



# WHAT CAN WE DO TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

**Domestic violence is 100% preventable.** Hawai'i can take action to promote attitudes, beliefs, and social conditions that stop perpetration of violence before it happens. By implementing promising practices for ending domestic violence, we can work to create safer and healthier relationships, 'ohana, and communities for all.

## Address Risk Factors for Perpetration <sup>1</sup>

Domestic violence is a complex issue. Prevention strategies should focus on changing behaviors and shifting culture that perpetuates abuse.

To do this, efforts must simultaneously address identified **risk factors** across multiple levels: individuals, relationships, communities, and society. Risk factors are linked to greater likelihood of violence perpetration and are not necessarily direct causes.

### Society

- Traditional gender norms and gender inequality
- Societal income inequality

### Community

- Weak community accountability against domestic violence
- Communities where neighbors don't look out for each other

### Relationships

- Exposure to domestic violence as a child
- History of experiencing physical discipline as a child

### Individual

- Lack of nonviolent social problem-solving skills
- Hostility towards women



## Develop a statewide prevention plan <sup>2</sup>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has outlined effective domestic violence prevention strategies for states and communities to implement, with the goal of promoting healthy, respectful, nonviolent relationships.

Strategy	Approach	Potential Outcomes: Reductions in
Teach safe and healthy relationship skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth social-emotional learning programs</li> <li>Healthy relationships programs for couples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpetration of domestic violence</li> <li>Peer violence, bullying</li> </ul>
Engage influential adults and peers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Men and boys involved in prevention</li> <li>Bystander empowerment and education</li> <li>Family-based programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth acceptance of abusive behaviors</li> <li>Incidents of teen dating violence</li> </ul>
Disrupt developmental pathways towards partner violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early childhood home visitation</li> <li>Preschool with family engagement</li> <li>Accessible treatment for youth and families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child welfare encounters</li> <li>Dating violence</li> <li>Aggressive behavior in youth</li> </ul>
Create protective environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve school climate and safety</li> <li>Improve workplace climate and policies</li> <li>Focus on physical and social environments of neighborhoods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community violence</li> <li>Rates of intimate partner homicides</li> <li>Community violence</li> </ul>
Strengthen economic supports for families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen household financial security</li> <li>Strengthen work-family supports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poverty and financial stress</li> <li>financial dependency and inequality</li> </ul>
Support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing programs</li> <li>Survivor-centered services</li> <li>First responder and civil legal protections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing instability</li> <li>Domestic violence homicide</li> </ul>

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). Risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence perpetration. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/riskprotectivefactors.html](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/riskprotectivefactors.html)

2. Niolon, P. H., Kearns, M., Dills, J., Rambo, K., Irving, S., Armstead, T., & Gilbert, L. (2017). Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Resource for Action: A Compilation of the Best Available Evidence. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/IPV-Prevention-Resource\\_508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/IPV-Prevention-Resource_508.pdf)