

ENDGBV IN FOCUS:

Survey Findings from the NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence (ENDGBV) Training Team's Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Trainings with the New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) Employees (2017-2019)

Key Takeaway:

Between 2017 and 2019, the ENDGBV Training Team conducted 119 Intimate Partner Violence 101 (IPV 101) trainings with 2,387 Department of Homeless Services (DHS) employees, who, as demonstrated through pre- and post-training surveys, improved their knowledge of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), trauma, barriers to leaving, and IPV resources.

Highlights:

- Sixty-four percent of DHS staff and managers who attended an IPV 101 training improved their knowledge around intimate partner violence.
- Among all DHS participants, the average score on the ten-question survey improved from 6.8 before the training to 7.9 after the training—an increase of 16.2%
- The highest improvements in scores were seen for questions testing knowledge of trauma, barriers to leaving the relationship, and IPV resources.

THE TRAINING TEAM

Established in 2016, the ENDGBV Training Team collaborates with City agencies and community-based organizations to enhance knowledge and awareness about domestic and gender-based violence. The Team's Training and Curriculum Specialists assess training needs, and design and implement trainings to support the unique goals of partner agencies and organizations. The Team offers ongoing consultation, technical assistance, and refresher trainings. Since 2016, the Team has conducted 976 trainings with 24,066 direct service providers across the city. All trainings are free of charge.

Trainings are designed to transfer knowledge into practice by allowing participants to use realistic case scenarios and role plays tailored to their respective workplaces and roles. The Team offers 15 different trainings for staff and managers. The signature training is Intimate Partner Violence 101 (IPV 101), which is three and a half hours long and a pre-requisite for most of the advanced courses.

Additional and advanced trainings include IPV 102: Beyond the Basics; Trauma Informed Practices: a Holistic Approach; Stalking; Criminal Justice Response to IPV; Human Trafficking; Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth; Sexual Violence; and more.

Each training is facilitated by a trainer with years of experience in the field of domestic and gender-based violence. Trainers travel to organizations throughout the five boroughs and, upon request, can host trainings at ENDGBV facilities.

To read more about our training team and training offerings, please visit
nyc.gov/endgbvtraining.

PARTNERSHIP - DEPARTMENT OF HOMELESS SERVICES

New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) employees and staff, in their professional roles, are likely to encounter victims of intimate partner violence.¹

Violence is prevalent in the lives of homeless families with young children. And, victims of intimate partner violence are at increased risk of trauma-related mental and physical health problems.²

In 2017, the ENDGBV Training Team partnered with DHS to provide training to DHS employees and contracted staff. Between 2017 and 2019, the Training Team conducted 119 IPV 101 trainings with 2,387 DHS participants.³



Survey Results: Intimate Partner Violence 101

Intimate Partner Violence 101 (IPV 101), the signature training, aims to improve participants' knowledge and skills in identifying and responding to intimate partner violence (IPV). Topics include general IPV language, forms, and tactics; IPV prevalence and impacts; IPV in the context of systemic oppression; neurobiology of trauma and its implications for practice; and IPV resources.

To measure changes in participants' knowledge, pre- and post-training surveys are conducted at the start and end of trainings. Surveys are conducted with electronic polling software. The pre- and post-training surveys are identical, consisting of the same ten questions with three possible response options (agree/disagree/unsure). Specifically, these questions measure participants' understanding of IPV, barriers to leaving a relationship, trauma, and available resources. Participant responses are anonymous.

A total of 232 DHS employees and staff participated in pre- and post-training surveys during 13 IPV 101 trainings.⁴ Their self-reported roles break down as follows: 37% case managers, 19% social workers, 8% residential managers, 5% administrators, 3% housing specialists, and 13% other. Fifteen percent did not identify their role. Forty-two percent of the participants reported no prior experience working with a survivor of intimate partner violence.

An analysis of pre- and post-training survey data shows that participation in IPV 101 improved participants' knowledge of intimate partner violence. Of the participants analyzed, 64% had a higher score on the post-training survey compared to the pre-training survey.

¹ Swick, K.J. The Dynamics of Violence and Homelessness Among Young Families. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, J36, 81-85 (2008). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-007-0220-5>.

² 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. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf.

³ Since 2017, ENDGBV provided a total of 218 trainings to 4,735 DHS employees.

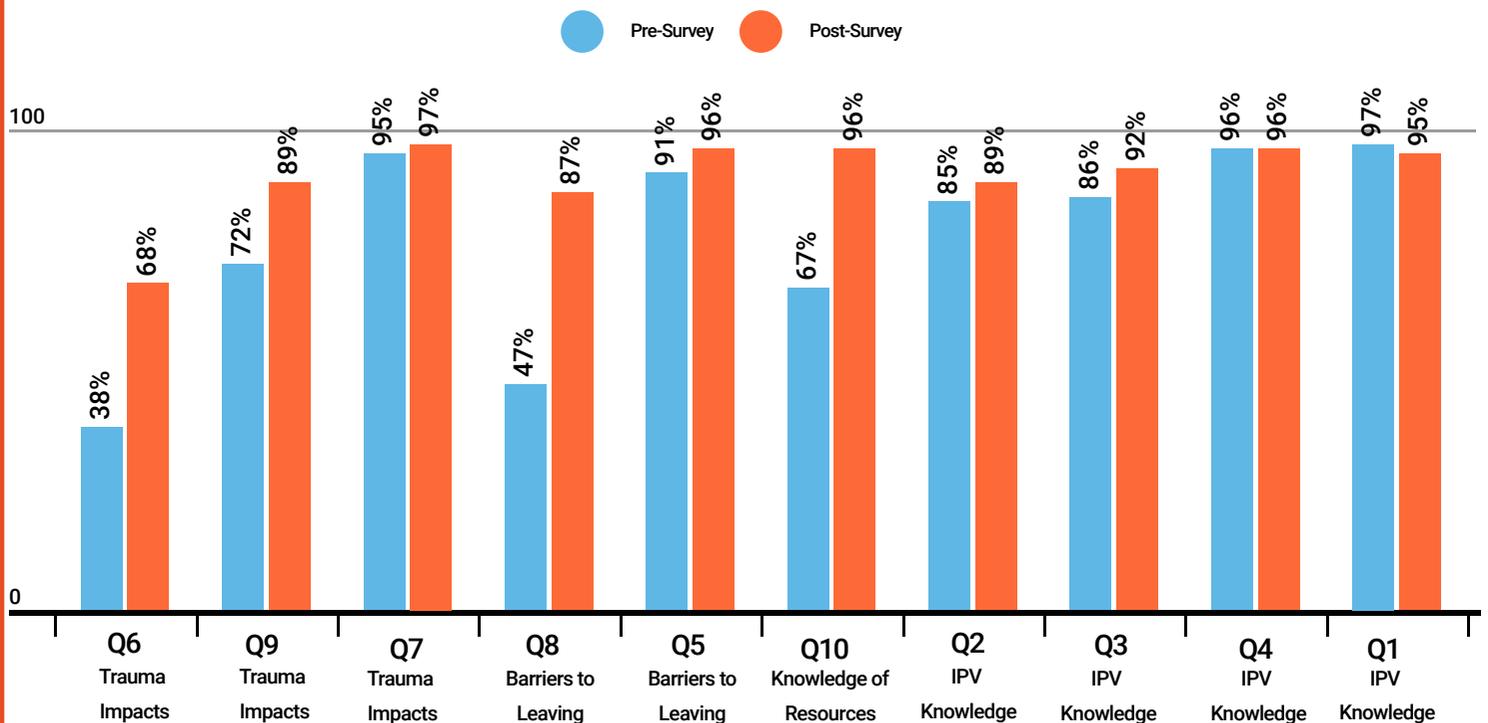
⁴ In 2018, ENDGBV began to administer pre- and post-surveys to DHS employees participating in IPV 101 trainings at the Manhattan family Justice Center. Pre- and post-survey completion is strongly encouraged but not mandated for training participants.

Among all participants, the average score on the ten-question survey improved from 6.8 before the training, to 7.9 after the training—an increase of 16.2%. Figure 1 shows the pre-survey and post-survey distribution of participants’ responses for questions 1-10. Participants showed the most improvement around their knowledge of trauma (Q6, Q7, and Q9). On average, scores on trauma-related questions improved 17 percentage points—from 68% to 85%. The training covered the widespread impact of trauma on survivors of IPV and ways to recognize signs and symptoms of trauma in clients.

There was a statistically significant improvement in participants' knowledge of best practices when addressing barriers to leaving (Q8). Participants' scores increased 40 percentage points—from 47% to 87%. The training reviewed obstacles that can stand in the way of a victim leaving an abusive relationship, including: fear for the safety of the victim and the victim’s children; pressure from family, friends, and cultural or religious communities; financial and legal pressure, etc.

There was also a statistically significant change in participants' knowledge of IPV resources for referrals (Q10). Participants' scores increased 29 percentage points—from 67% to 96%. To support victims in overcoming barriers to leaving and securing necessary resources, participants in the trainings learn about resources, including information about NYC Family Justice Centers, the NYC HOPE Resource Directory, the NYC Domestic Violence Hotline, and community-based organizations providing services for domestic and gender-based violence survivors.

Figure 1. Distribution of Pre- and Post- DHS IPV 101 Training Results (N=232)



ABOUT ENDGBV: The NYC Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) develops policies and programs, provides training and prevention education, conducts research and evaluations, performs community outreach, and operates the New York City Family Justice Centers. The Office collaborates with City agencies and community stakeholders to ensure access to inclusive services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence (GBV).