

## Increase Funding for **Domestic Violence Services** and Create Funding for **Statewide Sexual Violence Services**

### Marriage License Fees

In **1981** the Nevada Legislature passed legislation that earmarked **\$5.00** from each marriage license sold to benefit domestic violence programs – 4 at that time. Over the years that surcharge has increased to **\$25** with the last increase in **2009**. Since 2009 Nevada has added 499,000 in population. These funds are used to support domestic violence programs – **14 in 2021** - serving all 17 counties in Nevada. Services range from hotlines, to emergency shelters, to emergency clothing, food and transportation as well as support groups, peer counseling, childcare and so much more. Each program is different but all provide services 24/7.

### Lack of Funding for Sexual Violence Services Statewide

There is **no statewide funding for sexual violence services** in Nevada. Only the Rape Crisis Center of Las Vegas receives marriage license funding. Some programs offer limited sexual assault services (usually provided by domestic violence programs) in Washoe County, Carson City, Douglas County, Elko County, Humboldt County, and Nye County, but they do so without a reliable source of base funding.

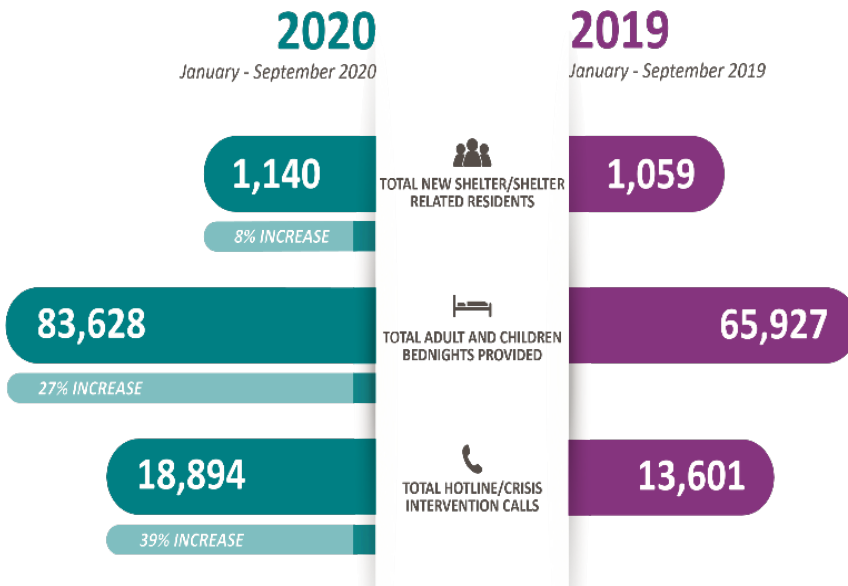
### BY THE NUMBERS

#### Last year:

⇒ **21,121** individuals were served statewide, a **6%** increase over the previous year  
 ⇒ Hotline calls **increased by 33%** and total bednights **increased by 14%** statewide.

#### Funding:

⇒ current marriage license funding was **cut by 1/3** as a result of the closure of marriage license bureaus due to the pandemic.



### HOW YOU CAN HELP – The difference your support will make

We need your support to **pass an increase to the Marriage License Surcharge** to provide essential added funds for domestic violence services and statewide funding for sexual violence services. Our request: a **\$25 increase** to the surcharge with **75%** of the total collected going to domestic violence services and **25%** to sexual violence services. Right now, shelter beds are not available for all domestic violence victims and their children who are seeking protection and most communities lack any victim advocacy or other services for victims of sexual violence. **Your support can change that. Thank you.**