



Community Insights

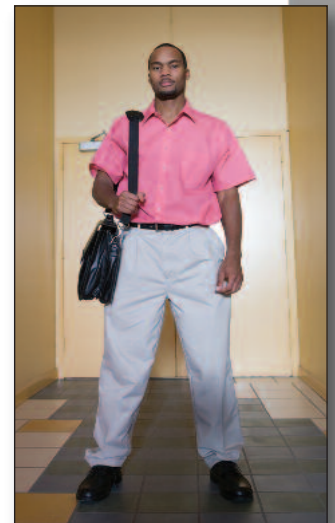
The purpose of the IDVAAC Community Insights Project is to secure information from African Americans who maintain an insider-specific understanding of the causes and consequences of domestic violence and to identify what they consider to be useful solutions that may be effective in preventing domestic violence in African American communities across the United States. Since the inception of the Community Insights Project in 1998, IDVAAC has convened focus groups in nine cities across the United States with large concentrations of African American: San Francisco and Oakland, California; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; Memphis, Tennessee; Birmingham, Alabama; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Detroit, Michigan; and Seattle, Washington. Reports have been developed for each city, which draw from various

stakeholders in the community, doing work of relevance to intimate partner violence (IPV) and other intersecting issues. **To learn more visit:** <http://www.idvaac.org/Currentinitiatives/Communityinsights.html>

Safe Return

SRI provides technical assistance and support to grantees of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative, a federal effort that addresses reentry strategies for populations of serious, high-risk offenders. SRI's technical assistance entails community education, training, and on-site assistance to criminal justice professionals and community- and faith-based organizations. Efforts are focused on reducing criminal recidivism due to domestic violence by helping these grantees address the safety needs of women and children as ex-offenders are released from prison. **To learn more visit:**

<http://www.idvaac.org/Currentinitiatives/safereturninitiative.html>



Fatherhood & Domestic Violence

Fathers contribute to the well-being of their children and female partners when relationships are healthy and loving. Yet research indicates that in high conflict relationships when fathers are abusive to their female partners and/or their children, victims suffer short-term and long-term physical, emotional, financial, and spiritual affects of the abuse. Even during separation and divorce, abusive fathers may still have contact with their former partners and children because the courts, mother, or children choose it. What should our helping systems consider in order to protect and support women and children when domestic violence occurs? What can be done to encourage healthy, non-abusive behavior among fathers with a history of violence and abuse? IDVAAC is working, in collaboration with organizations across the country to develop strategies and support mothers and children of domestic violence while encouraging batterer accountability, non-abusive behavior, and positive contributions of fathers to the well-being of their children. **To learn more visit:**

<http://www.idvaac.org/Currentinitiatives/fatherhood.html>



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IDVAAC
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Institute on Domestic Violence In
The African American Community

National Initiatives



Supervised Visitation & Safe Exchange

IDVAAC provides technical assistance to Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange grantees to enhance the delivery of supervised visitation and exchange services to culturally-specific and culturally diverse communities using centers in cases involving domestic violence. Through a series of surveys, roundtables, and interviews, IDVAAC has developed a set of guide posts for communities to use when addressing cultural competency in the supervised visitation and exchange setting. **To learn more visit:**

<http://www.idvaac.org/Currentinitiatives/safehaven.html>

Cultural Competence & Domestic Violence

Since its inception in 1993, IDVAAC has worked to increase understanding concerning domestic violence and cultural relevance among domestic violence advocates, researchers, policymakers, and other supporting systems. We have learned that in order to effectively respond to violence and abuse in any population, we must do away with the "one-size-fits-all" approach and address the needs of individuals through a culturally responsive lens. This involves taking into consideration how cultural communities and groups define help and the social and cultural context in which they experience violence. Through this initiative, IDVAAC seeks to improve outcomes of consumers of services and equip service providers with knowledge, tools, and skills needed to enhance the cultural relevance of their services. **To learn more:** <http://www.idvaac.org/Currentinitiatives/CulturalCompetence.html>



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