

# National IPV Prevention Council Strategic Plan

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2023 - 2026

**preventIPV**  
tools for social change

 National Resource Center  
on Domestic Violence

# Introduction

Dear Partner in Prevention,

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV) knows that domestic violence is preventable and ending domestic violence takes vision and intentionality to disrupt the structural inequities that perpetuate violence.

As part of a social change movement to end gender-based violence, the mission of NRCDV is to strengthen and transform efforts to end domestic violence. Since its inception in 1993, NRCDV has played a key role in promoting shared learning and resource development. NRCDV is committed to remaining racially explicit in actualizing our Theory of Change:

*If we center the lived experiences of survivors of color in order to end systemic racism, we will attain safe and thriving communities.*

NRCDV's work is guided by the voices and leadership of survivors of domestic violence and is particularly responsive to the lived experiences of Black and brown survivors, advocates, and communities. NRCDV leads its prevention work with collaboration, coordination of efforts, and accountability to the field as essential elements of all activities. In the spirit of this commitment, NRCDV is proud to serve as the convener of the National IPV Prevention Council.

For over a decade, the IPV Prevention Council has worked to advance violence prevention and make it accessible to all communities. In 2022, the Council took a significant step forward by expanding its membership to create a multigenerational network of fierce change agents committed to disrupting the status quo and prioritizing the needs of individuals and communities most impacted by violence.

NRCDV is inspired by the ongoing evolution of the Council as it seeks greater representation, connection, and accountability to those most impacted by violence.

As a result, the heart of the Council truly shines through.

This plan represents an opportunity to practice living our values. As one member shared:

“I am very hopeful that now that the plane has landed that we don't feel that we have 'arrived.' There is still work to do, and I hope the same energy and attention that was given to this process continues beyond this to something that is sustainable.”

It is our shared commitment to bring this document to life, for our collective liberation.

Onward!  
From the staff of NRCDV

# Summary

This strategic plan is a product of the IPV Prevention Council and reflects the Council's dedication to centering those most impacted by violence and establishing meaningful connections with individuals and communities invested in violence prevention. Over the next three years, the Council will focus on three key areas: reimagining prevention, policy and funding, and resource sharing and connection.

- 1 Reimagining Prevention:** The Council aims to unite preventionists under a common definition of violence and prevention. One that resonates with all people and recognizes the intersections with other social movements.
- 2 Policy & Funding:** The Council seeks to create a more compelling case for investing in prevention. They will advocate for policies that prioritize violence prevention while also working to secure increased funding for survivors and prevention programs.
- 3 Resource Sharing & Connection:** The Council aims to amplify the stories of prevention efforts happening in queer, trans, black, and brown communities and foster a supportive and connected network of individuals working to prevent violence.

The IPV Prevention Council's priorities reflect a commitment to shifting power to those most impacted by violence and its members are united in bringing the words in this plan to life.

## IPV Prevention Council History

In 2002, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) Program to increase primary prevention at the state, tribal, territory, and local levels to prevent domestic violence. In 2011, the IPV Prevention Council, organized by the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV), was formed as a voluntary association of domestic violence coalitions. The coalitions, many of whom were recipients of DELTA funding, formed to serve as an advisory group to the CDC and sought to advance a comprehensive national prevention agenda.

From 2019 to 2021, the Council met to expand its membership to honor its commitment that the Council reflects diverse voices and experiences within the gender-based violence movement. The changes within the Council paralleled the urgent call to actively challenge and dismantle the white dominant narrative and practices that perpetuate inequity and hinder progress within the gender-based violence movement. In August 2022, the IPV Prevention Council announced several new members. By welcoming individuals and organizations with a demonstrated commitment to serving those most impacted, the Council paves the way for an intergenerational movement that bridges community assets and activists to a national network.

# IPV Prevention Council Timeline

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) to increase primary prevention at the state, tribal, territory, and local levels to prevent domestic violence. Fourteen state-level domestic violence coalitions were funded to build organizational capacity and state leadership for IPV primary prevention as well as provide prevention-focused training, technical assistance, and financial support to local Coordinated Community Response Teams (CCRs).

2002

IPV Prevention Council was formed to serve as an advisory group to the CDC and domestic violence coalitions, and work to advance a comprehensive national prevention agenda.

2011

NRCDV launched the PreventIPV.org website, based on the vision and guidance of the IPV Prevention Council. This online space offers peer-driven resources and tools to help build the capacity of domestic violence programs to engage communities in the social change work that is necessary to promote a thriving culture where all relationships are built on respect, equity, and peace.

CDC and the Prevention Institute published *Connecting the Dots: An Overview of the Links Among Multiple Forms of Violence*. This brief shares research on connections between different forms of violence, most notably shared risk and protective factors. It emphasizes the importance of coordinating and integrating responses to violence in a way that recognizes these connections and considers the individual in the context of their home environment, neighborhood, and the larger community.

2014

CDC's DELTA Impact program funded 9 state domestic violence coalitions and their local communities to implement strategies and approaches that affect the structural determinants of health at the societal or community levels. DELTA Impact focused on 3 key strategies:

- 1) Engage Influential Adults and Peers,
- 2) Create Protective Environments, and
- 3) Strengthen Economic Supports for Families.

2018

IPV Prevention Council met virtually to dissolve the existing structure.

2021

2007

The next iteration of the DELTA program, DELTA PREP, was a collaborative effort between CDC, the CDC Foundation, and the project's funder, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It funded 19 additional state-level domestic violence coalitions to build their organizational capacity to address IPV primary prevention.

2013

CDC's DELTA FOCUS (Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances, Focusing on Outcomes for Communities United with States) program funded 10 state domestic violence coalitions for five years to identify, implement, and evaluate programs and policies to prevent IPV by influencing the environments and conditions in which people live, work, and play. In addition to state-level work, each coalition supported one or two CCRs, for a total of 16.

2017

CDC published *Preventing Intimate Partner Violence Across the Lifespan: A Technical Package of Programs, Policies, and Practices* as a key resource to guide prevention decision-making to help communities and states stop intimate partner violence before it starts, support survivors, and lessen the short and long-term harms of intimate partner violence.

2019

IPV Prevention Council Steering Committee discussed the need to dissolve the current structure. The Council had not been functioning as initially intended and needed more representation from individuals working across the spectrum of prevention.

NRCDV published the first in a series of 7 DELTA FOCUS Stories to PreventIPV.org, sharing lessons learned from grantees around key themes. Each includes key lessons learned and highlighted strategies, tools for adaptation, highlighted projects, and related resources.

2022

IPV Prevention Council announced new members comprised of survivors and community-based organizations with a demonstrated commitment to meaningful engagement of youth and those most impacted by gender-based violence.

2023

DELTA AHEAD (Achieving Health Equity through Addressing Disparities) is the latest iteration of the DELTA Program. Through this program, the CDC is funding 13 recipients to expand on the accomplishments of previous programs by implementing intimate partner violence prevention strategies and approaches, with a greater focus on health equity, while funding local communities to do the same.

The White House released the first-ever "U.S. National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence: Strategies for Action." The plan is a comprehensive, government-wide approach to prevent and address sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, and other forms of gender-based violence.

NRCDV published the first in a series of DELTA Impact Stories to PreventIPV.org, capturing the critical pivots, untold stories, and lessons learned from their work.

NRCDV, in partnership with the National IPV Prevention Council, and with support from Rita Flores of Collective Capacity Consulting, developed and released a three-year Strategic Plan.

## Strategic Planning Process

The IPV Prevention Council hosted a series of meetings and discussions to develop a three-year strategic plan. The process began on September 28, 2022, in Atlanta, GA. The gathering served as an opportunity to welcome the new members and establish a foundation for their collective work. With the support of Rita Flores of Collective Capacity Consulting, the group explored where they could channel their energy and resources. These discussions allowed the Council members to delve deep into the ways the movement has caused harm to those it claims to serve and create a shared understanding of its direction forward. Together, the group articulated their shared vision, purpose, and values to reflect their culture. The Council reconvened virtually on January 23, 2023, to further refine its work. The session allowed for ongoing collaboration toward their strategic plan. In April 2023, the Council dedicated two days to developing strategic priorities. The Council formed work groups to allow members to focus on specific areas of interest and expertise. This strategic plan represents their commitment to preventing violence and is a roadmap to guide their actions and initiatives over the next three years.

### Council Members:

- Arianna Sessoms, [Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance](#)
- Cy Petrocelli, [Community United Against Violence](#)
- Tonjie Reese, [eleven24](#)
- Justin Carter, [Carter Prevents](#)
- Kelly Anelli, [Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
- Ashleigh Klein-Jimenez, [ValorUS](#)
- Glenn A. Harris, [Ohio Domestic Violence Network](#)
- Karimah Dillard, [Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
- Marsha Curry-Nixon, [A Miracle 4 Sure](#)
- Stephanie Solomon, [Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
- Roy Rios, [Texas Council on Family Violence](#)
- Lul Mohamud, [The Person Center](#)
- Lórien Castelle, [New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
- Deb DeBare, [National Network to End Domestic Violence](#)
- Debby Tucker, [National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence](#)
- Arlene Vassell, Lavon Morris Grant, Shenna Morris, & Casey Keene, [National Resource Center on Domestic Violence](#)

# About Us

The IPV Prevention Council is a national network of survivors, advocates, and organizers from different locations with diverse cultures, skill sets, and lived experiences. We represent community-based, state, and national organizations. We are united in our commitment to creating space for the wisdom, knowledge, and leadership of communities left behind and honoring the different pathways to violence prevention.

## Vision Statement

For too long, survivors and people who have experienced violence were invited into the movement to talk about their pain and trauma, but not trusted to lead. The Council values the leadership of those with lived experience in moving its vision forward.

Our vision for the future is a movement where:

Prevention is *alive*, and everyone has a role.

There are multiple pathways to violence prevention, and we make room for nuance.

We feel connected to each other and everyone is welcome.

We see communities organizing to create a culture where peace, joy, justice, and equity are the norm.



## Purpose

The IPV Prevention Council is a national network of survivors, advocates, and organizers with diverse cultures, skill sets, geographical locations, and lived experiences. We represent community-based, state, and national organizations. We are united in our commitment to creating space for the wisdom, knowledge, and leadership of communities left behind and honoring the different pathways to violence prevention.

# Values and Principles

As long-time activists and advocates working to end violence, we know intimately the challenges of uprooting violence and how words on paper sometimes fail to impact change. Our promise is to ensure that the values and principles we proclaim are visible in our actions and work. And when we falter, as we know we will, we will lean on our values and principles to help hold each other accountable.

## Survivor-Centered

We believe that those who are most impacted by violence hold the key to solutions. Together we strive towards creating a safer and more just world guided by the collective wisdom of those who know the realities of violence firsthand.

- We understand that sharing one's story can be a deeply personal process, and we will develop various ways to engage survivors that respect their boundaries.
- We develop programs, initiatives, policies, and practices rooted in the lived experiences of survivors and those impacted by violence.
- We strive to transition from strategies that focus on emergency shelter toward a housing model that protects survivors' dignity, provides stability, and offers opportunities for rebuilding their lives on their terms.



## Collective Liberation

We live by the principle that “I can’t be free until you are free” and strive for a world where the full spectrum of diversity is honored and celebrated.

- We understand that true freedom is interconnected.
- We honor and celebrate the diversity of all people across gender, sexual orientation, ability, class, religion, race, and ethnicity.
- We confront the historical, oppressive, patriarchal, capitalist, racist, and imperialistic systems perpetuating violence and inequity and will work toward healing and creating a safer, more just world for all.



## Equity & Anti-Oppression

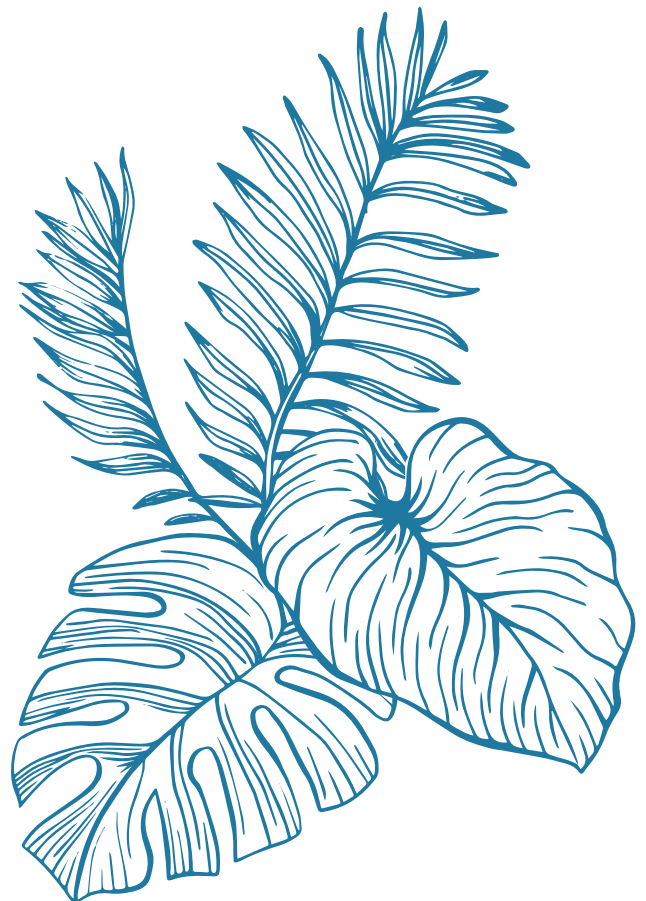
We believe in the importance of understanding the roots of violence and will work toward solutions that disrupt harmful patterns and systems perpetuating oppression.

- We acknowledge the intersections between our work and other social movements and will work towards breaking down silos to create more impactful solutions.
- We recognize that most diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives are rooted in white-dominant culture. We are committed to shifting the focus toward dismantling oppressive systems rather than perpetuating the existing structures of oppression.
- We commit to not enacting any strategy or activity before there is clarity about who or how the burden is distributed.
- Our strategies promote the well-being and empowerment of those most impacted by violence and oppression.

## Dignity

We believe individuals are experts in their experiences and worthy of honor and respect.

- We create strategies that ensure everyone has the opportunity to thrive.
- We create a culture of compassion and empathy where individuals are treated with care, support, and dignity.
- We refuse to accept or expect others to tolerate treatment or circumstances beneath their dignity and worth. We will advocate for individuals to assert their boundaries, voice their needs, and stand up for their rights.





## Disrupt & Dismantle

We refuse to be complacent or complicit in systems perpetuating inequity, discrimination, and marginalization. We courageously disrupt and challenge the status quo, advocating for transformative change that uplifts and empowers marginalized communities.

- We strive towards a future where justice, equity, and liberation are not mere aspirations but a lived reality for all.
- We courageously confront the status quo and actively work towards dismantling the patriarchy, white supremacy culture, and all forms of oppression.
- We prioritize the voices and experiences of those most impacted, ensuring they are at the forefront of shaping our actions, policies, and initiatives.

## Innovation

We believe to prevent violence we must move beyond cookie-cutter approaches to methods that engage the community.

- We strive to move beyond the limitations of what funders tell us works and instead embrace a spirit of curiosity and out-of-the-box thinking.
- We actively seek partnerships and collaborations with individuals and organizations who bring new perspectives and inspire us to think differently.
- We recognize that the best solutions are often co-created with those directly impacted by violence victimization or perpetration across a spectrum. We will actively engage with communities and listen to their needs, aspirations, and ideas.
- We embark on a journey of discovery and exploration that allows us to embrace new ways to practice professionally and personally.

# Our Strategic Priorities

This strategic plan focuses on prioritizing three areas:

1. Reimagining Prevention
2. Policy & Funding
3. Resource Sharing & Connection



## Reimagining Prevention: Mobilizing preventionists under a common definition of violence and prevention

To prevent violence we must address the root causes of violent behavior instead of labeling individuals as “good” or “bad.” This narrow approach relies on carceral responses that harm communities. In order to create a liberated

world, we must unlearn our desire for vengeance and for responding to interpersonal violence with institutional violence, and see that under capitalism and patriarchy, no community can heal. Our goal is to broaden the understanding of violence which broadens our understanding of prevention and to ensure support and healing for all, including those who have caused harm. Extending grace does not excuse the behavior but rather breaks cycles of violence and views everyone as having a role in violence prevention. With the support of our network, we aim to create a universal definition of violence prevention that resonates with all people and recognizes the intersections with other social movements.

**Goal:** To create a universal definition of violence and prevention

**Objective 1:** Define violence and prevention within the IPV Prevention Council

**Objective 2:** Secure a general understanding of the definition the IPV Prevention Council creates

**Objective 3:** Encourage council members to use the agreed upon definition in our respective communities



## Policy & Funding: Creating a more compelling picture to increase focus on violence prevention

We aim to advocate a transition from a competitive funding mindset to allocating resources that directly benefit survivors and prevention efforts. We intend to engage with funders, foundations, and policymakers to demonstrate the value and impact of prevention programs, encouraging them to invest in long-term prevention strategies.

### Goal: Increase funding & resources for prevention

- Objective 1:** Identify gaps in prevention resources through listening sessions projects
- Objective 2:** Engage in robust data collection related to the effectiveness of prevention impact; gaps and barriers
- Objective 3:** Expand federal, state, and private funding for prevention
- Objective 4:** Solidify our relationship as the funding and policy committee



## Resource Sharing & Connection: Sharing resources and building connections to advance prevention

To advance intersectional prevention efforts we must move beyond the traditional gender and victim-abuser binary. We seek to showcase the stories of prevention efforts happening in queer,

trans, black, and brown communities, raise awareness about the diverse range of prevention efforts across communities, and advocate for funding to bolster prevention efforts.

**Goal 1:** Complete a nationwide census on prevention methods utilized on local, state, regional, and national levels to understand the state of prevention and assess gaps, challenges, and opportunities.

**Objective 1:** Develop comprehensive outreach strategies via coalition, technical assistance, and community-based partners and stakeholders of violence prevention across ten identified regions

**Objective 2:** Develop data collection and engagement approaches informed by qualitative and quantitative research methods and informal grassroots tools

**Objective 3:** Analyze the above approaches to finalize census methodology, partners, stakeholders, and training in preparation for the roll-out

**Objective 4:** Roll out census collection in the second year across ten dignified regions



**Goal 2:** Create a storytelling project to showcase the voices, perspectives, and work of community practitioners of violence prevention via a multi-media campaign on virtual and hybrid platforms

**Objective 1:** Identify practitioners to highlight in the storytelling project and develop widespread and inclusive potential subjects of the project

**Objective 2:** Guide and prepare selected storytellers and projects to participate and publish stories for launch and in-person summit

**Goal 3:** Launch a nationwide advocacy initiative to engage changemakers across communities on the state of prevention

**Objective 1:** Publish a census on the state of prevention using traditional and nontraditional methods

**Objective 2:** Deploy hybrid storytelling and census sharing tour to engage preventionists across ten identified regions

# Implementation and Impact

To implement this plan, the Council has formed workgroups for each of the focus areas in this plan:

- Reimagining Prevention
- Policy & Funding
- Resource Sharing & Connection

These workgroups are responsible for identifying and carrying out tasks to advance the goals and objectives identified above. Workgroups will identify key indicators of success for each objective, and will track progress over the course of the three year implementation period.



The Council is committed to achieving measurable change by 2026, including:

**Uniting** preventionists under a common definition of violence and prevention that resonates with all people and recognizes the intersections with other social movements.

**Creating** a more compelling case for investing in prevention and increasing funding for survivors and prevention programs.

**Amplifying** the stories of prevention efforts happening in queer, trans, black, and brown communities and fostering a supportive and connected network of individuals working to prevent violence.

Shifting power to those most impacted by violence is a critical pathway to achieving this shared vision towards liberation. We welcome you on this collective journey.

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The NRC DV welcomes your input. If you have any comments or additional information to provide, please contact our Programs & Prevention Team at [nrcdvTA@nrcdv.org](mailto:nrcdvTA@nrcdv.org).