

Dear Friends,

Many of you will have noticed that sexual harassment and assault have recently been front page news. While shocking to many, recent revelations about the prevalence of these experiences simply expresses the lived reality of the 33 million U.S. women who have been sexually harassed and the additional 14 million who have been sexually abused in the workplace,* and of the 1 in 3 women globally who will be raped or beaten during her lifetime.** Women are not equal when we silence survivors in the service of privilege and power.

At Family Violence Law Center we work toward equality every day. Our clients feel empowered when someone listens to them, believes them, and partners with them to create safe, healthy lives. Participants in our youth leadership cohorts analyze the connections between different forms of oppression and learn how issues like sexism create harm in our relationships. Every time we interrupt the violence caused by oppression we help build a better world.

We can't do our work alone. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 by December 31st, and a generous anonymous donor just gave \$7,500, getting us halfway there. Please make a donation today! With your support we can reach our goal so that together, as a community committed to equality, we can realize a better world.

You can mail a check to Family Violence Law Center, 470 27th Street, Oakland, CA 94612 or donate online here.

Thank you for partnering with us,

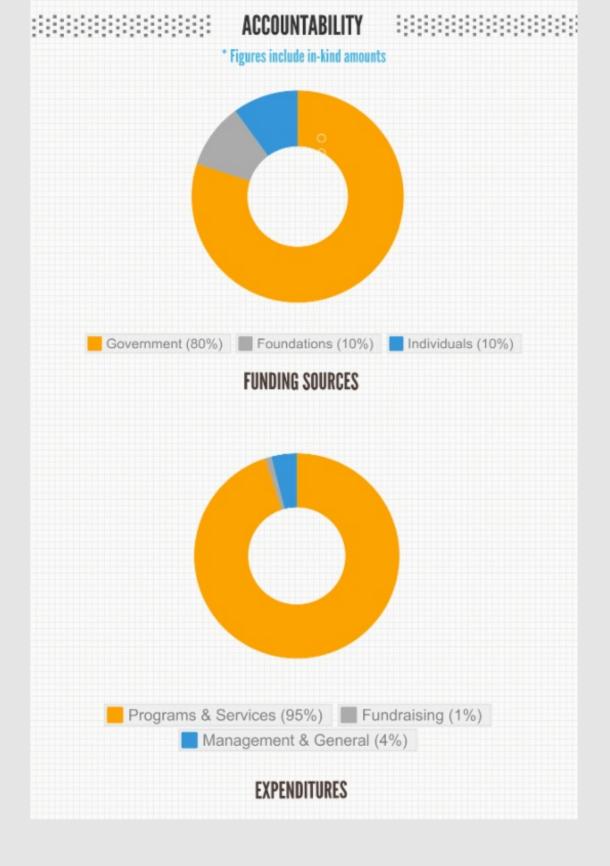
Erin Scott, Esq.
Executive Director

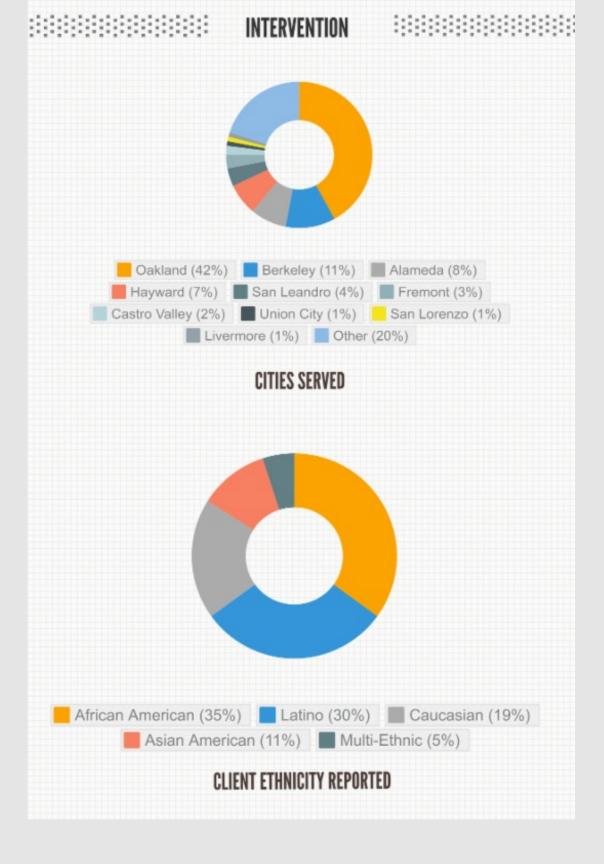
- * Reported by ABC News-Washington Post
- ** World Health Organization

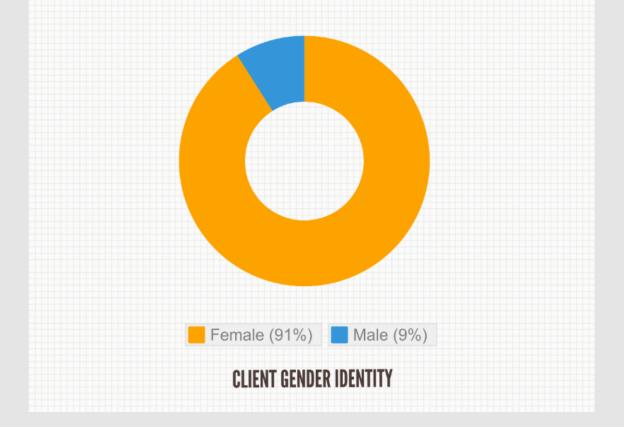
In lieu of a formal, printed annual report, we present a summary of our impact in fiscal year 2016-17.

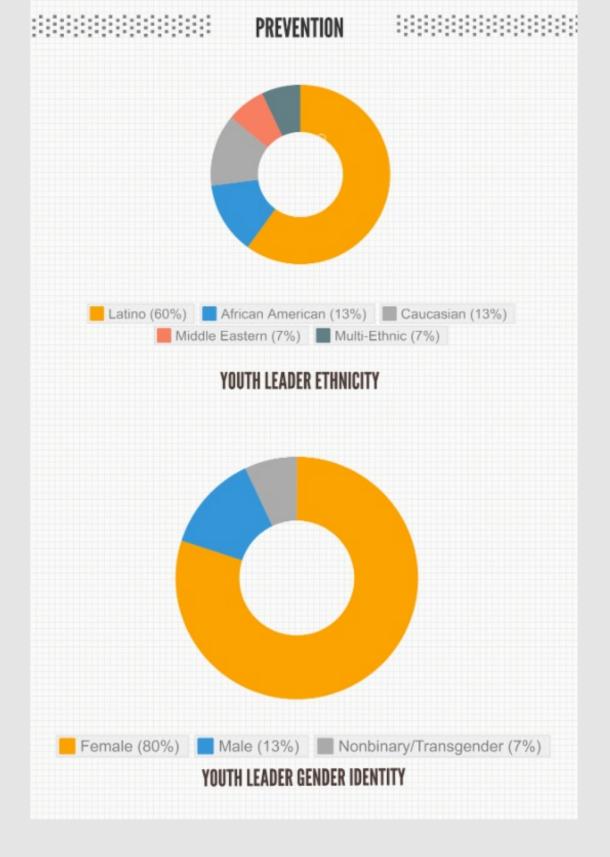
2016-17 FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW ANNUAL REPORT CENTER











IMPACT



Rita contacted Family Violence Law Center following an incident in which her ex-boyfriend chased her and their three-year-old daughter on the freeway, trying to hit her car. Luckily Rita was able to make it to the police station, where officers arrested her ex-boyfriend after witnessing his behavior. The officers referred her to one of our advocates for support.

An FVLC advocate helped Rita begin the process of applying for a restraining order, and also connected her with our community partner, Centro Legal de la Raza, to apply for a U-Visa, which offer immigration protection for survivors of violent crime. FVLC's mental health therapist intern began working with Rita and her daughter to help them recover from their traumatic experiences. An FVLC attorney successfully represented Rita at her restraining order hearing, and she received a 5-year restraining order, including an order for sole legal and physical custody of her daughter. Rita has expressed tremendous appreciation for the services she has received from FVLC: safety planning with an advocate, legal representation by an attorney, and therapy for her daughter.

IMPACT



What do youth participants in Family Violence Law Center's Relationship Abuse Prevention Program say about the program?

'Ever since I joined RAPP I have become more conscious about what I say or do. Before I would say things that were hurting me and other people. For example I would say sexist jokes and not realize I was being sexist. But now, I actually think and analyze everything I say, to make sure I'm not harming myself or others.' - high school junior

'I think I'm just a lot more woke, more prepared to offer support in heavy conversations with my friends, and I feel more confident talking in front of a group of people (I could never do that before). I even feel more confident in making friends, talking to adults, and definitely respecting a partner in a relationship.' - high school senior

'My relationship with my boyfriend has improved vastly. RAPP helped me learn how to take responsibility for my actions, swallow my pride, and communicate effectively. Now we try really hard to take the learning pathway as much as we can. I also was able to reflect on our past and recognize abusive patterns. Now we are more cognizant of abusive behaviors.' - high school senior



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FOR MORE INFO, VISIT: www.fvlc.org

Family Violence Law Center helps diverse communities in Alameda County heal from domestic violence and sexual assault, advocating for justice and healthy relationships, We provide survivor-centered legal and crisis intervention services, offer prevention education for youth and other community members, and engage in policy work to create systemic change.

In court and in our community, every day.



I want to contribute to FVLC! Donate now.



Join Our Board!

If you are passionate about addressing systemic injustice in your community, joining FVLC's Board of Directors is a great way to make a difference!

To apply, send a resume and cover letter <u>here</u> with "Volunteer Board Member" in the subject line.

