

PROMOTING SAFETY & HOUSING STABILITY FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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LET'S TALK ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



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Quiz time!



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Shared Language

Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence

- Can include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking and psychological aggression (including coercive tactics) by a current or former intimate partner.
- DV denotes a pattern of behavior used to gain and maintain power and control over another.

Human Trafficking

- A crime that involves compelling or coercing a person to provide labor or services, or to engage in commercial sex acts using fear, fraud, force, or coercion.
- Exploitation of a minor for commercial sex is human trafficking, regardless of whether any form of force, fraud, or coercion was used.

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DV & Homelessness



80%

A study of homeless mothers with children found that 80% had previously experienced domestic violence.

www.safehousingpartnerships.org



57%

Studies show that as many as 57% of all homeless women report domestic violence as the immediate cause of their homelessness.

www.safehousingpartnerships.org



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Impacts on Service Provision



FUNDING



AGENCY MISSION



CAPACITY OF STAFF/FACILITIES



CONFIDENTIALITY

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Western PA CoC Victim Service Providers



- Women’s Services, Inc (Crawford) – Dual DV/SA
- A Safe Place (Warren/Forest) – Comprehensive
- YWCA Bradford – Victims Resource Center (McKean) – Dual DV/SA
- A Way Out (Potter) – Dual DV/SA
- AWARE, Inc. (Mercer) – Dual DV/SA
- PPC Violence Free Network (Venango) – Dual DV/SA
- CAPSEA (Elk/Cameron) – Dual DV/SA
- ARISE (Lawrence) – Comprehensive
- SAFE (Clarion) - DV
- Community Action Inc./Crossroads Project (Jefferson/Clearfield) – DV
- VOICe (Butler) - Dual DV/SA
- HAVIN, Inc. (Armstrong) – Dual DV/SA
- Alice Paul House (Indiana) – Comprehensive
- Domestic Violence Services of Southwestern PA (Washington/Greene/Fayette) – DV
- Alle Kiski (Westmoreland) – Comprehensive
- Blackburn Center (Westmoreland) – Dual DV/SA

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Eastern PA CoC Victim Service Providers



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YWCA Hanover (Adams) - DV • Your Safe Haven (Bedford) - Comprehensive • Family Services Inc. (Blair) – Dual DV/SA • Victim Services, Inc. (Cambria/Somerset) - Comprehensive • Centre Safe (Centre) – Dual DV/SA • Women in Need (Franklin/Fulton) - Comprehensive • Huntingdon House (Huntingdon) - DV • Abuse & Rape Crisis Center (Bradford) – Dual DV/SA • Roads to Peace (Clinton) – Dual DV/SA • YWCA North Central PA (Lycoming) – Dual DV/SA • Sullivan County Victim Services (Sullivan) – Dual DV/SA • WRC (Susquehanna) - Comprehensive • HAVEN (Tioga) – Dual DV/SA • Victims Resource Center (Wyoming) - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive • Turning Point (Lehigh/Northampton) - DV • Domestic Violence Service Center (Carbon) - DV • Safe Monroe (Monroe) – Dual DV/SA • Victim’s Intervention Program (Pike/Wayne) – Dual DV/SA • The Women’s Center (Columbia/Montour) – Dual DV/SA • DV Services of Cumberland & Perry (Cumberland/Perry) - DV • The Abuse Network (Juniata/Mifflin) – Dual DV/SA • DV Intervention of Lebanon (Lebanon) - DV • Transitions of PA (Northumberland/Snyder/Union) – Dual DV/SA • Schuylkill Hope Center (Schuylkill) - DV |
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DV Housing First

Our Approach to Ending DV Homelessness

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PCADV and Safe Housing for Survivors

Assisting Member Programs

- Increasing internal capacity
- Training & TA
- Funding applications
- Systems Coordination
- Braiding funding Streams

Assisting Community Partners

- Training, TA & Support
- Building relationships with local VSPs
- Collaboration on special projects/initiatives

Engaging in State & National Policy

- Integrate survivor needs into housing priorities
- Policy initiatives and support of bills that increase survivor opportunities
- SB67 – SAFE Housing Trust Fund; HB1441 – Early lease termination for survivors; HB1769 – Eviction record sealing for survivors

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Domestic Violence Housing First

- Survivor -Driven, Trauma Informed Mobile Advocacy
- Community Engagement
- Flexible Financial Assistance



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Community Engagement



Connect with your local program



Refer to other resources, when necessary



Understand how to support the survivors who want to work with your organization

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What does economic justice mean when working with survivors?



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Prevention/Diversion/Flexible Funding

- Highly flexible
- Should be used to support a survivor in maintaining their housing or homelessness diversion
- Pair well with ongoing rental assistance or state funding
- Can be used for almost anything that will either directly or indirectly allow a survivor to maintain housing or remain stably housed

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Flexible Financial Assistance

Allows programs to assist households with building stability

Braid funding sources to assist survivors holistically

PCADV works to develop sources from a variety of sources

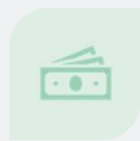
PCADV Relocation, PHARE, Hillman Foundation, & Richard K. Mellon

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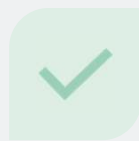
Housing + Economic Justice (EJ)= Long-Term Stability



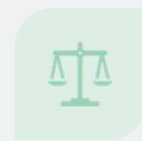
EJ AND HOUSING
ARE INTERTWINED



BEYOND DIRECT
SURVIVOR
ASSISTANCE & FLEX
FUNDS



PASSTHROUGH
FUNDING FOR EJ
WORK



ECONOMIC JUSTICE
UPDATES



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Supporting Survivors

It's on ALL of us

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Housing Assistance - Buckets

Federally Funded Programs

- Rapid Rehousing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Joint Component

Housing Authorities

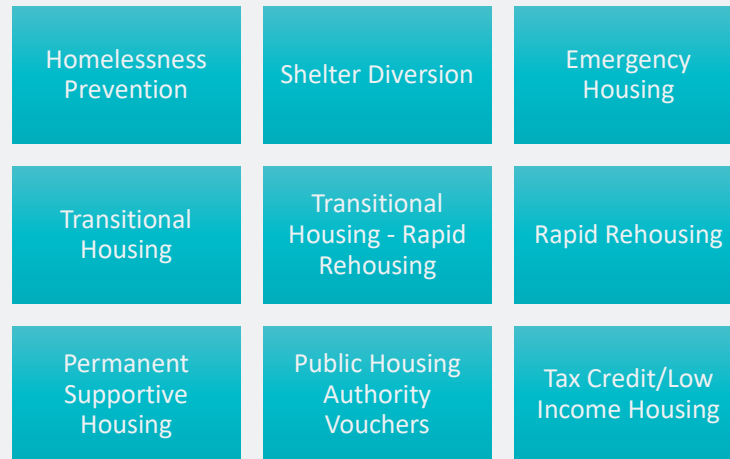
- Vouchers
- Project Based Housing

State/Foundation Funded Programs

- Rapid Rehousing
- Prevention/Diversion/Flexible Funding
- Relocation
- Emergency Shelter

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HOUSING OPTIONS FOR SURVIVORS



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How Can Your Program Help with Safety?

- Have policies in place with your DV agency partner for emergent needs
- Help the Survivor with other safe housing resources within your program or another program
- Help the abuser with resources if s/he becomes homeless due to exclusion from the unit
- Don't judge or restrict the level of contact the survivor might need to have with their partner or former partner

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Immediate Safety

- Listen to the survivor and ask what they need
- If the abusive partner is also a resident or housing applicant, do not have safety-related conversations with the abuser present
- Remember that the survivor may use violence—in self defense or to regain control over their life
- Utilize your DV agency partnership—either as a referral or for consultation

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Conversations

- Safety planning is a process, not a one-time event or check list.
- Safety planning is tailored to the survivor's life and daily activities—each day may even be a little different.
- If the survivor is interested, refer to local DV program for safety planning assistance

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Understanding the Abusive Partner's Role

- Do they have visitation?
- Were they the primary babysitter/transportation, etc.?
- Support vs. safety vs. isolation
- Have they been sabotaging the survivor's efforts to obtain or maintain housing?

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Long-Term Safety Planning

Once a survivor has obtained alternate or permanent housing, maintaining safety remains a priority

- Safety at home and with children
- Financial safety and independence
- Safety on the job and in public settings

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Housing Protections for Survivors

VAWA History & Recent Updates

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What is VAWA?

- Passed in 1994 in response to increase in DV, showing federal level commitment to supporting survivors
 - Included both funding and protections for survivors of DV
- Reauthorized in 2005, recognizing link between DV and homelessness
- Reauthorized in 2013 with significantly expanded housing protections, included coverage of sexual assault survivors (also dating violence and stalking), and mandated compliance from federally subsidized housing programs
- Reauthorized in 2022 with new domestic violence definition component and additional prioritization of gender based violence within HUD

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VAWA 2005

- Survivors can report DV/SA without fear of inability to obtain or maintain housing
- Status as a victim cannot result in denial of tenancy or assistance, if the individual would otherwise qualify
- Incidences of abuse cannot result in eviction of a unit rented by the survivor, nor can the criminal behavior of the abusive partner result in eviction for the survivor
- Federally subsidized programs and PHAs have the right to evict an abusive partner
- Leases may be bifurcated in order to keep the survivor housed
- If the abusive partner is person who is eligible for subsidy and is evicted, the survivor will be given the opportunity to establish eligibility. If the survivor cannot, they should be given reasonable time to find new housing or establish eligibility under another program

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VAWA 2013 Reauthorization – Key Components

- Maintains current protections
- Expanded to cover all VAWA crimes (DV, SA, dating violence and stalking)
- Expanded to protect affiliated individuals (children, siblings, spouses, parents and anyone residing in the household)
- Expanded to protect all survivors, regardless of age, sex, gender identity, race, national origin, familial status, disability, and sexual orientation
- Expanded protections to all federally subsidized housing programs
- Clarified that tenants must receive notice of rights under VAWA
- Included Emergency Transfer Policy (ETP) requirement

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VAWA 2022 Reauthorization – Key Components



- Maintains current protections
- Incorporates economic abuse to the definition of domestic violence (upwards of 99% of DV cases involve some type of economic abuse)
- Establishes a gender-based violence prevention office with a VAWA director at HUD
- Shared economic security related findings for survivors of violence
 - 60% of single women lack economic security
 - 81% of households with single mothers live in economic insecurity
 - 92% of homeless women experienced domestic violence with more 50% citing domestic violence as the direct cause of homelessness
 - Best predictor of a survivor successfully leaving = degree of economic independence

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HUD's VAWA Final Rule



Intent of the Rule:

- All individuals have a right to a home without fear of violence
- Expansion of housing protections increases safe housing
- Safe housing reduces the risk of homelessness
- Seeks to decrease evictions, denials of housing assistance, and instances of fleeing for survivors experiencing violence in their homes

(from HUD Exchange)

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HUD's VAWA Final Rule

History of the Rule:

- HUD implemented the VAWA Final Rule in November 2016 – housing programs administered by HUD are now required to follow VAWA regulations related to housing programs
- Regulations were effective in December 2016
- Implementation, including notices and documentation, expected as of December 5, 2017

(from HUD Exchange)

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Questions?



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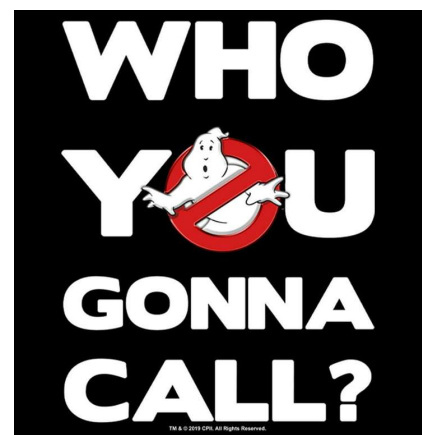
Questions?

As always, you can reach out to PCADV and/or DMA with any DV-related question.

- **DV Providers/ Victim Services Providers (VSPs):** PCADV will most likely be the best point of contact for questions related to serving survivors and/or questions specific to RRH contract. CoC related questions can always also be sent to DMA.
- **Non-VSPs:** DMA (and specifically Maria, DMA's Gender Based Violence Housing Specialist) will be able to provide support around serving Survivors in your program, partnering with your local DV provider, and strategies for enhancing local systems to better serve Survivors. **Local DV Providers/ VSPs remain the best contact for Survivors who need assistance with safety planning, housing, legal support and more.**

PCADV: housing@pcadv.org

DMA: westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org,
easterncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org



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