NORTH CAROLINA’S 10-YEAR PLAN TO PREVENT INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROMOTE ADDRESS SUSTAIN
ADVOCATE PROMOTE
ADDRESS SUSTAIN ADVOCATE

PUBLICATION COORDINATED BY
North Carolina DELTA State Steering Committee Members & Affiliation

Frances Battle  North Carolina Governor’s Crime Commission
Ingrid Bou-Saada  North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Public Health, Injury & Violence Prevention Branch
Sabrina Boyce  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Chimi Boyd-Keyes  North Carolina Central University, Women’s Center
April Burgess-Johnson  North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Tiffany Castellanos  Carolina Outreach
Karen Clark  Alliance of Disability Advocates
Robin Colbert  North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission
Jessie Croom  Family Violence Coalition of Yancey County
Sarah Currier  Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina
Pam Dickens  North Carolina Office on Disability and Health
Jessica Feingold  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Gillian Finocan Kaag  Carolina Outreach
Sharee Fowler  CHANGE Program, Winston-Salem
Peggy Goodman  Brody School of Medicine (Emergency Medicine) at East Carolina University
Kathy Hodges  Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services of Chatham County
Rick Houston  Domestic Violence Shelter & Services of New Hanover County
Theresa Isley  Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services of Chatham County
Shanti Kulkarni  University of North Carolina at Charlotte, School of Social Work
Rebecca J. Macy  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Social Work
Lojuan Kennedy Maring  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Joy Messinger  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Beth Moracco  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Elizabeth Mosley  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health
Leah Perkinson  North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Will Polk  North Carolina Governor’s Office
Betsy Randall-David  North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Injury & Violence Prevention Branch
Kay Ring  HAVEN in Lee County
Becky Scott  North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Michael Sexton  Mecklenburg County Women’s Commission
Paige Hall Smith  University of North Carolina at Greensboro, The Center for Women’s Health and Wellness
Glorina Stallworth  North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services
Diana Urieta  Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina
Lynne Walter  North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault

SUBMITTED TO:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

BY:
The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and
The North Carolina DELTA State Steering Committee

Spring, 2010

North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 5U54CCU422486-06 for the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence’s Domestic Violence Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA Program from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV), also called domestic violence, occurs when a person uses physical violence, sexual violence, threats of violence, psychological, emotional and/or economic abuse, or stalking to establish a pattern of coercive power and control over his or her current or former intimate partner. Victims of IPV are physically, emotionally, and/or economically controlled by their partners, and their right to live peaceful and productive lives is continuously compromised.

While most survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) are female, over 5% of men in North Carolina also experience IPV. IPV has long lasting and complex consequences that impact families, schools, workplaces and communities including:

- Fatal and non-fatal injuries
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Economic loss for individuals and communities
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Mental health problems, including depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

In North Carolina, families, schools, workplaces and communities work with existing service providers and shelters to cope with the negative social and economic impact resulting from intimate partner violence. In an effort to lessen and one day end this burden, North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence presents strategies to prevent this violence from occurring.
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV), also called DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, occurs when a person uses physical violence, sexual violence, threats of violence, psychological, emotional and/or economic abuse, or stalking to establish a pattern of coercive power and control over his or her current or former intimate partner.

Someone You Know is Affected by Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

In North Carolina:

- Almost 20% of all homicides are related to IPV; and nearly 50% of all female homicide victims are killed by their current or former intimate partners.¹⁰
- 1 in 5 women report experiencing intimate partner violence during her lifetime.¹
- More than 13% of high school students report experiencing physical violence by a boyfriend or girlfriend.²
- Women with disabilities experience a higher risk of IPV than women without disabilities, and 31.5% of women in North Carolina have some form of disability.¹¹–¹³
- Low socio-economic status is associated with higher risk of IPV and 11% of North Carolina families live below the poverty level.¹⁴,¹⁵
- North Carolina has the 8th largest Native American population in the nation, and Native American women experience IPV at significantly higher rates than the general population.¹⁶–²⁰

We Can Prevent Intimate Partner Violence

Perpetrating intimate partner violence is a learned behavior, often supported and reinforced by gender norms, friends, families, schools, workplaces, media and laws. Fortunately, learned behavior can be unlearned and even prevented, as demonstrated by successful efforts to reduce drunk driving and smoking over the past few decades.
IN AN EFFORT to prevent intimate partner violence (IPV) and promote healthy, positive intimate relationships, leaders with a stake in preventing IPV from across the state developed a comprehensive, 10-year IPV prevention plan. The purpose of this plan is to guide IPV prevention and healthy relationship promotion efforts across North Carolina. The content of the plan was guided by the collective vision of local domestic violence service providers, domestic violence survivors, allied professionals, researchers and policy makers who envision a North Carolina that:

- **PROMOTES** the basic human right of all people to live free from violence.
- **ADDRESSES** the multiple forms of oppression that combine to cause violence within society.
- **ADVOCATES** for change in social norms that perpetuate violence.
- **SUSTAINS** healthy relationships by developing peaceful and supportive families, communities and social systems.

This 35-member State Steering Committee (SSC) worked together for nearly three years to develop North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent IPV. This work was funded by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) DELTA project, an initiative dedicated to building state and local capacity to prevent intimate partner violence.

North Carolina is one of only 14 states selected by the CDC to engage in this initiative, and the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence takes great pride in coordinating the development, implementation and evaluation of North Carolina’s first state plan to prevent IPV.

The State Steering Committee is currently poised to oversee the implementation and evaluation of North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence. These activities will be supported by local and statewide partners. Implementation and evaluation will also be supported by the EMPOWER Project, which developed North Carolina’s first state plan to prevent sexual violence. EMPOWER is coordinated by the North Carolina Division of Public Health’s Injury and Violence Prevention Branch.
Goals Target Each Life Stage

Goals that target the primary prevention of intimate partner violence (IPV) in North Carolina are oriented around a “life stage” approach designed to engage all age groups in IPV prevention. The life stage approach is inclusive of all people and communities, and recognizes that different approaches to IPV prevention are needed at different stages of life.

Life Stages Targeted:
- Children (0–11)
- Adolescents (12–17)
- Young Adults (18–24)
- Adults/Midlife (25–60)
- Older Adults (61 and older)

Goals Span Across Four Strategic Directions

The State Steering Committee identified 4 focus areas, or strategic directions, within which to target prevention efforts. Initiatives within each strategic direction aim to prevent intimate partner violence in diverse settings and among multiple populations across the state:

Strategic Directions:
1. Parenting Skills and Relationship Norms
2. Education
3. Community Engagement
4. State and Local Capacity to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence
1. PARENTING SKILLS AND RELATIONSHIP NORMS
   - Increase healthy relationship norms among children and adolescents.
   - Increase positive peer messages received by adolescents through social networks and gathering places (including virtual space).
   - Improve parenting skills among caregivers.

2. EDUCATION
   - Increase IPV prevention and healthy relationship building programming and policies within post-secondary educational institutions including colleges and universities, community colleges and technical schools (including compensatory schools).
   - Increase IPV prevention content in youth-oriented agencies and institutions.

3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
   - Increase the number of faith communities which promote healthy relationships.
   - Increase leadership development and community engagement opportunities for adolescents and young adults.

4. STATE AND LOCAL CAPACITY TO PREVENT INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
   - Build the capacity of staff in state and local agencies and organizations to engage in and support IPV prevention efforts.
   - Increase funding for IPV prevention and IPV direct services.
   - Increase the amount of state-level IPV-related legislation and policy, including those that support healthy families, relationships and social engagement.
   - Increase local and state capacity to systematically collect, analyze and interpret a comprehensive range of IPV-related data.
Below are Example Initiatives from North Carolina’s 10-YEAR PLAN to Prevent IPV Designed to Meet Goals in Each of the Four Strategic Directions:

**After-School Domestic Violence Prevention Project**

Providers of after-school programming for middle-school students, university and community college faculty, and domestic violence service providers will form teams to prevent IPV and increase healthy relationships among middle-school students. Teams will receive training on implementing and evaluating an evidence-based dating violence prevention and healthy relationship promotion curriculum. Curricula will be implemented and evaluated by university, college, or community college students in after-school settings.

**Faith Leader Trainings**

In partnership with faith leaders across the state, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, with guidance from the State Steering Committee and statewide partners, will use existing, locally developed curricula to assist faith leaders in supporting healthy relationships among members of their faith community.
Identifying and Disseminating Best Practices on College & University Campuses

In partnership with a number of North Carolina colleges and universities, the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and multiple statewide partners, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the State Steering Committee will identify, adapt and disseminate policies, enforcement protocols and evidence-based programming that demonstrate success in decreasing IPV and increasing healthy relationships on college campuses.

Increasing Competencies Among Local and State-Level Staff to Engage in & Support Primary Prevention Efforts

The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the State Steering Committee and our statewide partners will continually assess the strengths and needs of staff in state and local-level agencies and organizations as they relate to engaging in and supporting IPV primary prevention efforts. Tailored trainings will be developed to address identified needs to ensure that staff effectively support and engage in IPV prevention efforts.

Partnering With State Agencies to Increase the Consistency and Breadth of Intimate Partner Violence-Related Data

The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the State Steering Committee are partnering with the North Carolina Division of Public Health’s Injury and Violence Prevention Branch and university researchers to improve the accessibility and quality of intimate partner violence-related data. This data will be used to inform prevention efforts and to justify increased funding for IPV prevention and service provision.
A strong network of partnerships has been established to support these statewide prevention efforts.

In addition to the State Steering Committee members, who represent a variety of state and local agencies, the following partnerships have been developed to support the implementation and evaluation of initiatives in North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent IPV:

- North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission
- North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- North Carolina Division of Public Health
- North Carolina Division of Social Services
- North Carolina Governor’s Crime Commission
- North Carolina Governor’s Office
- North Carolina Office on Disability and Health
- Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina
- Disability Advocacy Organizations
- Faith communities
- Local domestic violence service providers
- Medical care providers
- Multiple North Carolina state universities
- Private mental health providers

We invite men, women and youth to join us in realizing a North Carolina that:

- Promotes the basic human right of all people to live free from violence.
- Addresses the multiple forms of oppression that combine to cause violence within society.
- Advocates for change in social norms that perpetuate violence.
- Sustains healthy relationships by developing peaceful and supportive families, communities and social systems.

To download the full version of North Carolina’s 10-Year Plan to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence, please visit:


NCCADV Prevention Specialist
P.O. Box 17398
Asheville, NC 28816
(828) 505-3708
References Cited


THE FOLLOWING STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSE NORTH CAROLINA’S 10-YEAR PLAN TO PREVENT INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Equality North Carolina
Legal Aid of North Carolina
North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault
North Carolina Council for Women
North Carolina Department of Correction
North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

North Carolina Department of Correction
North Carolina Domestic Violence Commission
North Carolina Housing Finance Agency
North Carolina Medical Society
Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, North Carolina Department of Administration

www.nccadv.org