



## Catalyst for Change October 2025

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the October edition of Catalyst for Change! October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), and the theme for this year is **“With Survivors, Always”**.

The first official Domestic Violence Awareness Month was in October of 1987, which also marks the initiation of the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline. The purpose of Domestic Violence Awareness Month is to raise awareness of the impacts of domestic violence and stand in solidarity with survivors.

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Every October, we come together as a community to shine a light on Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It is a time for us to raise our voices, and reaffirm our commitment to ending domestic violence in all its forms.

While the first official Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) was in October of 1987, DVAM began as a single [“Day of Unity” in October of 1981](#). The [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence \(NCADV\)](#) created this “Day of Unity” as a way to connect advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

As time passed, the Day of Unity evolved into Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the officially recognized national month of observance.

2025’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month’s theme, **“With Survivors, Always”**, exemplifies the heart of DVAM, the survivors. It reminds us that our support for survivors doesn’t end when the month is over, it is a lifelong commitment that calls on each of us to show up with compassion, advocacy, and action.

### Featured Resources

#### [CUES Infographic](#)

“CUES” is an evidence-based intervention to address domestic and sexual violence in health settings shown to improve health and safety outcomes for survivors. A one-page CUES infographic that describes the intervention and includes provider scripts is now available in English and Spanish as PDFs and hard copy.

#### [Increasing Health Care Enrollment for Survivors of Domestic Violence](#)

*Increasing Health Care Enrollment for Survivors of Domestic Violence* leads to two PDFs. The first, *“Healthcare.com Enrollment for Survivors of Domestic Violence”*, is an in-depth PDF that identifies the unique opportunities for health enrollment specialists and health center staff to increase health access for survivors of domestic violence.

The second, *“Five Ways Health Centers Can Promote*

The [Domestic Violence Awareness Project](#) describes the theme as tackling, “what does it mean to be in partnership with survivors toward safety, support, and solidarity.”

[Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation](#) participated in Domestic Violence Awareness Month by co-authoring a blogpost created by the [National Association of Community Health Centers](#) discussing the important role health centers play in addressing domestic violence:

- [How Community Health Centers Can Address Domestic Violence – Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation](#)

In addition, we have gathered tools and resources to help you stay informed and engaged in DVAM:

- [Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Futures Without Violence](#)
  - Futures Without Violence has compiled additional resources for a broad range of individuals such as: health care providers, employers, co-workers, coaches, parents, advocates, and survivors.
- [DVAM Toolkit - Workplaces Respond](#)
  - The National Resource Center: Workplaces Respond to Domestic & Sexual Violence, a project of Futures Without Violence, created a DVAM Toolkit which includes resources to enhance organizational capacity to prevent, respond to, and support workers affected by domestic violence.
- [Domestic Violence Awareness Month - The Hotline](#)
  - The National Domestic Violence Hotline has compiled a list of materials pertaining to Domestic Violence Awareness Month such as but not limited to:
    - [2025 DVAM Social Toolkit and Marketing Materials](#)
    - [Four Ways to Help Survivors of Victims Heal this Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)
    - [Centering Domestic Violence Survivors: A Commitment This Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)
    - [Holding Space: Three Ways to Support Domestic Violence Survivors](#)
    - [Request Awareness Materials](#)
- [With Survivors, Always: DVAM 2025 | Domestic Violence Awareness Project](#)

*Health Care Access for Survivors of Domestic Violence* summarizes key actions to promote health center enrollment for survivors of domestic violence.

### [Building Collaborative Responses with Healthcare](#)

"Building Collaborative Responses with Healthcare for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Forces and Multidisciplinary Teams Addressing Human Trafficking" is a brief developed by [Futures Without Violence](#) discussing the benefits of healthcare partnerships for DV/SA/HT task forces and coalitions.



- This blogpost by Casey Keene, the Director of Prevention at the Domestic Violence Awareness Project (DVAP), a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, delves into the history of DVAM and expands upon the theme, **“With Survivors, Always”**
- In addition, DVAP has created the following resources:
  - [About Domestic Violence | Domestic Violence Awareness Project](#) (DVAM 101)
  - [Free Downloads | Domestic Violence Awareness Project](#) (Free Awareness Materials)
  - [Campaign Ideas | Domestic Violence Awareness Project](#) (Awareness Themes & Materials)
- [Home Page - National Network to End Domestic Violence \(NNEDV\)](#)
- [National Domestic Violence Hotline: The Nation's Leading Grassroots Voice on Domestic Violence](#)

## Recapping Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day

On Wednesday, October 8th, [Health Partners on IPV+ Exploitation](#) and the [National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence](#) hosted a Health Cares About Domestic Violence (HCADV) Day webinar focused on how to integrate IPV support into emergency preparedness efforts.

Thank you to our panelists and presenters, Debra M. Ward, MPH from [YWCA San Gabriel Valley](#), Rebeca Melendez, MA from [East Los Angeles Women's Center](#), and Sara E. Hicks-West, CDPm of [Phoenix Collaborative LLC](#) for your thoughtful insights on survivor health during public health emergencies, how your programs pivoted to ensure survivor health was being met during emergencies, and strategies to reduce staff burn out while addressing these emergencies.

If you were unable to attend the webinar and would like to review the slides, recording, and resource list please click [here](#).

Thank you for your active participation and engagement on the 26th anniversary of Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day! If you are looking to spread awareness of HCADV Day or start planning your HCADV Day engagement for next year, please check out this [toolkit developed by Futures Without Violence](#). The [toolkit](#) contains social media graphics, suggestions for events, and additional ways to educate your community.

## NACHC MPH Scholarship Endorsement

Are you ready to pursue your MPH while employed at a [Health Center](#) (HC), [Primary Care Association](#) (PCA), [Health Center Controlled Network](#) (HCCN), or [National Technical Assistance Program](#) (NTAP)?

[The National Association of Community Health Centers](#) (NACHC) and the [Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health](#) have announced a new collaboration to strengthen the integration of primary care and public health. NACHC will endorse qualified Member Health Center (or PCA, HCCN, NTAP) staff for up to five full scholarships for a Master of Public Health degree through Bloomberg Fellows Program.

Applications for NACHC scholarship endorsement must be submitted via the [NACHC portal](#) by **October 27, 2025**.

Applicants who are endorsed by NACHC will need to be admitted to the MPH program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and accepted by the Bloomberg Fellows Program.

Please feel free to reach out to Gina Capra, NACHC Chief Education Officer, with any questions ([gcapra@nachc.org](mailto:gcapra@nachc.org))!

### **Upcoming Webinar: Preventing Substance Use and Exploitation in Adolescence**

**Date:** December 3rd, 2025

**Time:** 9am HST/12pm PST/ 1pm MST/ 2pm CST/ 3pm EST (60 minutes)

In collaboration with [School Based Health Alliance](#), Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation is presenting a webinar that will equip health center providers and administrators, including school-based health centers, with strategies to address substance use, adolescent relationship abuse, and exploitation.

Presenters will highlight clinical and community-based approaches to strengthen prevention and response efforts, while promoting universal education so that all adolescent patients receive information and resources. Participants will explore ways to collaborate with youth, families, schools, and community organizations to build safer, healthier environments for adolescents.

To register for this webinar, [click here](#).

### **Upcoming Webinar: Helping Advocates Help Survivors of DV: A new Workbook for Building Protective Factors with Adults and Children**

**Date:** October 16, 2025

**Time:** 9am HST/12pm PST/ 1pm MST/ 2pm CST/ 3pm EST (90 minutes)

In this webinar, [Promising Futures](#), will debut a new workbook designed specifically for advocates who work directly with survivors, along with practice tip sheets, an informational brief, and other key resources. The workbook is packed with exercises, activities, and discussion questions that empower survivors to:

- Seek and build safer, more stable conditions
- Build resilience and a strong support network
- Parents from a place of power and choice.

When advocates, community-based organizations, treatment providers, family members, and others intentionally focus their efforts in this way, adult and child survivors are more able to draw upon their personal, family, and community strengths and resources to address the challenges they are experiencing.

If you are interested in:

- Being able to explain the critical importance of protective factors in the lives and environments of child survivors of domestic violence,
- Utilize exercises and strategies to actively build and promote five research and evidence-based protective factors in support groups and work with individual survivors
- Empower survivors to seek out resources and supportive people in their communities

[Register for the webinar here!](#)

### **Futures Without Violence: I-LED Distance eLearning Course**

Futures Without Violence's Institute for Leadership in Education Development (I-LED) presents, "The Distance eLearning Course" - a self-paced online program designed for Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) grantees.

This self-paced online program is hosted on the Canvas Learning Management System, allowing participants to develop their own customized virtual course while receiving personalized feedback from expert I-LED faculty throughout their learning journey.

All OVW grantees and potential grantees are eligible to participate in the course. To register for the eLearning Course and learn more about the curriculum, click [here](#).

### **New Resource from Connected Communities Health Initiative!**

**Youth-Centered Health Care: Practical & Modern Strategies for Meeting the Needs of Adolescent and Young Adult Patients**

Adolescents and young adults (ages 12–24) face a wide range of challenges—including housing instability, food insecurity, and family stressors—that impact both immediate and long-term health outcomes.

This tip sheet, developed by the Connected Communities Health Initiative (CCHI), outlines strategies and models that community health centers can adopt to positively influence the health and wellness of youth.

[Download the Tip Sheet Here](#)

Warmly,

Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation Team

Futures Without Violence

[www.healthpartnersipve.org](http://www.healthpartnersipve.org)

**Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation** is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC). HRSA's BPHC funds about 1,400 [health centers](#). They provide affordable, accessible, and high-quality primary health care to underserved communities at over 16,200 sites. Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation works with health centers and systems to support those at risk of experiencing or surviving intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and exploitation and to bolster prevention efforts.



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