

Health, Safety, Freedom

YOU can make a difference in the lives of those impacted by the trauma of domestic violence.

DCADV's expert staff can help you:

- **Collaborate** with community providers and advocates to build on our capacity to provide the best possible services.
- **Use a trauma-informed approach** to work with clients victimized by domestic violence.
- **Provide information and referrals** to a wide range of services.
- **Develop knowledge and skills** to prevent domestic violence.

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide nonprofit coalition of agencies and individuals working to stop domestic violence.

DCADV supports equality in relationships and encourages victims of abuse to assume control over their own lives.



100 West 10th St, Suite 903
Wilmington, DE 19801
p 302.658.2958
f 302.658.5049

dcadvadmin@dcadv.org
www.dcadv.org
www.facebook.com/DelawareCoalition



Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health: *Connections and Consequences*



Domestic violence, trauma, and mental health impact people seeking services!

You—wherever you work or whatever you do—may be the first one a victim contacts for help.



The impact of domestic violence makes it harder for people to work on other issues, including mental health and substance abuse recovery.

Common mental health problems are often triggered or made worse by domestic violence.

Responses to abuse may appear similar to symptoms of mental illness, complicating diagnosis and treatment.

Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health: A Trauma-Informed Approach

The complex trauma of domestic violence requires us to:

Understand the person rather than the symptom or problem;

Engage survivors and peers in providing and evaluating services;

Minimize risks to the victims;

Provide services based on collaboration, safety, trust, choice, and empowerment;

Recognize the provider's risk of vicarious trauma.

How prevalent is domestic violence?

On average, over half of women seen in a range of mental health settings either currently are or have been abused by an intimate partner.

Domestic violence is a leading cause of suicide attempts by women.

Domestic violence is the immediate cause of homelessness for many women.

Nearly half of women enrolled in substance abuse treatment have reported recent domestic violence.

