

Making a Difference

You can make a difference! Use this flyer to find out how each of these sectors can do their part to stop domestic violence!

Social Service Providers:

Design and deliver services that are responsive to battered women and children's needs. Require staff to receive training on the causes and dynamics of domestic violence. Change the focus from "trying to keep the family together at all costs" to the protection of battered women and children. Utilize methods to help identify domestic violence.

Health Care System:

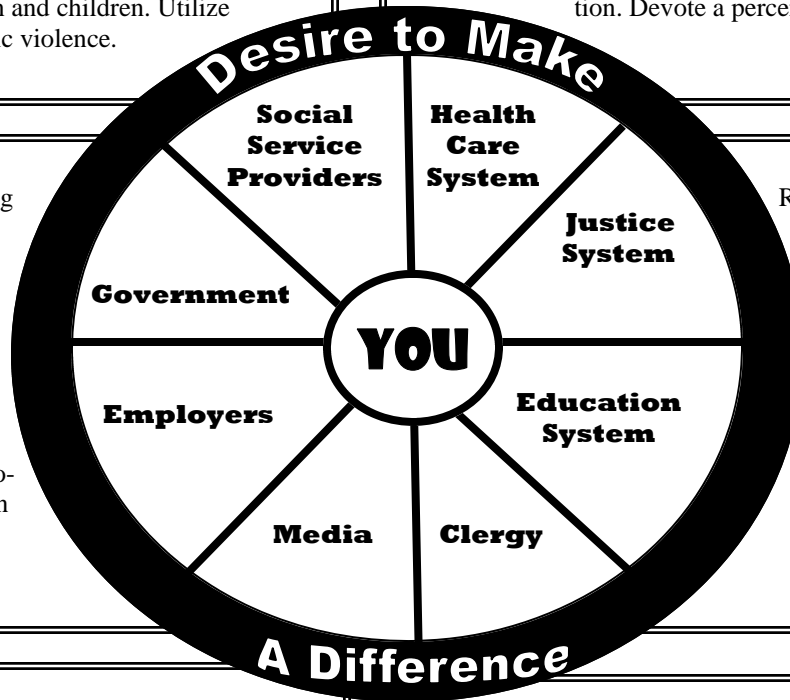
Develop and use safe and effective methods for identification of domestic violence. Provide referral education, and support services to battered women and their children. Refrain from over-prescribing sedative drugs to abused women. Utilize accountable documentation. Devote a percentage of training equitable to domestic violence cases handled

Government:

Enact laws which define battering as criminal behavior. Enact laws which provide courts with progressive consequences in sentencing. Adequately fund battered women's service agencies and violence prevention education. Heavily tax the sale of weapons and pornography to subsidize sexual and physical violence prevention and intervention efforts.

Justice System:

Regularly disclose relevant statistics on domestic violence case disposition. Utilize methods of intervention which do not rely on the victim's involvement. Vigorously enforce batterers compliance, and protect women and children's safety with custody and visitation. Adopt a "pro-arrest" policy. Provide easily accessible and enforceable protection orders.



Employers:

Make remaining nonviolent a condition for batterers to continue their employment. Intervene against stalkers in the workplace. Safeguard battered employee's employment and careers by providing flexible schedules, leaves of absence, and establishing enlightened personnel policies. Provide employment security to battered employees. Provide available resources to support and advocate for battered employees.

Education System:

Support and educate teachers to recognize and respond to symptoms of domestic violence in students lives. Teach violence prevention, peace-honoring, conflict-resolution and communication skills. Acknowledge gender bias in teaching materials and develop alternatives. Require education about relationships at all levels. Teach that it is the civic duty of all citizens to oppose oppression and to support those who are oppressed.

Media:

Prioritize subject matter which celebrates peace and non-violence. Spotlight efforts which promote non-violence. Devote an equitable proportion of media "product" to battered women and children's needs. Educate about the dynamics and consequences of violence rather than glorifying it. Cease labeling domestic violence as "love gone sour," a "lover's quarrel," a "family spat," etc. Stop portraying the batterer's excuses and lies as truth.

Clergy:

Speak out against domestic violence from the pulpit. Respectively assess for domestic violence in premarital and pastoral counseling. Seek out and maintain a learning and referral relationship with the domestic violence coordinated community response systems. Oppose the use of biblical or theological justification for domestic violence. Reject patriarchal dominance as a preferred social pattern.

Adapted from: <http://dvcc.delaware.gov/images/cccm.jpg>

