

PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRC DV) public policy goals focus primarily on five broad issue areas:



SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



SAFE HOUSING



ECONOMIC JUSTICE



PREVENTION, HEALTH, & WELLNESS



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMMUNITY EFFORTS

I. SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



Current system responses maintain status quo approaches and inequitable solutions, thus preventing social and cultural transformation in ending and preventing domestic violence.

NRCDV position: Solutions and responses to domestic violence must be led through a race equity lens and include the larger context of social justice and progressive world-building.

NRCDV policy goal: Actively disrupt status quo approaches and solutions, and nurture transformation.

NRCDV policy action & advocacy:

- Analyze, encourage, and offer racial equity-based solutions in legislative, administrative, and social system policies.
- Lead shifting system policies and stakeholder practices towards centering survivors' direct input and leadership participation that is justly compensated.
- Engage in regulatory and administrative advocacy that expands allowable use of federal resources such as FVPSA, VOCA, VAWA, and HUD funds, to be provided as direct cash assistance.
- Support efforts of labor movements which includes the pay and labor equity of survivors and advocates.
- Leverage current efforts in various communities to build willingness of DV programs to support working with those who do harm.

Disclaimer: NRCDV recognizes the fluidity of language. While domestic violence is the leading terminology used throughout this agenda, NRCDV is committed to approaching our work through an expansive racial equity lens that encapsulates the broad span of gender-based and community violence. This means we must advocate and mobilize with others to build a world that is free from all forms of violence.

Our truth is that to have a liberated society where survivors and all humanity can live free from violence, our work must strive to create the conditions for Black, Brown, and Indigenous peoples to live free from violence and be seen in their full humanity.

Low housing inventories and limitations in accessing existing affordable inventories create barriers to safe and sustainable housing options as solutions for survivors.

NRCDDV position: Housing is a human right. We must be expansive in our policy thinking, efforts, and focus to increase survivors' access to the broad range of accessible and affordable housing options that exist.

NRCDDV policy goal: Increase the availability of and access to housing for survivors, with emphasis on Black, Brown, and Indigenous survivors and communities.

NRCDDV policy action & advocacy:

- Advocate to re-tool existing resources and create greater flexibility, within existing funding streams, towards use in building or rehabbing affordable permanent housing.
- Advocate for survivor specific homeownership programs, designated set-asides, and other homeownership resources.
- Advocate to enhance survivor prioritization in housing resource portfolios such as those provided through the Departments of Treasury, Agriculture, Housing, FVPSA, and other streams.
- Increase field and system engagement and level of awareness of the intersections between survivor safe housing and environmental justice, linguistic justice, prevention, economic justice, and non-carceral responses to violence.

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Economic insecurity, strained financial wellness, limited assets, and limited opportunities to build wealth are key barriers to survivor wellness and safety, homelessness prevention, and housing security.

NRCDV position: Ensuring increased economic security for survivors, their families, and communities supports survivor thriving and safety along with the prevention of domestic violence.

NRCDV policy goal: Forge alternative pathways to resource building, financial wellness, and sustainability for survivors, with emphasis on Black, Brown, and Indigenous survivors and communities.

NRCDV policy action & advocacy:

- Support allied organizations and continue to build the evidence base of parallels between economic justice and safe housing for survivors.
- Support the identification of policy pathways to homeownership for survivors.
- Advocate for flexible funding policies and practices.
- Support allied organizations and support policy efforts that allow flexibility and exception from economic penalization of survivors.

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IV. PREVENTION, HEALTH, & WELLNESS



Holistic wellness is not centered as a primary approach to preventative solutions of domestic violence.

NRCDV position: Co-creating policy solutions with survivors and communities most impacted by gender-based violence and sexual violence, to address the root causes, will move us closer to just, equitable, and holistic solutions that ground us in the wellness of humanity.

NRCDV policy goal: Encourage and support solutions invested in holistic wellness to end and prevent domestic violence.

NRCDV policy action & advocacy:

- Support priorities set by Black and Indigenous youth homelessness and violence prevention organizations.
- Advocate for solutions and resources that support wellness of mind, body, and spirit.
- Advance prevention, health, and wellness policy solutions that are community based.
- Advocate for sustainable federal and state prevention funding investments across all states.
- Support policies and priorities that address the unique faith needs of survivors.
- Advocate for use of resources and policies that support survivor identification of their ancestry as healing tools.

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Histories of racial inequity have intensified the disparate rates of response, solutions, resource distribution, wellness, gender-based violence, and other intersecting social justice issues experienced in communities.

NRCDV position: Survivors and communities at large are the catalyst of change. To adequately engage in creating change, we must be committed to centering those most impacted and supporting their capacity to engage, mobilize, and influence.

NRCDV policy goal: Advocate for, support, and follow the lead of survivor and community led efforts, especially Black and Brown survivors and communities.

NRCDV policy action & advocacy:

- Advocate for race equity and mechanisms of accountability to be institutionalized in public policies and administrative rules and regulations.
- Support advocacy efforts directed at funding for culturally specific programs and approaches.
- Research and highlight community led solutions using NRCDV's platforms.

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