



Sexual and Domestic Violence Support & Services Funding

**Fiscal Year 2020 MA State Budget
May 2019**

Line Item (service area)	FY2018 Final Budget	FY2019 Final Budget	FY2020 H1 Governor	FY2020 House Final	FY2020 Senate Ways & Means	FY2020 JDI Request
<i>Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Services</i> DPH Line Item 4513-1130	\$31,355,559	\$37,321,882	\$37,835,747	\$38,045,747	\$37,835,747	\$37,835,747
<i>Healthy Relationships Grant Program</i> DPH Line item 4513-1131	\$50,000	\$150,000	\$1,000,000	\$650,000	\$150,000	\$1,000,000
<i>Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and Pediatric SANE</i> DPH Line item 4510-0810	\$4,844,520	\$5,144,520	\$5,354,543	\$5,354,543	\$5,504,543	\$5,354,543

FY18 4513-1130 includes \$195,000 in earmarks

FY19 4513-1130 includes \$210,000 earmarks, \$3m increase for RCCs and DV General Community Based Programs; \$500,000 for Public Awareness Campaign

FY20 HOUSE includes \$210,000 in earmarks and otherwise level services to FY19

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.....\$37,835,747

JDI and our 57 member programs greatly appreciate the commitment of the House and Senate to supporting trauma-informed, victim-centered supports for victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence. This commitment was most recently demonstrated via an increase of \$3m in the 4513-1130 line item for Rape Crisis Centers and Community Based Domestic Violence programs in FY19. Additional funding has allowed community based programs to expand capacity in some communities in the following ways:

- Core rape crisis and domestic violence program services
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate services
- Support for homeless survivors in family and individual homeless shelters

- Web-based services for survivors with disabilities, LGBTQ/T survivors and male survivors, reducing transportation and other access barriers
- Legal assistance for survivors
- Outreach and partnerships with schools and community organizations
- 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, only 16 in the Commonwealth, are experiencing significant demand during this cultural moment of #metoo and are challenged to meet the needs of their vast service areas.

In FY20, it is essential that the Legislature at minimum appropriate funding that will sustain these critical services. The Governor’s H1 proposal includes funding to maintain the increase from FY19 and the additional funding required to maintain rate increases for residential program services that were enacted in FY19 and supported by Chapter 257 reserve funds. The additional funding above FY19 will not provide any new services, but will ensure the maintenance of the current level of services.

DPH 4513-1131 Healthy Relationships Grant Program

H1 Budget language (modified and expanded from FY19)

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 significantly expands the program by adding \$850,000 and language 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 first time in many years 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 the expansion of this line item and urges the Legislature to include this in their FY20 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 \$5,354,543

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.