

# Boosting Community Capacity and Supporting Community-driven Programming for the Primary Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DV/SA)

SFY2022 Snapshot

Violence is complex, and to address the factors that contribute to it, prevention efforts must be recurring and multifaceted, with sufficient dosage and community engagement across all levels of the social ecology. It takes time to establish the needed resources and capacity for comprehensive prevention. As resources for prevention increase, a community's ability to implement programming improves; this improves their ability to impact and reduce violence locally.

The State of Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) addresses this vital need in communities by supporting and aligning capacity building and technical assistance, as well as through funding to support communities in implementing primary prevention strategies specific to DV/SA. Thirteen grantees funded by CDVSA are mid-way through a second year of a three-year funding cycle to enhance planning and implementation of DV/SA primary prevention programming. This infographic presents capacity building and implementation progress reported by grantees during the SFY2022.

## 13 grantee communities

**Anchorage** - Abused Women's Aid in Crisis  
**Bethel** - Tundra Women's Coalition  
**Cordova** - Cordova Family Resource Center  
**Dillingham** - Safe and Fear Free Environment  
**Fairbanks** - The Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living  
**Homer/Kenai Peninsula** - South Peninsula Haven House  
**Juneau** - Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies  
**Kenai** - The LeeShore Center  
**Ketchikan** - Women in Safe Homes  
**Petersburg** - Working Against Violence for Everyone  
**Seward** - Southern Peninsula Coalition  
**Sitka** - Sitkans Against Family Violence  
**Valdez** - Advocates for Victims of Violence

## building momentum. ideas into action






### Capacity enhancing supports

- Prevention Gathering Event
- Site Visits & 1:1 Technical Assistance
- Comprehensive Prevention Technical Assistance Plan
- Monthly Statewide Prevention meetings
- Coalition facilitation support & microlearnings
- Shared Risk & Protective Factors Report
- Community needs assessment support
- Community capacity assessments
- Performance monitoring and evaluation support
- End of Year Reporting

**58** out of every 100 Alaskan women have experienced DV/SA or both within their lifetime. [1]

Prevention of DV/SA is possible and could mitigate substantial economic consequences. Lifetime economic costs of DV/SA are estimated over \$3.6 trillion. [2]

## In FY22, funded communities...

-  hired and trained prevention staff
-  built and strengthened community partnerships
-  facilitated and participated in local prevention coalitions
-  implemented and expanded programming reaching new populations
-  enhanced local efforts to increase equity and inclusion

Primary prevention aims to prevent harmful outcomes and conditions from occurring in the first place. Primary prevention programming benefits whole populations by limiting risks and increasing or enhancing conditions that prevent harm and promote health and wellness.

Learn more / [dps.alaska.gov/cdvs/prevention](https://dps.alaska.gov/cdvs/prevention)

**CDVSA Primary Prevention Programming grantees key areas of prevention activities implemented in SFY2022**

- 105** coalition meetings, and an additional 865 meetings, work groups, planning events, and data meetings
- 4,946** community members provided information about DV/SA prevention
- 37** new partnerships, MOUs, and other formal agreements for community-based primary prevention efforts
- 92%** had written evaluation plans for tracking programming
- 100%** incorporated primary prevention as part of board development discussions

*Overview of Prevention Strategies*

Teach safe and healthy relationship skills	Engaging influential adults and peers	Disrupt the developmental pathways towards violence	Create protective environments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social-emotional learning programs</li> <li>• Healthy relationships programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Men and boys as allies in prevention</li> <li>• Bystander empowerment and education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting skill and family relationship programs</li> <li>• Early childhood enrichment with family engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve school climate and safety</li> <li>• Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods</li> </ul>

**63** strategies and activities implemented across CDVSA funded communities, 43 of which were unique strategies (average 4 per grantee, range 2-7)

**13,790** Alaskans were engaged by these prevention strategies, including more than...

**7,481** Alaskan youth

**35** Alaskan youth were welcomed and served as coalition members

**120** Youth peer mentors and co-facilitators in local DV/SV prevention programming

*other programming included parent programs, bystander programs, media campaigns, primary prevention presentations*

**54%** of communities implemented Girls on the Run

**46%** implemented Lead On!

**1,300** individuals participated in bystander programming

*Prevention Gathering, March 2022*

**18** survey respondents, from **12** Alaskan communities

- 100%** felt the Gathering met their expectations, 44% felt very confident networking with other statewide preventionists after
- 81%** felt more grounded in their DV/SA work, 63% felt the content would be of great use to their work
- 67%** could better explain the connection between primary prevention programming and root causes

"This was a great way to look at the ripple effect of inclusion, and equity. This [the Gathering] have given me a lot to think about and look at ways to expand on prevention strategies."

"I feel more comfortable reaching out to other prevention teams in my community to ask for their support or collaborate with them."

[1] University of Alaska-Anchorage (2020). Alaska Victimization Survey. <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/avs>.  
 [2] Peterson, C., et. al. (2018). Lifetime economic burden of intimate partner violence among US adults. *American Journal of Preventative Medicine*. 55(4), 433-444.