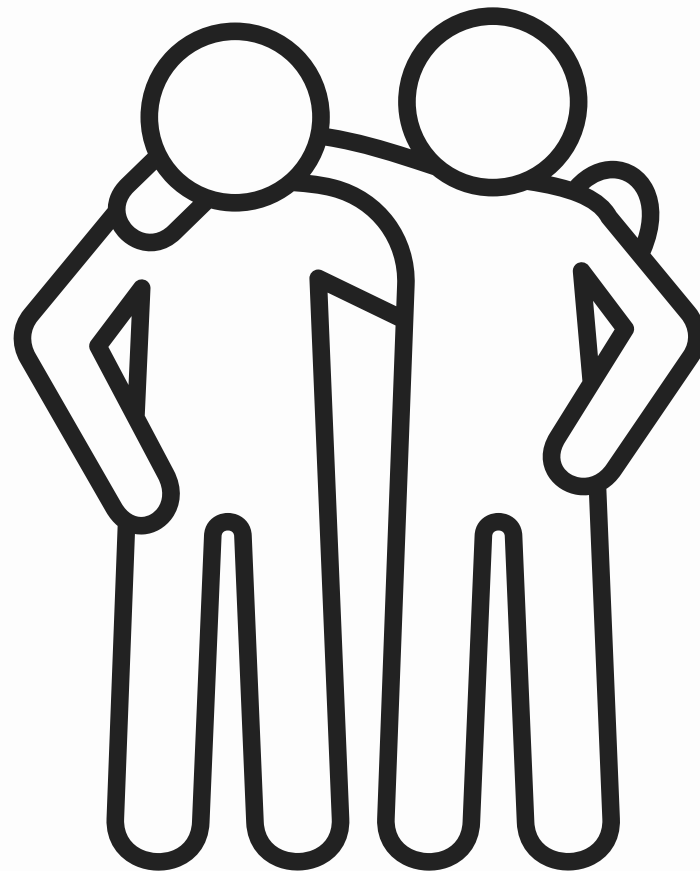
02 Domestic Violence Response Team Expansion (DV Coordinator)

03 Domestic Violence Investigation & Reporting Training + AXON Template

04 Strangulation Task Force Updates

05 ARPA Funding for Domestic Violence Response

06 Key Wins & Requests



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE SPECIALIST (D V R S)

A trauma-informed, systems-connected bridge at the crisis point.

- Position revived in March 2025 under SFPD & Community Health & Safety
- Housed at SFPD HQ | Staffed by Melissa Ward (background in advocacy)
- Grant funded through New Mexico Crime Victims Reparations Commission
- Robust partnerships with Esperanza Shelter, First Judicial District Attorney's Office, Christus St. Vincent

Next steps:

- Regular presentations at shift briefings
- Quarterly case review with SFPD
- Activate Strangulation Crisis Response Team

*Ask: Supplement CVRC funds to ensure the sustainability of this role*

# DVRS DATA HIGHLIGHTS

148

cases tracked

- 67 survivors contacted with 45% engagement rate
- (state average: 37%)
- Average response time: 15 hours

37%

resulted in an arrest

- Orders of Protection in 21%
- 0 ERFPOs filed

1 in 3

survivors assessed as high lethality risk

- Strangulation in 24 cases (16%)
- Head trauma in 9 cases (6%)

33

cases involved alcohol

- Substance other than alcohol in 10
- Mental health needs in 9
- Language barriers in 12
- Unreachable/unhoused in 8

35+

survivors (24%) had 3+ prior DV incidents

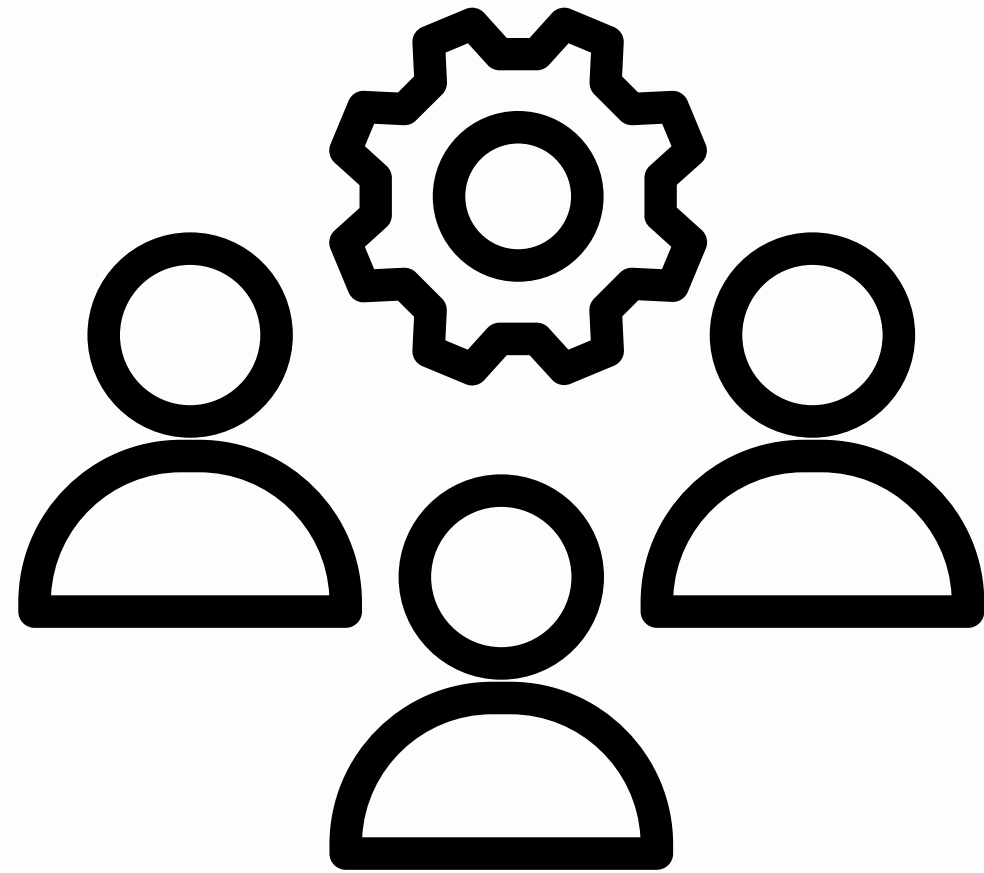
- Many are re-entering the system repeatedly without sustained follow-up

15

CYFD Reports

- 7 by police
- 8 by DVRS
- CYFD involvement documented in 10% of all DVRS-tracked cases (15 out of 148)
- DVRS was responsible for over half of the known CYFD reports related to domestic violence

# DV RESPONSE TEAM EXPANSION: DV COORDINATOR ROLE



Bridging the gap between crisis response and systems accountability.

- Role of DVRS is intentionally short-term, crisis-focused.
- Identified need for longer-term case tracking + service flow data management.
- New DV Coordinator will:
  - Receive referrals from DVRS
  - Track case progression through the justice system
  - Monitor service referrals and usage system-wide
  - Currently in development: Scope of work, service map, and referral processes

*Ask: Support the implementation and onboarding of this new role*

# DV INVESTIGATION & REPORTING TRAINING + AXON TEMPLATE

- Training held Nov 5–7 for all patrol officers + select supervisors
  - Led by Det. Eric Threlkeld, Training Officer McShan, and Joella Montoya
  - Focused on evidence-based investigations over reliance on victim statements
  - Context: 90% of DV survivors recant we need stronger evidentiary foundation
- AXON Reporting Template Update:
  - Improves documentation standardization
  - Enhances DV case data quality
- Feedback surveys distributed, analysis in progress



# STRANGULATION TASK FORCE: PROGRESS ON PRIORITIES

Launched in April 2025 | Monthly meetings with cross-sector participants

## Top 3 Priorities:

1. Information Sharing
2. DV Forensic Nursing
3. Childcare for survivors during service/legal appointments

## Wins so far:

- DVRS role providing time-sensitive info to FJDA's office
- Frequent meetings improving relationships + resource navigation
- Mobile Crisis identified as follow-up responder after DV calls



## Challenges:

- Tech system integration between partners
- Forensic nursing program development

## Asks:

- Funding for tech solutions (data sharing)
- Investment in DV forensic nursing program

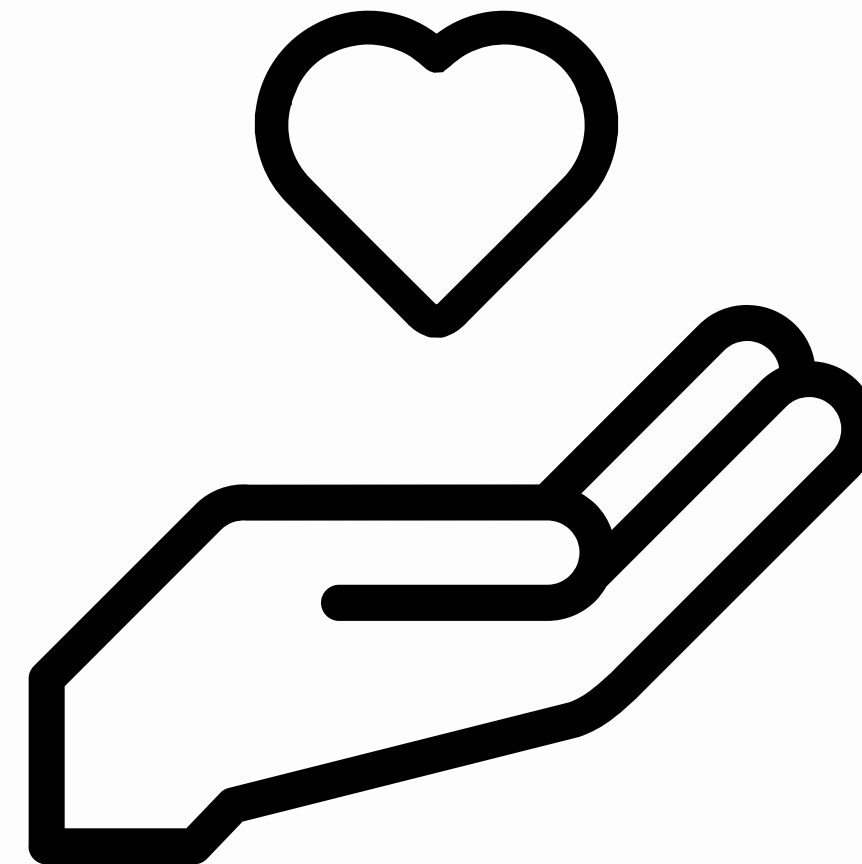
# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIPS FUNDED THROUGH ARPA

**01** **Christus St Vincent:**  
Hospital-based crisis intervention, safety planning, community resource referral, and advocacy accompaniment to survivors of domestic violence.

**02** **Consuelo's:**  
Crisis intervention, safety planning, community resource referral, and advocacy accompaniment to unhoused survivors of domestic violence.

**03** **Solace Crisis Treatment Center:**  
Comprehensive case management services tailored to the unique needs of adult survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

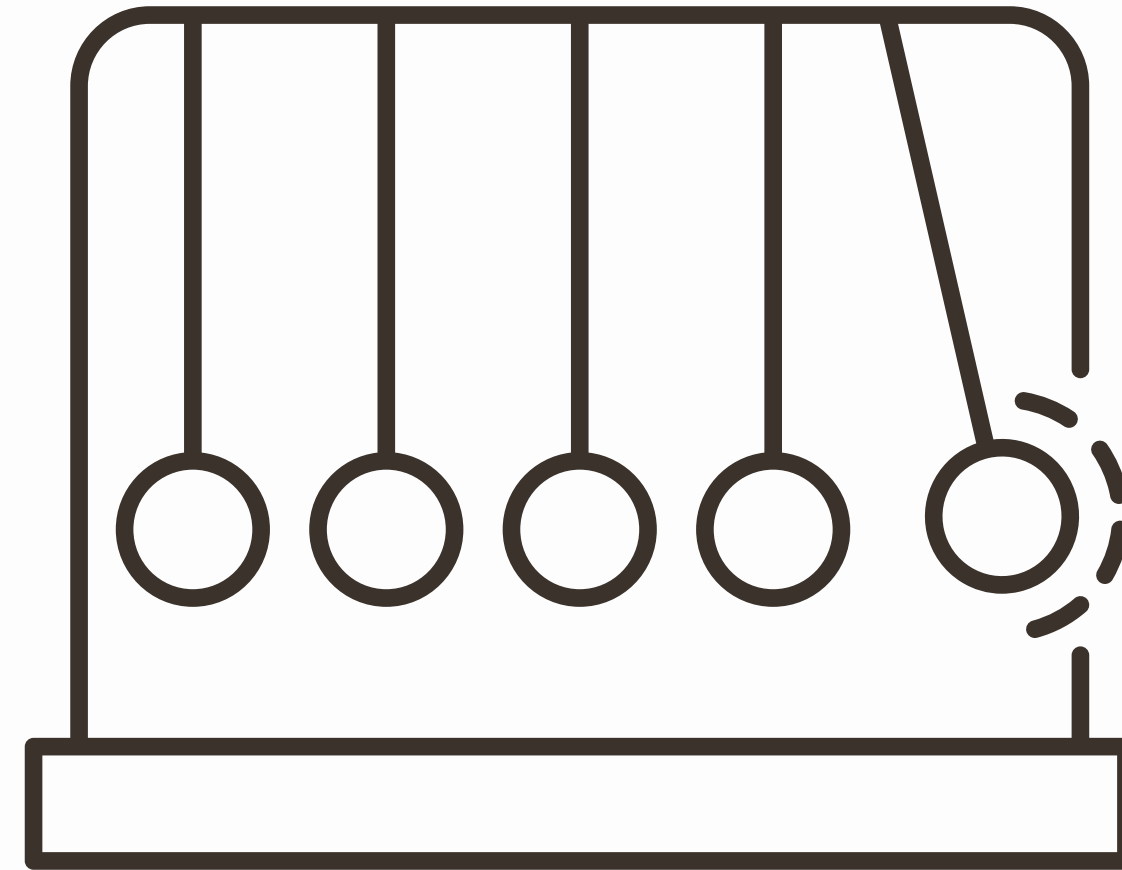
**04** **DV Specialists NM:**  
Domestic Violence Response Provider Training -increases community capacity for survivor support and community response



# IMPACT + CLOSING

We've built momentum... now we need to sustain it.

- Melissa is supporting survivors in their most vulnerable moments... DAILY.
- Interagency trust and coordination are growing.
- Systems gaps are being identified and addressed.
  
- What's needed: Your continued support (especially funding) to:
  - Sustain the DVRS position
  - Implement the DV Coordinator role
  - Fund tech integrations + forensic nursing



*“I was a mess, I was too scared to do this by myself, I wouldn't have done this if it wasn't for you.”*

*Survivor Supported  
by Melissa*