

Winter 2023: No. 7

# Transformative

**End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin**

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**End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin: The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

[www.endabusewi.org](http://www.endabusewi.org) | 1400 E Washington Ave #227, Madison, WI 53703





# Transformative

a newsletter for  
advocates & multi-disciplinary teams  
to foster change, accountability, & healing in our  
personal & professional communities

Winter 2023, Issue no. 7

## Upcoming Events Click Below for Info

### Feb 16th

Cultivating Wellness: Balance & Harmony for Advocates & Survivors

### Feb 15th, March 15th, April 19th

Forward Inquiry Talks

### February 16th

Trans Literature Now

See Me: LGBTQIA+ Artists of WI

### February 23rd

Ending Teen Dating Violence & Cultivating Healthy Relationships

### March 6th

Liberation Culture: Applying Solidarity Economy Principles

### April 13-15th

Sustaining Feminisms Conference

### The Commons

Social Change Library

Upcoming End Abuse Events

## 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**

# L o c a l   V o i c e s

## LGBTQIA+ Survivors of Violence Virtual Support Group with Turningpoint

### **LGBTQIA+ people experience intimate partner and sexual violence at increased rates,**

as well as facing unique barriers to services and healing in the aftermath. From access to support services and inclusive mental health support, to discouragement in the criminal justice system and social and community rejection.

### **But LGBTQIA+ people can and do have unique triumphs in healing, as well.**

Once a week, survivors can share space, time, and energy with each other, along with a trained facilitator, sharing insights, milestones, difficulties, and experiences in the hopes of finding healing and wholeness.

Join us **Tuesday evenings from 6-7:30p CST** for our virtual group. This group is open to any person self-identified as LGBTQIA+, with no participation or attendance requirements. Contact Serenity at [serenityh@turningpoint-wi.org](mailto:serenityh@turningpoint-wi.org) to attend.

What is gender euphoria?

Where can I learn more about trans community in data?

How can I better support LGBTQIA+ survivors?

What can I do to advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights?



## C O N T A C T   I N F O

6:00-7:30pm on Tuesdays via Zoom

EMAIL: [serenityh@turningpoint-wi.org](mailto:serenityh@turningpoint-wi.org)

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## culinary activists & artisans

Click their names to find out more about their wisdom, insights, and celebrations!

**[Alexis Nikole Nelson](#)**



**[Sean Sherman](#)**





# Transformative spaces

## 2023 UW-Madison Gender & Women's Studies Conference



**April 13-15th 2023**  
**Sustaining Hope:**  
**Feminisms, Freedom & the Future**

This year's theme invites participants to occupy spaces of hope alongside uncertainty as we shift our collective gaze towards an unknowable and improvable future.

Drawing on the foundational work of feminist abolitionist Mariame Kaba and other proponents of radical hope, we investigate how grief and sadness hold the seeds to our own survival and freedom. We ask scholars, students, activists, artists, civil society leaders, and all members of the community to reflect on strategies for harnessing joy and hope in tandem with anger, frustration, and rage.

How do we support a society that offers improved conditions for all, particularly Black, Indigenous, and people of color? How do we retain hope and remain joyful in the face of ongoing inequities, injustice, and the pandemic? What does it mean to chart a future that is difficult to discern? How do we slowly and systematically develop new solutions to systemic change? What does it mean to utilize hope as a strategy for change?

**[Register & Learn More](#)**

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Advocacy in Action



## Cultivating Community LEADERSHIP & POWER WITHIN ECOSYSTEMS FOR SAFETY

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 | 11:00 AM PT/2:00 PM ET



### Empowering Survivors Across (Eco)Systems for Economic Liberation

We know that the vast majority of survivors must navigate financial abuse, coercion, or exploitation as part of their experiences with violent partners. We also know that systems built on capitalist, racist, and patriarchal structures reinforce and exacerbate these economic vulnerabilities. How can we support survivors across our communities when these cycles of violence continue?

Enacting economic policies that empower survivors via collaborative and community-based advocacy is key.

[Learn more about economic policy changes that would better serve survivors.](#)

### **What can I do?**

**advocate  
with your  
elected officials**

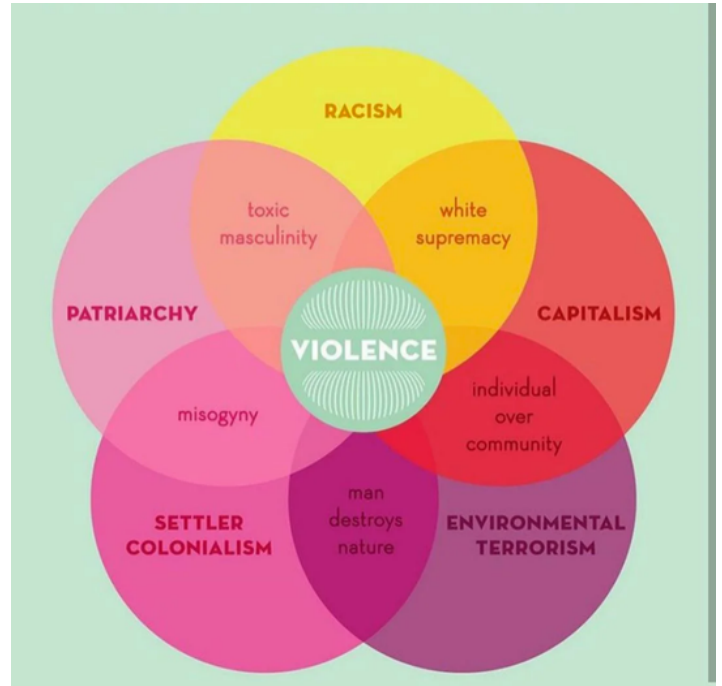
**infuse Economic  
Justice frameworks  
into your advocacy**

**learn more about  
the Social  
Ecological Model**

**Visit our website [here](#) for more information  
about public policy and advocacy.**



# Transformative paradigms



## Listen/Discuss:

### Learning Environmentalism through the lens of Black Feminism

**Dr. Chelsea Mikael Frazier** is a faculty fellow in the Cornell University Department of English and Black feminist eco-critic who writes, researches, and teaches at the intersection of Black feminist theory and environmental thought. She designs educational tools, curates community gatherings, gives lectures, and offers consulting services that serve Black Feminist Fuel for Sustainable Futures.

In this podcast episode, Dr. Frazier sheds light on why there traditionally has been a lack of diversity in the field of environmentalism; how our world might change if the people currently most marginalized in our society, such as Black and Indigenous women, were centered and honored as leaders of our future; and more.

# Transformative paradigms

## Connect & brainstorm!

How is the idea of a **colonial earth ethic** connected to patriarchal violence?

The imagination battle of **black feminist ecology** is a practice of world-building. What does this new world look like? What **new ways of being** are accessible in this world?

What do you have the power to **redistribute**? Where can you invest?

## Focus & foster joy!

While you discuss, use paints, markers, or colored pencils to color pages from **Disability Justice from A to Z: A Coloring Book for Our Communities.**

Speaking of Disability  
Justice, check out:



## Spotlight: Disability Justice

an annual publication from End Domestic Abuse  
Wisconsin exploring pathways to ending violence



An outgrowth of the Coalition Chronicles educational journal (2009-2021), **Spotlight** is End Abuse's brand new annual publication exploring pathways to ending violence. Each year, we take an in-depth look at issues relevant to this work as we commit to ongoing learning and shifting as we expand our understanding of the antiviolence movement's history, present, and future direction. In the first issue, released in December 2022, we look at **Disability Justice**.

**[Check out the first issue here!](#)**



# Transformative

## people, policies & procedures

### Elements



**Non-Linear & Iterative:** How do I/we learn from this



**Fractal:** How we are at the small scale is how we are at the large scale



**Adaptive:** How we live & grow & stay purposeful in the face of constant change



**Resilience & Transformative Justice:** How we recover & transform



**Creating More Possibilities:** Where we move towards life. where we shape tomorrow towards abundance



**Interdependence & Decentralization:** Mutual resilience, shared leadership & vision

### Core Principles

*Change is constant. (Be like water).*

*Small is good, small is all. (The large is a reflection of the small.)*

*There is always enough time for the right work.*

*Less Prep, More Presence.*

*There is a conversation in the room that only these people at this moment can have. Find it.*

*Never a failure, always a lesson.*

*Trust the people. (If you trust the people, they become trustworthy).*

*What you pay attention to grows.*

*Move at the speed of trust. Focus on critical connections more than critical mass - build resilience by building relationships.*

### Watch/Read/Discuss:

### (re)Exploring Emergent Strategy

"Emergent Strategy is an examination of where our movements have been and an offering of a framework for resistance that is rooted in the miracles of nature, decentralized, collective leadership, and personal, relational, organizational, and movement-wide transformation. brown not only inspires me to resist, but to do in the most beautiful, joyful, creative, sustainable, collective and effective ways." - [Andrea J. Ritchie](#)

## Analyze & Actualize

Take 15 minutes at the beginning of each of six meetings to explore the main **Elements of Emergent Strategy**. How can you as individuals & as a team move in more alignment with each of these elements?

Choose one of **the Core Principles** and apply it to an ongoing conflict or challenge that you or your team have been navigating. How does this change your perspective? What new possibilities can you imagine?

# Transformative storytelling



## Watch & Listen:

[Everything Everywhere All at Once](#) and [a discussion about the multiverse](#)

When an inter-dimensional rupture unravels reality, an unlikely hero must channel her newfound powers to fight bizarre and bewildering dangers from the multiverse as the fate of the world hangs in the balance.

Michelle Yeoh, Stephanie Hsu, Ke Huy Quan, and Jamie Lee Curtis star in a story about mothers, daughters, generational struggles, immigrant dreams, and the absurd perils of doing your taxes.

As you watch, consider:

What meaning do you make of ideas like **the Multiverse** and **the Everything Bagel**?

What does this film have to say about **generational healing** and **generational trauma**?

How does this film **use humor** and absurdity to connect with **deeper messages** in the story?



# Transformative metaphors



**Listen:**

**Tending Our Soil with Mia Mingus & adrienne maree brown**

**Emergent Strategy Ideation Institute**

Are you looking to learn more about experiential examples of movement terms like **mutual aid**, **generative conflict**, **disability justice**, and **interdependence**? Are you looking for ways to incorporate practices and paradigms into your own life and work? Listen to transformative justice leaders Mia Mingus and adrienne maree brown in conversation on the Emergent Strategy Ideation Institute's podcast.

Mia Mingus is a writer, educator, and trainer for transformative justice and disability justice. She founded and currently leads **SOIL: A Transformative Justice Project**, which builds the conditions for transformative justice to grow and thrive. This week, Mia meets with adrienne to discuss quitting capitalism, practice, and climate catastrophe.

As you listen, consider:

How or where do feelings/ideas of **punishment** show up in your relationships – with yourself, loved ones, community?

**Soil, planting, and roots** are big metaphors in this conversation. What is in your soil? What are you planting?

How do we **meet the needs of all survivors** when we create, integrate, and practice our individual transformative justices?

# Transformative

## conversations



### Watch/Listen:

#### [Alok V. Menon and the Man Enough podcast](#)

Do you know who you are outside of who you have been told you should be? Acclaimed gender non-conforming writer, performer, and speaker, ALOK, shares their story, and the stories of those who came before them, with an urgency that invites us to step into our power and the power of interdependence.

As the creator of the growing movement to degender fashion, ALOK is helping others move beyond the binary into full expression. In a conversation filled with wisdom, historical insight, and radical mercy, ALOK challenges us to value compassion over comprehension, to try harder for each other in the name of love, and reminds us that learning is a sign of being alive.

As you listen/watch, consider:

How does Alok's message offer **liberation** and healing to folks of **all gender identities**?

Who are your **gender (identity, expression) ancestors**?  
What messages or lessons did you learn from them?

When do you **limit** who you are because of what others expect or demand of you? How do you want to **shift** that?



# Transformative Practices for Healing & Accountability



[Watch: Rituals for Grief & Love w/ Poets Sade LaNay & Sasha Banks](#)

**"But what was there to say? Only that there were tears. Only that Quietness and Emptiness fitted together like stacked spoons... Only that once again they broke the Love Laws. That lay down who should be loved. And how. And how much."**

— Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things*

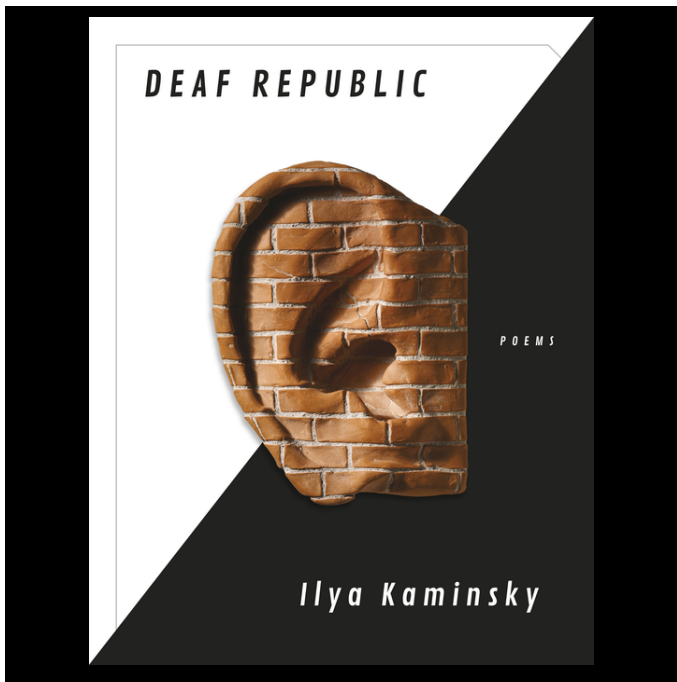
**After almost three years of a global pandemic, and in the midst of ongoing & escalating socio-cultural and structural violence, we have much to grieve as communities.**

**What are you grieving? How are you honoring that energy? What support do you need to move with and through that space?**

# Transformative

## Resources

### R e a d



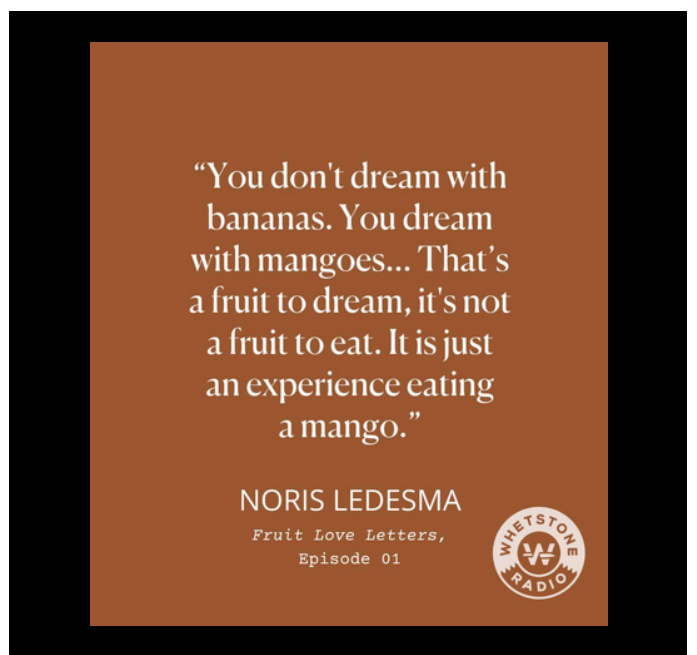
### F o l l o w



### W a t c h



### L i s t e n





# Transformative is Intersectional

from "To Begin With, the Sweet Grass"

Mary Oliver, 2009

3.

The witchery of living  
is my whole conversation  
with you, my darlings.  
All I can tell you is what I know.

Look, and look again.  
This world is not just a little thrill for the eyes.

It's more than bones.  
It's more than the delicate wrist with its personal pulse.  
It's more than the beating of the single heart.  
It's praising.  
It's giving until the giving feels like receiving.  
You have a life—just imagine that!  
You have this day, and maybe another, and maybe  
still another.

# E n d   D o m e s t i c   A b u s e   W I



[www.endabusewi.org](http://www.endabusewi.org)

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](http://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](mailto:tegans@endabusewi.org)**