

## Honoring Survivors' Spiritual Needs: Supporting Jewish, Catholic, and Muslim Survivors of Domestic Violence



**Breckan Winters:** Welcome to this afternoon's webinar! I am Breckan from NRC DV, I will be moderating the chat box this afternoon. We'll get started at 3pm EST.

**Breckan Winters:** If you have not already done so, please dial 1-877-594-8353, pass code: 527-89-148# for audio. You may also listen through your computer.

**Breckan Winters:** In the meantime, feel free to introduce yourself here in the chat!

sameerah alansary: hello

**Breckan Winters:** Welcome to today's webinar! We'll be getting started in a few minutes. In the meantime, be sure to introduce yourself here in the chat!

Krystal Perez: Hello!!!!!!

**Breckan Winters:** Welcome! :)

**Morgan Dewey:** Morgan here from NRC DV! We'll be live tweeting from @NRC DV using #NRC DVlive. Share your thoughts, insights, and highlights! We'll be sure to uplift your digital voice. :)

Krystal Perez: Hello I'm Krystal, I'm from Puerto Rico. I work with trauma survivors. I've been working with domestic violence victims for 10 years. I'm focused in a therapy process that involves psychotherapy and trauma sensitive yoga. Thanks for his space

**Breckan Winters:** We're so excited to spend time together this afternoon! We'll be getting started in just a few minutes. In the meantime, feel free to continue with introductions here in the chat!

**Breckan Winters:** If you have not already done so, please dial 1-877-594-8353, pass code: 527-89-148# for audio. You may also listen through your computer.

Veronica Quinonez: Hi all!! Very excited for this training! I'm with JCADA (serves the surrounding DC areas)

**Breckan Winters:** Welcome!

Aelya Salman: Hello all :) I'm with Kiran, we serve South Asian survivors in North Carolina

JP Gray: Hi I am JP Gray from the Prosecuting Attorney Office, Honolulu, HI

Janet Taylor: Hello Everyone! Janet Taylor, family advocate at Center for Community Solutions in San Diego County, CA.

Duresmeen Berki: Hello all! I am a child advocate at Bridges NH who works with children and families experiencing domestic and sexual violence in Nashua, New Hampshire- excited for this training

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you so much for joining us this afternoon!

Arlene Vassell: Hello all! Joining from Silver Spring, Maryland.

**Breckan Winters:** I'm Breckan from NRC DV, I will be moderating the public chat during this afternoon's webinar. Be sure to share any questions for presenters here throughout the webinar, and feel free to continue with introductions here in the chat!

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: Hello from Tatyana, a crime victim advocate from Portland, Oregon

J Miller: Good Afternoon Everyone! Hopefully, my internet will be nice for the remainder of the webinar! :-)

Christina Fletcher: Hello! Christina from Jacksonville, Florida!

Breckan Winters: Welcome, everyone!

NRC DV Admin 2: Hi this is Ivonne your host, I'm joining from beautiful Saint Augustine Fl

Stephanie Kenney: Hi! Stephanie from Wilmington, NC :)

Breckan Winters: Poll: What are your first thoughts when someone says the words "Jew" or "Jewish"?

Christina Fletcher: traditional

Casey Keene: persecution

Duresmeen Berki: devout, family oriented

Hannah Smith 2: old testament

Mirian Amaya 2: Jew being an offensive term

Yasmeen Shah: Moses

Jacalyn Lee: Israel

Bruce McKinnon: Christian basis

Sue Blair: kindness, friendship

Stephanie Kenney: Strong beliefs

Katie Lyons: family

Trisha Teofilo Olave: philanthropic

Patrice ivy: Hello Everyone! Patrice Ivy from Chicago, il

Jen Way Lee 2: values education heavily

Casey Keene: light

Teresa Earles: Money

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: holocaust

Veronica Quinonez: diverse from orthodox to culturally Jewish

Linda Douglas: diverse

Carolyn Wilson: star, or the symbol

Kela Bolduc: Nation

Donna Bucaro: holocaust, discrimination, orthodox - strict faith

Mei Hung: religious or culturally

Inez Noelin: Worship on Saturdays, Israel, holocaust

Aelya Salman: kosher

Mei Hung: holocaust, rabbi

sameerah alansary: Mousa law

Breckan Winters: Thank you for sharing, everyone!

Breckan Winters: A recording and related materials will be available at  
VAWnet <https://vawnet.org/material/webinar-honoring-survivors-spiritual-needs-supporting-jewish-catholic-and-muslim-survivors>

**Breckan Winters:** You can also learn more from our new resource released this week, "Religion and Domestic Violence: Addressing the Connections" <https://vawnet.org/material/ta-bundle-religion-and-domestic-violence-addressing-connections>

**Breckan Winters:** Be sure to share any questions for presenters here in the chat!

Trisha Teofilo Olave: You mentioned you are modern Orthodox. What is the modern distinction?

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for the question, Trisha! We'll share that with Deborah to respond to

**Breckan Winters:** Poll: What are your first thoughts when someone says "Catholic" or "Christian"?

Linda Douglas: Dogma

Katie Lyons: strict

Duresmeen Berki: strict, strongly adheres to traditional practices

Christina Fletcher: Saints

Hannah Smith 2: Mary

Amanda Ray: tradition and mass

Megan Fernandez: Conservative

Krystal Perez 2: tradition, church,

Ashlee McCullough: roman catholic

Jacalyn Lee: mass, prayers

Aelya Salman: Magdalene Laundries in Ireland

Mei Hung: Filipino/a/x, family oriented

Bruce McKinnon: Catholic is original Christian religion.

Jen Way Lee 2: baptism, religious routines

Lauri Przybysz: hierarchy

Hannah Smith 2: pro-life

Aelya Salman: holy trinity

sameerah alansary: Catholic are not same as the born-again Christian.

Patrice ivy: traditional

Lauri Przybysz: international

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: hope, prayers, care

Trisha Teofilo Olave: Pope

Kela Bolduc: Personal relationship with God

Aelya Salman: lots of charity work internationally

Carolyn Wilson: anti-choice

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: spiritual abuse

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for sharing, everyone!

sameerah alansary: you should have someone talk about born again Christian, because catholic is not as the Christian, I am saying this because it is totally different belief, thanks

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for raising that, Sameerah! You're right, there are many faith traditions that are not represented here

Dione Bassett: I have to leave early for another meeting. This is excellent so far...is there any way to get the presentation so I can watch whatever I miss?

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for joining us Dione! Yes. the recording and related materials will be available here on VAWnet: <https://vawnet.org/material/webinar-honoring-survivors-spiritual-needs-supporting-jewish-catholic-and-muslim-survivors>

**Breckan Winters:** Poll: What are your first thoughts when someone says the words "Muslim" or "Islam"?

Aelya Salman: incredibly diverse

Linda Douglas: Pillars

Hannah Smith 2: hijab

Ashlee McCullough: peaceful

Janet Blair: generous

Sabrina Islam: peace

Patrice ivy: Loyalty and dedication.

Nora Nieto: Allah

Sue Blair: generous

Jacalyn Lee: prayers, Middle East

Christina Fletcher: welcoming, warm, giving

Duresmeen Berki: islamophobia, Prophet Muhammad (saw), international

Mei Hung: religious, Ramadan, Eid

Amanda Ray: call to prayer

sameerah alansary: wahabi

Da'Kai Wharton: hijab, peace, Ramadan

Christina Fletcher: family

Kela Bolduc: Faith

Carolyn Wilson: unjust persecution

Bruce McKinnon: Basically loving religion, but has some radicals which give it a bad name.

Trisha Teofilo Olave: many countries... diverse

Duresmeen Berki: very diverse across cultures

Lauri Przybysz: foreign

Mei Hung: middle eastern and north African, or Indonesian, etc.

Teresa Earles: Malcom and Ramadan

Inez Noelin: Mohammed, Fasting, Iran, Community

sameerah alansary: no freedom

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: women have limited rights

Mirian Amaya 2: stereotype of oppressed women

Duresmeen Berki: Imams

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you for sharing, everyone!

Christina Fletcher: Why do some women call the hijab a head scarf instead of saying hijab?

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for your question, Christina! We'll share that with presenters

sameerah alansary: hijab is Arabic word for head scarf.

sameerah alansary: they use Arabic words as stated in Quran

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you for clarifying that, Semeerah!

sameerah alansary: you're welcome!

**Breckan Winters:** Here is the article that Saman wrote for serving Muslim survivors in shelter!

<https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-domestic-violence-advocates-better-serve-muslim-women-shelter>

Janet Taylor: Sorry if this has already been asked/shared, will we be able to get a recording and copy of powerpoint?

**Breckan Winters:** Hi Janet, yes the recording and related materials will be available here on

VAWnet <https://vawnet.org/material/webinar-honoring-survivors-spiritual-needs-supporting-jewish-catholic-and-muslim-survivors>

**Breckan Winters:** What are some unique ways that people of faith experience DV?

Trisha Teofilo Olave: guilt

Bruce McKinnon: Some DV offenders try to use their faith tenets to justify their actions.

**Breckan Winters:** Here is the podcast that Sharon referenced. Ep 4, "When Love Means Leaving" <http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/podcast/>

Belinda Hopkins: Belinda Hopkins from Women's Resource Center Fayette County Outreach, WRC DV Victim Advocate, Fayetteville, WV

Patrice ivy: economics

Linda Douglas: a minister told a woman that if she was a "Godly wife" then her husband would not beat her.

**Breckan Winters:** That hurts my heart to hear and is too common. Thank you for sharing that, Linda

**Breckan Winters:** This article addresses what Sharon shared about the importance of husbands loving their wives in Ephesians: <https://uscatholic.org/articles/201602/where-there-is-pain-there-is-god/>

**Breckan Winters:** Feel free to share any additional questions for presenters here in the chat!

sameerah alansary: why in Quran; says hit women when they are disobeying the husband. why Quran incitement to hit women.

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you for the question Sameerah, we will share that with the presenters

Trisha Teofilo Olave: I've had a lot of clients talk about the shame or fear of shame that divorce will bring upon their families

**Patty Branco:** See "How can I assist survivors of Jewish faith in overcoming obstacles to obtaining a religious divorce ("Get")?" at <https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-i-assist-survivors-jewish-faith-overcoming-obstacles-obtaining-religious-divorce-get>

**Patty Branco:** The above resource provides guidance on assisting Jewish survivors of domestic violence through the process of obtaining a get.

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks, Patty!

Inez Noelin: Is training of Rabbi and clergy/ leaders of the other denomination offered/provided/accepted?

**Breckan Winters:** Great question, Inez! We'll share that with presenters

**Breckan Winters:** What are barriers that prevent people of faith from seeking services?

Ashlee McCullough: shame/blame

Sydney Palinkas: Thinking the programs won't be sensitive

Jen Way Lee 2: shame in the faith community

Sabrina Islam: stigma

Rubeena Malik: embarrassment

Duresmeen Berki: documentation, societal/family rejection

Veronica Quinonez: loss of community

Megan Fernandez: Judgment

Teresa Earles: Shame & failure

Aelya Salman: the inability to articulate problems in a secular way

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: shame, community will blame her

Trisha Teofilo Olave: sometimes it's hope that things will get better

Rubeena Malik: community judging them

Bruce McKinnon: Shame from friends and members of their religion.

Jen Way Lee 2: sometimes it's the cultural norm

Veronica Quinonez: abuser could have distorted religious texts as a way to control so there is heightened self-blame

Rubeena Malik: trusting in their faith to overcome troubles

Patrice ivy: Shame and money...

Rubeena Malik: "God would not give you the struggle if you could not handle it"

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you so much for sharing, everyone!

**Patty Branco:** Saman Quraeshi wrote a beautiful blog post for VAWnet/NRC DV discussing the main barriers that Muslim women face when accessing services and staying at domestic violence shelters. She also highlights best practices for advocates. <3 Read more: <https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-domestic-violence-advocates-better-serve-muslim-women-shelter>

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks, Patty!

Inez Noelin: Fear of increased/further abuse...

**Breckan Winters:** What are some ways to support survivors of faith?

Veronica Quinonez: counselors or support groups with a focus on faith

Inez Noelin: Train/educate clergy and community...Break the silence!

Breckan Winters: Thanks for sharing!

Breckan Winters: Poll: Have you ever worked with a faith leader?

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: yes

Jacalyn Lee: yes

Amanda Ray: yes

Teresa Earles: no

Trisha Teofilo Olave: yes

Rubeena Malik: yes

Megan Fernandez: No

Duresmeen Berki: yes

Sydney Palinkas: yes

Kyle Britz: yes

Katherine Fleming: no

Donna Bucaro: no

Patrice ivy: No

Da'Kai Wharton: no

JP Gray: yes

Inez Noelin: yes!

Debra Edwards: yes

Ashlee McCullough: no

Katie Lyons: no

Jacalyn Lee: we have faith leaders on our board

Breckan Winters: Thank you so much for sharing, everyone!

Kyle Britz: with one of our faith communities we helped with these comprehensive sex ed for all the age groups <https://www.uua.org/re/owl>

Breckan Winters: Thanks for sharing Kyle! UU's sex ed curriculum is AWESOME!

Breckan Winters: For more information, be sure to check out NRC DV's brand new resource bundle, "Religion and DV: Addressing the Connections" <https://vawnet.org/material/ta-bundle-religion-and-domestic-violence-addressing-connections>

Breckan Winters: Here is the Interfaith Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence: <https://interfaithagainstdv.org/#>

Breckan Winters: Safe Havens recently wrote an awesome piece on building partnerships with faith communities and DV agencies to support accountability for those who cause harm, available here: <https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-partnerships-faith-communities-support-accountability-and-hope-those-who-cause-harm>

Breckan Winters: Learn more from FaithTrust Institute: <https://www.faithtrustinstitute.org/>

Breckan Winters: Be sure to share any questions here!

Lauri Przybysz: What efforts are happening in Protestant Christian churches? Do you have any contacts in those faith communities that could speak about it?

Trisha Teofilo Olave: thank you!

**Breckan Winters:** Good question, Lauri - there are so many faith traditions that are working to address DV, it would be great to have representatives from all!

**Breckan Winters:** Learn more about what Saman is sharing at Peaceful Families Project: <https://www.peacefulfamilies.org/>

Veronica Quinonez: When I worked in rural VA people (protestant Christians predominantly) would misuse quotes from the bible as well. Unfortunately, I think abusers will simply use whatever tool they can to justify abuse.

**Breckan Winters:** Yes, exactly. Thank you so much for raising that Veronica.

Inez Noelin: With the presence of COVID-19 does anyone know if the DV shelters in operation

**Breckan Winters:** Hi Inez, yes many DV programs are still in operation. Many have had to adapt in order to prevent the spread of COVID

Donna Bucaro: DV shelters are in operation. They just look a little different right now.

Jacalyn Lee: Most shelters are open but with changing methods to distance. Thank you all so much!

Janet Taylor: Yes our shelters are still up and running, we have made adjustments and have guidelines in place to continue serving

Becca Maguire: Our shelter is still in operation. We have had a huge increase in requests and for emergency intakes

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks, everyone!

Amanda Ray: From a secular organizational standpoint, how might we address if a survivor asks us to pray for them?

Veronica Quinonez: really good question

Inez Noelin: Thanks for this presentation and all you do!

Amanda Ray: Yes, in general we are asked to not specifically reference any religious perspectives (especially to allow our own personal biases not to get involved)

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks for the clarification, Amanda!

**Breckan Winters:** Great question!

Amanda Ray: sure thing! Yes, that's very helpful!

Ellamy Tiller: We aren't allowed to offer, but if asked, we can pray for or with clients. If we're not of the same religion or feel uncomfortable, we can say, "I'm not comfortable with that, but I'm happy to sit with you while you pray."

Amanda Ray: thank you!

**Breckan Winters:** Thanks so much for joining us today, everyone. Be sure to share any final questions here!

Veronica Quinonez: I had to step away for a call so I missed a chunk, will the recording be shared? It was so good definitely want to go back and listen to what I missed



**Breckan Winters:** A recording will be available here on VAWnet, as well as the PPT and other related materials: <https://vawnet.org/material/webinar-honoring-survivors-spiritual-needs-supporting-jewish-catholic-and-muslim-survivors>

Ayah Mostafa: Thank you all, thoroughly enjoyed this webinar.

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you for joining today's session! Please be sure to respond to our brief survey upon logging out.

**Breckan Winters:** Register for the DVAM Call for Unity and other upcoming trainings here: <https://nrcdv.org/trainings>

Jen Way Lee 2: Thank you so much, I also missed a lot due to an emergency call. thank you for the link.

J Miller: Thank you for the information!!!!

Amanda Ray: Thank you! This was wonderfully informative!

Trisha Teofilo Olave: Thank you for your time!

Ashlee McCullough: Thank you! Very informative presentation!!

JP Gray: Thank you all

Veronica Quinonez: thank you all soooo much! very important topic

Casey Keene: Wonderful presentation! Thank you so much!

**Breckan Winters:** Thank you so much for joining us today, everyone!

Arlene Vassell: Thank you all!

Stephanie Kenney 2: Thank you for the informative webinar!! Do we need to email someone regarding certificates or will they be emailed to us?

**Breckan Winters:** Hi Stephanie, email [iortiz@nrcdv.org](mailto:iortiz@nrcdv.org) for a certificate

Tatyana Bondarchuk 2: Thank you!

Aelya Salman: thank you :)

Jen Way Lee 2: thank you

Debra Edwards: Thanks so much