



## Sexual and Domestic Violence Support & Services Funding

### Fiscal Year 2022 MA State Budget March 2021

Line Item (service area)	FY2020 Final Budget	FY2021 Final Budget	FY2022 H1 Governor	FY2022 JDI Request
<i>Domestic Violence &amp; Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Services</i> <b>DPH Line Item</b> <b>4513-1130</b>	<b>\$38,120,747</b>	<b>\$50,341,295</b>	<b>\$50,341,295</b>	<b>\$50,341,295</b>
<i>Healthy Relationships Grant Program</i> <b>DPH Line item</b> <b>4513-1131</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,050,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<i>Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and Pediatric SANE</i> <b>DPH Line item</b> <b>4510-0810</b>	<b>\$5,504,543</b>	<b>\$6,825,374</b>	<b>\$6,000,448</b>	<b>\$6,000,448</b>

FY20 4513-1130 includes \$285,000 in earmarks; 4510-0810 \$900,000 in earmarks; \$500,000 for Public Awareness Campaign. Bottom line increase for 4513-1130 maintains funding for all programs.

FY21 H2 Governor reflects Chapter 257 new reimbursement rates for SDV services. Maintains current services level.

FY21 Final includes 4513-1130 \$5M earmark for COVID-19 DV/SA Survivors Trust Fund - \$2.5M to local public safety organizations and \$2.5M to community-based or residential SDV programs and RCCs, \$150K programmatic earmarks, \$5.34M bottom line increase for services; 4513-1131 \$50,000 programmatic earmark; 4510-0810 \$900K earmark for children’s advocacy centers.

FY22 H1 4513-1130 removes COVID-19 DV/SA Survivors Trust Fund; no earmarks.

*Jane Doe Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence advocates to improve access to services, resources, and justice for all communities. Our Coalition is comprised of 58 member sexual and/or domestic violence organizations located throughout the Commonwealth. JDI works with our members and community partners to eliminate conditions that enable sexual and domestic violence to occur and to advance the cause of justice.*

### **DPH 4513-1130—Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Services**

H1 Budget language:

*For domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and treatment programs; provided, that residential services for domestic violence survivors may be expended from this item.....\$50,341,295*

The pre-existing persistent and unmet needs of survivors has grown because of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. Maintaining the FY21 \$10.49M increase to SDV services is essential for responding to these growing needs of survivors. This level of investment in sexual and domestic violence services allows programs to put their decades of experience and local expertise into action to engage in robust strategies that support survivors in creative and responsible ways. Maintaining the increase in funding translates to local community based programs ability to provide direct care services, support, advocacy, outreach and engage in prevention efforts in the communities they serve.

JDI and our 59 member programs deeply appreciate and rely upon the commitment of the House and Senate to supporting trauma-informed, victim-centered services for victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence. Our member programs are resilient in the face COVID-19 and are providing services to survivors in innovative and responsive ways. Funding allows community based programs to provide a vast array of services, some of which include:

- Core rape crisis and domestic violence program services including hotline
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate services
- Housing and economic advocacy for survivors
- Support for homeless survivors in family and individual homeless shelters
- Services for survivors with disabilities, LGBTQ/T survivors and male survivors
- Outreach and partnerships with schools and community organizations
- Legal assistance and advocacy for survivors
- Medical advocacy for sexual assault survivors

These services are critical and still not enough to meet the needs of all communities in Massachusetts. Rape Crisis Centers in particular are experiencing significant demand during this cultural moment of #MeToo and are challenged to meet the needs of their vast service areas.

### **DPH 4513-1131 Healthy Relationships Grant Program**

#### H2 Budget language

*For a domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program focused on teens in high-risk communities; provided, that the programming shall be aimed at promoting healthy relationships and addressing teen dating violence; provided further, that the department shall partner with domestic violence and sexual assault service providers, other community-based organizations or school-based organizations to develop evidence-based and outcomes-focused prevention strategies; provided further, that the program shall prioritize funding for schools and communities in which the majority of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch; provided further, that at least one program shall occur in a municipality with a population of 25,000 or less; and provided further, that funds may be expended for a competitive grant program \$1,000,000*

The Governor's H1 Budget proposal maintains the \$1,000,000 appropriated in FY21 and language passed by the legislature in 2019 that will ensure the engagement of community based sexual and domestic violence programs in the development of **prevention** programming in communities across Massachusetts.

This is the third year that the Commonwealth would invest substantial resources for sexual and domestic violence prevention that can make an impact. Now is the time to focus our attention on how we are preventing gender-based violence before it occurs. The expanded program creates a partnership with community-based S/DV programs, school-based programs and DPH to identify strategies to change cultural norms and promote safe and healthy relationships and communities. JDI supports this line item and urges the Legislature to include this in their FY21 budgets.

### **DPH 4510-0810—Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and Pediatric SANE**

#### H1 Budget language:

*For a statewide sexual assault nurse examiner program and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner program for the care of victims of sexual assault; provided, that funds shall be expended to support children's advocacy centers; and provided further, that the program shall operate under specific statewide protocols and by an on-call system of nurse examiners \$6,000,448*

This line item funds SANE services in 30 SANE designated sites in the Commonwealth, pediatric SANE response and some funding for community based Rape Crisis Center response to survivors receiving SANE services. At this time, we support level funding for the SANE line and support the SANE program's future expansion needs.