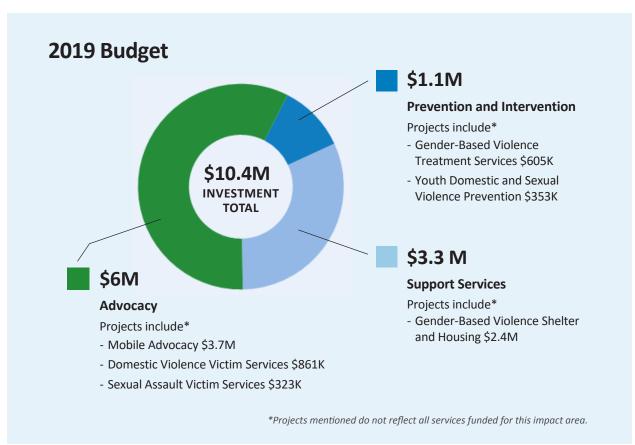
Responding to Gender-Based Violence



HSD's Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (MODVSA) serves as a funder, convener, partner, and thought leader in the field of gender-based violence. In 2019, the team increased education and awareness through a series of events, including:

- Organizing a #DenimDay educational panel to amplify voices of indigenous women who
 are leading change for survivors as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April);
- Hosting speakers and a discussion on the importance of addressing racism, healing trauma that African American men and boys have themselves experienced, and bringing communities together to protect African American women and girls (September); and
- Expanding recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) by recruiting Mayor's Office, Office of Labor Standards, and Legislative Department staff and the Columbia Center to participate in #PurpleThursday.



City of Seattle Denim Day

On April 24, 2019, MODVSA coordinated the second annual City of Seattle #DenimDay Event with Seattle Office of Civil Rights and Seattle Women's Commission, which was attended by more than 150 individuals. Because of two recent reports by the Urban Indian Health Institute, we know violence against and murder of Indigenous women in the Seattle area is an alarming problem that needs more attention. To amplify this issue in 2019, the event was titled "Denim Day: Honoring Indigenous Women." It featured a lineup of local Indigenous leaders and speakers discussing the topic of sexual violence against Native women.









Advocacy & Victim Services

Support of community-based and systems providers to carry out survivor supportive services, outreach, and prevention through MODVSA resulted in 10,192 individuals and families served in 2019—that's over 2,000 more than in 2018.

These investments help to ensure that survivors and their families find safety and all members of our community have access to critical services. They help build community support to end abuse and violence and hold offenders accountable. By investing in a wide array of services, we know that we empower more survivors to lead the way for change and, ultimately, to end sexual violence.

Advancing New Solutions

We have to move beyond thinking of domestic violence only as incidents of physical abuse. It is a pattern of behavior designed to terrorize and control. A growing concern is abusers who use technology against survivors, like sending intimate images to their workplaces, creating fake Craigslist ads with rape fantasies, and repeated and unwanted social media contacts. MODVSA staff advanced solutions to "tech-enabled coercive control" by serving on a working group that partnered with community agencies to establish a volunteer clinic at *New Beginnings* that helps survivors plan their tech safety.

