

# Emerging Issues in Domestic Violence

for Seattle City Council  
July 16, 2019

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION  
**WSCADV**  
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

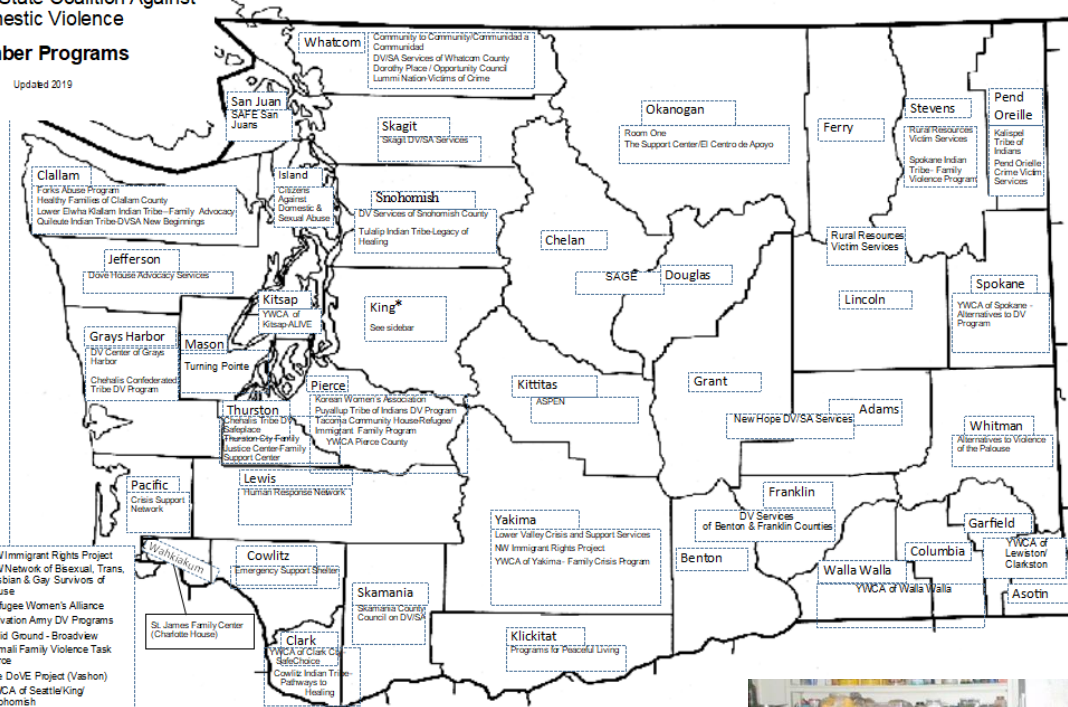
# Our Amazing State



Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

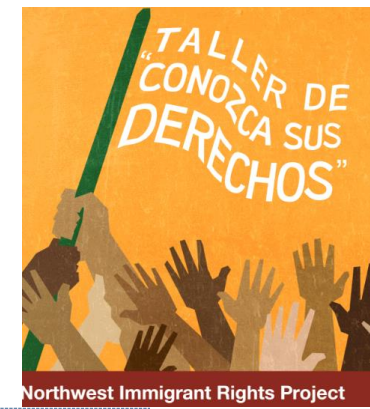
## Member Programs

Updated 2019



## \* King County Programs

- API Chaya
- DAWN
- Jennifer Beach Foundation
- Jewish Family Service/Project DVORA
- LifeWire
- Mother Africa
- Mother Nation
- Multi-Communities (MIC)
- New Beginnings
- NW Immigrant Rights Project
- NW Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse
- Refugee Women's Alliance
- Salvation Army DV Programs
- Solid Ground - Broadview
- Somali Family Violence Task Force
- The DoVE Project (Vashon)
- YWCA of Seattle/King/Snohomish



Northwest Immigrant Rights Project







# What is WSCADV?

Leading  
Voice to end  
DV in WA

70+ Member  
Programs

*Mission*

Mobilize our members &  
allies to end DV through  
advocacy & action for  
social change

Supporting Our  
Members

Engaging the  
Public

Visionary Work



# Engaging the Public

**YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK**  
For survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, & stalking

If you are experiencing harm in your relationship that is impacting work...

If you are being stalked or receiving unwanted advances...

If you are coping with the impacts of sexual assault...

It is illegal for an employer to discriminate against you based on your experience of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. (RCW 49.76.115)

This means an employer can't fire, demote, deny employment, or otherwise discriminate against survivors of abuse.

This law also requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations for survivors on the job, like a change in office location, phone number, or modified schedule.

You have access to paid leave to take time off to deal with issues related to domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. (RCW 49.76 & RCW 49.46)

Every employer in WA state must offer paid sick leave to all of their employees.

You can use sick leave to take time off to deal with issues related to abuse (safe leave).

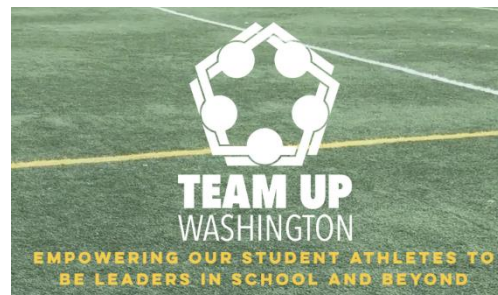
Safe leave can be taken all at once or intermittently. It can be paid (if available) or unpaid. There is no limit to the number of hours allowed as long as the time taken is considered 'reasonable.'

**What if your employer doesn't follow the rules?**

You can file a complaint with Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) by phone: 1-800-LISTENS (1-800-547-8367). You can also file a civil action in court.

For more detailed info, take a look at this Q&A from Legal Voice.

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION  
**WSCADV**  
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



**FRIENDS & FAMILY GUIDE**

HOW TO HELP  
SOMEONE IN AN ABUSIVE  
RELATIONSHIP

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION  
**WSCADV**  
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

wscadv.org/friends



# Supporting Our Members



## Confidentiality FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)



## MOBILE ADVOCACY

Mobile advocacy is a particularly innovative and challenging aspect of the DVHF approach: Advocates work out in the community, meeting survivors wherever it is safe and convenient for the survivor. We asked advocates and directors to share their thoughts on mobile advocacy.



## [History of the DV Movement](#)

Teacher: Tyra Lindquist

## [Key Requirements of the Job](#)

Teacher: Mette Earlywine

## [Safety Planning with DV Survivors](#)

Teacher: Mette Earlywine

## [Financial Options for Survivors](#)

Teacher: Tyra Lindquist

## [Legal Options for DV Survivors](#)

Teacher: Mette Earlywine

### HOW DO WE DO THIS?



#### SLOW

"We had to remind ourselves to go a little slowly."

#### STEADY

"We realized that we were already doing a lot of similar things."

#### GROWTH

"It's kind of a growing process. It doesn't happen overnight."



### IS IT WORTH IT?



COMMUNITY



# Visionary Leadership



## Charleena Lyles

Posted on June 30, 2017

"She had her teeth knocked out, had numerous black eyes. She has permanent scars from being abused, and she begged and begged for help, [...] [t]hen she finally got the help, and then you take her life in front of her children." (Monika Williams, sister of Charleena Lyles, New York Times, 6/20/17)



On June 18th, Charleena Lyles was shot and killed by Seattle police officers in her home, minutes after responding to her call for help. Her death brings into sharp focus the intersection between police violence against Black people and violence against women. Charleena Lyles was a survivor of domestic violence. She did not survive the systems that should have protected her and her children.



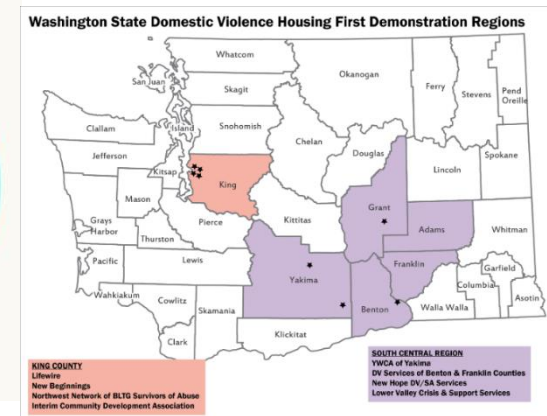
## Crossing Borders – Immigration Project

- [Crossing Borders – en español](#)



## United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND FAMILIES THROUGH HOUSING FIRST PILOT PROGRAM



# What will reduce violence & repair harm?

## Washington State Domestic Violence Fatality Review

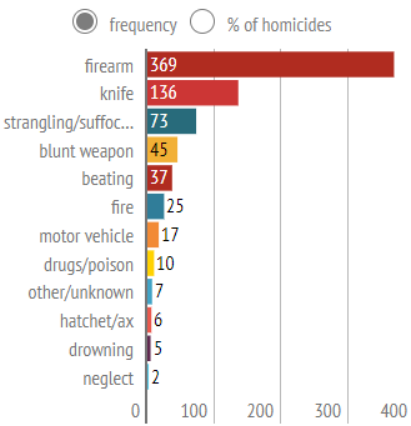


Expanding the menu with  
trauma-informed  
intervention

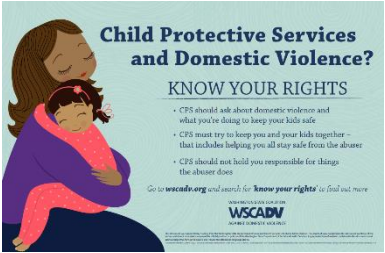
Community Accountability & Violence Prevention

In Washington State, domestic  
violence homicide perpetrators  
use guns more often than all  
other weapons combined.

Weapons used in 678 domestic violence  
homicides, 1997 - 2014



More than half of perpetrators  
were legally prohibited from  
owning firearms.



Race Equity

## Safe Affordable Housing



Immigrant Justice

Living Wages & Employment Rights





- Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services
- API Chaya
- Asian Counseling and Referral Service
- Atlantic Street Center
- Broadview Housing Program
- Consejo Counseling and Referral Service
- Dove Project
- Eastside Legal Assistance Program
- Gender Justice League
- Harborview Center for Sexual Assault & Traumatic Stress
- Jewish Family Service Project DVORA
- King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
- LifeWire
- Mother Nation
- Multi-Communities
- New Beginnings
- NW Immigrant Rights Project
- NW Justice Project
- NW Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse
- Organization for Prostitution Survivors
- Powerful Voices
- Refugee Women's Alliance
- Salvation Army DV Programs
- SeaTac DV Prevention Program
- Seattle Counseling Service
- Seattle Indian Health Board
- Sexual Violence Legal Services (YWCA)
- Somali Family Safety Task Force
- Strategic Living
- Victim Support Team SPD
- YWCA DV Program

# Unmet Needs: Lack of Capacity; Economic & Political Context

- Increased capacity – flexible survivor-driven advocacy.
- Range of emergency and longer term sustainable housing options.
- Legal advocacy & representation for survivors, especially in family law and immigration cases.
- Employment opportunities and training.
- Services for children and youth.
- Culturally specific/responsive services.
- Prevention/community engagement.

# Local Policy Options

- Economic protections/anti-discrimination policies
- Health, housing and human services policies
- Affordable housing/homelessness
- Anti-harassment/workplace policies
- Police accountability
- Immigrant rights
- “DV Competency”
- Awareness/visibility



# 2020 Funding Priority: Central Regional DV Helpline

- A helpline call is the entry point for many survivors to other services.
- Responsive, culturally competent, trauma-informed helpline service is key for service access.
- For many survivors, a helpline is the only DV service they can access.
- Dedicated staff, 24-hour access to interpretation & connection to multi-lingual advocates; phone and digital chat services.
- Resource for 1<sup>st</sup> responders, service providers, friends and family
- \$350,000 of annual \$1.2 million needed to implement

# What's the difference?

- *“.... the person who answered the DV helpline saved my life. She helped me to name the abuse. She gave me safety planning ideas and helped me come up with the right concrete steps to take.....She helped me understand that domestic violence can happen to anyone.”*
- *“When you call to ask for help and you can't reach anyone, it feels like there is no one out there to help. You feel stuck and frustrated. And you end up staying with your abuser. Sometimes you feel suicidal because there is nowhere to go.”*

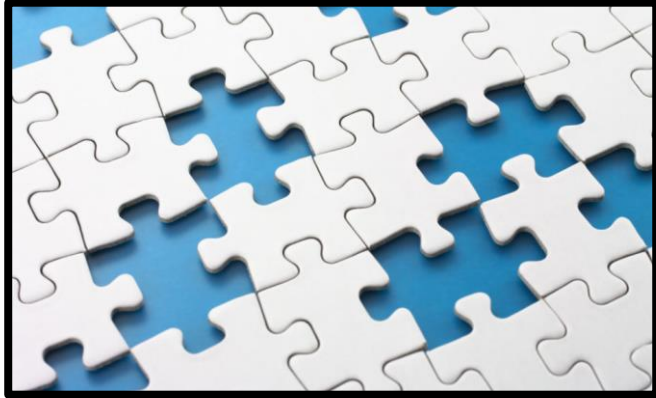


Seattle's first organization focused on ending domestic violence

*24-HOUR HELPLINE • INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY • SUPPORT GROUPS • LEGAL ADVOCACY • HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES INCLUDING PREVENTION, BRIDGE HOUSING AND RAPID RE-HOUSING • THERAPY • CHILDREN'S SERVICES • TEEN ADVOCACY • LEGAL AND TECC CLINICS • PUBLIC EDUCATION • PROFESSIONAL TRAINING • PREVENTION EDUCATION*

New Beginnings empowers survivors and mobilizes community awareness and action to end domestic violence





# Service Gaps...

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- Legal support and representation
- Subsidized housing
- Mental health and substance abuse services
- Broad and targeted outreach
- Comprehensive, holistic prevention





# Moving the dial...

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## Multi-sector collaboration:

- Prevent and address family trauma
- Elimination of harmful gender roles
- Healthy relationships education
- Community intervention capacity
- Early intervention – children + teens
- Jobs and living wages
- Racial and gender equity





## **SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S VICTIM SUPPORT TEAM**

The mission of the Victim Support Team (VST) is to create a rewarding and sustainable partnership between community volunteers and police, to address and prevent domestic violence.

The Victim Support Team is committed to providing comprehensive, culturally relevant, and supportive services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.



***Leaving is the  
most dangerous time***

*-Ontario Domestic Assault Risk  
Assessment*

45% of Domestic Violence  
homicides occur within  
90 days of separation,  
most within the first few days



# Responding to Multiple Forms of Gender Based Violence

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Intimate Partner Violence

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Stalking

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Tech Enabled Coercive Control

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Sexual Assault

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Abuse of Children

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Adolescent to Parent Abuse

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Abuse of Vulnerable Adult

# Systems Gaps

Inconsistent, private sponsored funding, with no predictability

Strained services, unmet program needs and CJS improvements

Increasingly difficult to access emergency housing

Questions go unanswered, system is still difficult to navigate

Inconsistent response to TECC

Confusing and burdensome referral process for DV Hotlines

# Recommendations

**Ongoing operational budget for VST**

**Additional Staff for VST**

**Emergency DV Housing**

**Modernization of communication tools**

**Standardized TECC training and best practices**

**Centralized DV Hotline**