HATE VIOLENCE ranges from discrimination and verbal harassment to assault and murder. In New York City and across the U.S., we are experiencing a multiple-year trend in the increase in murders of transgender people and LGBTQ people of color. AVP’s “Hate Violence? Tell Us About It” campaign allows survivors of harassment and violence to report the violence to us on the phone, in person or securely online, even if they do not want to go to the police.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE is as serious and prevalent a problem in LGBTQH communities, as it is in other communities, regardless of socio-economic status. AVP provides services specifically designed for survivors of LGBTQH intimate partner/domestic violence and our “Domestic Violence: We Can Help” campaign raises awareness of this issue and our services. AVP collaborated with the largest provider of domestic violence shelter in New York City to create the first dedicated LGBTQH domestic violence shelter, to provide safe and respectful emergency shelter for LGBTQH survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence. In 2011, AVP was named a White House Champion of Change for our work on LGBTQH intimate partner violence.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE also occurs in our communities. We provide the only counseling services in New York City specifically designed to support LGBTQH survivors of this insidious and often hidden form of violence. Our “Sexual Violence: Let’s Talk About It” public awareness campaign is designed to reduce the stigma of reporting and increase awareness of our services among survivors and victims, as well as mainstream rape crisis centers who are unaware of, or uneducated about, how these issues affect our community.

HIV-RELATED VIOLENCE is experienced by hundreds of HIV-affected New York City residents every year. It is still a disturbingly central factor in cases of hate violence and often used by a batterer as an instrument of power and control in a violent intimate relationship. To address the distinct problems caused by violence in the lives of people living with HIV in New York City, AVP provides a unique combination of counseling, social and legal services, referrals, advocacy, education and activism specifically focused on the intersection of HIV and violence.

INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE can be committed by first responders to LGBTQH violence, such as law enforcement, the court system, hospitals, shelters and other service providers. We not only support survivors, but also work to change homophobic, biphobic and transphobic policies, procedures and attitudes within institutions. In 2012 AVP began the first ever training of Sergeants, Lieutenants and Captains at the NYPD and have worked closely with the Police Commissioner and the Office of Legal Counsel to create transgender-inclusive policing policies. AVP also works with the court systems to create a safer and more welcoming environment for LGBTQH survivors of violence.