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Community Perceptions Survey on Domestic Violence in Franklin County

Fall 2025 | Key Results and Summary

In order to better equip individuals with the tools they need to break the cycle of violence and hold offenders accountable, the **City Attorney's Office** worked alongside **The Center for Family Safety and Healing at Nationwide Children's Hospital** and the **Battered Women's Justice Project** to create the Community Perception Survey, which launched in July 2025.

Community respondents provided feedback on current initiatives, resources, and systems. The following is a summary of the feedback received from the survey:

- Number of complete survey responses - **476**
- Nearly two-thirds (63%) of respondents feel that partner violence is a big problem in Columbus/Franklin County.
- Over three quarters (78%) of respondents report that they would call 911.
 - Of the people who would not call:
 - 58% report that the court won't do anything
 - 48% report that they don't trust the police
 - 45% report being afraid that the abuser would retaliate
- In the open-ended responses, themes related to police escalating danger/risk and the need for more community awareness and education were raised most often:
 - Only half (**51.59%**) of the respondents reported that they knew what community agencies they could call for help (surprising and scary that people don't know who to call/where to go for help)
 - There were **158** responses to the, "Is there anything else you would like to share" question (this many responses to an open-ended question is unusual; people care about this issue and have thoughts to share)
 - The themes that were expressed most often were related to challenges with:
 - The judges/courts
 - Law enforcement
 - The need for more community awareness and education
 - Insufficient or uncoordinated resources for victims
- Respondent demographics (476 Responses)
 - 83% of respondents reported as female
 - 83% of respondents reported falling into 25 to 59 age range
 - 21% respondents reported being black or African American, 71% white and 4% multi-racial
 - A wide range of zip codes were represented