

Making Sense of Housing for DV Survivors



Nick Beard

Policy Coordinator

DCADV

Caitlin Del Collo

Chief Strategy Advisor

DSHA

Tony Sierzega

Staff Attorney

CLASI

The background is a watercolor wash featuring warm, earthy tones of yellow, orange, and light green. A distinct, soft purple wash is visible in the upper right corner. The overall texture is soft and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and color blending.

take care
of yourself

**Who are
we?**

Why should advocates care about housing?

DV is a leading cause of homelessness

Survivors are often evicted due domestic violence

Insufficient housing stock for survivors

In this session, we'll cover

Fair housing protections

Supports for case management, legal aid, and housing assistance for survivors

Legislation related to safe & affordable housing

Resources for support with housing questions and difficulties

**What protections
do survivors
have?**



Photo by Sigmund on Unsplash

Federal Housing Act (FHA)

Anti-discrimination

Eviction protection

Equal protection

Reasonable accommodations

Common examples



Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

MUST provide a notice of rights

Non discrimination

Removal of abuser

Options to continue housing

Documentation is NOT required

Common examples



Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act

Ensures reasonable
accommodations for survivors
with disabilities

This includes disabilities as a
result of domestic and sexual
violence

Common examples

State protections in DE

Early lease termination law (Del. Code Ann. tit. 25, § 5314)

Eviction protection (Del. Code Ann. tit. 25, § 5316)

Address confidentiality program (Del. Code Ann. tit. 11, § § 9611 19)

**What resources
do survivors
have?**

Resources in DE

Legal support for eviction

Housing vouchers and public housing

Financial and housing counseling

Rent Reporting Pilot Program

[DelawareHousingSearch.org](https://delawarehousingsearch.org)

Funding Opportunities

HOME ARP Funding

**How can I make
legislative
change?**

Current legislative issues

[SB 1](#) – right to representation for eviction

Source of income protection for voucher holders

[HB 37](#) – rent escrow legislation

[HB 55](#) – Homelessness bill of rights

[SB 99](#) – Prohibit crime-free nuisance ordinances

**How can we help
you?**

What else can I do?

Join the DVTF Housing Subcommittee

Refer clients facing eviction/discrimination to CLASI

Subscribe to DCADV LEAP alerts

Follow CLASI, DSHA, DCADV on social media

Provide public comment on housing legislation

How to reach us

Nick - nbeard@dcadv.org

Caitlin - Caitlin@destatehousing.com

Tony - tsierzega@declasi.org