The Shelter for Help in Emergency joined forces with local law enforcement in 2016 to introduce the Lethality Assessment Program, a homicide prevention initiative, to Planning District Ten in effort to reduce domestic/intimate partner violence homicides and serious injuries to victims of domestic violence. Participating law enforcement agencies use an eleven question evidence-based tool to assess the level of danger a victim is in and places a call to the Shelter for Help in Emergency’s 24-hour crisis hotline, linking the victim with a trained advocate ready to provide safety and support services.

**252 LAP SCREENS GIVEN BY POLICE OFFICERS ON SCENE**

66% (167) victims were deemed high-risk based on their LAP screen

**LAP Screens Conducted by Locality**

- Albemarle County Police Department: 88
- Fluvanna County Sheriff’s Office: 45
- Charlottesville Police Department: 111
- University of Virginia Police Department: 8

**High-Risk Factors**

- 57% of victims (143) reported a history of **strangulation** by the offender.
- 42% of victims (106) reported a history of **stalking** by the offender.
- 35% of victims (89) reported their abuser had **access to a gun** or could obtain one easily.

**Reported by Victims to Law Enforcement While at the Scene:**

- “The relationship became violent after just a couple of months.”
- “Offender found new address without being told. He has hacked her Facebook and email.”
- “Married 5 months and he has hit her 3 times since they got married.”
- “Offender has threatened to not follow protective order.”

Since 1979, the **Shelter for Help in Emergency** has worked to support and empower victims of domestic/intimate partner violence through a combination of trauma-informed residential and community-based outreach services, including a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, safety planning, information and referral, resource assistance, legal advocacy and court accompaniment, supportive counseling, outreach to the Spanish-speaking community, and programs for children and youth.

- 108 victims spoke with a hotline advocate while law enforcement were on scene.
- 40 victims received additional services following speaking with the hotline advocate.
- 19 victims received services from the Shelter for Help in Emergency for the first time.

**Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence**

is a pattern of physically, sexually, and/or emotionally abusive behaviors used by one individual to maintain power over or to control a partner in the context of an intimate or family relationship. It can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender and occurs in both same-sex and opposite sex relationships.