

Call Script To The Governor and Legislature
Re: FY 2020 – 2021 New York State Budget

Hello, my name is [redacted] and I am a/an **{advocate, program director, executive director, etc.}** at **{your organization}**. I'd like to speak to a staff person who handles budget-related issues for the **{Governor/ Senator/Assemblymember}**.

{Reintroduce yourself to the staffer}.

New York State is in the process of transforming its system of funding and oversight of domestic violence programs. The system has not been updated since it was established more than 30 years ago.

We're hoping that it also means the Legislature will close long-standing gaps in funding for domestic violence programs across the State that have resulted from years of flat or reduced investments.

I urge the **Governor/Legislature** to support these budget requests:

1. Take the first step toward modernizing the way domestic violence services are funded and provided to survivors by supporting the Governor's pilot of an innovative, survivor-centered flexible funding model for DV services — a \$5 million allocation proposed in the FY'20-'21 Aid to Localities Budget.
2. Increase funding for non-residential domestic violence services in the State Budget to \$6 million. Currently, the funding is at the same level it was 20 years ago when it was first proposed.
3. Allocate \$150,000 in the State Budget for statewide training and technical assistance for domestic violence service providers, which is provided each year by NYSCADV, the statewide coalition against domestic violence. And,
4. Dedicate \$4 million for primary prevention initiatives which are focused on stopping violence before it begins.

Please review the enclosed letter, which contains more information about these proposed investments.

I urge you to support increases to critical funding in the budget so no one who is asking for shelter or other domestic violence services is ever turned away.

Thank you!