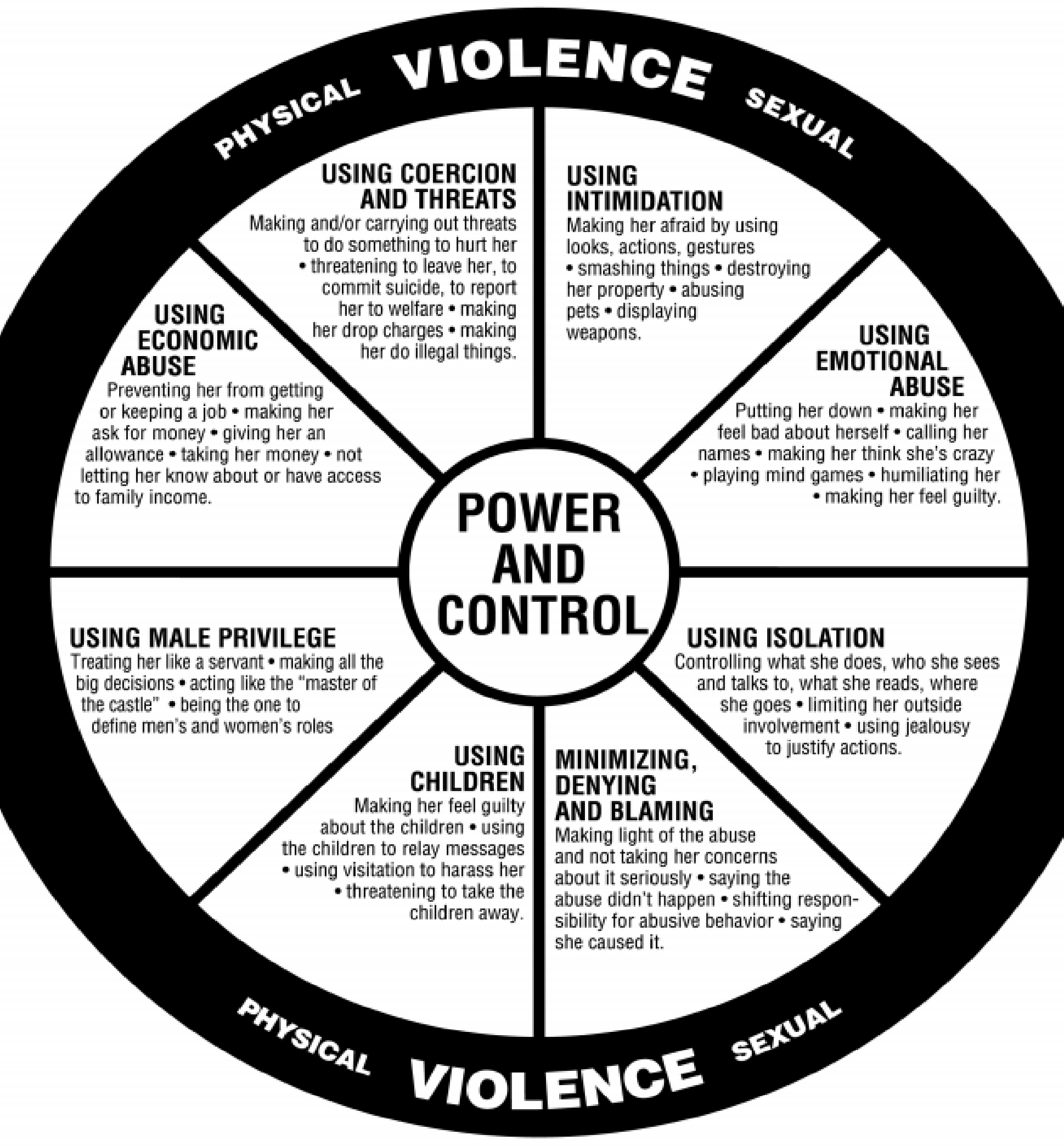


Agenda

- Understanding domestic violence
 - The intersection with homelessness
 - Unique needs of survivors
- The role of service providers
 - Recognizing needs and gaps
 - Building partnerships
- Questions and closing

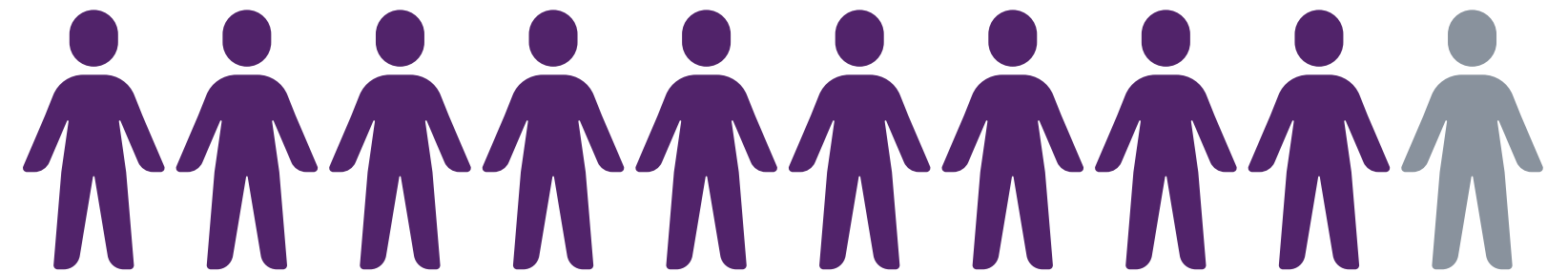
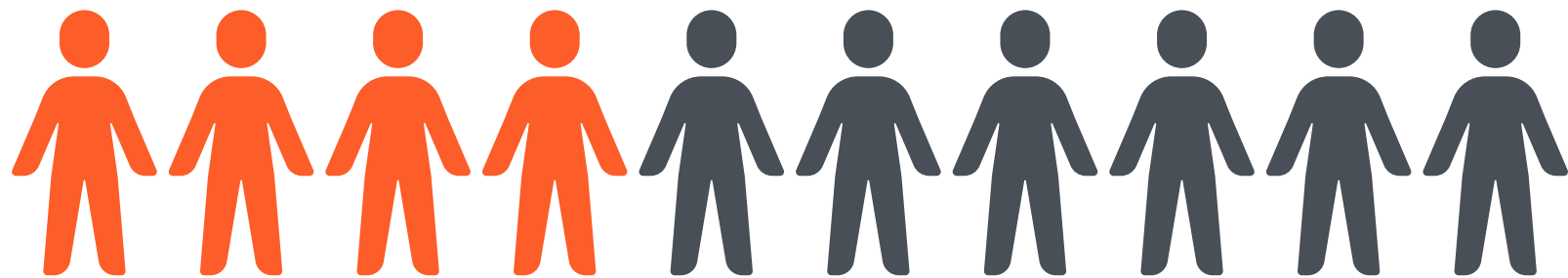


Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, or technological actions or threats of actions, or other patterns of coercive behavior that influence another person within an intimate partner relationship.

- Between 22 and 57% of all women who are homeless report that domestic violence was the immediate cause of their homelessness.
- 38% of all domestic violence victims become homeless at some point in their lives.

- Over 90% of women who are homeless have experienced severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives, and 63% have been victims of intimate partner violence as adults.



Making the Link

- Poverty and inequality are associated with higher rates of domestic violence.
- Landlords often evict survivors and deny survivors housing.
- Unhoused people are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, with fewer options for escape.
- Once homeless, people are more likely to experience homelessness again. Survivors are especially vulnerable as the abuse is ongoing.



Economic Abuse



94-99% of survivors experience economic abuse.

The Abuser may...

- Control all the money or financial decisions
- Commit identity theft against the survivor or children
- Interfere with the survivor's ability to get and keep a job
- Destroy the survivor's credit or take out debt in the survivor's name
- Force the survivor to leave
- Destroy property or assets
- Keep the survivor engaged in the court system causing excessive legal costs

<https://ncadv.org/blog/posts/quick-guide-economic-and-financial-abuse>

Being a Survivor is Expensive

- Healthcare costs
- Mental health costs
- Legal and court costs
 - Abusers use courts to maintain control
- Child custody/investigations
 - Survivors may be forced to move
- Repair damage caused by the abuser
- Costs of being a single parent such as maintaining household



Intersecting Issues

- Ongoing legal issues
- Risks with child custody or deportation, including possible detention
- Isolation from social supports
- Stalking by the abuser
- Prior evictions
- Incarceration
- Inadequate or unstable housing

HUD Criteria Defining Homelessness

(Note, advocates do not need to only work with people who meet this definition.)

- Literally Homeless
- Imminent Risk of Homelessness
- Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes
- Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence

Who are Homeless Survivors?



**In Their Shoes:
The Unique Needs of Survivors
Who Are Experiencing
Homelessness**



Often Forgotten Needs

- Menstrual care
- Reproductive care
- Prenatal care
- Childcare burden
- Increased risk of violence

What else?

Trauma and Homelessness

Trauma can contribute to homelessness

- Needing to leave unsafe situations
- Causing difficulty maintaining housing and employment
- Challenges trusting others

Being homeless can be traumatic

- Vulnerability
- Uncertainty and fear
- Danger, risk, and injury

Trauma-informed Services

Discussion:
What do these
principles look like in
your work?

Trust and transparency

Safety

Choice and empowerment

Culturally responsive

How do we help survivors stay housed?

- Safety planning
- Support to remove the perpetrator from the home
- Funding for locks, repairs, light bills, etc.
- Relocation assistance
- Flexible funding arrangements
- Rapid re-housing
- Injunction for Protection

What else?

Barriers to Employment

Getting a Job

- Address, phone, email access
- Internet
- Preparation, resume, interview
- Gaps in employment
- Discrimination and oppression
- Barriers to being on time
- Lack of paperwork
- Abuser's behavior

Keeping a Job

- Lack of paperwork
- Challenges with being on time, clothing, food access
- Discrimination and oppression
- Lack of employment support or mentoring
- Impact of trauma
- Abuser's behavior

What else?

What can you do?

Based on your role, how could you help survivors navigate the barriers we just discussed?

Homeless Shelters

Homeless shelters may have:

- Curfews
- Daily lines to get a bed
- Requirements to remove your items daily
- Gender segregation
- Fewer confidentiality practices



Advocacy Check:
How can you help a
domestic violence survivor
navigate homeless shelter
services?

Domestic Violence Shelters



- Domestic violence shelters are communal living environments that provide a minimum of 6 weeks of supportive shelter. Survivors have access to kitchens, laundry, bathrooms, and other supplies as well as advocacy services.
- Domestic violence services- shelter and outreach services- are bound by state and federal confidentiality laws that protect survivor information.
- All services are voluntary and empowerment-based.

Advocacy Check:

What challenges may a survivor who is homeless face working with domestic violence services?

Certified Domestic Violence Centers

Core Services

- Emergency Shelter
- Outreach Services
- 24-hour Crisis Hotline
- Support Group
- Counseling and Advocacy
- Children's Program
- Safety Planning
- Goal Planning
- Information and Referral

Successful Partnerships

- Learn about each others' programs and policies
- Work together to identify gaps
- Approach with a team-building mentality
- Cross-train
- Show up
- Listen

Prevention: Economic Security and Domestic Violence



Strengthening investments in the following areas may help prevent sexual violence at all levels of society:

Income Building Programs

such as microfinance loans (e.g., Kiva) and other entrepreneurship programs.



Living Wage Policies that help ensure that a full-time worker can afford basic necessities (e.g., housing, childcare) for themselves and their family.



Credit and Debt Management Programs

to address long-term barriers related to credit and debt issues.

Housing Security,

including rental assistance, shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.



Paid Family Leave,

which may help reduce the gender pay gap in the long-run.



Cash Assistance

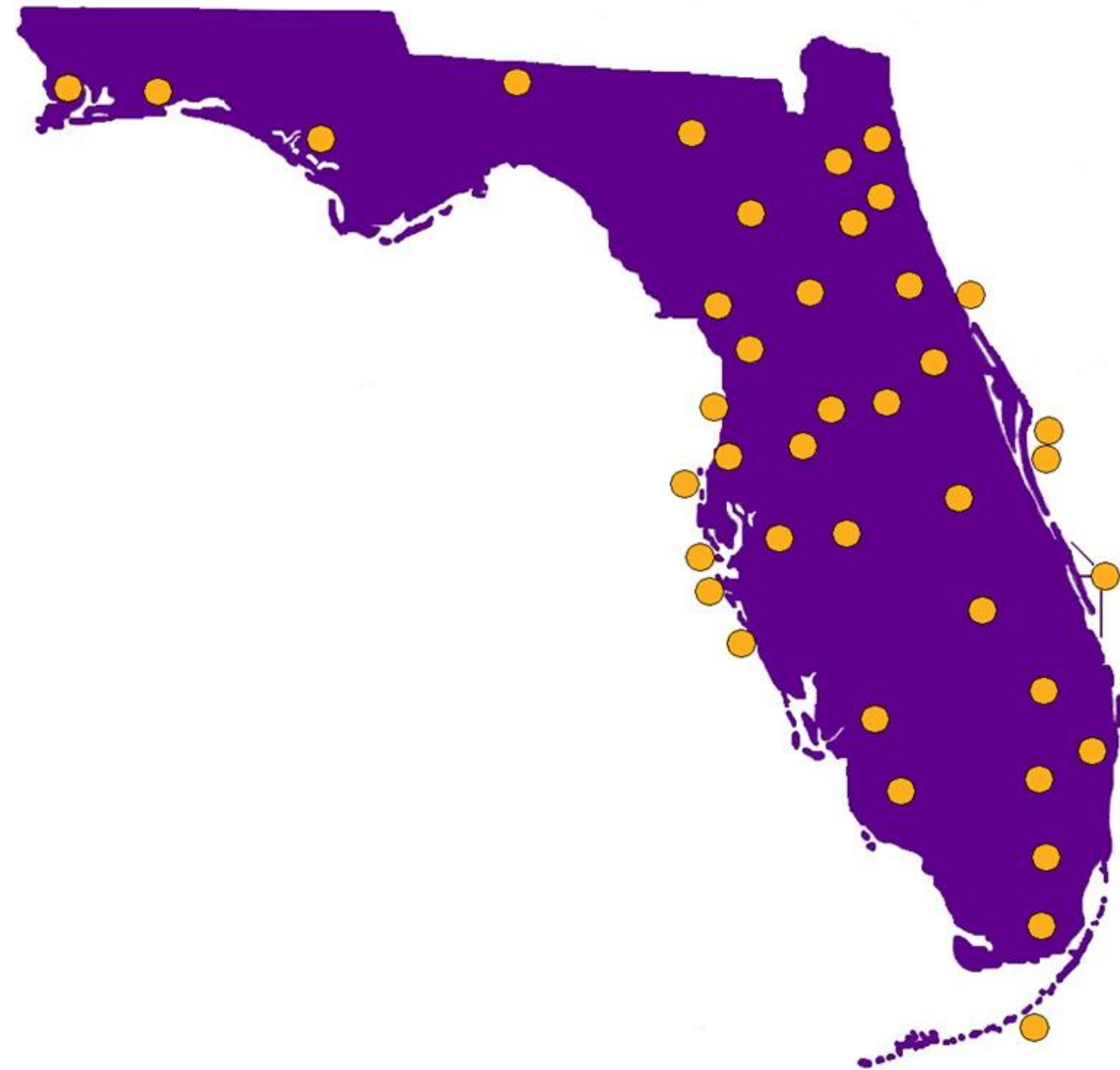
for vulnerable populations, such as low-income pregnant parents.





Questions?

Florida's Certified Domestic Violence Centers



Florida Domestic Violence Hotline

The Florida Domestic Violence Hotline is a free, 24-hour crisis intervention and resource line for domestic violence survivors. Advocates are available 24 hours a day, to connect callers with their local certified center, to provide immediate crisis support, to safety plan with survivors, and to provide information about domestic violence to friends and family of survivors of domestic violence. Spanish and Creole Advocates and interpreter services are available for survivors with limited English proficiency.

1-800-500-1119
Florida Relay 711

Florida Domestic Violence Legal Hotline

The Florida Domestic Violence Legal Hotline provides attorneys to answer survivors' legal questions regarding injunctions for protection, divorce, custody, housing, immigration and other civil legal matters at no cost to survivors. Interpreter services are available for survivors with limited English proficiency.

Legal Hotline: 1-800-500-1119 ext. 3

Connect with Your Local Center

- Local certified domestic violence centers may be able to assist you with:
 - Brochures, posters, hotline stickers
 - Meeting advocates and get staff familiar with local services
 - Sharing information about your services
 - Receiving additional training or feedback

Local Center Information

Do you know the local certified domestic violence center in your community?

Bonus points: Do you know the hotline number? OR how to find it?

- <https://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/domestic-violence/map.shtml>