



# HARRIS COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

## Vision

We envision a community where all persons have relationships that are safe, healthy, and free from domestic violence.

## Mission

To improve Harris County's response to domestic violence, we lead efforts to build collaborative systems and innovative programs that increase access to services and safety.

## The Work That We Do

- Convene monthly Community Council meetings for multi-disciplinary organizations and stakeholders to increase community coordination and collaboration by building relationships and sharing information
- Convene monthly domestic violence services Steering Committee for service providers to share information and increase coordination
- Convene Adult Violent Death Review Team to review domestic violence homicides with the goal of identifying and closing gaps in domestic violence response in order to prevent future homicides
- Lead community-wide Policy Committee to implement policy change, resulting in the Harris County gun surrender program
- Conduct biannual community stakeholder meetings and survivor surveys to develop and prioritize focus areas for HCDVCC
- Conduct Safety Assessments of law enforcement and criminal justice. Provide recommendations, encourage their adoption, and monitor change
- Conduct community education, training and outreach to schools, businesses, law enforcement, health care and others throughout the Greater Harris County area
- Identify gaps and challenges for service provision and work to fill those gaps
- Apply for and receive grants for Flexible Funding for the Greater Houston area to better meet client needs and also serve as a shelter diversion program
- Support emerging domestic violence agencies with capacity building, especially those organizations that provide a focus on special, at-risk populations such as women of color
- Monitor national trends and bring innovative programs to the greater Houston area, such as starting a pilot project for victim advocates within the Sheriff's Office
- Organized and facilitate the Harris County Domestic Violence High-Risk Team (DVHRT), a homicide prevention initiative working with law enforcement, criminal justice, and other community partners using a multi-disciplinary approach to enhance services and safety for survivors and hold offenders accountable
- Created and oversee Coordinated Access for housing, a prioritized multi-county housing allocation based on safety
- Represent domestic violence interests in the Coalition for the Homeless to increase housing resources and access
- Apply for and receive federal grants that allow us to house and case manage Rapid and Permanent Supportive Housing for hundreds of clients across the greater Houston area
- Primary receiver and distributor of over 3.4 million dollars of Covid Relief funds for the greater Houston DV community
- Initiate and fund domestic violence research to better inform our community policies and practices