

District of Columbia Domestic Violence Housing Continuum



Purpose: There is a direct correlation between housing and domestic violence, in fact, domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness both locally and nationally. DCCADV and its member programs convened to develop and cultivate the use of a centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Background: The DC Domestic Violence Housing Continuum (DVHC) joined DV housing providers to develop a city-wide procedure for use with all DV housing agencies to establish a coordinated entry and assessment process. The DVHC was established in 2016 as an interagency partnership with DV housing and housing related providers in Washington, DC — House of Ruth, DASH, My Sister's Place, and DC Safe.



DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCCADV) serves as the coordinating body to ensure housing providers have the supports they need to help survivors navigate DC's systems. We advocate on behalf of the providers and offer training and technical assistance to help break down barriers, build relationships, and fund the life-saving work they do every day. The Housing Continuum meets monthly and includes senior representatives from each of the four housing providers to collaborate and coordinate, eliminating barriers for survivors of domestic violence and strengthens partnerships across the domestic violence community.

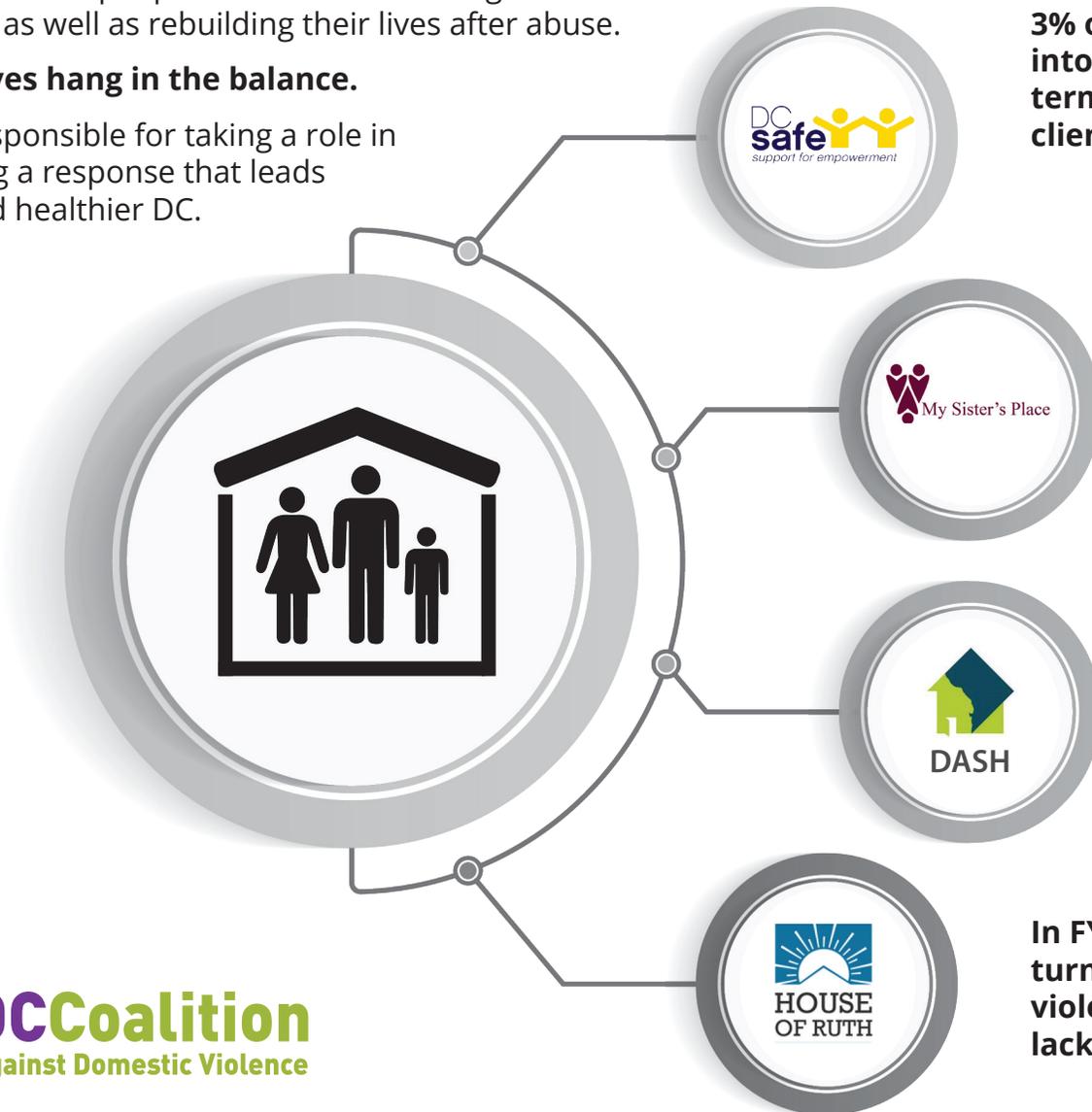
Deficiencies in the DC Safety Net

Needed Response:

Local data consistently tells us that domestic violence is an ongoing precipitating factor of homelessness. To effectively respond to this reality, we need more domestic violence specific housing options for people who are both fleeing abusive relationships as well as rebuilding their lives after abuse.

Survivors' lives hang in the balance.

We all are responsible for taking a role in implementing a response that leads to a safer and healthier DC.



DC
safe
support for empowerment

In FY2016, SAFE was able to place only 3% of their emergency shelter clients into domestic violence-specific short-term or transitional housing when clients exited the shelter program.

My Sister's Place

In FY2016, My Sister's Place had 45 clients on a wait list that they weren't able to serve due to lack of capacity.

DASH

In FY 2016, DASH identified the ratio of survivors placed in housing versus those turned away due to no housing options was 1:5.

HOUSE
OF RUTH

In FY2016, House of Ruth turned away 199 domestic violence survivors due to lack of housing availability.