Montana’s Plan for Primary Prevention of Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence (IPSV)

Communities as a whole suffer from the consequences of intimate partner violence and sexual violence. These crimes destroy relationships and families; indeed, they destroy the very fabric of our communities. They also have emotional and economic costs for the survivors.

In 2006, there were a reported 3,952 incidents of “domestic abuse” in the state of Montana. In 2005, there were 512 incidents of unduplicated adult sexual assaults. Both of these numbers are likely much higher due to the vastly underreported nature of these crimes.

Many people may be unaware that they know someone who has been affected by these types of violence. Nationally, one in four women experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime and one in three to one in five will experience some form of sexual violence.

In response to this public health issue, a Statewide Steering Committee (SSC), comprised of representatives from statewide agencies and organizations, created the Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention Plan.

What is the Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention Plan?
The Plan is a roadmap for creating healthy communities in Montana. It focuses on training, funding, initiatives, policy development, data collection and legislation. It complements prevention work that is being done in several communities across Montana. With these eight goals we hope to stem the tide of IPSV perpetration against all Montanans.

Following the assessment and analysis of conditions that allow and promote IPSV crimes, the SSC identified needs and created a plan spanning five to eight years.

For additional information or to become involved contact:
Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
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Reference sources:
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GOAL 1: Montanans will better understand gender stereotypes and biases, the components of healthy relationships and the role of gender norms in unhealthy relationships.

- Create and disseminate a statewide social norms campaign focused on defining gender respect and healthy relationships.

GOAL 2: Montana middle school and high school students will understand and have skills for building healthy dating relationships.

- Create/Select at least one comprehensive healthy relationship program based on primary prevention principles.

GOAL 3: Montana students in postsecondary institutions will understand and have skills for building healthy dating relationships.

- Create/Select at least one comprehensive healthy relationship program based on primary prevention principles.

GOAL 4: Parents/families who are expecting will have the knowledge and skills to cope with changes and demands on their relationships throughout the preconception, pregnancy and postpartum periods.

- Create/Make available materials, programs and resources focused on primary prevention of IPV to expecting parents/families via health care venues.

GOAL 5: Leaders in the faith community will teach and model healthy relationships to congregants and others in their community.

- Provide trainings to faith leaders on how to incorporate healthy relationship programs and strategies into youth group and adult activities.

GOAL 6: Montanans will have a better understanding of the impact of intimate partner sexual violence and the need for greater equality and respect among and between all ethnic and racial groups in Montana.

- Create partnerships between Native American groups and some of the ethnic and racial groups and agencies that are concerned with primary prevention and violence.

GOAL 7: Montanans will have more accurate data collection systems and reports, as well as a better understanding of how often IPV occurs.

- Create strategies to regularly collect data on perpetration and victimization.

GOAL 8: Sufficient state funds will be allocated and distributed for IPV prevention programs for Montana.

- Provide leadership to create a culture of leadership to create a culture of resistance to violence.

GOAL 9: Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for this comes from federal sources.

PREVENTION VISION: Montana is a community that supports the respectful, empowering, and safe treatment of all people.

- Montana state systems to regularly collect data on perpetration and victimization.

- Support the implementation of the National IntIMATE Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System.

- Train local FPV and IPV advocates, victim services and law enforcement personnel to more accurately report perpetration and victimization in domestic and sexual violence incidents.

- Create a bi-annual comprehensive report on perpetration and victimization of IPV in Montana through inter-agency collaboration.

- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for this comes from federal sources.

We need you!

We are currently forming groups to implement these specific goals and we need your knowledge and commitment to help us make each of these goals a reality for Montana.

We need you!
GOAL 1: Montanaans will better understand gender stereotypes and biases, the components of healthy relationships and the role of gender norms in healthy relationships.

- Create and disseminate a statewide social norms campaign focused on defining gender respect and healthy relationships.
- Statistically, 85% of violence against women is perpetuated by men, however, only a very small percentage of men treat women violently. Most men want to know how to prevent violence against women and how to provide leadership to create a culture where violence against women is unacceptable.

GOAL 2: Montana middle school and high school students will understand and have skills for building healthy dating relationships.

- Create, select at least one comprehensive healthy relationship program based on primary prevention principles.
- In 2005, over 10% of Montana teens reported that during the past year they had experienced IPV and over 1% had been physically forced to have sex.

GOAL 3: Montana students in postsecondary institutions will understand and have skills for building healthy dating relationships.

- Create high-impact college campuses that provide hope for students who experience IPV.
- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for IPV comes from federal resources.

GOAL 4: Parents/families who are expecting will have the knowledge and skills to cope with changing roles and demands on their relationships throughout the preconception, pregnancy and postpartum periods.

- Create and/or make available materials, programs and trainings, focused on primary prevention of IPV to expectant parents/families via health care venues.
- 8% of Montana women who were pregnant in 2007 reported that during the past year they had experienced IPV and over 1% reported they had been physically forced to have sex.

GOAL 5: Leaders in the faith community will teach and model healthy relationships to congregants and others in their community.

- Provide trainings to faith leaders on how to incorporate healthy relationship programs and strategies into youth group and adult activities.
- Montana's 5 to 8-year Plan to Prevent Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence's (MCADSV) DELTA Project through Cooperative Agreement Number 1US4/CE001528 with the Centers for Disease Control.

GOAL 6: Montana will have a better understanding of the impact of intimate partner and sexual violence on the need for greater equity and respect among and between all ethnic and racial groups in Montana.

- Create partnerships between Native American groups and agencies that are concerned with primary prevention and violence.
- Complete a needs and resource assessment regarding programs emphasizing equity and respect among and between all ethnic and racial groups in Montana.
- Identify needs and gaps that Montana must address in order to promote gender and racial equity and to reduce IPV.
- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for IPV comes from federal resources.

GOAL 7: Montanaans will have more accurate data collection systems and reports, as well as a better understanding of how often IPV happens.

- Sufficient state funds will be allocated and distributed for IPV intervention and prevention services, programs and technical assistance in Montana.
- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for IPV comes from federal resources.

PREVENTION VISION: Montana is a community that supports the respectful, empowering and safe treatment of all people. Systems, structures, laws and standards promote and facilitate healthy partner, family and community relationships.

- Train local IPV and SV advocates, victim witnesses and law enforcement personnel to more accurately report perpetration and victimization in domestic and sexual violence incidents.
- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. Currently, nearly all funding for IPV comes from federal resources.

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A PLAN FOR MONTANA

Preventing Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence

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Many people may be unaware that they know someone who has been affected by these types of violence. Nationally, one in four women experience intimate partner violence in their lifetimes and one in three to one in five will experience some form of sexual violence.2

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- Create and disseminate a statewide social norms campaign focused on defining gender respect and healthy relationships.
- Statistically, 86% of violence against women perpetrated by men. However, only a very small percentage of men treat women violently. Most men want to know how to prevent violence against women and how to provide leadership to create a culture where violence against women is unacceptable.

GOAL 2: Montana middle school and high school students will understand and have skills for building healthy dating relationships.

- Create, select at least one comprehensive health education curriculum focused on primary prevention principles.

GOAL 3: Montanans will better understand and take steps to ensure healthy relationships.

- In 2019, over 10% of Montana teens reported that during the past year they had experienced IPV and over 9% had been physically forced to have sex.

GOAL 4: Parents/families who are expecting will have the knowledge and skills to cope with changing roles and demands on their relationships throughout the pregnancy, and pregnancy and postpartum periods.

- Create and/or make available materials, programs and trainings for primary prevention of IPSV to expecting parents/families via health care venues.
- Nationally, 9% had been physically forced to have sex.

GOAL 5: Leaders in the faith community will teach and model healthy relationships to congregants and others in their community.

- Provide trainings to faith leaders on how to incorporate healthy relationship programs and strategies into youth group and adult activities.

GOAL 6: Montanans will have a better understanding of the impact of intimate partner sexual violence and the need for greater equity and respect among and between all ethnic and racial groups in Montana.

- Create partnerships between Native American groups and agencies that are actively engaged in primary and secondary prevention and early intervention.

GOAL 7: Montanans will have more accurate data collection systems and reports, as well as a better understanding of how often IPSV happens.

- There is a need for better surveillance and monitoring of IPSV crimes, as well as more accurate information about victimization and perpetration.

GOAL 8: Sufficient state funds will be allocated and distributed for IPSV intervention and prevention services, programs and technical assistance in Montana.

- Montana has limited resources dedicated to primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence.

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