



## Making the Case: Housing Beyond Shelter



### About this Guide

The Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) created this guide to assist your program in articulating the need for vital housing funds, and in particular, transitional housing funds, for survivors of domestic violence (DV) during competitive grant application processes. We hope you find the information below helpful. All citations and information are available for use as you complete your grant narratives and adapt them to fit your specific needs to illustrate the unique landscape of the communities and survivors you support. To assist in this goal, we used full formal citations for each paragraph after identifying research in support of issues that commonly could be raised and have an impact when advocating for housing funding. We then offer suggestions on how to incorporate these themes into grant applications. ***We note that we do not hold out these statements will guarantee or result in funds, rather we hope they bolster your current efforts to offer housing to survivors.***

Incorporating evidence-based research into your applications can strengthen your efforts to support broad housing options for survivors and has the potential for your grant applications to stand out among others. We encourage you to utilize this guide and customize your applications where appropriate by including statistical information and data as much as possible to help further convey the specific housing needs of survivors in your community and enhance your applications. ***If you need help with learning more about what constitutes evidence-informed research or how to document citations, please use TCFV's Evidence-Informed Practices Q&A (See Appendix) to assist with citing resources for your grant applications.***

We wish you luck and will be here for support.

**Questions:** Contact [Molly Thibodeaux](#) or [Molly Voyles](#).

## Housing and Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a pervasive issue that impacts nearly every Texan's life, with 1 out of every 3 people statewide experiencing it in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup> Research suggests that DV is a leading cause of homelessness for women and children.<sup>2</sup> The intersection of poverty and DV is particularly

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<sup>1</sup>Busch-Armendariz, N.B., Cook Heffron, L., & Bohman, T. (2011). Statewide prevalence of intimate partner violence in Texas. Report prepared for the Texas Council on Family Violence. Available at: <https://socialwork.utexas.edu/dl/files/cswr/institutes/idvsa/publications/DVPrevalence.pdf> (accessed on 12/9/2020).

<sup>2</sup>Clark, D., Wood, L., Sullivan, C. (2018). Technical Report: Exploring Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs for Transitional Housing. Available at: <https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2018-06/Clark-Wood-Sullivan-Transitional%20housing%20Technical%20Report-6-2018.pdf> (accessed on 11/30/2020).

impactful to survivors seeking safety and healing from trauma.<sup>3</sup> Economic burdens, including the need for safe housing, can limit survivors' mobility and options when seeking help after violence.<sup>4</sup> Addressing safety concerns and helping survivors secure safe, stable housing can make significant differences in the lives of survivors and their children.<sup>5</sup> For survivors to have the support they truly need for the transition to safety, we must expand housing options and funding for when survivors are ready to leave.

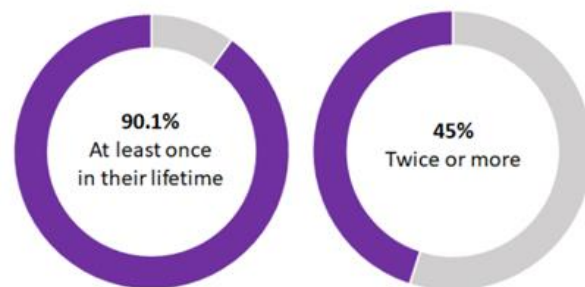
The [2019 Texas State Plan, entitled Creating a Safer Texas: Access to Safety, Justice and Opportunity](#) (hereafter State Plan) centered on the voices of survivors and advocates and resulted in a wealth of information. The lack of housing options and the long-term effects of not having safe or reliable housing was the most pervasive and overarching need. **One of the top recommendations for Texas communities and governmental funders included increasing diverse housing options for survivors.** Specifically, those surveyed stated that Texas needs a continuum of options that reach beyond emergency shelter to prepare survivors for successful long-term outcomes. Additionally, the State Plan found that without increases of comprehensive housing resources beyond emergency shelters, such as housing vouchers, transitional housing, and rental assistance, the denials due to lack of space will continue to rise at a perilous rate.<sup>6</sup>

### Why Housing Matters?

*“The intersection of domestic violence, homelessness, and housing insecurity is undeniable, as lack of safe and affordable housing is often reported as one of the primary barriers survivors of domestic violence face when they choose to leave an abusive partner.”*<sup>7</sup> The State Plan confirmed this and that housing is a priority for survivors. **With fewer housing and economic alternatives, returning to an abusive partner or homelessness can become the only options.**

The State Plan showed that a staggering 90.1% of survivors experienced homelessness due to fleeing family violence at least once in their life, and over 45% of survivors interviewed had been homeless twice or more due to family violence. The need for housing, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and most importantly, affordable permanent housing, was found in every research activity. For non-residential clients, being able to maintain their current

Survivors experiencing homelessness due to fleeing domestic violence in Texas



<sup>3</sup> Sokoloff, N.J. & Dupont, I. (2005). Domestic violence at the intersections of race, class, and gender: Challenges and contributions to understanding violence against marginalized women in diverse communities. *Violence against Women*, 11(1), 38-64.

<sup>4</sup> Clark, D., Wood, L., Sullivan, C. (2018). Technical Report: Exploring Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs for Transitional Housing. Available at: <https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2018-06/Clark-Wood-Sullivan-Transitional%20housing%20Technical%20Report-6-2018.pdf> (accessed on 11/30/2020).

<sup>5</sup> Rollins, C., Billhardt, K., Olsen, L. (2013). Housing: Safety, Stability, and Dignity for Survivors of Domestic Violence. Available at: [https://wscadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/DVHF\\_SafetyPaper2013-final.pdf](https://wscadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/DVHF_SafetyPaper2013-final.pdf) (accessed on 12/9/2020).

<sup>6</sup> All cites in this paragraph are Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence.

<sup>7</sup> NNEDV, "Domestic Violence Counts: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Census Report," Available at: <https://nnedv.org/content/domestic-violence-counts-11th-annual-census-report/> (accessed 12/10/20).

housing is a common need.<sup>8</sup> The homelessness crisis must be addressed creatively and take into consideration the unique needs of all survivors in Texas, whether that is helping survivors stay in their homes or having safe and affordable housing options available within communities.

● ***Conveying the Need to Funders:*** Using the statistics can be a strong way to convey the critical need for housing as integral to survivors safely accessing freedom from an abusive partner. As such, it should be articulated as a key aspect of a crisis system response to DV. Using facts such as those above can help emphasize to funders that housing is a priority for survivors and the lack of safe and affordable housing is a huge barrier for safety and self-sufficiency. Funders should know that survivors make up a large portion of homeless individuals and some survivors require additional supportive services and safety considerations.

### **Housing = Safety**

We know that stable and affordable housing is linked to survivor safety. In 2019, 185 Texans were killed by intimate partners and 75% of the homicides occurred at home.<sup>9</sup> TCFV's [Honoring Texas Victims: Family Violence Fatalities](#), found that the inability to secure, or retain, housing when fleeing can exacerbate risks to safety.

In 2018, [Honoring Texas Victims](#) also found that 82 of the women murdered by their intimate partners were in the process of separating, or had attempted to separate prior, resulting in an inevitable need for housing. While some survivors had resources to access their own housing, the incidence rates of homelessness and fleeing domestic violence in Texas indicate most will look to find support in accessing new safer housing. In doing so, survivors often find the lack of affordable housing a roadblock.<sup>10</sup> We must do better as a state to support survivors when they choose to leave by prioritizing funding to increase safety in housing.

● ***Conveying the Need to Funders:*** It is important to convey to funders the need for emergency shelter, but also the additional funding for housing options beyond emergency shelter. Funders should know **that intrinsic to seeking shelter is the natural next step of searching for safe and affordable housing**. In almost every community in Texas, survivors face significant challenges when attempting to transition from shelter to safe and affordable permanent housing. Survivors can create new lives when safe, stable, and affordable housing is available; it is often one of the first steps to freedom and a place to call home.

### **Increased Trauma Due to Housing Instability and Homelessness**

Trauma and exposure to violence are interwoven; 81% of women who experienced rape, stalking, or physical violence by an intimate partner reported significant short or long-term

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<sup>8</sup> All preceding cites are Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence.

<sup>9</sup> Texas Council on Family Violence. 2019 *Honoring Texas Victims Summary Facts*, available at: [http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2019HTV-SF-Women\\_final.pdf](http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2019HTV-SF-Women_final.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> All cites in paragraph are Texas Council on Family Violence. (2019). *Honoring Texas Victims: Family Violence Fatalities in 2018*. Available at: [http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2018HTV\\_FullReport\\_OnlineVersion.pdf](http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2018HTV_FullReport_OnlineVersion.pdf) (Accessed on 11/30/20).

effects including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).<sup>11</sup> Research has similarly shown that trauma is prevalent in the narrative of many people's pathway to homelessness and that people who are homeless are likely to have also experienced some form of trauma.<sup>12</sup> The State Plan offered some insight into this link between homelessness and trauma when it found that increased PTSD symptoms were significantly correlated with more lifetime experiences of homelessness.<sup>13</sup> For family violence advocates, these connections show a clear need to support survivors who face housing instability before they are exposed to the compounding trauma of homelessness when fleeing violence.

● **Conveying the Need to Funders:** Homelessness and housing instability increase trauma for survivors. Funders should know that the sooner a survivor is housed with their children, the sooner they can begin to heal. Funders should know that housing instability and homelessness leads to increased trauma and is additional supporting evidence for safe and stable housing.

### **DV Shelter Capacity and the Need for Broader Housing Options**

Research reveals that historically, DV shelters have been a safe haven for women escaping violence who are also experiencing housing instability or unsafe housing.<sup>14</sup> Despite a wide array of services, several important gaps and barriers exist that limit survivor healing, safety, and economic stability.<sup>15</sup> One of the most frequently cited barriers is the short duration of services.<sup>16</sup> According to the State Plan the range of shelter stay length report by participants was 30-90 days and the average shelter stay according to agency reports from the Availability Survey is 39.3 days.<sup>17</sup> This time frame is unfortunately too short for many survivors to obtain the resources they need to live safely.<sup>18</sup> Also, in 2020, 43.7% of survivors in Texas who call a hotline seeking shelter are denied solely due to lack of space.<sup>19</sup> Further, with fewer housing and economic alternatives, returning to an abusive partner or homelessness can become the only options.<sup>20</sup>

This confluence of factors means that family violence programs are attempting to serve more clients than ever before with the same amount of resources with a clear need for housing indicated by the statistics above. While emergency shelter can be a life-saving intervention, it is

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<sup>11</sup> Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M.R. (2011). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<sup>12</sup> FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless). (2017). Recognising The Link Between Trauma and Homelessness. Available at: [https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa\\_traumaandhomelessness03073471219052946810738.pdf](https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa_traumaandhomelessness03073471219052946810738.pdf) (accessed on 12/9/2020).

<sup>13</sup> Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence.

<sup>14</sup> Baker, C.K., Niolon, P.H., & Oliphant, H. (2009). A descriptive analysis of transitional housing programs for survivors of intimate partner violence in the United States. *Violence Against Women*, 15(4), 460-481.

<sup>15</sup> Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence.

<sup>16</sup> Id.

<sup>17</sup> Id.

<sup>18</sup> Sullivan, C.M., & Virden, T. (2017). The relationships among length of stay in a domestic violence shelter, help received, and outcomes achieved. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 87, 434-442.

<sup>19</sup> Texas Health and Human Services Commission Family Violence Program. Family Violence Program Statistics. Fiscal Year 2020. Available upon request.

<sup>20</sup> Texas Council on Family Violence. 2019 Texas State Plan Executive Summary. Available at: <http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019-State-Plan-Executive-Summary-11.2.pdf> (accessed on 11/30/2020).

short-term by design. The lack of housing begins with lack of shelter space and inadequate service durations, but quickly snowballs when survivors seek housing opportunities outside of shelter.<sup>21</sup> A broad range of housing options outside of emergency shelter is necessary, including but not limited to Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), and Permanent Supportive Housing, to serve all survivors with unique life experiences and needs and to allow more survivors to access emergency shelter when needed.

● ***Conveying the Need to Funders:*** Funders need to know the unique needs and barriers faced by survivors, especially the difficult choices they must make when deciding to leave and why housing is integral. It is important to advocate for the broader ranges of housing supports to meet the unique needs of survivors, since each survivor will have their own personal life situations and experiences that will require different types of housing options. One survivor might need a quick place without much support and RRH might be the best option. Another survivor with higher safety considerations and PTSD might benefit more from TH. To emphasize the need for broader housing options outside of emergency shelter, using the statistics above will help tell the story of the dire situation when survivors must make the choice – stay in their abusive home or homelessness. Where appropriate, include the compelling stories of the housing struggles of the survivors you serve and how broader housing options have made the difference in their lives and their children’s lives.

### **Stable Housing Supports Help-Seeking Systems’ Efforts**

Research found that access to longer-term housing that is safe and affordable for women and their children is a critical part of empowering survivors to recover from their experiences with violence.<sup>22</sup> When survivors are ready to leave the shelter, support for quick access to new safe and affordable housing can help to decrease the burden of economic hardship, housing instability, and uncertainty as they focus on safety for themselves and their children, and other essential needs (i.e. employment, health, legal issues); create alternatives to remaining in abusive homes; and reduce the risks of being re-victimized by abusers.<sup>23</sup> Safe, stable, and affordable housing can be a refuge while seeking employment or focusing on treatment, and it provides consistency while avoiding the dangers and difficulties of homelessness. Job seekers need a permanent address and a means of contacting, and receiving contact, from prospective employers.<sup>24</sup>

● ***Conveying the Need to Funders:*** Funders should know that by stabilizing housing for survivors, they are able to seek employment and engage with help-seeking systems more consistently (i.e., the court and legal systems, law enforcement, etc.). In addition, stable housing for survivors supports help-seeking systems’ efforts to make contact and follow-up with survivors.

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<sup>21</sup> All cites in this paragraph are Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence.

<sup>22</sup> United Nations (UN) Women. Virtual Knowledge Centre. (2012). *Safe and Affordable Housing*. Available at: <https://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/1458-safe-and-affordable-housing.html> (Accessed on 12/3/2020).

<sup>23</sup> Id.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Housing and Urban Development. Office of Policy Development and Research (P&R). Evidence Matters. (2016). *Housing, Inclusion, and Public Safety*. Available at: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/em/summer16/highlight1.html>.



## Why Transitional Housing?

Two TH research evaluations have been conducted with advocates and survivors in Texas. One of the research projects, [\*Technical Report: Exploring Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs for Transitional Housing\*](#), found that survivors who reported having serious and ongoing safety concerns were often those who preferred the TH model, especially when they lived in the gated apartment building with significant security measures in place. In addition, survivors spoke at length about the wide variety of services offered by the TH program for themselves and their children that made life easier, including financial management classes, childcare, and counseling. The same study also concluded that TH seems to be a good fit for those (1) in very high danger, (2) in need of social support and services, and (3) in need of 12-24 months of full rental support (to handle documentation concerns, attain educational goals, and/or heal from trauma).<sup>25</sup> ***Survivor-centered care is clearly central to promoting housing stability.***

Preliminary results from the University of Texas at Arlington research study, *Outcomes of Survivors after Transitional Housing*, found that survivors' credit current housing stability nearly entirely to their time in the Family Violence Center (FVC) TH program. In addition, having a place to go for help with tangible resources was equally important. Preliminary results also found that resources like onsite food pantries, flexible funding, transportation vouchers, and childcare assistance were pointed to over and over as critical components of effective TH experiences. Survivors also talked about the importance of TH programming and staff in developing their own personal and emotional stability. Importantly, every participating survivor reported that their **exposure to physical violence was reduced** since their participation in TH, and this was maintained in the 3-24 months past TH program exit.<sup>26</sup>

- ***Conveying the Need to Funders:*** Funders should know that research findings support TH for DV survivors as effective, especially survivors who have increased safety concerns and risks, in need of the built-in social support and a variety of supportive services, and also in need of extended time periods (12-24 months) of full rental support in order to handle personal, professional, and legal matters. Survivors can access all of the above stated supports through DV TH programming. DV agencies are equipped to provide trauma-informed supportive services, while walking alongside survivors to accomplish their goals, including housing stability.

***\*\*Visit the National Network to End Domestic Violence's (NNEDV) [Transitional Housing Toolkit](#) website for additional supporting information. \*\****

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<sup>25</sup> All preceding cites in this paragraph are Clark, D., Wood, L., Sullivan, C. (2018). Technical Report: Exploring Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs for Transitional Housing. Available at: <https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2018-06/Clark-Wood-Sullivan-Transitional%20housing%20Technical%20Report-6-2018.pdf> (accessed on 11/30/2020).

<sup>26</sup> All cites from this paragraph are Voth Schrag, R., Robinson, S., & Padilla-Medina, D. (2020). *Domestic Violence Transitional Housing: Outcomes & Impacts*. Austin, TX: Texas Council on Family Violence.

## COVID-19 and Housing

Preliminary results from the University of Texas at Arlington research study, *Outcomes of Survivors after Transitional Housing*, also found that COVID-19 has brought on new waves of stress and anxiety, with some dynamics uniquely impacting staff and survivors within Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) services. Staff report seeing increased prevalence and severity of violence for the survivors they serve, as well as anxiety related to the economic impact of the virus on agencies, and the health and safety implications of living through a global pandemic while working in communal contexts. There is also strong evidence in the current project that the pandemic has heightened the perceived risk of seeking housing help, particularly in programs that have communal living elements or which primarily place TH residents who come through an initial emergency shelter stay. Several agencies have reported working to quickly move survivors through shelter and into transitional housing programs – both by expanding the availability of rapid rehousing or voucher style services within agencies and by partnering with local housing authorities to move survivors into their TH programs.<sup>27</sup> Further, for those survivors who are in a relationship and may need housing to leave they are facing increased risks. According to a recent Texas-based research study, **80.9 percent of victims reported relationship difficulty increased and 40 percent said their safety decreased.**<sup>28</sup>

“  
Anybody fleeing is hurting financially.  
The abuse is worse.  
I've seen a lot of survivors go back to their abusers while waiting for housing because of Coronavirus in large part.  
- Texas Advocate  
”

### 🌀 *Links to Evidence-Based Publications and Articles* 🌀

Busch-Armendariz, N.B., Cook Heffron, L., & Bohman, T. (2011). Statewide prevalence of intimate partner violence in Texas. Report prepared for the Texas Council on Family Violence. Available at:  
<https://socialwork.utexas.edu/dl/files/cswr/institutes/idvsa/publications/DVPrevalence.pdf>

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., ...& Stevens, M.R. (2011). The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): 2010 summary report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Clark, D., Wood, L., Sullivan, C. (2018). Technical Report: Exploring Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs for Transitional Housing. Available at:  
<https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2018-06/Clark-Wood-Sullivan-Transitional%20housing%20Technical%20Report-6-2018.pdf>.

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<sup>27</sup> Id.

<sup>28</sup> Wood, L., Temple J. (2020). COVID-19 and Family Violence: What's New in Texas-Based Research. The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

Sokoloff, N.J. & Dupont, I. (2005). Domestic violence at the intersections of race, class, and gender: Challenges and contributions to understanding violence against marginalized women in diverse communities. *Violence against Women*, 11(1), 38-64.

Rollins, C., Billhardt, K., Olsen, L. (2013). Housing: Safety, Stability, and Dignity for Survivors of Domestic Violence. Available at: [https://wscadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/DVHF\\_SafetyPaper2013-final.pdf](https://wscadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/DVHF_SafetyPaper2013-final.pdf)

Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions. (2006). *A Place in the World: The Right to Adequate Housing as an Essential Element of a Life Free from Domestic Violence*. Available at: [https://issuu.com/cohre/docs/cohre\\_a\\_place\\_in\\_the\\_world](https://issuu.com/cohre/docs/cohre_a_place_in_the_world)

Texas Council on Family Violence. *2019 Honoring Texas Victims Summary Facts*, available at: [http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2019HTV-SF-Women\\_final.pdf](http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2019HTV-SF-Women_final.pdf).

Texas Council on Family Violence. *2019 Texas State Plan Executive Summary*. Available at: <http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019-State-Plan-Executive-Summary-11.2.pdf>.

Wood, L., Backes, B.L., McGiffert, M., Wang, A., Thompson, J. & Wasim, A. (2019). Texas state plan 2018: Availability of services at Texas family violence programs and assessment of unmet needs of survivors of family violence. Austin, Texas: The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work and Texas Council on Family Violence. Available at: <http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FINAL-State-Plan-Report-September-2019.pdf>.

Desmond, M., Gromis, A., Edmonds, L., Hendrickson, J., Krywokulski, K., Leung, L., & Porton, A. (2018). Eviction Lab National Database: Version 1.0. Princeton University. Retrieved from [www.evictionlab.org](http://www.evictionlab.org).

FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless). (2017). *Recognising The Link Between Trauma and Homelessness*. Available at: [https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa\\_traumaandhomelessness03073471219052946810738.pdf](https://www.feantsa.org/download/feantsa_traumaandhomelessness03073471219052946810738.pdf) (accessed on 12/9/2020).

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). *Trauma: Understand the linkages between trauma and homelessness, including sexual, psychological, or physical abuse*. Available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/hpr-resources/trauma>.

Scholars Strategy Network (SSN). (2017). Why Domestic Violence Survivors Need Long-Term Housing Adapted to Their Special Needs. Available at: <https://scholars.org/contribution/why-domestic-violence-survivors-need-long-term-housing-adapted-their-special-needs>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). *Housing and Shelter*. Available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/hpr-resources/housing-shelter>.



Texas Council on Family Violence. *2018 Honoring Texas Victims Full Report*. Available at: [http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2018HTV\\_FullReport\\_OnlineVersion.pdf](http://tcfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2018HTV_FullReport_OnlineVersion.pdf).

United Nations (UN) Women. Virtual Knowledge Centre. (2012). *Safe and Affordable Housing*. Available at: <https://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/1458-safe-and-affordable-housing.html>.

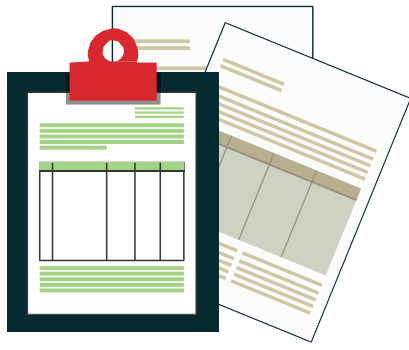
U.S. Housing and Urban Development. Office of Policy Development and Research (P&R). Evidence Matters. (2016). *Housing, Inclusion, and Public Safety*. Available at: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/em/summer16/highlight1.html>.

Voth Schrag, R., Robinson, S., & Padilla-Medina, D. (2020). *Domestic Violence Transitional Housing: Outcomes & Impacts*. Austin, TX: Texas Council on Family Violence.

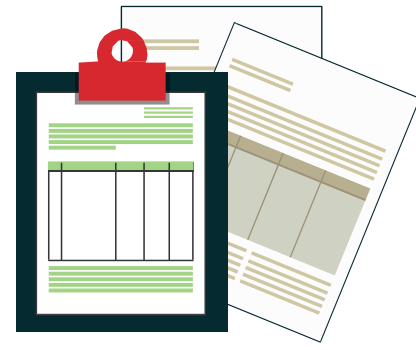
NNEDV, “Domestic Violence Counts: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Census Report,” Available at: <https://nnedv.org/content/domestic-violence-counts-11th-annual-census-report/>

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Family Violence Program. Family Violence Program Statistics. Fiscal Year 2020.

# APPENDIX



# Evidence-Informed Practices

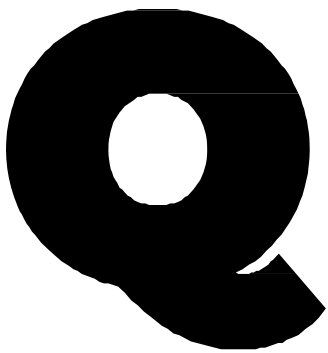


**As a part of the Texas Council on Family Violence's (TCFV) support of grant applications please find a Question and Answer (Q & A) on evidence-informed practices below.**

**TCFV offers this information as funders have increasingly placed a higher emphasis on evidence-informed interventions and service models.**

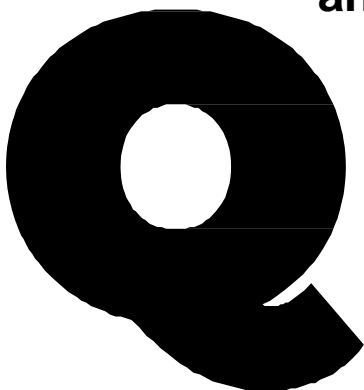
**Texas' Family Violence Centers have a wealth of expertise and innovative service models and this Q & A is designed to assist your agency in weaving evidence-informed policies into explanations of your service models.**

**Please see below for this Q & A and if you have follow up questions, please contact the Policy team at TCFV at [Policy@tcfv.org](mailto:Policy@tcfv.org).**



## What are evidence-based and evidence-informed?

The terms evidence-based and evidence-informed are used to indicate that a certain approach, intervention, or service is used for a particular reason, and that there is evidence showing it is effective. This evidence can be traditional research from a university or institute or program evaluations, survivor surveys, survivor outcomes, and many other sources. Find more information about evidence-based practices at [Oxford Review](#) and the [Social Work Policy Institute](#).



## How do I answer grant questions about evidence-based practices?

Wherever possible, describe why and how the intervention is used, citing a specific source (i.e. articles, outcomes, etc.). You can also describe “*promising*” practices which may not have existing best practices or research by providing a full explanation of the basis for the belief of the intervention working. See the [Community Tool Box](#) for more information about promising practices and interventions.



# Q

## How can we use our reporting data as evidence for certain services?

If you've seen a change in numbers since implementing an initiative this can be great *"experiential"* evidence. Outcome surveys and survivor testimonials also speak to the success of a certain type of program or initiative. For example, *"After trauma-informed counseling, 85% of survivors reported knowing more about trauma and 92% reported having lower anxiety."* Find out more about how to design and use your own evaluations by using the National Latin@ Network's [Building Evidence Toolkit](#).



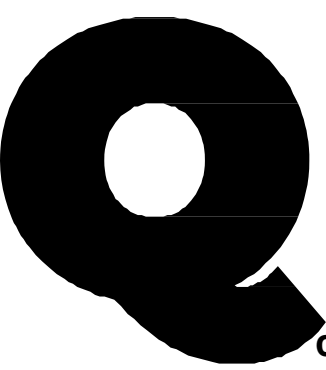
# Q

## Are there places where I can look up evidence-informed practices?

Yes! [The DV Evidence Project](#) is a resource from the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, and they provide great models and citations for typical interventions found in DV programs. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration office (SAMHSA) also has a [National Repository of Evidence-Based Practices](#). If you receive a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, you can have access to journal research articles on victim related issues at the [Center for Victim Research](#). This can also be a great opportunity for student interns or volunteers to be involved since they typically have access to their schools' online library.

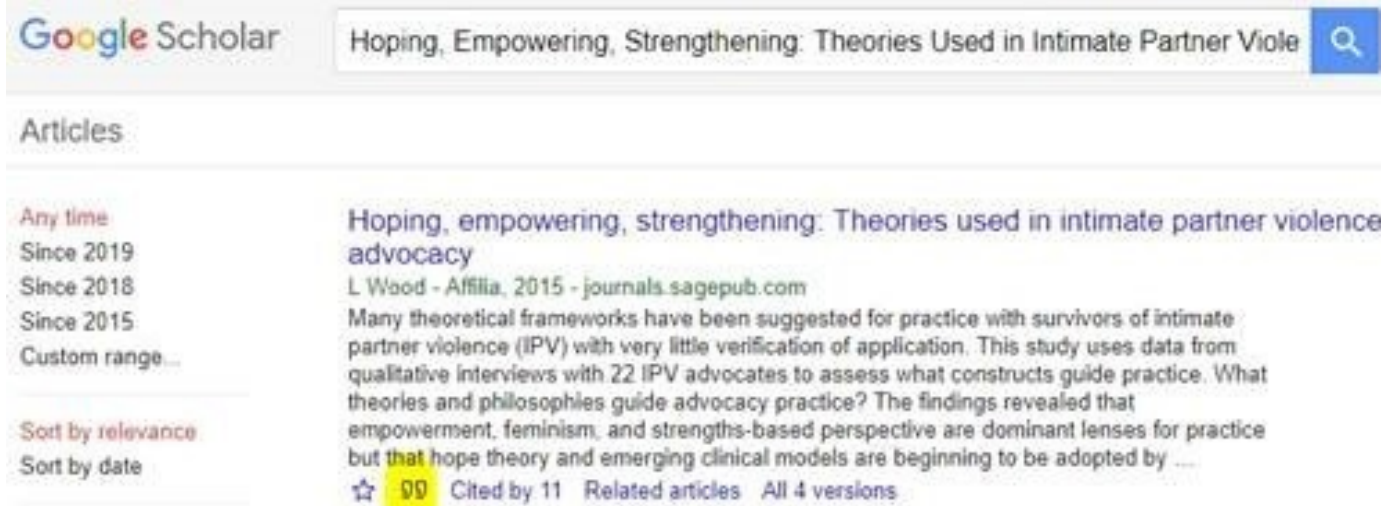






# How do I cite sources?

For a research article, it is easy to use [Google Scholar's](#) cite function. Just search for the correct article, click on the quotation marks below & the summary to obtain the official citation. Use a consistent format when citing different sources. You can see an example of citations below.



If you are citing another format you can use guidelines based on the citation format. Some resources for this are Purdue's Online Writing Lab or citation sites such as [www.bibme.org](http://www.bibme.org)

## Evidence-Based Example:

Our agency works from a survivor-centered, empowerment based framework which has shown to be an effective strategy when working and goal planning with survivors of domestic violence (Baker, Billhardt, Warren, Rollings, and Glass, 2010; Wood, 2015). This approach is used in our advocacy services.

Baker, C. K., Billhardt, K. A., Warren, J., Rollins, C., & Glass, N. E. (2010). [Domestic violence, housing instability, and homelessness: A review of housing policies and program practices for meeting the needs of survivors.](#) *Aggression and Violent Behavior, 15*(6), 430-439.

Wood, L. (2015). [Hoping, empowering, strengthening: Theories used in intimate partner violence advocacy.](#) *Affilia, 30*(3), 286-301.