

NATIONAL
Center on
Domestic Violence,
Trauma &
Mental Health

The National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health is committed to developing comprehensive, accessible, and culturally-relevant responses to the range of trauma-related issues faced by domestic violence survivors and their children; by promoting advocacy that is survivor-defined and rooted in principles of social justice; and to eradicating the social and psychological conditions that contribute to interpersonal abuse and violence across the lifespan.

Promoting Dialogue

The Center works to connect domestic violence and mental health organizations, policy makers, and survivor/advocacy groups in productive dialogue.

The Center:

- ❖ Disseminates information about current practice, model approaches, and successful collaborations;
- ❖ Offers conferences, symposia, and other opportunities for information-sharing, discussion, and consensus-building; and
- ❖ Facilitates critical thinking and raising awareness about the complex intersections of domestic violence, trauma, and mental health.

Building System Capacity

The Center works to help local agencies, state coalitions, and state mental health systems increase their capacity to provide effective assistance to survivors of domestic violence who are experiencing the traumatic effects of abuse and/or living with mental illness.

The Center offers:

- ❖ Materials, information about program models, and educational tools;
- ❖ Updates and synthesis of current research and information on emerging evidence-based and promising practices;
- ❖ Curricula, tools, and training materials on responding to survivors experiencing the mental health effects of domestic violence, other lifetime trauma, and/or psychiatric disabilities; working with children exposed to trauma; and supporting parenting capacity and attachment;
- ❖ Training designed to assist both domestic violence advocacy networks and mental health systems on how to provide appropriate, accessible, and culturally-relevant services to survivors of domestic violence who are experiencing trauma and/or mental illness; and
- ❖ Consultation on the strengths and needs of local, state, and national systems.

Improving Policy

The Center works to improve policy affecting the complex life circumstances of domestic violence survivors and their children, particularly in relation to trauma and mental health.

The Center offers:

- ❖ Policy research reports, briefings, recommendations, and consultations on emerging issues for domestic violence programs and mental health systems, including:
 - The integration of responses to domestic violence and other lifetime trauma within state, county, and local mental health systems;
 - Support for state domestic violence coalitions in their efforts to address the mental health needs of survivors and their children; and
 - Strategies for enhancing cross-sector collaboration;
- ❖ Assistance with the identification of allies and opportunities to improve public policy;
- ❖ Teleconferences, consultations, and symposia;
- ❖ Forums on cross-cutting issues; and
- ❖ Periodic policy updates on the Center web site.

...Yet, the systems to which survivors turn are not always prepared to address the range of issues they face in trying to free their lives of violence, recover from trauma, and seek assistance for mental health concerns.

The **National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health** offers technical assistance to support the efforts of service providers, advocates, and policy-makers as they work to bridge the gaps between systems and ensure that all survivors can access services that are essential to their safety and well-being.

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Check our web site for upcoming events, training opportunities, and new resources.

WEB

www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org

For more information

CALL

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Many survivors of domestic violence experience the traumatic effects of domestic violence and other lifetime abuse...

Carole Warshaw, MD, Director

Produced with funds awarded by the
Administration on Children, Youth and Families,
Administration for Children and Families,
United States Department of Health and Human Services
(Grant #90EV0349).