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ANNUAL
REPORT

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dev **disABILITY**
LAW CENTER
OF VIRGINIA
Protection & Advocacy for Virginians with Disabilities

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nothing about us without us! This mantra is critical in disability advocacy – a fundamental philosophy that policies and decisions should not be made without the full and direct participation of the people who will be affected by those policies and decisions.

It is so easy for policymakers to believe that they know what is best for people with disabilities. Their assumptions are not always in line with the choices the people themselves would make. At the disAbility Law Center of Virginia, we strive to take direction in all of our work from those who will be most affected by that work. This core belief – nothing about us without us – undergirds our commitment to independence, self-determination, decision-making powers, and self-advocacy in the disability community.

All of us want to make decisions about our lives, and want to be able to seek help in making those decisions when we need it. This is a basic human trait. “Nothing about us without us” matters to us all. In this way, it is our community we serve, and yours as well, not a community of “them.”



You can join us in service to our community by advocating for accessibility every time you enter a place – from convenience stores to polling places. Just ask – how would my friend who uses a wheelchair get in here? You can honor the decision making rights of the people with disabilities in your life, even if you do not agree with their decisions. You can treat all people with dignity and respect, regardless of any disability.

You can also volunteer at dLCV, where we will strive to make the best use of whatever talents you choose to share with your community. Nothing about us without YOU!

COLLEEN MILLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ADVOCACY SERVICES

READY FOR DISCHARGE

dLCV advocated for Pamela's discharge from her institution after identifying her through the facility's weekly "ready for discharge" (RFD) reports. While Pamela wished to remain independent to the greatest extent possible, the facility treatment team insisted on a locked nursing home unit. The facility could not provide a reason why a nursing home placement was necessary, other than the individual's cancer diagnosis.

dLCV remained in frequent contact with Pamela and the treatment team throughout the discharge process, continually advocating for the least restrictive environment. They worked with dLCV to identify an assisted living placement acceptable to Pamela. Pamela reports that she is happy with her placement decision, is being treated well, and visits with her family more frequently.



ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Dustin is a student with a vision impairment who, before dLCV's help, was not receiving appropriate assistive technology in school. After several Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, dLCV successfully advocated for the school to hire an orientation and mobility instructor.

dLCV also negotiated with the school to provide compensatory orientation and mobility services, an assistive technology evaluation, accessible textbooks, and teacher training on the proper use of Dustin's assistive technology. Dustin now has the supports he needs, and his teachers are prepared to help him succeed!



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Fighting Abuse and Neglect

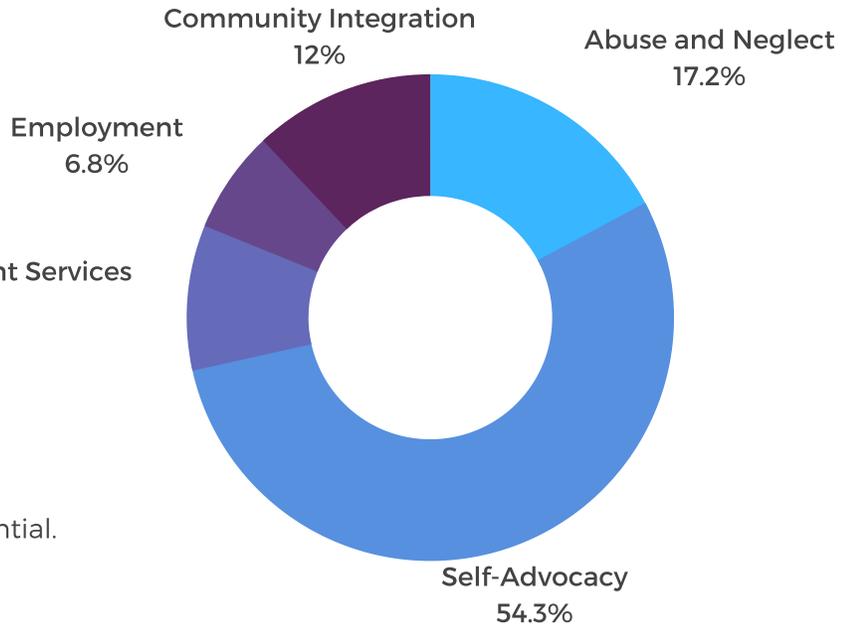
Rodney needed help because a nursing aide at his facility handled him without regard for his painful skin condition. Rodney reported that the aide handled him roughly when helping him with his activities of daily living, which caused him pain and discomfort. dLCV helped Rodney make an abuse complaint.

As a result of Rodney's complaint and dLCV's assistance, the facility reprimanded the aide, provided retraining, and required another staff person to be present when the aide worked with Rodney.

ADVOCACY SERVICES

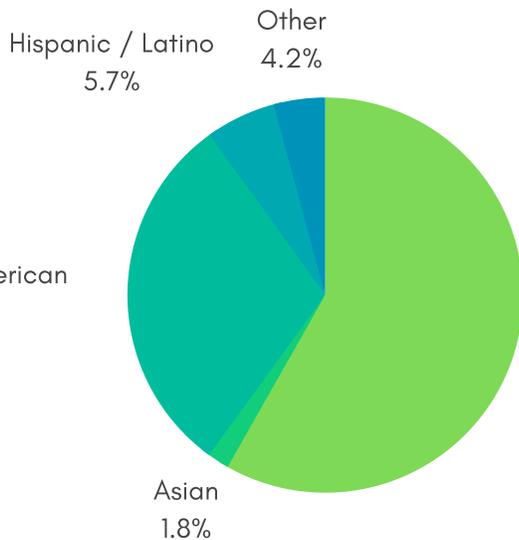
PROGRESS BY THE NUMBERS

In FY 2019, we responded to 590 service requests and provided education to 1,453 people.

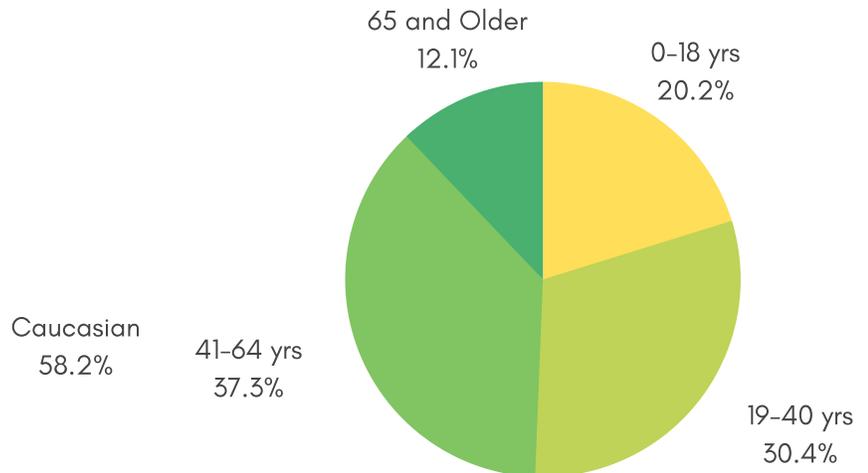


- 217 People** were freed from abuse and neglect.
- 86 People** received an appropriate public education and access to government services.
- 152 People** now live in integrated environments.
- 122 People** are employed to their maximum potential.
- 686 People** have better access to healthcare and became self-advocates.

CLIENT DIVERSITY BY RACE & ETHNICITY



CLIENT DIVERSITY BY AGE



ADVOCATE FOR YOUR RIGHTS!

Sophia had a legal guardian and lived in an assisted living facility not of her choosing. Sophia wished to have her guardianship and conservatorship terminated so she could recover and spend her days in her own home. dLCV successfully assisted Sophia in being released from her guardianship and transitioned from her assisted living facility to a community setting with supports.

In 2020, dLCV will release a series of videos on supported decision-making and alternatives to guardianship. Our videos will provide education and information about the rights of Virginians with disabilities, how you can advocate for yourself, and how you can get help if you find yourself in a tough situation.

"RIGHTS HERE, RIGHTS NOW!"

Introducing our new podcast! We will share information about who we are, what we do, and discuss disability rights topics important to Virginians with disabilities.

You can recommend or request a podcast topic by emailing podcast@dlcv.org.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	FY 2019	% OF TOTAL
Developmental Disabilities – PADD	\$ 1,147,021	32.86%
Mental Illness – PAIMI	\$ 680,587	19.50%
Individual Rights – PAIR	\$ 355,360	10.18%
Client Assistance Program – CAP	\$ 271,694	7.78%
Other Grants & dLVC Foundation	\$ 152,043	4.36%
Beneficiaries of Social Security – PABSS	\$ 121,955	3.49%
Voting Access – PAVA	\$ 62,720	1.80%
Assistive Technology – PAAT	\$ 130,416	3.74%
Traumatic Brain Injury – PATBI	\$ 70,840	2.03%
Representative Payee – REP	\$ 497,887	14.26%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,490,523	100%

EXPENSES	FY 2019	% OF TOTAL
Program Services	\$ 2,551,581	73.50%
General and Administrative	\$ 867,886	25.00%
Fundraising	\$ 52,073	1.50%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,471,540	100%

In FY19, dLVC provided disability rights advocacy and education to 11,453 clients at no cost!

BY THE NUMBERS



SERVED

11,453 people

TRAINED

9,410 people

REACHED

105 counties & cities

IMPACTED

432,500 people
through systemic
change