

2021

# HOMICIDE REPORT

RELATIONSHIP ABUSE IN MINNESOTA



**VIOLENCE FREE**  
MINNESOTA

THE COALITION TO END RELATIONSHIP ABUSE



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# FOREWORD

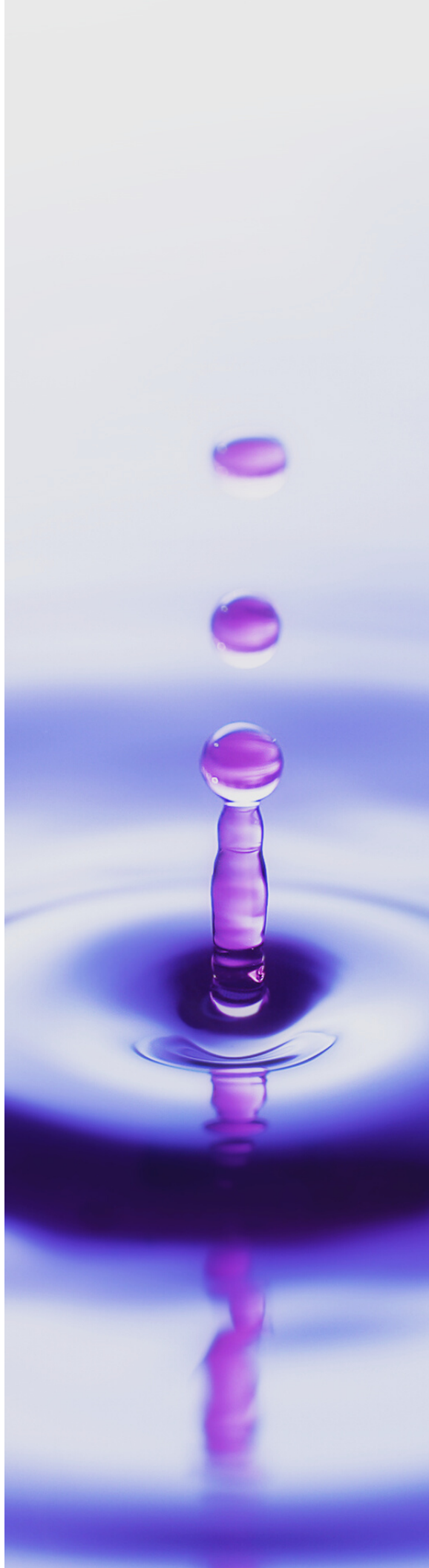
Each year, as Violence Free Minnesota releases the Homicide Report: Relationship Abuse in Minnesota detailing another twelve months of grief and loved ones taken away too soon, our namesake can seem far away. A world free of violence requires imagination and hope while the reality of domestic violence in our communities feels overwhelming, enormous, and at times impossible to rise from. At least 28 people were killed due to intimate partner homicide in 2021 - children, friends, parents, neighbors, all of them deeply loved and deeply mourned. We know that these deaths are not solely the result of individual acts of violence, but a culmination of collective and widespread failures across multiple systems.

It can often seem as though the deaths will never cease; that there will never be a time when this report will not be needed. But we know that we must keep going. Working to end relationship abuse is about innovation and imagination. We do not give up or quit when something does not work, we simply reimagine and rethink ways in which it will. We know that intimate partner violence touches all aspects of life, and affects far more than just the victim/survivors who experience abuse.

Within our report, we examine the impacts of multiple facets of our lives - schools, the criminal-legal system, healthcare, and housing. Each and every person included in this report touched at least one of these facets and many others. First we must imagine a world in which these facets are not points of failure, but rather points of possibility. Who can we touch, what systems can we reach, how can we call one another in? And then, when we have imagined this world, we must act on it, through the ripples by which we are connected.

Starting with our 2020 report, we began including messages and statements made by friends and family of the homicide victims. We still include the sometimes grisly details of each homicide as a reminder of the effects of each killing. However, we feel that each victim is much more than their death. The words of loved ones offer a glimpse into who each person was in life. They were loving mothers; beautiful souls; the life of the party; free spirits, and so much more. We remember every victim for the love and joy they spread throughout their lives.

As we move forward and the present gives way to the past, we recognize we cannot fill the holes left behind by the individuals in this report. No one can. But we owe it to them, and to every person who loved them, to prevent one another from falling in. Intimate partner violence is consuming. It is all-encompassing. But as we honor and mourn the lives of those lost, we also honor the wisdom of advocates, peacemakers, and survivors and recognize that domestic violence, too, is preventable. So now we look to the years ahead of us, and we keep imagining and keep striving towards a violence free world.







# WE REMEMBER

## INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES IN MINNESOTA: 1989-2021

### 1989

At least 17 women died from intimate partner violence\*  
At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

### 1990

At least 15 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

### 1991

At least 9 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 6 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 2 bystanders/interveners died

### 1992

At least 20 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 5 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

### 1993

At least 24 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 2 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 5 bystanders/interveners died

### 1994

At least 14 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 3 children died due to relationship abuse

### 1995

At least 23 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 4 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 2 bystanders/interveners died

### 1996

At least 17 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 4 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

### 1997

At least 13 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

### 1998

At least 18 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence  
At least 2 children died due to relationship abuse  
At least 1 bystander/intervener died

### 1999

At least 19 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence  
At least 11 bystanders/interveners died

### 2000

At least 29 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse  
At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

### 2001

At least 22 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 5 bystanders/interveners died

### 2002

At least 18 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

### 2003

At least 13 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 2 bystanders/interveners died

### 2004

At least 12 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 5 bystanders/interveners died



# WE REMEMBER

## Intimate Partner Homicides in Minnesota: 1989-2021

**2005**

At least 16 women died from intimate partner violence

**2006**

At least 17 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 4 men died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 bystander/intervener died

**2007**

At least 18 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 2 bystanders/interveners died

**2008**

At least 20 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 3 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 4 bystanders/interveners died

**2009**

At least 12 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

**2010**

At least 14 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 2 men died from intimate partner violence

At least 4 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

**2011**

At least 22 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

At least 6 bystanders/interveners died

**2012**

At least 15 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

**2013**

At least 22 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 6 men died from intimate partner violence

At least 2 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 7 bystanders/interveners died

**2014**

At least 16 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 2 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 3 bystanders/interveners died

**2015**

At least 22 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 3 men died from intimate partner violence

At least 4 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 4 bystanders/interveners died

**2016**

At least 18 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 2 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 1 bystanders/interveners died

**2017**

At least 21 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 child died due to relationship abuse

At least 5 bystanders/interveners died

**2018**

At least 9 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 4 bystanders/interveners/bystanders died

**2019**

At least 16 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 5 bystanders/interveners/bystanders died

**2020**

At least 20 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence

At least 3 children died due to relationship abuse

At least 6 bystanders/interveners died

**2021**

At least 21 women died from intimate partner violence

At least 7 bystanders/interveners/bystanders died

# POWER & CONTROL

At its core, relationship abuse is rooted in power, control, and oppression. People who abuse often use multiple tactics to maintain control over their partners - economic abuse, isolation, gaslighting, and physical and sexual violence. Relationship abuse is not about someone losing their temper, or “snapping” and lashing out at their partner(s) physically or verbally, it is about the need to control one’s intimate partner. Those who abuse feel a sense of entitlement over their partner(s) and believe threats and violence are acceptable ways to maintain control in an intimate relationship. Some abusers establish a final act of power and control over their partners by murdering them.

Abusive partners from dominant groups - such as white, cisgender, heterosexual men - benefit from privilege and systems of oppression while victims from marginalized groups - Black, Indigenous, and people of color, victims with disabilities, LGBTQIA2S+ victims, immigrants, and women - may be punished and disempowered by the criminal legal system, the child protective system, and educational institutions that funnel abused children into the juvenile justice system. These systems, just as abusive partners, wield control over victims. We cannot address nor prevent domestic violence without also addressing all forms of oppression and the ways in which they are leveraged to further trap, marginalize, and harm victims.

## Instances of power and control in 2021 intimate partner homicides:

- **D’Zondria, La’Porsha, and Ja’Corbie Wallace** were killed by D’Zondria’s ex-boyfriend. After he was arrested, he told authorities he killed them because he was “saving” the children from D’Zondria so “They can go up there and be holy.”
- **Bao Yang**’s ex-boyfriend harassed her for a year and a half after they broke up. He sent nonconsensual sexual images of her to her ex-husband and threatened to harm her and her family. She filed an order for protection against her ex-boyfriend in 2019, and in the petition stated, “I got scared of what he would do. He has expressed to me verbally and through text messages that he won’t stop [harassing me] and is not afraid of authorities.”
- **Lauri Anne Deatherage** was killed by her ex-husband days after she remarried. He told family members he killed her because “he wasn’t going to let ‘that hillbilly [new husband]’ get all his stuff and his wife.”
- **Cortney Grace Henry** was killed less than a week after she broke up with her boyfriend.
- **Sha’Von N. Phillips**’ husband told police he killed her because he thought she was cheating on him.
- **Lisette Reinbold**’s husband accused her of being unfaithful to him and demanded sex from her in the weeks leading up to her murder. He continued pressuring her for sex through text messages the day prior to killing her. In this text exchange, Lisette reminded her husband about an incident in 2015 when he punched and strangled her. Her husband continued to demand sex after this and claimed “ownership of a part of her body.”
- **America Mafalda Thayer** broke up with her boyfriend moments before he stabbed and decapitated her in the middle of the day in a residential neighborhood.
- **Caitlin Kelley Aldridge**’s husband killed her because he believed she was responsible for getting their teenage daughter pregnant. Their daughter was not pregnant.
- **Bethany Anne Bernatsky** was shot and killed by a man who believed she was his ex-girlfriend. The ex-girlfriend’s family owned the resort where Bethany was staying, and said the ex-boyfriend was “angry because [the ex-girlfriend’s family] weren’t giving him access to [their] daughter.”



# OVERVIEW OF THE 2021 HOMICIDE REPORT

At least 21 Minnesotans were killed due to violence  
from a current or former intimate partner

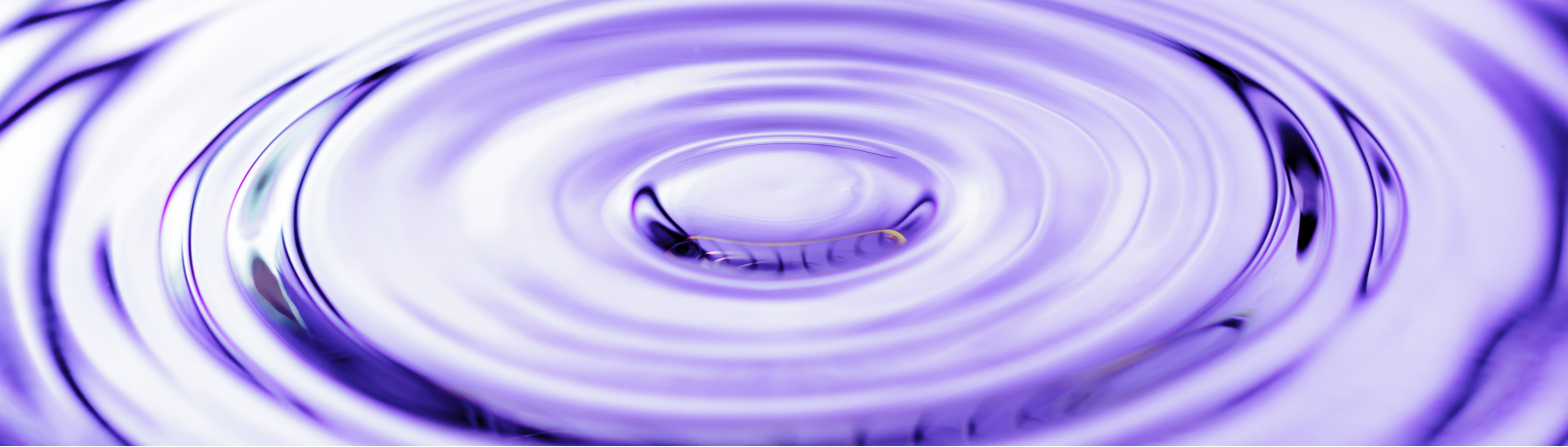
The known number of Minnesotans killed due to domestic violence varies from year to year. We have seen numbers range from a low of 12 deaths to as many as 37. In 2018, at least 14 Minnesotans were murdered due to domestic violence. This year, the number is higher. However, it is important to note that one year's data does not indicate a trend. In 2012, there were 19 known domestic violence homicides included in our report and in 2015, there were 33. The numbers of homicides in Minnesota fluctuate and can vary significantly from year to year.

 **At least 21 women**  
were murdered in cases where the suspected, alleged, or convicted perpetrator  
was a current or former intimate partner.

 **At least 7 friends, family members, or bystanders**  
were murdered in domestic violence related situations.

 **At least 28 minor children**  
were left without a parent due to intimate partner homicide.



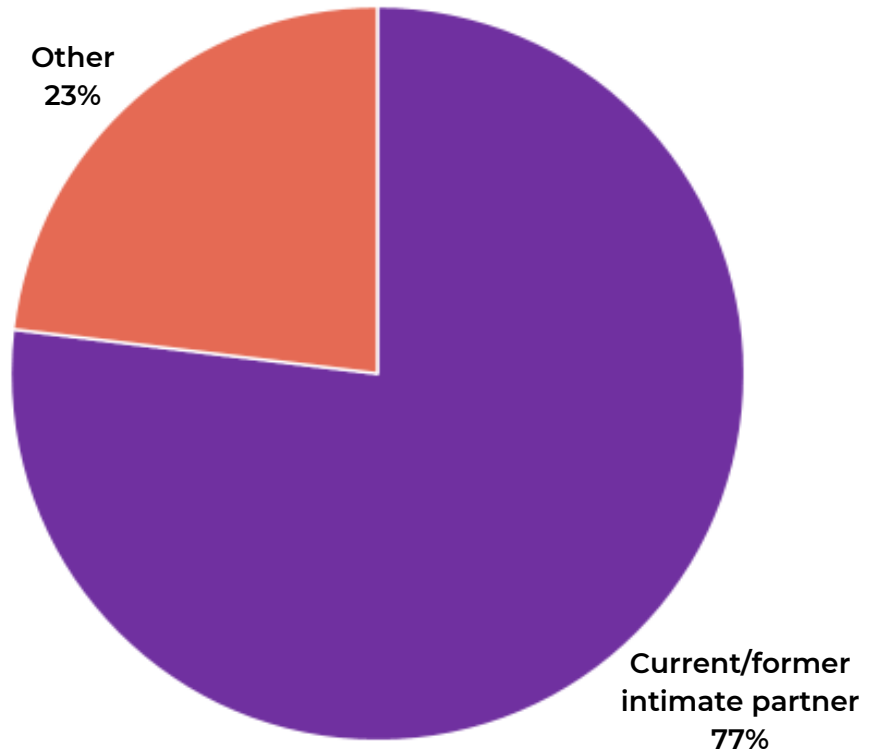


# VICTIMS AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE ALLEGED PERPETRATORS

Key Intimate Partner Homicide Statistics: 2021

## Current/former intimate partner 20 victims

D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace  
Jeanine Greyblood  
Lacy Jo Marie Krube  
Regina Theresa Hughes  
Bao Yang  
Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson  
Kristen Ann Bicking  
Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek  
Nada Rene Monique Fronk  
Lauri Anne Deatherage  
Cortney Grace Henry  
Sha'Von N. Phillips  
Lissette Reinbold  
Amanda Schroeder  
America Mafalda Thayer  
Amanda Jo Vangrinsven  
Samantha Samih Farah  
Caitlin Kelley Aldridge  
Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey  
Tracy Ellen Julian



## Other 6 victims

La'Porsha Nashay Wallace \*  
Ja'Corbie Rashad Wallace \*  
Jimmy Todd Wilemon  
Eric Allan Gaulke  
Bethany Anne Bernatsky  
Marquisha Doris Wiley

\* Family members killed alongside victim of intimate partner violence  
# Family member of intimate partner violence victim killed  
+ Family member of intimate partner violence victim killed after intervening to prevent intimate partner violence

# CAUSE OF DEATH

Key Homicide Statistics (2019-2021) for Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

## 2021

### 2021 VICTIMS : 20

#### STRANGULATION: 2

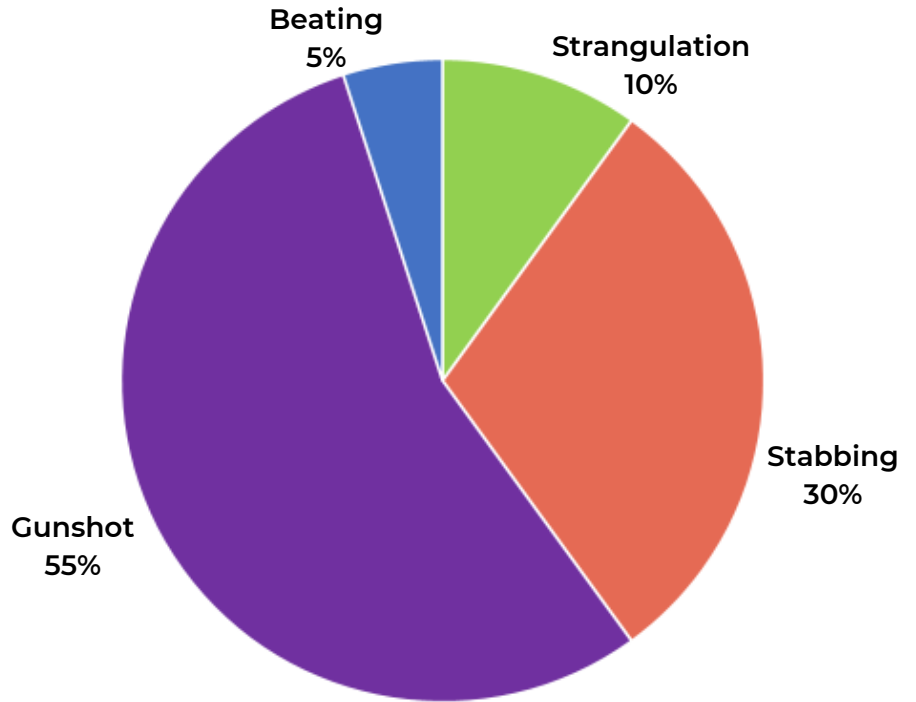
Jeanine Greyblood  
Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek

#### GUNSHOT: 11

D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace  
Regina Theresa Hughes  
Bao Yang  
Nada Rene Monique Fronk  
Lauri Anne Deatherage  
Cortney Grace Henry  
Amanda Schroeder  
Amanda Jo Vangrinsven  
Caitlin Kelley Aldridge  
Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey  
Tracy Ellen Julian

#### BEATING: 1

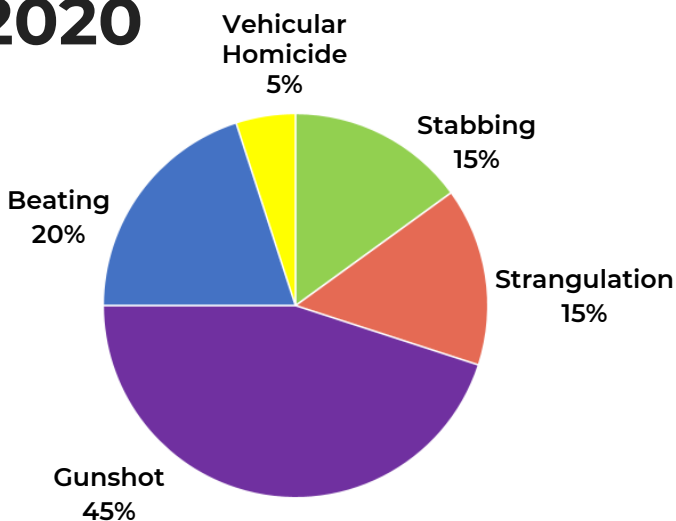
Lacy Jo Marie Krube



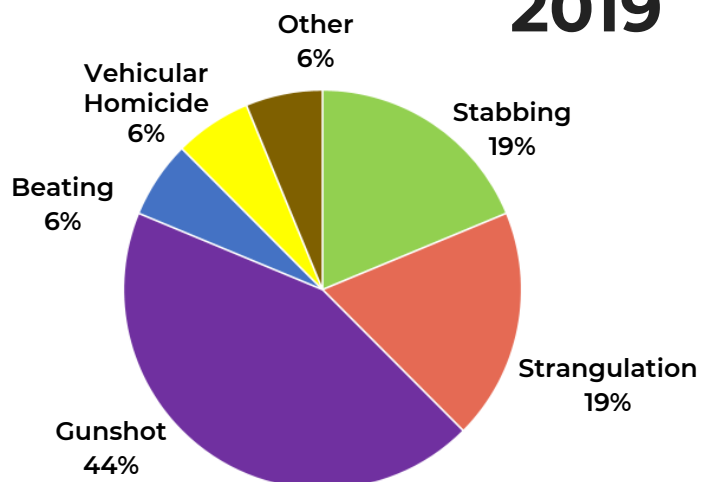
#### STABBING: 6

Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson  
Kristen Ann Bicking  
Sha'Von N. Phillips  
Lissette Reinbold  
America Mafalda Thayer  
Samantha Samih Farah

## 2020



## 2019



# VICTIM WAS SEPARATED FROM ABUSER OR ATTEMPTING TO LEAVE

Key Homicide Statistics (2019-2021) for Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

## 2021

### 2021 VICTIMS : 20

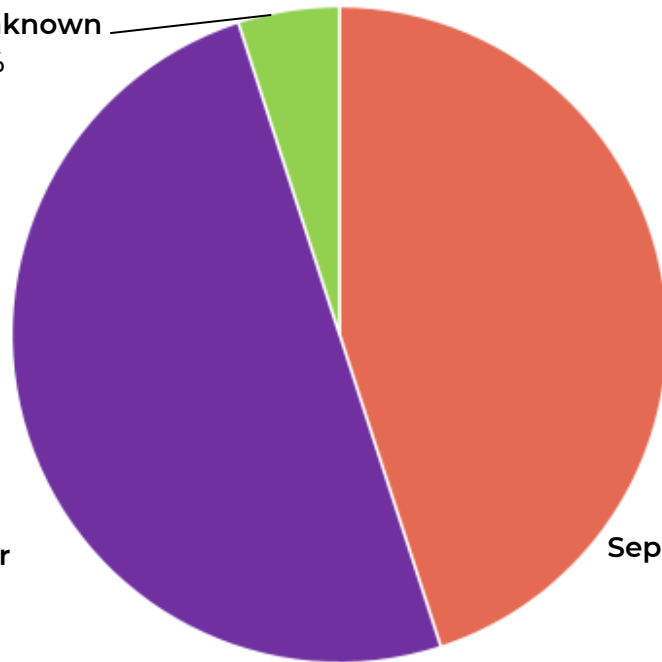
#### TOGETHER: 10

Jeanine Greyblood  
 Lacy Jo Marie Krube  
 Regina Theresa Hughes  
 Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek  
 Nada Rene Monique Fronk  
 Sha'Von N. Phillips  
 Amanda Schroeder  
 Samantha Samih Farah  
 Caitlin Kelley Aldridge  
 Tracy Ellen Julian

Other/Unknown  
5%

Together  
50%

Separated/Leaving  
45%



#### OTHER OR UNKNOWN: 1

Amanda Jo Vangrinsven

#### SEPARATED OR ATTEMPTING TO LEAVE: 9

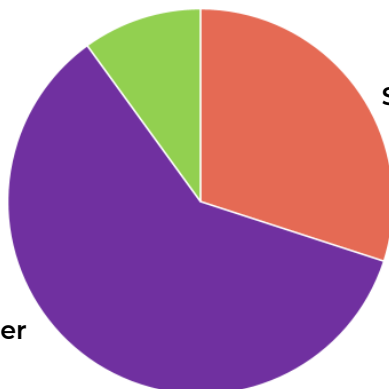
D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace	Cortney Grace Henry
Bao Yang	Lissette Reinbold
Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson	America Mafalda Thayer
Kristen Ann Bicking	Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey
Lauri Anne Deatherage	

## 2020

Other/Unknown  
10%

Separated/Leaving  
30%

Together  
60%

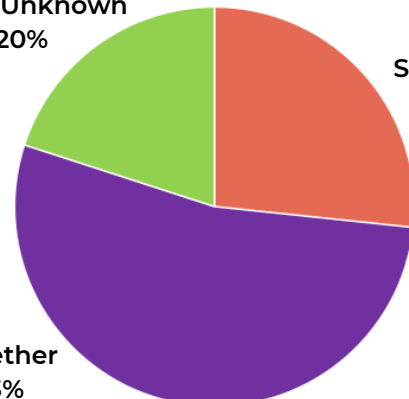


## 2019

Other/Unknown  
20%

Separated/Leaving  
27%

Together  
53%



# HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

Key Homicide Statistics (2019-2021) for Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

## 2021

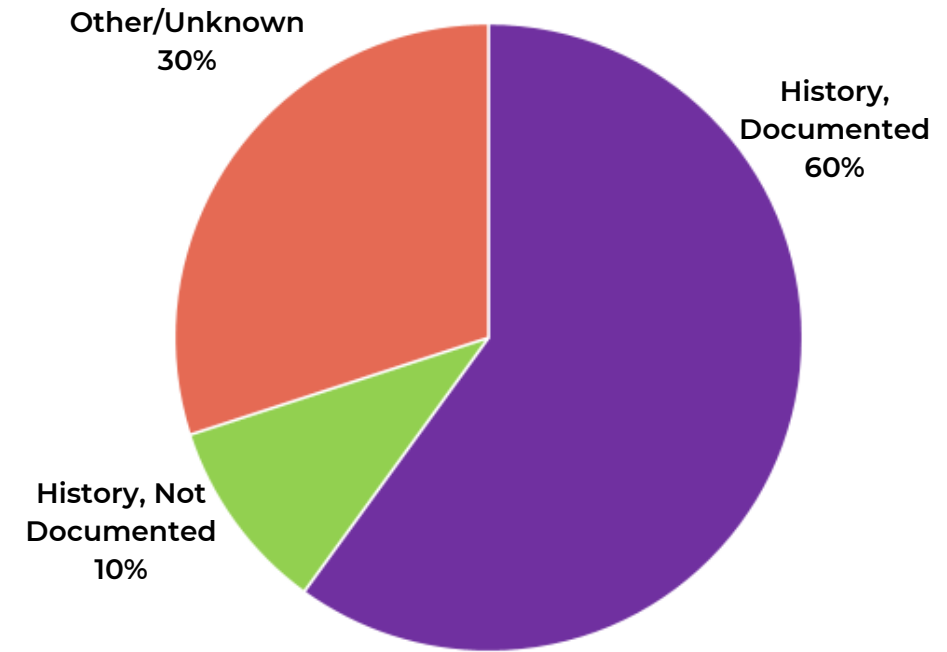
**2021 VICTIMS : 20**

**HISTORY WITH DOCUMENTATION: 12**

- Lacy Jo Marie Krube
- Bao Yang
- Nikkiya Swantay Robinson
- Kristen Ann Bicking
- Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek
- Nada Rene Monique Fronk
- Cortney Grace Henry
- Sha'Von N. Phillips
- Lissette Reinbold
- America Mafalda Thayer
- Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey
- Amanda Jo Vangrinsven

**HISTORY, NO DOUMENTATION: 2**

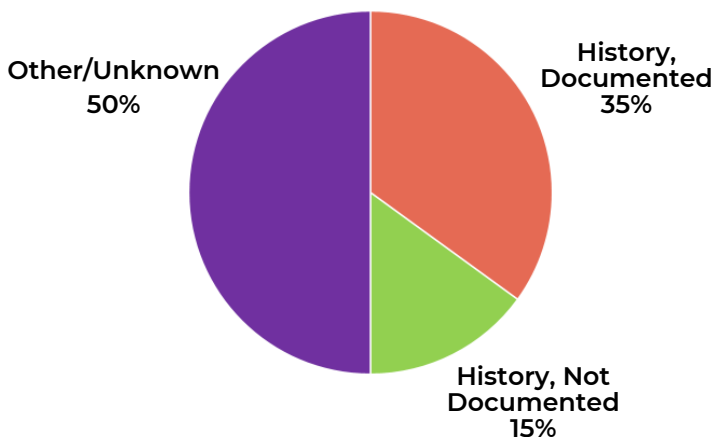
- D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace
- Amanda Schroeder



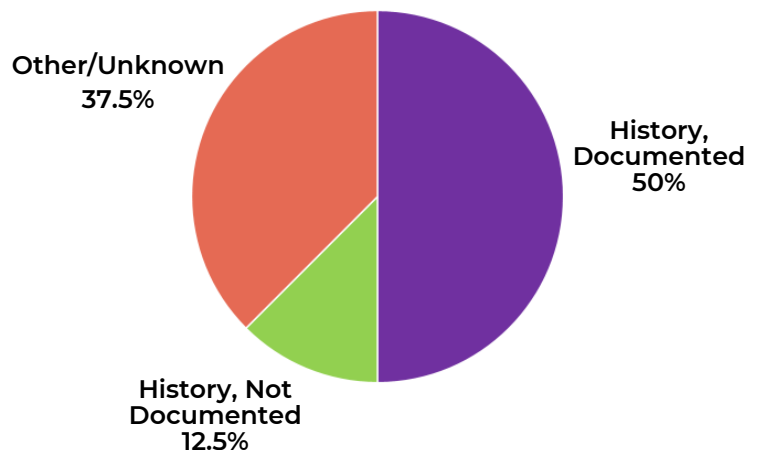
**OTHER OR UNKNOWN: 6**

- Jeanine Greyblood
- Regina Theresa Hughes
- Lauri Anne Deatherage
- Samantha Samih Farah
- Caitlin Kelley Aldridge
- Tracy Ellen Julian

## 2020



## 2019





# GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF VICTIM

Key Homicide Statistics (2019-2021) for  
Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

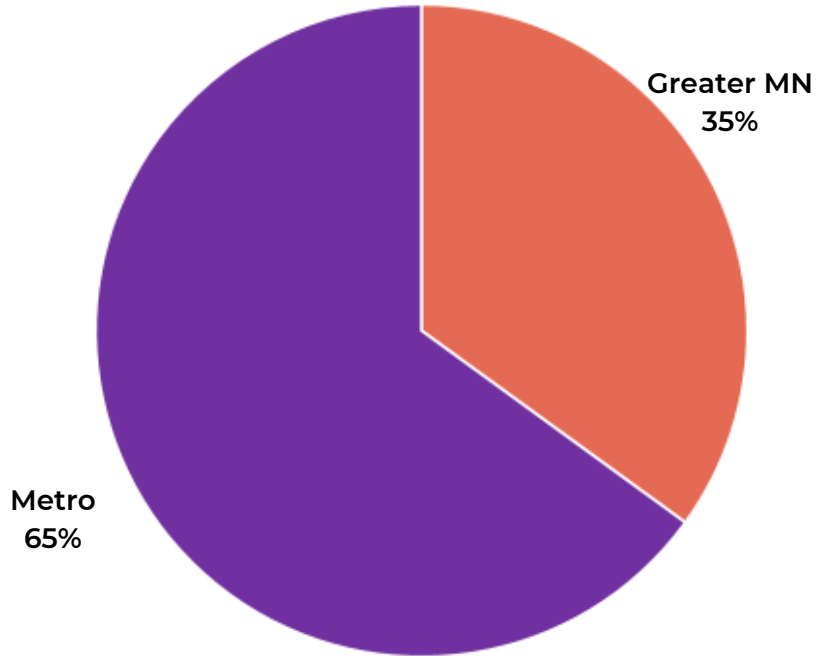
## 2021

### 2021 VICTIMS : 20

#### TWIN CITIES

#### METRO AREA: 13

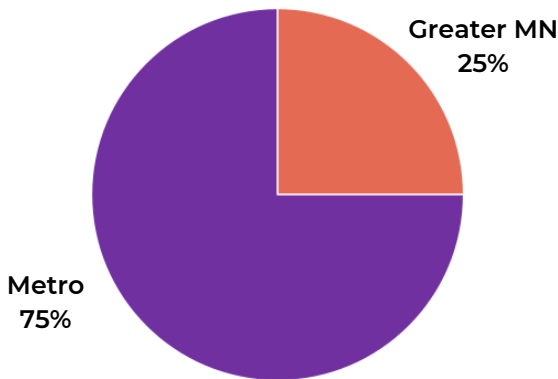
- D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace
- Lacy Jo Marie Krube
- Bao Yang
- Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson
- Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek
- Nada Rene Monique Fronk
- Lauri Anne Deatherage
- Cortney Grace Henry
- Sha'Von N. Phillips
- America Mafalda Thayer
- Samantha Samih Farah
- Caitlin Kelley Aldridge
- Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey



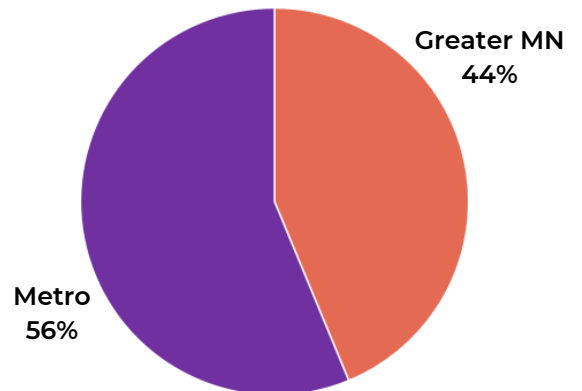
#### GREATER MINNESOTA: 7

- Jeanine Greyblood
- Regina Theresa Hughes
- Kristen Ann Bicking
- Lissette Reinbold
- Amanda Schroeder
- Amanda Jo Vangrinsven
- Tracy Ellen Julian

## 2020



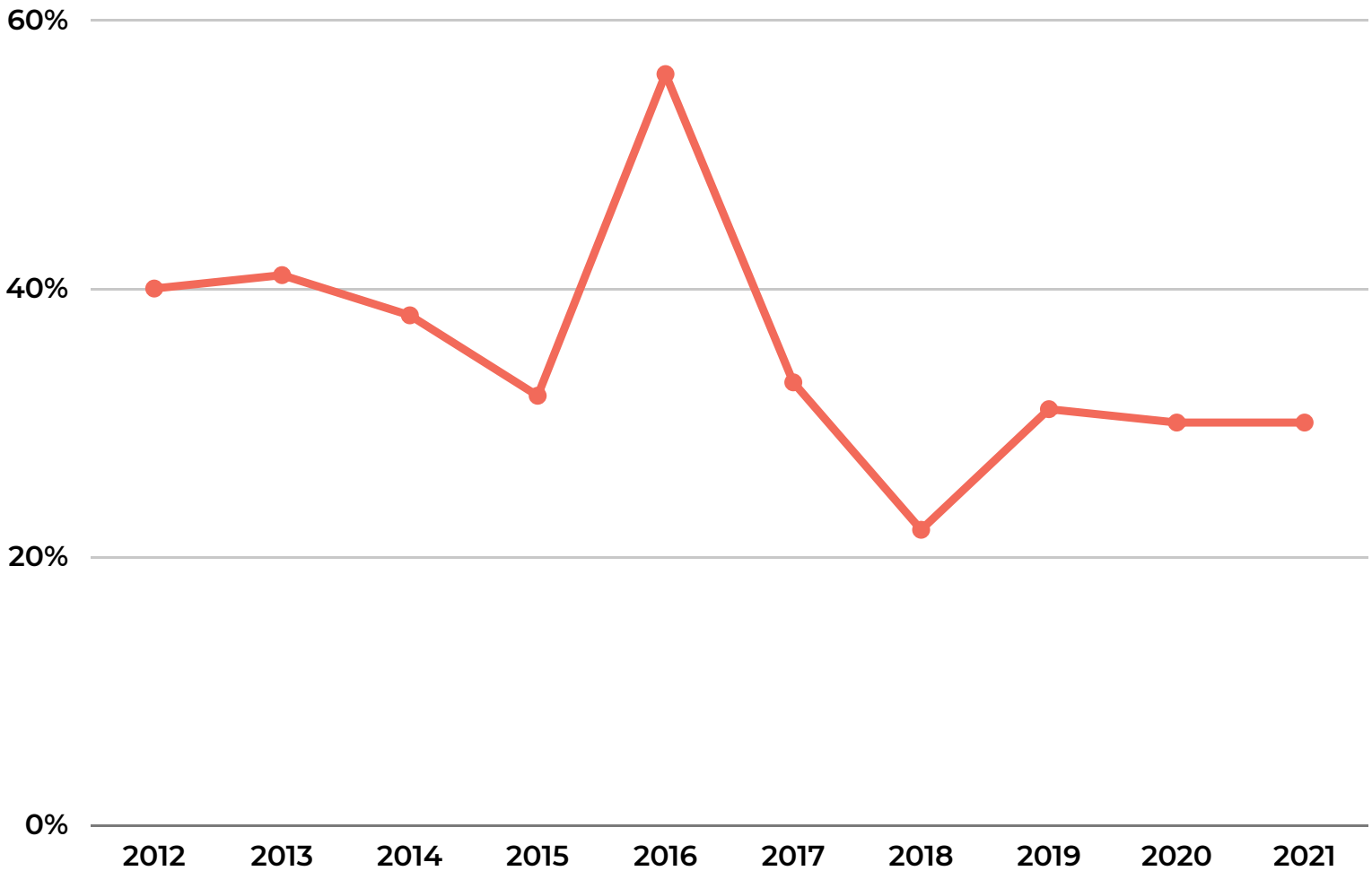
## 2019



# HOMICIDE-SUICIDE

Key Homicide Statistics (2012-2021) for  
Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

## Percentage of Adult Women Intimate Partner Homicide-Suicides Per Year



**2021  
HOMICIDES WHERE  
PERPETRATOR  
COMMITTED SUICIDE**

### **VICTIMS: 6**

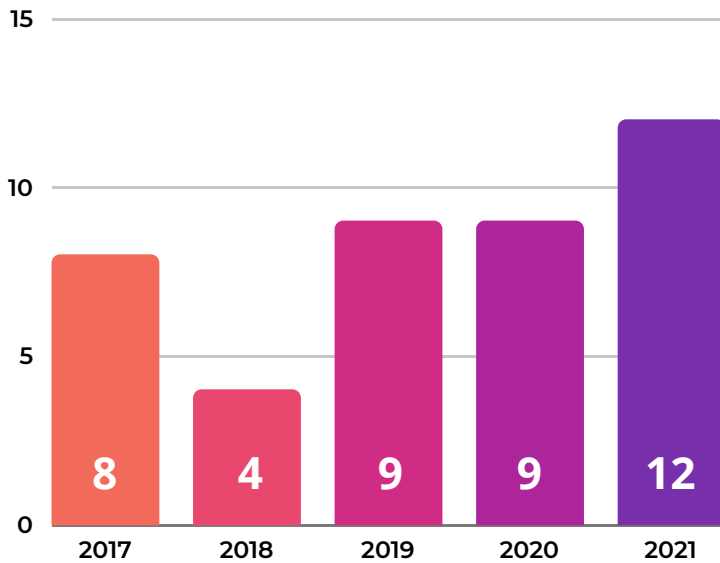
Regina Theresa Hughes  
Bao Yang  
Nada Rene Monique Fronk  
Cortney Grace Henry \*  
Amanda Schroeder  
Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey \*

\*Perpetrator attempted suicide

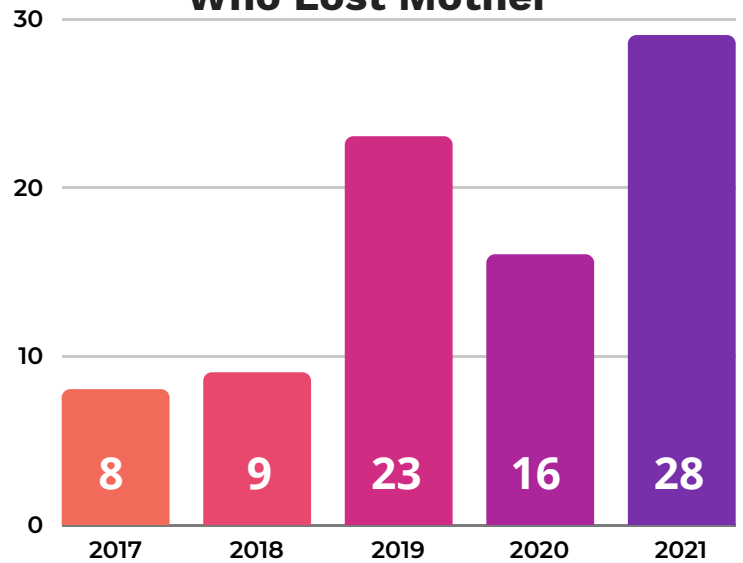
# MURDER OF MOTHERS AND EFFECT ON CHILDREN

Key Homicide Statistics (2017-2021) for Adult Women Murdered by a Current or Former Intimate Partner

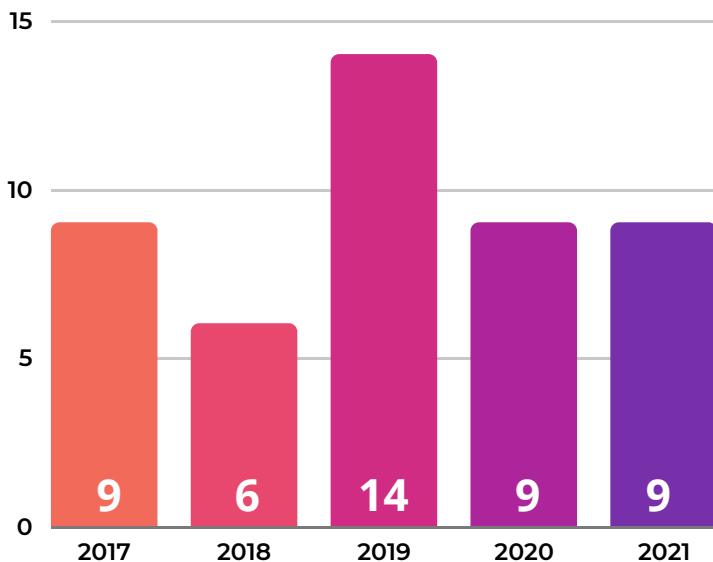
**Mothers with Minor Children**



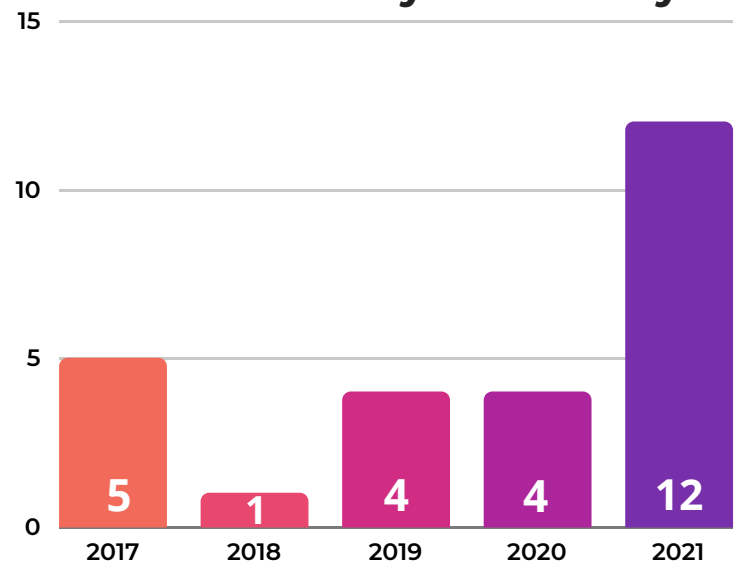
**Number of Minor Children Who Lost Mother \***



**Number of Adult Children Who Lost Mother \***



**Child(ren) Present at Time of Murder or Discovery of the Body \***



\*Numbers based on information available to us, and what we have confirmed. It is likely that some may actually be higher than indicated here.

**2021  
MOTHERS  
WITH MINOR  
CHILDREN**

**VICTIMS: 12**

D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace  
Jeanine Greyblood  
Lacy Jo Marie Krube  
Bao Yang  
Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson

Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek  
Cortney Grace Henry  
Sha'Von N. Phillips  
Lissette Reinbold  
Samantha Samih Farah  
Caitlin Kelley Aldridge  
Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey

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

# RISK FACTORS FOR INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

Each year, Violence Free Minnesota examines known intimate partner homicide cases in Minnesota and gathers information regarding four key risk factors for intimate partner homicide:

## RISK FACTORS

- **the victim's attempts to leave the abuser;**
- **previous threats to kill the victim;**
- **abuser's access to firearms; and**
- **abuser's history of violence.**

Violence Free Minnesota has analyzed these four factors since 2006. For the past 15 years, these lethality factors have been present in a significant number of cases. If we had more access to records and conducted interviews with friends and family members of victims, we are confident that we would find additional information pertaining to lethality factors. While lethality factors are often considered in a criminal legal context, we believe that by placing them into a public health framework these factors can illuminate important patterns in cases of intimate partner homicide. These indicators can and should be addressed through multiple avenues, including public health, social services, community-based services, and housing systems. Within these different systems, services and approaches should always be culturally responsive and relevant in order for them to be meaningful to the patient/client/victim being served. In 2021, at least 26 people were killed due to domestic violence in Minnesota. This included 20 women who were murdered by their current or former intimate partners.

We DO NOT intend for our analysis on these risk factors to be used for the creation of new crimes or the enhancement of criminal penalties.

## ATTEMPTS TO LEAVE

D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace, Bao Yang, Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson, Kristen Ann Bicking, Lauri Anne Deatherage, Cortney Grace Henry, Lissette Reinbold, America Mafalda Thayer, Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey were all either in the process of leaving their abusers, or had already separated from them. Bao Yang's ex-boyfriend harassed her for over a year after their breakup in 2019. One month after she ended the relationship, her ex-boyfriend broke into her home, sexually assaulted her, and shaved her head. Police were called to her home 15 times in the year leading up to her death, and twice in the month she was killed. Cortney Grace Henry broke up with her boyfriend less than a week before he killed her outside of a daycare center. America Mafalda Thayer told her boyfriend she wanted to end the relationship minutes before he decapitated her in the middle of the day in a residential neighborhood with several eyewitnesses.

## ACCESS TO FIREARMS

D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace, Regina Theresa Hughes, Bao Yang, Nada Rene Monique Fronk, Lauri Anne Deatherage, Cortney Grace Henry, Amanda Schroeder, Amanda Jo Vangrinsven, Caitlin Kelley Aldridge, Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey, and Tracy Ellen Julian were all killed with firearms. Lauri Anne Deatherage, a medically retired disabled Air Force veteran, was shot and killed by her ex-husband just days after she had remarried. Her ex-husband purchased the gun he used to kill her the day she was murdered. Amanda Schroeder was on the phone with 911 when her boyfriend shot and killed her. She told the operator that she was fearful of him because of the two guns he kept in the house. Caitlin Kelley Aldridge's husband became fearful after he survived a shooting in the summer of 2021, and began carrying a gun on his person. He shot and killed Caitlin a mere three months after this change in behavior.



# RISK FACTORS FOR INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

## RISK FACTORS

- **the victim's attempts to leave the abuser;**
- **previous threats to kill the victim;**
- **abuser's access to firearms; and**
- **abuser's history of violence.**

## HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace, Lacy Jo Marie Krube, Bao Yang, Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson, Kristen Ann Bicking, Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek, Nada Rene Monique Fronk, Cortney Grace Henry, Sha'Von N. Phillips, Lissette Reinbold, Amanda Jo Vangrinsven, America Mafalda Thayer, and Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey were all killed by current or former intimate partners with a history of violence. Lacy Jo Marie Krube's boyfriend had 11 qualified domestic violence related offenses against intimate partners before he beat Lacy to death. Lissette Reinbold's husband pled guilty in 2016 to ramming his car into Lissette's to prevent her from leaving while their young children were inside. He was released from federal prison for possessing pipe bombs prior to killing Lissette. Kristen Ann Bicking's ex-boyfriend was set to plead guilty in court five days after he killed Kristen for an incident in 2020 in which he strangled, punched, and threatened to kill her. Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek's boyfriend had a history of abusing his partners. Kelly's mother noticed injuries Kelly sustained after she was beaten by her boyfriend just weeks before she was killed. Her mother believed the boyfriend was dangerous and was fearful of Kelly staying with him.

## PREVIOUS THREATS TO KILL

D'Zondria Wallace, Bao Yang, and Kristen Ann Bicking ex-boyfriend's both threatened to kill them. D'Zondria's ex would often show up to her home unannounced and on at least one occasion broke into her apartment and sexually assaulted her. Bao Yang's ex threatened to harm her and her family, as well as shared nonconsensual sexual images of her.

**All of these cases illustrate the need for more effective intervention and the preventable nature of each homicide.**



# VICTIM'S ATTEMPTS TO LEAVE THE ABUSER

## RISK FACTOR

National statistics, as well as information gathered from our long history of tracking this data in Minnesota, show attempts to separate from an abuser can increase the risk of lethality for victims. Abusive partners often view any attempts by the victim to leave the relationship as a loss of the abuser's power and control; therefore, they may go to great lengths to prevent the victim from leaving. These lengths may include escalating or initiating violence as a means of regaining control.

Victims may feel safer if a perpetrator has been arrested, charged, and/or sentenced by our criminal legal system, however, this may or may not be true depending on the level of monitoring and control from the criminal legal system and the presence or lack of victim safety planning. Victims may also perceive greater safety in leaving the relationship when previous abuse in the relationship was solely non-physical; however, emotionally abusive relationships can and do sometimes escalate to physical abuse and homicide. Most individuals leaving abusive relationships are not killed, but a large number of those who are killed were attempting to separate from their abuser. Even when victims are able to leave an abusive relationship, there may be a period of increased risk in the months after leaving. At least 9 victims (45% of adult women victims), had either attempted to leave or left the relationship in 2021. The majority of these cases involved documented or undocumented abuse histories, pointing to the importance of community-based interventions and safety planning.

## CASE HIGHLIGHT AMERICA MAFALDA THAYER

America Mafalda Thayer, 55, was killed by her boyfriend, Alexis Saborit, 42, in Shakopee on July 28. Saborit stabbed and decapitated America on the afternoon of the 28th. Police were called to an intersection in Shakopee where they found America's body. Witnesses reportedly took videos of the incident which were posted to social media for a short time before they were removed. **Saborit was quickly apprehended and told police America had "gone too far," when she tried to break up with him. He killed her minutes after she attempted to end their relationship.** Saborit has a history of abusing America and was convicted of gross misdemeanor domestic assault in 2017. When police responded to that assault, Saborit pushed America to the ground in front of officers and forcefully put his hand over her mouth in an attempt to prevent her from speaking to police. Alexis Saborit is charged with second-degree murder, and indicted by a grand jury for first-degree murder. America Mafalda Thayer moved to Minnesota from Cuba and leaves behind a son.

# ACCESS TO FIREARMS

## RISK FACTOR

While the percentage of domestic violence homicides using firearms fluctuates from year to year, firearms are the most frequent weapon of choice and are used in almost half of the documented domestic violence homicides in our reports. The Violence Policy Center has found that female intimate partners are more likely to be killed with a firearm than all other means combined. These statistics emphasize access to firearms by an abuser as a significant risk factor for lethality. In 2021, sixteen total victims (62% of total victims; 11 adult women victims, 55%) were killed by firearms.

National studies also show that firearms are the most commonly used weapon when there are multiple people killed by an intimate partner. A 2020 study using data from the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports found that among male perpetrators of domestic violence homicide, the use of a firearm was associated with a nearly two times higher likelihood of having at least one additional victim, compared to domestic violence homicides through other means. We routinely see this confirmed in our report.

Due to restrictions that prevent the Minnesota Department of Health from gathering and analyzing firearms data, we cannot know how perpetrators gained access to firearms - specifically, perpetrators who used a firearm to commit homicide but did not qualify for a firearms license due to a history of domestic violence.

These cases illustrate the need for the ability for the Minnesota Department of Health to collect firearms data as it relates to domestic violence, as well as the need for safety planning and risk assessments for victims whose abusive partners possess firearms.

## CASE HIGHLIGHT LAURI ANNE DEATHERAGE

**Lauri Anne Deatherage, 48, was shot and killed by her ex-husband, Robert McCloud, 64, inside her Robbinsdale home on June 18. Police responded to a welfare check at the house on the morning of June 18, and found Lauri's body. Robert was then located at his Brooklyn Center home where he engaged in a 10-hour standoff with police until surrendering. Robert purchased a gun on the day he killed his ex-wife. Lauri Deatherage, who was classified as a medically retired disabled veteran, had gotten married on June 13, days before she was killed. Robert McCloud was charged with second-degree murder and later indicted for first-degree murder. All charges were dismissed in April 2022, after Robert died before the case went to trial.**

# PERPETRATOR'S HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

## RISK FACTOR

We strive to capture as much information as possible regarding a perpetrator's history of violence. Since our main source of information regarding a perpetrator's history of violence is through public court records, we are limited in our analysis. We consider a perpetrator to have a documented history of domestic violence if there are police or court records available to us with evidence of this or if a history of violence is referenced in the media.

Occasionally, media stories will quote a perpetrator's undocumented history of abuse in interviews with family members or loved ones of the victim or previous victims of the perpetrator. At times, we will be contacted by family members who share this information with us. We categorize this information as "undocumented but known" domestic violence history of the perpetrator.

At least 12 perpetrators in 2021 had documented histories of violence against their current and/or former partners, children, or partners' family members, and at least one had known but undocumented history. Perpetrators' histories of violence often do not begin or end with one victim; in some cases there may be a history of violence against previous or subsequent partners as well, up to and including homicide.

While it is unclear how many victims in 2021 filed for or obtained orders for protection, one month before Bao Yang's ex-boyfriend killed her, she filed an order for protection against him after he sent nonconsensual sexual images of her to her ex-husband. At least three previous partners of perpetrators had obtained civil orders for protection against them. Cortney Grace Henry's ex-boyfriend, Atravius Weeks, violated a restraining order against one of his ex-girlfriends the same day he killed Cortney. Weeks' ex-girlfriend called 911 while he was pounding on the door and walls of her apartment trying to gain entry. The ex-girlfriend told dispatchers that Weeks had a gun and she feared he would kill her if he entered the apartment.

## CASE HIGHLIGHT LACY JO MARIE KRUBE

Lacy Jo Marie Krube, 36, was found dead on February 21 in her St. Paul home.

Following a call of an overdose to Lacy's home on February 21, police officers determined that Lacy had been severely beaten by her boyfriend, Timothy Heller, 42, in Brooklyn Park the night before. A medical examiner found the injuries sustained resulted in her death, and was ruled a homicide. **Heller has 11 previous convictions for qualified related domestic violence offenses, dating back to 1997. He also had five other domestic assault charges that were dropped.** Lacy Jo Marie Krube leaves behind at least one minor child. Timothy Heller is charged with second-degree murder.

Criminal domestic abuse no contact orders (DANCOS) were put in place by the court against the men who killed Kristen Ann Bicking, Lisette Reinbold, and America Thayer.

The ex-partners of the men who killed Lacy Jo Marie Krube, Nikkiya Swantay Robinson, Nada Rene Monique Fronk, Eric Allan Gaulke, Marquisha Doris Wiley, and Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey also had DANCOS established by the courts.

We note that in each of these cases, criminal legal system interventions did not prevent future violence or, ultimately, the homicides. These documented histories of violence and ineffective interventions by the criminal legal system indicate the need for different kinds of interventions and represent missed opportunities, specifically for programming to transform the behavior of those who abuse, which can address the root of power and control at the heart of domestic violence.



## CASE HIGHLIGHT

### D'ZONDRIA DEANERNETTE WALLACE

# THREATS TO KILL THE VICTIM

## RISK FACTOR

Threats by the abuser to kill the victim, as well as the victim's belief that the abuser will kill them, are among the most reliable indicators of lethality. These indicators are often overlooked by the criminal and civil justice systems. A review of court documents and media reports of the 2021 murders showed that at least three cases (D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace, Bao Yang, and Kristen Ann Bicking) involved the perpetrator directly threatening to kill the victim. While we do not know if America Mafalda Thayer's boyfriend threatened her directly, we know that days before he killed her, he told a friend he would "chop [America's] head off."

Without access to and review of police case files and court records, it is difficult to determine whether threats to kill were made against each victim. While the absence of threats to kill does not tell us there is no threat there, their presence can be a significant indicator of an abuser's risk of lethality.

TeKeith Jones, 26, shot and killed his ex-girlfriend D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace, 30, her 14 year-old daughter, La'Porsha Nashay, and her 11 year-old son, Ja'Corbie Rashad, in their St. Paul home on January 30. Prior to the shooting, one of D'Zondria's relatives called police and requested a welfare check. Police arrived around an hour before the murders and spoke directly to D'Zondria, who told officers she was "OK." Family members arrived at the home and found D'Zondria and La'Porsha dead. Ja'Corbie was still alive and told police that "Keith" had shot them. Ja'Corbie later died from his wounds at a hospital.

D'Zondria was trying to leave her relationship with Jones due to his abusive behavior. **In the past, friends witnessed Jones threatening D'Zondria's life and family members said Jones would often show up at D'Zondria's home unannounced. In December, Jones broke into D'Zondria's home through a window and assaulted her.** The following morning, he fired his gun at D'Zondria. While in custody, TeKeith Jones told police he killed La'Porsha and Ja'Corbie because their mother was "playing mind games and corrupting the kids." D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace was two months pregnant when she was killed. TeKeith Jones pled guilty to three counts of second-degree murder and was sentenced to 72 years in prison.

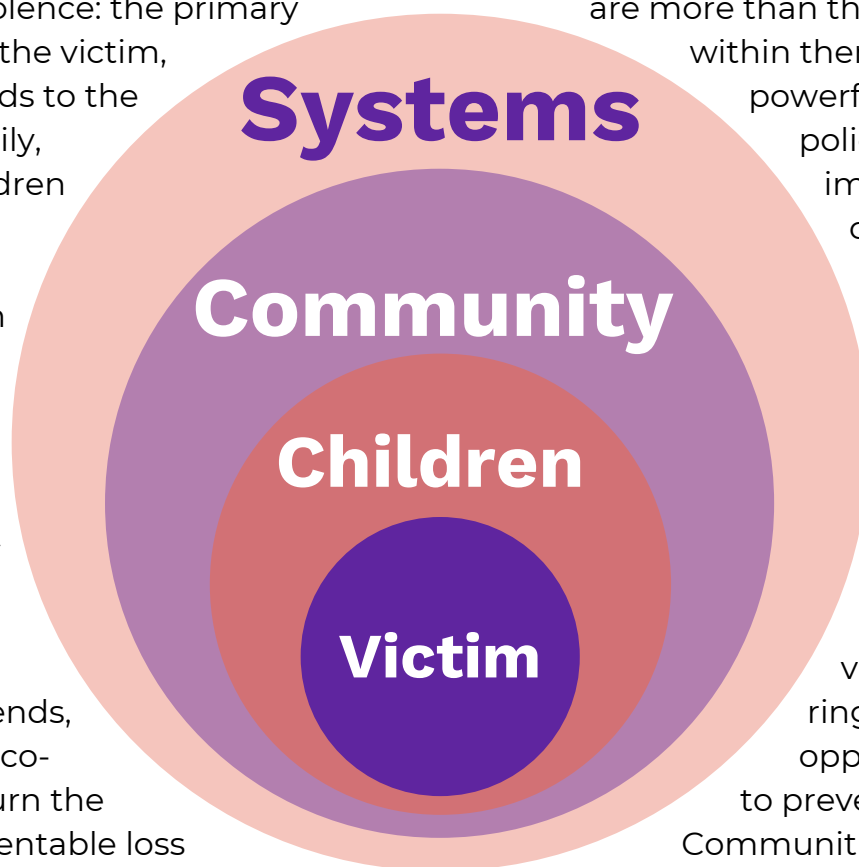


**CIRCLE  
OF  
IMPACT**

# CIRCLE OF IMPACT:

## VICTIM, CHILDREN, COMMUNITY, SYSTEMS

Intimate partner violence - including homicide, its most extreme manifestation - has a ripple effect, or a “circle of impact.” At the center of the circle is the person most impacted by violence: the primary victim. Beyond the victim, the circle extends to the immediate family, specifically children whose primary caregiver is often the victim and/or perpetrator. For surviving children, trauma can last a lifetime. The circle widens further to the community: friends, neighbors, and co-workers all mourn the tragic and preventable loss of someone they cared about. In some instances, these same people are witnesses to the preceding violence or the homicide itself; in other instances, they are killed as bystanders or during attempts to intervene in the violence. The community also experiences and attempts to grapple with trauma.



Finally, the circle expands to encompass systems (including healthcare, education, criminal legal, child welfare, and housing). While systems are made up of people, they are more than the individuals who work within them. Systems are large, powerful institutions with policies and practices that impact all of the other circles: community, children, and the victim.

Each ring in the circle of impact is connected to the victim and highlights the far-reaching effects of intimate partner violence. Within each ring, there are also opportunities or pathways to prevent violence.

Communities of family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, faith congregations, and more can work together to dramatically increase safety in a victim’s life and their children’s lives. Yet, we also recognize domestic violence is systemic. If systems including healthcare, education, criminal legal, child welfare, and housing were to implement the recommendations in this report, we believe that victims/survivors will be able to achieve safety from relationship abuse more easily.



# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: VICTIM



The effect intimate partner violence has on victims/survivors does not cease once the relationship ceases. As has already been stated, leaving an abusive relationship strips the abuser of their power and control over the victim/survivor. This loss of power and control can have a harmful impact on the victim/survivor as the abuser may try to regain it. Bao Yang's ex-boyfriend incessantly harassed her for over a year after she broke up with him in 2019. One month after she ended the relationship, her ex-boyfriend broke into her home, sexually assaulted her, and shaved her head, ultimately leading to him killing her. Police were called to her home 15 times in the year leading up to her death, and twice the month she was killed.

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**Victims do not just experience violence and power and control within their intimate relationships. They also navigate systemic barriers and violence beyond the abuse they face in their relationships.**

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Victims do not just experience violence, power, and control within their intimate relationships. They also navigate systemic barriers and violence beyond the abuse they face in their relationships. Victims facing racial disparities, economic instability, and criminalization experience compounding traumas that need to be addressed in order to craft effective interventions that work for individuals and make a safer Minnesota.

## Racial Disparities

Domestic violence occurs across all social boundaries and within all communities; however, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities are disproportionately represented among intimate partner homicide victims both in Minnesota and nationally. We found disproportionate numbers of Black and Native victims of domestic violence homicide compared to statewide demographics. Twenty-three percent of domestic violence homicide victims in 2021 were Black, while comprising around 7% of Minnesota's population. Native victims accounted for 8% of 2021 homicide victims, while the Native population makes up only 1% of the state. These violent disparities are attributed to histories of colonization, chattel slavery, genocide, generational trauma, and ongoing systemic oppression.

# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: VICTIM

## Racial Disparities

Native women face higher rates of victimization due to legacies of colonialism and disconnect between local, state, and tribal laws. In 2019, Violence Free Minnesota interviewed over 60 women incarcerated at the sole women's prison in the state. It was found that 97% of those interviewed experienced violence or abuse - often multiple instances of violence and abuse - prior to incarceration, and 84% had experienced intimate partner violence. Jurisdiction issues between tribes and states create barriers and gaps in seeking due process. For example, tribes do not have the authority to prosecute non-Native perpetrators who commit assaults on tribal lands.

In addition, many Native women, girls, transgender individuals, and Two-Spirit individuals go missing at staggering rates, but accurate and comprehensive data is difficult to track due to lack of national media attention and uniform reporting.

In 2018, the Violence Policy Center found that Black women are murdered by male intimate partners at rates nearly three times that of white women. Black women are also most frequently killed with firearms (66% of Black homicide victims in 2021 were killed with a firearm), and non-Hispanic Black women and Native women experience the highest rates of homicide, of which over half are committed by a current or former intimate partner. In addition, Black women are significantly more likely to be killed as a result of domestic violence during pregnancy or the year after childbirth than white women.

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**Black women are murdered by male intimate partners at rates nearly three times that of white women.**

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## Economic Instability

Economic abuse is one of the most used tactics to maintain power and control over victims and occurs in 99% cases of relationship abuse. It destabilizes victims' access to basic human necessities like employment, housing, food, transportation, and child care. Economic abuse includes using tactics that cause a victim to lose their job or public benefits; ruining a victim's credit or preventing them from having a credit history; denying child support or making it too dangerous to pursue child support; and causing a victim to get evicted from, or denied access to, housing. Victims may also experience difficulties with work absenteeism and maintaining employment. Victims may sometimes become involved in systems of sexual exploitation due to financial need. Economic abuse is one of the most common reasons why victims are unable to leave abusive relationships.





# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: VICTIM

## Economic Instability

While we have not had access to consistent data on the economic abuse experienced by the homicide victims in our reports, throughout our reports we have found victims who had faced economic instability in the past and/or suffered from a lack of economic resources in the five years preceding their murder.

Twelve victims in 2021 (46%) faced financial instability at some point in their lives (Jeanine Greyblood, Lacy Jo Marie Krube, Nikkiya Swantay Robinson, Kristen Ann Bicking, Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek, Lauri Anne Deatherage, Cortney Grace Henry, Lissette Reinbold, America Mafalda Thayer, Caitlin Kelley Aldridge, Bethany Anne Bernatsky, Marquisha Doris Wiley).

## Criminalization Of Victims

Survivors are often labeled as both victims and offenders within the criminal-legal system. Victims are criminally charged for a variety of reasons, including using retaliatory violence, acting in self defense, or engaging in criminal behavior due to addiction - which may be a coping mechanism to survive the abuse they have experienced - as well as for criminal acts coerced by abusive partners. According to the ACLU, as many as 94% of women in some women's prison populations have experienced physical or sexual violence at some point prior to incarceration.

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**Native people are incarcerated at over 14 times the rate of white people in Minnesota.**

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Criminalization disproportionately impacts BIPOC communities. Survived and Punished reports that about 67% of U.S. female prisoners are women of color. Nearly half of all Black transgender people have been incarcerated at some point, many of whom are then further victimized in prison by guards, other prison staff, and other incarcerated peoples. Native Americans make up 1.1% of Minnesota's population, but according to the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Native women make up 20% of the female prison population in the state. According to the Vera Institute of Justice, Native people are incarcerated at over 14 times the rate of white people in Minnesota. The ACLU found that from 2008-2018, the Native American prison population in Minnesota grew by 34%, while the white prison population actually fell by 2%.



# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: VICTIM

## Criminalization of Victims

The Prison Policy Initiative reports that Native youth are three times more likely to be confined than white youth, and U.S. Census data indicates that Native communities are overrepresented in the criminal legal system. The Lakota People's Law Project found that Native women are admitted to prison at 6 times the rate of white women.

Racial disparities play out throughout the criminal legal system. Women of color are less likely to be able to afford cash bail as a condition of release, thus remaining incarcerated pre-trial. Black women are also overrepresented in solitary confinement, on death row, and disproportionately serve sentences of life and life without parole.

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**77% of incarcerated women  
have experienced intimate  
partner violence.**

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A 2019 report by Prison Policy Initiative found that nearly half of all incarcerated women in the US are held in jails and not prisons. This severely limits the programs and services available to incarcerated women. Prisons, due to the longer stay of those incarcerated, offer more services than jails. Healthcare, especially mental health services, is scarce in jails. This is especially significant considering the high mental health needs for incarcerated women and the prevalence of trauma from violence in their lives. In addition to an increase in services to address trauma and victimization in facilities, , services outside of incarceration need to be prioritized in order to meet the needs of victim/survivors. A study by the Vera Institute found that 77% of incarcerated women have a history of experiencing intimate partner violence. Histories of violence can result in long-lasting trauma and PTSD.

Nine of the 20 (45%) adult women murdered by a current/former intimate partner in 2021 had a criminal history.



# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: CHILDREN



When the primary victim is a parent, children are immediately and significantly impacted.. While some children are injured or killed as part of the relationship abuse against their parent, many children are also harmed by witnessing violence. In Violence Free Minnesota's 30 year retrospective report, we documented that over three decades, 151 cases of intimate partner homicide occurred with a child witnessing the murder. This data does not include the number of adult children who may have witnessed the homicide or were murdered alongside their parent. In many cases involving minor children, the need for protection for the victim and his/her children was raised in a court proceeding or made known to another professional prior to the murder(s).

## Trauma

Exposure to household domestic violence, and/or witnessing the intimate partner homicide of a parent, can have devastating impacts on children throughout not only their formative years, but adolescence and adulthood as well. CDC-Kaiser Permanente's Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study and its subsequent iterations is one of the largest investigations of the impact of childhood experiences on life-long health and well-being. The ACE research demonstrates that exposure to domestic violence can increase risk for adverse physical, mental health, and substance use conditions into early adulthood and across the lifespan. Despite assumptions that children may be too young to understand domestic violence, exposure to domestic violence can impair children's and infants' social, cognitive, and even neurological development. Exposure to domestic violence can result in depression, anxiety, substance misuse, a fundamental undermining of children's sense of safety, constant hypervigilance, and internalized beliefs that violence and control are normal and expected in intimate relationships.

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**Twelve minor children were present at the scene of the homicide or directly witnessed the homicide of one of their parents in 2021.**

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While many children are resilient and are able to cope positively and heal, this is not always the norm. One of the strongest protective factors for children exposed to domestic violence is their relationship with the non-abusive parent. When that parent is killed, this protective factor is eroded. While positive relationships with other caregivers can be beneficial in promoting posttraumatic growth, they cannot fully replicate the child's bond with the non-abusive parent. Culturally responsive, strengths-based, and healing-centered support services are critical to support children in the aftermath of intimate partner homicide.

Multiple minor children witnessed intimate partner homicides and/or were left without a protective parent in 2021. Twelve minor children were present at the scene of the homicide or directly witnessed the homicide of one of their parents in 2021. At least twelve victims (46%) left behind minor children.

# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: COMMUNITY



The ripples of relationship abuse affect everyone, particularly those who love, care for, and work with victims and those who experience the trauma and devastation of witnessing or intervening in abuse. Long mischaracterized as a private issue between two individuals, relationship abuse often spills out of the home and into public life, with far-reaching impacts in schools, workplaces, community centers, churches, hospitals, and police departments.

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**In recent years, our country has seen a rise in far-right extremism, which has deep roots in misogyny and the hatred of women.**

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The perpetrators of intimate partner homicides in 2021 posed a unique threat to their communities in a variety of ways. Eric Reinbold was convicted on federal charges of possessing pipe bombs in 2018. When he was arrested, authorities found a notebook that referred to starting a second American Revolution along with handwritten notes about how to manufacture pipe bombs and other homemade explosives. The notebook also contained lists of candidates for martyrdom and other potential targets, including: the IRS, women, and attorneys representing women's rights. In June 2022, while incarcerated awaiting his trial for killing his wife, Lissette, Eric was charged with assaulting a female corrections officer.

Over the last six years, our country has seen a rise in far-right extremism, which has deep roots in misogyny and the hatred of women. Rigid gender roles are a staple of many far-right ideologies, along with racism, homophobia, and transphobia. Women, and other marginalized groups, are viewed as inferior and in need of subjugation in far-right circles. As we have learned, this ideology is not limited to harmful rhetoric. The link between misogyny and mass shootings has been highly publicized in recent years, and it has become commonplace to uncover a shooter's history of violence in the aftermath of a mass shooting event. This puts not only victims/survivors of intimate partner violence and their families' safety at risk, but entire communities.



# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: COMMUNITY

## Public Violence & Trauma

It is not uncommon for abusers to publicly humiliate and criticize victims in front of other people as a tactic of power; public homicide signals the ultimate act of control and violence. An abuser who commits intimate partner homicide in public has not “snapped” or “lost control,” but in fact has already likely engaged in prior abuse at home. For those who witness a public intimate partner homicide, it is traumatizing, whether or not they knew the victim(s) personally. Witnesses may experience physical and emotional trauma responses, such as shock, disorientation, helplessness, numbness, anger and fear, and recurrent nightmares. They may also struggle with guilt and ruminate on “what they believe they could have done differently” to prevent the homicide.

Loved ones and those close to homicide victims often suffer, whether or not they witnessed the homicide. Several studies demonstrate that loved ones of homicide victims experience greater rates of PTSD than for other forms of violence, and may also experience physical health consequences, as well as economic consequences and loss of income. Some loved ones may experience secondary victimization through engagement with the criminal legal system and other service providers. People who lose a loved one to homicide are likely to have their worldviews permanently altered and are more likely to struggle with complicated grief.

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**An abuser who commits intimate partner homicide in public has not “snapped” or “lost control,” but in fact has already engaged in continuous violence and coercive control at home.**

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Six victims in 2021 were either killed or found dead in public areas.

- **Jimmy Todd Wilemon** was filling his truck with gas at a station located on the trucking company property where he worked when he was shot and killed by the husband of the woman whom he was in a relationship with.
- **Jeanine Greyblood**'s body was found under an overpass in Little Falls.
- **Cortney Grace Henry** was shot and killed by her ex-boyfriend outside of a Lakeville daycare center.
- **America Malfada Thayer** was decapitated in the middle of the day in a residential neighborhood. Several people witnessed her murder and someone took a video and posted it on social media for a short time before it was taken down.
- **Samantha Samih Farah**'s body was found in a dumpster outside of her apartment building.
- **Marquisha Doris Wiley** was shot and killed at the Seventh Street Truck Park bar in downtown St. Paul during a mass shooting that left 14 others wounded.





# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: SYSTEMS



Systems and institutions structure our society and lives. Victim/survivors often simultaneously navigate interpersonal violence and systematic violence at the same time, from the violence of criminalization to the violence of economic instability and homelessness. Challenging systems and promoting social change are core tenets of Violence Free Minnesota's mission. We understand that to center victim safety and end intimate partner violence, the largest ring in the circle of impact (systems) must fundamentally change to make an impact on the individual victim at the center.

## Criminal-Legal

While many victims do not turn to the criminal legal system to address the abuse they are experiencing, others may have multiple points of contact with these systems. Some of the ways that victims may come into contact with these systems is through civil protective orders, Domestic Abuse No Contact Orders (DANCO), trials and testimony, and calls to 9-1-1 or law enforcement. Some victims have positive experiences with the criminal-legal system, while others experience retraumatization, harm, and a loss of control. Barriers such as language access, mistrust of legal systems, desire to remain in the relationship, and/or fear of the perpetrator, their community, and/or law enforcement response can influence a victim's decision to involve the criminal legal system. Some abusive partners also leverage criminal legal systems such as law enforcement, civil protective orders, and family court proceedings as tools to continue to abuse and control, drawing victims into repeated proceedings with a number of negative impacts.

In addition, studies show that approximately 80% of victims are afraid to call the police for assistance with the abuse they are experiencing.

## Victim/survivors often simultaneously navigate interpersonal violence and systematic violence at the same time

Bao Yang chose to drop the charges against her ex-boyfriend after he broke into her home, sexually assaulted her, and shaved her head. She was fearful of him and his continued threats to harm her and her family. He also threatened to share nonconsensual sexual images of her, which he eventually did share with Bao's ex-husband, whom Bao was in a custody dispute with at the time.

Many victims/survivors fear that they will not be believed by police, and studies show that 24% of victims who reach out for help are themselves arrested instead. In 2015, Eric Reinbold called 911 in an attempt to get his wife, Lissette, arrested. Lissette had the couple's two children and was trying to leave the home in her car when Eric, while armed with a handgun, rammed her car with his truck multiple times. All of this was witnessed by a mail carrier. When police arrived, Lissette told them that Eric said he was planning on having her arrested, but she was unaware he actually called 911. Eric also told authorities that he attempted to make a "citizen's arrest," on Lissette that day. Eric stabbed and killed Lissette in July 2021.

# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: SYSTEMS

## Criminal-Legal

Prosecutors may threaten victims with jail time if they refuse to testify against their abusers. A study from the University of Cambridge found that Black victims whose partners were arrested on misdemeanor charges were 64% more likely to have died early, possibly due to causes consistent with chronic stress amplified by the arrests, compared to victims whose partners were warned, but not removed, by police. No such effect was found for white victims.

Sometimes, victims themselves have contact with systems that should have provided a point of intervention that could have prevented further violence. One hour before D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace and her two children were murdered by her ex-boyfriend, a police officer responded to a welfare check at her apartment and spoke directly with her. No further intervention by police took place.

Additionally, a perpetrator's history of violence indicates varying points of contact with criminal legal systems and opportunities for intervention. These points of contact and intervention are an opportunity to transform abusive behavior through appropriate programming and potentially prevent future homicide. For each victim whose perpetrator had contact with the criminal legal system, the system ultimately failed to create and maintain safety.

After 30+ years of working with the criminal legal system to end domestic violence, it is time to ask hard questions about whether criminal legal responses are increasing safety, particularly for the most marginalized survivors, and whether they are truly creating the conditions for a future without violence.

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## Schools/Education

Youth who live in households where relationship abuse is present or who are experiencing relationship abuse themselves may experience housing instability, threats to their physical and emotional safety, insomnia, anxiety, and ongoing toxic stress. These stressors can adversely impact school performance and attendance. While schools and after-school programming may be a source of safety, stability, and social support for youth, their trauma may also be ignored, dismissed, neglected, and reinforced by school systems. Youth trauma responses may be misperceived by educators as oppositional symptoms of behavior disorders and punished rather than treated in a healing-centered manner.

Additionally, zero tolerance school disciplinary policies may result in the systemic, racialized penalization of traumatized youth through suspension, expulsion, and entry into the juvenile legal system. Research on school discipline practices reveals that Black female students are six times more likely to be suspended from school than white female students, and youth of color are more likely to be misdiagnosed with Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder than white youth.

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# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: SYSTEMS

## Schools/Education

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Protective factors for youth experiencing and/or witnessing relationship abuse include a sense of belonging at school, in addition to safe, stable, and nurturing relationships with adult caregivers and meaningful peer support. Culturally responsive peer support programs for youth witnessing or experiencing relationship abuse are critical, as well as intervention efforts that disrupt the oppressive structures in youths' lives rather than simply responding to individual trauma.

Examples include the Bounce Back clinical support program for Indigenous elementary youth exposed to trauma and the Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools, a support program for ethnic minority and immigrant youth. Using a strengths-based approach to child trauma, rather than a pathologizing approach, is vital.

While it is not possible to know the extent of school engagement for the victims' children in this report, twelve children were present somewhere on the scene of the homicide or directly witnessed the homicide, and at least 28 minor children were left without a parent.

## Healthcare

Many victims of relationship abuse interact with healthcare systems during or after experiences of violence. Other survivors may refrain from seeking medical care due to fear of stigma, lack of provider knowledge, and concerns about professionals' racial and gender biases. Additionally, many immigrant and relationship abuse survivors of color do not seek help from mainstream healthcare systems, including mental and behavioral health systems, for fear of unwanted and coerced involvement in legal and immigration systems. Mandatory reporting statutes are a significant barrier to survivor care. One survey of female relationship abuse survivors in Minnesota found that while the majority sustained injuries as a result of violence, only 38% sought medical care.



# CIRCLE OF IMPACT: SYSTEMS

## Healthcare

As a public health issue, relationship abuse is associated with numerous adverse impacts on survivor health: chronic disease management, depression and anxiety, PTSD, sexual and reproductive health, and more. Additionally, some abusive partners may sabotage survivors' efforts to seek mental healthcare or recover from substance use, reinforcing a cycle of vulnerability to and attempts to cope with ongoing abuse.

Healthcare professionals may lack adequate training in identifying and responding to relationship abuse. In Minnesota, there is no specific statute addressing relationship abuse screening or response protocols for healthcare providers, and while the National Health Resource Center serves as an informational resource for healthcare systems, there is a lack of standardized, universal training. Shifting to the use of CUES, an evidence-based practice pioneered by Futures Without Violence as an alternative to screening, can promote survivor health and wellbeing and connect survivors to culturally responsive advocacy services.

**As a public health issue, relationship abuse is associated with numerous adverse impacts on survivor health: chronic disease management, depression and anxiety, PTSD, sexual and reproductive health, and more.**

While it is unclear exactly how many victims in our 2021 report had substantive points of contact with healthcare professionals during the course of their abuse, **at least five victims (Ja'Corbie Rashad Wallace, Bao Yang, Kristen Ann Bicking, Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek, and Eric Allan Gaulke), 19% of total victims, passed away in hospitals as a result of injuries sustained due to intimate partner violence.**

## Housing

Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and their children. According to data collected by the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), between January 1, 2005 and September 4, 2019, 46,961 individuals who had experienced homelessness in Minnesota had also experienced domestic violence. The Wilder Research Center found in 2015 that domestic violence is one of the five leading causes of homelessness in the state. In addition, while the root of domestic violence is power and control, economic stress resulting from chronic unemployment and/or underemployment, foreclosures, evictions, and bankruptcy can exacerbate abuse. One of the top needs of survivors continues to be safe, affordable housing, along with the economic resources to maintain safety.

**2021 intimate partner homicide victims who experienced, or were at risk of experiencing homelessness:**

- **D'Zondria Deanernette, Ja'Corbie Rashad, and La'Porsha Nashay Wallace:** In 2020, less than a year prior to being killed, D'Zondria and her children were considered at risk of facing homelessness
- **Nikkiya Swantay Robinson:** Several times throughout 2018 and 2019 while fleeing relationship abuse
- **Kristen Ann Bicking:** In 2016 while fleeing relationship abuse

**2021 Victims who were evicted:**

- **Lacy Jo Marie Krube:** Evicted in 2012
- **Cortney Grace Henry:** Evicted in 2013
- **Nikkiya Swantay Robinson:** Evicted in 2014
- **Marquisha Doris Wiley:** Evicted in 2019
- **Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek:** Evicted in 2020, less than a year prior to being killed



# RECOMMENDATIONS

Intimate partner violence is a public health crisis and a systemic issue. As a public health crisis, it is predictable and preventable. Like any public health crisis, implementing policy changes to our systems and institutions can lead to positive outcomes including fewer instances of intimate partner violence and safer communities. Survivors, community-based advocacy programs, and programs led by and for culturally specific communities should be at the center of all policy recommendations, from inception to implementation.

## T.I.E. MODEL: TRAINING, IMPLEMENTATION, EVALUATION

Violence Free Minnesota recommends a three-pronged approach for tangible change. Missing one element of the Training-Implementation-Evaluation model, or T.I.E., results in stagnation. Each element is imperative to success. Training develops understanding; implementing policies results in changes to practice; and ongoing evaluation of policies and practices measures change and intended impact. T.I.E. is an ongoing process; it must be routine and embedded in each organization, system, or institution.





# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Community Engagement/Media



Community experts, experts in the fields of domestic and sexual violence, and public and private funders must participate in gap assessments, plan to identify gaps in services around the state, and create a comprehensive plan to address those gaps. As the primary funder for domestic and sexual violence work in the state, the Office of Justice Programs within the Department of Public Safety, should lead this effort. It is critical to provide long-term, responsive, consistent financial support for programs to meet needs across the state. Communities that currently have no programs or are underrepresented should receive priority consideration.



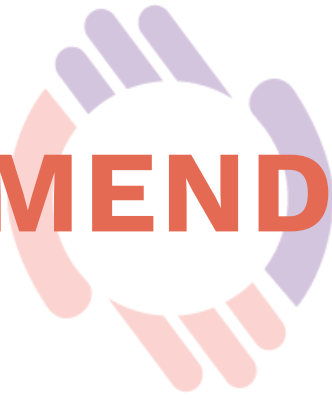
Media must cover the full spectrum of relationship abuse in our communities beyond domestic violence homicides. Focus on local programming, resources, and collaborations to increase safety for victim/survivors even when a domestic violence homicide has not happened.




**Media agencies implement protocols for reporting on domestic violence.**


Examples include: not using photos of the victim and perpetrator together; not using sensationalized language; highlighting and centering the victim's life; and consistently sharing resource information for survivors, perpetrators, and family/friends, such as the statewide Day One 24-hour crisis line, as well as local domestic violence program resources.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Criminal Legal System

 Training and protocol development for **all personnel within family and juvenile court and child protection to identify domestic violence, understand the context for the violence, and the impact of that violence on children, as well as more effective interventions for specific communities (racial/cultural). This work should be guided by existing resources and expertise.** Based in Minneapolis, the Battered Women's Justice Project has a nationally recognized SAFeR model that goes beyond merely identifying whether domestic violence is present. It is a model that accounts for the context, the impact on children, and provides direction to interveners and courts for appropriate responses. These systems should work together to share necessary information and coordinate strategies.

 Establish a sustainably funded program similar to California's proposed Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems (CRISES) Act [AB 2054], to scale up community-based responses to local emergency situations, including, but not limited to: intimate partner violence; community violence; public health crises; people experiencing homelessness; mental health crises; substance use; natural disasters. **Such a program would create and strengthen alternatives to law enforcement** in response to crisis situations not related to, or that do not require a Fire Department or Emergency Medical Service (EMS) response in communities where there is a history and pattern of racial profiling, law enforcement violence, gaps in law enforcement service, or where vulnerable populations live.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Criminal-Legal System



With research showing high rates of victimization amongst incarcerated populations and the rates of intimate partner homicide victims who have criminal histories in our state, Minnesota’s domestic violence movement will continue to highlight the needs of, and barriers faced by, domestic violence victims who are also justice-involved. Systems partners should continue to explore **the links between victimization and the commission of crime**, using what we know to improve responses to justice-involved and criminalized victims across criminal, civil, and family court systems.






In October 2021, Violence Free Minnesota, Northwest Indian Community Development Center, and Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition made a series of recommendations to the MN Department of Corrections as a result of information gathered from incarcerated Native American women in Minnesota under an Office of Violence Against Women grant. The MNDOC should continue to implement those recommendations and other state agencies and criminal justice system partners should explore what this information and these recommendations mean for their own field. Reforms should be identified and developed collaboratively with Native communities and Native coalitions – Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition (SA), Mending the Sacred Hoop Coalition (DV) - in our state. [See the full report and recommendations here.](#)

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Equity & Racial Justice

-  Processes similar to the Missing and Murdered Task Forces be explored and implemented to **address issues within the LGBTQIA2S+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, two-spirit, plus) communities.** Data on these communities is severely lacking and necessary to better understand the different experiences and needs of victims within this community. Media reports, one of the primary places we gather information, often misidentify or do not include the sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim or perpetrator. Due to a lack of reliable data, we do not have an accurate count or analysis of LGBTQIA2S+ victims in Minnesota.
-  Funding should be **diverted from School Resource Officers (SROs) to hiring trauma support counselors that reflect the schools and communities they work in,** implementing trauma-sensitive culturally specific supports in schools, such as traditional wellness practices, healing ceremonies, and art therapy, and the provision of alternative justice programming.
-  Every agency must provide **accessibility for non-English speakers including, but not limited to, victims, patrons, participants, etc.** Language Access (LAP) plans need to be in place, be regularly updated, and known throughout each agency. The communities directly impacted by the LAP plans should be involved in their development and review.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

## General Legislative Policy



Further investment in Domestic Abuse Transformation Programming (DATP). While the state of Minnesota has made important investments in crisis and advocacy services after violence occurs, it has only made a small, one-time investment in DATP work. We need ongoing robust investment in DATP to end relationship abuse. **The state must also promote culturally responsive programming that transforms behavior, prevents future violence, and increases safety. Only with sustained investment in changing perpetrator behavior will we end domestic violence.**



Rescind the restrictions on the Minnesota Department of Health to gather and analyze firearms data. Focus research on perpetrators' access to firearms, specifically how perpetrators who did not qualify for a firearms license due to a history of domestic violence were able to access firearms.






Screening/assessment tools are guides for collecting information, but should not be the only source of information about the risk an abuser poses to a victim. Nor should any risk assessment tool be used as the sole basis for providing victim access to resources or safety planning. **All victims should be connected to services as soon as possible, and all systems interventions offered to victims must be centered in their lived experiences.** Tools are available for issue-specific assessment. (e.g. assessing access for deaf and hard-of-hearing victims; and assessing lethality for immigrant and LGBTQIA2S+ victims).





# RECOMMENDATIONS




## Healthcare/Prevention

-  Schools, organized sports programming, and after-school programs must **make healthy relationship curriculum standard for all ages**. Many effective prevention strategies and resources are available for working with children, youth, and families. This could include **development of new, and integration of existing, culturally specific relationships curricula such as Indigenous youth models**.
-  Clinics should **partner with local culturally specific domestic violence agencies to incorporate best practices recommendations into their assessment protocols**. Many cultures use different frameworks and terminologies for abuse. In addition, clinics and domestic violence agencies should collaborate on cross-training, case consultation, and the development of clinic and agency policies that support the health and safety needs of survivors, including policies that require patients to be seen alone for some portion of the visit.
-  **Child witnesses to domestic violence and/or domestic violence homicide must have access to robust, trauma-responsive and evidence-based therapeutic services**. Mental health professionals should collaborate with domestic violence advocates to generate partnerships that involve cross-training and consultation; domestic violence shelters and agencies may benefit from bringing mental health professionals on staff to provide services to the non-abusive parent and their children, ranging from individual therapy and family therapy to child support groups.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



## Housing and Economic Justice

-  Support economic empowerment programs that work to build financial capacity. Violence Free Minnesota’s Economic Empowerment program is one such approach. It provides training to direct service advocates who in turn provide financial coaching to victims/survivors. Survivors learn to manage debt, strengthen credit, build income, and increase their overall financial stability.
-  Stronger tenant protection laws must be implemented, and the existing legal protections for survivors that exist under provisions such as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) must be properly enforced and expanded, to ensure that survivors can access and maintain affordable housing and are not discriminated against based on factors arising from relationship abuse.
-  Domestic violence agencies, and the voices of survivors with lived experience of housing instability, must be fully integrated into local houselessness and housing services networks to ensure that housing policies and practices are trauma-informed, and reflect the unique needs of survivors.

# REPORT METHODS

Violence Free Minnesota tracks homicides in which the known or suspected perpetrator was a current or former intimate partner, or in which the homicide is the result of domestic violence between current or former intimate partners. This includes family members, friends, and interveners who are killed as a result of the domestic violence being perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner.

## EXPLANATION OF DATA

For over 30 years, Violence Free Minnesota has produced annual documentation on intimate partner homicides. The information contained within 30 years of reports can be overwhelming in terms of the sheer number of individual deaths that are recorded. However, the reports do not reveal the enormous number of people impacted by those deaths, nor do the reports reflect the hundreds of thousands of individuals who, across these years, have experienced domestic violence and survived.

## REPORT MEASURES

In 1989, Violence Free Minnesota - then known as the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women - began collecting the names of women killed by domestic violence. The report has always recorded the deaths of women killed by current or former boyfriends and husbands. Over time, the report has expanded to include anyone killed due to domestic violence between current or former intimate partners. This includes the homicides between lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender current and former intimate partners, as well as cases of men killed by their current and former intimate partners.

The report also documents the deaths of other family members, friends, neighbors, interveners, and bystanders who are killed due to domestic violence between current or former intimate partners.

Since 1993, the report has included individuals killed as a result of engaging in sex work or being used in prostitution or sex trafficking. These deaths are included because Violence Free Minnesota recognizes people engaging in sex work face violence due to stigma and that sexual exploitation is a system of violence against women and children. These numbers were tracked separately for a number of years but are now included in the general count.

## CURRENT INCLUSION CRITERIA

- The homicide victim and perpetrator were current or former intimate partners, including dating partners; or
- The homicide victim was someone present during, or intervened in, an intimate partner violence incident, including friends, family members, new intimate partners, law enforcement officers or other professionals attempting to assist a victim of intimate partner violence; or
- Children who are killed by a parent's current or former intimate partner where there is sufficient public information that the perpetrator killed the child as an act of abuse against the parent; or
- The perpetrator killed the homicide victim due to perceived or actual rejection of romantic interest; or
- Homicides of sex workers, victims of sex trafficking, and exploitation.

### AND

- If the homicide happened in Minnesota, if the body of the victim was found in Minnesota, or if the body was found in a nearby state but the circumstances surrounding the homicide began in Minnesota.

# METHODS

## REPORT MEASURES (CONTINUED)

We do not include cases where victims of domestic violence have killed an abusive partner in retaliation or self-defense. To make this determination, we examine each case individually, and consider the history of abuse, circumstances of the homicide, and information from family members and friends.

## WHAT THE REPORT DOES NOT MEASURE

The definition of domestic abuse in Minnesota law is broader than the definition that we use for this report. The legal definition of domestic abuse is physical violence or threats of physical violence between a family or household member. This includes violence between any family members or household members, for example: adult child to parent, between cousins, roommates who have no intimate relationship, uncles who kill nieces, and parents who kill children. The Homicide Report focuses on one subsection of that broader definition of domestic abuse; Violence Free Minnesota specifically looks at those killed by current or former intimate partners or as a result of domestic violence between current or former intimate partners.

Why do we limit our definition? While all of these homicides are tragic and there are many similarities, Violence Free Minnesota has expertise in intimate partner abuse. We hope that by limiting this report to the intimate partner definition and looking at those deaths in light of the research that has been done about lethality and risk factors for that specific population, we may find information to help improve our work to end domestic violence.

Violence Free Minnesota also only measures those killed in Minnesota. Sometimes a person from Minnesota is temporarily residing in another state and is killed while living there. That person would not be included in our count. Conversely, someone from Illinois or Wisconsin or New Jersey may be visiting Minnesota and be killed by their intimate partner while in Minnesota. We do include that homicide in our count. The reason we make this distinction is twofold. First, we do not have the capacity to monitor the homicides that occur in other states. Second, we gather the *Intimate Partner Homicide Report* information in part to illuminate systemic gaps experienced by victims in Minnesota and create potential policy and/or service solutions. In recent years, we have also included cases when the victim's body is found in Minnesota or where we have reason to believe the homicide occurred in Minnesota, even if the body was found in a different state.

## WHAT WON'T APPEAR IN THIS REPORT

What you will **NOT** see recommended in this report is a demand for harsher penalties for domestic abuse crimes.

Violence Free Minnesota does not believe the answer to ending intimate partner homicide lies in the creation of new crimes or the enhancement of criminal penalties. Our decades-long investment in the criminal legal system, often perceived as the primary and best response to domestic violence, has not resulted in the clear diminishment of intimate partner homicides over time or a straightforward reduction in domestic violence in our communities.

# METHODS

## WHAT WON'T APPEAR IN THIS REPORT (CONTINUED)

Relationship abuse is alive and well in Minnesota. Violence Free Minnesota's 90+ member programs across the state reported higher rates and more severe forms of violence since the beginning of the pandemic.

There is still much work to do across the state in improving our criminal legal system's response to domestic violence – from improving how victim/survivors are treated at every point in our systems to ensuring consistency and equitable application of our laws across the state and across populations. We are committed to improving these systems for victims/survivors who find themselves navigating those systems and you will find some concrete recommendations for how to do so in this report.

However, there is so much more to be done to end relationship abuse and intimate partner homicides outside of the criminal legal system. Critical work to change the landscape in Minnesota through prevention efforts and transforming the behavior of those who abuse remain massively un- and under-funded.

The development of community-based responses to relationship abuse that can assist victims/survivors without the potential collateral consequences of criminal legal system involvement remain undeveloped and too easily dismissed when our reports show that, on average, approximately 30% of homicide victims in our reports never had any interaction with the criminal legal system for the abuse they experienced.

Lack of affordable housing and economic insecurity – **the biggest barriers to safety, according to victims themselves** – are rampant for our state's most vulnerable and marginalized victim/survivors.

Harsher penalties for convicted domestic abusers will not solve these issues for victims/survivors in Minnesota. We must invest in prevention efforts. We must support the development of community-based alternatives for victims/survivors who want them. We must increase access to financial stability and safe, affordable housing. In doing these things, we increase safety for victims/survivors of relationship abuse, and we work to prevent domestic violence homicides from happening.

## LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

We rely on public information to create this report. In the early days of the report our sole source of information was media reporting. Currently, we identify most cases through media search results that are tracked daily, and then we follow up with local law enforcement agencies or county attorney's offices for more detail. We also look at other sources of information such as public court data, reports issued by medical examiners' offices, and social media. The way we gather information and the amount of data available to us has changed drastically over the years. However, we still struggle with inconsistent and incomplete information due to the discrepancies in the way information is collected and shared across the state.

# METHODS

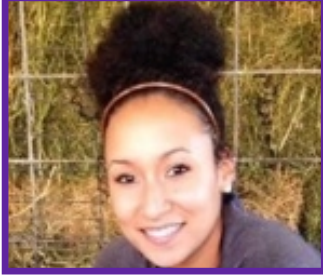
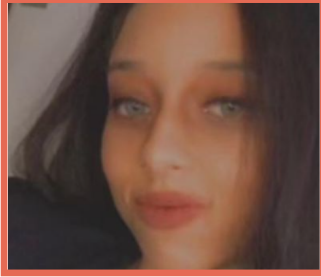
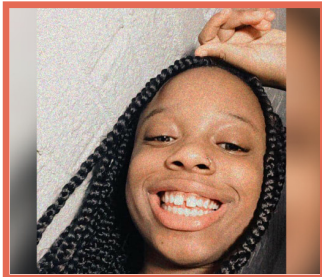
## LIMITATIONS (CONTINUED)

We use the phrase "at least" when describing the number of people killed each year because we cannot be certain we have recorded all domestic violence homicides since we rely on public records - primarily news accounts. In addition, almost every year there are deaths of women that are considered suspicious but the cases are not resolved. No state or federal agency collects comprehensive data on domestic violence homicides. In addition, the murders of women and children of color, Native American people, people who are immigrants and refugees, those living in poverty, people with disabilities, rural women, lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender people, and those who engage in sex work or who are sexually exploited may be under-reported here as they frequently go unreported in mainstream media.

While we record all homicides that are a result of domestic violence between current or former intimate partners, we provide yearly comparison information on a series of factors exclusively concerning murdered women. We limit this analysis to women killed by intimate partners because we are looking at the research that has been done on risk and lethality factors for women in abusive relationships. It may be that men face the same risk and lethality factors in abusive relationships, but to our knowledge, that research has not been done.

The information in Violence Free Minnesota's Homicide Report is a compilation of data gathered from public sources - it is not research. We gather this information to bear witness to those killed, to raise public awareness of domestic violence, and to help inform our policy and service work. One example of this limitation is in regard to tracking the rates of murder-suicides in domestic violence cases. For a number of years, approximately 50 percent of the domestic violence homicides of adult women also involved the perpetrator subsequently completing suicide. This percentage was significantly higher than the homicide-suicide rate reported nationally at 30 to 35 percent. In a three year period lasting through 2015, this percentage showed a significant decrease, dipping as low as 23 percent. The 2016 domestic violence homicides data showed an uptick in murder-suicides again, with 56 percent of the cases falling in that category; however, in 2017, that figure again goes down to 37 percent. What we don't know, and what this report does not address, is why there was such drastic fluctuation in these percentages and what that means. Violence Free Minnesota is not a research agency. We present this information in the hopes of raising questions, opening the door to deeper conversations, and encouraging research agencies to investigate further.





# VICTIM STORIES:

Since its inception, the Intimate Partner Homicide Report has detailed how victims were killed. These descriptions provide insight towards intervention and reflect the horrific nature of relationship abuse. However, we know each victim is so much more than the moment of their death. This year, we were able to gather quotes from friends and family remembering their loved ones. While we were not able to find quotes from loved ones for each of the 26 victims in 2021, they are all remembered and held in our hearts.

## D'ZONDRIA DEANTERNETTE WALLACE



January 30, 2021  
Age 30

*"D'Zondria was beautiful, outgoing, full of life that wanted the best for her children."*

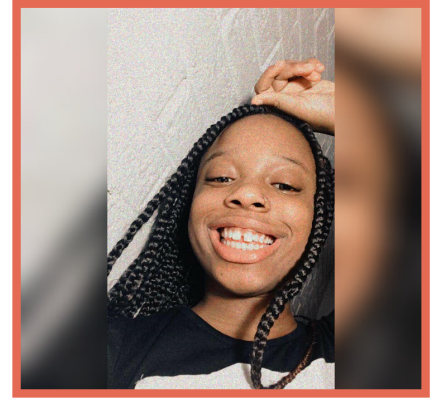
## JA'CORBIE RASHAD WALLACE



January 30, 2021  
Age 11

*"Ja'Corbie loved playing basketball like his sister, [La'Porsha]. They always planned games against each other and cheered for each other."*

## LA'PORSHA NASHAY WALLACE



January 30, 2021  
Age 14

TeKeith Jones, 26, shot and killed his ex-girlfriend D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace, 30, her 14 year-old daughter, La'Porsha Nashay, and her 11 year-old son, Ja'Corbie Rashad, in their St. Paul home on January 30. Prior to the shooting, one of D'Zondria's relatives called police and requested a welfare check. Police arrived around an hour before the murders and spoke to directly to D'Zondria, who told officers she was "OK." Family members arrived at the home, and found D'Zondria and La'Porsha dead. Ja'Corbie was still alive and told police that "Keith" had shot them. Ja'Corbie later died from his wounds at a hospital.

D'Zondria was trying to leave her relationship with Jones due to his abusive behavior. In the past, friends witnessed Jones threatening D'Zondria's life and family members said Jones would often show up at D'Zondria's home unannounced. In December, Jones broke into D'Zondria's home through a window and assaulted her. The following morning, he fired his gun at D'Zondria. While in custody, TeKeith Jones told police he killed La'Porsha and Ja'Corbie because their mother was "playing mind games and corrupting the kids." D'Zondria Deanternette Wallace was two months pregnant when she was killed. TeKeith Jones pled guilty to three counts of second-degree murder and was sentenced to 72 years in prison.



## JIMMY TODD WILEMON



**February 1, 2021**  
**Age 58**

Jimmy Todd Wilemon, 58, was shot and killed by David Peterson, 49, at their workplace in Mahtomedi on February 1. Jimmy was in a relationship with Peterson's wife and moved to Blaine from Mississippi last year to be closer to her, while also working at the trucking company she co-owned with Peterson. On the morning of February 1, Jimmy was filling his truck with gas at a station located on the trucking company property when Peterson shot him in the back of the head. Peterson then shot himself and completed suicide. Peterson's wife filed for divorce on January 26. Jimmy Todd Wilemon leaves behind two daughters and three stepchildren.

*"[Jimmy] loved riding motorcycles, gardening, camping and going hiking."*

Jeanine Greyblood, 37, was strangled and killed by her husband Jonathan Greyblood, 30, in Little Falls, on or about February 7. Jeanine and Jonathan were last seen together at a friend's house on February 6 and were involved in an argument as they left. Jonathan returned to the friend's house in the early morning hours of February 7 with scratches on his face. He claimed Jeanine attacked him and then asked him to drop her off at a park, even though she had no coat or purse with her. Shortly afterward, Jonathan said he went back to the park but could not find Jeanine. She was reported missing, but police found her body on the afternoon of February 7 under an overpass in Little Falls. Jeanine Greyblood leaves behind five children. Jonathan later admitted to strangling Jeanine to death, was convicted of second-degree murder, and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

*"[Jeanine] was a great person who'll be missed by everyone who knew her."*

## LACY JO MARIE KRUBE



**February 21, 2021**  
**Age 36**

Lacy Jo Marie Krube, 36, was found dead on February 21 in her St. Paul home. Following a call of an overdose to Lacy's home on February 21, police officers determined that Lacy had been severely beaten by her boyfriend, Timothy Heller, 42, in Brooklyn Park the night before. A medical examiner found the injuries sustained resulted in her death and was ruled a homicide. Heller has 11 previous convictions for qualified related domestic violence offenses, dating back to 1997. He also had five other domestic assault charges that were dropped. Lacy Jo Marie Krube leaves behind at least one minor child. Timothy Heller is charged with second-degree murder.

*"We remember Lacy Jo Marie Krube."*

## JEANINE GREYBLOOD



**February 7, 2021**  
**Age 37**

## REGINA THERESA HUGHES

Regina Theresa Hughes, 46, was shot and killed by her boyfriend, Christopher Powers, 47, who then killed himself, in their Rockford home on March 19. Police responded to a call about a car running in the driveway of the home and found the two bodies inside when they arrived.

*"[Regina] was a gold standard mother while supporting their dreams and aspirations throughout the years."*



**March 19, 2021  
Age 46**

## BAO YANG



**March 20, 2021  
Age 39**

On Saturday morning, Bao Yang, 39, was shot and killed by her ex-boyfriend, Doua Por Lao, 39, outside of her St. Paul home. Neighbors reported to police they heard two gunshots before seeing the bodies of Lao and Bao outside her home. When officers arrived, Lao was pronounced dead at the scene, and Bao was taken to a hospital where she died from her injuries. It is believed Lao killed her before he shot and killed himself. Bao Yang leaves behind one minor and one adult child.

*"[Bao] was a very caring person. She was always smiling and always laughing. She was so full of life."*

## NIKKIYIA SWANTAY ROBINSON

Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson, 38, was stabbed and killed by Jerome Woodland, 53, in her Minneapolis home on April 7. First responders answered a call for medical assistance at Nikkiyia's home, and found her dead when they arrived. According to her family, Nikkiyia had dated Woodland "on-and-off" for a couple of years. Nikkiyia Swantay Robinson leaves behind four children, three of whom are minors. Jerome Woodland is charged with second-degree murder.

*"Nikkiyia was the life of the party, so free spirited she was loved by so many."*



**April 7, 2021  
Age 38**

## KRISTEN ANN BICKING



**May 12, 2021**  
**Age 32**

Kristen Ann Bicking, 32, was stabbed and killed by her ex-boyfriend, Derek Malevich, 40, in his Virginia apartment on May 12. Malevich claimed he entered his apartment, saw two intruders, and grabbed a knife before stabbing one of them. Police found no evidence of these claims and upon arrival located Kristen on Malevich's couch with multiple stab wounds. She was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital shortly afterward. Malevich was set to plead guilty on May 17 for assaulting Kristen in September 2020. During that incident, Malevich threw Kristen against a wall, punched her several times, and threatened to kill her while strangling her. Subsequently, a restraining order and a domestic abuse no contact order (DANCO) were both filed against him. Derek Malevich was indicted on two counts of first-degree murder.

*"[Kristen] was a beautiful soul who gave big, warm hugs and enjoyed being in nature."*

Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek, 36, was strangled by her boyfriend, Kyle Steven Williams, 32, in Hastings and died on May 23. She was last seen by her mother on May 18, at a Hastings hotel where she was staying with Williams while she waited for entry into addiction treatment. Shortly after Kelly's mother left the hotel that day, she received a call from Williams stating Kelly was not breathing. Williams then called 911, and when police arrived they found Kelly unresponsive with blood, bruises, and swelling on her face, and markings on her neck. Several cut cords were also found next to her body. Williams told officers Kelly strangled herself, but the medical examiner determined her death to be homicide from strangulation. A hotel worker said he heard loud noises coming from Kelly's room that day, and what sounded like fighting. The worker then heard a man yelling "Kelly!" before Williams exited the room with blood on him. Kelly was taken to a hospital in St. Paul and, according to her mother, had a broken nose, black eye, bruising to her mouth, and what appeared to be stab wounds. Kelly spent five days in the hospital before she died on May 23. A few weeks prior to her death, Kelly's mother picked her up after she was beaten by Williams. Her mother believed Williams was dangerous and did not want him at the hotel where Kelly was staying. Williams has multiple domestic abuse charges in his past. While there were no initial charges for Kelly's death, Kyle Steven Williams was eventually arrested in Arizona on August 26 and charged with second-degree murder, though he was later found incompetent to stand trial. Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek is survived by her two daughters.

## KELLY JO MARIE KOCUREK



**May 23, 2021**  
**Age 36**

*"[Kelly] had an irresistible laugh and brought joy to so many lives."*



## NADA RENE MONIQUE FRONK

Nada Rene Monique Fronk, Aakwaadizi Nishkaadizshkiwn ikwe, 24, was shot and killed by her boyfriend, Cordell Page Jr., 23, on May 26, in Brooklyn Park. Page killed himself after shooting Nada multiple times. Police were called to an apartment building for reports of gunshots, and upon arrival, they found the apartment door barricaded shut. Once officers were able to eventually enter the apartment, they found the bodies of Nada and Page. In 2017, Cordell Page Jr. was charged for domestic assault and violation of a domestic abuse no contact order (DANCO).

*"Nada's Native name, meaning 'she is a fierce, passionate woman,' was most fitting of her."*



May 26, 2021  
Age 24

## LAURI ANNE DEATHERAGE



June 18, 2021  
Age 48

Lauri Anne Deatherage, 48, was shot and killed by her ex-husband, Robert McCloud, 64, inside her Robbinsdale home on June 18. Police responded to a welfare check at the house on the morning of June 18, and found Lauri's body. Robert was then located at his Brooklyn Center home where he engaged in a 10-hour standoff with police until surrendering. Robert purchased a gun on the day he killed his ex-wife. Lauri Deatherage, who was classified as a medically retired disabled veteran, had gotten married on June 13, days before she was killed. Robert McCloud was charged with second-degree murder and later indicted for first-degree murder. All charges were dismissed in April 2022, after Robert died before the case went to trial.

*"Lauri was loved by literally hundreds and hundreds of people and she touched so many lives in so many positive ways."*

Cortney Grace Henry, 29, was shot and killed by her ex-boyfriend, Atravius Weeks, 32, outside of a Lakeville daycare on June 22. An ex-girlfriend of Weeks called 911 early on the morning of June 22, to report Weeks violating an Order for Protection and pounding on the walls outside of her Belle Plaine apartment. She told 911 dispatchers that Weeks had a gun and she feared he would kill her if he entered the apartment. When officers arrived, they learned that Weeks fled on foot, and located his vehicle with a spent bullet casing and blood inside. Police were eventually able to contact Weeks by phone, and he agreed to return to the apartment complex. When he arrived, he was covered in blood and told officers he killed Cortney outside of a Lakeville daycare facility after shooting her seven times. Cortney had ended her relationship with Weeks on June 16, just days before he shot and killed her. Cortney Grace Henry leaves behind three minor children. Atravius Weeks was convicted of two counts of first-degree murder, and one count of second-degree murder. He was sentenced to life without parole.

*"Cortney was a wonderful mother, daughter, and sister who was loved by all."*

## CORTNEY GRACE HENRY



June 22, 2021  
Age 29

## SHA'VON N. PHILLIPS



June 25, 2021  
Age 42

Sha'Von N. Phillips, 42, was stabbed and killed by her husband, McKinley Phillips, 39, in their Woodbury home on June 25. McKinley beat and stabbed Sha'Von in the basement while her six children watched a movie upstairs. McKinley then took a bus and fled the state, planning to go to Chicago and then on to New York. He was eventually located and arrested in Wisconsin on June 26, wearing clothing covered in blood. He later told police he killed Sha'Von because he believed she was cheating on him. Officers had been called to the Woodbury home three times over the last two months for domestic-related incidents. McKinley Phillips was convicted of one count of first-degree murder, and one count of second-degree murder. He was sentenced to life in prison.

*"We remember Sha'Von N. Phillips."*

Lisette Reinbold was stabbed and killed by her husband, Eric Reinbold, 44, on July 9 in Oklee. In 2016, Eric pled guilty for an incident the year prior where he repeatedly rammed his truck into a car that had Lisette and their children inside while he was armed with a handgun. In 2018, a federal grand jury found Eric guilty of possessing pipe bombs. During a search of his cabin at that time, police found manuals on how to make pipe bombs and a notebook on how to "start the second American Revolution and Win." He was sentenced to five years in prison for this, but was granted a "compassionate care" release in March of this year. Lisette Reinbold leaves behind her four minor children. After a monthlong manhunt, Eric Reinbold was arrested in August 2021, and was charged with two counts of second-degree murder.

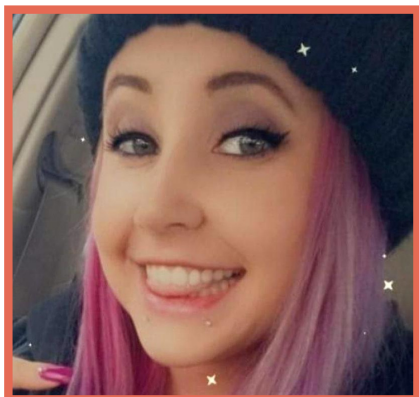
*"[Lisette] was a strong, independent woman who dedicated her entire life for her kids."*

## LISSETTE REINBOLD



July 9, 2021  
Age 34

## AMANDA SCHROEDER



July 19, 2021  
Age 32

Amanda "Mandi" Schroeder, 32, was shot and killed by her boyfriend, Brandon Akermark, 27, in her Faribault home on July 19. Akermark then shot and killed himself. Amanda called 911 the night she was killed to report that Akermark was drinking, throwing things inside the home, and that she was unable to leave. She told the 911 dispatcher that Akermark had two guns inside the home, and that he might fight or flee when police arrived. The dispatcher then heard Amanda scream and was disconnected with the call. Multiple calls back to the residence were attempted with no answer. When police arrived at the home, they found Amanda and Akermark's bodies, and both were declared dead at the scene. Amanda was shot multiple times, and Akermark had a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

*"[Amanda] was all about jokes, having fun, being colorful, enjoy being around her cats, making her life goals, and making people laugh."*

## AMERICA MAFALDA THAYER

America Mafalda Thayer, 55, was killed by her boyfriend, Alexis Saborit, 42, in Shakopee on July 28. Saborit stabbed and decapitated America on the afternoon of the 28th. Police were called to an intersection in Shakopee where they found America's body. Witnesses reportedly took videos of the incident which were posted to social media for a short time before they were removed. Saborit was quickly apprehended and told police America had "gone too far," when she tried to break up. He killed her minutes after she attempted to end their relationship. Saborit has a history of abusing America and was convicted of gross misdemeanor domestic assault in 2017. When police responded to that assault, Saborit pushed America to the ground in front of officers and forcefully put his hand over her mouth in an attempt to prevent her from speaking to police. Alexis Saborit is charged with second-degree murder, and indicted by a grand jury for first-degree murder. America Mafalda Thayer moved to Minnesota from Cuba and leaves behind a son.



July 28, 2021  
Age 55

*"[America] was so kind-hearted and down to earth. She was a loving person."*

## AMANDA JO VANGRINSVEN



August 5, 2021  
Age 32

Amanda Jo Vangrinsven, 32, was shot and killed by Richard Peterson, 37, on or about August 5, in Isanti County. On the evening of August 5, Amanda and Peterson were seen at two different bars displaying "affectionate behavior" and holding hands. Peterson offered to drive Amanda home but her cell phone location data indicated he took her to his home instead. According to bar staff and surveillance footage, the two became noticeably less friendly and affectionate before they left. Amanda was not seen after she left with Peterson, who is married. After Peterson was last seen with Amanda on August 5, his wife stated he came home upset and pointed a gun at his head and threatened to harm himself. The following day, Peterson's wife saw him using a tractor to dig holes and push dirt around on their property. That same day, he also gave two of his guns to a friend, both of which had barrels that matched the bullet used to kill Amanda. After multiple search warrants were issued, Amanda's remains were found on Peterson's property on August 10. Richard Peterson is charged with second-degree murder and interference with a dead body or scene of death.

*"Family was important to [Amanda], she was a 'mama hen' and was always there for anyone."*



## **ERIC ALLAN GAULKE**



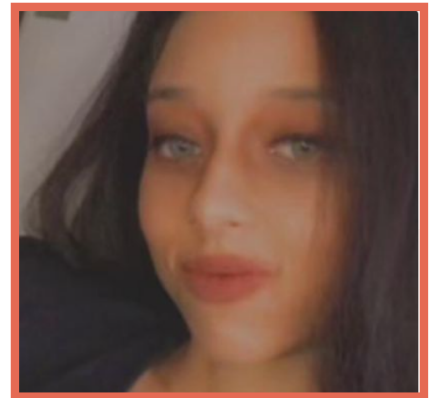
**September 15, 2021**  
**Age 43**

Eric Allan Gaulke, 43, was stabbed by Sean Emmons, 38, in Winona on September 11, and died from his injuries on September 15. Emmons broke into Eric's apartment on the 11th, and saw Eric in bed with Emmons' girlfriend. Emmons punched Eric in the face to wake him up before the two began fighting. During this fight, Emmons stabbed Eric in the leg and eventually, Eric was able to force Emmons out of his home. Eric's friends urged him to contact law enforcement after the stabbing, but he stated he was too scared to do so. Friends attempted to tend to the wound over the next two days, but Eric's condition grew worse and he was hospitalized on September 13. Sean Emmons pled guilty to second-degree murder and was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

*"Not only [was Eric] kind, but [he was] an authentic and a genuinely nice guy."*

Samantha Samih Farah, 24, was stabbed and killed by her boyfriend Nasri Abdilahi, 23, in their Bloomington apartment on September 27. Neighbors reported hearing a woman screaming that night, and a witness later saw Abdilahi dragging Samantha's body to a dumpster. When police arrived at the scene, they found Samantha's body in the dumpster with signs of "significant trauma." They followed a trail of blood from the dumpster to the apartment Samantha shared with Abdilahi, where a knife was discovered in a pool of blood. Officers then witnessed Abdilahi flee in his car before leading them on a chase for five miles. When Abdilahi was apprehended, he was covered in blood and the one-year-old child he shared with Samantha was found in the vehicle. Family members of Abdilahi told police that he suffered from "mental health issues." According to Samantha's family, she moved to Minnesota last year from Michigan with her daughter to be closer to Abdilahi. Samantha Samih Farah leaves behind her one-year-old daughter. Nasri Abdilahi is charged with second-degree murder and fleeing police in a motor vehicle.

## **SAMANTHA SAMIH FARAH**



**September 27, 2021**  
**Age 24**

*"Samantha was a loving and devoted mother to her beautiful one year old daughter, Aliyah. Being a mother was her life's greatest joy."*

## CAITLIN KELLEY ALDRIDGE

Caitlin Kelley Aldridge, 41, was shot and killed by her husband, Johnny Aldridge, 46, in their St. Paul home on September 28. Johnny called 911 early that morning from the parking lot of the Ramsey County Law Enforcement Center and turned himself in for shooting Caitlin. When officers arrived at the home, they found Caitlin dead and Johnny's 13-year-old daughter, who had slept through the shooting. Johnny, who has PTSD, told police he believed people were trying to harm his daughter. In July, Johnny called 911 twice in the same day. In one instance, the operator indicated he was possibly a "person in crisis," also known as someone having a mental health emergency. Johnny Aldridge is charged with second-degree murder. Caitlin leaves behind one daughter.



September 28, 2021  
Age 41

*"Caitlin's dedication showed up in her professional life in her commitment to strengthening our community and eliminating oppression through out of school time youth programs."*

## BETHANY ANNE BERNATSKY



October 7, 2021  
Age 46

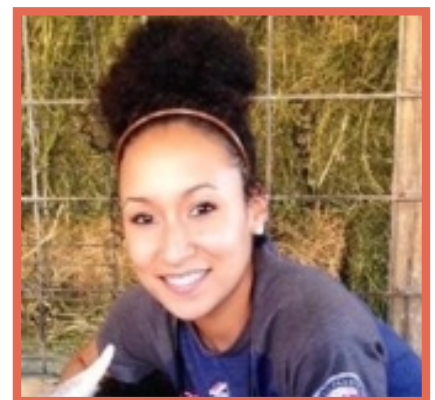
Bethany Anne Bernatsky, 46, was shot and killed by Cameron Moser, 29, near Nisswa on October 7. That night, police responded to 911 calls of several gunshots near a cabin at the Cozy Bay Resort. When they arrived, officers located Moser, who was carrying a rifle and a handgun, and negotiated with him for around 90 minutes before he was apprehended unharmed. Moser used to date the daughter of the resort's previous owners and was seen nearby the week before asking about her. The woman's family say that Moser intended to kill his ex-girlfriend that night. Cameron Moser is charged with the second-degree murder, and indicted on two counts of first-degree murder.

*"At any time, any place, in any moment, [Bethany] would always be willing to help anybody."*

Marquisha "Kiki" Doris Wiley, 26, was shot and killed in St. Paul on October 10. Marquisha was at the Seventh Street Truck Park bar shortly after midnight, when Devondre Phillips, 29, and Terry Brown, 33, began shooting at each other. Brown was recently accused of assaulting his girlfriend, a relative of Phillips. When Phillips arrived at the St. Paul bar, he shot a man who was with Brown, and then shot at Brown. The other man and Brown returned gunfire, hitting and killing Marquisha. Fourteen other people were injured during the shooting in the crowded bar. Brown and Phillips both remain in the hospital from gunshot wounds. Devondre Phillips is charged with 12 counts of second-degree attempted murder, and Terry Brown with 11 counts of attempted murder and one count of second-degree murder.

*"You could have the worst day ever and all of a sudden [Marquisha] just walks in the room and... she just makes you happy."*

## MARQUISHA DORIS WILEY



October 10, 2021  
Age 26



## **SAMANTHA ROSE COLUMBUS- BOSHEY**



**November 2, 2021  
Age 29**

Samantha "Sosa" Rose Columbus-Boshey, 29, was shot and killed by her husband, Ryan Rooney, 32, in their Eden Prairie hotel room on November 2. Samantha and Rooney, who got married in August, had an extended stay at the hotel, but were supposed to check out on October 31. Police performed a welfare check two days later and found Samantha's body, Rooney with a self-inflicted gunshot wound, and Samantha's two young children in the room. Officers were called to the hotel a few weeks prior on reports of a man waving a gun around in the parking lot. Though the caller was anonymous, the phone number was traced back to Samantha. Rooney has three domestic assault convictions, at least three dismissals, and one conviction for felony violation of a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (DANCO). He is charged with second-degree murder and child endangerment. Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey leaves behind three young children.

*"[Samantha] was a bright and beautiful indigenous woman, who was never without a smile and was always ready to crack a joke."*

Tracy Ellen Julian, 62, was shot and killed by her husband, Raymond Julian, 65, in their Kalevala Township home on December 10. Police responded to the home on a welfare check after being contacted by someone who received an email from Raymond stating he planned to kill Tracy. When officers arrived, Raymond told them Tracy was in bed ill and that he would rather they not check on her. After further conversation, Raymond admitted to killing Tracy. Raymond then made statements about hurting himself and was taken to a hospital prior to being charged with second-degree murder.

*"We remember Tracy Ellen Julian"*

## **TRACY ELLEN JULIAN**



**December 10, 2021  
Age 62**

## ***Retroactive We Remembers: Tyesha Gills and Roland Chalmous Hopewell***

Violence Free Minnesota relies heavily on media reporting as the primary source for our intimate partner Homicide Reports.

While we do our best to track and confirm homicides as they arise, sometimes we do not have enough information at the time of the homicide to determine whether the death meets our report criteria. Often this is because of a lack of details in the media, a lengthy legal process, and/or our limited access to other sources of information.

**In this case, as of today, August 10, 2024, we are releasing a retroactive We Remember for Tyesha Gills, who was killed in 2021. Her name is included in the list of victims and total number of victims, but her case is not reflected in the rest of the report.** At the time she was killed, we did not have access to information about her relationship to the man who killed her. His trial ended in February 2024 and he was sentenced in May 2024, at which point we were able to access court documents that confirmed Tyesha had been dating him when he killed her.

**In addition, as of December 20, 2024, we are releasing a retroactive We Remember for Roland Chalmous Hopewell, who was killed in 2021. His name is included in the list of victims and total number of victims, but his case is not reflected in the rest of the report.** At the time of his death, we did not have access to media articles about it.

We believe all victims of intimate partner homicide in Minnesota deserve recognition and to be memorialized. We now remember the 28 known victims of intimate partner homicide in Minnesota in 2021.

Roland Chalmous Hopewell, 36, was shot and killed in Minneapolis in 2021. Myshun S.C. Logan, 38, was charged with second-degree murder in 2021 and in December 2024 agreed to plead guilty. Roland was in a relationship with Logan's ex-girlfriend. Roland's girlfriend was pregnant with Roland's child at the time of the shooting. Roland's girlfriend told police that Logan found them outside a shop in Minneapolis as they were leaving, and began arguing with them before shooting Roland at close range. She also told police that Logan had assaulted Roland two weeks prior and had threatened to kill them both. Roland Chalmous Hopewell, 36, leaves behind at least two children. Roland was described as the "funniest guy I knew, great personality," "Funny and loved to laugh," and a dedicated worker.

*Roland was described as the "funniest guy I knew, great personality," "Funny and loved to laugh," and a dedicated worker.*

### **TYESHA GILLS**

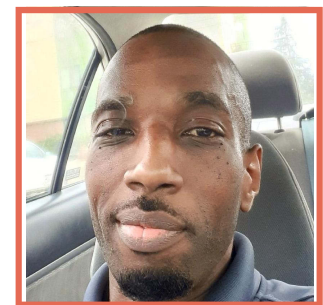


**July 31, 2021  
Age 20**

Tyesha Gills, 20, was shot and killed in Austin on July 31, 2021. Me'darian Mcgruder was convicted of second-degree murder in February 2024 for killing Tyesha. The two had begun dating several weeks before he killed her. Officers were called the morning of July 31, 2021 to the home Tyesha shared with a family member, where they found her dead of a gunshot wound to the chest. The family member stated that while they, Tyesha, and Mcgruder were hanging out in the home, Mcgruder had twice threatened to shoot Tyesha before doing so, at one point also getting out his gun and chambering it. Mcgruder has a documented history of domestic violence against a previous partner and was prohibited from possessing a firearm when he killed Tyesha.

*"Tyesha was on a road to building her own business in the hair salon industry."*

### **ROLAND CHALMOUS HOPEWELL**



**September 25,  
2021  
Age 36**



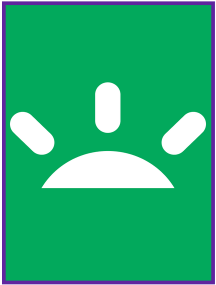
# **WE REMEMBER: MEMORY KEEPING**

Memory keeping is an essential practice to address and respond to intimate partner homicide and domestic violence. We grieve the devastating losses, while also uplifting that victims are not defined by their deaths, but rather by their lives and stories. Through memorializing the mothers, sons, children, friends, coworkers, and neighbors named in this report, we strive to keep their memories alive. They were nurses, caregivers, grandparents, students, teachers, and cousins, who brought joy, wisdom, and laughter to their loved ones. Their lives were cut far too short, but they touched so many other lives and, in some cases, saved them.

As we share these victims' stories and the statements and memory keeping rituals of their loved ones, we must not forget our communities' capacities for healing and resilience. Healing is a process rather than a singular event, and it is not always linear. But it is possible, and we bear witness to the public awareness and peacekeeping efforts made by the families, friends, neighbors, and coworkers of those who have confronted grief and loss, as we look forward to a violence free Minnesota.

# WE REMEMBER: MEMORY KEEPING

## Memorials



### GoFundMe Fundraisers for Victims:

Friends and families who lost loved ones to intimate partner homicide in 2021 used the crowdfunding platform GoFundMe to raise over **\$145,000** in total for the victims' children and any funeral expenses. The employees at Seventh Street Truck Park bar, where Marquisha Doris Wiley was publicly killed, personally donated \$700 to her fundraiser.



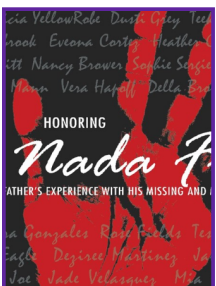
### Jeanine Greyblood:

Several businesses in the Little Falls area, where Jeanine Greyblood lived and was killed, hosted events in 2021 where some or all of the profits went to Jeanine's surviving children and family. The Falls Ballroom venue and event center held a silent auction, bake sale, and fundraiser. The Royal restaurant held a fish fry in which all proceeds went to Jeanine's family. The Rustic Saloon held a dart tournament, and donated 50% of entry fees to the family. Several other businesses in the area set up donation jars in their establishments, too.



### Kristen Ann Bicking:

Violence Free Minnesota member program, Advocates for Family Peace, and Kristen's family, organized the "Kristen Bicking Memorial Vigil to End Domestic Violence" in June 2021, in Virginia, Minnesota. A second memorial was held in May 2022.



### Nada Rene Monique Fronk:

"Honoring Nada Fronk: A Father's Experience with His Missing and Murdered Indigenous Daughter" was organized by Nada's father, Monte Fronk, to discuss the beautiful and painful experiences of his daughter's powerful and short life. Gender violence advocates were present at the event for support.

# WE REMEMBER: MEMORY KEEPING

## Memorials



### America Mafalda Thayer:

In July 2021, a memorial was held at the intersection where America was publicly killed to honor her life. Flowers and signs remembering America were placed at the intersection. America's son, Charles, organized a paintball fundraiser in October 2021, for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Proceeds from the fundraiser went to Violence Free Minnesota member program, Women's Advocates, and the program Maria's Voice, which was started in 2020 to honor Maria Fernanda Elizabeth Pew, who was a victim of intimate partner homicide in Maple Grove in May of that year.



### Amanda Jo Vangrinsven:

In August, 2021, friends, family, and community members held a candlelight vigil in Isanti to remember and honor Amanda Jo Vangrinsven. Attendees wrote messages on paper bags that were turned into luminaries to light a path at a nearby park.



### Marquisha Doris Wiley:

Friends and family held a vigil to honor and remember Marquisha Doris Wiley in St. Paul in October 2021. Community leaders at the vigil called for an end to gun violence.



## WE REMEMBER

January 30, 2021: D'Zondria Deanernette Wallace, 30, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
January 30, 2021: La'Porsha Nashay Wallace, 14, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
January 30, 2021: Ja'Corbie Rashad Wallace, 11, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
February 1, 2021: Jimmy Todd Wilemon, 58, died as a result of gunshot in Mahtomedi  
February 7, 2021: Jeanine Greyblood, 37, died as a result of strangulation in Little Falls  
February 21, 2021: Lacy Jo Marie Krube, 36, died as a result of beating in St. Paul  
March 19, 2021: Regina Theresa Hughes, 46, died as a result of gunshot in Rockford  
March 20, 2021: Bao Yang, 39, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
April 7, 2021: Nikkiya Swantay Robinson, 38, died as a result of stabbing in Minneapolis  
May 12, 2021: Kristen Ann Bicking, 32, died as a result of stabbing in Virginia  
May 23, 2021: Kelly Jo Marie Kocurek, 36, died as a result of strangulation in Hastings  
May 26, 2021: Nada Rene Monique Fronk, 24, died as a result of gunshot in Brooklyn Park  
June 18, 2021: Lauri Anne Deatherage, 48, died as a result of gunshot in Robbinsdale  
June 22, 2021: Cortney Grace Henry, 29, died as a result of gunshot in Lakeville  
June 25, 2021: Sha'Von N. Phillips, 42, died as a result of stabbing in Woodbury  
July 9, 2021: Lissette Reinbold, 34, died as a result of stabbing in Oklee  
July 19, 2021: Amanda Schroeder, 32, died as a result of gunshot in Faribault  
July 28, 2021: America Mafalda Thayer, 55, died as a result of stabbing in Shakopee  
July 31, 2021: TyEsha Gills, 20, died as a result of gunshot in Austin  
August 5, 2021: Amanda Jo Vangrinsven, 32, died as a result of gunshot in Isanti County  
September 15, 2021: Eric Allan Gaulke, 43, died as a result of stabbing in Winona  
September 25, 2021: Roland Chalmous Hopewell, 36, died as a result of gunshot in Minneapolis  
September 27, 2021: Samantha Samih Farah, 24, died as a result of stabbing in Bloomington  
September 28, 2021: Caitlin Kelley Aldridge, 41, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
October 7, 2021: Bethany Anne Bernatsky, 46, died as a result of gunshot in Nisswa  
October 10, 2021: Marquisha Doris Wiley, 26, died as a result of gunshot in St. Paul  
November 2, 2021: Samantha Rose Columbus-Boshey, 29, died as a result of gunshot in Eden Prairie  
December 10, 2021: Tracy Ellen Julian, 62, died as a result of gunshot in Kalevala Township





# **VIOLENCE FREE** **MINNESOTA**

THE COALITION TO END RELATIONSHIP ABUSE

## **ABOUT**

Founded in 1978, Violence Free Minnesota is a statewide coalition of over 90 member programs working to end relationship abuse. Violence Free Minnesota strives to end relationship abuse by taking strategic action in partnership with the power of survivors and member programs across the state. As Minnesota's state domestic violence coalition, we shape public policy, raise public awareness, and build the capacity of community-based programs to address the needs of survivors of relationship violence and advocate on their behalf.

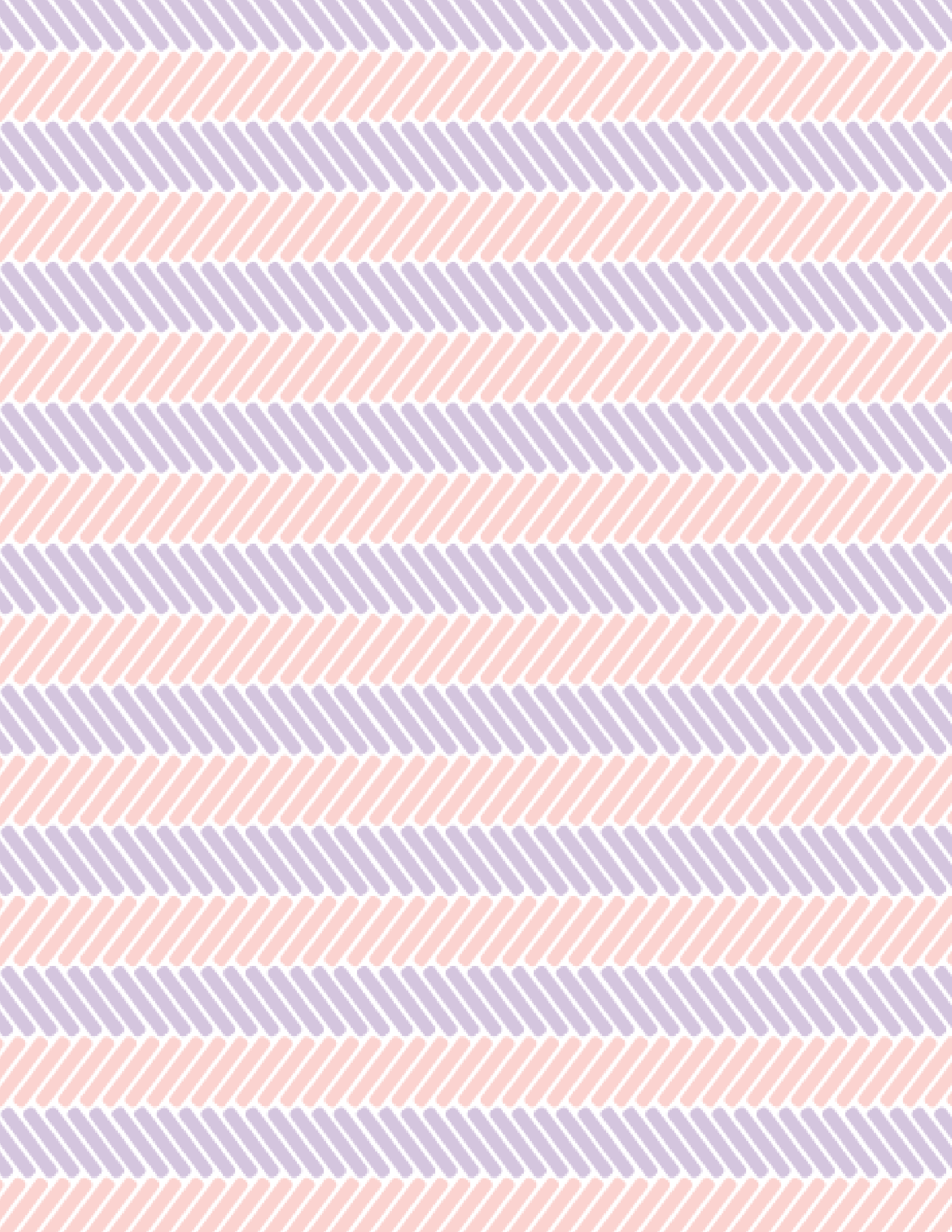
We ask Violence Free Minnesota be credited when information from this report is used.

## **OUR MISSION**

- Represent relationship abuse victim/survivors and member programs;
- Challenge systems and institutions;
- Promote social change;
- And support, educate, and connect member programs.

## **OUR VISION**

To end relationship abuse, create safety, and achieve social justice for all.





# VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA

THE COALITION TO END RELATIONSHIP ABUSE

**If you are a victim experiencing abuse,  
contact Day One at **866.223.1111** to connect with services.**

Violence Free Minnesota  
60 East Plato Boulevard, Suite 230  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107  
Ph. 651.646.6177  
[www.violencefreeminnesota.org](http://www.violencefreeminnesota.org)

A MEMBER OF



MINNESOTA