

PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

These public policy priorities reflect the vision, mission and values of Women Against Abuse, the experiences of our clients, and the intersecting and overarching societal barriers faced by individuals experiencing domestic violence in Philadelphia.

ADEQUATE FUNDING

We advocate for federal, state, and local funding that supports domestic violence programs, and promote legislative funding proposals that support these programs through additional revenue streams.



- Increase federal, state, and local funding that supports domestic violence programs
- Promote legislative funding proposals that support domestic violence programs
- Support funding initiatives that benefit survivors of domestic violence

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

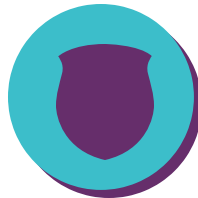
We support safe emergency and transitional housing for individuals fleeing domestic violence as well as increased access to long-term housing and additional legal resources and education.



- Provide access to safe emergency and transitional housing for individuals and families experiencing domestic violence
- Create and expand opportunities to access safe, long-term housing solutions
- Ensure housing protections and rights for survivors and their children

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Trauma- and domestic violence-informed first responders, court staff and community institutions are vital to the immediate safety of survivors including those who are immigrants.



- Oppose attempts to deter immigrant and human trafficking victims from reaching out for police protection, medical or economic support, or other supportive services
- Restrict abuser access to firearms
- Improve legal responses to domestic violence to ensure safety for survivors and their children

SYSTEMS' RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE

An effective coordinated community response to relational violence requires collaboration with government institutions and schools and will improve the accessibility, safety and efficiency of all services.



- Mandate training on teen dating violence for teachers, staff, professionals and students
- Implement comprehensive, community-wide screening and intervention for domestic violence
- Ensure training for health and human service, law enforcement and court personnel

EMPOWERING SURVIVORS TO GAIN INDEPENDENCE

We advocate for increased economic and educational opportunity for survivors of domestic violence, as well as access to safe, reliable and affordable mental and physical healthcare.



- Ensure access to benefits for survivors, including affordable childcare
- Improve safe access to comprehensive and quality physical and mental healthcare
- Promote economic justice and independence through a living wage and an improved workforce development system