



Project PEACE 2025 Annual Report

Partnering to End Abuse in the
Community for Everyone

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A Message from Project PEACE

For almost two decades, Project PEACE has served as Arlington County's coordinated community response to intimate partner violence and sexual violence, bringing together public agencies, nonprofit organizations, healthcare providers, educators, law enforcement, courts, and community members around a shared commitment to safety, healing, accountability, and prevention.

Throughout 2025, Project PEACE continued to strengthen this commitment through collaboration, innovation, and community engagement. The year marked a period of reflection and transformation, while simultaneously laying the groundwork for the future through development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress.

This report highlights the accomplishments, partnerships, data, and community-driven initiatives that shaped Project PEACE's work throughout 2025. It reflects not only the collective efforts of partner organizations, but also the voices of survivors, community members, and stakeholders who continue to inform and strengthen Arlington's response to violence.

As we look ahead, Project PEACE remains committed to advancing prevention, improving coordinated response systems, elevating survivor voice, and building a community where everyone can live free from violence.



*Together, we prevent
violence. Together, we
support survivors.
Together, we build
stronger communities.*

About Project PEACE

Project PEACE (Partnering to End Abuse in the Community for Everyone) is Arlington County's coordinated community response to intimate partner and sexual violence in Arlington County.

Since its founding in 2006, Project PEACE brought together a diverse network of partners committed to creating a community where all individuals can live free from violence. Through collaboration, education, prevention initiatives, coordinated response efforts, and systems change, Project PEACE works to improve outcomes for survivors while strengthening community accountability and awareness.

The collaborative is grounded in survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and equity-focused principles. Through shared leadership and collective action, Project PEACE seeks to address immediate safety concerns while advancing long-term strategies that prevent violence before it occurs.

Project PEACE recognizes that ending violence requires more than a single agency or organization. Meaningful change occurs when systems, communities, and individuals work together to support survivors, hold those causing harm accountable, and promote healthy relationships and safe communities.



Meet LaToya Young

New Project PEACE Coordinator

In 2025, LaToya Young joined Arlington County as the Project PEACE Coordinator, bringing dynamic leadership, strategic vision, and a deep commitment to advancing equity, community partnerships, and systems change.

With more than two decades of experience spanning federal government, nonprofit leadership, housing advocacy, community engagement, and violence prevention initiatives, LaToya has dedicated her career to strengthening systems that support individuals, families, and communities impacted by trauma, violence, and instability.

Prior to joining Arlington County, LaToya served in leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH) where she led initiatives focused on housing stability, systems coordination, policy development, and survivor-centered services.

As Project PEACE Coordinator, LaToya is responsible for leading Arlington's coordinated community response to intimate partner violence and sexual violence, convening stakeholders across sectors, advancing strategic initiatives, and strengthening partnerships throughout the community.

During her first few months with Project PEACE, LaToya led the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress, facilitated community and survivor listening sessions, strengthened partner engagement, coordinated awareness initiatives, and helped position the collaborative for its next phase of growth and impact.

Her leadership is grounded in the belief that meaningful change occurs when systems are aligned, communities are engaged, and survivors are empowered to shape the solutions that affect their lives.

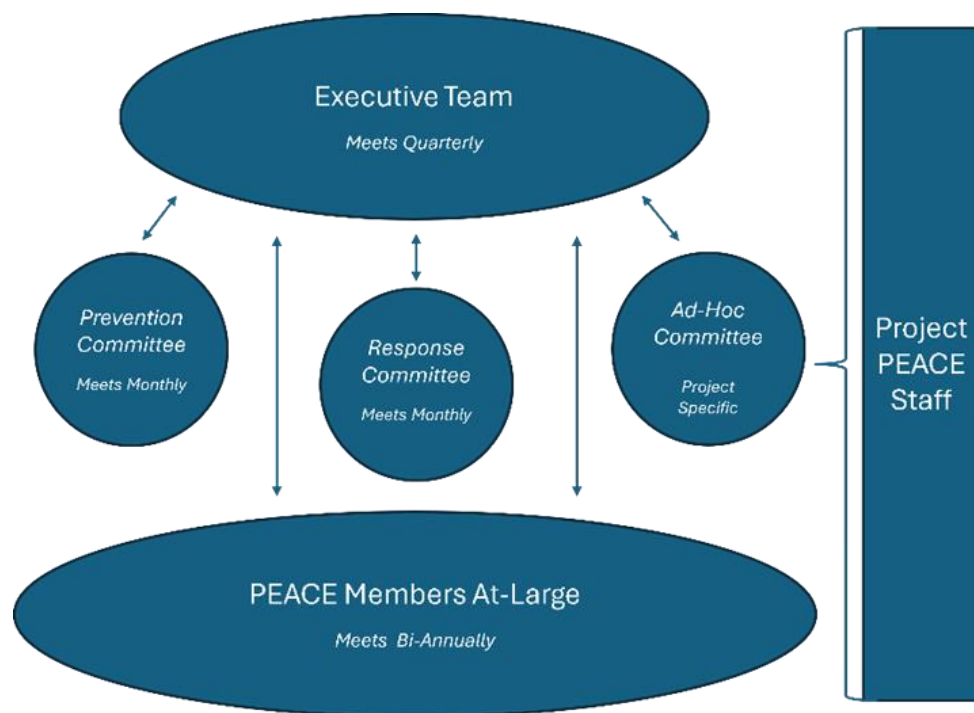
As Project PEACE enters its third decade, LaToya's vision is centered on innovation, collaboration, accountability, and ensuring that survivor voice remains at the heart of the collaborative's work.



Project PEACE Collaborative

In 2025, Project PEACE transitioned from its longstanding Goal 1, Goal 2, and Goal 3 committee structure to a more strategic model centered around Prevention, Response, and Ad-Hoc Committees. This shift reflects the collaborative's commitment to aligning its structure with community priorities, strengthening accountability, and creating greater flexibility to address emerging issues and opportunities identified through the Blueprint for Progress.

The updated structure allows Project PEACE to more intentionally focus its efforts on violence prevention, coordinated response, and targeted initiatives informed by community needs and survivor experiences.



Executive Team

Providing Strategic Leadership for System-Wide Collaboration

The Executive Team provides strategic leadership and oversight for Project PEACE, ensuring the collaborative's work remains aligned with its mission to prevent and respond to domestic and sexual violence through a coordinated, community-wide approach. Comprised of executive leaders representing key partner agencies across Arlington's coordinated community response, the Executive Team guides strategic priorities, strengthens cross-system

collaboration, and promotes shared accountability among partner organizations.

Throughout 2025, the Executive Team provided strategic guidance for the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress, helping shape the collaborative’s long-term vision and priorities. The team reviewed emerging trends, identified opportunities to strengthen system coordination, and supported committee efforts to ensure the Blueprint reflected the voices of partners, survivors, and the evolving needs of the Arlington community.

Prevention Committee

Building the Foundation for Long-Term Prevention

Formerly known as the Goal 1 Committee, the Prevention Committee was established to provide a dedicated space for advancing community-wide prevention efforts. While the committee’s core mission remains rooted in preventing intimate partner and sexual violence, its new structure allows for a more intentional focus on prevention strategies, education, community engagement, and systems-level change.

Throughout 2025, the Prevention Committee concentrated on strengthening the infrastructure necessary to support a comprehensive and sustainable approach to violence prevention. Recognizing that prevention requires long-term investment and community-wide engagement, the committee focused on strategic planning, community outreach, and data-informed decision-making.

A major accomplishment during the year was the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress, which establishes a shared vision for prevention efforts across Arlington. Committee members reviewed previous strategic priorities, analyzed community feedback, listened to the voices of survivors, and identified opportunities to strengthen prevention strategies for the future.

The committee also completed the Engaging Men and Boys in Prevention Report, helping identify opportunities to expand participation and leadership in violence prevention efforts. Additional activities included community outreach, stakeholder engagement, and participation in awareness and prevention initiatives designed to promote healthy relationships and strengthen community connections.

As Project PEACE moves forward, the Prevention Committee will continue serving as the collaborative’s primary vehicle for advancing prevention-focused strategies and fostering a community where violence is prevented before it occurs.

Response Committee

Strengthening Systems to Support Survivors

In 2025, Project PEACE also transitioned from the former Goal 2 Committee to the newly structured Response Committee. This evolution reflects a renewed focus on strengthening Arlington's coordinated response system, improving survivor experiences, and ensuring that community partners work together to address barriers, gaps, and opportunities within the response continuum.

The Response Committee serves as a collaborative forum where partners can examine system challenges, share expertise, and identify strategies that improve access to services and support for survivors of intimate partner and sexual violence.

Throughout the year, the committee focused on strengthening coordination among agencies, improving survivor navigation of complex systems, and advancing projects designed to increase clarity and accessibility for those seeking support.

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Developed a comprehensive flowchart of the protective order process within the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court
- Created and distributed protective order information cards to support survivor navigation
- Advanced universal danger screening practices across partner agencies

Key Outcomes

- Increased clarity and accessibility of the protective order process for survivors
- Strengthened consistency in risk assessment and safety practices across agencies
- Improved cross-system collaboration and shared understanding among partners

Ad-Hoc Committees

Turning Community Voice into Action

One of the most significant developments in 2025 was the decision to move away from the traditional Goal 3 Committee structure and adopt a more flexible Ad-Hoc Committee model. This change emerged directly from community engagement efforts conducted during the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress.

Throughout the year, Project PEACE facilitated community and survivor listening sessions designed to better understand the experiences, challenges, and priorities of individuals impacted by intimate partner violence and sexual violence. These conversations provided valuable insight into both strengths and gaps within Arlington's coordinated response system.

Participants consistently emphasized the importance of survivor choice, culturally responsive services, equitable access to support, and the need for systems that recognize the diverse realities of those experiencing violence. Survivors and community members also identified several areas that would benefit from deeper exploration and focused action beyond the scope of existing committee structures.

Initial Ad-Hoc Committee Focus Areas

Survivors Who Choose to Remain in Relationships

Listening session with lived experience participants highlighted the need for greater understanding and support for survivors who choose to remain in, return to, or navigate relationships with a person causing harm. This Ad-Hoc Committee will explore strategies to ensure services, policies, and community responses support survivor autonomy while promoting safety and access to resources.

Non-Intimate Partner Sexual Violence

Community members identified a need for increased attention to sexual violence occurring outside the context of intimate partner relationships. This committee will explore gaps, opportunities, and best practices related to prevention, response, and support for individuals impacted by non-intimate partner sexual violence.

Equity and Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Participants emphasized the importance of addressing systemic barriers and ensuring services are accessible and responsive to the needs of communities disproportionately impacted by violence. This committee will

focus on advancing equity, strengthening culturally responsive practices, and identifying strategies that improve outcomes for historically underserved populations.

Looking Ahead

The transition away from the previous Goal structure also created an opportunity to reimagine how Project PEACE responds to emerging needs. This approach provides greater flexibility, allowing Project PEACE to convene focused groups around topics requiring specialized attention while ensuring committee work remains responsive to evolving community needs.

Survivor Inclusion & Community Engagement

Nothing About Survivors Without Survivors

Project PEACE believes meaningful systems change requires the voices, perspectives, and experiences of those most impacted by violence.

In 2025, survivor inclusion and community engagement were central components of the collaborative's strategic planning efforts. As part of the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress, Project PEACE conducted community and survivor listening sessions designed to create opportunities for meaningful dialogue, reflection, and shared learning.

These conversations provided valuable insight into survivor experiences, barriers to services, gaps within systems, and opportunities to strengthen Arlington's response to violence. Participants shared perspectives on what supports healing, what challenges remain, and how systems can become more accessible, responsive, and equitable.

Several themes emerged consistently across conversations.

What We Heard

- Survivors value autonomy and want systems that respect their choices.
- Access to services can feel confusing, overwhelming, and difficult to navigate.
- Healing looks different for every survivor and should not be defined by a single pathway.
- Equity, cultural responsiveness, and representation matters.
- Survivors want support without judgment.
- Community education and awareness remain essential.

Participants emphasized the importance of recognizing that survivors have diverse experiences and needs. Individuals may seek different types of support at different points in their journey, and systems must be flexible enough to respond accordingly.

These conversations reinforced Project PEACE's commitment to ensuring that lived experience informs decision-making and strategic planning.

What We're Doing

Insights gathered through the lived-experience listening sessions directly informed the development of the 2026–2028 Blueprint for Progress and contributed to the creation of future Ad-Hoc Committee priorities.

Project PEACE is responding by:

- Creating opportunities for continued survivor engagement
- Strengthening community-informed planning processes
- Improving system navigation and accessibility
- Advancing equity-focused initiatives
- Developing targeted Ad-Hoc Committees focused on community-identified priorities

By intentionally incorporating lived experience into planning and decision-making, Project PEACE is strengthening its ability to identify emerging needs, address systemic barriers, and create meaningful change.

“The people closest to the challenges are often closest to the solutions.”

-LaToya Young, Project PEACE Coordinator



From Listening to Action

Developing the Blueprint for Progress 2026–2028

The themes identified through community engagement, survivor listening sessions, committee work, partner collaboration, and data analysis helped shape the development of the **Blueprint for Progress 2026–2028**.

The Blueprint represents a shared vision for Arlington County's future—one that prioritizes prevention, strengthens coordinated response systems, advances equity, promotes accountability, and centers the voices of those most impacted by violence.

Development of the Blueprint involved extensive collaboration among Project PEACE partners, community stakeholders, survivors, and subject matter experts. Through this process, the collaborative examined both strengths and opportunities within Arlington's current response system and identified strategic priorities to guide future work.

The Blueprint is grounded in several core principles:

- ♥ **Survivor-Centered:** Ensuring that survivors remain at the center of planning, decision-making, and service delivery.
- ♥ **Prevention-Focused:** Investing in strategies that address root causes and promote healthy relationships before violence occurs.
- ♥ **Equity-Driven:** Recognizing and addressing systemic barriers that impact access to services and support.
- ♥ **Collaborative:** Strengthening partnerships and shared accountability across systems and organizations.
- ♥ **Community-Informed:** Elevating the voices of survivors and community members to ensure solutions reflect lived experiences and community needs.

The Blueprint will serve as Project PEACE's guiding framework for the next three years providing direction for prevention efforts, response improvements, community engagement, and systems change initiatives.

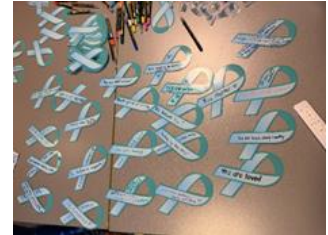
As the collaborative moves to implementation, the Blueprint reflects a commitment not only to responding to violence and to creating the conditions necessary to prevent it.

Awareness Months

Project PEACE honors two awareness months each year through education, community engagement, and collaborative activities that increase awareness of intimate partner and sexual violence while promoting awareness, prevention, education, support, and healing.

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM)

In April 2025, Project PEACE and its partners recognized Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month through awareness-building efforts, educational opportunities, and community engagement activities focused on increasing understanding of sexual violence and promoting survivor support.



Throughout the month, partners worked collaboratively to elevate awareness of sexual violence, encourage conversations about prevention and consent, and reinforce the importance of survivor-centered responses. Activities fostered learning, strengthened community connections, and highlighted resources available to survivors and their loved ones.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM)

In October 2025, Project PEACE and its partners recognized Domestic Violence Awareness Month through educational events, community engagement, and collaborative awareness activities designed to increase understanding of intimate partner violence and strengthen support for survivors.



A highlight of the month was a community panel discussion focused on *Supporting Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence*. The discussion brought together advocates, legal professionals, service providers, and community leaders to explore barriers immigrant survivors may face when seeking support, including language access, immigration concerns, cultural considerations, and access to services. The event reflected Project PEACE's commitment to advancing equitable access to support and to ensuring Arlington's coordinated response system remains responsive to the diverse needs of the community.

Project PEACE remains committed to supporting efforts that increase awareness, challenge harmful misconceptions, and promote environments where survivors are believed, supported, and connected to services.

Data & Impact

While stories and community engagement provide important context, data helps illustrate the scope of violence within our community and the collective impact of Arlington's coordinated response system.

The following section highlights information provided by Project PEACE partner agencies and organizations throughout 2025. Together, these data points demonstrate both the ongoing need for services and the importance of coordinated prevention, response, accountability, and support efforts.

The data also reflects the critical role each partner plays within Arlington's Project PEACE network—from crisis response and emergency services to legal advocacy, counseling, prevention, education, and intervention.

The information presented in the following pages offers a snapshot of how Project PEACE partners worked together throughout 2025 to Arlington County residents, support survivors, strengthen systems, and promote safer communities.

Data Disclaimer: Unless otherwise noted, the data included in this report was provided by Project PEACE partner agencies. Each agency maintains its own data collection and reporting practices; therefore, definitions, reporting periods, and methodologies may vary.

2025 Data Highlights

By the Numbers

Throughout 2025, Project PEACE partners worked together to support survivors, strengthen systems, promote accountability, and advance prevention efforts across Arlington County. The following data highlights the reach and impact of services provided to Arlington County residents by Project PEACE partner agencies in 2025.

Crisis Response

- **303** domestic violence offenses
- **96** sexual violence offenses
- **293** domestic violence arrests
- **61** sexual violence arrests
- **191** lethality assessments conducted
- **836** Arlington hotline calls
- **62** CPS domestic violence referrals
- **36** Arlington residents received sexual assault forensic services
- **19** Arlington residents received domestic violence forensic services

Survivor Support

- **144** individuals served through safehouse
- **75** households served through safehouse
- **209** requests for legal services
- **162** individuals received legal services
- **81** requests for immigration legal services
- **49** individuals served through immigration legal services

Youth Response

- **330** APS reports of potential sexual misconduct
- **12** formal Title IX investigations

Accountability

- **77** individuals served through Partner/SHIFT
- **48** referrals received

Community Engagement

- Community and survivor listening sessions conducted
- Blueprint for Progress 2026–2028 developed

What These Numbers Tell Us

The data demonstrates the continued need for prevention, intervention, survivor support, accountability, and community collaboration. It also highlights the critical role Project PEACE partners play in creating a coordinated system of care that promotes safety, healing, and hope throughout Arlington County.

Survivor Support & Ongoing Safety

Supporting Healing, Stability, and Long-Term Safety

While crisis response services provide immediate intervention and support, long-term safety and healing for survivors requires continued access to advocacy, shelter, counseling, legal services, and community-based resources.

Project PEACE partners work together to ensure survivors have access to comprehensive services that support safety, stability, recovery, and empowerment.

These services represent more than numbers—they reflect survivors seeking safety, healing, and hope, and a community committed to ensuring support is available when it is needed most.

Acknowledgements

Project PEACE extends its sincere appreciation to the Arlington County Board and the County Manager's Office for their continued leadership, partnership, and support of the collaborative's mission to prevent and respond to intimate partner and sexual violence. We are especially grateful to County Board Liaison, Maureen Coffey, for her steadfast advocacy and commitment to advancing Project PEACE's work, and to Deputy County Manager, Michelle Cowan, for her ongoing support of the collaborative's initiatives.

We would also like to thank the many individuals, organizations, agencies, advocates, survivors, volunteers, and community members whose dedication makes this work possible.

The collaborative's success is built upon the commitment of partners who work every day to support survivors, prevent violence, strengthen systems, and promote safety throughout Arlington County.

We extend our gratitude to:

- ♥ Project PEACE Executive Team
- ♥ Prevention Co-chairs and Committee Members
- ♥ Response Co-chairs and Committee Members
- ♥ Community and Survivor Listening Session Participants
- ♥ Arlington County Police Department
- ♥ Doorways for Women and Families (Doorways)
- ♥ Just Neighbors
- ♥ Inova Health Care Services on behalf of its unincorporated division Inova Ewing Forensic Assessment and Consultation Team ("Inova FACT")
- ♥ Partner/SHIFT Program
- ♥ Arlington County Public Schools
- ♥ Legal Services of Northern Virginia
- ♥ Arlington County Department of Human Services
- ♥ Advocates and Volunteers

Most importantly, we thank the survivors who shared their experiences, perspectives, and recommendations throughout the year. Your voices continue to guide and strengthen this work.

Get Support

If you or someone you know is experiencing intimate partner violence, sexual violence, stalking, or abuse, support is available.

Local Resources

Doorways for Women and Families (Doorways)

24-Hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline
703-237-0881

Inova Forensic Assessment and Consultation Team (Forensic Exams)

703-776-4001 (ask to page a SANE nurse)

Arlington County Project PEACE

703-228-5718

info-projectpeace@arlingtonva.us | www.arlingtonva.us/projectpeace

Arlington County Police Department

Emergency: 911

Virginia's LGBTQIA+ Helpline

Call: 866-356-6998 | Text: 804-793-9999

National Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-SAFE (7233)

National Sexual Assault Hotline

800-656-HOPE (4673)

For resources or support for intimate partner/dating and domestic violence, visit the [No Wrong Door Guide](#).

For resources and supports for sexual assault and harassment view the [Sexual Assault Response Brochure](#).

Support is available regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration status, ability, or relationship status. You are not alone.

As we look toward the future, we remain committed to building a safer, more equitable community where everyone can live free from violence.

***Together, we prevent violence. Together, we support survivors.
Together, we build stronger communities.***