

Health Professional Outreach: Supporting Care for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

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Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

According to the Center for Disease Control, Intimate Partner Violence is a preventable **public health issue** that affects millions of Americans.

Project Partnership

- Collaboration with the Injury Prevention Center of CT Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital
- Partnership with the 18 Member Organizations across the state of Connecticut
- Medical Advisory Council: health professionals offering guidance to the project

Project Goals

- Education and Training
- Technical Assistance
- Policy Guidance
- Evaluation and Data

Prevalence Rates

- 1 in 4 women will experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime.
- 44% of lesbian women and 26% of gay men experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- Women with a history of IPV had significantly higher healthcare utilization and costs, even after IPV ended.
- The reported prevalence of IPV survivors in primary care and emergency departments ranges from 12% to 45%, depending on how IPV is defined and measured

IPV and impact on chronic health conditions

- Arthritis
- Asthma
- Headaches and migraines
- Back pain
- Chronic pain syndromes
- Genitourinary problems
- High cholesterol
- Heart disease
- Overweight/Obese
- Stroke
- Depressed immune function
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Poor perinatal health outcomes

(Black & Breiding, 2008; Campbell et al, 2002; Coker et al, 2000; Constantino et al, 2000; Follingstad, 1991; Kendall-Tackett et al, 2003; Letourneau et al, 1999; Wagner et al, 1995; Coker et al, 2000; Drossman et al, 1995; Lesserman et al, 2007; Kernic et al, 2000; Talley et al, 1994; Black & Breiding, 2008; Bailey, 2012)

Behavioral Health Co-Morbidities

- **Anxiety/Panic Attacks**
- **Sleep problems**
- **Memory loss**
- **Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**
- **Depression, poor self-esteem**
- **Insomnia**
- **Suicide ideation/actions**
- **Alcohol, drug, tobacco use**

(Bergman & Brismar, 1991; Coker et al, 2002; Dienemann et al, 2000; Elsberg et al, 2008; Kernic et al, 2000; Stark & Flitcraft, 1995; Sato-DiLorenzo & Sharps, 2007; Lemon et al, 2002; Ackard et al, 2003; Weinsheimer et al, 2005; Kaysen et al, 2007; Miller et al, 1989; Plichta, 1992)



Reproductive and Sexual health

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- Increased risk for unintended and rapid repeat pregnancy
- Increased incidence of low birth weight babies, preterm birth and miscarriages
- Abuse is **more common than gestational diabetes or preeclampsia** -- conditions for which pregnant women are routinely screened.

(Miller, 2010; Sarkar, 2008, Goodwin et al, 2000; Hathaway, 2000)



Healthcare providers can make a difference!

Women who talked to
their health care
provider about abuse
were...

4 times more likely to use
an intervention

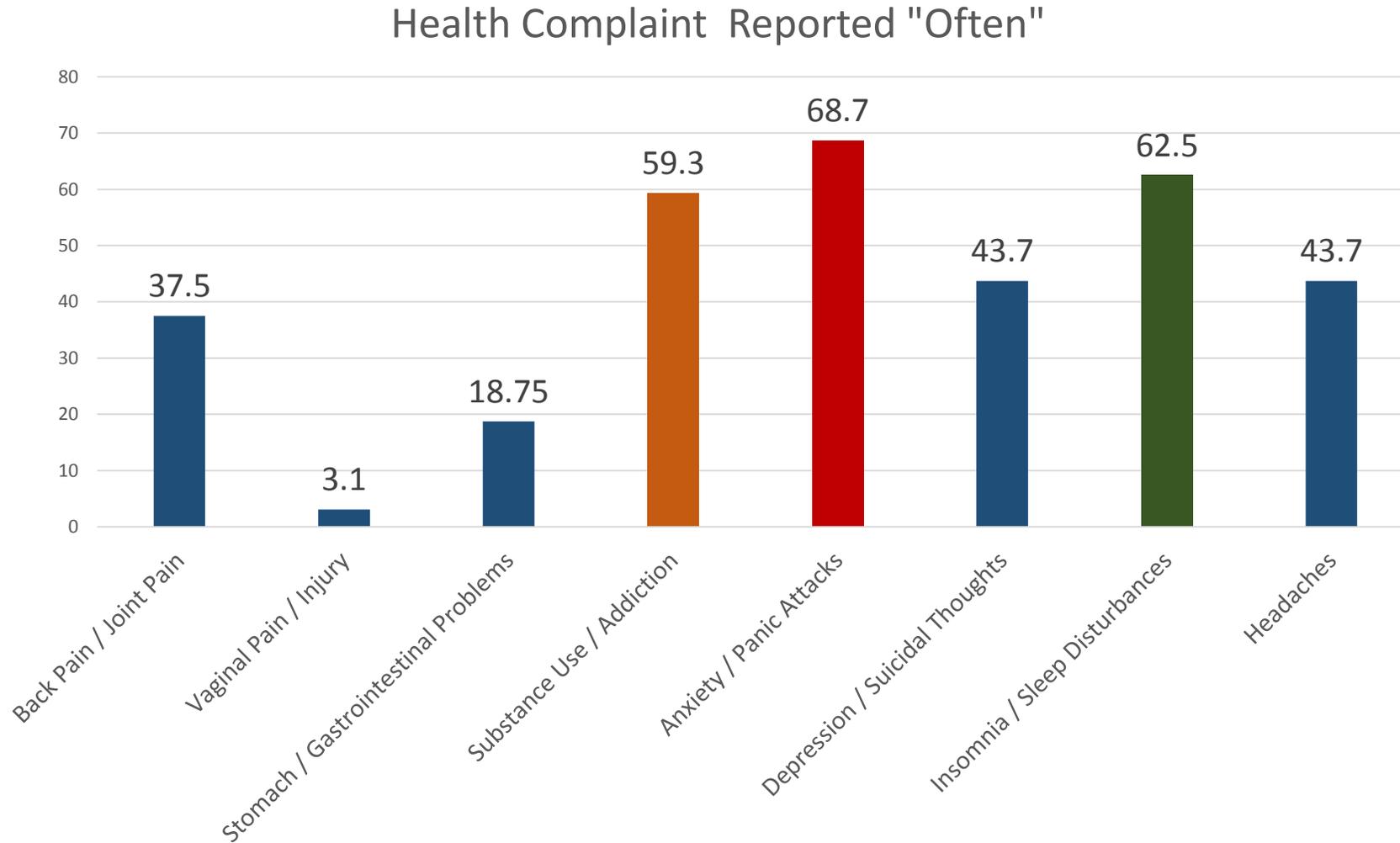
2.6 times more likely to
exit the abusive relationship

McCloskey et al. (2006)

Health Provider Survey Results

- Highlight the **relationships** our member organizations have with health providers in their community.
- Statewide perspective on type and **quality** of these relationships.
- Identify health-related IPV initiatives, workgroups, and **collaboration** with health providers.
- Identify **health complaints** reported by Member Organization consumers.

Health Complaints of Consumers



Training and Consultation Program

- Trainings are one to three hours
- Each hour qualifies for one Continuing Education Credit
- Training activities and consultation for policy-guidance are free of charge
- Training is strongly recommended by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and Health Care Organizations

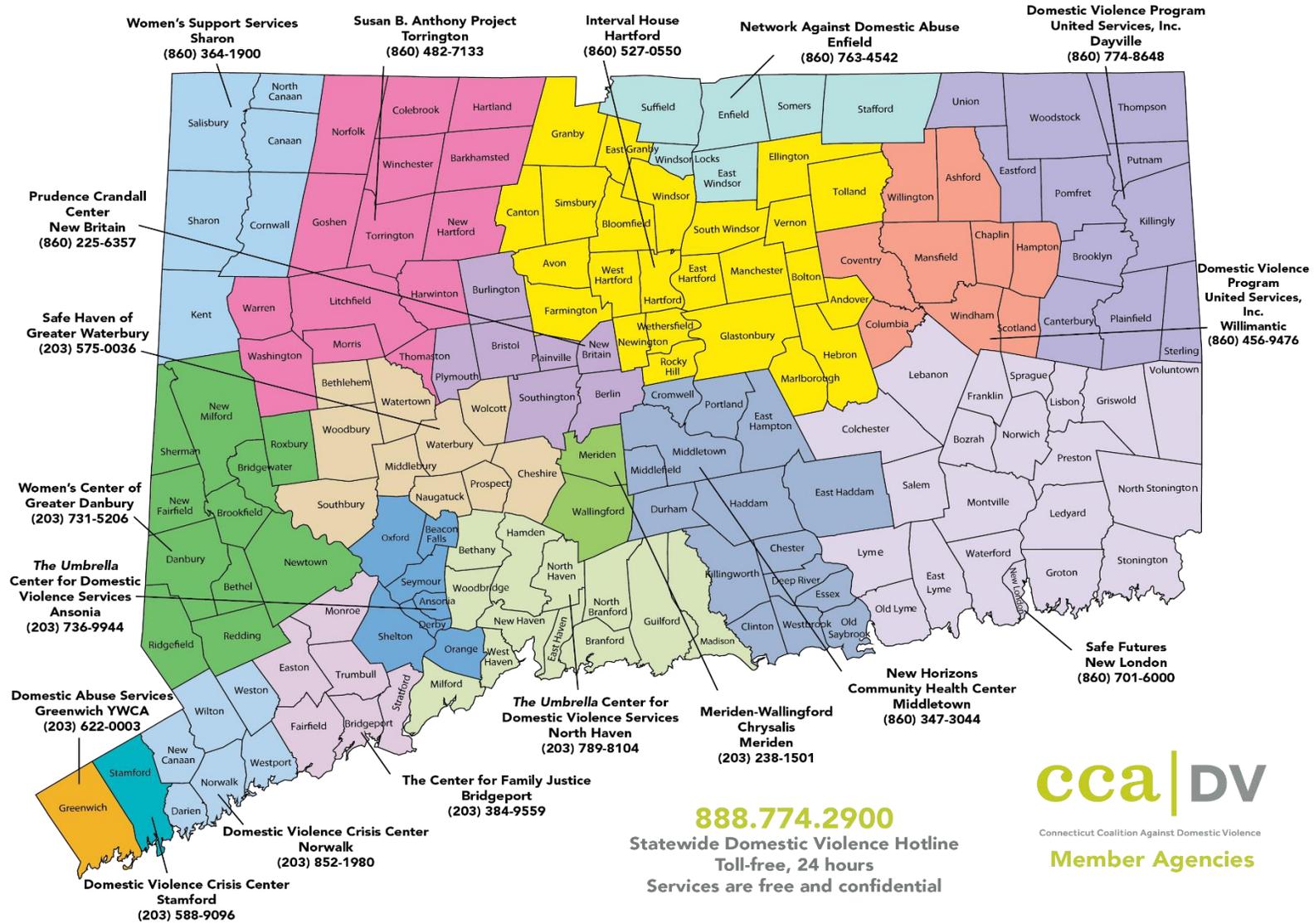
Training includes:

- Epidemiology, prevalence and dynamics of intimate partner violence
- Health professionals role in screening and intervention
- Screening process and resources
- Referral to intimate partner violence services

Benefits of IPV Training

- Intimate Partner Violence Education
- Preparation to address this issue with patients
- Continuing Education Credits
- Meet requirements and recommendations for training in this topic area
- Better service for patients
- Resources in the Community

Domestic Violence Services



Domestic Violence Resources

If someone is experiencing intimate partner violence please call our 24-hour crisis lines:

ENGLISH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

888.774.2900

SPANISH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

844.831.9200

Schedule a Training

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Questions