

Housing First Approaches to Meeting the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence

April 11, 2018

3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.





Presenters

Linda Olsen

Domestic Violence Housing First Program Director
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Ginny Ware

Home Safe Program Director
New Beginnings in Washington

Brittani Manzo (moderator)

Policy Advisor
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



- WSCADV is the leading voice to end domestic violence in Washington State. We improve how communities respond to domestic violence and work to create a social intolerance for abuse through:
 - visionary work
 - engaging the public
 - supporting our members
- Founded in 1990 by survivors and their allies, WSCADV is a non-profit 501(c)3 network of domestic violence programs. Our member programs work tirelessly across the state to help survivors towards safety and freedom.

Overview

Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and children.

The Domestic Violence Housing First approach focuses on getting survivors of domestic violence into stable housing as quickly as possible and then providing the necessary support as they rebuild their lives.

This approach has been shown to promote long-term stability, safety and well-being for survivors and their children.



HOUSING OPTIONS

- Prevention (Diversion)—Survivor may choose to stay in the home or may leave temporarily if safety is a concern
- Rapid ReHousing → Flexible Engagement
- Subsidized housing with services available
- Permanent supportive housing

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Who We Are



Founded 42 years ago as a grassroots, feminist effort to provide sanctuary for “battered women.”

News Release for the Seattle Women’s Political Caucus and NOW Newsletters:

How much help can women get from their sisters?

As you read this, somewhere in the Seattle area a woman is being beaten by her husband. In most cases, there are terrified children who, with their mothers, are in the most dire distress. And they have no place to escape...

...You are asked to send any amount of money to get the project off the ground. Even \$1.00 or \$2.00 from every woman reading this message can result in several thousands of dollars. And that would make it possible to secure the first of many shelters that are going to be needed.



Survivor-Centered Support



Community Advocacy

- Individual mobile support and advocacy
- Flexible financial assistance
- Support groups
- Legal advocacy
- Homelessness Prevention
- Short term therapy
- Teen advocacy
- Children's supports, including Children's Domestic Violence Response Team



Survivor-Centered Support



Home Safe

- Short term “Bridge” apartment stays
- Emergency hotel stays
- Wrap around supportive services
- Activities for adults and kids
- Flexible financial assistance
- Rapid re-housing
- Ongoing rental assistance and mobile advocacy support



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