PCAR

Year-End Report FY 2025/2026

The Women's Center, Inc. of Columbia/Montour

August 2026

1. Please explain any significant differences between the service projections made for FY 2025-2026 and the actual amount of service provided during FY 2025-2026. A significant difference is defined as anything 25% <u>above or below</u> the projected number.

In April 2025 we furloughed four staff positions and enacted a hiring freeze on current vacant positions. In July 2025 we eliminated those four positions as a result of stagnant/reduced funding and rising costs, leaving us unable to continue to support those positions. Three of those positions were direct service staff positions. Therefore, fully staffed reduced from 18 to 14 staff members. In addition to that reduction, we had two vacant direct service positions that were still impacted by the hiring freeze. Then we were hit with the state budget impasse, which significantly impacted our program. With limited funds coming in, we had no choice but to furlough six additional positions from September to December of 2025, leaving us with a staff of six. This culmination of events significantly impacted our ability to meet our projections in both Columbia and Montour Counties.

<u>Columbia County:</u>
As a result of the above events, we did not meet our projections for the number of new adult victims served, or the number of direct service hours provided. We projected that we would serve 110 victims, we served 56 victims, missing our projections by 54 victims (49%). We also did not meet our service projections of 630 direct service hours, providing a total of 324.22 hours (51%) of direct service. While we did not have a waitlist for these services, we were unable to conduct the outreach necessary to reach victims who may not be aware of our services.

We have agreements with a majority of the school districts in Columbia County to provide on-site counseling/support for child victims and significant others, who, if not for on-site services, would not be able to participate in TWC counseling services. In addition, we continue to work closely with the Berwick and Bloomsburg Teen Center, providing on-site group counseling. February 2025 we lost our Child Advocate and that position was not filled as a result of the hiring freeze that remained in effect until December. Limited staffing prohibited another staff member from traveling to the schools during the budget impasse. As a result, we did not meet our projections for the number of children served (30), nor direct services hours (80 hours). We did provide 8 children (27%) with 23.45 hours (29%) of direct service.

Despite prevention staff being placed on furlough for three months of the fiscal year, we exceeded our projections for the number of school education awareness programs (15) and the number of persons

reached (205); providing 65 programs (333%), reaching 391 individuals (90%). The furlough and time constraints of the schools did impact our ability to schedule and hold primary prevention programs. Thus we missed our school primary prevention projections for both number of programs (40) and students reached (490), providing 29 primary prevention programs (73%) to 374 students (76%).

Community primary prevention and professional trainings continue to be a bit more of a challenge. Community organizations are willing to commit to one training, however, they do not have the time and staffing to commit to a multi part series of trainings. Therefore, again this year we did not meet our community primary prevention projections. We will keep working on it. Despite the furlough, we exceeded our community awareness projections (70 programs; 600 reached), providing 160 programs (129%) reaching 818 people (36%).

This fiscal year, healthcare worker shortages and our own staffing issues impacted the number of trainings to professionals we were able to schedule and conduct. We projected we would provide 20 training, reaching 250 individuals, we conducted 12 trainings (60%) reaching 118 (47%) professionals (including law enforcement).

<u>Montour County:</u>

As a result of the events previously discussed, we did not meet our projections for the number of new adult victims served (25), however we did provide services to 18 adult victims (72%), missing our projections by 7 (28%). We exceeded our adult direct service hours' projection (70 hours), providing a total of 110.82 hours (58%) of direct service. While we did not have a waitlist for these services, we were unable to conduct the outreach necessary to reach victims who may not be aware of our services.

We were not able to get into the Danville Area School District for on-site counseling again this year, but we will keep trying. February 2025 we lost our Child Advocate and that position was not filled as a result of the hiring freeze that remained in effect until December. As a result, we did not meet our projections for the number of children served (20) and direct service provided (35), providing services to no child victims. We were, however, able to conduct groups at North Central Secure Treatment Unit's girl's unit. We do not count these individuals as victims unless they disclose to us that they are. We provided 6 hours of group counseling services to 23 teens.

We did not meet our projections for the number of significant other's served and direct services provided this year. We projected we would provide 40 significant others 100 hours of direct services. We provided 28 significant others (70%) with 53.5 hours (53.5%) of direct service. Of the 28 significant others served, 23 were children.

This year we were able to get into Liberty Valley (grades 3-5) in the Danville School District to provide both prevention and education awareness programs, however the school cancelled the programs due to time constraints and meeting their curriculum requirements. We are looking to reschedule in the fall. We were successful at getting into Danville Head Start to provide primary prevention and education awareness programs this year, providing 1 education awareness program and 18 primary prevention programs to 27 and 221 preschoolers, respectively. We are still working on getting into the

Danville Primary school and the High School. Despite prevention staff being placed on furlough for three months of the fiscal year, we have well exceeded our school primary prevention (13 programs; 148 reached) and education awareness (7 programs; 82 reached) projections, providing 25 and 26 programs reaching 272 and 179 students, respectively.

Community primary prevention and professional trainings were a bit more of a challenge. Community organizations are willing to commit to one training, however, they do not have the time and staffing to commit to a multi part series of trainings. We did exceed our community education awareness projections (35 programs), providing 70 programs (100%), but missed our reach of 400, reaching 297 individuals (74%). This fiscal year, healthcare worker shortages and our own staffing issues impacted the number of trainings to professionals we were able to schedule and conduct. While we missed our projections (slightly) for the number of trainings provided, we exceeded our projections for the number of professionals trained by 36%.

2. Please list each Goal and Objective as it was stated in the Work Plan for FY 2025-2026. Under each Goal/Objective provide a brief narrative regarding the activities, identifying factors that either enhanced or impeded your ability to achieve the stated activities.

Project Goal 1: Maintain direct services for all adult program participants.

Objective 1: Provide crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, empowerment-based counseling, options, and emotional/practical support to adult victims and non-offending significant others.

We received 165 hotline calls, missing our projections by 45%. Despite not meeting our projections, this continues to be an increase in the number of hotline calls we received prior to the pandemic. Please also note that we partnered with Transitions during the budget impasse to provide hotline support, therefore, this also impacted the number of calls we received.

We are in a continual state of building relationships with hospital personnel as a result of hospital staff turnover. Most of the Magistrates in our service area are no longer requiring clients to present at their offices for EPFA's, thus causing a reduction in our legal advocacy accompaniment service provision numbers. Hospital referrals remain below pre-Covid levels, but are slowly increasing. We missed our projections by 14% providing accompaniment to 43 individuals. In addition, we provided 16 individuals with 53.75 hours of advocacy/accompaniment after hours.

We provided services to 74 adult victims, missing our projection by 61. While we offered on-site counseling services, a majority of our clients continue to prefer service via telephone. Those interactions tend to be shorter than traditional in-person sessions. Thus, we did not meet our service projections of 700 adult counseling hours, providing a total of 435.04 hours.

We provided services to 90 significant others, missing our projections by 15. Of the 90 significant others served, 61 were children. We projected we would provide 280 hours of service to significant others, we provided roughly 230.78 hours of service.

We had four support groups up and running, however we had to furlough six additional staff in order to keep our doors open during the budget impasse. It took roughly two months to get those groups back up and running after staff returned in December.

While referrals reported in ETO look low, we are finding that many staff continue including the referrals they make in the case notes instead of the IR touchpoint. We have been working to fix that. By our estimates referral projections were actually met.

We projected that we would provide 20 hours of legal advocacy to adults. We continue to see a significant increase in clients seeking legal advocacy services, as such we provided 72.1 hours of legal advocacy, exceeding projection by roughly 261%.

The budget impasse and resulting staff furloughs had a direct impact on our ability to meet our projections.

Project Goal 2: Maintain direct services for child program participants.

Objective 2: Provide crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, empowerment-based counseling, options and emotional/practical support to child victims.

We continued our efforts to provide individual and group counseling in North Central Secure Treatment Unit, and at the Bloomsburg and Berwick Teen Center, essentially where the children are for nearly half of the fiscal year. September through December we did not have the capacity to host these groups. Unfortunately, we did not have the capacity to provide counseling in the school setting this fiscal year. We are on target to provide school based counseling in the FY 2026-2027 school year.

We projected that we would provide 115 hours of service to 50 child victims; we provided 23.45 hours of service to 8 child victims. It is also important to note that we provided 61 child significant others with individual/group services as well.

We provide 4 children's groups for nearly half of the fiscal year, meeting projections. We conducted groups at NCSTU Girl's unit, providing 31 teens with 6 hours of group counseling, but we were unsuccessful conducting groups in the boy's unit again this fiscal year. In addition, we conducted groups at both the Bloomsburg and Berwick teen centers.

We also missed our child legal advocacy and accompaniment hours by 1, providing 4 hours of legal advocacy/accompaniment hours to children.

Project Goal 3: Improve Community Agencies and Institutions' response to and sensitivity toward sexual assault victims.

Objective 3: Provide training and collaborative opportunities for area professionals.

Systems advocacy contact projections were exceeded with a total of 312 contacts (346%) and 116.75 hours (46%).

MDT meetings were conducted both in-person and virtually during FY 2025/2026. We exceeded the projection of 10 meetings/contacts and 4 hours of advocacy, participating in 31 meetings for a total of 24.75 hours of advocacy.

We provided 28 professional trainings reaching 459 professionals, a shortfall of 12 trainings, and 41 professionals trained. Although we did not meet our projections, we are extremely proud of what we were able to accomplish considering our medical advocacy and prevention staff were furloughed for roughly three months of the fiscal year.

Our projections for both the review of the GOALS course and participation in the GOALS course were met and exceeded, respectively. The course was reviewed and approved in the fall of 25/26, with 18,842 individuals trained during the fiscal year. NOTE: due to Geisinger Health System owning the modality of the training, we do not include GOALS numbers in the total professional training projections on the Service Projection Form or Report, nor in the main professional training goal on the work plan. They are represented as a separate and distinct goal and activity on the work plan.

We were unable to facilitate any workplace specific sexual violence awareness or primary prevention training in the business/corporate setting this fiscal year due to staff shortages/furloughs. Two of our staff completed the Training of Trainers for PCAR's Respect at work curriculum and we will be offering it in the upcoming fiscal year.

Our PREA resource page goal was met.

Our LGBTQ training activity at the university usually occurred in conjunction with PRIDE month. The University changed how they conduct the PRIDE event. Instead of a training activity, we staffed a table, providing resources and information about TWC services at both PRIDE resource fairs.

Project Goal 4: Provide community education initiatives aimed at primary prevention and awareness.

Objective 4: Provide written educational informational materials and web-based training materials to the community.

We updated our newsletter format and distribution methods last fiscal year. 4 newsletters were developed and disseminated to 1,732 individuals. In addition, 4 volunteer newsletters were developed and disseminated to 34 volunteers. We also continue to ensure that our volunteer and internship opportunities were posted at Commonwealth University -Bloomsburg as well as various locations throughout our service area. We were unable to host interns this year as staffing was not adequate to provide the needed training and supervision of interns. We are on track to host interns in FY 2026/2027

Project Goal 5: Conduct public relations related activities.

Objective 5: Provide information and available services in the community regarding sexual abuse, assault, and harassment.

We sent 1 press release out this FY. We are finding that our local paper does not print press releases free anymore unless you purchase advertising with them. We did, however ramp up our social media presence, creating and distributing 392 posts addressing sexual violence/oppression, domestic violence/oppression, and general information related to issues impacting both types of victimization and general agency information.

We exceeded our community wide event projections of 12, participating in 32 community wide events throughout our service area.

The annual report highlighting 2024/2025 was created, disseminated and posted on our website.

We have maintained our website, making 22 updates this FY.

Project Goal 6: Conduct community educational initiatives aimed at primary prevention

Objective 6: Provide training and education opportunities to the community.

Labor shortages (ours and theirs) and time constraints impacted our ability to meet our community primary prevention projections this fiscal year. Despite that we were able to provide 3 community primary prevention programs, reaching 46 individuals. These programs were conducted for individuals with intellectual disabilities/autism on boundaries, healthy relationships, and online safety. We were able to exceed our education and awareness projections, providing 230 (119%) education and awareness opportunities to the community. We reached 1,115 community members, exceeding our projections of 1000 individuals.

We projected that we would conduct 5 presentations reaching 60 elementary/middle/high school educators and parents this fiscal year, we conducted 4 presentations reaching 20 educators/parents.

Project Goal 7: To reduce the risk and increase victim's awareness of sexual violence.

Objective 7a: To present educational opportunities in all area school districts.

We poured a significant amount of effort into re-establishing our connections with the school districts over the last five years in an effort to regain access and resume education awareness and prevention programming. We were scheduled to provide prevention education programs in Liberty Valley which is the intermediate school (grades 3-4) in the Danville School District. Unfortunately, the school cancelled due to being behind on their required curriculum. We are working to reschedule in the Spring. We continue to work to get into the Primary and High school for programming.

We projected that we would conduct 25 primary prevention and education and awareness programs reaching 400 elementary school students. We conducted 53 programs reaching 330 elementary school

students. Had Liberty valley not cancelled us, we would have exceeded not only the number of programs provided, but also the number of students reached.

We projected that we would conduct 50 primary prevention and education and awareness programs reaching 525 middle/high school students. We well exceeded those projections, conducting 73 programs reaching 638 middle/high school students.

We renewed our MOU with Commonwealth University – Bloomsburg Campus. We projected we would present 10 programs to college students, reaching 125 students. We exceeded those projections, providing 71 programs, reaching 314 college students.

Objective 7b: To present educational opportunities in mental health settings at local hospitals.

The mental health unit (4 North) at Geisinger Bloomsburg closed down in May 2025. The mental health unit at Geisinger Main Hospital (BP2) closed down at the end of June 2025. The new mental health facility, Acadia, opened in August 2025. We spent most of the year trying to establish a relationship with Acadia. Towards the end of the fiscal year we were welcomed into their facility for both staff and patient trainings. We are currently working on setting those up and plan to run those trainings in the FY 2026/2027. Therefore, we did not meet our projections this fiscal year.

Project Goal 8: To increase volunteer hours.

Objective 8: Recognize the efforts of our volunteers and provide primary prevention opportunities.

We were able to provide 2 counselor/advocate training programs during the fiscal year, using a combination of in-person and virtual training, meeting projections. Training classes continue to be significantly smaller than pre-Covid.

We provided 9 training updates to volunteers this fiscal year, moving forward we have reduced this activity to quarterly updates.

Project Goal 9: Improve organizational functioning.

Objective 9: Increase and strengthen staff and Board skill sets, and knowledge of burgeoning trends.

We met our goal of 10 in-service trainings. The goal refers to only the formal once per month in-services for staff. Formal in-services help us achieve the continuing education hours required in the PCAR standards, but it is not the only method used to meet that requirement. Staff are provided with a multitude of education and training opportunities throughout the fiscal year. Staff are able to choose which training opportunities they want to participate in to enhance existing knowledge and skills, learn new skills, obtain information on the issues impacting survivors, etc.

The mandated reporter trainers' goal was met, both the Education & Marketing Coordinator and the Director of Human Resources participated in the refresher training of trainers this year and remain certified Mandated Reporter Trainers.

We restarted our supervisory development meetings during the fiscal year. Training topics included Employee Evaluations, Effective Supervision, and Time Management/Effective Delegation. Supervisory staff were also provided numerous independent training opportunities in which to participate if they chose. In addition, our Chamber of Commerce hosts a leadership program (Leadership Central Penn) each year. We elect one of our Director/Coordinator level staff to attend each year. Once they have all had an opportunity to attend the program, we will open the opportunity up to line staff.

We had one new board member join at the beginning of the fiscal year and two during the fiscal year. Two new board members completed their training and one resigned.

Board members were also provided an array of virtual training that they could choose from during the course of the fiscal year. In addition, we have put continuing education opportunities in the board dashboard for all board members to access.

Project Goal 10: Ensure universal accessibility to services.

Objective 10: Expand service accessibility in our service area.

We continued to maintain existing accessibility strategies for clients with physical, verbal and mental challenges, including handicapped accessible satellite offices, collaborative partnerships with CMSU and Geisinger Health Systems, and access for individuals with differing abilities (detailed further in goals 11 and 12).

Project Goal 11: Ensure Language Access

Objective 11: Expand language access for individuals interacting with the organization

We continued to maintain our language access strategies for clients with language/communication barriers, including TTY enabled hotline services, translation services and devices, utilization of GLOBO, and collaboration with Central Susquehanna Sight Services. In addition, we have basic client related forms and resources in Spanish. This fiscal year we also added the ability to view our website in Spanish. We continue to obtain additional resource material in Spanish.

Project Goal 12: Ensure Optimal Service for All.

Objective 12: Increase staff, board, volunteer skill sets related to creating, maintaining and promoting inclusivity.

We provided a multitude of scheduled in-service and independent training opportunities to staff, including Limited English Proficiency, Working with Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/Autism, working with clients with brain injury, substance abuse, and understanding Cultural Competency in the LatinX Community.

We continued to work on our DEI initiatives throughout the fiscal year. We have also maintained our partnerships with the University's LGBTQ Resource Center and the Center for Diversity, Inclusion, and Multicultural Affairs, and PFLAG.

Project Goal 13: Ensure that sexual assault services are provided in a professional and ethical manner.

Objective 13: Promote awareness of ethical issues, and increase knowledge of intra-agency ethical problem solving.

The provision of ethics skills building was met in various ways; completion of direct services advocacy training by new hires, interns, and direct service volunteers, completion of the PCAR/NSVRC ethics module by new board members, and attendance at formal in-services held during the fiscal year. These conversations continue as part of employee supervision.

Project Goal 14: Utilize ETO to track and report service provision statistics.

Objective 14: Improve and maintain internal service provision data and reporting.

We maintained the ETO system in general and submitted our monthly reports on time. ETO access was maintained for all direct service staff. There were no updates to the touchpoint logs needed this fiscal year. All direct service staff are trained to utilize ETO (data entry and data quality measures) as part of the New Employee Training and Orientation and the Direct Service training. Refreshers are provided as deemed necessary by the Director of Counseling and Direct Services.

Our manual back up system was maintained and utilized to verify ETO statistics.

The goal of completing year-end reports applies to completing the 24/25 fiscal year reports. That goal was met at the beginning of the 25/26 fiscal year.

3. Effect of Level Funding

What effect has several years of level funding from DHS (Act 44/Title XX) had on your center? How has it affected service delivery? How has it affected staff members?

*The effects of several years of level funding from DHS has significantly impeded our ability to hire and retain talented staff and maintain/expand service provision to underserved populations in our service area. Our staff work with individuals in crisis every day, the risk of vicarious trauma and burn out is exponential. Yet, we have struggled to pay these dedicated staff a living wage, let alone a thriving wage. This is hard work, yet we are asked to do this work for a pittance of pay. Our staff **is** our service provision and we are expected to provide that service 24 hours a day seven days a week. If we can't retain and properly support staff, clients are consistently working with a green advocate/counselor. Clients are essentially being robbed of the experience of seasoned advocates. As it stands now, the only way that we can increase wages is to reduce staffing and increase the work of the remaining staff. What an unfair trade. The cost increases since the onset of COVID have significantly impacted our ability to operate, yet there have been no funding increases to match the increased costs of doing business. We are in a rural area where fundraising and local grants are extremely competitive and very small. Level funding coupled with fierce competition for local support and rising costs has significantly impacted our ability to do this work. At this point we have burned through our reserve funding just to*

keep up, putting undue stress on the entire agency. Due to funding shortages we had to furlough four of our 17 staff, and reduce the hours of the remainder in April of 2025 and enact a hiring freeze on vacant positions. In July of 2025 we determined that we needed to eliminate those four positions because our budget just could no longer support them. Two of those staff positions were 3rd shift advocates, who answered the hotline. This fiscal year, hotline during the hours of 11p - 7a was covered by our Directors (ED, Director of Counseling & Direct Services, and Director of HR), adding additional burden during an already stressful situation. Most of our staff can't even afford to rent an apartment on their own working the full 40 hours, reductions in hours on top was devastating. This year we topped it off with a lengthy state budget impasse which necessitated further furloughs, reducing our staff of 13 to a staff of six just to keep the doors open. Had we not burned through our reserves as a result of years of level funding and significant cost increases, we would have been in much better financial shape to weather the impasse. What level funding has done is increase the burden, worry, and uncertainty for staff and clients.

4. Tele counseling

Is your Center providing direct services via tele counseling? If so, what platform is being used? Also, please describe any successes or challenges experienced with the use of tele counseling.

Our center is currently providing tele counseling through the hotline (landline). Individuals can call the hotline normally and set up an appointment for tele counseling. Currently we do not use any other platform for tele counseling.

Transportation continues to be a barrier in our rural service area as there is no access to public transportation. Continued use of tele counseling means that those clients with significant transportation barriers can still access services on a regular basis or as they need. What we have noticed is that tele counseling appointments tend to be shorter in duration than in-person counseling sessions.

5. Success

Please describe your center's greatest success in providing services, <u>both</u> direct services and prevention education, either to individuals or the community, related to sexual abuse, assault, and harassment during FY 2025-2026.

Direct Services

This fiscal year we continued to provide both group and individual counseling to inmates at the Columbia County prison (Women's unit). We received kudos from the Warden regarding our presence raising morale and giving the inmates something to look forward to each week. In addition, we had two women continue counseling services after their release.

This year we partnered with WinterSpring Sanctuary, who provides trauma-informed, equine-assisted mental health services in Central Pennsylvania using the internationally recognized EAGALA model and rescued horses. WinterSpring Sanctuary specializes in supporting individuals navigating trauma, anxiety, depression, grief, emotional regulation challenges, relationship difficulties, and recovery from domestic violence. This partnership provided survivors with another unique option to obtain therapy and healing.

We have also continued to strengthen our relationship and maintain open lines of communication with law enforcement and continue to do so by scheduling regular check-ins with our local police chief. During our check-in's we discuss what is working in our relationship and what we can improve on and how law enforcement can take a trauma informed approach with survivors. We plan to continue these check-ins as often as necessary.

Prevention Education

Over the past several years, our agency has worked to identify effective ways to engage community members in prevention education and awareness activities. While we hosted a variety of events and activities, we struggled to find approaches that consistently attracted participants and fostered meaningful community involvement. During this past fiscal year, we experienced a significant shift in our prevention education efforts by identifying several unique, community-focused events that have generated strong participation, engagement, and continued interest.

One of our greatest successes was hosting our first Domestic Violence Simulation, which also incorporated components of sexual assault prevention and education. The simulation brought together community partners from a variety of disciplines, including law enforcement, Children and Youth Services, CareerLink, healthcare, and other local agencies. Community partners facilitated simulation stations related to their areas of expertise, allowing participants to experience the challenges and barriers that individuals experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault may encounter. The event reached a diverse audience, from high school students to community professionals, and registration reached capacity. Participants provided overwhelmingly positive feedback and encouraged us to continue offering the event. Based on this response, we have scheduled two Domestic Violence Simulations for October 2026.

The success of the community simulation also led us to expand the use of the simulation to provide prevention education to youth. We conducted our first Teen Dating Violence Simulation at Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech. Students were highly engaged throughout the activity, and the school requested that we extend the event so additional classes could participate. The response has continued beyond the initial event, with Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech requesting another simulation for February 2027. Additionally, through word-of-mouth from the initial event, another local school has reached out to request a Teen Dating Violence Simulation, which we are scheduled to provide during the new fiscal year.

We also identified a growing community interest in human trafficking prevention, including how trafficking occurs, how to recognize potential indicators, and how professionals can support victims and survivors. In response, we hosted our first Susquehanna Valley Human Trafficking Conference in April in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We partnered with Transitions of PA, YWCA Greater Harrisburg, Pennsylvania State Police, and the FBI to provide multidisciplinary education on topics including how individuals become involved in trafficking, trauma-informed care, Megan's Law, sextortion, and trafficking risks for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The conference brought together professionals from multiple disciplines, including law enforcement, local hospitals, Children and Youth Services, schools, and victim service organizations. Registration reached capacity within two weeks, demonstrating a significant need and interest in this type of education. Participants provided positive feedback regarding the value and relevance of the information and expressed a need for continued training opportunities. As a result, we are already planning our second Human Trafficking Conference for January 2027 in recognition of Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

The development of these events has been a significant success for our prevention education program. Rather than simply offering awareness activities, we have developed interactive, community-driven events that bring together professionals, students, and community members in meaningful ways. We now have several prevention initiatives that our community recognizes, values, and actively requests. The continued requests from schools and community professionals, along with full registration and positive participant feedback, demonstrates that these events are meeting an identified community need. Most importantly, these successes have helped expand our reach and strengthen our community partnerships, allowing us to engage more community members in education and prevention surrounding sexual violence.

6. Challenge

Please describe your center's greatest challenge in providing services, <u>both</u> direct services and prevention education, either to individuals or the community, related to sexual violence during FY 2025-2026.

Direct Service

Sexual Violence counseling in general is challenging because disclosing what happened is difficult and traumatic for survivors. It takes time to get to a place of trust where the survivor feels safe discuss the traumatic events. We continue to encourage survivors to process their feelings in hopes they can eventually move towards healing. However, Instability in staffing, whether that be stagnant funding, a budget impasse, inability to compete in the employment market, etc. causes staff turnover or staff reductions. Instability in staffing ultimately impacts relationship building with clients. We hired and lost our Sexual Violence Counselor/Advocate within 5 months.

Throughout the fiscal year we also struggled to get back into the schools for counseling at first due to conflicting school schedules and then not having adequate staffing to continue the outreach and

provide counseling services off-site. After a lengthy hiring freeze, we were able to hire a Child Outreach Advocate in May. We are on track to provide counseling in the school districts in the new fiscal year.

Prevention Education

Throughout the past fiscal year, developing and maintaining strong relationships with local schools has continued to be one of our biggest challenges in prevention education. Several factors have contributed to this ongoing barrier.

First, there has been significant staff turnover within our local school districts. Our team may establish a strong relationship with a school staff member, begin making progress toward implementing prevention programming, and then have that individual leave the district. The staff member who takes their place may not have the same level of interest, familiarity with our services, or willingness to partner with an outside organization. As a result, we often find ourselves having to rebuild relationships and reestablish connections with new school personnel.

Second, schools continue to face challenges in finding time within their academic schedules for prevention programming. During the past fiscal year, our team worked extensively to establish a partnership with the Danville Area School District and introduce a new prevention program. We successfully scheduled the program; however, the school ultimately had to cancel because they had fallen behind in their curriculum and were approaching the end of the school year. While the school remained interested in the program, the limited time available within the school schedule prevented it from moving forward.

Finally, schools in our service area have access to prevention specialists through CMSU who are embedded within the schools and provide prevention education related primarily to drug and alcohol use. These prevention specialists have also begun providing education related to healthy and unhealthy relationships. As a result, some schools feel they already have prevention services available within their schools and do not see an immediate need to bring in an outside organization to provide additional programming.

Our relationships with schools fluctuate year to year. At times, we have strong partnerships and successful programming, while at other times, staffing changes, scheduling limitations, and existing prevention resources create barriers to collaboration. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to strengthening our relationships with schools. Our team continues to reach out to school personnel, request meetings, share information about the prevention services we offer, and look for opportunities to collaborate. We recognize that building sustainable school partnerships requires ongoing communication and relationship-building, and we will continue these efforts to increase access to prevention education for students throughout our service area.

7. Social Media

Please describe the social media activities conducted by your center. How have these activities improved your center's outreach efforts? Has your center increased the use of social media? If so, please describe how social media has been used. Does your center plan to continue increased social media use?

Our center maintains an active presence on Facebook and Instagram, which have become important tools for outreach, education, and community engagement. As a dual-service agency, we strive to give equal attention to both domestic violence and sexual violence in our social media activities. Our posts address current issues and trends related to domestic and sexual violence, oppression, prevention, and the experiences of individuals and communities impacted by these issues.

Our outreach efforts have greatly benefited from social media by allowing us to reach a larger and more diverse audience. We use our platforms to promote awareness events, community activities, donation drives, fundraisers, volunteer opportunities, and displays such as the Red Sand Project, Clothesline Project, and What I Wore. Social media has helped us connect with individuals who may not have otherwise been aware of these events and has provided additional opportunities for community members to become involved.

As part of our efforts to increase accessibility to our services, we also translated our agency website into Spanish. This provides Spanish-speaking survivors and community members with greater access to information about our services, resources, and how to seek support, helping to reduce language barriers and promote more equitable access to services.

We also use social media to promote our community partnerships and share information about events and services offered by other local organizations. In turn, our community partners share our posts and information about the services we provide with their own audiences. This mutual promotion strengthens community connections and helps increase awareness of resources available to individuals who may need support.

Over the past fiscal year, we continued to increase our use of social media and utilized these platforms to educate the community about domestic and sexual violence, promote our 24-hour hotline and services, and increase awareness of available resources. Social media has also been an effective way to highlight opportunities for community members to support our agency. We continue to promote our Amazon Wishlist, which has helped increase donations of essential items for our shelter residents and clients in need. Additionally, during the past fiscal year, we held our first online fundraiser, providing another opportunity for community members to support our services.

Moving forward, we plan to continue expanding our use of social media as a means of education, outreach, and community engagement. We will continue developing engaging content, promoting our own events and those hosted by community organizations, highlighting opportunities for community involvement, and utilizing online fundraising when appropriate. Social media remains an important way

for us to stay connected with community members and ensure that information about our services, events, and resources is accessible to a broader audience.

Sincerely,

Christy Roberson
Executive Director
The Women's Center, Inc. of Columbia/Montour

FY 2025-2026 Service Projection Report

Please complete one form for each county served

Center Name: The Women's Center, Inc.

County: Columbia

Direct Services

Number of New Clients

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Adult Female Clients	100	54	-46
Adult Male Clients	10	1	-9
Adult Other Gender Clients	0	1	1
Child Female Clients	20	7	-13
Child Male Clients	10	1	-9
Child Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Significant Other Females	50	36	-14
Significant Other Males	15	26	11
Significant Other Other Gender	0	0	0
TOTAL	205	126	-79

Number of Direct Service Hours (please include individual and group hours)

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Adult Female Clients	600	318.7	-281.3
Adult Male Clients	30	1.42	-28.58
Adult Other Gender Clients	0	4.1	4.1
Child Female Clients	60	22.7	-37.3
Child Male Clients	20	0.75	-19.25
Child Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Significant Other Females	140	97.75	-42.25
Significant Other Males	40	79.18	39.18
Significant Other Other Gender	0	0	0
TOTAL	890	524.6	-365.4

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Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect

FY 2025-2026 Service Projection Report

Please complete one form for each county served

Number of Hotline Calls

Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
250	133	-117

Prevention Education Services

Number of Programs

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
School Primary Prevention	40	29	-11
School Education Awareness	15	65	50
Community Primary Prevention	10	3	-7
Community Education Awareness	70	160	90

Number of Persons

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
School Primary Prevention	490	374	-116
School Education Awareness	205	391	186
Community Primary Prevention	100	46	-54
Community Education Awareness	600	818	218

Number of Trainings to Professionals in the Community

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Number of Trainings	20	12	-8
Number of Professionals	250	118	-132

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Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect

FY 2025-2026 Service Projection Report

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Center Name: The Women's Center, Inc.

County: Montour

Direct Services

Number of New Clients

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Adult Female Clients	20	17	-3
Adult Male Clients	5	1	-4
Adult Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Child Female Clients	15	0	-15
Child Male Clients	5	0	-5
Child Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Significant Other Females	35	27	-8
Significant Other Males	5	1	-4
Significant Other Other Gender	0	0	0
TOTAL	85	46	-39

Number of Direct Service Hours (please include individual and group hours)

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Adult Female Clients	60	107.4	47.4
Adult Male Clients	10	3.42	-6.58
Adult Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Child Female Clients	25	0	-25
Child Male Clients	10	0	-10
Child Other Gender Clients	0	0	0
Significant Other Females	90	51.6	-38.4
Significant Other Males	10	2.25	-7.75
Significant Other Other Gender	0	0	0
TOTAL	205	164.67	-40.33

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Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect

FY 2025-2026 Service Projection Report

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Number of Hotline Calls

Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
50	32	-18

Prevention Education Services

Number of Programs

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
School Primary Prevention	13	25	12
School Education Awareness	7	26	19
Community Primary Prevention	10	0	-10
Community Education Awareness	35	70	35

Number of Persons

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
School Primary Prevention	148	272	124
School Education Awareness	82	179	97
Community Primary Prevention	50	0	-50
Community Education Awareness	400	297	-103

Number of Trainings to Professionals in the Community

	Projected Number	Actual Number	Difference
Number of Trainings	20	16	-4
Number of Professionals	250	341	91

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