

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE POLICYMAKERS

1. Maximize federal funding for domestic violence programs & shelters
2. Monitor and enforce compliance of language access and civil rights laws among county, state and federally-funded health and human service programs
3. Develop statewide and sustained awareness campaigns to change social norms about domestic violence
4. Collaborate with domestic violence programs and agencies to provide domestic violence training for all county, state and federally-funded health and human service, law enforcement and judicial employees
5. Develop a system of referrals to batterer intervention programs that utilize the Hawai`i Batterer Intervention program standards
6. Begin integrating and coordinating services statewide between the state, counties and domestic violence programs & shelters
7. Restore funding levels for domestic violence programs & shelters and expand funding to close the gap in services
8. Invest in the state strategic plan to end domestic violence beyond 2012

REFERENCES

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- ²Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Policy Priorities Survey, December 2010.
- ³National Network to End Domestic Violence. 2010 Domestic Violence Counts: A 24 Hour Census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services, September 15, 2010.
- ⁴State of Hawai`i Judiciary. Justice in Jeopardy, The Impact of Budget Cuts and Furloughs on the Judiciary, December 2010.

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THE TIMES IS NOW: REBUILDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES IN THE STATE OF HAWAI`I, 2011

Ending violence in the lives of women, men and keiki in Hawai`i requires investment into the following services that provide information, safety, individualized & family support, advocacy, empowerment, and community & systems change.

Information

Hotlines & helplines to provide information, referral and advocacy and crisis intervention in multiple languages

Trained and informed personnel at workplaces, schools, healthcare and other social institutions

General community have knowledge of resources and services available

Safety

Immediate crisis intervention such as medical assistance, counseling, and/or sexual assault intervention

Law enforcement assistance

Legal remedies and advocacy

Access to criminal justice system

Emergency housing

Transportation

Advocacy and case management

Individualized Support & Advocacy

Financial assistance

Case management

Medical assistance

Legal representation

Legal advocacy

Language assistance

Immigration services

Mental health counseling

Services for diverse communities

Training of direct service providers

Family Support

Information, activities, support and assistance provided to children of women who have been abused, or who have been exposed to violence

Safe visitation

Children's counseling & support groups

Advocacy with family court, child custody, & child support

Medical Assistance

Childcare

Empowerment

Affordable and permanent housing

Job training and employment services

Education

Job opportunities

Community Support & Coordinated Systems

Prevention education

Personnel, police officers and judges who are trained on the complexities of domestic violence

Funding and staffing are inadequate to handle the high volume of cases, causing greater and greater vulnerabilities in the network of services and placing the safety and recovery of survivors at risk.



INFORMATION	SAFETY	SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY	FAMILY SUPPORT	EMPOWERMENT	COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS
<p>GAP</p> <p>Training for frontline professionals such as healthcare providers and church pastors on how to recognize symptoms of domestic violence and how to respond appropriately</p> <p>24 hour assistance</p> <p>Community education and awareness of resources</p>	<p>GAP</p> <p>Training of first responders to identify and provide sensitive and appropriate intervention</p> <p>Emergency housing aside from shelters</p> <p>Emergency shelters for men</p> <p>Transportation assistance in geographically isolated Locations</p> <p>Trained and qualified staff at state agencies and domestic violence programs</p> <p>Information about victim and immigration rights</p>	<p>GAP</p> <p>Civil legal services on neighbor islands</p> <p>Location of services</p> <p>Financial options for immigrants</p> <p>Lack of trained and quality interpreters</p> <p>Mental health services for survivors and men, both as perpetrators and victims</p> <p>HUD and Welfare too slow</p> <p>Health related services</p> <p>Staff training</p> <p>Long-term case management and advocacy</p> <p>Substance abuse treatment</p> <p>Cultural competent services</p> <p>Specialized services for underserved communities</p>	<p>GAP</p> <p>Counseling, support groups and mental health services for children exposed to violence</p> <p>Supervised visitation</p> <p>Child witness services</p> <p>Identified children who have been exposed to domestic violence</p> <p>Educating teens about healthy relationships</p> <p>Childcare services</p> <p>Parenting education</p> <p>Trained and qualified staff at state agencies and domestic violence programs</p> <p>Child welfare advocacy</p>	<p>GAP</p> <p>Transitional and permanent affordable housing, especially for survivors with special needs such as substance abuse</p> <p>Long-term counseling, support group and mental health services for women and men</p> <p>Financial skills/budgeting</p> <p>Job readiness and training</p> <p>Educational opportunities</p> <p>Job opportunities</p>	<p>GAP</p> <p>Ongoing awareness campaigns to change social norms and belief systems about domestic violence</p> <p>Intervention programs for batterers</p> <p>Domestic violence specific prevention programs at schools</p> <p>Delays in/lengthy court process</p> <p>Unserved penal summons of suspects/batterers</p> <p>Personnel, police officers and judges who are trained on the complexities of domestic violence</p> <p>Court space</p> <p>Legal systems coordination</p>
<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>“I guess the ones that are being left out are the ones that don’t speak the language, or that the information is not brought to their community, so they don’t know how to access it if it’s not brought to them.”¹</i></p>	<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>“The hardest sacrifice we had to make was not being able to pick up a woman when she was in crisis and bring her into the shelter. With one staff person on shift you can not leave the shelter unattended. We had to ask women in crisis and fear to access the bus, or try and find a ride to our shelter.”²</i></p>	<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>95 unmet requests for services on one day.³</i></p> <p><i>“We are back where we started”¹</i></p> <p><i>“With reduced staff at legal services programs, more victims have to handle their own cases, compromising their rights to safety, visitation and property.”¹</i></p>	<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>A children’s program served 168 children and 50 parents in June 2009. In June 2010 the program only served 27 children and 17 parents, and averages 30 families on the waiting list. This program provides counseling for children exposed to domestic violence and parenting/skill-building for survivors of domestic violence.²</i></p>	<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>“There’s not enough financial support to give these single parents independence and have that option.”¹</i></p>	<p>IMPACT OF CUTS</p> <p><i>“DV is still a secret, you know, it’s still the batterer’s best friend, and that’s in every society in our community.”¹</i></p> <p><i>“Treatment courts, besides being cost effective, are a major tool in breaking the cycles of substance abuse, domestic violence and many other social issues facing our state.”⁴</i></p>