



EMPOWER
TOGETHER



EMPOWER TOOLKIT DVAM 2020

This toolkit was created for Healthcare Providers in collaboration with DV Advocates for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In this toolkit, you will have access to valuable resources and learn more about our specialty trainings.

HEALTH CARE'S ABOUT DV PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Interface • P. 2

About DVAM & Welcome
Letter • P. 3

Impact of DV on Health • P. 4
Training & Technical
Assistance • P.5

Responding to DV • P. 6
Provider Scripts • P. 7

Additional Resources • P. 8

ABOUT INTERFACE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Established in 1973, Interface Children & Family Services is the region's most comprehensive nonprofit social services agency providing direct, responsive, wrap-around services to address the complex needs of client and community.

As a critical safety net for children and families, Interface provides 30 distinct programs across seven core program areas including mental health and trauma treatment, domestic violence and child abuse prevention, youth crisis intervention, human trafficking, reentry services, early child and family development, and 2-1-1 information and referral in 21 counties.



INTERFACE IS HERE TO HELP!

During the current COVID-19 crisis, Interface wants the community to know that vital services are still being offered to assist individuals and families in need. Click on the service to learn more about our programs and ways to access support.

[2-1-1 Information and Referral](#)

[Child Abuse & Domestic Violence Prevention](#)

[Early Child and Family Development](#)

[Human Trafficking](#)

[Justice Services](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Youth Crisis and Homeless Youth Services](#)

Contact us:

24-hour Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking
Hotline: 1-800-636-6738

24-hour Youth & Housing Crisis Hotline:
(805) 469-5882

Mental Health Intake Line (Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm):
(805) 485-6114 ext. 662 or email intake@icfs.org

[Intake Application Online](#)

ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Domestic Violence Awareness month (DVAM) evolved from the "Day of Unity" in October 1981 observed by the national Coalition against Domestic Violence. The goal in coming together was to connect advocates together across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week devoted to a range of activities conducted at the local, state, and national levels. The activities conducted were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors and had a common theme: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have died because of domestic violence, and connecting those who work to end Domestic Violence. Today, we bring awareness to help those that may be experiencing abuse and connect them with vital resources and support.



Click for full resource [here](#)



OCTOBER 2020

DEAR HEALTHCARE PARTNERS,

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH! WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO ENGAGE IN OUR EFFORTS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND IT'S IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH AND FAMILIES. IN THIS TOOL KIT YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES YOU CAN SHARE WITH YOUR PATIENTS. WE HAVE ALSO INCLUDED A LINK TO ACCESS OUR NEW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & HEALTHCARE POSTERS TO DISPLAY IN YOUR WAITING AREAS, BATHROOMS OR PATIENT ROOMS. OUR POSTERS WERE CREATED WITH THE INTENT TO ENCOURAGE POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO SPEAK TO THEIR MEDICAL PROVIDERS ABOUT HOW THEIR RELATIONSHIPS MAY BE IMPACTING THEIR HEALTH AND THE HEALTH OF THEIR CHILDREN.

WE INVITE YOU TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING AND GAIN ACCESS TO ALL OUR AVAILABLE RESOURCES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING ALONGSIDE YOU AND SUPPORTING YOUR EFFORTS TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

SINCERELY,

THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION TEAM

DVAM • OCT 2020

THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON HEALTH

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES



DV LEADS TO ADVERSE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

BY BLUE SHIELD FOUNDATION

Victims of domestic violence experience short and long-term physical and chronic pain. There is **2x** the risk of asthma, irritable bowel syndrome & diabetes. DV survivors are **3x** more likely to have a mental health condition such as depression, as high as **70** percent and PTSD as high as **84** percent.

Health risk behaviors: DV survivors are **6x** times more likely to become dependent on drugs or alcohol, **2x** more likely to smoke, become obese and practice sexual risk behaviors, increasing the risk for STD'S and HIV.

The medical cost burden from DV in the first year after victimization is as high as **7** billion dollars! Our health care utilization and costs for abused women are up to **20% HIGHER** and stay higher for up to **5** years after victimization. Children who witness abuse are **3x** more likely to use mental health services, and are more likely to use all health care services.

This only one part of the picture, domestic violence often goes undiagnosed and undisclosed. The collaboration between health care providers and advocates is of the greatest importance to help prevent this from happening.



Click for full resource [here](#)

Health CARES about DV

Training & Technical Assistance



Do you talk to your patients about how their relationships may be affecting their health?

Responding to Domestic Violence in Healthcare Settings

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the definition of domestic violence and its impacts on health
- Learn how to recognize potential domestic violence victims
- Learn best practices for screening and responding
- Review CA Mandated Reporting Laws
- Become familiar with local and national resources available

Training Description: This training will provide a general overview of the dynamics of domestic violence and discuss its impact on health. Recent statistics show that domestic violence is a significant problem in Ventura County, with local law enforcement receiving more than twice the statewide rate of DV-related calls. Healthcare visits represent a critical window of opportunity to provide universal education on healthy relationships, assess patients for domestic violence and intervene if abuse is identified. Participants will learn Trauma-Informed approaches to prevent, identify and screen for potential victims of domestic violence and review mandated reporting laws for suspicious injuries. Participants will learn whom they can contact for support and will be given safety cards to share with patients with local resources for potential victims.

Technical Assistance and Support is Available

- For technical assistance or to learn more about our programs and resources, contact our Project Specialist at (805) 850-4563 or email FVISPresentations@icfs.org.
- To speak to an advocate 24/7 contact our Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-636-6738.
- To schedule a presentation for your site, fill out our presentation request form [here](#).

RESPONDING

to Domestic Violence in a Healthcare Settings Tools



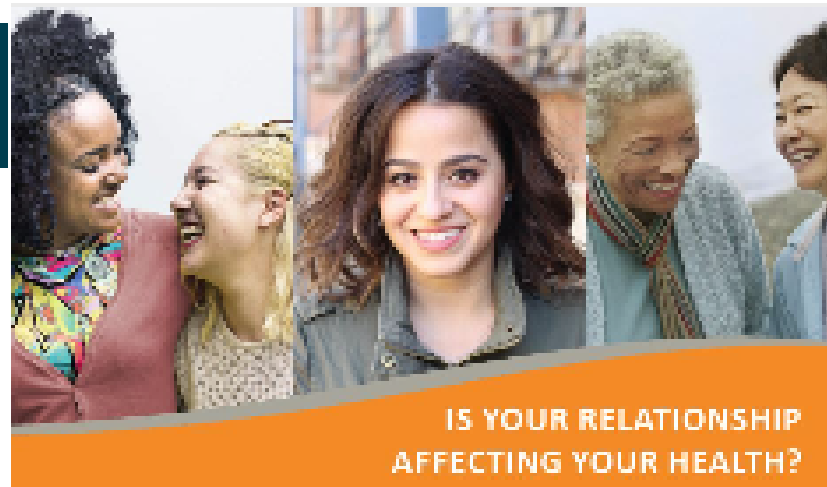
POSTERS

To request posters for your site click [here](#).

SAFETY CARDS

To order safety cards with our local hotline information, click [here](#).

To order safety cards with general information, click [here](#).



TRAININGS

To schedule a presentation on How to Respond to Domestic Violence in Healthcare Settings, click [here](#).

INCREASING SAFETY FOR PEOPLE SURVIVING ABUSE PROVIDER SCRIPTS



YOUR SAFETY

"Are you able to move to a safe place where you feel more comfortable to speak to me freely?"

Normalize information about relationships, health and stress during COVID.



CONFIDENTIAL

"Everything you say here is confidential, your medical information is confidential, that doesn't change even if we remain in this setting. I will not share anything we talk about here."

See patient alone.



UNIVERSAL EDUCATION

"We know that COVID is making life much harder. Because people are stressed, we may experience more stress now in our relationships including increased fighting or harm, and that can affect our health."

Empathize.



NORMALIZE FINANCIAL STRUGGLES

"Many people are also feeling pressure around money and paying rent or bills—sometimes others take advantage of people for work and in relationships. You are not alone."

Provide 211 resource.



SHARE WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

"You can also share these resources with friends or family if you think it may help them, too."

Normalize, this is for everyone.



PROVIDE SUPPORT

"Thank you for sharing this with me.

A lot of my patients experience things like this and there are people who can help. I can connect you today if that interests you—even right now if you like—and I can stay on the line with you - whatever you like."

Be open to what is best for them.

To view the full resource,
click [here](#).

Resource Links

Provider Resource Links:

[California Partnership to End Domestic Violence](#)

[National Center Against Domestic Violence](#)

[National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)

[CA Suspicious Injury Report](#)

[Futures without Violence Health Program](#)

[Futures Intimate Partner Violence Toolkit](#)

Patient Resource Links:

[Teen Dating Rights](#)

[DV Impacts on Health Infographic - English](#)

[DV Impacts on Health Infographic - Spanish](#)

[Power & Control + Equality Wheel - English](#)

[Power & Control + Equality Wheel - Spanish](#)