



LATINOS IN VIRGINIA
EMPOWERMENT CENTER

PROGRAMS + SERVICES OVERVIEW





LATINOS IN VIRGINIA EMPOWERMENT CENTER

About Us

Latinos in Virginia Empowerment Center (LIVE Center) started as a grassroots initiative in 2008 with the purpose of providing information to Spanish-speaking individuals so they could better adapt to their new community and lives in Virginia and learn about the services available to them.

Today, we are a 501(c)3 Non-profit organization dedicated to serve victims of violence and injustice in the Hispanic community that require culturally and linguistically appropriate services.

Our Mission

To provide education, advocacy, and support to Spanish-speaking individuals affected by violence and injustice in Virginia in order to ensure that they can access services that empower them to become happy, healthy and self-sufficient.

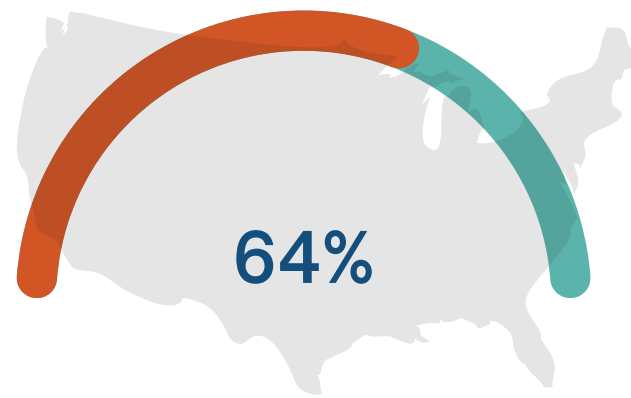


Our Services

Latinos in Virginia Empowerment Center provides free, culturally appropriate and linguistically specific services and support for members of the Latino community who are victims of violence, with an emphasis on assisting those who are Limited English Proficient or Non-English speaking in order to help them to stabilize their lives after being victimized.

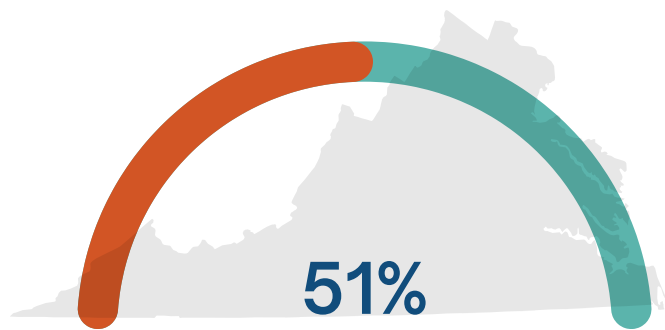


The Spanish Speaking Community



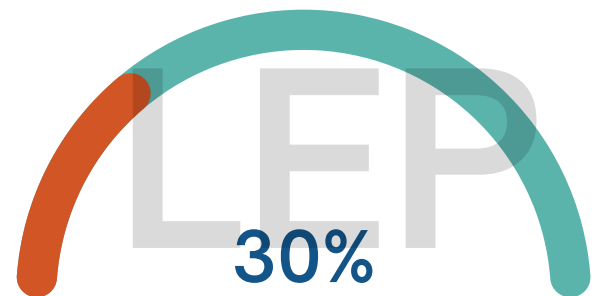
US LEP Population

64% of the 25 million LEPs in the US are Spanish speakers

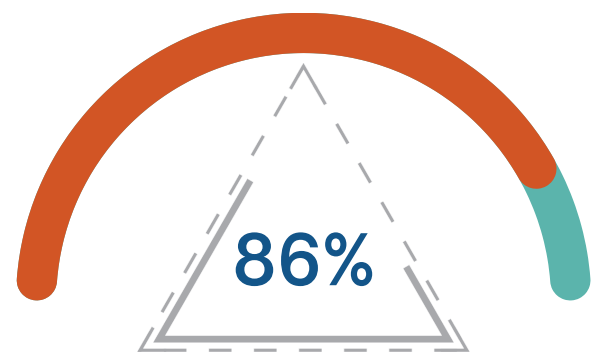


Virginia's LEP Community

244,190 of 472,781 LEP's are Spanish Speakers



819,000 Latinos reside in VA
30% of them are LEP



Northern Triangle

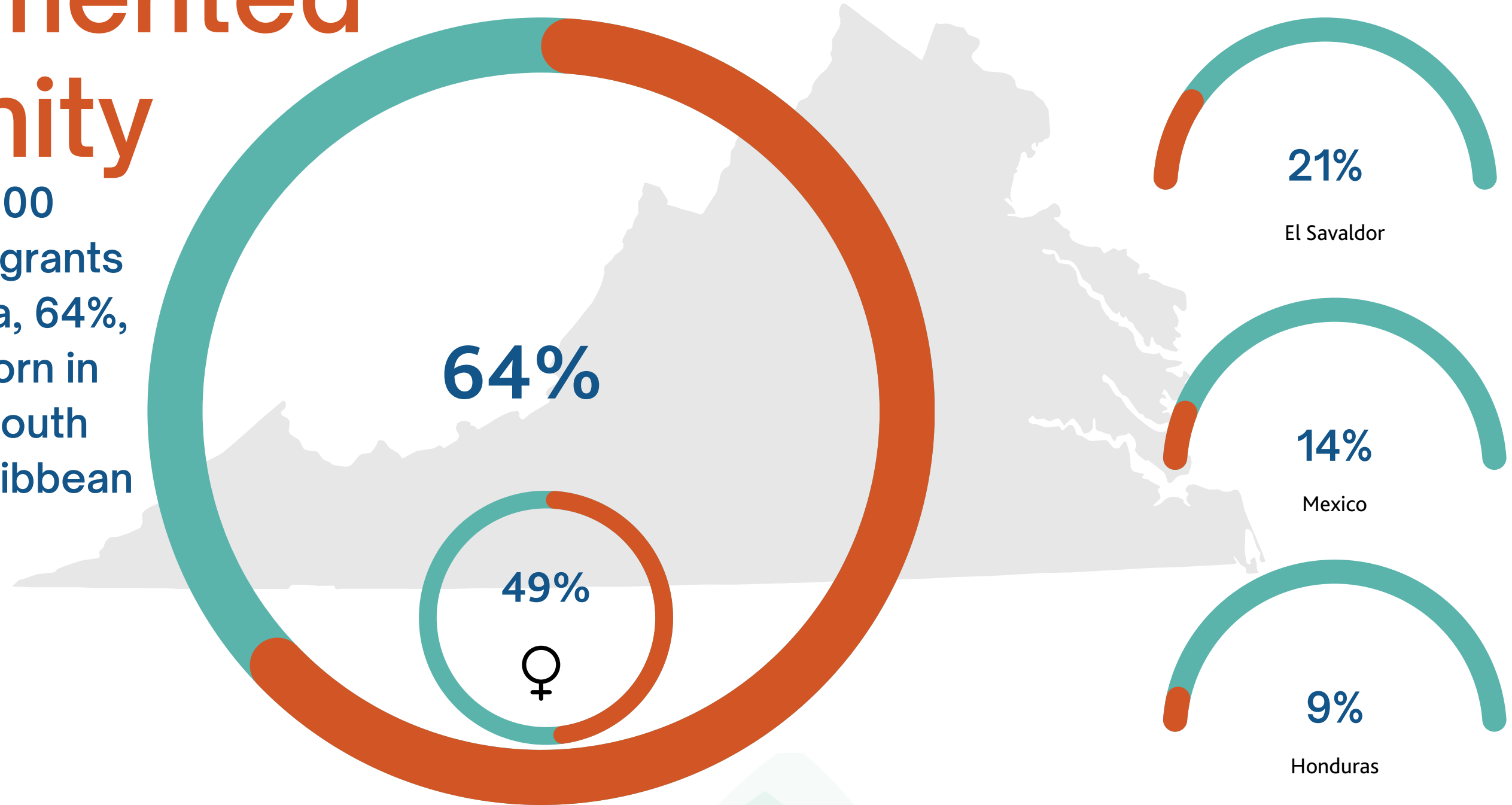
El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala

The Latino/Hispanic population in Virginia is 10% of the population and the 15th largest in the nation.

The Undocumented Community

Out of the 269,000 undocumented immigrants who reside in Virginia, 64%, or 172,000, were born in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean

172,000

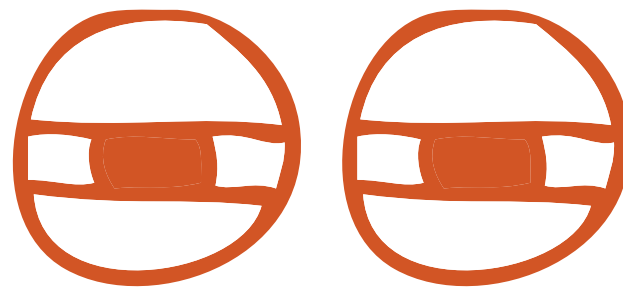


Challenges of Immigrant/ LEP victims of crime in Virginia

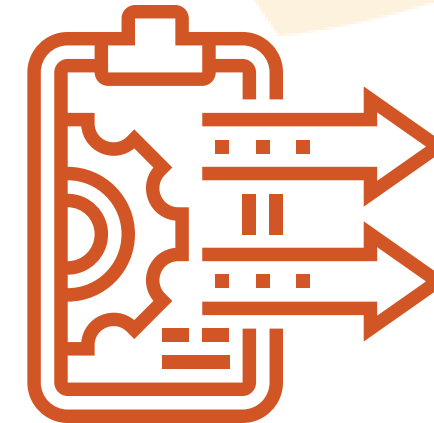
Lack of



bilingual and bicultural-
trained victim advocates.



trust of the LEP
community in victims services agencies.



or inadequate materials and web
content in Spanish to educate and
inform victims of crime about their
rights and available services

Existing Services and Service Gaps

*"I'm sorry,
I don't speak Spanish"*



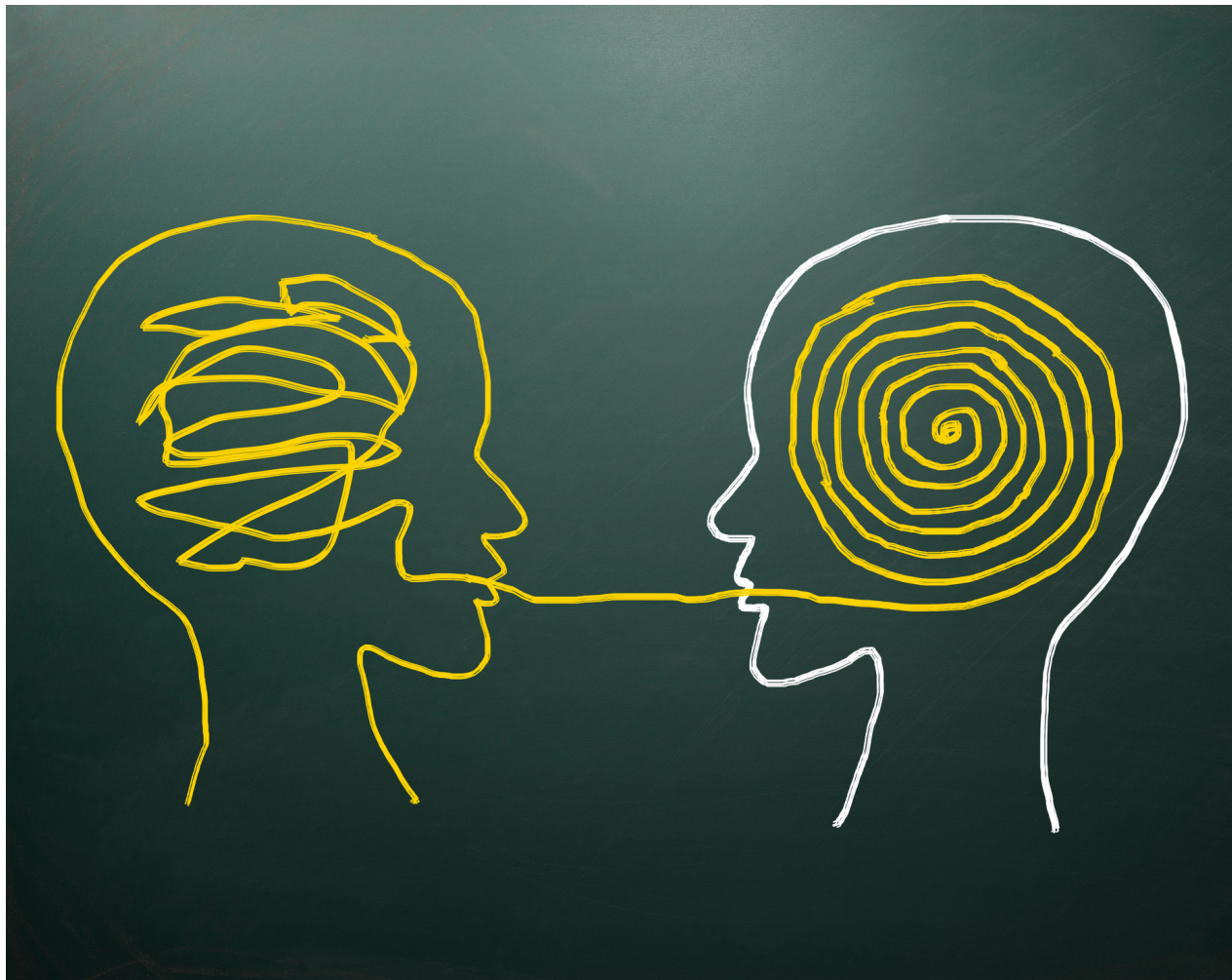
limited interactions



Have to wait to
get in touch with
the bilingual staff



"Bilingual"



without specific criteria to determine the meaning of "bilingual," it will continue to be a loosely defined term that includes anyone who has a basic working knowledge of a second language, but may not be able to effectively communicate with or truly understand clients speaking another language.

- May be asked to repeat themselves
- May not feel understood or heard
- May have to depend on summaries
- Risk of miscommunication

"Confianza"



trust issues bear heavily on Latino/Hispanic interactions, especially when dealing with very private and personal issues such as violence and when considering immigration status.



Bicultural Materials



- In Virginia, the majority of the Spanish-language materials offered by victim service agencies are literal translations of literature originally created in English.
- Literal translations of English brochures creates the expectation that a program can provide all the services listed there to a Spanish-speaking victim, when the truth is that they are unable to.

Our Programs

**Victim/Survivor
Advocacy
Program**

**Spanish/English
Interpreter
Bank
(SEIB)**

**Community
Victim
Advocate
Program**

**Education and
Technical
Assistance
Program**

Our model empowers members of the Latino Community to be part of the solution that ends violence and creates healthy relationships with other communities to provide better services for Spanish-Speaking victims.

Victim / Survivor Advocacy Program

All of our Services are Free and Confidential:

- Hotline (24/7) and Helpline Services
- Safety planning
- Shelter placement
- Support and reflection groups
- Counseling
- Legal advocacy
- Case management
- Financial Assistance*



Spanish/English Interpreter Bank (SEIB)

- Free, shared resource, created to lower the language barrier experienced by Spanish-speaking victims and to empower survivors through communicative autonomy
- Provides spoken Spanish/English interpretation services to participating victim services providers in VA (by appointment)
- SEIB interpreters: professionals who are formally trained in victim-centered and trauma-informed services, specialized to work with victims



Victim Advocate Program

This program builds on the natural strengths of Latinos and creates an opportunity for Spanish speakers to actively participate in creating change within the Latino community.



Education and Technical Assistance Program

The LIVE Center is committed to transforming the whole community by helping to improve the way issues of violence in the Latino community are addressed, and helping to better respond to disclosures of violence and injustice within the Latino/Hispanic community.



Summary

Latinos In Virginia exists because:

Lack of trust in the agencies providing services

Deficit of bilingual and bicultural community advocates

Lack of culturally specific materials and web content in other languages to educate and inform LEPs about their rights and available services

How do we address this?



Our Programs:

Victim/Survivor Advocacy Program and SEIB

Community Victim Advocate Program

Education/Technical Assistance Program



LATINOS EN VIRGINIA
CENTRO DE EMPODERAMIENTO

LÍNEA DE AYUDA EN ESPAÑOL
PARA VÍCTIMAS DE VIOLENCIA EN EL ESTADO DE VIRGINIA
LAS 24 HORAS DEL DÍA

(888) 969-1825