Dispatch from the Coalition

The Moment of Truth statement, embraced by End Abuse and supported by coalitions across the country, insists that mainstream anti-violence advocacy must fundamentally transform to end the personal and collective traumas our movement purports to fight.

To do so, we believe it necessary that individual advocates, multi-disciplinary teams, and policies must transform in tandem; from strategies historically rooted in violence as response to violence, toward a paradigm that recognizes and honors the intersectional lives of survivors, the partners who use violence against them, and the communities in which they are both beloved.

This journal means to offer personal & professional tools, resources, and ideas for advocates across Wisconsin to embody; for the systems that survivors must navigate to explore and adopt; for communities to urge their leadership consider seriously.

This is neither fast nor easy work. It is not one-size-fits-all. Healing and accountability are messy, evolving, intangible. As are we.

Tegan Nia Swanson, Systems Change Coordinator
It is beyond time that we make these infant mortality disparities non-existent. There is no reason that a baby’s lifespan should be decreased...simply because of their zip code, the color of their skin, or their economic status. This... is a matter of life and death.

- State Sen. LaTonya Johnson, (D) Milwaukee

Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health

believes every Wisconsin woman - at every age & every stage of life - is able to reach her optimal health, safety and economic security. We aim to achieve this vision by informing, involving & inspiring individuals to be effective advocates.

Their work includes:
- Reproductive Justice like the WI Birth Equity Act
- PATCH, youth advocacy & health education
- Policy Rx, a progressive, holistic legislative vision
- Connecting patients & providers who value unbiased, supportive care

The Birth Equity Act

- Postpartum Wellness Visits
- Maternal Health Risk Coverage
- Repeal Birth Cost Recovery Law
- Pregnancy = Qualifier for Coverage
- No Sales Tax on Breastfeeding
- BadgerCare Dental Coverage

Wisconsin is ranked as one of the worst states in the nation for maternal & health outcomes & the worst for racial disparities in infant mortality.

The Wisconsin Birth Equity Act aims to disrupt our state's most onerous barriers to child and maternal health, while also bringing awareness to these pervasive disparities.

With innovative policies targeted at increasing access to full-spectrum care, financial resilience, & comprehensive insurance coverage, the Wisconsin Birth Equity Act is nothing short of groundbreaking.

wibirthequity.org  supportwomenshealth.org
TRANSFORMATIVE humans

Click their names to find out more about these brilliant humans!

- Alysia Harris
- Gina Ali
- Taysha Martineau
- Miss Major Griffin-Gracy
**We Cannot Change What We Refuse to See**

**AR 411, AB 413, AB 414, and SB 409** are dangerous, authoritarian bills that would prohibit teachers, advocates, and community partners from life-saving anti-oppressive primary prevention work.

It is our responsibility to challenge systems that allow root causes of violence - including racism and misogyny - to thrive, recognize our complicity in the violence we aim to end, and encourage the development of healthy, nonviolent interpersonal and community relationships.

It is impossible to address or prevent DV without discussing its intersections with racism and sexism.

Please connect with elected officials and community leaders at the state, county, and local levels; in school boards, small businesses, and in places of worship; with anyone in your Beloved Community.

Tell them you believe we will never end violence by ignoring its roots.

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**What can I do?**

- **advocate with your elected officials**
- **elevate BIPOC trans & nonbinary voices in your communities**
- **foster access for marginalized youth**

Visit our website [here](#) for more information about public policy and advocacy.
Between 1977 and 2007, the population of U.S. women prisoners grew by 800% with an annual growth rate doubling that of men over many years. The vast majority of incarcerated and criminalized women (trans and non-trans) have previous histories of domestic and sexual abuse. This gathering engages participants on how to pro-actively support and advocate for survivors who live at the intersection of gender violence and criminalization.

Listen/Watch: No Perfect Victim: Criminalized Survivor Panel

As you listen to/watch the panel, consider:

What barriers do incarcerated and formerly incarcerated survivors have to your services? (Find related Criminalizing Survival Curricula here.)

How does carceral feminism live in your organization? (Read Policing Doesn’t Protect Women here.)

How can you shift toward abolition? (Find advocacy strategies here.)
Lots of people are using the word "accountability" with respect to various forms of harm. It is clear, however, that there isn't any agreement about what this idea means. Is accountability punishment? Is it possible to move towards repairing harm without punishment? Panelists explore transformative justice approaches to addressing different forms of harm.

As you listen to/watch the panel, consider:

What are the barriers to accountability when you cause harm?

How does punitive carceral response dissuade accountability?

How do we foster communities where we hold each other in accountability without shame or further violence?
Men have the capacity to feel, share, and regulate the spectrum of human emotions. When we do this, the violence we’ve been taught comes so naturally to us, feels foreign and unnecessary.

RICHIE RESEDA
On Being with Lily Percy: Alex Elle complicates the idea of self-care, opening it up as community-care, as a way towards generational healing. And she’s revivifying the meaning of meeting one’s “inner child” for a new generation. On Being’s Lily Percy says she could not have survived the physical isolation of the pandemic without Alex’s writing, teaching, and Instagram presence. So Krista hands over the mic to Lily for this conversation.

Listen: Self-care as Generational Healing with Alex Elle

I A M

unfolding
becoming whole
blessed
capable
brave
worthy
grateful
becoming my best

A S I

trust my process
let go of shame
find my way
discover joy
name my needs
wait
greet change
heal
Transformative is Intersectional

@gendersauce

What a blessing.
What a blessing to be loved as a whole.
What a blessing to be loved completely.

Art by Chester Kahn Tso Yazzy
Affirmation by @gendersauce
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin is a non-profit organization that depends on grants and donations to create publications such as this. All donations are tax deductible. For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website: www.endabusewi.org.

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin’s core philosophy of a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic violence is that domestic violence is a community issue that requires engagement from the entire community to address.

Although many CCR teams begin their coordination efforts with the criminal process, this system represents only one piece of the larger community. Because the legal system is not a support all victims choose to engage, an effective CCR team will include members from schools, mental health and other healthcare agencies, neighborhood centers, faith communities, county extension agencies, culturally-specific organizations, and many other groups. CCR must go beyond the legal system to truly create a wide network of support for victims, which is especially important for communities of color, people with disabilities, older adults, and other survivors from marginalized communities.

Learn more about Community Coordinated Response here.

If you have a resource or a story to share, please contact tegans@endabusewi.org