

# IMPACT REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2019

### Mission

Our mission is to lead Latinx victims of domestic and sexual and violence and their children to safety, empower them to live free of violence and reach and sustain their full potential. We pursue our mission by raising community awareness, engaging in activism, and providing culturally specific services.

# Our Impact at a Glance

VIP touched the lives of more than 14,000 New Yorkers in FY 2019.

- **3,090** hotline calls were answered by our highly trained, compassionate bilingual hotline staff who provide culturally-specific, immediate crisis intervention, safety planning, emergency shelter, and referrals.
- 200 adults and children received safe refuge in our housing programs totaling over 15,400 nights of care.
- 200 clients were supported in obtaining their own safe and permanent housing.
- 5,200 individual counseling sessions were conducted with over 1,000 clients. 1,200 of them included help creating a safety plan. 165 community-based group-counseling sessions were held for 230 clients
- 500 survivors accessed our economic justice services including banking and financial literacy, building educational, vocational, and employment skills, and small business development.
- 375 community activities were attended by our Communications and Outreach team and over 10,000 community members were reached through our educational, awareness-building materials.
- 40 educational workshops on topics related to intimate partner violence were held in communities throughout New York City.
- 250 teens participated in 19 intimate partner violence workshops, which utilized our specialized youth curriculum and addressed the roots of violence, teen dating violence, consent, digital abuse, gender roles, and being an ally.
- 170 clients were provided with ongoing legal advocacy, including help navigating immigration issues, criminal and family court, and obtaining orders of protection.
- 160 low-income survivors were provided ongoing assistance in accessing publicly available resources such as food, healthcare, rental assistance, children's services, and social security.

#### Who We Are

Founded in 1984 by grassroots Latina activists, Violence Intervention Program (VIP) has led the response to gender-based violence for 36+ years and remains deeply rooted within Latinx and communities color throughout New York City. Today, VIP continues to be Latina-led and is the only culturally-specific organization in NYC serving Latinx survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

#### Who We Reach

While vast majority of VIP clients served in FY 2019 were low-income Latina mothers and their children, VIP is committed to serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, language, income, or cultural background.

## How We Help

#### 24/7 BILINGUAL HOTLINE + LIVE CHAT

VIP's first responders provide 24/7 crisis support, safety planning, and referrals in Spanish and English with access to language interpretation services for speakers of up to 200 other languages. We also operate live chat services through our website for survivors that have questions about our services but may not be able or ready to call. Thousands of survivors reach VIP through our hotline and chat each year.

#### INDIVIDUAL + GROUP COUNSELING

Operating out of our Manhattan, Queens, and Bronx locations, VIP's trauma-informed counseling services underpin the foundation of all of our work. Individual counseling services are tailored to meet the specific needs of each survivor. Our empowerment-based support groups build strength and community amongst survivors and foster collective healing. To ensure our clients receive continuity and quality of care, we collaborate with other NYC service providers such as the Family Justice Center.

#### **Our Clients, in Numbers**

In FY 2019, 97% of VIP clients were women of color.

Of those, 72% were Latinx and 18% were Black or African American.

71% had one or more children

50% were immigrants

Clients' countries of origin included: Mexico, Dominican Republic, mainland United States, Ecuador, Colombia, Honduras, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Guatemala and more.

#### **HOUSING**

VIP's housing programs provide safe refuge to survivors and their children fleeing violence, while empowering families to rebuild their lives and achieve long-term safety and stability. In 2019, our Emergency Shelter, Morivivi, provided sanctuary to 145 survivors and their children for up to 6 months—as well as counseling, advocacy, and case management—as they moved forward in establishing violence-free lives. Through our Transitional Housing Program, Casa Sandra, 45 individuals were provided a safe home and range of supportive services including counseling, critical life skills and education, and a supportive community for up to 24 months.

### How We Help (continued)

#### **ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

Economic security ensures survivors' remain safe and secure in the long term. Exploring the connection between trauma and money management, we provide small business development, access to education, job preparation, support in securing affordable housing, and financial counseling.

In 2019, with ongoing threats to public benefits and limited opportunities for immigrants to participate in traditional workforces, VIP developed innovative programs to address the economic inequities immigrant survivors face. We expanded our popular ArteSanando initiative, investing more resources to help survivors transform their creative passions into thriving businesses. Additionally, we are thrilled to be in the planning stages of VIP's first business cooperative that will be exclusively owned and operated by Latinx survivors of domestic and sexual violence. It is set to launch next year!

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION // ADVOCACY

From the very beginning, VIP has been community-based and community-led. We work to educate, promote awareness and deepen understanding of domestic and sexual violence within Latinx and communities of color by providing educational workshops, distributing information at community events, conducting social media marketing, and facilitating special projects about domestic and sexual violence in both English and Spanish.

In 2019, VIP designed and implemented a new leadership development and political education curriculum for our team of Promotoras, who aspire to change their communities. As survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence themselves—many of them former clients—VIP Promotoras play an important role in supporting survivors' journey of recovery and healing. They also play a crucial role in furthering our mission to engage in community activism and increase awareness around gender based-violence.

# CASE MANAGEMENT // CLIENT ADVOCACY

VIP provides individual case management—tailored to meet the needs of individual survivors and their children—to over 1,000 clients a year including navigating a wide range of public assistance/ systems, housing support, immigration issues, and legal advocacy and assistance.

# SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROJECT // #YoTambién

Expanding our healing services to address complex sexual trauma, in FY 2019 VIP partnered with our community to develop an innovative survivor-informed Sexual Violence Project. The project will combine expressive art therapy in form of multimedia digital storytelling—connecting Spanish-speaking immigrant survivors with movement-building communities—with a healing workshop series. The project will offer survivors a safe space to process the trauma of sexual assault, explore socio-cultural causes and influences connected to gender-based violence, and work towards the goals of healing, recovery and growth.

# **Looking Forward**

In the coming year, we are looking forward to expanding our efforts to affect social change in our communities through education and outreach, while advocating for federal, state and local policies that support survivors and end domestic and sexual violence. We are also excited to launch new Economic Justice programs to address the unique challenges our communities face in achieving economic security.

# Financial Summary Fiscal Year 2019 (from FY 2019 audited financials)

#### REVENUE EXPENSES

Government Grants	\$4,464,835		
Contributions	\$321,271	Program	\$4,288,382
In-Kind Revenue	\$138,058	Management and General	\$490,124
Other	\$58,206	Fundraising	\$90,778
TOTAL	\$4,983,370	TOTAL	\$4,869,284

Change in Unrestricted Net Assets \$114,086 Unrestricted Net Assets at End of Year \$2,814,251

### **Board of Directors**

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