DVHTAC Special Topic Series
Understanding the Cycle of Housing Insecurity

October 29, 2020

Presenters
Shanti Kulkarni, PhD, UNC Charlotte
Evelyn Hill, Changed Choices
Wanda Gilbert-Coker, North Carolina Black Women’s Roundtable

Moderator
Kathy Moore, NRCDV
Domestic Violence & Housing Technical Assistance Consortium (DVHTAC)

**FEDERAL PARTNERS**
- Family Violence Prevention & Services Program/HHS
- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs/HUD
- Office for Victims of Crime/DOJ
- Office on Violence Against Women/DOJ
- US Interagency Council on Homelessness

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS**
- National Alliance for Safe Housing (NASH)
- Collaborative Solutions, Inc. (CSI)
- National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)
- National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV)
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)
- Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)
FRAMING TODAY’S PRESENTATION

• Domestic and Sexual Violence
• COVID-19
• Housing Insecurity
# Domestic & Sexual Violence: Lifetime Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Violence by Intimate Partner</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-racial</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian &amp; Alaska Native</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian &amp; Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sexual Violence (other than rape)</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multi-racial</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian &amp; Alaska Native</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian &amp; Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* over-representing total population rates

Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium
www.safehousingpartnerships.org
How COVID-19 is Affecting Survivors

(\% Respondents Reporting)

- Survivor Infection Fears
- Financial needs
- Healthcare needs
- Childcare needs
- Food needs
- Language-specific Covid Information

Source: Shanti Kulkarni, PhD, Professor of Social Work, UNC-Charlotte, 2020
COVID-19: Exacerbating Survivors’ Housing Insecurity

- 1 in 4 people (26%) reported housing insecurity
  - Didn’t pay last month’s rent/mortgage on time
  - and/or
  - Slight/no confidence being able to pay next month on time

- Black women (40%) and Latinas (44%)
  - 2 ½ times more likely than White men

- Rates even higher for Black women and Latinas with children (45% & 48% respectively)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Household Pulse Survey
The Intersections Between Domestic and Sexual Violence, Race and Housing Insecurity
UNDERSTANDING THE CYCLE OF HOUSING INSECURITY

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Evelyn Hill
Peer Support Specialist
Changed Choices

Wanda Gilbert-Coker
North Carolina Black Women’s Roundtable
NC4BL
Research Team Members

• North Carolina
  o Evelyn Hill, Katrina Ikard, & Danielle Archie

• D.C. Metro
  o Dilcia Molina, Maria Amelia Viteri, Leslie Moncada, Juan M. Rodriguez-Lopez, & Manuel Diaz-Ramirez

• With gratitude for the participation and inspiration of survivors and committed advocates
Study Overview

• Between July 2019 and July 2020, our research teams held 14 (6 primary/8 validation) listening sessions with black and Latinx survivors who had intersectional identities related to their life experiences, including having a history of incarceration, having a mental health diagnosis, being a new immigrant, living in poverty, and/or being part of the LGBTI community.

• Community-based Participatory Team: 1 doctoral trained researcher and co-researchers with lived experience and trusted service providers
Data Collection & Analysis

• Semi-structured interview guide (6 groups)
  • Topics: Housing Challenges; Difficult choices, Service recommendations; etc.
• Cycle of Housing Insecurity Model Developed
  Validation sessions (8 groups)
  • Cycle of housing insecurity presented for feedback
  • Model revised and refined
• All sessions digitally recorded and transcribed
  • Spanish translation

Field experts and service providers also consulted for recommendation development
Getting Housing

Finding and securing appropriate housing is difficult

- **Housing Scarcity**
  - Lack of affordable housing options; competition for affordable housing units

- **Stigma/Discrimination**
  - Domestic violence, criminal background, race, immigration status, language
  - Experienced from service providers, landlords, and general public

- **Formal Services**
  - Can facilitate housing access by providing information and advocacy
  - Services are ‘silöed’ and survivors may not receive housing services or linkages
Keeping Housing

Housing situations can be unstable for multiple reasons

• Unsustainable Environments
  o Stalking by Partner
  o Neighborhoods (e.g. drugs, violence, food deserts, no public transport)
  o Housing conditions (e.g. mold, vermin, substandard, overcrowded)

• Strained Household Resources
  o Low-wage work, health problems, childcare, transportation, trauma symptoms

• Network Impoverishment
  o Family and friends also struggling; relationships damaged by DV

• Sexual Exploitation (e.g. rent, repairs)

• Formal Services
  o Many ‘hoops’ to jump through; confusing array of services
Losing Housing

Loss of housing was common due to eviction, gentrification, and financial or other housing crisis

• Eviction
  o Can happen quickly

• Rent Increase
  o Annual increases

• Voluntary Move
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

1. Healing and empowerment are possible, but survivors need comprehensive survivor-centered trauma-informed services.

Nobody ever asks us what we need and what we want. I think that needs to start being incorporated to not just push the agenda of your organization.
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

2. Formal services can improve survivor access to housing resources through cross-sector collaborations.

My case worker said she didn't know what to tell me (about housing) because that's not her job.
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

3. Survivors want to challenge negative stereotypes about domestic violence, incarceration, immigration, and race with their stories.

Prison is something that happened, it's not who I am. Domestic violence is something that happened, it is not who I am. And you're not going to define me by what you think I should be. Nobody can put me in another box.

I can work two, three jobs, and still people don't want to take that chance or even allow me the opportunity to live in a place that's conducive to being a productive member of society.
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

4. Survivors want protections from housing discrimination and tenant exploitation.

To be able to stay there, we stopped complaining because you know you need a place and since you're paying what you are paying and you don't want them to throw you out, you ignore your needs.
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

5. Communities need affordable housing resources and equitable access.

I mean, it’s like everybody is trying for that one house and these people know that, these landlords know that, so they’ll jack the prices up because they have all these different people trying to get this one house.
Disrupting the Cycle of Housing Insecurity: Key Recommendations

6. Comprehensive community investments should target the underlying causes of housing insecurity.

The neighborhoods are filled with abandoned houses or houses that aren't kept up. You have certain landlords that will rent to us, but what they want to put you in you wouldn't want to live in. Because it's not made for a family, it's not made for the kids to feel safe. I feel like it's throwing a Band-Aid on something and just say, "Here, we giving it to you, be quiet. Go away. Go sit in a corner."
Discussion / Questions
For more information, please contact:

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Mapping DV/SV Housing Practices

- Identify housing-related practices:
  - Alternate assessment tools
  - Co-located advocates
  - DV bonus funds
  - DV Housing First
  - Point-in-Time participation
  - Flexible funding
  - Joint component programs
  - Parallel Coordinated Entry systems
  - Rapid re-housing

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GN65ZFK
Consortium COVID-19 Resources

• Safe Housing Partnerships: https://safehousingpartnerships.org/news/

• NASH: DV and Housing-Related Coronavirus Resources

• NNEDV: COVID-19: Coalition Guidance for Programs by the National Network to End Domestic Violence

• NRCDV: Preventing & Managing the Spread of COVID-19 Within Domestic Violence Programs

• NSVRC: Resources for COVID-19 Response

• CSI: HUD and DV Resources - COVID-19
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