

**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF  
DOMESTIC & COMMUNITY  
VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
CITY COUNCIL UPDATE**

**February 23, 2026**

**JENNIFER CACCIAPAGLIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**DIANA HERNANDEZ, CHILDREN EXPOSED TO  
VIOLENCE, PROJECT MANAGER**

*Lethality Prevention - Medical Responses*

*RPS Teen Dating Violence*

*Human Trafficking Initiatives*

*Data*

*Community Violence Prevention*



**COMMUNITY GAP INTERVIEWS**

Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention

City of Rockford, Illinois

Mayor Thomas P. McNamara

Jennifer K. Cacciapaglia, Manager

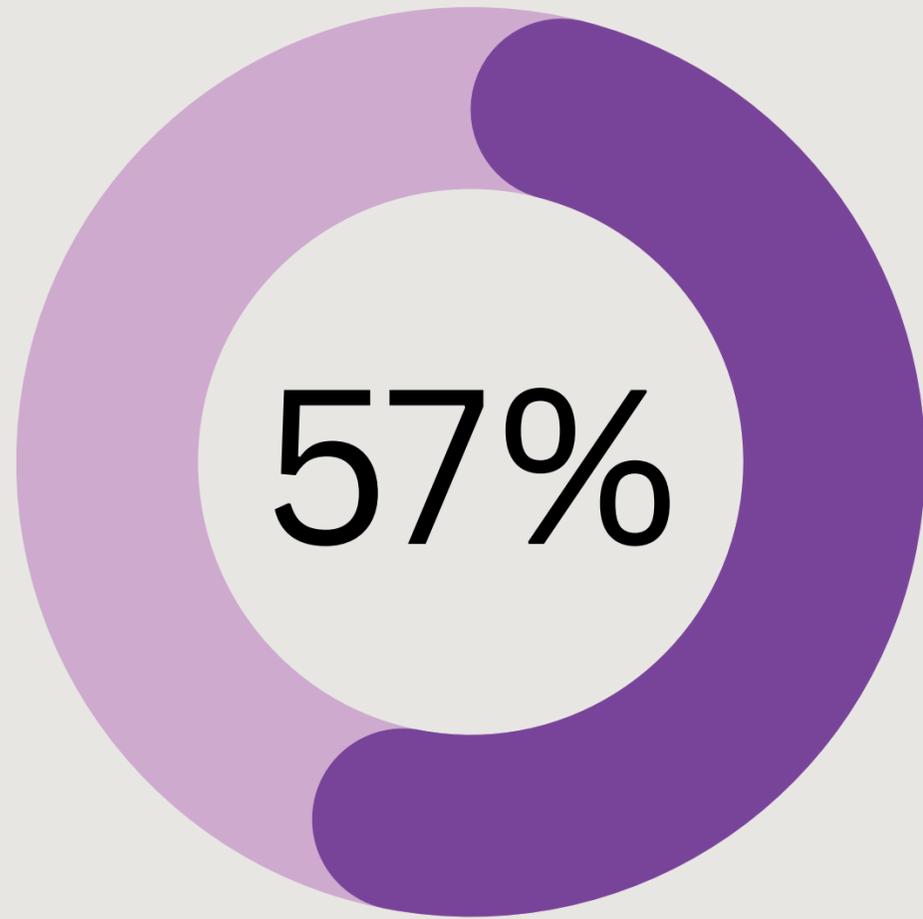


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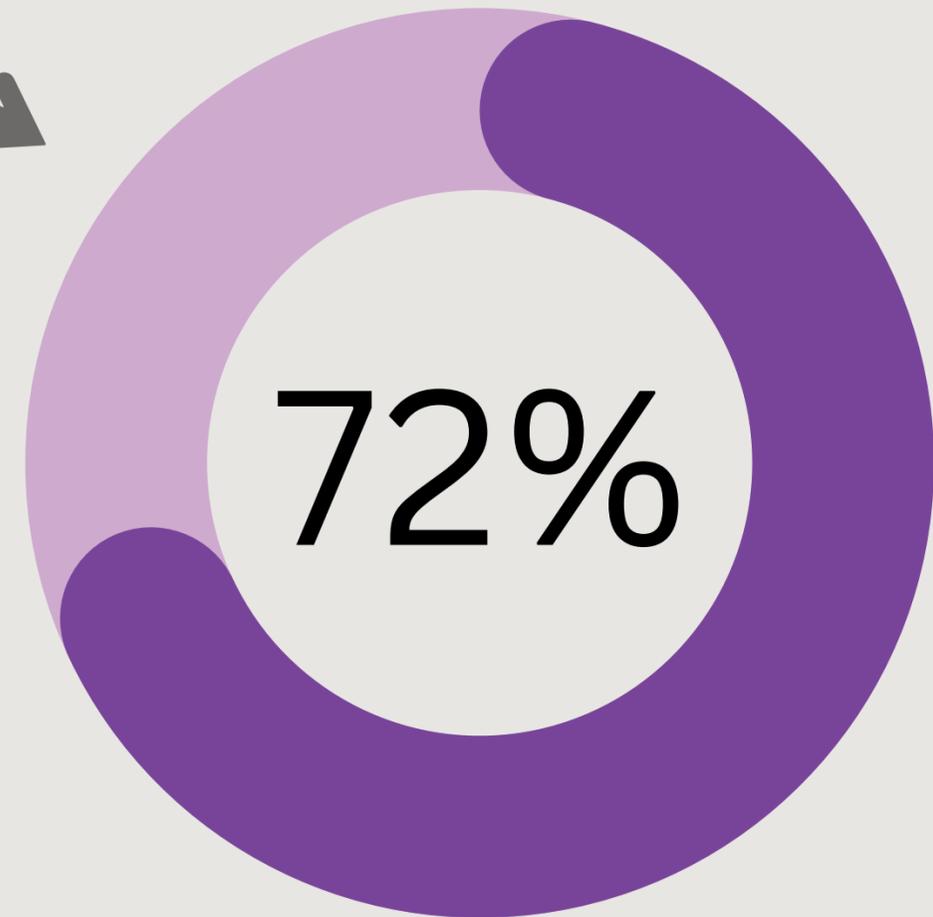
**DATA DRIVEN &  
COMMUNITY  
CENTERED**

# Danger Assessment Data 2025

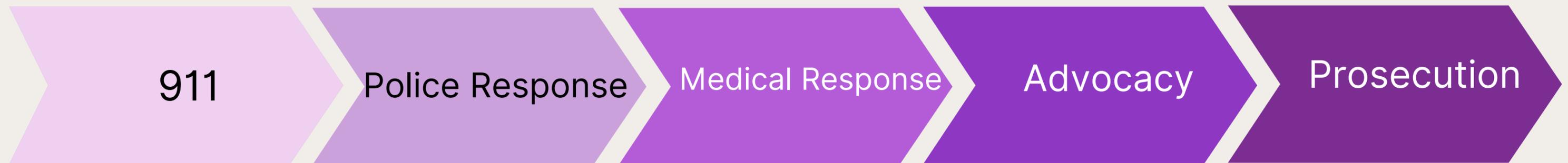


**57%**  
**Reported  
History of  
Strangulation**

**72%**  
**Identified as  
High Risk of  
Lethality**



# Strangulation Response Continuum



**Community Response Protocol**

Medical Response

# UW Medical Advocacy Response Project



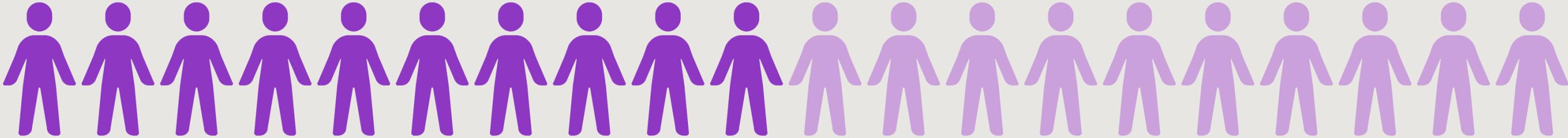
**Family Peace Center**  
Restoring Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence



# UW Medical Advocacy Response Project



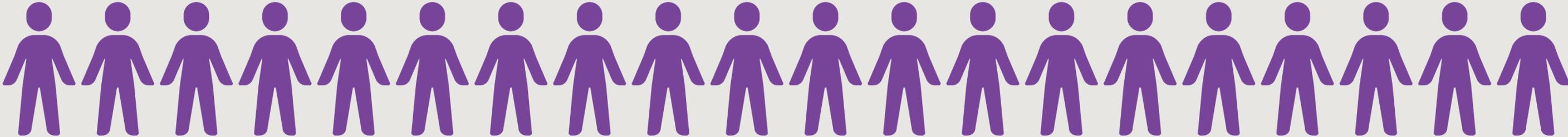
10 of 20 Survivors seen had CHILDREN ★ 3 Survivors were PREGNANT



11 of 20 Survivors seen had been, or had a history of STRANGULATION

36 Referrals & 20 Served  
9/1/25-1/31/26

# UW Medical Advocacy Response Project

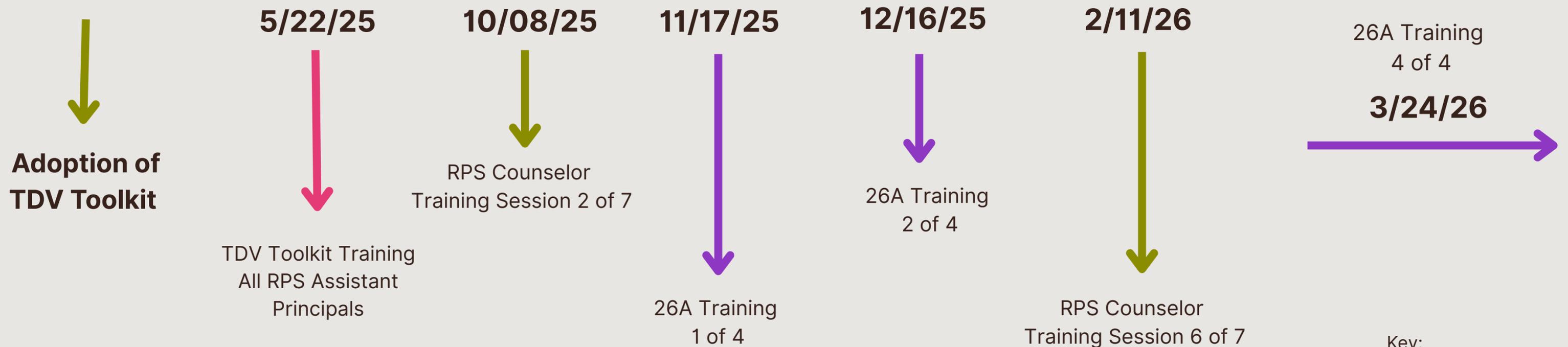
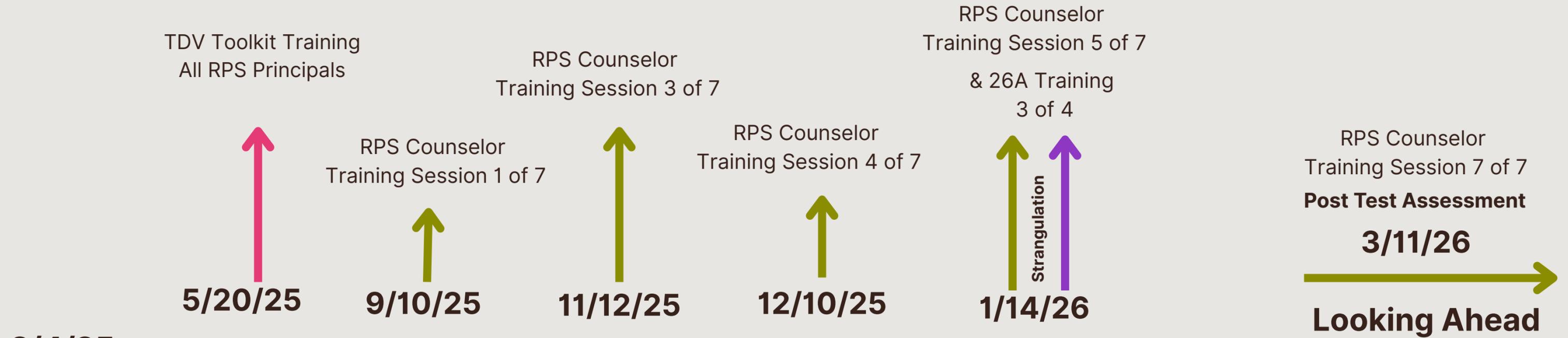


**All 20 Survivors were connected to services, including emergency housing.**



# Teen Dating Violence Efforts

Rockford Public School District 205



- Key:
- Toolkit Training
  - Counselor Training Series
  - 26A Training

# Intimate Partner Violence Training

August 2025 | 10 New Officers Trained

Post-training confidence increased across all measured areas, with gains of up to +1.2 points on a 5-point scale.

↑ **1.2**

May 2025 | 5 New Officers Trained

Post-training confidence increased across all measured areas, with gains of up to +1.4 points on a 5-point scale.

↑ **1.4**

January 2026 | 36 Field Training Officers

Post-training confidence increased across all measured areas, with gains of up to +0.69 points on a 5-point scale despite high pre-training baseline knowledge.

↑ **.69**

Officers reported a stronger ability to:

- Recognize domestic violence
- Understand domestic violence dynamics
- Confidently support survivors
- Connect survivors to services
- Provide information to others about domestic violence



# Human Trafficking Task Force Members

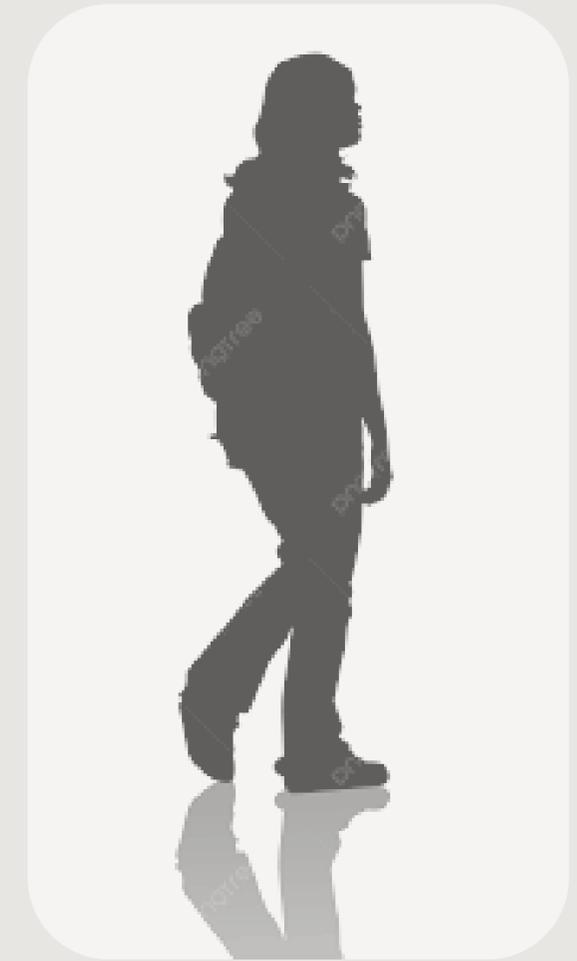


- **Carrie Lynn Children's Center**
- **City of Rockford Legal Department**
- **City of Rockford Mayor's Office**
- **City of Rockford Police Department**
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation**
- **Illinois Department of Child and Family Services**
- **Illinois Gaming Board**
- **Illinois State Police**

- **Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation**
- **The United States Marshals Service**
- **Winnebago County Adult Probation Department**
- **Winnebago County Juvenile Probation Department**
- **Winnebago County Public Defender's Office**
- **Winnebago County Sheriff's Office**
- **Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office**
- **Youth Services Network**

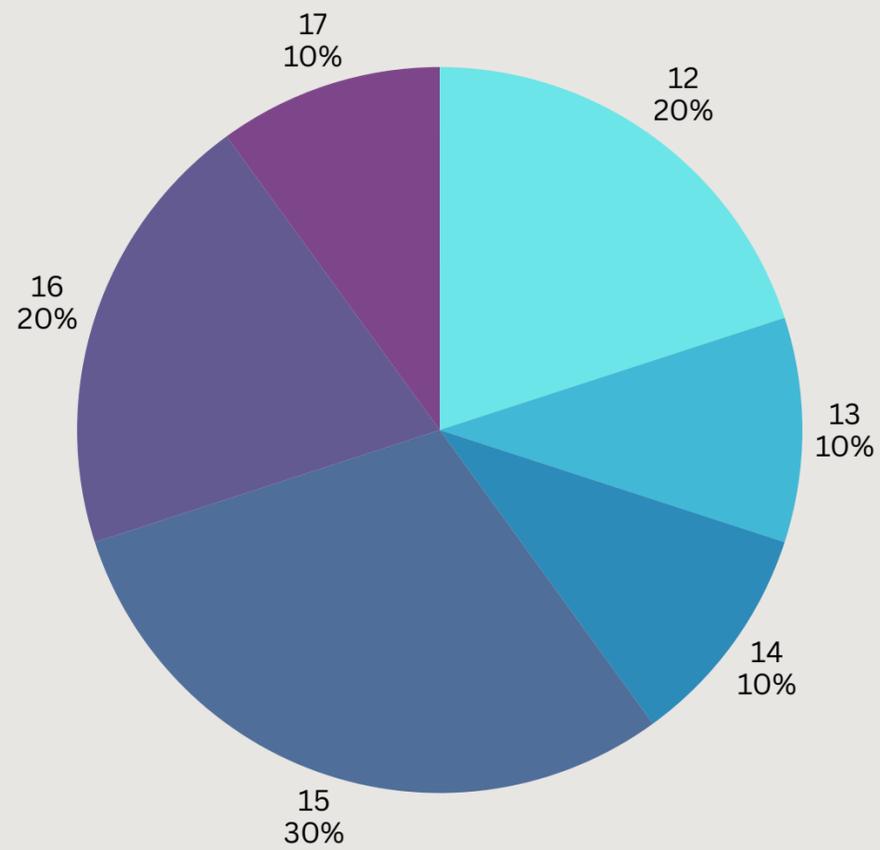
# *Human Trafficking Initiatives*

- Task Force
- Community Response Protocol
- iEmpathize - First Responder Training
- Not A Number
- My Life My Choice
- NetSmartz

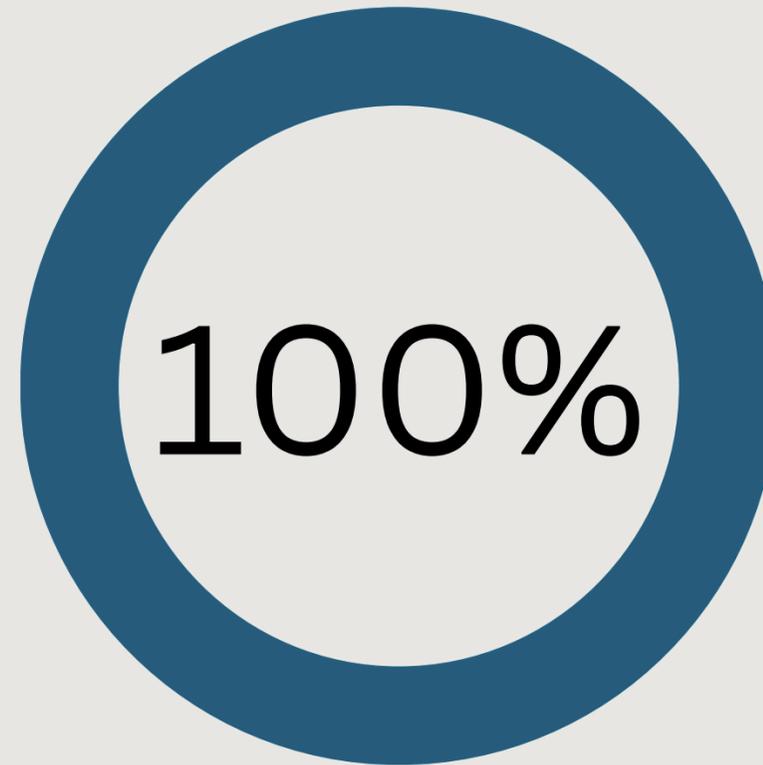


# Case Staffing Data

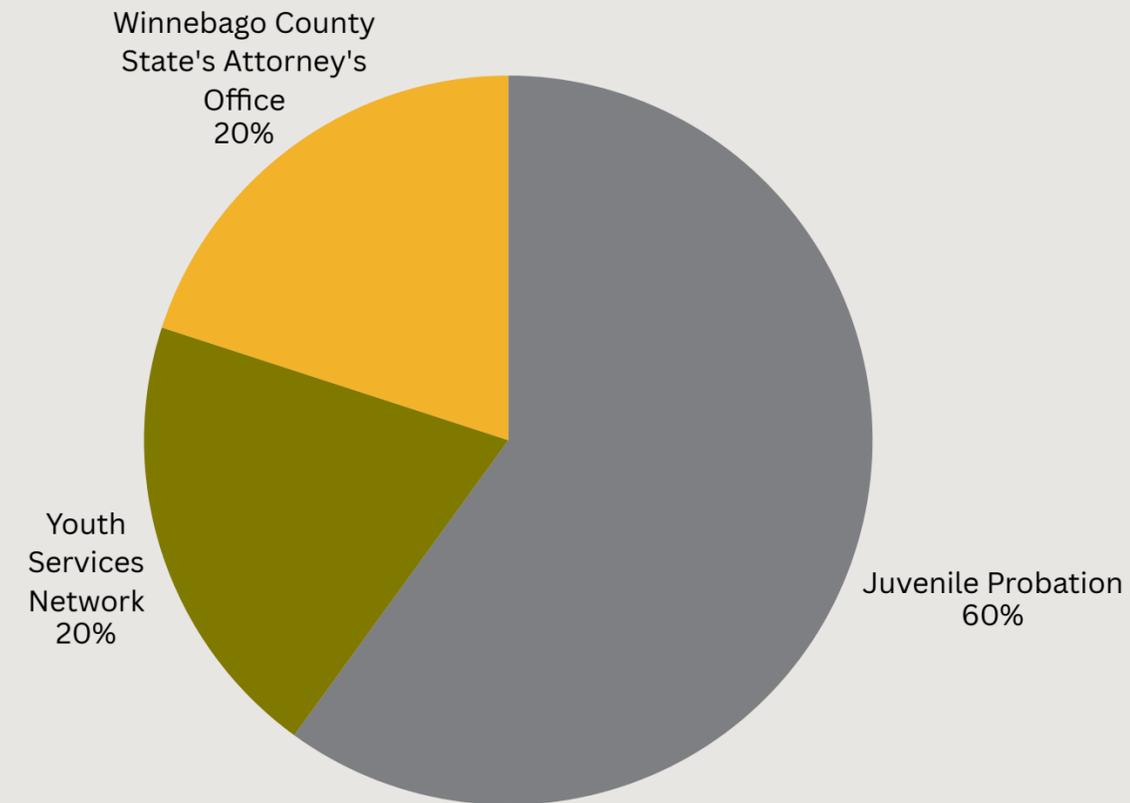
Age of Child Referred



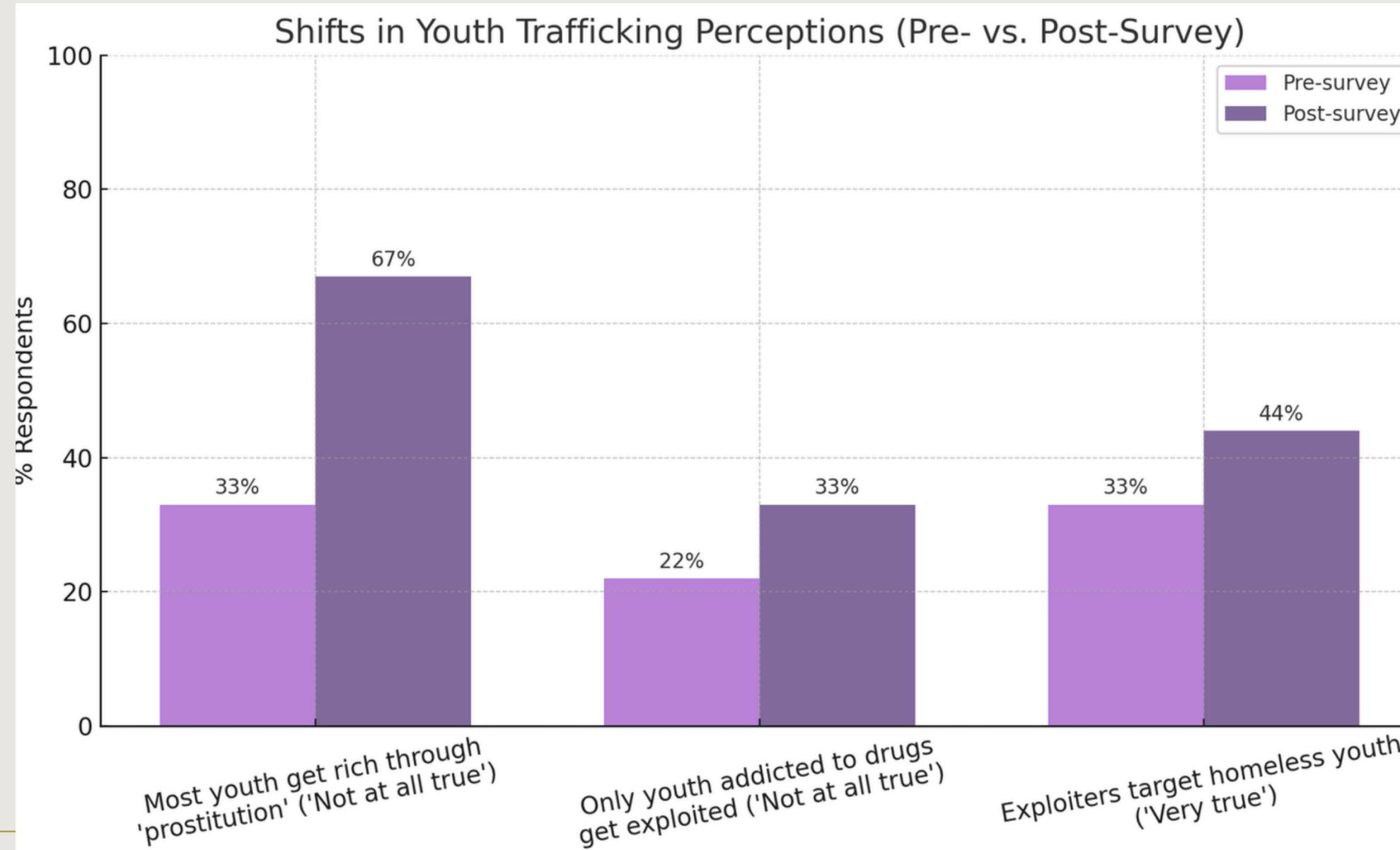
System/Agency Involvement



Cases Referred for Staffing by Agency



# My Life My Choice

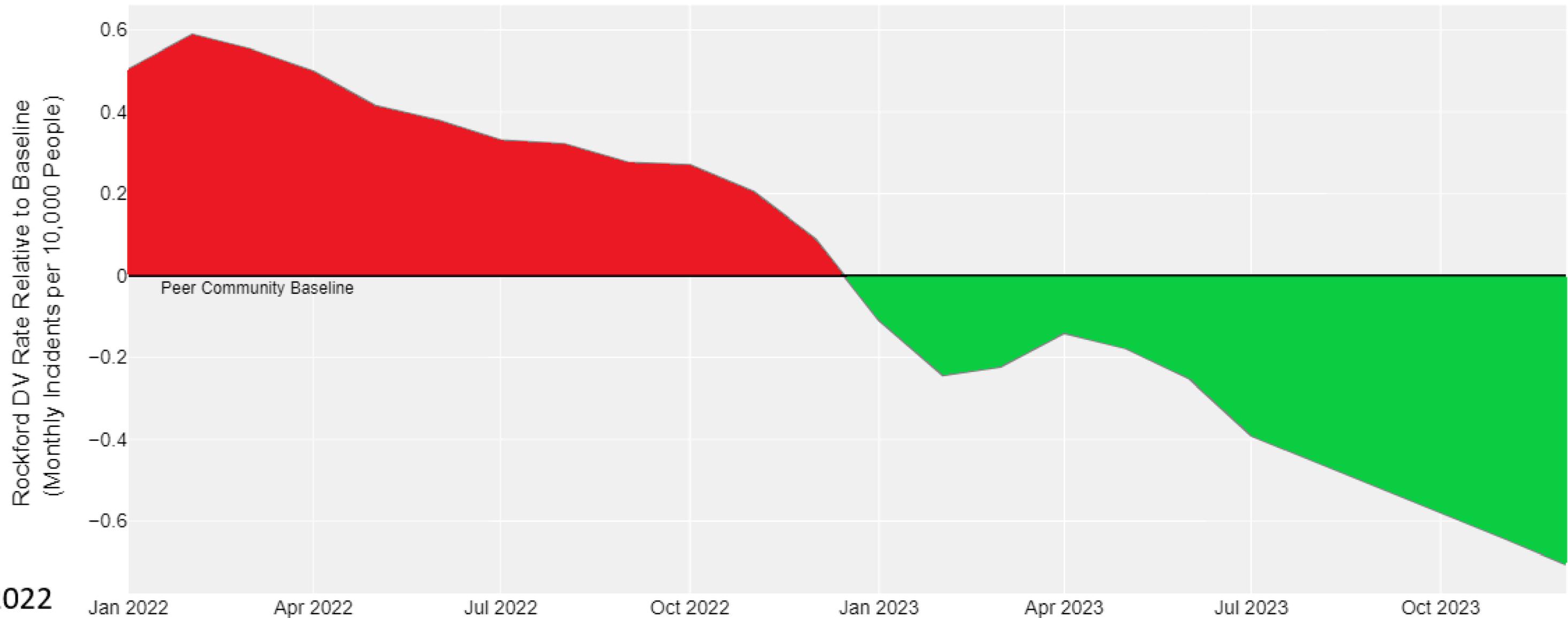


# New NIBRS Peer Community Model

## Rockford vs Peoria

Fixed effects regression model on only Rockford and Peoria

Peer Comparison Analysis of Rockford DV Incident Rates (Monthly 2022 - 2023)



2022

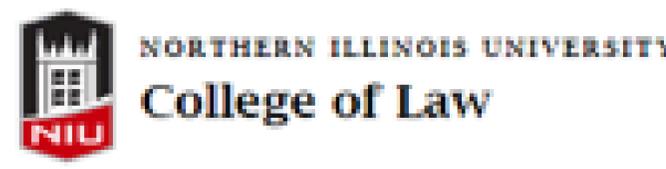
# MODCVP Coordinated Community Response



Family Peace Center



Children's Safe Harbor





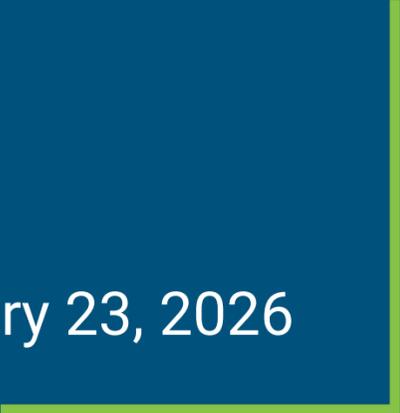
# Community Healing Center

History, Impact and Continued Reach

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City Council Committee Meeting

February 23, 2026



# Today's Discussion

- Community Healing Center Progression
  - Current services and focus areas
  - Human trafficking prevention efforts
  - Impact and continued reach
-

# Community Healing Center Progression

**October  
2022**

**2023**

**April  
2024**

**August  
2024**

**January  
2025**

**Today**

Federal  
project  
period  
began

Infrastructure,  
staffing, and  
partnership  
development

Official  
public  
launch

Expansion to On-site  
Strong  
House  
On-site  
services at  
Washington  
Park

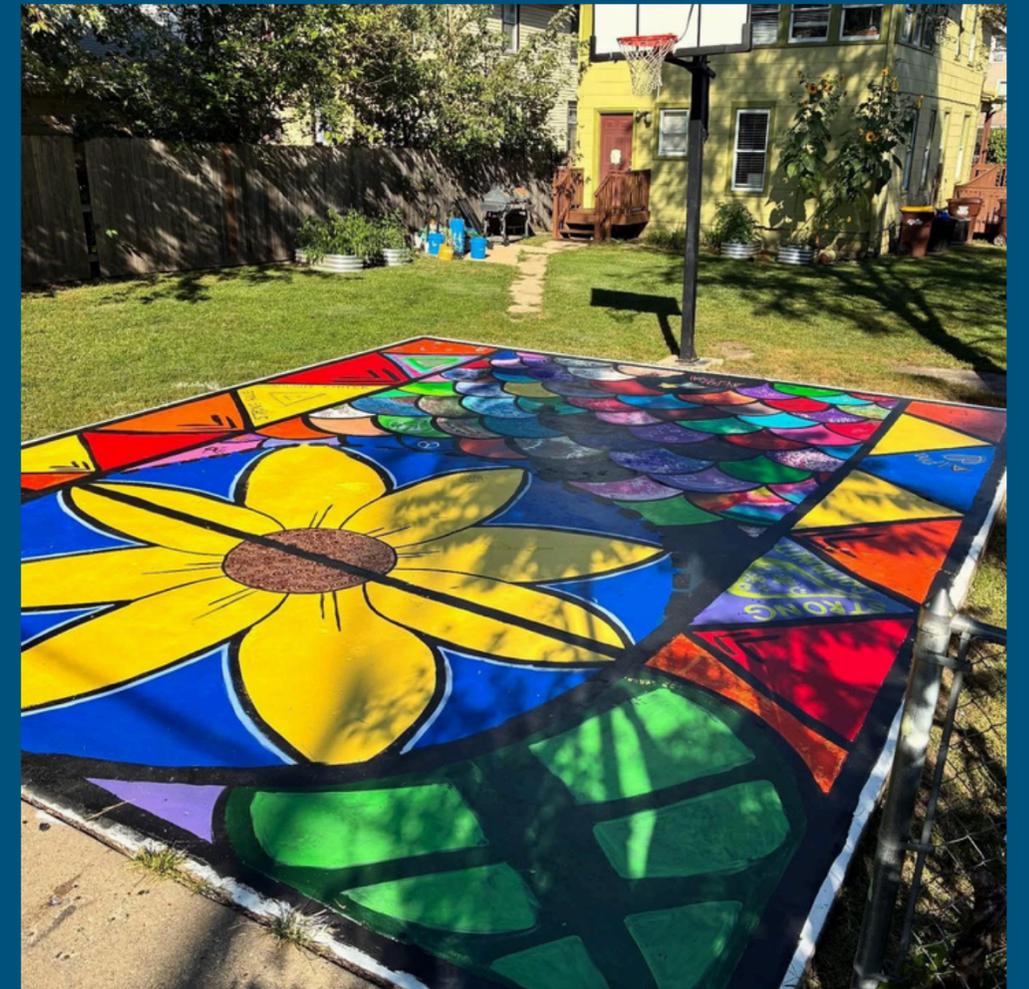
On-site  
services at  
McIntosh  
Elementary  
Launch of  
Youth  
Advocacy  
Board (25-26)

Multi-site,  
trauma-  
informed  
coordination  
hub

# What We Are Doing Today

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- Service navigation and case coordination
- Mentorship and youth engagement
- School-based restorative and prevention services
- Drop-in programming and structured enrichment
- Human trafficking prevention and response



*Strong House location – Irving Avenue*

# Youth Advocacy Board

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- Launched 2025-2026 program year
- 18 youth representatives from multiple schools
- Structured leadership and civic development
- Youth-led identification of community priorities
- Engagement in local government and community initiatives
- Leadership partnership with By Any Dreams Necessary



*Youth Advocacy Board meeting – 2025*

# Human Trafficking Prevention & Response

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- Staff trained in evidence-based prevention curriculum
- Implementation of My Life My Choice, Not a Number, and internet safety curriculum
- 41 youth actively engaged in prevention groups (January 2026)
- 12 exploitation + victimization disclosures since launch

# Impact at a Glance

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- **Service Reach**
  - 221 total youth served
  - 81 active youth currently engaged
    - 56% ages 0-10
    - 44% ages 11-17
  - 17 new youth intakes during since January 1, 2026
  - 59 referrals to community-based and therapeutic partners
  - 65 prevention group participants
- **Community Presence**
  - 5 School and community sites served
  - 1,865 individuals reached through outreach efforts

# Impact at a Glance

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- **Outcomes & Indicators**

- 12 of 22 center clients (55%) demonstrated measurable improvement in Hope Scale scores



- 27 center clients completed matched pre- and post- program surveys
- Greatest improvements observed in:

- **Decision-Making (avg. 7.69% increase)**



- **Peaceful Conflict Resolution (avg. 4.04% increase)**



# Cross-Department Coordination

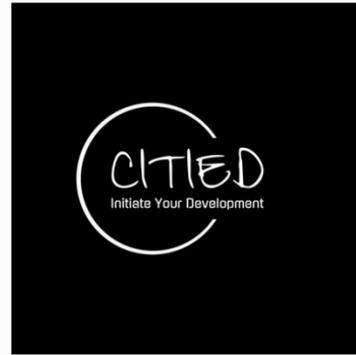
- Ongoing partnership with RPD Community Services Unit
- Direct coordination with Assistant Deputy Chief Paul Gallagher and Chief Carla Redd
- Collaboration with the Family Peace Center
- Case management support from the Violence Prevention Coordinating Council
- Joint outreach and community engagement events



Irving Avenue Strong House offers resources to the community at Summer Block Party (WIFR)

**Irving Avenue Strong House offers resources to the community at Summer Block Party**

# Community Partners



## MODCVP Grassroots Team



# Continuing the Work Together

- Expanding prevention and mentorship programming
- Strengthening cross-department and community partnerships
- Remaining responsive to youth and family needs
- Ongoing evaluation and data-informed improvement



Thank you!

# Storymap

- [bit.ly/DVDataDashboard](https://bit.ly/DVDataDashboard)

