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To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



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Data Brief Spotlights Domestic Violence in Volusia County (October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month)

DAYTONA BEACH – The Florida Department of Health in Volusia County has issued a data brief that takes a closer look at domestic violence in Volusia County.

“Domestic violence is a serious public health matter not only in Volusia County, but in Florida and nationwide,” said Dr. Bonnie J. Sorensen director of the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County. All forms of intimate partner violence are preventable.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines domestic violence as a pattern of behavior which involves the abuse by one person against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, cohabitation, dating or within the family. Florida State Statute defines domestic violence as any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment or criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member.

The Florida domestic violence offense (DVO) rate has consistently decreased since 2004. In contrast, the DVO rate for Volusia County has risen from a low of 667 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2004 to a rate of 807.4 in 2013, a 21 percent increase.

Data brief highlights include:

- The Volusia County Sheriff’s Office led the county with 39.5 percent of domestic violence offenses followed by the Daytona Beach Police Department with 26.1 percent.
- Volusia County Sheriff’s Office, Daytona Beach, Ormond, Port Orange, and Deland Police Departments accounted for 86.4 percent of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013.
- Simple assault, a misdemeanor, comprised 82.9 percent of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013.
- Aggravated assault, a felony, accounted for 13.7 percent of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013.

For more information, please visit our website www.volusiahealth.com.

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