



# NJCEDV State Budget FY26 Advocacy

## Toolkit

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# SUMMARY:

## NJCEDV

The New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence (NJCEDV) is a statewide organization with a membership of 34 domestic violence service providers and culturally specific organizations. Many of these programs are partially funded through monies made available through the state budget.



## Purpose of this Toolkit

This Toolkit provides resources to support your advocacy with legislators and raise awareness about the role of domestic violence programs and the need for increased funding in the FY26 State Budget.

Within this Toolkit you will find:

- Fact Sheet which includes statewide data and statistics
- Email template you can use when emailing your legislators
- Script you can use when calling your legislators
- Social media assets that you can share and add your organization's logo to, and
- Advocacy Tips

# FY 2026 NEW JERSEY STATE BUDGET SUPPORT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



The New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence (NJCEDV) is a statewide organization with a membership of 34 domestic violence providers and culturally specific organizations that are partially funded through allocations made in the state budget.

## In 2024, domestic violence programs continued to serve an increasing number of victims:

- 70,000** More than 70,000 survivors and children were served through 24-hour hotline calls, Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams, shelter and safe housing, counseling and legal advocacy.
- 1,300** On an average day, domestic violence programs across NJ serve over 1,300 survivors in their programs.
- 71,000** Trained and educated more than 71,000 professionals and community members on domestic violence increasing awareness and improving responses to domestic violence across communities and systems.
- 30,737** Educated 30,737 young people through school and youth-based programs, to support healthy relationships and prevent dating abuse.
- 18%** Despite programs' reach, the number of unmet needs grew 18% when compared to 2023, due to insufficient resources.

## Now is not the time to roll back funding! Support a legislative add-on of \$7 million in the FY26 State Budget!

- **Restore** the \$2.2 million allocated by the legislature in FY25
- **Increase** funding for Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams by \$2 million
- **Sustain** critical life-saving services like emergency shelter, legal advocacy, children's programming, and culturally specific support for survivors despite federal funding cuts.

NJ Department of Children and Families Reporting 2023-2024

NJ State Police Domestic Violence Reporting 2019-2023

19th Annual Domestic Violence Count by the National Network to End Domestic Violence.(NNEDV)

# FY2026 STATE BUDGET:

**NJCEDV is seeking a \$7 million legislative add-on in the FY26 State Budget to support domestic violence services.**

Our key funding priorities include:

- **Restoring the \$2.2 million** allocated by the legislature in FY25
- **Increasing funding by \$2 million** for Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams
- **Sustaining critical services** such as emergency shelter, legal advocacy, children's programming, and culturally specific support for survivors despite federal funding cuts



## CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR:

Call your legislators and urge them to support a legislative add-on of \$7M for domestic violence services in the FY26 State Budget.

**Now is not the time to roll back funding to programs. We need the legislature's support to ensure survivors, and their children have access to the life-saving services they need in their communities.**

Click here to: [Find your legislator in this Legislative Roster!](#)



# CALL YOUR SENATE AND ASSEMBLY MEMBERS:

Hello,

My name is [Your Name], and I am a constituent of [Your District] and an advocate with [Name of Program, if affiliated with a domestic violence or sexual assault program].

I'm calling today to respectfully urge [Senator/Assemblyman/Assemblywoman Legislator's Name] to support the **New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence's (NJCEDV) request for additional funding for the FY26 State Budget.**

Specifically, we are requesting a **\$7 million legislative add-on** to the Governor's proposed budget for domestic violence services. This funding directly supports our program's ability to serve survivors in [Legislator's Name's] district.

The legislative add-on will:

- **Restore the \$2.2 million** allocated by the legislature in FY25
- **Increase funding by \$2 million** for Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams
- **Sustain critical services** like emergency shelter, legal advocacy, children's programming, and culturally specific support for survivors

[Share why this funding is important to you, your program, or the survivors you serve. Personal stories and experiences make a powerful impact.]

To truly meet the needs of survivors and communities across New Jersey, I urge [Senator/Assemblyman/Assemblywoman Legislator's Name] to support NJCEDV's FY26 budget recommendation.

## Can we count on your support?

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.  
[Your Name]

# EMAIL YOUR SENATE AND ASSEMBLY MEMBERS:

Dear [Senator, Assemblyman/Assemblywoman's name],

My name is [Your Name], and I am a constituent of [Your District] and an advocate with [Name of Program, if affiliated with a domestic violence or sexual assault program].

I'm writing today to respectfully urge you to support the **New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence's (NJCEDV) request for additional funding in the FY26 State Budget.**

Specifically, we are requesting a **\$7 million legislative add-on** to the Governor's proposed budget for domestic violence services.

This includes:

- **Restoring the \$2.2 million** allocated by the legislature in FY25
- **Increasing funding by \$2 million** for Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams
- **Sustaining critical services** like emergency shelter, legal advocacy, children's programming, and culturally specific support for survivors

[Here, share why this funding is important to you, your program, or the survivors you serve. Personal stories and experiences make a powerful impact.]

To truly meet the needs of survivors and communities across New Jersey, I strongly urge Senator/Assemblyman/Assemblywoman [Legislator's Name] to support NJCEDV's FY26 budget recommendation.

**Can we count on your support?**

Thank you so much for your consideration and support.  
[Your Name]

## ADVOCACY TIPS:



### Be Clear and Direct:

- Legislators meet with many different groups. Stress what is important. Be clear and direct with your ask.

### Tell Survivors' Stories:

- Make it personal and district-specific. Narratives are powerful advocacy tools that often are more impactful than statistics.

### Difficult Questions:

- Unsure of the answer? Simply say "I don't know but can have someone follow up."

### Take Notes:

- Take note of who you speak with and any questions that come up or follow-up that may be needed. Ask for the name and email of someone you can follow-up with. Note any commitment made.

### Follow Up After:

- After make a call, follow up via email thanking them for taking your call, reminding them of the ask that was made, and offering a way to contact you via phone or email in case any further information is needed in the future.

### Follow Your Legislators on Social Media:

- Legislators generally have an active social media presence. Follow their pages, and invite them to follow yours. Give them a shout out when supporting your efforts.

# SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Social Media Toolkit
- Hashtags: **#SupportNJSurvivor #EndDVinNJ**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS OFFER MORE THAN JUST 24-HOUR HOTLINES AND SHELTER?**

Find your local program(s) at [njcedv.org/programs](https://njcedv.org/programs) to learn more and share the information!



#SupportNJSurvivors #EndDVinNJ



**NJCEDV**  
New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence



**Call Your Legislators and urge them to support additional funding for domestic violence services in the FY26 State Budget**

**Legislative add-on of \$7M in the FY26 Budget:**

- Restore the \$2.2M allocated by the legislature in FY25
- **Support Additional Funding for Victims in FY26:**
- Support increase funding for Domestic Violence Crisis Response Teams (\$2M)
- Ensure domestic violence programs are able to maintain critical services including shelter, legal advocacy, programming for children, and culturally specific programming.

Find your legislator.  
Click this link and search by selecting your municipality, city or town : [www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster](https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster)

**IN 2024, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS ACROSS NEW JERSEY...**

Answered **31,991** hotline calls providing a critical link to life-saving services and support.



**Now is not the time to roll back funding.**  
Call Your Legislators and Urge Them to Support Increased Funding for Domestic Violence Services in FY26 State Budget!

#SupportNJSurvivors #EndDVinNJ



**NJCEDV**  
New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence

**IN 2024, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS ACROSS NEW JERSEY SERVED MORE THAN 70,000 SURVIVORS AND THEIR CHILDREN**

**Now is not the time to roll back funding.**  
Call Your Legislators and Urge Them to Support Increased Funding for Domestic Violence Services in FY26 State Budget!

#SupportNJSurvivors #EndDVinNJ



**NJCEDV**  
New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence

# SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Find your Assemblymembers and Senators

\*replace @LEG with your Assemblymember's and Senator's social media handle

## Suggested Captions:

- Survivors of domestic violence are at risk of losing vital life-saving services! @njgovernor @LEG, don't let survivors down. #EndDVinNJ and support an increase of \$7 million in the FY26 State Budget. #SupportNJSurvivors
- Federal and state funding is essential for supporting survivors of domestic violence. Crisis lines, safe houses, and legal assistance programs are at risk due to devastating funding cuts. @njgovernor @LEG, #SupportNJSurvivors and increase funding for domestic violence services in the FY26 State Budget. #EndDVinNJ
- Access to support can mean the difference between leaving or staying in an abusive relationship. Survivors of domestic violence need safe, reliable ways to reach out for help. Crisis lines, shelter, and advocacy programs provide a lifeline when escaping abuse. Without proper funding, these life-saving services are at risk. No survivor should be left without a way out. #EndDVinNJ #SupportNJSurvivors



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