



Supporting Our Sisters: The Plight of Black Survivors & How FVPSA Funding Saves Lives

Gretta Gardner & Ayana Wallace
NNEDV Webinar for FVPSA Administrators
August 25, 2020

PART I :
All About Ujima



The National Center on Violence Against
Women in the Black Community

MEANING

Ujima, pronounced oo-JEE-mah, is the third principle of Kwanzaa and means "collective work and responsibility".

DEFINITION OF BLACK COMMUNITY

As a part of the Black community we understand that by definition it is not absolute and we are not a monolithic people. There always have and always will be assumptions when speaking of and understanding the Black community. We seek to be fluid, inclusive and embracing in our understanding of this very special and sacred place.

We define the Black community into 4 subgroups: African, American, African/African Immigrant, Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latina. This is not limiting, it is a broad start and our goal is to speak in support of all that define themselves as a part of this unique and beautiful space.

COLORS

Our colors are sunrise and cocoa.

Sunrise for the live sustaining energy that is provided by the sun as it rises each day.

Cocoa for the rich variation in skin tone, texture and hues boldly worn and proudly adorned by women of the diaspora.



Vision:

To create a world where Black women and girls are valued, respected, safe and free from violence.

Mission:

- Mobilize the community
- Respond to and end violence
- Serve as a resource to survivors of violence, advocates, service providers and the community



What Do
We Strive To
Do?



We give voice
to Black
Women & Girls.



We provide a
supportive
community.

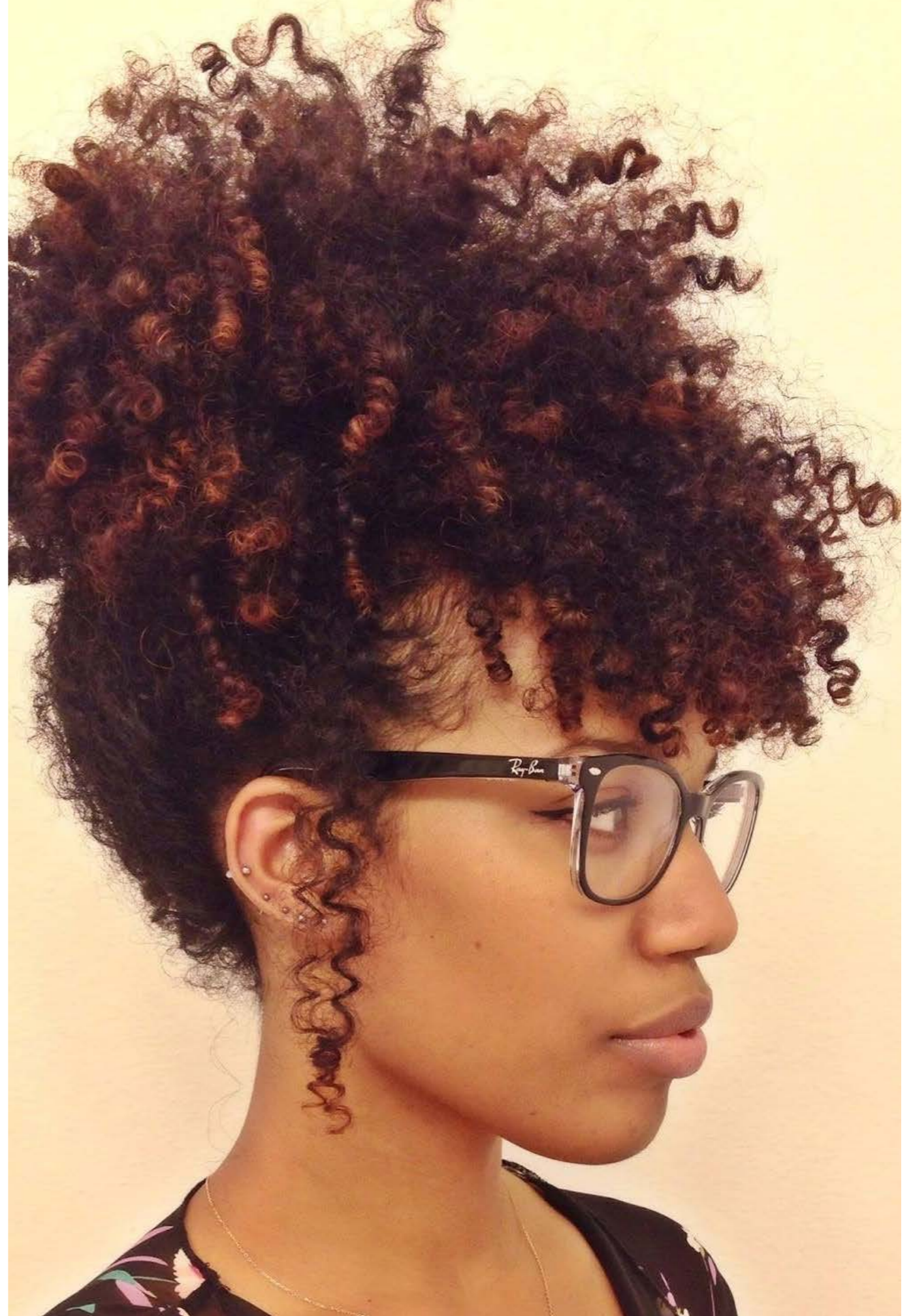


We engage
Women, Men &
Children.



Areas of Focus

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Violence
- Community Violence
- Institutional and Structural Violence





GOALS

- Resource Center in Community
- Enhance Capabilities
- Expand Capacity
- Engage in Culturally Competent Research
- Educate
- Create Public Awareness
- Promote Sustainable Change





STRATEGIES



Public Policy

Research

Education & Outreach

Technical Assistance & Training



Public Policy

- National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
 - The Violence Against Women Act
 - The Victims of Crime Act
- Domestic Violence Resource Network
 - The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
- State and Local Legislation and Policies
 - The Crown Act
 - Maternal Health
 - The Industrial Prison Complex and Re-Entry
 - Bias

Research

- Research and Education Working Group
- Co-Chairs:
 - Dr. Tricia Bent-Goodley - Howard University
 - Dr. Johnny Rice - Coppin State College
- What is Black Culture?
- Assessment Tool

Education & Outreach

- Newsletter
- Social Media
- Fact Sheets
- Website
- Issue Briefs
- Focus Groups
- Roundtables
- Fact Sheets

Training & Technical Assistance

- Contracts with TA Partners
 - Futures without Violence
 - Casa de Esperanza
 - National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
 - Vera Institute
 - International Association of Campus and Law Enforcement Administrators
 - International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Webinars
- On Site Training Requests
- Resource Directory

What is the FVPSA definition of a special issue resource center?

- In accordance with subsection (a)(2)(A)(ii), the Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities for special issue resource centers, which shall be national in scope and shall provide information, training, and technical assistance to State and local domestic violence service providers. Each special issue resource center shall focus on enhancing domestic violence intervention and prevention efforts in at least one of the following areas:
 - (A) The response of the criminal and civil justice systems to domestic violence victims, which may include the response to the use of the self-defense plea by domestic violence victims and the issuance and use of protective orders.
 - (B) The response of child protective service agencies to victims of domestic violence and their dependents and child custody issues in domestic violence cases.
 - (C) The response of the interdisciplinary health care system to victims of domestic violence and access to health care resources for victims of domestic violence.
 - (D) The response of mental health systems, domestic violence service programs, and other related systems and programs to victims of domestic violence and to their children who are exposed to domestic violence.
 - (E) In the case of 3 specific resource centers, enhancing domestic violence intervention and prevention efforts for victims of domestic violence who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups, to enhance the cultural and linguistic relevancy of service delivery, resource utilization, policy, research, technical assistance, community education, and prevention initiatives.

Who does Ujima serve?

- FVPSA Grantees
 - Coalitions
 - Shelters
 - State Administrators
- TA Providers
- Funders
- Policymakers



#TeamUjima

Staff

Sahidah Briggs

Karma Cottman

Gretta Gardner

Jennifer Hooker

Whitney Parker

Ana Sanz-Saumeth

Megan Simmons

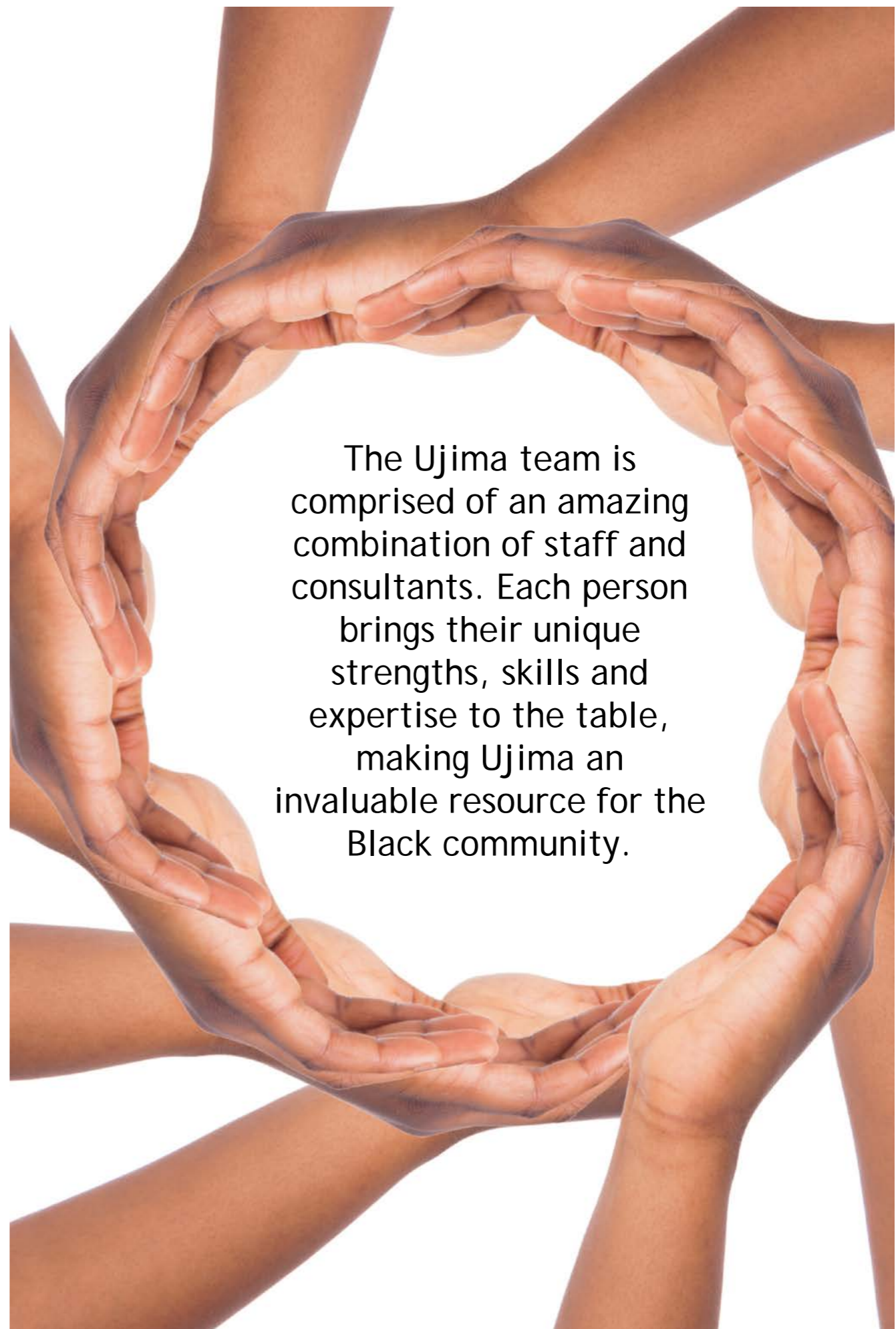
Ayana Wallace

Consultants

Tricia Bent-Goodley, PhD

Umi Hankins

Johnny Rice, PhD



The Ujima team is comprised of an amazing combination of staff and consultants. Each person brings their unique strengths, skills and expertise to the table, making Ujima an invaluable resource for the Black community.

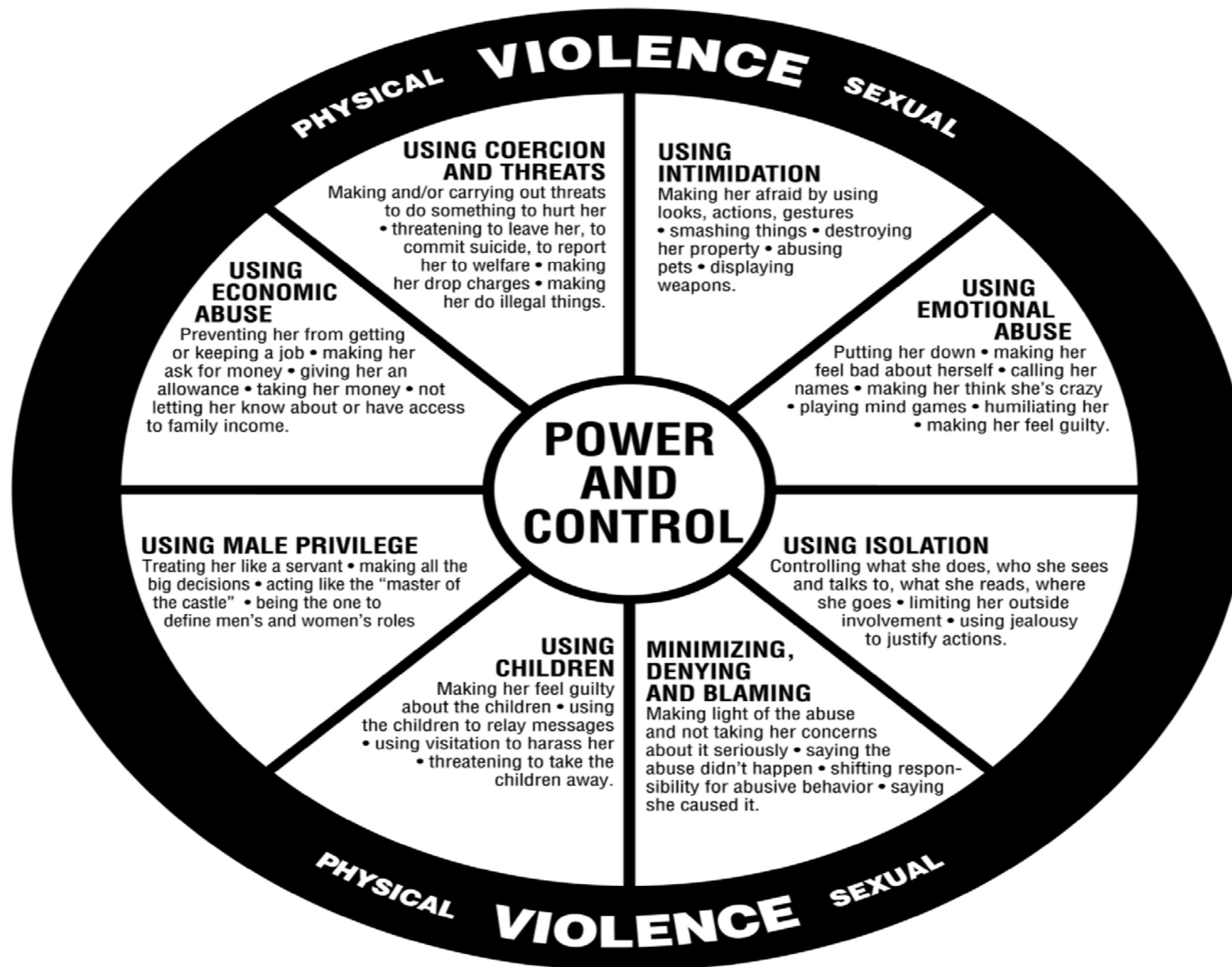
Part II:
All About Black Survivors



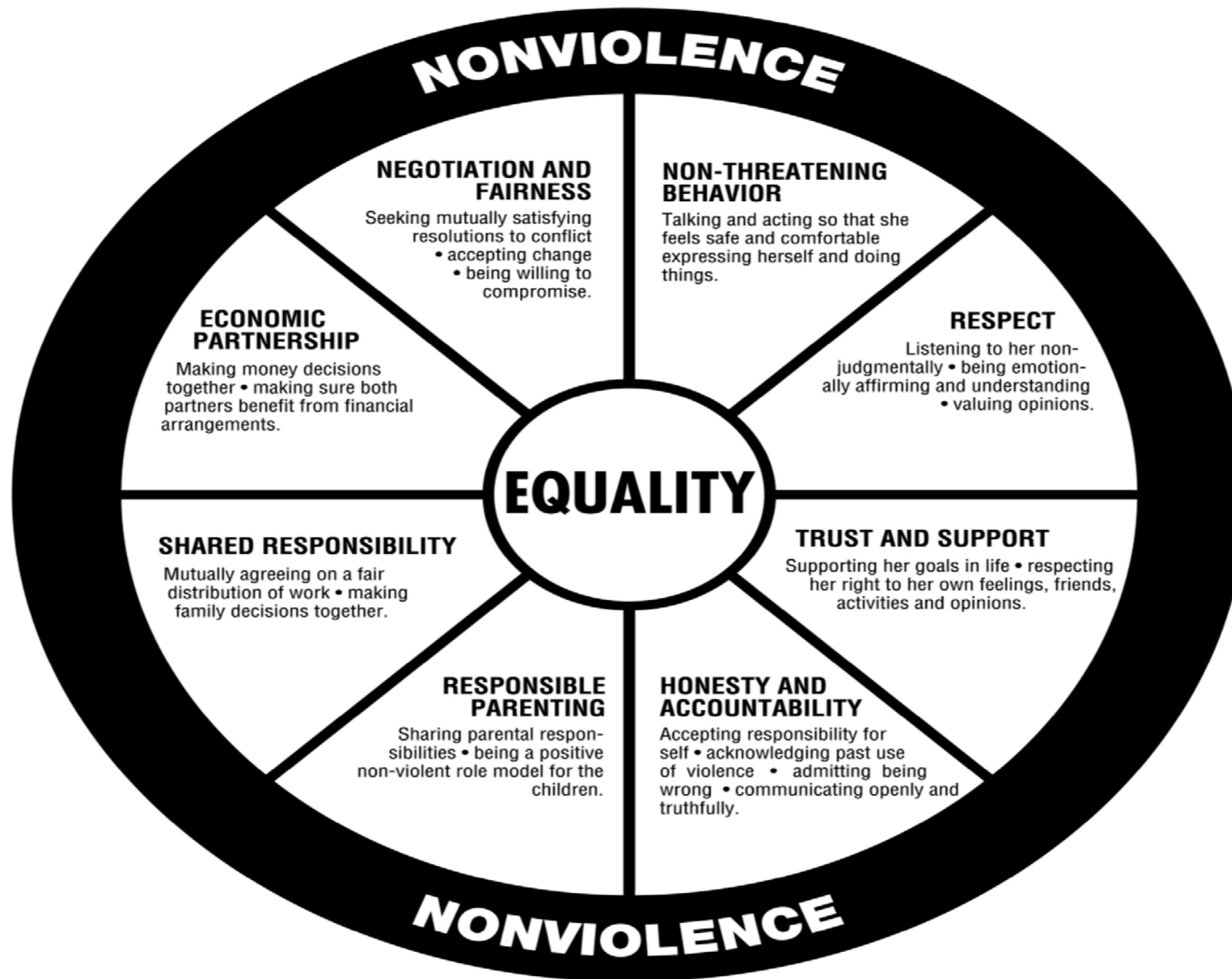
Physical
Stalking
Strangulation

Domestic Violence

Emotional
Economic
Spiritual
Technological



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS
 202 East Superior Street
 Duluth, Minnesota 55802
 218-722-2781
www.theduluthmodel.org





Statistics on Black Women:

- 35.5% experienced some form of contact sexual violence
- 16.2% experienced stalking at some point in their lives.
- 45.1% experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

1^{IN}**4** US
WOMEN

EXPERIENCED
VIOLENCE BY A
PARTNER AT SOME
POINT IN HER LIFE.

2 OUT OF **3**
CHILDREN

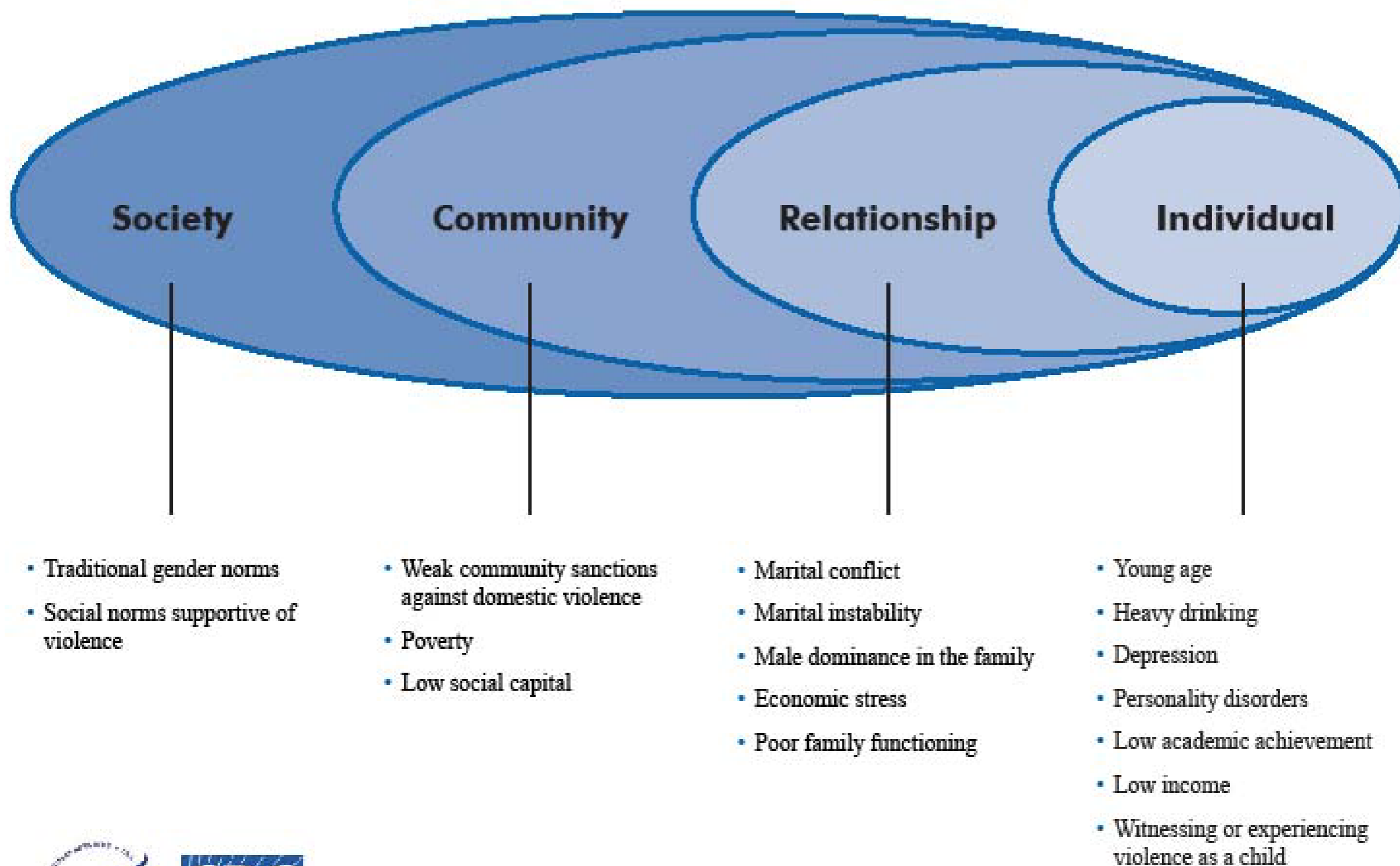
ARE EXPOSED
TO TRAUMA
AND VIOLENCE.



- 91% of Black women killed by men in single victim/single offender incidents knew their killers.
- 60% of Black victims who knew their offenders were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders.

**In 2017, Black women were murdered
by males at a rate **more than 2x**
as high as white women.**

Factors Associated with a Man's Risk for Abusing His Partner





Campus

Workplace
Harassment

Sexual Violence

Trafficking

Reproductive
Coercion



- 1 out of 5 HBCU women will experience sexual assault, which is the same rate at PWIs.
- Black women at HBCUs are more likely to experience forced sexual assault than their white PWI counterparts who primarily experience sexual assault while incapacitated.
- In 90% of sexual assaults that occur at HBCUs, the victim knows their attacker.

Source: [The HBCU Campus Sexual Assault Study](#)



- Over 55% of victims disclose their sexual assault to someone close.
- Fewer than 20% of HBCU survivors report to crisis or health centers, and of those who do, nearly 75% report to centers not affiliated with their school.
- Most common responses why victims did not report to crisis/victims centers or law enforcement is - their assaults were “not serious enough to report.”

Source: [The HBCU Campus Sexual Assault Study](#)



- Black adults account for nearly 38% of adult prostitution arrests.
- Black children account for 57% of all juvenile prostitution arrests - more than any other racial group.
- Sex buyers are disproportionately white men (80-85%).



War
Riots
Gang Wars
Torture
Poverty

Community Violence

Multigenerational trauma
together with continued
oppression
+
Absence of opportunity to heal
or access the benefits available
in the society
=
Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome.



Racism
Sexism
Classism
Homophobia
Transphobia

Structural & Institutional Violence

Industrial Prison
Complex
Juvenile Justice
System
School to Prison
Pipeline

For Black women, a strong sense of **cultural affinity** and **loyalty** to community and race renders many of us silent, so our stories often go untold. One of the biggest related impediments is our hesitation in trusting the police or the justice system. As Black people, we don't always feel comfortable surrendering "our own" to the treatment of a racially biased police state and as women, we don't always feel safe calling police officers who **may harm us** instead of helping us. And when we do speak out or seek help, we too often experience backlash from members of our communities who believe we are airing out dirty laundry and making ourselves look bad in front of White people.

Feminista Jones, 2014



Practice

Trauma
Informed
Culturally
Specific
Services

Restorative
Justice

Bystander
Intervention

Community
Education



Internal
Interpersonal
External

Strategies

For Low Income
Black
Survivors



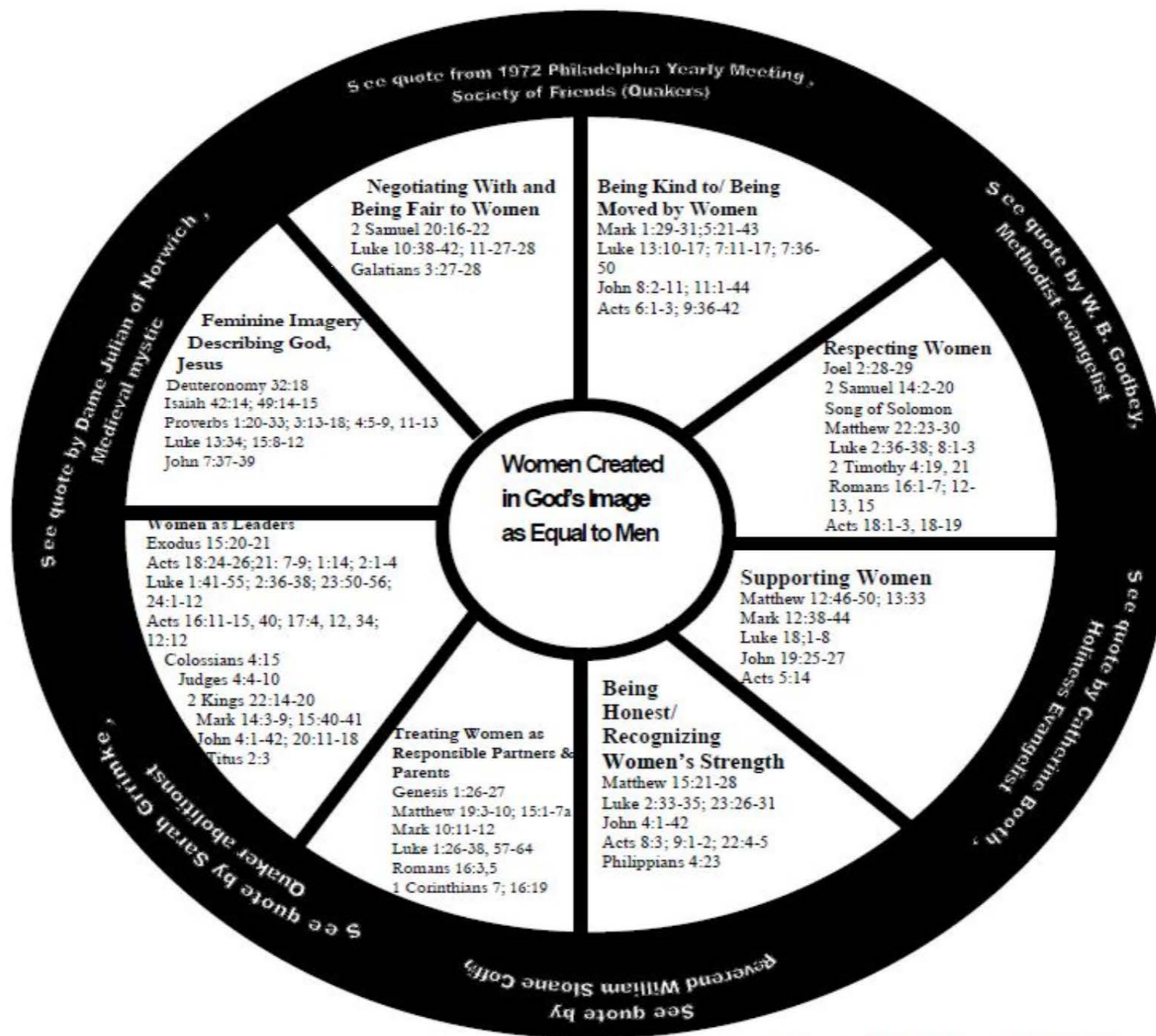
Internal

Use of Religion

Assess client's faith,
Incorporate faith based coping strategies, & Partner with faith based institutions.

Becoming Self-Reliant

Achieve Independence,
Connect with support services,
& Advocate for policies, programs, resources for low income survivors.



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROJECT
202 East Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

218-722-2780



Leaving the Abuser

Identify safe places,
Pros & Cons of relationship, &
Leaving in the middle of a fight,

Interpersonal

Fighting Back

Use of violence & other strategies,
Educate on dual arrest & consequences for use of violence.
Challenge dual arrest policies.



Reliance on Informal Supports

External

Reliance on Formal Supports

Identify sources of emotional & practical support.

Provide IPV education to family & friends.

Culturally responsive, trauma informed, survivor centered supports.

PART III:
All About Service



Believe Her

Don't Judge

What can Service
Providers do?

Cultural Humility

Check your
Biases

Know
Community
Partners



What can FVPSA Administrators Do?

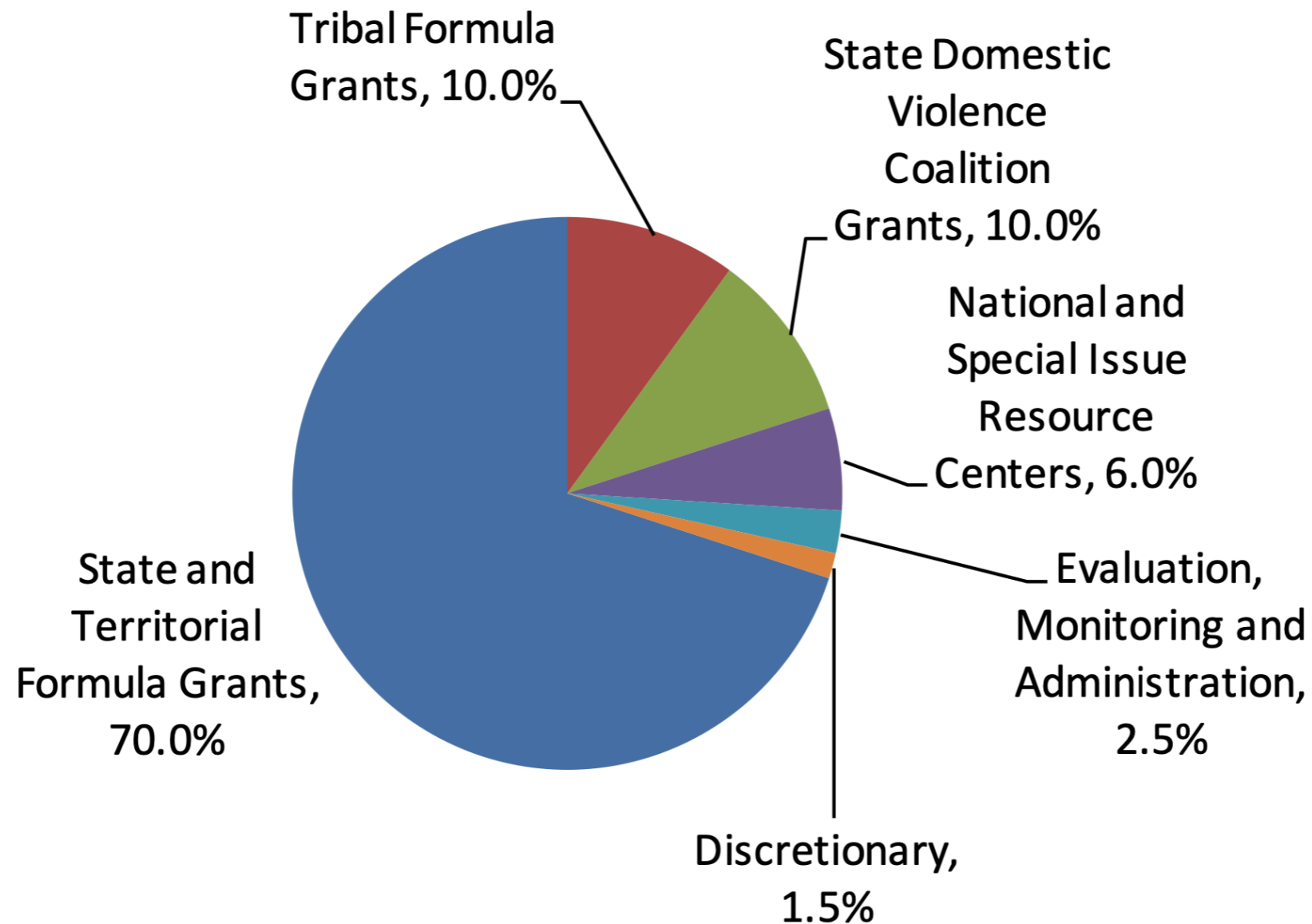
Fund
Culturally
Specific
Programs

Request TA &
Training

Cultural Humility
Check your
Biases

Collaborate
with
Culturally
Specific
Programs

Distribution of FVPSA Funds



Family Violence Prevention and Services Program Fact Sheet, April 2018

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fysb/fvpsa_state_and_tribal_factsheet_081518_508.pdf



HER CHILDREN WERE SOLD. HER MEN WERE LYNCHED. SHE
WAS RAPED. BUT SHE FOUGHT ON AND SHE'S STILL
FIGHTING.

Resiliency
Fortitude
Hope
Value





Gretta G. Gardner, JD
Deputy Director

Ayana Wallace, MS
Training Specialist

Ujima Inc., The National Center on Violence Against
Women in the Black Community
5 Thomas Circle, NW • Washington, DC 20005
202.299.1181
www.ujimacommunity.org



Connect with us on Social Media!