



Emily M. Murase, PhD
Executive Director

City and County of San Francisco
Department on the Status of Women



Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Highlights of 6th Comprehensive Report on Family Violence in San Francisco
Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)
San Francisco Family Violence Council

Child Abuse

- The number of child abuse cases referred to Family & Children's Services increased by 8% while the number of child abuse cases substantiated by Family and Children's Services has declined by 11%.
- The overall number of child abuse cases investigated by the Police Department's Special Victims Unit has declined 39%. Conversely, investigations of elder financial abuse have increased almost four fold. These changes may reflect a lack of sufficient staffing in the Special Victims Unit, such that increases in one sector create deficiencies in another.
- The number of families served by SafeStart increased by 103% between 2011 and 2015.
- The number of children exposed to domestic violence seen by the District Attorney Victim Services increased by 41%.
- These last two highlights suggest that while it is impossible to know the actual level of child abuse, we are doing a better job of serving children exposed to domestic violence.

Domestic Violence

- There was a 10% increase in the volume of domestic violence incidents presented to the District Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit, and a greater proportion of those were filed (from 21% in 2014 to 32% in 2015).
- Domestic violence offenders in the Sheriff's Department In-Custody Batterer Programming increased by 255%. We are doing a better job of providing treatment to domestic violence offenders in jail.
- 12% of lesbian, gay, and bisexual students who date are victims of physical abuse and 21% are victims of sexual abuse by their intimate partner. We need to be sure to provide support to queer teens who are being abused by their partners.
- Community based organizations served 75% more clients than in FY 2014.
- Community hotlines received two-and-a-half times as many hotline calls as 911.
- These last two highlights demonstrate the importance of community-based responses.

Elder Abuse

- Substantiated cases of elder and dependent abuse by Adult Protective Services have increased 70% in the past four years, and 33% in just the past year.
- In FY 2015, Adult Protective Services substantiated 29% more cases of financial abuse than in the prior year.
- The Police Department assigned three additional elder abuse investigators to the Special Victims Unit, which led to a 200% increase in the number of financial elder abuse cases investigated, directly in response to last year's Family Violence Council Report.

Selected Family Violence Statistics in Summary: **FY 2015**

	Child Abuse	Domestic Violence	Elder Abuse
Crisis Calls Received by Community Providers	14,785	21,386	no line exists
Calls Received by 911, Family & Children's Services, & Adult Protective Services	5,553	8,719	6,812
Cases Substantiated by Family & Children's Services & Adult Protective Services	754	NA	1,281
Cases Responded to by Police Department	308	3,094	572
Cases Investigated by Special Victims Unit	146	1,746	120
Cases Received by District Attorney's Office	112	1,694	not available
Incidents Filed by District Attorney's Office	46	450	not available
Convictions by Guilty Plea/Probation Revocation/Trial	20	311	30
Clients Assisted by Victim Services	316	1,419	205
Requests for Restraining Orders from Family, Probate, & Civil Harassment Courts	not applicable	1,140	155

Major Achievements

- The Council's public-private partners of the Children's Advocacy Center created and agreed to an information sharing agreement and took other key steps to build a shared database that will be implemented in the coming year.
- The District Attorney's Office, Police Department, Department on the Status of Women, and several non-profit organizations successfully applied for a federal grant to pilot a to high risk domestic violence program in the Bayview District. The need for stronger responses to high risk cases was identified by the Justice and Courage committee. The Bayview District was chosen because it generates the most domestic violence calls to 911.
- The Council created a new Elder Justice Committee to focus on criminal justice system improvement issues in responding to elder abuse.
- Community advocates met with staff from the Police Academy to discuss integrating community presentations at the Academy, which will begin in 2016.