



National Task Force to End  
Sexual & Domestic Violence

Senator, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Representative Steve Womack, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Representative James E. Clyburn, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

April 14, 2026

Dear Senators Hyde-Smith and Gillibrand and Representatives Womack and Clyburn:

The National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (NTF) represents national, tribal, state, and local organizations working to end domestic violence and sexual assault. The 247 undersigned organizations join with the NTF to urge you to increase funding for federal programs that address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Domestic violence and sexual assault are pervasive crimes significantly impacting the safety and wellbeing of millions of people every day. We implore you to build upon our nation's progress in addressing these crimes by providing incredibly needed investments in the FY27 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies bill.

Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and their children.<sup>1</sup> Abusers commonly sabotage a victim's economic stability and damage their credit, rental, and employment histories. Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault often flee life-threatening and/or traumatic circumstances and seek refuge through emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing programs in order to avoid homelessness. Sexual assault survivors need housing supports for a range of reasons, including to escape current sexual assault occurring in or near their homes by a household or family member, landlord, maintenance worker, or neighbor; or because the person who sexually assaulted them has learned where they live and the survivor no longer feels safe at home from future sexual violence. Considering the prevalence of sexual abuse as a precursor to homelessness, the increased risks for sexual assault that homeless individuals face, and the ways in which safe affordable housing can be a protective factor against

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<sup>1</sup> Charlene K. Baker et al., "Domestic Violence, Housing Instability, and Homelessness: A Review of Housing Policies and Program Practices for Meeting the Needs of Survivors," *Aggression and Violent Behavior* 15, no. 6 (2010): 430–439 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1359178910000480?utm>

sexual victimization, it is imperative sexual assault survivors have access to housing supports.

Survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault must have access to housing; however, in a nationwide study, more than half of the survivors who identified a need for housing services in a single day did not receive them. According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence's 20th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report, in just one day in 2025, 53,590 adults and children were housed in emergency shelters, transitional housing, hotels/motels, or other housing provided by domestic violence programs. On the same day, however, 7,495 requests for these services were denied due to a lack of resources, funding, and/or staffing. In a 2025 Rape Crisis Center Survey conducted by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, 70% of respondents identified housing to be the greatest unmet need of survivors of sexual assault. It is unconscionable that victims cannot find safety for themselves and their children due to a lack of adequate investment in housing services.

### **FY27 Funding Needed to Support Survivors**

Dedicated funds for survivor-specific housing, including rapid rehousing, offer stable resources for victim service providers to address the housing, safety, and confidentiality needs of survivors with a trauma-informed approach. Since FY18, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations committee has included a \$50-\$52 million set-aside for housing for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) homelessness assistance program (also known as the DV/SA Bonus Funds). These dedicated funds for survivor-specific housing resources, including rapid rehousing, are a vital funding source for victim service providers to address the unique safety needs of survivors.

Additionally, in FY23, Congress included funds for training and technical assistance on the implementation of housing protections for survivors created in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2022 Reauthorization. We appreciate the inclusion of these funds and urge Congress to continue providing resources for training and technical assistance. We also urge Congress to provide funding to staff and support the Office of Gender-Based Violence Office at HUD. This office will ensure that there is cross-cutting guidance and support to each and every HUD program office. A core function of the Office on Gender-Based Violence is to focus on the successful implementation of VAWA as well as other important policies impacting survivors of violence, within each housing and homelessness assistance program of HUD, as well as the other programs under the Department of Agriculture, Department of Treasury, and Department of Veterans Affairs. This huge mandate requires the office to have sufficient authority to direct this implementation within HUD and to have the authority to also coordinate with the other federal agencies. Thus, the Office must be given sufficient resources to achieve its goals.

## **We ask Congress to:**

- allocate \$75 million for HUD's Continuum of Care Homeless Program to help survivors access safe, affordable housing and rebuild their lives;
- provide \$15 million in FY27 for domestic violence and sexual assault training and technical assistance and to implement VAWA; and
- provide \$600,000 to support the Office on Gender-Based Violence.

We call on you to support increased funding for these vital programs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melina Milazzo, National Network to End Domestic Violence, at [mmilazzo@nnedv.org](mailto:mmilazzo@nnedv.org) or Terri Poore, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, at [terri@endsexualviolence.org](mailto:terri@endsexualviolence.org).

Thank you for your continued leadership in keeping victims safe and healthy. We know our successes could not be achieved without your support, and we are grateful for all that you do.

<sup>1</sup> Shannon Catalano, Ph.D. (2013). Intimate Partner Violence: Attributes of Victimization, 1993-2011. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved from: <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/ipvav9311.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence (2024). 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report. Washington, DC. Retrieved from: [NNEDV.org/DVCounts](https://nnedv.org/DVCounts)

Sincerely,

(list in formation)

## **National, International and Tribal Organizations**

Alliance of Tribal Coalitions to End Violence  
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Congregation of Our Lady of the Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Region  
Esperanza United  
Family Values at Work  
Futures Without Violence  
Joyful Heart Foundation  
Legal Momentum, the Women's Legal Defense & Education Fund  
Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health  
National Congress of American Indians  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Domestic Violence Hotline  
National Indigenous Women's Resource Center  
National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Orange Child  
Peaceful Families Project  
Tahirih Justice Center  
United Church of Christ  
ValorUS  
Young Women's Christian Association USA (YWCA)

### **Alabama**

Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Domestic Violence Intervention Center  
Family Sunshine Center  
SABRA Sanctuary  
Victim Services of Cullman dba The Willow Path

### **Alaska**

Alaska Network on Domestic & Sexual Violence  
Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center  
The LeeShore Center  
Tundra Women's Coalition  
Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)  
Working Against Violence for Everyone

### **Arizona**

Arizona Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence

### **Arkansas**

Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Arkansas Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Ozark Rape Crisis, Inc.

### **California**

California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

### **Colorado**

Advocate Safehouse Project  
Better Tomorrow  
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Domestic Safety Resource Center  
Juniper Southern Colorado  
Mariposa Center for Safety  
Ouray Country Support & Advocacy Project  
PeaceWorks, Inc.  
Project Hope of Gunnison Valley  
Project Safeguard  
Response: Help for Survivors of Domestic Violence  
Rise Above Violence

San Luis Valley Immigrant Resource Center  
SARA House  
Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Center (SAVA)  
Violence Free Colorado  
Wings

**Connecticut**

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**Delaware**

Delaware Alliance Against Sexual Violence  
Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**District of Columbia**

District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**Florida**

Haven of Lake & Sumter Counties  
Women's Center of Brevard  
Refuge House

**Georgia**

Georgia Coalition on Domestic Violence

**Idaho**

Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence  
Lemhi County Crisis Intervention, Inc. dba The Mahoney House

**Illinois**

Clove Alliance  
Community Crisis Center  
Family Resources  
Growing Strong Sexual Assault Center  
Guardian Angel Community Services  
Illinois Accountability Initiative  
Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Metro East Every Survivor Counts  
Mujeres Latinas en Accion  
Mutual Ground, Inc.  
Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault  
Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault  
Prevail Illinois  
Quincy Area Network Against Domestic Abuse dba QUANADA  
Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Education Services (RACES)  
Resilience

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling  
Safe Journeys  
Sexual Assault & Family Emergencies  
Survivor Resource Center  
Western Illinois Regional Council Community Action Agency, Victim Services  
YWCA McLean County Stepping Stones  
YWCA Metropolitan Chicago  
YWCA of the Sauk Valley  
Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

### **Indiana**

Coburn Place Safe Haven  
Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault

### **Iowa**

ACCESS  
Amani Community Services  
EMBARC  
Family Crisis Center  
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Thrive Together Today  
Waypoint Services

### **Kansas**

Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence

### **Kentucky**

ZeroV

### **Louisiana**

Chez Hope, Inc.  
Domestic Abuse Resistance Team (D.A.R.T.)  
Family Violence Program of St. Bernard  
June N. Jenkins Women's Shelter  
Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault  
Metro Centers for Community Advocacy  
Southeast Advocates for Family Empowerment

### **Maine**

Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence

### **Maryland**

CASA, Inc.

Dove Center  
Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence  
Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy

**Massachusetts**

Jane Doe, Inc.

**Michigan**

Domestic Violence Escape, Inc. (DOVE)

**Minnesota**

Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Sexual Assault Services  
Violence Free Minnesota

**Mississippi**

Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence  
Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault

**Missouri**

Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

**Montana**

Montana Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

**Nebraska**

Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence

**Nevada**

Nevada Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence

**New Hampshire**

New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence

**New Mexico**

New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**New York**

Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York (CIDNY)  
New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault  
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**North Dakota**

North Dakota Domestic & Sexual Violence Coalition

**Northern Mariana Islands**

Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

**Ohio**

Alternatives to Living in Violent Environments, Inc. (A.L.I.V.E.)

Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter

Appleseed CMHC Safe Haven

Artemis Center

Auglaize County Crisis Center

Christina House/Catholic Charities Regional Agency

Cleveland Rape Crisis Center

Crime Victim Services

Crisis Care Line

Crossroads Crisis Center

DeafPhoenix

Domestic Violence Project, Inc.

Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS)

EVE, Inc.

Family Abuse Center of Miami County

Family & Child Abuse Prevention Center

Haven House of Pickaway County, Inc.

Homesafe, Inc.

Hope & Healing Survivor Resource Center

Journey Center for Safety & Healing

New Choices, Inc.

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Ohio Domestic Violence Network

Safe Harbour Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

Sandusky Valley Domestic Violence Shelter dba First Step

Shelter from Violence, Inc.

Southern Ohio Task Force on Domestic Violence

Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program

The Center for Child & Family Advocacy, Inc.

The Center for Family Safety & Healing

The Cocoon

The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

The Lighthouse, Inc.

Transitions, Inc.

Tri-County Help Center, Inc.

WomenSafe

Women Helping Women

YWCA Dayton  
YWCA Greater Cincinnati

### **Oregon**

Hope & Safety Alliance (Womenspace)  
Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence  
Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force  
The Harbor, Inc.  
Tides of Change

### **Pennsylvania**

Dinah  
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect  
Respect Together

### **Rhode Island**

Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County  
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center  
Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Women's Resource Center

### **South Carolina**

South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

### **Tennessee**

Domestic Violence Program, Inc.  
Scott County Shelter Society  
Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence

### **Texas**

Texas Council on Family Violence

### **Utah**

Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

### **Vermont**

Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

### **Virginia**

Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance

### **Washington State**

Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services  
API Chaya

Beyond Survival  
Comprehensive Healthcare dba Aspen Victim Services  
Crisis Support Network  
Empowering Therapy, PLLC.  
Family Support Center of South Sound  
Gender Justice League  
Hope Alliance  
Kids Hope Children's Advocacy Center  
King County Sexual Assault Resource Center  
MiA - Mujeres in Action  
Mother Nation  
New Beginnings  
New Hope  
Our Sisters' House  
Programs for Peaceful Living at Washington Gorge Action Programs  
Rebuilding Hope Sexual Assault Center  
SafePlace  
Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness  
Sexual Assault & Family Trauma Center at Lutheran Community Services Northwest  
The Lighthouse: Advocacy, Prevention & Education Center  
The Nurtured Nest: Trauma Sensitive Sensitive Doula Care, LLC.  
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Young Women's Christian Association Clark County (YWCA)

### **Wisconsin**

ASTOP Sexual Abuse Center  
BeLEAF Survivors  
Benedict Center  
Community Referral Agency  
Embrace Services, Inc.  
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin  
Family Support Center  
Hope House of South Central Wisconsin  
Manitowoc County Domestic Violence Center dba InCourage  
Milwaukee Center for Children & Youth  
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center  
New Beginnings APFV  
New Horizons Shelter & Outreach Centers, Inc.  
Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.  
Stepping Stones, Inc.  
The Bridge to Hope  
The Women's Community  
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

### **Wyoming**

Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault