During COVID-19, all domestic violence organizations in Connecticut are fully operational and offering flexible, creative remote services to meet the needs of victims and survivors. Our 18 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS have increased PROACTIVE OUTREACH to existing clients to ensure that they have what they need to be safe. Below is a snapshot of services provided during COVID-19 by our 18 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS and SAFE CONNECT, CT’s domestic violence resource hub.

**Individuals served during COVID-19...**

Between 3.1.20 and 4.30.20, 66% of individuals served by SAFE CONNECT had NEVER PREVIOUSLY SOUGHT SERVICES from Safe Connect or our 18 members.

**Victim concerns related to COVID-19...**

About 50% of victims and survivors express concerns related to COVID-19. Concerns primarily focus on:

- **BASIC NEEDS** (toiletries, diapers, etc.)
- **RENT/MORTGAGE**
- **FOOD INSECURITY**
- **EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING**

Our member organizations have spent substantially more money to provide financial assistance to victims so that they can obtain basic needs.

**Assistance with restraining orders...**

At the beginning of April, the Governor issued an executive order paving the way for the Judicial Branch to create a process allowing for family violence temporary restraining orders (TRO) to be filed completely online.

SAFE CONNECT and our 18 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS assisted victims with filing and service of process of 46% OF TRO APPLICATIONS filed statewide in April 2020.

Total TRO applications statewide decreased 38% in March 2020 compared to March 2019. This may have been due to necessary court closures & reduced operating hours.

**Shelter and housing services during COVID-19...**

CCADV and our 18 member organizations have had to be creative and flexible in meeting housing needs. Shelters have shifted their housing protocols to ensure adherence to social distancing guidelines. This has included increasing the number of individuals housed in HOTELS and providing victims with INCREASED RESOURCES TO REMAIN SAFE AT HOME. This, however, means that providers have the full expense of operating the shelter, coupled with substantially more in hotel costs. Additionally, with advocates working diligently to increase placements, 45 NEW FAMILIES were enrolled in our RAPID REHOUSING PROGRAM between 3.16.20 and 5.6.20.
Our members, the state's 18 domestic violence organizations, provide critical services to survivors across the state 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Services include:

- Safety planning and risk assessment
- Emergency shelter and transitional housing
- Individual counseling and support groups
- Advocacy to access basic needs
- Court-based advocacy in criminal and civil court
- Age-appropriate advocacy and support services for children & teens
- Community education