EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HOMELESSNESS

An intersectional, collaborative approach to advocacy and housing
To create opportunities for positive change by promoting and supporting the full potential of individuals, the strengths of families, and the well being of the community.
Community Solutions is a comprehensive non-profit human services agency serving Santa Clara and San Benito Counties.

Since 1973, we have responded to the growing and changing needs of our community, serving several thousand people, From young children to older adults each year.
We provide a comprehensive spectrum of prevention, intervention, treatment, and residential services to help children, families and individuals overcome the challenges posed by:

- Mental health issues
- Substance abuse
- Trauma
- Severe family dysfunction
- Gang influence
- Sexual assault
- Intimate partner violence
- Human trafficking
- Homelessness
Our Solutions to Violence programs provide trauma-informed, survivor-centered and empowerment-based services to strengthen and support survivors of intimate partner abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

Additionally we work create change through education, prevention, and community outreach services.
1. Increased understanding of how IPV, SA, and HT intersect
2. Increased understanding of the intersections of gender-based violence
3. Increased understanding of GBV's impact on homelessness
4. Barriers survivors face when trying to secure and maintain long-term housing.
5. Increased understanding of survivor needs for services and housing from crisis to stabilization/transitional to sustainability.
Increased understanding of how Intimate Partner Abuse, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking intersect.
**CDC: Connecting the Dots**  
**Links of Violence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Type of Violence Peretration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child maltreatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low educational achievement</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of non-violent social</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>problem-solving skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor behavioral control/Impulsiveness</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of violent victimization</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witnessing violence</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological/mental health</td>
<td>X^42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance use</td>
<td>X^42</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

# CDC: Connecting the Dots

**Links of Violence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>Child Maltreatment</th>
<th>Teen Dating Violence</th>
<th>Intimate Partner Violence</th>
<th>Sexual Violence</th>
<th>Youth Violence</th>
<th>Bullying</th>
<th>Suicide</th>
<th>Elder Maltreatment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural norms that support aggression toward others</td>
<td>X³³,76,77</td>
<td>X³⁸,79</td>
<td>X³³</td>
<td>X³¹</td>
<td>X⁸⁰</td>
<td></td>
<td>X²⁷,8¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Violence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X⁵⁷,³²,³³</td>
<td>X⁴³</td>
<td>X¹⁷</td>
<td>X⁸⁴,⁸³,⁸⁵</td>
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<tr>
<td>Societal income inequity</td>
<td>X⁴⁸</td>
<td>X⁸⁶</td>
<td>X⁸³</td>
<td>X⁷⁷</td>
<td>X⁸⁸,⁸⁹</td>
<td>X⁴⁷</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weak health, educational, economic, and social policies/laws</td>
<td>X⁹⁰</td>
<td>X³³</td>
<td></td>
<td>X³¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X⁹¹</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harmful norms around masculinity and femininity</td>
<td>X⁹²</td>
<td>X⁵⁴</td>
<td>X³³</td>
<td>X³¹,³⁷,³⁴</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X⁹³</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correlation of Abuse

Children who were exposed to violence in the home were 15X more likely to be physically and/or sexually assaulted than the national average.
Researchers in Ohio found after looking at the Rape Backlog kit testing exam the criminal histories of 259 known perpetrators of sexual assault found that:

- 12% of serial offenders had at least one reported domestic violence arrest prior to the sexual assault
- 34% of them had at least one domestic violence arrest afterward

Increased understanding of the intersections of gender-based violence and its impact on homelessness
Cindy's Intersections

Cindy became homeless when she left her roommate Greg after he severely beat her.

Then, he coerces her into sleeping with other men for money.

When she refused, he would kick her out of their apartment.

Is Cindy a victim of IPA/SA/HT?
What in her story indicates HT?
What in her story indicates IPA?
What in her story indicates SA?

AMP Model
What was the action that her abuser used?
What is the means that her abuser used?
What was the Purpose that her abuser used?

Action
- Recruits
- Harbors
- Transports
- Provides
- Obtains or so attempts

Means (Force, Fraud, Coercion)
- Causing or threatening serious harm
- Physical restraint
- Debt bondage
- Abuse of legal process
- Withholding documents

Purpose
- Commercial sex acts
- Labor or Services
John’s Intersections

John broke up with Vincent.

Vincent claimed John was in debt to him.

Then, he coerced John into working for his family business.

John hasn’t been paid in 5 months.

Is John a victim of IPA/SA/HT?

What in his story indicates HT?

What in his story indicates IPA?

What in his story indicates SA?

AMP Model
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51% of women currently unhoused are accompanied by minors.

41% of them stated their homelessness was caused by violence.

36% of the unhoused women attribute their homelessness due to domestic violence.

54% of the unhoused women surveyed have faced some form of violence, abuse, harassment, or threats while experiencing homelessness.

39% of women returned to an unsafe home because they had nowhere else to go

20% of unhoused women were pregnant while they were experiencing homelessness

Santa Clara County Task Force on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (2021) Santa Clara County website
https://www.sccgov.org/sites/owp/board/cedaw/Pages/home.aspx Retrieved 9/21/21
Snapshot of Sexual Assault & Housing

- 16 (26%) of those cases involved someone in the home (stepfather, stepbrother, uncle, roommate, etc.)
- 24 (40%) of those cases the parent experienced domestic violence
- 60 (43%) involve cases with youth under the age of 17
- 140 Survivors receiving services currently
Barriers Survivors Face when Trying to Secure Housing.
Barriers of Housing for GBV

- Prior to Covid many sexual assault survivors could only access 3-day emergency hoteling after fleeing homes with sexual assault

- If domestic violence was also present the family could then qualify into our domestic violence shelters

- With more families living in homes with multiple families we are seeing incidents of sexual violence that occurred among roommates
Barriers of Housing for GBV

- Many parents are tasked with trying to stabilize and find income:
  - Affordable daycare
  - Prior lack of natural support systems
  - Potential loss of familial support systems
  - Distrust of outside providers
Barriers of Housing for GBV

- Poor credit ruined rental histories
- Lack of steady employment
- Housing discrimination
- Loss of subsidized or other affordable housing
Inicios: Addressing Survivor Needs
Comprehensive approach to gender-based violence

Service Values:
- Trauma Informed
- Survivor Centered
- Empowerment Based
- Culturally Responsive

Comprehensive Services:
- IPV/SA/HT Crisis Response
- Confidential Advocacy
- Victim Witness Support
- Immigration and Family Law
- Law Enforcement
- Joint Safety Planning
- Case Management, Housing, etc.

Training and TA Efforts:
- Training to Partners
- Protocol Development
- Collaborative Community Outreach

Collaborative Partnerships:
- Community based organizations
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- DFCS
- Medical Providers
- Faith Based Organizations
Intended collective Impact

- More Responsive Systems
- Increased Safety
- Increased Understanding of Systems and Survivor Rights
- Streamlined support
- Increased Access to other systems and resources
- Increased emotional and physical well-being
Ensure a Continuum of Culturally Responsive Policies, Services and Support that Prioritizes Survivors’ Wellbeing from Crisis to Long-Term Sustainability.

- Crisis/Urgent: Establishing Basic Needs
- Stabilization: Transitioning Towards Self Sufficiency & Economic Empowerment
- Sustainability: Maintaining Permanent Housing
Self-sufficiency and stabilization

Advocacy from Inicios (Beginnings) to Thriving!
Abraham Harold Maslow (April 1, 1908 - June 8, 1970) was a psychologist who studied positive human qualities and the lives of exemplary people. In 1954, Maslow created the Hierarchy of Human Needs and expressed his theories in his book, Motivation and Personality.

Self-Actualization - A person’s motivation to reach his or her full potential. As shown in Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, a person’s basic needs must be met before self-actualization can be achieved.

Physiological
- Breathing, food, water, sex, sleep, homeostasis, excretion

Safety
- Security of body, of employment, of resources, of morality, of the family, of health, of property

Love/Belonging
- Friendship, family, sexual intimacy

Esteem
- Self-esteem, confidence, achievement, respect of others, respect by others

Self-Actualization
- Morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem solving, lack of prejudice, acceptance of facts

Abraham Maslow
# Crisis/Engagement Phase

## Focus
- Engagement
- Needs assessment
- Address needs
  - Basic needs: food, shelter, medical, mental health needs
- Safety needs
  - Civil standby, lock changes, alarm, safety plan
- Legal Needs
  - TRO, custody, immigration, good cause report

## Tools
- Dr. Jacquelin Campbell’s Danger Assessment
- Community Solutions Victim Needs Screening Tool
- Safety Plan
- Goal Plan
- Client Intake

## Approaches
- Trauma-Informed
- Survivor-Centered
- Empowerment-based
- Culturally responsive
- Stages of Change
- Motivational Interviewing
WHAT IS OFFERED:
- LIMITED EMERGENCY HOTEL
- LIMITED CONFIDENTIAL EMERGENCY SHELTER
- VISPDAT SCREENING

WHAT THE NEED IS/GAPS:
- LONGER TERM EMERGENCY HOUSING OPTIONS
- NOT A HOUSING FIRST MODEL
- VISPDAT DOES NOT PRIORITIZE HOUSING FOR GBV
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO EMERGENCY HOUSING FOR SURVIVORS:

INCREASE THE CAPACITY ACROSS THE HOUSING CONTINUUM TO ENSURE SEAMLESS HOUSING AND COMPREHENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR GBV SURVIVORS FROM CRISIS TO LONG-TERM HOUSING

SCREENING FOR EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHERS SHOULD BE DONE BY CONFIDENTIAL GBV PROVIDERS

LOOK AT A GAPS ANALYSIS OF THE NEED FOR EMERGENCY HOUSING OPTIONS FOR GBV
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT

LIFE COACHING + CASE MANAGEMENT

GOAL

WILL DO

COACHING

REALITY

OPTIONS
# Stabilization Phase

## Focus
- Increasing self-confidence
- Increasing self-sufficiency
- Increasing English proficiency
- Improving emotional, mental, and physical health
- Increasing support networks
- Establishing transitional housing
- Linkage to other resources, legal, etc.
- Advocacy and support with court systems and other partners

## Tools
- Goal Plan
- Safety Plan
- Self-Sufficiency Matrix
- Pre-VISPDAT
- VI-SPDAT

## Approaches
- Trauma-Informed
- Survivor-Centered
- Empowerment-based
- Culturally responsive
- Stages of Change
- Motivational Interviewing
WHAT IS OFFERED:
- RAPID REHOUSING
- TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (EL JARDINS)
- CALOES HOUSING

WHAT THE NEED IS/GAPS:
- MORE BEDS AND SPACES
- LACK OF PREFERENCE GUIDELINES FOR GBV AT AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPLEXES
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO STABILIZATION HOUSING FOR SURVIVORS:

FLEXIBILITY TO ALLOW CONFIDENTIAL GBV PROVIDERS TO ASSESS SURVIVORS ENTRY INTO HOUSING POINTS

ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS WITH CITIES AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPERS TO CREATE PREFERENCE GUIDELINES TO INCREASE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GBV SURVIVORS
EMPOWERMENT/SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Housing stability
Economic Stability
Established supportive systems
Utilization of gained skills
SUSTAINABILITY PHASE

Focus
- Survivor has permanent housing
- Survivor has steady income
- Survivor has means to cover basic needs consistently
- Survivor has reliable transportation, childcare, etc.
- Survivor has access to continued mental health and medical care
- Survivor has ability to pursue academic and professional goals

Tools
- Goal Plan
- Safety Plan
- Self-Sufficiency Matrix

Approaches
- Trauma-Informed
- Survivor-Centered
- Empowerment-based
- Culturally responsive
- Stages of Change
- Motivational Interviewing
WHAT IS OFFERED:
- LIMITED SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMMING
- CASE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

WHAT THE NEED IS/GAPS:
- NO TRAJECTORY TO PERMANENT HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES
- LACK OF PERMANENT HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES
- LACK OF PREFERENCE GUIDELINES FOR GBV AT AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPLEXES
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING FOR SURVIVORS:

INCREASE THE CAPACITY ACROSS THE HOUSING CONTINUUM TO ENSURE SEAMLESS HOUSING AND COMPREHENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR GBV SURVIVORS FROM CRISIS TO LONG-TERM HOUSING

INCREASE NETWORK FOR PARTICIPATING LANDLORDS WITH HOUSING PROGRAMS

ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS WITH CITIES AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPERS TO CREATE PREFERENCE GUIDELINES TO INCREASE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GBV SURVIVORS
Solutions to Violence Walk-In Services
16264 Church Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
341 Tres Pinos Road, Suite 202 b, Hollister, CA 95023
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Family Justice Center- South County
16264 Church Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
Wednesdays 9:00am - 5:00pm

San Benito County Youth Drop-In Center
544 San Benito Street, Hollister, CA 95023
Monday- Wednesdays 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

SafeChat
www.safechatsv.org

@communitysolutionsSTV

24 Hour Crisis Hotline (877) 363-7238
www.communitysolutions.org
Making a Difference in Our Communities

- Gilroy & Hollister Innovators: youth and adult volunteers creating safer communities through community-led actions
- Promotores: Spanish speaking volunteers who empower their community through education
- School-based prevention programs
- San Benito County Youth Drop-In Center
- Parent Workshops
- Survivor Leadership Opportunities
- Awareness Building Campaigns
- Professional Trainings
- Volunteer Advocate training