



## GETTING STARTED: TIPS FOR HIV/AIDS PROVIDERS

It is critical that HIV/AIDS service providers acknowledge the need to enhance their understanding of the intersection of HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. Service providers can take steps toward improving their services to respond to the needs of people at risk for or diagnosed with HIV/AIDS who might also be victims of violence. Below are a few steps that your organization can take to better address the intersection of HIV/AIDS and domestic violence:

### TALK ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

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- Make domestic violence (DV) and/or intimate partner violence (IPV) posters and brochures available throughout your organization so that all service users can see the information. Your local domestic violence agency may be able to provide materials.
- Incorporate discussions about intimate partner violence in individual counseling, support groups, and other supportive environments with all service users.
- Have resources available that provide information about domestic violence service providers.

### PARTNER WITH A LOCAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE PROVIDER

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- Create a relationship with a local domestic violence service provider with whom your organization can cross-train staff and keep your organization up-to-date with best practices in talking about domestic violence. For more information on creating a successful partnership, please review the **Service Provider Collaboration Guide** and **Collaboration Action Plan Template** resources in the *Positively Safe Toolkit*.
- Create a referral process between the organizations to support anyone who disclose domestic violence.

### SEXUAL SAFETY PLANNING

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- Discuss sex and sexuality in the context of safety planning with all service participants. For more information on safety planning, please review the **Safety Planning Guide** resource in the *Positively Safe Toolkit*.
- Make sexual safety planning a core service offered.



**Positively Safe:**

THE INTERSECTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & HIV/AIDS

## CHANGE ORGANIZATIONAL POLICIES & PROCEDURES

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- Add domestic violence to the core services you provide for all service participants, giving everyone the information that they need to understand what domestic violence is, find ways to seek safety, and know what resources are available.
- Train and prepare all staff to be comfortable and competent when discussing domestic violence.
- Review and incorporate domestic violence disclosure responses, safety planning, referral options, and confidentiality standards around DV disclosures in your organization's policies and procedures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN RECEIVE INDIVIDUALIZED TRAINING ON THE INTERSECTION OF HIV/AIDS & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, PLEASE CONTACT THE POSITIVELY SAFE TEAM AT THE NATIONAL NETWORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (NNEDV) AT [DVHIV@NNEDV.ORG](mailto:DVHIV@NNEDV.ORG).