

HOW THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) ACT FUNDING SUPPORTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Community-based agencies expanded services, reached more domestic violence survivors, and supported safety, empowerment, and economic stability during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing comprehensive services to support survivors, with survivor surveys enabling measurement of empowerment and income.

WHY ARP FUNDING MATTERED

The COVID-19 pandemic **increased financial instability, housing challenges, and crisis-driven service needs**, especially for survivors of domestic violence (DV).³

American Rescue Plan funding allowed county-contracted, community-based DV agencies to **expand services, reach more survivors, and provide the longer-term support** many survivors needed to stabilize their lives.


For survivors, trauma-informed, survivor-centered DV services help **restore safety, empowerment, and economic stability**.

SURVIVORS SERVED

3,811 Adult survivors received DV services through **33** county-contracted agencies

GENDER IDENTITY

Of survivors who received ARP-funded DV services:

 ~ 9 in 10 were women

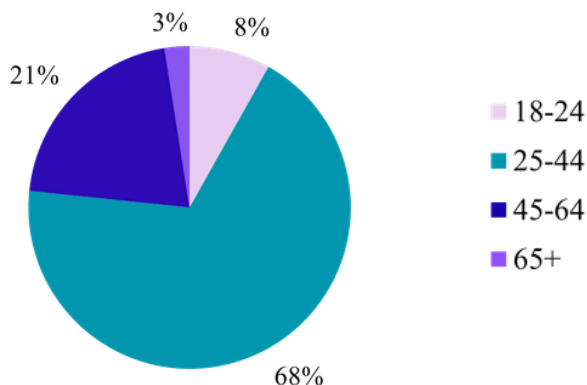
 ~ 1 in 10 were men

~1% were transgender or gender-nonconforming individuals

AGE

Most survivors receiving services were ages **25-44**

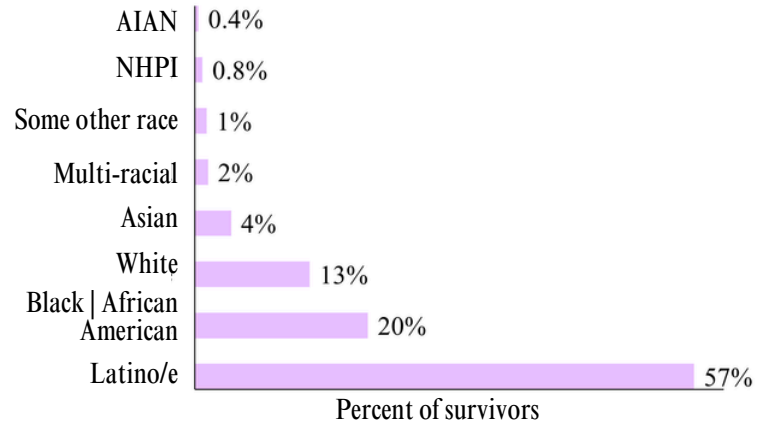
Ages of survivors receiving ARP-funded DV services



RACE AND ETHNICITY

Survivors represented diverse racial and ethnic groups

Race and ethnicity of survivors receiving ARP-funded DV services



Note. NHPI stands for Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. AIAN stands for American Indian or Alaskan Native

PRIMARY LANGUAGES

The most common primary languages spoken were

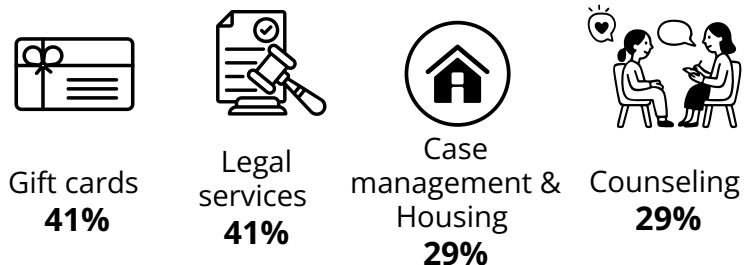
ENGLISH 69%
SPANISH 29%

~1% of survivors reported speaking a primary language other than English or Spanish

HOUSING STATUS AT INTAKE

64% Permanently Housed
20% Non-Permanently Housed (Sheltered)
15% Experiencing Homelessness

MOST REQUESTED DV SERVICES



Most survivors received multiple services

EVALUATION OF ARP-FUNDED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

SURVIVOR OUTCOMES

Survivors could complete up to 3 surveys: 1) intake, 2) 60-day follow-up, and 3) 120-day follow-up.

2,889 survivors (74%) consented to providing demographic and outcome data.

1,240 survivors provided data at intake and at least one 60- or 120-day follow-up survey, and the results presented below are based data from these 1,240 survivors.

SURVIVORS' INCOME IMPROVED QUICKLY

Monthly income includes reported earnings (employment or self-employment), public assistance (e.g., SSI/Disability, CalWORKs), retirement or investment income, child support or alimony, unemployment insurance, and other sources.

Survivors' reported monthly average income increased by:

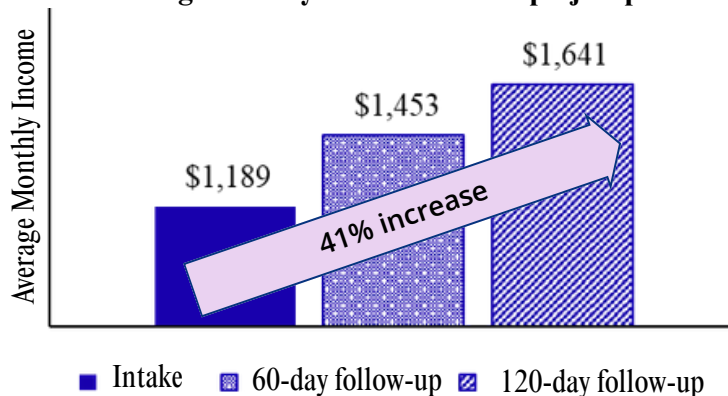
21% within **60** days

41% across the full **120-day** period

By the end of the project, **42% of survivors reported increases in monthly income.**

However, **Black and Latino/e survivors** reported smaller monthly income increases than White survivors, reflecting ongoing economic inequities.

Average monthly income over the project period



SURVIVORS FELT SAFER AND MORE EMPOWERED

Empowerment includes a) confidence in achieving safety goals, b) feeling supported by services and community, and c) believing that steps toward safety will not create new risks.

Survivors' perceptions of safety increased by:

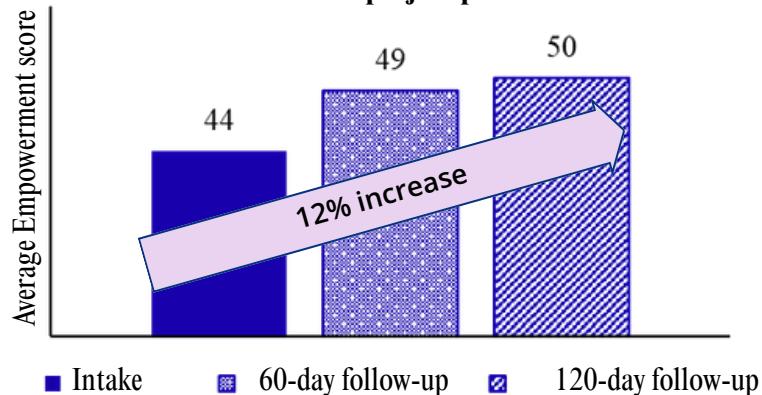
11% within **60** days

15% across the full **120-day** period

By the end of the project, **60% of survivors reported improvements in safety-related empowerment.**

Although Black and Latino/e survivors had smaller income gains than White survivors, they reported similar improvements in safety-related empowerment at follow-ups, underscoring the impact of community-driven, culturally responsive services in helping survivors feel safe and supported.

Average safety-related empowerment scores* over the project period



*The Measure of Victim Empowerment Related to Safety (MOVERS)¹ was used to assess safety-related empowerment.

Community-based DV agencies rapidly stabilize survivors' lives, helping them achieve safety, financial stability, and autonomy, while building trust and delivering culturally responsive support to those most affected by inequities.

[Follow this link to read the full report and view references.](#)