

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
On Transportation, Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

July 23, 2025

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray and Senators Hyde-Smith and Gillibrand:

The 293 undersigned national, state, & local organizations urge Congress to **prioritize essential, life-saving funding for the housing needs of domestic and sexual violence survivors in the FY 26** Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) bill and reject any proposals to cut this critical funding.

Domestic violence and sexual assault are consistently identified as significant factors in homelessness, especially for women, children, families, and particularly for LGBTQ+ communities and communities of color. Abusers commonly sabotage a victim's economic stability, making them more vulnerable to homelessness. A 2024 report on the relationship between intimate partner violence (IPV) and homelessness in California found that 95% of survivors reported the high cost of housing as a barrier to exiting homelessness, and 61% indicated that poor credit or eviction history, often a consequence of IPV, was a barrier to regaining housing.¹

Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault often flee life-threatening circumstances and seek refuge through emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid-rehousing programs to avoid homelessness. However, despite the critical need, many survivors are unable to find housing. According to NNEDV's 19th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report, in just one day in 2024, 48,541 adults and children were housed in domestic violence housing and shelter programs. On the same day,

¹ Hargrave, A., Moore, T., Adhiningrat, S., Perry, E., Kushel, M. (2024). Toward Safety: Understanding Intimate Partner Violence and Homelessness in the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness.

however, 8,111 requests for emergency shelter, transitional housing, hotels, motels, or other housing were denied due to a lack of resources.² It is unconscionable that victims cannot find safety for themselves and their children due to a lack of adequate investment in housing services.

We urge Congress to allocate \$75 million for the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Bonus (DV/SA) Funds in the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance program at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help survivors access safe, affordable housing and rebuild their lives. Since FY18, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Committee has included a \$50-\$52 million set-aside for housing for survivors in DV/SA Bonus Funds in the HUD CoC homelessness assistance program. 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. Funds from the DV/SA Bonus project significantly improve a survivor's access to safe housing and build the capacity of the victim services field to provide survivor-centered housing. The Administration's proposed FY26 budget would eliminate dedicated funding for the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Homelessness Assistance Program by consolidating it with the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) program into a single block grant—and by reducing overall funding levels for the new block grant. **This change could jeopardize, or even eliminate, the DV/SA Bonus Funds. We urge you to reject this proposal—or any proposal—that would cut or undermine this critical funding.**

Additionally, we support inclusion of funds in FY26 for training and technical assistance on the implementation of housing protections for survivors created in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2022 Reauthorization. We urge Congress to provide \$15 million in FY26 for domestic violence and sexual assault training and technical assistance and to implement VAWA.

We call on you to support funding for these vital programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melina Milazzo, Director of Public Policy at Mmilazzo@nnev.org.

Sincerely,

(list in formation)

National, International and Tribal Organizations

Alliance of Tribal Coalitions to End Violence

Autistic People of Color Fund

A Window Between Worlds

Coalition on Human Needs

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces

² National Network to End Domestic Violence (2024). 19th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report. Washington, DC. Retrieved from: [NNEDV.org/DVCounts](https://www.nnev.org/DVCounts)

Esperanza United
Freedom Network USA
Futures Without Violence
Integrated Community Solutions, Inc.
Jewish Women International
Joyful Heart Foundation
Just Solutions
Legal Momentum, The Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
National Council of Jewish Women
National Domestic Violence Hotline
National Indigenous Women's Resource Center
National LGBTQ Institute on IPV
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Network To End Domestic Violence
National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
People Power United
Pretrial Justice Institute
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Respect Together
The Freedom Train Project Incorporated
Ujima, The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
Union for Reform Judaism
United Church of Christ
Women of Reform Judaism
YWCA USA

Alaska

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
AWARE
Cordova Family Resource Center
Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies
Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living
STAR, INC
The LeeShore Center
Tundra Women's Coalition
Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)

Arizona

Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

Arkansas

Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence

California

Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)
Black Women Revolt Against Domestic Violence
Brilliant Corners
Building Futures
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
Catalyst
Catholics For Family Peace Education and Research Initiative
Center for Community Solutions
Center for Domestic Peace
Center for the Pacific Asian Family
Child & Family Center
Coalition for Family Harmony
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (Cast)
Community Beyond Violence
Community Resource Center
Community Solutions
DeafHope
Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County
Downtown Women's Center
East Los Angeles Women's Center
Empower Yolo, Inc.
Family Assistance Program
Family Services of Tulare County
Family Violence Appellate Project
Fish On Ministries
Genesis Shelters
Good Shepherd Shelter
Gray's Trauma-Informed Care Services Corp.
Haven Hills, Inc.
Healthy Alternatives to Violent Environments
HOPICS - Homeless Outreach Program, Integrated Care System
House of Ruth
Humboldt Domestic Violence Services
Jenesse Center, Inc.
Jewish Family Service Los Angeles
LACBA Counsel for Justice
Larae Cantley
Little Tokyo Service Center
Los Angeles LGBT Center
Lumina Alliance
Monarch Services
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
New Star Family Justice Center
NEWS, Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Services
Peace Over Violence

Praxis Health Empowerment
Project Sanctuary, Inc.
Ramelle Carter Media LLC
Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments, Inc.
Solano Advocates for Victims of Violence
South Asian Network
St Joseph Center
Stopping Domestic Violence
StrengthUnited
Su Casa ~ Ending Domestic Violence
Survivalist House
Survivor Justice Center
THE COMMUNITY ACTION LEAGUE
The People Concern
The Salvation Army Alegria
Tri-Valley Haven
Union Station Homeless Services
Valley Crisis Center
Victims Empowerment Support Team VEST
Vista Rise Collective
Voices Beyond Assault
WCCS Whittier
Wild Iris Family Counseling and Crisis Center
Women's Center-High Desert, Inc.
YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley
YWCA of Glendale and Pasadena
YWCA of San Diego County
YWCA San Gabriel Valley

Colorado

Violence Free Colorado

Connecticut

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Delaware

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

District of Columbia

DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Georgia

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Idaho

Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Illinois

Illinois Accountability Initiative
Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Lake County Crisis Center
The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence

Indiana

Alternatives Incorporated of Madison County
Coburn Place
Domestic Violence Prevention Network
Family Support Services of West Central Indiana
Firefly Children & Family Alliance
Haven House, Inc.
Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc.
New Directions of Decatur County
Safe at Home
Sheltering Wings
St. Jude House, Inc.
YWCA Greater Lafayette

Iowa

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Kansas

Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Kentucky

Baren River Area Safe Space, Inc.
Cumberland Valley Domestic Violence Services
DOVES Of Gateway, Inc
GreenHouse17
Merryman House Domestic Crisis Center
OASIS Inc
Safe Harbor of Northeast Ky Inc.
Sanctuary, Inc.
SpringHaven Inc.
The Ion Center for Violence Prevention
The Center for Women and Families, Inc
Turning Point Domestic Violence Services
ZeroV

Louisiana

Faith House Inc.
Family Violence Program of St Bernard
Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Metro Centers For Community Advocacy
Southeast Advocates for Family Empowerment

Maine

Caring Unlimited
Family Violence Project
Hope and Justice Project
Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence
New Hope for Women, Inc. dba New Hope Midcoast
Next Step domestic violence project
Through These Doors

Maryland

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

Massachusetts

Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc.

Michigan

Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

Minnesota

MICAH - Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable House
Violence Free Minnesota

Missouri

Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Montana

Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Nebraska

Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

Nevada

Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

New Jersey

New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence

New Mexico

New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

New York State

Advocacy Center of Tompkins County
BrighterTomorrows, Inc.

Domestic Violence Project | Urban Justice Center
Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc.
Hope's Door
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc.
Violence Intervention Program
Wellspring
YWCA Binghamton and Broome County, NY

North Carolina

Compass Center
Families First, Inc.
Families Living Violence-Free
Family Crisis Council of Rowan, Inc.
Friend to Friend
Hyde County Hotline, Inc.
My Sister's House, Inc.
North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Opposing Abuse with Service, Information and Shelter, Inc.
Outer Banks Hotline
Reach of Cherokee County
Ruth's House, Inc.
Safe Alliance
SAFE in Lenoir County, Inc
Safelight, Inc.
Second Bloom of Chatham
Southeastern Family Violence Center
Women Veterans Support Services, Inc.

Ohio

Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter
Appleseed CMHC/Safe Haven
Artemis Center
Asian Services In Action, Inc
Auglaize County Crisis Center
Bethany House
Casa de Paz
Christina House Domestic Violence Shelter
Crisis Care Line
Crime Victim Services
Crossroads Crisis Center, Inc.
Domestic Violence Project, Inc.
Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS)
Eve, Inc.
Family Abuse Shelter of Miami County
First Step
Forbes House

Foundations for Families, Inc.
Haven House of Pickaway County Inc.
Homesafe, Inc.
Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center
Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland
Journey Center for Safety and Healing
Lorain County Safe Harbor
New Choices, Inc.
Ohio Domestic Violence Network
Open Arms Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services
OneEighty
Ross County Community Action - The ROSE House DV Shelter
Safer Futures and Someplace Safe programs of Axxess Family Services
Safe Harbour Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.
Sarah's Friends
Southern Ohio Task Force on Domestic Violence
Square One GJM
Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program
The Center for Child and Family Advocacy/House of Ruth
The Cocoon
The Domestic Violence Shelter
The Lighthouse, Inc.
Tahirih Justice Center
Transitions, Inc.
Tri-County Help Center, Inc.
Violence Free Futures
Women Helping Women
WomenSafe
YWCA Greater Cincinnati
YWCA Hamilton
YWCA of Northwest Ohio

Oregon

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Pennsylvania

Citizens Against Physical, Sexual, and Emotional Abuse, Inc. (CAPSEA, Inc.)
Clinton County Women's Center dba Roads to Peace
Dinah
Domestic Violence Services of Southwestern Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Transitions of PA
Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc.
Women Against Abuse
The Women's Center, Inc.
YWCA Lancaster

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence
YWCA Rhode Island

South Carolina

Sistercare, Inc.
South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

South Dakota

South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault
White Buffalo Calf Women's Society

Texas

Texas Council on Family Violence

Utah

Bateman Public Health
Canyon Creek Services
Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake
New Hope Crisis Center
New Horizons Crisis Center
Northeastern Utah Friends Against Family Violence
Peace House, Inc.
Raven, Lotus & Grey
Safe Harbor Crisis Center
Seekhaven Family Crisis and Resource Center
The Refuge Utah
Utah Domestic Violence Coalition
YCC Family Crisis Center

Vermont

Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Virginia

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

Washington State

CNTR
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

West Virginia

Branches Domestic Violence Shelter
Eastern Panhandle Empowerment Center
SAFE, Inc.
West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Wisconsin

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin