



NNEEDV
NATIONAL NETWORK
TO END DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

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Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement & Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA)

Background

Launched in 2002 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the **Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) Program** is the only federal funding source focused exclusively on the **primary prevention of domestic violence** – stopping violence before it starts.

Funded at \$7.5 million annually through the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, DELTA supports statewide and community-based prevention strategies **tailored to local needs. The program operates in 13 states and approximately 45 communities, creating a ripple effect of healthy relationships, safe families, and strong local economies.**

States currently funded by DELTA:

Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Tennessee.

Prevention Is Urgently Needed

Research confirms that domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are widespread. Data from the CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) reports that about **41% of women and 26% of men** experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner and **reported an intimate partner violence-related impact during their lifetime.**¹

Prevention Strengthens Communities & The Economy

We know how to prevent domestic violence – and **prevention programs like DELTA are working.** The CDC reports that a comprehensive approach like DELTA is more likely to prevent intimate partner violence across a lifetime than any single intervention. It also benefits the largest number of people. DELTA integrates prevention principles into **local coordinated responses** and uses **evidence-based approaches** to reduce the **first-time perpetration and victimization** of intimate partner violence (IPV). Its strategies are guided by:

¹ Leemis R.W., Friar N., Khatiwada S., Chen M.S., Kresnow M., Smith S.G., Caslin, S., & Basile, K.C. (2022). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report on Intimate Partner Violence. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/nisvs/documentation/NISVSReportonIPV_2022.pdf

- ★ Preventing first-time perpetration and victimization
- ★ Evidence-based program planning
- ★ Behavior and social change theories
- ★ Program evaluation and continuous improvement
- ★ Community-driven, innovative prevention strategies

Domestic violence costs the U.S. \$12 billion annually in 2025 dollars in health care, legal fees, and lost productivity.² Prevention is not only life-saving but **cost-effective** – yielding **\$6 to \$12 in savings for every \$1 invested**.

DELTA's approach lowers costs across sectors:

- ★ **Health care:** Reduces emergency visits and long-term health impacts
- ★ **Law enforcement & legal systems:** Decreases caseloads and court costs
- ★ **Social services:** Lessens demand on shelters and crisis support

Investing in prevention **strengthens public safety**, reduces crime, and builds **healthier, more economically stable communities**.

DELTA Is Working!

DELTA prevents intimate partner violence by teaching conflict resolution skills, providing bystander education, improving safety in schools and workplaces, among other effective strategies. Some examples include:

California: The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, in collaboration with the Lumina Alliance of San Luis Obispo County, implemented Coaching Boys into Men, an **evidence-based program that helps young men learn healthy relationship skills from coaches**. After completing the program, coaches observed their athletes intervening after witnessing disrespectful comments about other students.

Delaware: The Sparrow Run Supporting Families Program in Delaware has **helped over 400 families** with job search assistance, employment education, financial literacy programs, and applications for WIC and other programs **to support their economic stability**.

North Carolina: The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence supports Domestic Violence Shelter and Services, Inc. to work with local organizations to implement Shifting Boundaries, a **school-based curriculum that helps middle school students establish boundaries** and address bullying and harassment. After completion of the curriculum, there was an approximate **10% increase in confidence in intervening when witnessing sexual harassment and 30% improvement in confidence in establishing boundaries**.

² Wendy Max, Dorothy P. Rice, Eric Finkelstein, Robert A. Bardwell, & Steven Leadbetter, "The Economic Toll of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States," *Violence and Victims* 19, no.3 (June 2004) 259-72. Retrieved from <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15631280/>

Tennessee: The Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence aims to **prevent violence on college campuses by implementing a peer-led sexual and intimate partner violence prevention training program for students.** Their evidence-based violence prevention program is designed to increase potential bystanders' feelings of responsibility, skills, and confidence to intervene when witnessing an intimate partner or sexual violence situation. **The number of students who reported intervening when a situation arose increased from 84% to 95% after the training.**

Threats to DELTA and Prevention Funding – Congress Must Act Now!

DELTA and the Rape Prevention and Education Program (RPE) at the CDC Division of Violence Prevention are under grave threat. Delays, staff cuts, proposed funding cuts, and a proposed restructure all imperil this essential funding for prevention.

The President's proposed FY26 budget eliminates the CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control entirely and plans to severely cut and restructure DELTA and RPE. Any cuts or reduction in these critical programs will result in greater inefficiency and higher costs in the long run, both in terms of public health and economic consequences. Prevention efforts save both lives and money!

We urge Congress to prioritize adequate funding for DELTA in FY26 appropriations. An increase in funding will enable the DELTA program to expand to additional states and communities and will also provide opportunities for communities to leverage additional funding

About NNEDV

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) represents the 56 U.S. state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. NNEDV is a social change organization with a mission to create a social, political, and economic environment in which domestic violence no longer exists. NNEDV works to make domestic violence a national priority, change the way society responds to domestic violence, and strengthen domestic violence advocacy at every level.

Please contact us at advocacy@nnedv.org if you have any questions.