

## How do we know these are the best solutions?

New Beginnings began as a pioneer in the domestic violence movement, opening Seattle’s first shelter for abused women in 1976. In the 40 years since, we have continued to evolve our programs and services to meet the needs of survivors and the wider community. The solutions outlined in our 2017-2019 Strategic Plan hold true to these roots, responding to a changing environment while building upon proven successes.



### MOBILE ADVOCACY

Studies on the impact of domestic violence services indicate that intensive support and advocacy, guided access to community resources, and legal assistance and court accompaniment have significant positive effects on survivors’ ability to stay safe, build self-esteem and begin new lives.

***Mobile Advocacy will ensure that travel is no longer an obstacle to accessing these crucial benefits in our community.***

<sup>1</sup> Domestic Violence Evidence Project - Examining the Work of Domestic Violence Programs Within a “Social and Emotional Well-Being Promotion” Conceptual Framework (PDF)

<sup>2</sup> National Resource Center on Domestic Violence - Meeting Survivor Needs Through Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services & Supports: Results of a Multi-State Study (Webpage - Research Summary)

<sup>3</sup> DomesticShelters.org – We’ll Come to You – Mobile Advocacy Goes to the Survivor (Webpage)



### NEWBEGIN.ORG

88% of the North American public utilizes the internet for a variety of uses including research, health information, entertainment and social pursuits. 72% of internet users access it every day, increasingly, on mobile devices which are used by a growing percentage of the population. NewBegin.org receives over 6,000 views each month with our most visited pages being “Get Help” and “Get Involved”.

***Newbegin.org will provide a safe and anonymous “one stop shopping” experience for survivors and the wider community seeking information and support to prevent or stop abuse.***

<sup>1</sup> Internet World Stats – Internet Usage Statistics for the Americas (Chart)

<sup>2</sup> United States Census Bureau – Computer & Internet Trends in America (PDF)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce – Exploring the Digital Nation – America’s Emerging Online Experience (PDF)



### HOME SAFE

The Housing First approach helps survivors find new homes quickly, and establish a peaceful and confident “new normal” for themselves and their children. Through recent pilot projects in Washington State, 96% of survivors provided Housing First services retained their housing 18 months after entering the program.

***Home Safe will provide both a private, healing environment for survivors fleeing abuse, and the strongest possible launch pad for permanent housing and independence.***

<sup>1</sup> Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence – The Domestic Violence House First Approach (PDF Overview)

<sup>2</sup> Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence – The Washington State Domestic Violence Housing First Program (PDF Full Report)

<sup>3</sup> Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation – Washington State Homelessness and Family Stability – Emerging Effort (Webpage)



### TEEN ADVOCACY PROJECT

Relationship abuse is prevalent among teens, although teen-focused safety planning, emotional support and legal advocacy services are rare to non-existent in Seattle. Teens are unlikely to reach out to local domestic violence organizations, but advocates who are readily accessible at schools, health centers and youth groups are likelier to gain teens' trust to fill this gap. There is also evidence that teens in abusive relationships turn to their peers for support first, indicating that adults have a critical role to play in disseminating information and building teens' skills to intervene with their friends.

***The Teen Advocacy Project will provide expert resources to serve teens directly, and build teens' and youth-serving professionals' skills to stop youth dating violence.***

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<sup>1</sup> LoveIsRespect.org – Dating Abuse Statistic (Webpage)

<sup>2</sup> Center for Disease Control – Understanding Teen Dating Violence (PDF)

<sup>3</sup> National Institute of Justice – Teen Dating Violence – How Peers Can Affect Risk & Protective Factors (PDF)

<sup>4</sup> Advocates For Youth – Peer Education: Promoting Healthy Behaviors (PDF)



### DEDICATED YOUTH SUPPORT

While the negative impacts of experiencing domestic violence as a child can be profound, there is strong evidence that intervention—by the non-abusive parent and by domestic violence advocates or other supportive adults—can assist children to heal and thrive. Addressing the impact of domestic violence on the next generation is key to ending the cycle of abuse.

***Dedicated Youth Support for children and parents in our programs will enhance survivors' responsive parenting, and introduce children to concepts of healthy and respectful relationships.***

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<sup>1</sup> Futures Without Violence – The Facts on Children's Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence (PDF)

<sup>2</sup> Futures Without Violence – 16 Trauma-Informed, Evidence-based Recommendations for Advocates Working with Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence (PDF)

<sup>3</sup> Child Welfare Information Gateway – Impact of Domestic Violence on Children and Youth (Webpage)

<sup>4</sup> American Academy of Pediatrics – Adverse Childhood Experiences and the Lifelong Consequences of Trauma (PDF)

Links to supporting research and articles available at [www.newbegin.org/strategicplan](http://www.newbegin.org/strategicplan)