



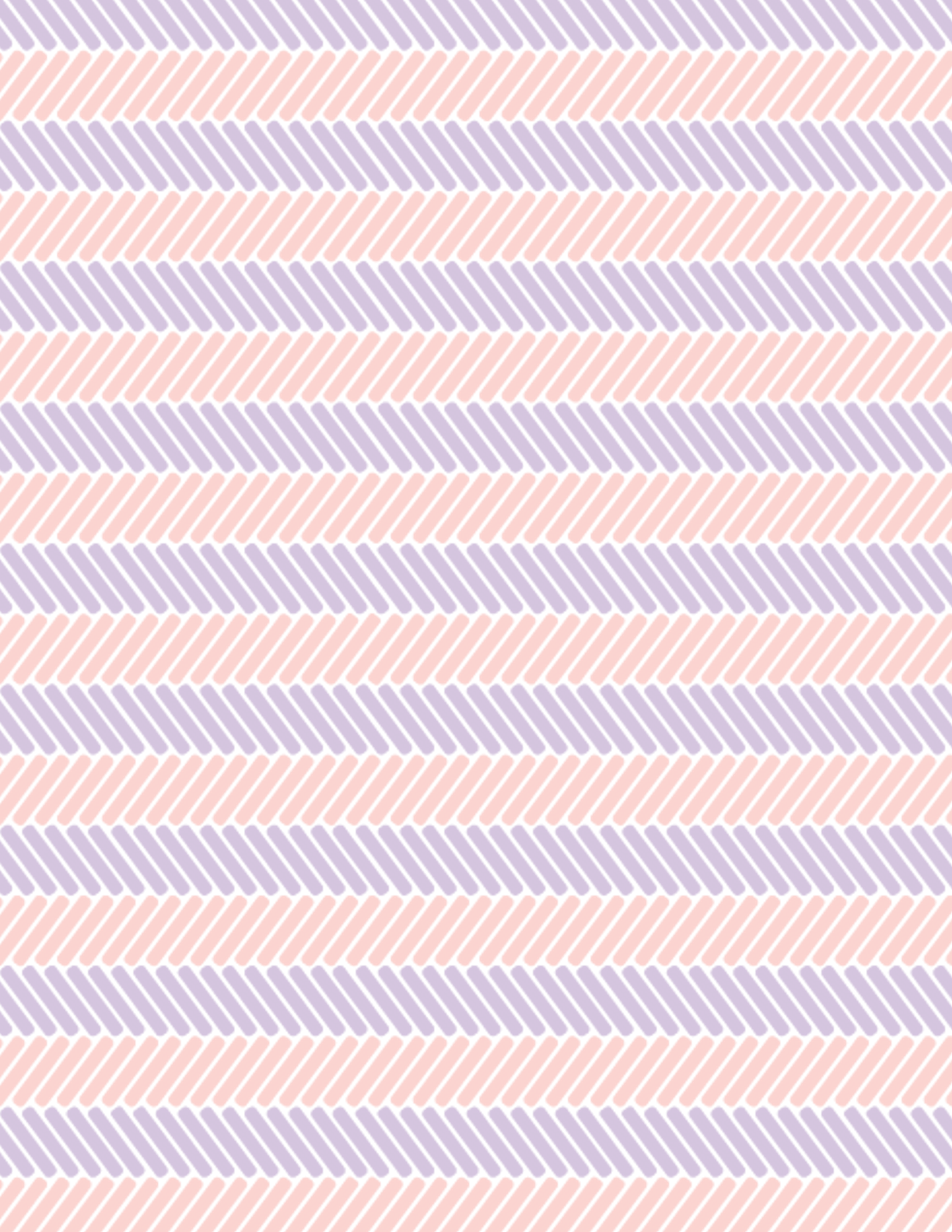
# **VIOLENCE FREE** **MINNESOTA**

THE COALITION TO END RELATIONSHIP ABUSE

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE  
IN MINNESOTA: A RETROSPECTIVE

**30 YEARS**

1989 - 2018





2	FOREWORD
3	REPORT METHODS
6	KEY HOMICIDE STATISTICS: 1989 - 2018
10	POWER AND CONTROL
12	LETHALITY FACTORS
14	• ATTEMPTS TO LEAVE
15	• THREATS TO KILL
17	• ACCESS TO FIREARMS
19	• HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
21	• PREGNANCY
22	• STRANGULATION
23	MURDER-SUICIDE
25	CHILDREN
26	• CHILDREN: WITNESSED
27	• CHILDREN: MURDERED ALONGSIDE
28	• CHILDREN: MURDERED TO CONTROL
29	IDENTITY AND EQUITY
30	• RACIAL DISPARITY: NATIVE WOMEN
31	• LGBTQ+
32	• DISABILITY
33	• YOUTH
34	• SENIORS/OVER 50
35	BARRIERS TO SAFETY
36	• ECONOMIC INSTABILITY
37	• CRIMINALIZATION OF VICTIM
38	• CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
39	• PERPETRATOR HISTORY: FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT
40	COMMUNITY IMPACT
41	• PUBLIC HOMICIDE
42	• BYSTANDERS: LAW ENFORCEMENT
43	• BYSTANDERS AND INTERVENERS
44	RECOMMENDATIONS
45	• DATA COLLECTION
49	• RESEARCH
51	• POINTS FOR INTERVENTION
54	• FUNDING
56	• POLICY AND PRACTICE
58	• PREVENTION
59	• PROTECTING CHILDREN
61	• ECONOMIC SECURITY
62	• LAW ENFORCEMENT
63	• MEDIA
64	• CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
66	WE REMEMBER: STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING
73	WE REMEMBER: MINNESOTA'S VICTIMS, 1989 - 2018
86	ABOUT VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA



A graphic in the top left corner shows several hands in shades of purple and pink reaching towards a central white circle. The word "FOREWORD" is written in large, bold, purple capital letters across the middle of this graphic.

# FOREWORD

In 1989, as she worked for the statewide coalition of domestic violence programs - then known as the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women - Julie "Tilly" Tilley began keeping a list of all the women and children who were killed in Minnesota. This list grew into the nation's first-known state report on domestic violence homicides. It was titled the *Femicide Report* to highlight that women are the majority of domestic violence victims. Over the years, the annual report - like the movement to end gender-based violence - evolved. In 2006, the coalition began analyzing media reports on the homicides, searching for points of intervention and what are known as "lethality factors" in order to inform advocates, law enforcement, and policy makers as to how we might prevent these deaths in the future. In 2010, coalition employee Safia Khan further expanded the report to include specific recommendations based on research pulled from court records, police reports, and death certificates. The breadth of data and case studies within this 30-year summary of Minnesota's intimate partner homicides speaks to the innovation and tenacity of advocates shepherding this report over three decades.

Now in its 30th edition, the report has a new name: the *Intimate Partner Homicide Report*. We know that the majority of intimate partner homicides are still perpetrated against women. We also know that domestic violence advocates must navigate systems, policies, and the general public who rarely distinguish femicide as a separate category of homicide. Additionally, we know that domestic violence homicide claims the lives of people of all ages and genders. Our hope is that by re-framing our report as coverage of a subsection of homicide, more policymakers and members of the public will engage with our findings and recommendations.

Over three decades, at least 685 people were killed due to relationship abuse. The youngest victim was just 22 weeks old; the oldest was 88. The people included in this report made their homes in communities across Minnesota. Homicide victims include not only the victim of abuse, but people who tried to intervene to stop the violence: bystanders, first-responders, neighbors, friends, family, and children. In some cases, minor children were witnesses to their parent's homicide; in others, they were murdered alongside their parent. Such victims represent the ripple effect of domestic violence and how it permeates communities. In sharing their stories, we chip away at the discredited notion that domestic violence is a private, family affair to invite public discourse and action towards a violence free future.

As we compile our annual report, we cherish the small details gleaned about a victim's life prior to their horrifying, tragic, and unjust deaths. *She was a ray of sunshine. He was a kind, gentle soul. She gave so much to our community. He was so excited to be a big brother.* Honoring the victims of intimate partner homicide is essential. We must face the reality that the most extreme outcome of relationship abuse is death. We, as law makers, faith leaders, healthcare providers, business owners, and concerned family, friends, and community members, must pour our energy into implementing solutions to domestic violence. The last sections of this report offer robust recommendations which will only work if they are put into action.

As a coalition, we have spent 30 years keeping the memory of Minnesota's victims of intimate partner homicide alive. We will continue with this vital work under our new name: Violence Free Minnesota. This new name reflects the hope and vision we - and our member programs across the state - work towards every day: that one day we can all live free, without violence.





Violence Free Minnesota first produced a report, then titled *Femicide Report*, in 1989. The report records the deaths of women killed by current or former boyfriends and husbands. In recent years, the report expanded to include anyone killed by current or former intimate partners, including homicides between lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender current and former intimate partners, and men killed by their current or 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.

Starting in 1993, the report expanded to include those killed as a result of being used in prostitution or sex trafficking. These deaths are included because Violence Free Minnesota recognizes prostitution and sex trafficking as a system of violence against women and children. These numbers were tracked separately for a number of years but were then included in the general count. They are now fully integrated into the general count of 685 intimate partner homicides. Over the years, the criteria that guided which homicides were included in the report has fluctuated.

## **In compiling data for the 30-year report, Violence Free Minnesota included all homicides that met these three criteria:**

### **Relationship**

The homicide victim and the perpetrator were current or former intimate partners, including dating partners; **OR**

The homicide victim was someone present during or intervening in an intimate partner violence incident - including friends, family members, new intimate partners, law enforcement officers, or other professionals who were with or 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 killed the child alongside the parent; **OR**

The perpetrator killed the homicide victim due to perceived or actual rejection of romantic interest; **OR**

At the time of the homicide the victim was engaged in sex work or was a victim of sex trafficking, prostitution, and/or sexual exploitation.

### **Nature of Death**

The victim's death is a homicide rather than accidental, suicidal, or committed as an act of self-defense.

### **AND**

### **Location**

The homicide happened in Minnesota, **OR**

The circumstances surrounding the homicide began in Minnesota, even if the body was found outside of the state.

In compiling this 30-year report, Violence Free Minnesota has gone through all of the data in our system and revisited public information sources including court records, media reports, and death certificates in order to apply consistent criteria across 30 years. With some new information available, and a holistic review of the data over time, we were able to see new patterns and lift up new observations that inform our analysis.

Even after a careful reexamination, the strength and reliability of information differs across categories. Some of the fields have strong data across all cases (e.g. cause of death, age of victim). For other fields, we have less reliable data. In a number of categories, such as pregnancy, we have such inconsistent data that we cannot analyze it and instead rely on experiential analysis from case study. For some categories, we have data that relies on subjective reporting and is therefore less reliable. For example, the race data is based on individual medical examiners making a determination on the victim's race. We have included information in the report whenever we have determined that the information is sufficiently reliable and have tried to note the limitations of our data.

## Limitations of the Report

We rely on public information to create this report. In the early years, the sole source of information was media coverage. Currently, we identify most cases through the daily tracking of media stories and then we follow up with local criminal justice system personnel. We cross-check our information by looking at public court data, reports issued by medical examiners' offices, and social media. The amount of available public data has drastically changed over the past 30 years. For this 30-year report, we have gone back to these public data sources to check our information and add to the data. We have confidence that the information in this report is accurate. However, we still struggle with inconsistent and incomplete information due to the discrepancies in the way information is collected and shared across the state.

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. Almost every year there are deaths 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; those in rural areas; those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer; and people who engage in sex work or are exploited in prostitution and sex trafficking go under-reported in our listing because for many years our definition of domestic violence homicide was narrower. Additionally, homicides of these populations are frequently unreported or not identified as relationship violence in mainstream media.

## What the report does not measure

We do not include all deaths related to the legal definition of domestic abuse. Minnesota law defines domestic abuse to include violence between “family or household members,” which may include adult child to parent, cousins, roommates who have no intimate relationship, or uncles who kill nieces. The *Homicide Report* includes only those killed by current or former intimate partners or as a result of such intimate partner violence.

Why do we limit our definition? While all of these homicides are tragic and there are similarities between them, Violence Free Minnesota has expertise in intimate partner violence. In narrowing the report to intimate partner violence, we incorporate the research specific to this population of victims. While there may be cross-over to other types of domestic abuse, that is beyond the scope of our expertise.



## Terminology

Since the Coalition was founded in 1978, the language used to describe violence and its dynamics has evolved. Over three decades, Violence Free Minnesota's annual report has shifted as well. Because we use a variety of terms when talking about the violence relevant to this report, we offer the following definitions to clarify our language choices.

**Gender-based violence** refers to violence that is specifically rooted in gender norms and power inequality and includes physical, sexual, emotional, and economic harm. When a person does not conform to what's expected of their perceived gender, they run the risk of being a target for violence. Gender-based violence disproportionately impacts women and is a public health issue and human rights violation that includes, but is not limited to, domestic violence. For nearly 30 years, this report was called the *Femicide Report* to acknowledge the gendered and misogynistic nature of domestic violence, which is overwhelmingly targeted against women and perpetrated by men.

As Violence Free Minnesota looks to the future, we use the term **intimate partner homicide** to bring forward the intimate partner context of the homicide victims listed within our reports. The terms **intimate partner violence**, **domestic violence**, and **relationship abuse** refer to a pattern of emotionally, sexually, financially, and physically abusive behaviors used by a current or former intimate partner to maintain power and control over the other partner. Throughout this report, these three terms are used interchangeably to denote the specific relationship context of many of the victims who were killed by current or former spouses, dating partners, and individuals who wished to be in intimate relationships with the victims. While the terms **intimate partner violence** and **domestic violence** are frequently used in academic, advocacy, and criminal justice contexts, Violence Free Minnesota also uses the term **relationship abuse** to highlight the diverse ways in which intimate relationships exist in our society. For example, relationship abuse is a better term to describe abuse between youth, an experience for which the term domestic violence is rarely used. Relationship abuse also acknowledges the reality that abusive behaviors encompass far more behaviors than physical violence. Violence Free Minnesota does not use the term **domestic abuse** except when directly referencing the legal definition. Minnesota statute defines domestic abuse in a "household" context and thus includes domestic relationships more broadly than intimate partners. It also excludes a wide range of abusive and controlling behaviors, such as financial abuse, that many victims experience.





# WE REMEMBER

## MINNESOTA'S INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE VICTIMS 1989 - 2018

### 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 due 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

### 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

# WE REMEMBER

## MINNESOTA'S INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE VICTIMS 1989 - 2018

### 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

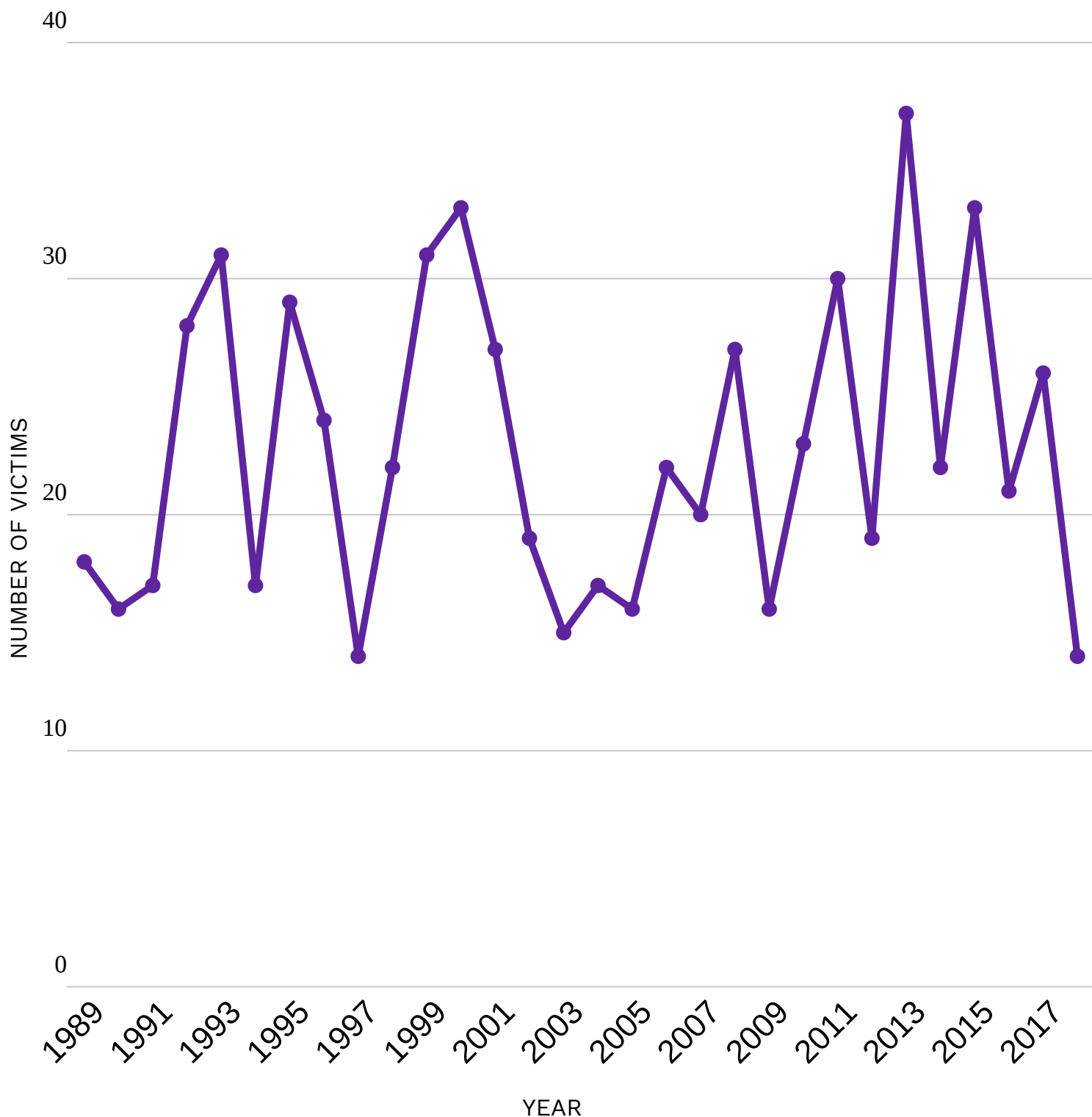
At least 9 women died from intimate partner violence  
At least 1 man died from intimate partner violence  
At least 4 bystanders/interveners/ bystanders died



**We remember  
685 lives lost.**

# TOTAL INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES IN MINNESOTA 1989 - 2018

*INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS*



**VICTIM TOTAL: 685**

[WWW.VIOLENCEFREEMINNESOTA.ORG](http://WWW.VIOLENCEFREEMINNESOTA.ORG)





# GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018  
TOTAL INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES  
685 VICTIMS

*INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS*



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018  
ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
523 VICTIMS





# POWER AND CONTROL

While public perception of relationship abuse often emphasizes long histories of physical violence and noticeable injuries, relationship abuse is about a larger pattern of power and control. People who abuse feel entitled to use physical, sexual, financial, and emotional tactics to control, isolate, and trap their partners. Relationships that have not previously involved physical abuse may involve long histories of humiliation, intimidation, and gaslighting that can culminate in an act of homicide. These tactics are used to instill fear in victims, increase compliance, and cause psychological injury. Victims who experience such abuse may gradually lose access to support services, become isolated from social networks, start to blame themselves, and believe they do not deserve better.

Abuse can look different in every relationship but always ties back to the same motivation: to gain and maintain power and control. Abusive partners may become horrifyingly creative in their tactics, including knowingly transmitting infections to victims and endangering their health; threatening or injuring their children and loved ones; responding with severe violence to rejection; monitoring their location and movements; controlling their access to healthy relationships; and undermining their mental and chemical health by sabotaging their recovery efforts. Many victims who have experienced pervasive levels of abuse report feeling helpless, confused, “crazy,” and defeated due to a gradual breakdown of their sense of self.

Over one-third of the cases in this report involve documented histories of controlling behavior by the perpetrators against previous partners and these homicide victims. While some of these relationships may never have involved physical abuse prior to the victims’ deaths, the complete and total restriction of freedom and systematic destruction of well-being they experienced before their deaths was equally as dangerous and threatening.



## **LOCKED OUTSIDE**

**Renee Brown**  
**January 31, 1994**  
**Winona**

Renee's frozen body was found outside the home of her boyfriend, William Braatz. He had ignored Renee's pleas to let her inside on a night when the temperature dropped to 23 degrees below zero. Renee was wearing only a flannel nightgown. She died of hypothermia and her death was ruled "accidental." The prosecuting attorney argued at trial that Braatz chose not to open his door when Renee arrived because he didn't want to deal with her.



## **"IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU..."**

**Tracy Carlson**  
**October 17, 1989**  
**Minneapolis**

Tracy was abducted at gunpoint and held hostage for 19 hours before she was shot to death by her former boyfriend, Michael Rehfeld. He then killed himself. It was the second time that week that he had kidnapped Tracy and the third time that year. He was under a court order to stay away from Tracy. Friends said Rehfeld was upset that Tracy wanted to date another man. He said: "If I can't have you, no one will."

# POWER AND CONTROL



## SEXUAL ABUSE AND RECORDING

**Lois Cooke, Holly Cooke, Nicole Cooke**  
**September 25, 1994**  
**Racine**

Lois and her teen daughters, Nicole and Holly, were shot to death by their father, James Cooke. He then wrote a suicide note and shot and killed himself. Cooke had learned that his daughters had recently told their mother that he sexually abused them. Lois had contacted a sheriff's investigator about the abuse, and the investigator urged Lois to take her daughters to a shelter or safe home. Lois and her daughters decided to stay in the family home for the weekend, believing they would be safe. Somehow, Cooke discovered that a sexual abuse report had been made, either because Lois confronted him or because he tape-recorded her conversations, as the wires investigators found in the house suggest. Cooke denied the abuse allegations in his suicide note. Cooke shot the two girls as they slept: each with one shot to the forehead with a .22-caliber gun. He then cleaned the blood from his daughters' bodies and laid out clothes for their funerals at the foot of their beds. He then shot Lois with a .380-caliber handgun and carried her to the couple's bed. Cooke called his son, Alan, out-of-state and reported the homicides. He told his son to call a neighbor and hung up.



## KNOWINGLY INFECTED

**Jodi Ann White**  
**December 25, 1995**  
**Minneapolis**

Jodi White died early Christmas morning after an 8-year battle with HIV/AIDS. Jodi's abusive ex-husband knowingly infected her with the HIV virus and told her, "No one else will ever want or love you because of your being HIV positive." After Jodi obtained an order for protection against him, her ex-husband broke into her second-floor apartment and raped her, causing additional pain and stress that ultimately affected her health and worsened her condition. Until his incarceration for other crimes, he continually harassed Jodi, saying: "You know I'll never let you go. You can't get rid of me that easily."



## REJECTION

**Mai Yia Lee**  
**March 26, 2005**  
**Minneapolis**

Mai Yia Lee was fatally stabbed by her fiancé, Vou Xiong, after she told him she wouldn't marry him. Xiong arrived at the home Lee shared with relatives, knocked on the door, and told her he had photos to show her. Across the hall, Lee's uncle heard screaming and ran in. Xiong was standing over Mai Yia with a knife in his hand. He lashed out at the uncle and then went downstairs and found Mai Yia's two female relatives. The uncle came to help and was stabbed in the chest, but managed to overpower Xiong and tie him up until police arrived. Mai Yia died of multiple stab wounds.





Advocates and researchers have undertaken the task of determining which factors indicate an increased risk for danger in domestic violence cases. Checklists, scored assessments and even software applications that claim to predict death have emerged from these efforts. Ultimately, however, there is no single factor or set of factors that can accurately predict “lethality.” However, several factors have emerged that can be considered significant in contributing to an increased risk of serious injury or death.

Since 2006, our analysis in the *Intimate Partner Homicide Report* has focused on four lethality factors present in a significant number of cases:

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

In this 30-year summary, we thus begin by considering these four key lethality factors with the expectation that this information is useful both to inform public policy and to craft effective intervention strategies. This summary highlights two additional lethality factors - strangulation and pregnancy - not consistently included in our previous reports. Law enforcement departments, health care professionals, advocacy programs, corrections professionals, and judges in several cities and counties in Minnesota use these evidence-based lethality factors, more commonly known as lethality assessments, to screen victims at high risk of murder.

While the report records all known homicides that are a result of domestic violence between current or former intimate partners, we provide comparison data and more in-depth recommendations in regard to the homicides of adults killed by intimate partners (as opposed to family members, friends, interveners, or bystanders killed) and more detailed information on women killed by current or former intimate partners. We limit our analysis due to 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.



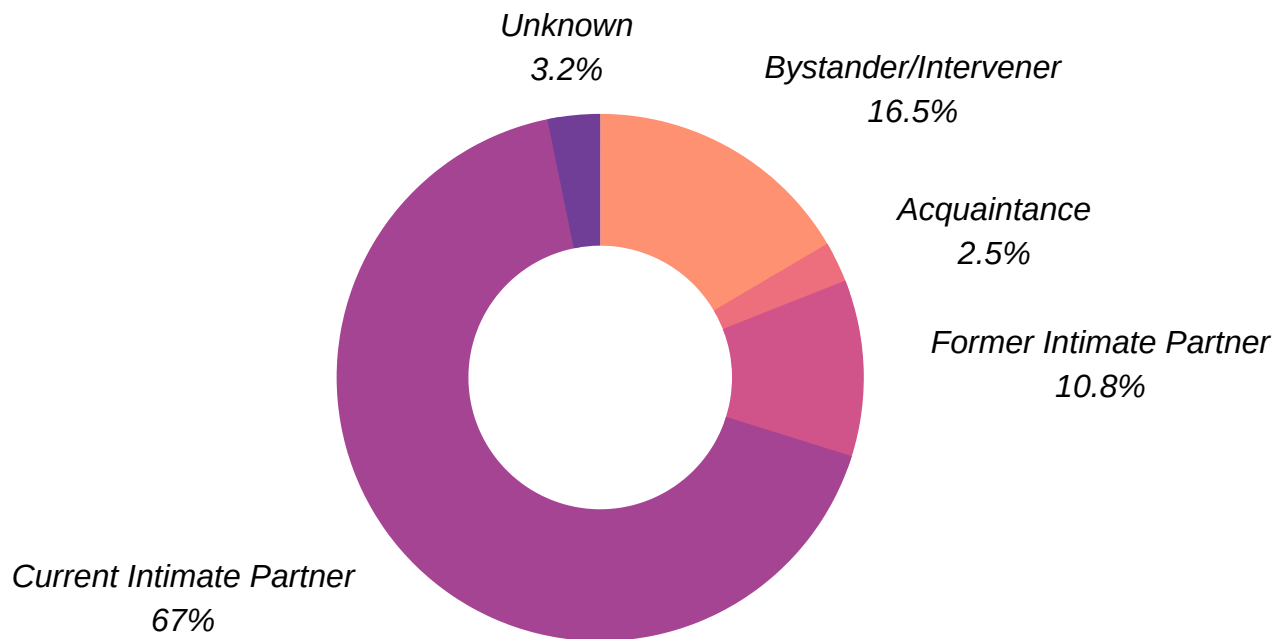
# VICTIM'S RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR

MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018

TOTAL INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES

685 VICTIMS

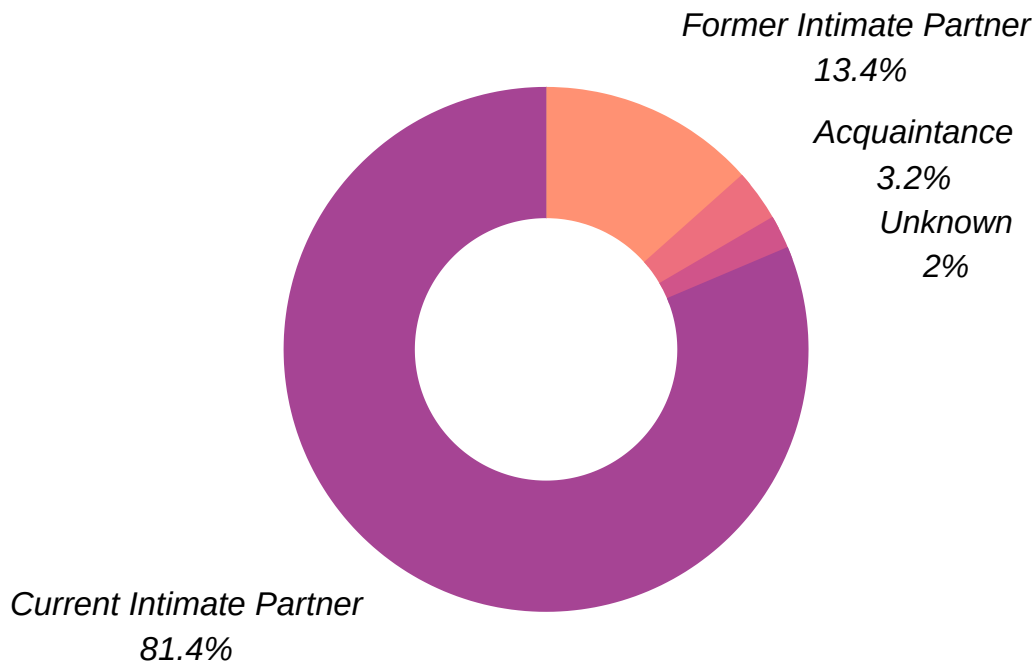
*INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS*



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018

ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

523 VICTIMS





National statistics, as well as information gathered from our report, show attempts to separate from an abuser can increase the risk of lethality for victims. While most women leaving abusive relationships are not killed, a large number of homicide victims had recently left or were attempting to separate from their abuser. Abusers often see any attempts by the victim to leave the relationship as a loss of power and control, and thus may increase their use of violence in an attempt to reassert their control over the victim. In many cases we did not have enough information to determine whether the victim had made any recent attempts to separate.

Even still, at least 198 of the 523 adult women victims in our reports were attempting to leave or had recently left the relationship. In 62% of cases, not enough information was available to make a determination on whether the victim was leaving the relationship. This statistic has ranged between 30 – 67 percent in any given year. For perpetrators involved with the criminal justice system, victims may believe the system will provide increased safety; however, this is not always the case and depends on the system's level of control and monitoring of the perpetrator.



#### **REPEATED MONITORING**

**Heidi Ray Johnson**  
**September 4, 1999**  
**Brooklyn Park**

When police were called to an apartment Nathan Clark shared with Heidi Kay Johnson, he reported that someone had burglarized the apartment. When police arrived they found Heidi lying on the floor, her fingernails broken, a clump of hair torn from her head, deep bruises on her arms, and a cut on her cheek. She had died of strangulation and had been dead for several hours before police were called. Previously, Clark assaulted Heidi and he had at least two cases of assault pending when he murdered her. She had attempted to leave several times and each time he would trace her, find her and harm her. Police have a record of 10 calls to her apartment between May and September of 1999.



#### **BROKE UP ONE DAY PRIOR**

**Angel Lowe**  
**(Dorothy Redd-Lowe)**  
**August 10, 2014**  
**West St. Paul**

On August 6, four days before Angel's death, her ex-boyfriend, Marc Bakambia, was arrested and charged with domestic abuse and interfering with a 911 call after he allegedly assaulted her and dragged her out of a car by her hair. Angel told her mother she "feared for her life" and that she was so afraid that she "pretended like she was dead." On August 10, Bakambia strangled Angel to death in her West St. Paul home that she used to share with Bakambia. Text messages on Angel's phone show she had broken up with Bakambia the day before she was found dead.





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. While the absence of threats to kill does not tell us much, their presence can be a significant indicator of an abuser's lethality. These indicators are often overlooked by the criminal and civil justice systems. Without access to and review of police case files and court records, it is difficult to determine whether threats to kill were made against the victim. Even with these limitations, we found that the abuser threatened to kill the victim before doing so in nearly 9% of cases.



### **MURDER-SUICIDE THREATS**

**Lou Thao**  
**December 2, 2003**  
**St. Paul**

Lou Thao died at Regions Hospital of extensive injuries received when the car she was riding in hit a tree on White Bear Avenue. Her estranged husband, Nao Lee Yang, had engaged Thao and another man, who was driving the car, in a high-speed chase and rammed his car into the one Thao was riding in, sending it into the tree. While applying for an order for protection in Ramsey County District Court, Lou detailed how her husband of 15 years often threatened to kill her and then himself.

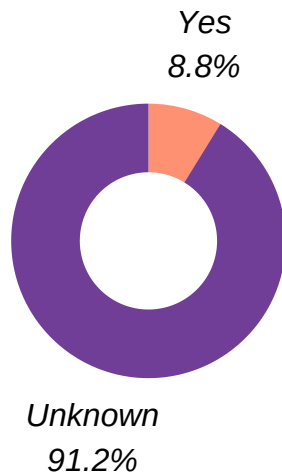


### **WOKE TO KNIFE ON PHOTO**

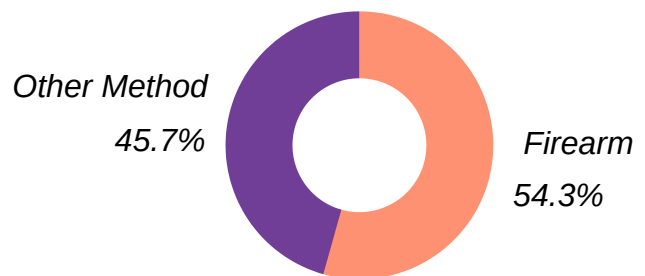
**Cynthia Hickman**  
**February 26, 2011**  
**Brooklyn Park**

On February 26, Cynthia Hickman was beaten and killed. Her estranged husband, Henry Hickman, was charged with second-degree murder. When Cynthia sought an order for protection less than two weeks before she was murdered, she testified that Henry had abused her for years and had been increasingly emotionally volatile since she talked of divorce. She testified to waking up next to her photograph with a knife over it and said he slapped, punched, and pushed her on different occasions. She had also voiced her fears to a friend saying that her husband might kill her. Evidence shows that on February 26, Henry beat Cynthia with a baseball bat. He then lit a mattress, threw it on top of her body, and ran out of the home, leaving the bat on the lawn and his two sons, ages 8 and 5, in the basement where he told them to stay. The children were rescued from the burning house.

## THREATS TO KILL



## OF THREATS TO KILL: FIREARM USED



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018  
ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
523 VICTIMS



### PROTECTIVE ORDER

**Patsy Dillard**  
**March 1, 1992**  
**St. Paul**

Patsy died in her bedroom from a stab wound in her chest. She was killed by her estranged husband, Preston Dillard III, just days before she had planned to move with her teenage children to Illinois to escape his violence. Patsy's stepmother reported that in the two weeks prior to her murder, Patsy kept saying, "He's gonna kill me, I just know it." Patsy had reported at least four domestic assaults by Dillard to police: two assaults with his fists, one with a gun to her head, and one with a car. Charges were filed in only two of the cases, and only one resulted in a conviction, for disorderly conduct. She also obtained three orders for protection in the year before she was killed, and she had a restraining order against him when he killed her. In the past, Dillard had broken into her home, stolen possessions and clothing, threatened her with a knife, flattened tires on her car, and warned her: "If you call the police, I'll kill you."



### EXTENSIVE HISTORY

**Margaret Flath**  
**November 7, 2016**  
**Wadena**

Margaret Flath was shot and killed by her husband, Antonio St. Marie. Earlier that day, St. Marie had been charged with felony domestic assault against Margaret. He bailed out of jail a few hours prior to the shooting and then held Margaret, their three year old A.B., and Margaret's brother hostage as he threatened them with a firearm. After Margaret effectively pleaded with St. Marie to let her brother leave with A.B, Antonio shot and killed her. Antonio St. Marie has a long, documented history of domestic violence. In 2009, directly and through social media, he threatened to use a firearm to kill an ex-girlfriend's family members. He was convicted of felony terroristic threats in that case. In 2011, Antonio St. Marie threatened to kill another ex-girlfriend, strangled her, and assaulted her and her family members with a knife. In that case, he was convicted of felony domestic assault.





Over thirty years, 251 of 523 women murdered by their current or former intimate partners were killed with a firearm. 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. These statistics support studies showing that access to firearms by an abuser can significantly increase the risk of lethality. National studies also show that firearms are the most commonly used weapon when there are multiple people killed by an intimate partner. The Violence Policy Center has found that female intimate partners are more likely to be killed by a firearm than all other means combined.



### **MILITARY TRAINING**

**Linda Freeman Wooten**  
**September 2, 1999**  
**Eagan**

The husband of Linda Wooten told investigators "I'm the shooter, I shot her" as she lay dead on a road, her 19-year-old son by her side. William Wooten shot Linda with a revolver outside a condominium where she was staying with her son. William Wooten was an Army sergeant and had military training with guns.



### **INTIMIDATION**

**Taryn Baumgardner**  
**May 21, 2006**  
**St. Paul**

Taryn Baumgardner was found shot in her St. Paul home and died in the hospital the next day of gunshot wounds to her head. Ian Cody, Taryn's boyfriend and father of her daughter, was charged with second-degree murder. Taryn's daughter, age 9, reported that Cody would load and unload his shotgun in front of her.



### **NO CONTACT ORDER**

**Julie Hildreth**  
**November 8, 2015**  
**Aurora**

Julie Hildreth was shot and killed by her ex-boyfriend, John Plevell, outside of the local American Legion in Aurora. Several bar patrons reported to police that John was upset about Julie's new relationship, and "suggested doing something to her and her new boyfriend if he saw them that evening." At the time of the homicide, Plevell was awaiting sentencing on an earlier domestic assault case where he had pled guilty to a disorderly conduct charge and was subject to a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (DANCO) that barred him from contacting or seeing Julie. Julie had told law enforcement that she was afraid Plevell could kill her because his violence was increasing. Since there was no active Order for Protection against Plevell at the time of the homicide and since the misdemeanor domestic assault charge against him had been dismissed, Plevell was not automatically prohibited from possessing firearms. The court could have made specific firearms orders as conditions of his release but did not.

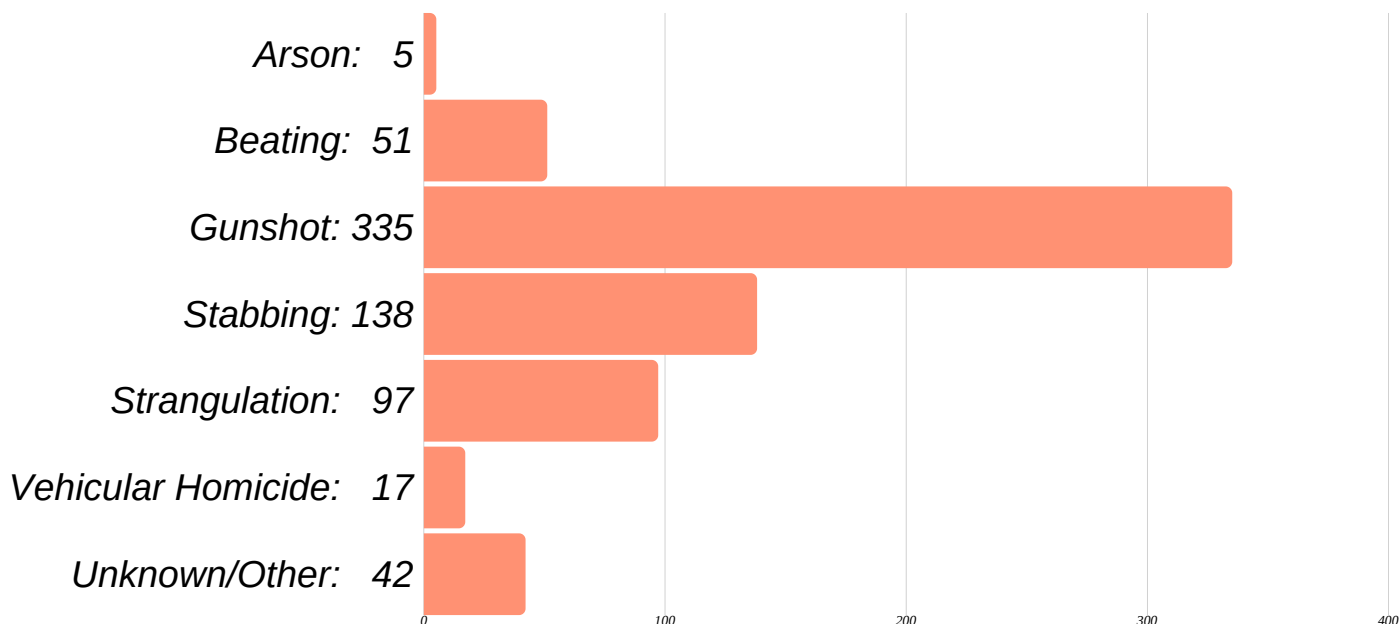
# CAUSE OF DEATH

MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018

TOTAL INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES

685 VICTIMS

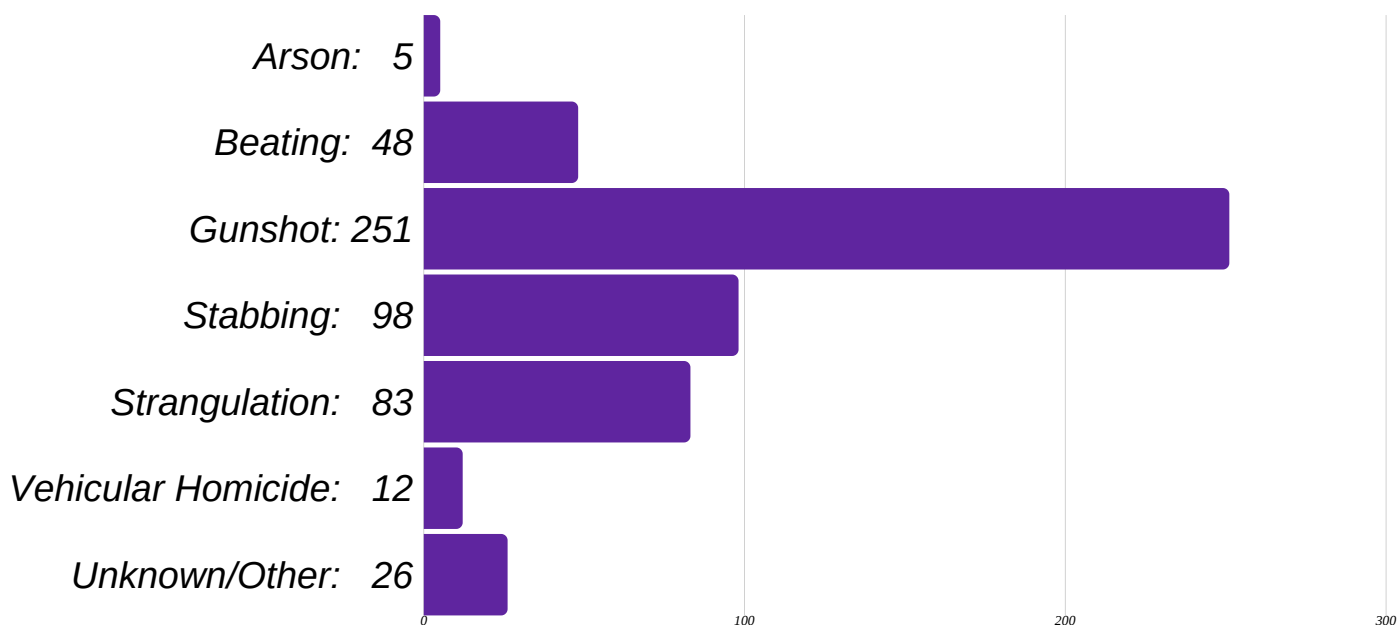
INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018

ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

523 VICTIMS







We strive to capture as much information as possible regarding a perpetrator's history of violence but our analysis is again limited by the information available to us. We consider a perpetrator to have a documented history of domestic violence if there are police or court records available to us or 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 are directly contacted by family members who share this information. Information from family members or friends is characterized as "undocumented but known" domestic violence history of the perpetrator.

We found that in 49% of cases involving adult women killed by a current or former intimate partner the perpetrator had a history of domestic violence, with 36% documented and 13% undocumented but known.

The history of violence often involved not only the current homicide victim, but also previous partners. Perpetrators' need for power and control does not disappear when their victims leave, and this controlling and violent behavior often continues in the next relationship. Abusers who kill their previous partners may receive a reduced charge due to plea agreements and may not be referred to any form of domestic abuse transformation programming to address their violence. Victims who enter into relationships with perpetrators may not receive the necessary safety planning services or may be unaware of their partners' histories.



**MURDERED FIRST WIFE**  
**Barbara Dokotah-Littlewolf**  
**July 27, 1990**  
**Cass Lake**

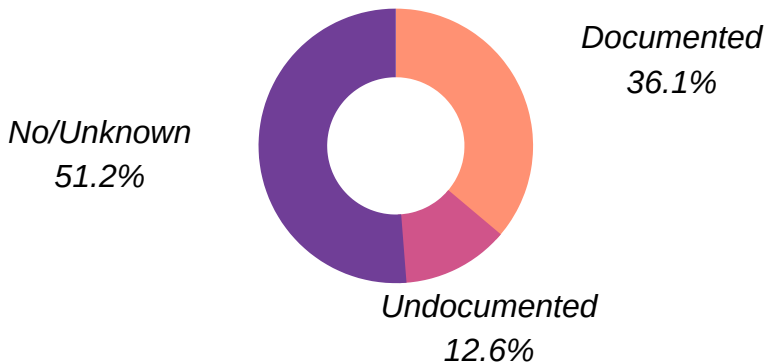
Barbara was pushed from a car and then struck and killed while walking along the old Bemidji highway that runs between Cass Lake and Bemidji. Her husband, Ted Littlewolf, was charged with second-degree manslaughter in her death. Barbara had previously sought shelter as a battered woman. Ted Littlewolf served time previously on a reduced sentence for the axe-murder of his first wife.



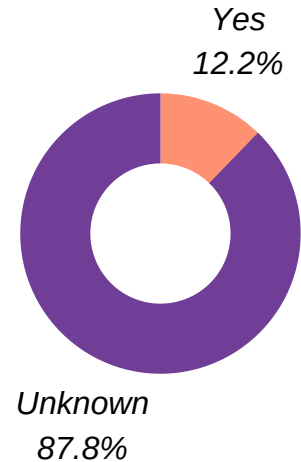
**MURDERED WIFE OF 30 YEARS**  
**Sharla Koski**  
**December 5, 1997**  
**Duluth**

When Sharla Koski didn't come to work, a co-worker became concerned and stopped by Sharla's home and called police, who entered the home and found Koski and her boyfriend, Daniel Pawlowicz. Police said the victims died of gunshot wounds consistent with a murder-suicide. Three years earlier, Pawlowicz shot and killed his wife of 30 years and attempted suicide four days later but was found and survived. He was cleared of wrongdoing in this case because he claimed he shot his wife in the back while cleaning his firearm.

## PERPETRATOR HISTORY OF VIOLENCE



## DOCUMENTED HISTORY: VICTIM SOUGHT ORDER FOR PROTECTION



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018  
ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
523 VICTIMS



### PROTECTIVE ORDER **Nicole Marie Meier** **February 1, 2011** **Blaine**

Nicole Meier was shot and killed by her former boyfriend, Jesse Oakley. Nicole ended her relationship with Jesse in the summer of 2010. When she moved out of the townhouse the two shared, she asked for police protection. Nicole was trying to collect back rent that Oakley owed. She indicated at the time to co-workers that she was afraid to meet Oakley at his home. When she did not come to work the next day, her co-workers called 911. The authorities found Nicole Meier dead from gunshot wounds at the townhouse. They also found the body of Oakley and concluded that he killed her and then himself. Oakley had a documented history of violence against his ex-wife, including stalking. Oakley's ex-wife had received a protective order against him that was to expire in March 2011. He had violated the order in December. The police found notes in Oakley's home indicating that he was "obsessed" with both his ex-wife and Nicole. The protective order required him to give up his guns, however the police found two 9-millimeter handguns in his home when they found Nicole.



### 12 CHARGES **Krista Ambers** **August 6, 2015** **Brooklyn Park**

Krista Ambers, was murdered in her home by her live-in boyfriend, Toby Nicholas Clarke. When police arrived at the home in response to a report of an unconscious person, they found Krista without a pulse and with injuries to her neck and arms. The cause of death was strangulation. Krista's family stated that they had seen visible marks of abuse on her in the past and expressed concern. Clarke has an extensive history of domestic abuse in both criminal and civil courts and served prison time for kidnapping a former victim in 2000. Between 1997 and 2015, Clarke had 12 different charges stemming from domestic violence incidents filed against him, 10 of which were dismissed. Three of these charges stemmed from an assault against a former intimate partner in October of 2014, all of which were dismissed on June 1, 2015, two months before Toby Clarke fatally strangled Krista.



While we have been able to consistently gather information on the previous four lethality factors, there are additional lethality factors to consider. We do not have consistent data in our reports on the factors of pregnancy and strangulation, however, national research and our case studies indicate that these are two significant lethality factors.

Relationship abuse is not triggered by any one specific event. However, abuse can escalate during or shortly after pregnancy. Victims who are pregnant or who have recently given birth are more vulnerable and isolated, and often depend on their partners for financial, emotional, and physical support for themselves and their children.

Abusers may attempt to control the process or outcome of a pregnancy by engaging in coercive tactics to impregnate a victim, force them to carry to term, or to end a pregnancy against their wishes. While there are varying motivations for these forms of "reproductive coercion," abusers often force a pregnancy to term to trap victims in a relationship, or they may escalate their violence after a pregnancy due to jealousy and a perceived loss of power after the birth of a child. Pregnant women are more likely to die due to domestic violence homicide and violent trauma than pregnancy-related complications. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists reports that about 8%, or 324,000 of pregnant women experience domestic violence each year during pregnancy. Findings from the National Violent Death Reporting System reveal that about half of all homicides of pregnant women are caused by a current or former intimate partner.



### **8 MONTHS PREGNANT**

**Lori Ann Behr**  
**November 21, 1989**  
**Minneapolis**

Lori was strangled to death. Her boyfriend, Jonathan James Mudge, was charged with first-degree murder. Lori was found dead at the couple's house after police responded to a call from Mudge's brother-in-law who told authorities that Mudge made hysterical statements on the telephone about killing his girlfriend. Mudge was arrested at the scene. Lori was 8 months pregnant at the time of her death.



### **DIDN'T WANT HER PREGNANT**

**Annshalike Shanta Hamilton**  
**December 15, 2008**  
**Minneapolis**

Annshalike revealed to her close friends that there were problems with her and her unborn child's father and had indicated to her friends that she may die. Fifteen-year-old Annshalike was seven months pregnant by a man in his thirties who didn't want her to have the child. Annshalike had broken off the relationship with her unborn child's father, but was still concerned for her safety, as were her friends. Annshalike's frozen body was found in a garage. She was apparently beaten to death.



Strangulation is a leading risk factor for domestic violence homicide and is also one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence. Over half of all abusive relationships involve strangulation of the victim, which increases the likelihood of homicide by 70%.

As relationship abuse escalates, strangulation is often one of the last steps towards the ultimate act of power and control: ending a victim's life. Because strangulation deprives the brain of oxygen and can lead to internal injuries, some victims who believe they are uninjured end up experiencing delayed complications in the days after the event. These complications can include respiratory issues, blood clotting, pneumonia, and, in the most severe cases, death. We know that strangulation is both a risk factor for future homicide through other means, and a lethal form of violence on its own.



### **CHOKEHOLD**

**Kristina Zierman**  
**Missing January 24, 2002**  
**Body found June 5, 2002**  
**Maple Grove**

Kristina and Christopher Seebold lived together until December of 2001 when Kristina moved in with her mother because of her boyfriend's abuse. Kristina had filed assault charges against Seebold, claiming he had put her in a chokehold and pushed her into a coffee table. Seebold was convicted of assault against Kristina on October 5. Kristina told her mother and a friend on January 24 that she planned to end her relationship with Seebold. She said if something were to happen to her, "He did it." That was the last day she was seen alive. A fisherman discovered Kristina's body, anchored with landscaping bricks, on June 5, in the Minnesota River near the Cedar Avenue bridge in Bloomington. Seebold and Kristina's three year-old son later told his grandmother that he found his mother on the floor and that she was sleeping and he could not wake her. After Kristina's body was found it was determined she was strangled.



### **OFP AFTER STRANGULATION**

**Sheng Vang**  
**July 18, 2004**  
**Minneapolis**

Sheng was found stabbed to death in the St. Paul garage belonging to a member of her estranged husband's family. Sheng's mother had warned her that morning not to go alone to see Moua Her, 22, to retrieve legal documents she needed for a passport. "I told her, 'I will go with you. You can tell the police to go with you. That man is very dangerous,'" she said. According to police, family records and court documents, in the past several years there had been reports of fights, threats, and abuse. Sheng Vang obtained an order for protection against her husband, which was granted after an incident four months prior when Her tried to strangle his wife and stun her with some sort of electrical weapon. The couple had met in high school and court records show that the abuse started within months of their January 2000 wedding. In 2006, Moua Her was convicted with charges of first-degree and second-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.



Intimate partner murder-suicides are the most common type of murder-suicide. In our data set, 258 of the 685 homicides (37%) were a murder-suicide or murder-attempted suicide. The homicide victims of this crime are overwhelmingly female and the majority of perpetrators are male. Only one of the cases of murder-suicide involved a woman killing a man who was a current or former intimate partner. Comparatively, 205 cases (99%) of murder-suicide or murder-attempted suicide, involved a man killing a woman, even higher than the 90% national rate of male-perpetrator murder-suicides.

Intimate partner murder-suicide is a unique crime with distinct characteristics from suicide and homicide alone. Intimate partner murder-suicides are more likely to occur around the time that a victim is attempting to separate from their abuser. Threats of suicide from the abuser double the risk of murder-suicide. Other precursors to intimate partner murder-suicide include child custody issues, extreme jealousy and control from the abuser, and the issuance of an order for protection. Over 12% of the adult women killed from 1989-2018 sought an order for protection against the current or former intimate partner who later killed them. Intimate partner murder-suicides occur at all ages of the lifespan, including among adolescents and the elderly. They most often involve the use of a firearm. In our 30 years of data, firearms were used in 76% of the murder-suicide cases, whereas nationally, the Violence Policy Center reports that a firearm was used in 83% of murder-suicide cases.



### RECENT BREAK-UP

**Katherine Fritz**  
**August 1, 1993**  
**Duluth**

Katherine Fritz was shot in the head and killed by her former boyfriend, Duane Radulovich, who then killed himself. Katherine was entertaining friends Violet Kubart, 55, and Harold Kubart, 64, in her home when Radulovich came over, argued with her for a few moments and then shot her in the head. He then shot the Kubarts in the chest and torso. The three bodies were found a short time after the shootings by friends who arrived for a social gathering. Later, police found Radulovich in his garage with a single bullet wound to the head. Police said he was probably upset over a recent break-up with Katherine.



### FAMILY WORRIED FOR YEARS

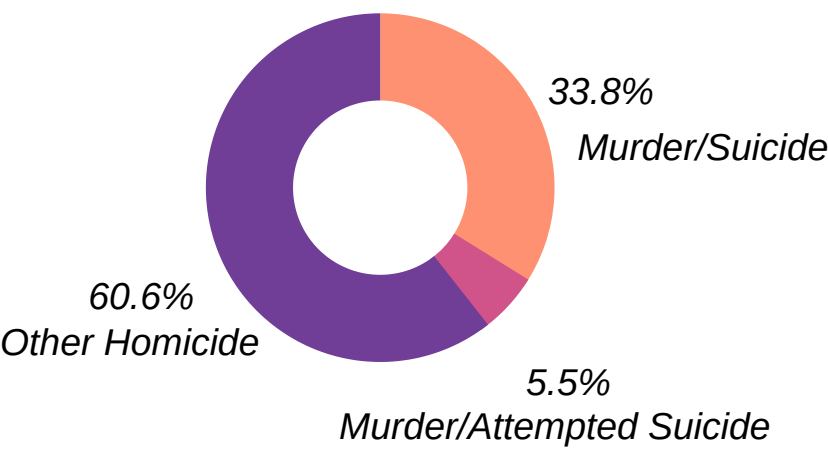
**Sarah Ruth Benson**  
**December 6, 2017**  
**Fergus Falls**

Sarah Ruth Benson was shot and killed by her ex-husband, Ryan Cheshire, in his Fergus Falls apartment on December 6, 2017. Ryan then committed suicide by gunshot. After responding to a call from Sarah's friends about a person not breathing in the apartment, police arrived to find Ryan and Sarah dead from gunshot wounds. Ryan was an assistant Otter Tail county prosecutor, and Sarah was a partner at a law firm in Fergus Falls. The two had recently divorced and had three children together. One of Sarah's family members stated that the family had worried for years about the relationship and described Ryan as controlling and abusive.

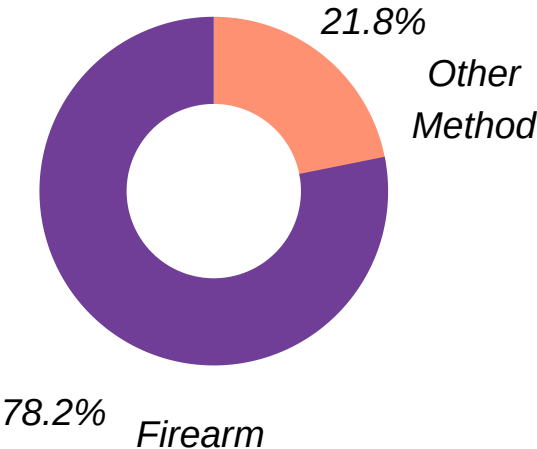


MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018  
ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
523 VICTIMS

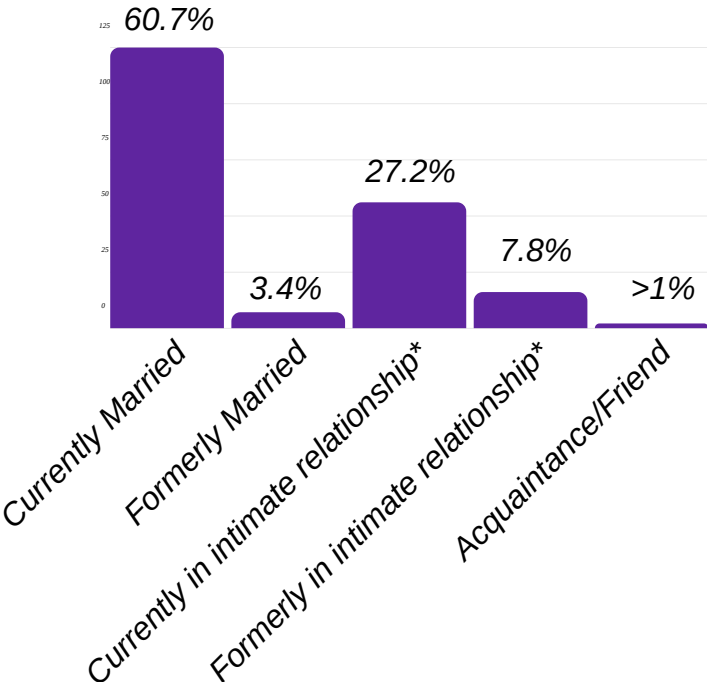
MURDER-SUICIDE:  
ADULT WOMEN KILLED



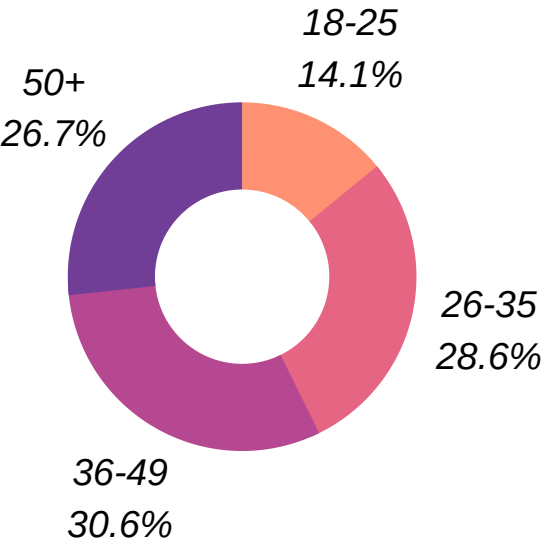
MURDER-SUICIDE:  
WEAPON



MURDER-SUICIDE:  
RELATIONSHIP STATUS



MURDER-SUICIDE:  
VICTIM AGES



\*Never Married



Intimate partner homicides have a devastating impact on children as well. CDC-Kaiser Permanente's Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study 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 physical, mental health, and substance abuse conditions. The impact of chronic domestic violence exposure in childhood was found to have long-term effects throughout the life span.

Impacts on minor children are seen throughout our 30 years of data: children who witnessed the homicide of a parent (22% of cases); children who were killed alongside their parent (16 children); and children killed as a method of coercion by an abusive partner (17 children). This data does not include the number of adult children who may have witnessed or were murdered alongside their parent. In many of the cases involving minor children, the need for protection was raised in a court proceeding or made known to another professional.

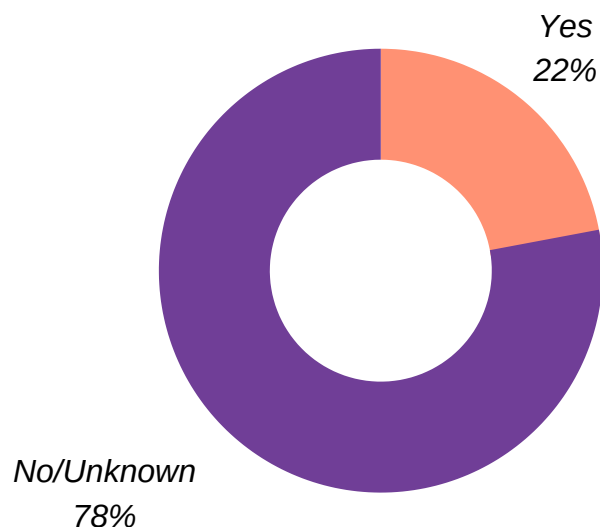


#### **SUPERVISION DROPPED**

**Kathryn Malli**  
**September 30, 2006**  
**Granger**

Kathryn was shot to death by her husband, David Malli, 49, in her own home. David Malli then committed suicide. Kathryn's three daughters, ages 15, 13, and 7, were in the home at the time of their mother's murder and two of the girls are believed to have witnessed the shooting. The children ran to the home of neighbors and called the police. Kathryn had obtained an order for protection against her husband on August 7, 2006. On September 18, David Malli filed a motion asking to have the protective order amended to have Kathryn removed from the house and court-ordered supervised visitation with his daughters dropped. A court hearing on the motion was scheduled for October 12th. Kathryn had also filed a petition for divorce on August 31. Fillmore County Sheriff Daryl Jensen reported that officers had been called to the house in the past to respond to domestic violence.

#### **CHILDREN PRESENT AT TIME OF MURDER**



**MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018**

**TOTAL INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES**

**685 VICTIMS: 151 CHILDREN PRESENT**

***INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS***

# CHILDREN: WITNESSED

While some children are injured or killed as part of the relationship abuse against their parent, many more children are harmed by witnessing the violence. Over three decades, 151 cases of domestic violence homicide occurred with a child witnessing the murder. While experiencing and witnessing relationship violence negatively impacts children, research shows that children are most resilient and have the best emotional recovery when there is a strong relationship with the non-abusive parent. Safety of children is directly linked to the safety and support of victim-parents. When considering intervention strategies for children, child protection involvement is often considered the best solution. Involvement by Child Protective Services (CPS) and the legal system may provide protection, but can also cause trauma, re-victimize the family, and may not always be in the best interest of the child. System intervention into a family is intrusive and distressful. Because the intervention itself creates harm and trauma, it must be used only for children and families who will experience a drastic increase in safety. Focused, intentional interventions that promote safety and stability for the child and victim-parent should be prioritized over broad, sweeping interventions.



## **DREAMS**

**Colleen Horn  
May 2001  
Twin Valley**

After his mother's disappearance, her son Weston said he dreamed he saw his father push his mother into some glass, carry her to his truck, and cover her with plastic. A day after Colleen Horn's body was found, Weston discovered his father in a pool of blood as his father tried to kill himself. It was only after Weston was away from relatives that he could tell others that his dreams were actual memories of his mother's murder.



## **THREATS MADE TO CHILDREN**

**April Erickson  
August 23, 2015  
Maplewood**

April Erickson was shot and killed in her home. April's 16-year-old daughter and 12-year-old son, as well as a 15-year-old family friend, were present in the house at the time of the homicide. April's daughter and her friend overheard an argument between April and her husband, Todd Tennin, and heard gunshots. The three children discovered her body. April's son told police he retrieved a bloody gun from the bathroom and placed it in a windowsill because he was afraid that Todd would return and kill everyone. The son recounted that Todd had threatened in the past, "If I ever kill your mom, I'm going to kill the rest of you so there are no witnesses." Court records show that Todd had made many threats to kill his wife and her children, regularly abused them, and attacked April so brutally in the year before her murder that she told a friend there was "blood all over the room" and "it looked like a murder scene." Todd has an extensive criminal history, including several previous charges of assault and illegal possession of firearms. Records show that police were called to the home at least eight times within the last two years, including twice in the year Tennin killed April, and once just three weeks before her murder.

# CHILDREN: MURDERED ALONGSIDE

Although cases in which a perpetrator kills multiple family members are relatively rare, they are a common form of mass killings and outnumber cases in which a perpetrator kills multiple strangers. Such cases of family violence are often called familicides and receive very little attention in terms of prevention efforts. About half of the time, the perpetrator will commit suicide after the killings. In the past three decades in Minnesota, 59 individuals have been killed from familicide. While research on familicide is minimal, experts speculate that some abusers who murder their partners and children view them as possessions whose lives and well-being are theirs to control. A 2018 Centers for Disease Control study found that the vast majority of familicides involving child victims are premeditated and often involve the perpetrator threatening to kill the children if his female partner doesn't do something he wants, such as reunification.

## **CALLED SHELTER**



**Geraldine O'Meara-Steinbuch**  
**Jessica O'Meara**  
**Ashley Steinbuch**  
**July 17, 1991**  
**St. Cloud**

Police found the bodies of Geri O'Meara-Steinbuch, and her daughters, Jessica and Ashley, in their home. Geri had been beaten with a blunt instrument and had been struck several times on the upper torso and head. She was found on the floor next to her bed. Jessica and Ashley were strangled; both girls were found with rope around their necks. Geri had been missing from work for several days before a coworker notified police. Authorities believe Geri, Jessica, and Ashley were killed three or four days before they were found. Geri's husband, Dale Steinbuch, was convicted of two counts of first-degree murder and one count of second-degree murder for the murder of his wife, daughter, and stepdaughter. The night before her murder, Geri called a shelter to say she needed help because her marriage was disintegrating. She explained that her husband, a recovering alcoholic, was drinking again and she was going to leave him soon, taking the children with her. The advocate who spoke to Geri had asked her if she was afraid or needed to come to the shelter. Geri said no, she just needed someone to talk to.

## **CHILDREN FLED**



**Teresa Bugarin**  
**Ismael "Nick" Bugarin**  
**November 8, 2008**  
**Dodge Center**

Ismael Bugarin stabbed his wife, Teresa, killing her. When the children tried to flee, their father followed them. He slashed one of his daughters, stabbed the other one, and cut his son's neck. Teresa's son, Nick, grabbed the knife and stabbed his father in the back before he and his sisters ran to a neighbor's house. Nick bled to death.

## **CALLED 9-1-1**



**Short Family**  
**September 8, 2015**  
**Greenwood**

Karen Short was murdered by her husband, Brian Short, shortly after he shot and killed their three teenage children, Cole, Madison, and Brooklyn, as they slept. Brian Short then committed suicide in their home. It was determined that Brian Short shot and killed Karen as she attempted to call 911 for help. He purchased the gun a few days before the homicides.

# CHILDREN: MURDERED TO CONTROL

Abusers may use the children of their partners to further their power and control in the relationship. Some tactics include turning the child against the abused parent, criticizing the partner's parenting skills, and using the child as a pawn during custody disagreements. Abusers may also engage in a lethal form of power and control by murdering the abused partner's child. Not only does this further isolate the victim and deprive them of a loving connection to their child, but it acts as a reminder that the abusive partner will take extreme measures to maintain total control over the victim. The abuser may be driven by anger and jealousy over the victim's relationships with others, their attempts to leave the relationship, and many other factors. As a result, children who grow up in homes with relationship abuse are placed at great risk for their emotional and physical safety.



## ANGRY AT GIRLFRIEND

**Thomas Hanks, Jr.**  
**Age: 8 months**  
**July 11, 1992**  
**Minneapolis**

Thomas's mother's ex-boyfriend, Gary Stewart, slammed him into the dashboard of his car, head-butted him, and threw him on the ground. He reportedly was angry at his girlfriend, Jody Waube, for her involvement with another man. While driving with Jody's two children in the car, Stewart hit the brakes of the car, causing the baby to fly off the front seat, hit the dashboard, and fall to the floor. Stewart then hit the baby's head twice with his own head and, while a horrified neighbor watched through her kitchen window, hurled Thomas into the yard. The abuse was witnessed by Thomas's three-year-old sister.



## UPSET WITH CHILD'S MOTHER

**Amelia Analesse Ramirez,**  
**Age: 13 months**  
**March 15, 2014**  
**Cottage Grove**

Amelia Analesse Ramirez died as a result of multiple blunt-force traumatic injuries caused by her father. Her father, Angel Daniel Ramirez, admitted during questioning that he had punched the 13-month-old girl multiple times, pulled her hair out, and threw a cup that hit her eye. Ramirez told authorities that the night before Amelia died he was upset with the child's mother so he went to the infant's crib and punched her in the stomach and the back of the head. Relatives told police that Ramirez was controlling and abusive toward the child's mother, which was confirmed by the mother.



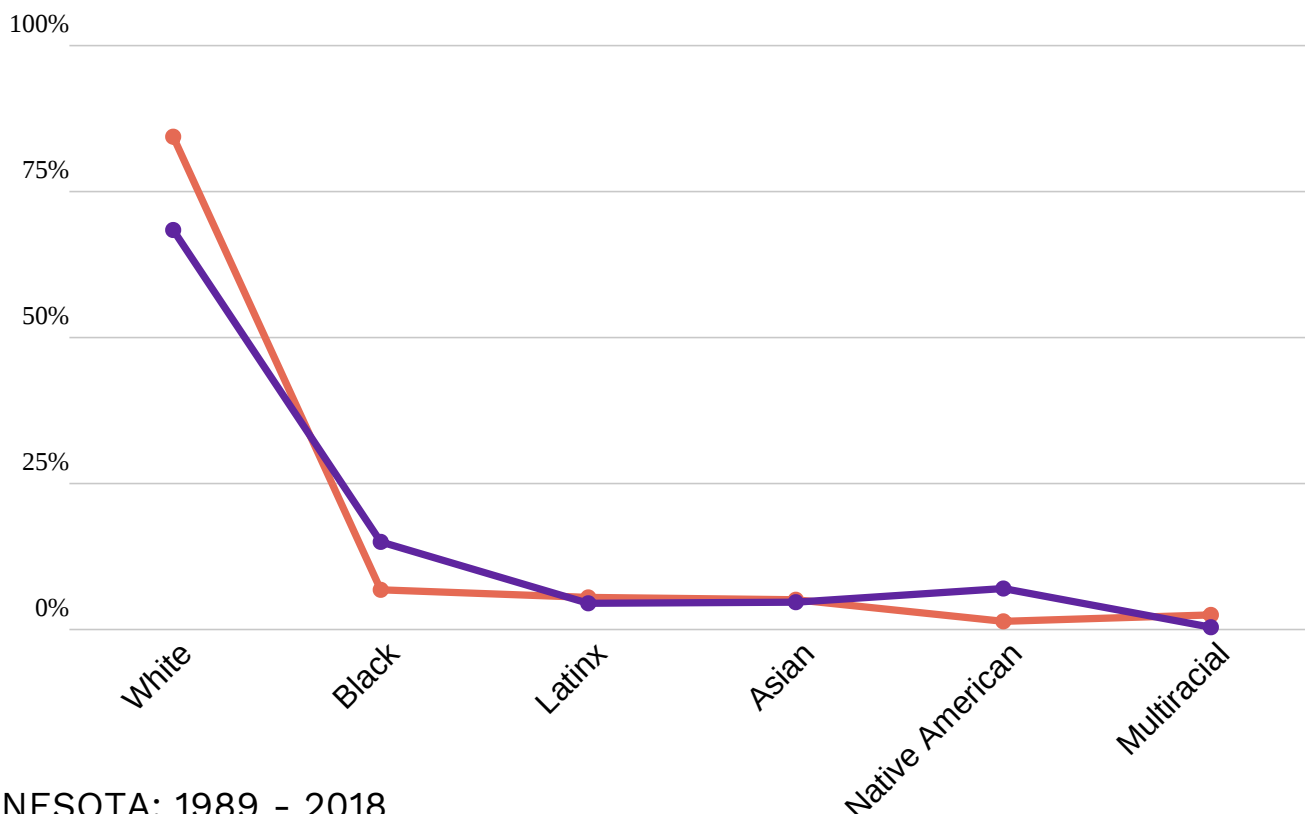


Relationship abuse can affect anyone regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, age, origin, or socioeconomic status. However, compounded systematic oppression results in marginalized communities experiencing disproportionately high rates of domestic violence, more barriers in accessing advocacy services, and disproportionately high rates of criminalization and penalization.

Racism, ableism, colonialism, heterosexism, and ageism all contribute to the deeply ingrained prejudices and stigma that support the continued exclusion of marginalized communities from safe, stable, nurturing and healing services. All communities suffer when we do not actively challenge the policies, practices, and principles that harm and oppress us, but Native American women and people of color, LGBTQ+ victims, individuals with disabilities, youth, and seniors suffer the most harm. Oppression, like control, is a tool of abuse. Uplifting, valuing, and adequately serving victims of all identities requires community accountability, culturally relevant programming, healing of historical and intergenerational trauma, accessible services, and the constant, never-ending challenging of our own assumptions and biases.



## RACE DATA OF ADULT WOMEN VICTIMS COMPARED TO ADULT WOMEN LIVING IN MINNESOTA



MINNESOTA: 1989 - 2018

ADULT WOMEN KILLED DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

[WWW.VIOLENCEFREEMINNESOTA.ORG](http://WWW.VIOLENCEFREEMINNESOTA.ORG)



# RACIAL DISPARITY: NATIVE WOMEN

Domestic violence occurs across all social boundaries, but communities of color and Native communities are disproportionately represented within the criminal justice system. Victims' personal experiences with the criminal justice system, and those of the communities they belong to, can dictate whether or not they will reach out to systems for help. While race data has been unreliable in the past, we were able to obtain death certificates with race information from the Minnesota Department of Health on 673 of the 685 cases of domestic violence homicide from 1989-2018. Race is captured on death certificates by the medical examiner, often through a variety of inconsistent methods including the examiner's judgment, the funeral director's perception, and information provided by friends and family of the victim. Due to these inconsistencies, the data we received was often categorized in broad, general groupings. Additionally, the formatting of death certificates has changed a number of times throughout the past 30 years, including an expansion of the race categories in 2011. The race data was compiled in the most consistent way possible given these limitations.

We found disproportionate numbers of Black and Native victims of domestic violence homicide when compared to statewide demographics. Over 16% of domestic violence homicide victims over the past 30 years were Black, while making up less than 7% of Minnesota's population. Native victims accounted for 6% of homicide victims, while the Native population makes up only 1% of the state.

Native women face higher rates of victimization due to the legacy of colonialism and the disconnect between local, state, and tribal laws. 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.

Native women and girls go missing and are murdered at alarmingly high rates, but data is not well tracked. In 2019, the Minnesota legislature formed a Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women's Task Force to begin data collection and make recommendations based on the Task Force findings.



## **DID NOT INVESTIGATE**

**Ernestine Medicine Elk**  
**September 11, 1995**  
**Minneapolis**

Ernestine died three days after leaving a domestic violence shelter. Although the death certificate did not indicate homicide, her body was severely beaten and bruised. Law enforcement chose not to investigate further.



## **FOND DU LAC OJIBWE TEACHER**

**Diane Putnam**  
**April 1, 2006**  
**Cloquet**

Richard Marchand was charged with first-degree murder in the death of his girlfriend, Diane Putnam. She had been strangled to death with a cord. Diane, a member of the Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe, was a teacher's aide at the Fond du Lac Ojibwe School.

# LGBTQ+: LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS

LGBTQ+ individuals report abuse at rates that are equal to or higher than those reported by heterosexual and cisgender individuals. Due to barriers to accessing services and hetero- and cis-normative frameworks of abuse, LGBTQ+ victims are often not taken seriously and the abuse may be characterized as “mutual abuse.” While most perpetrators use similar controlling tactics regardless of their identity or the identity of the victim, the dynamics of abuse within the LGBTQ+ community may look different than in heterosexual relationships or those between cisgender individuals. Coming “out” is a personal decision and is not always public; abusers whose victims identify as LGBTQ+ may threaten to “out” the victim as a way to harm them. Abusers may also use the close knit size of their LGBTQ+ affirming community to ostracize, isolate, and monitor the victim, as well as leveraging institutional discrimination as a tool of control. Some abusers may also try to undermine victims’ identities and exploit their vulnerabilities to achieve power.

A lack of understanding of LGBTQ+ identities and/or bias against LGBTQ+ people limits the quality and availability of domestic violence services for LGBTQ+ victims in Minnesota. Sex-segregated policies and practices in housing and shelter often exclude LGBTQ+ people based on their identity, creating additional safety concerns and isolation.

The Human Rights Campaign has tracked at least 145 deaths of transgender individuals due to fatal violence since 2013, most of whom were black transgender women. Advocates say that about half the cases in 2017 and 2018 are likely due to intimate partner violence. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs recorded 15 reports of intimate partner homicides within the LGBTQ+ community in 2017, with the numbers remaining consistent across their years of data collection.



## RECENTLY RECONCILED

**Shemeka Lott**  
**April 25, 2003**  
**St. Paul**

Tyress Nicole Wiley was arrested after stabbing her girlfriend Shemeka Lott to death. Wiley told St. Paul police that Shemeka Lott had been her intimate partner and that the two had broken up two months ago after Wiley had begun a relationship with a man. Wiley and Shemeka had reconciled the week of the murder.



## RECENT MOVE TO MINNESOTA

**Krissy Bates**  
**January 10, 2011**  
**Minneapolis**

Krissy Bates, a transgender woman, was strangled and killed by her boyfriend, Arnold Waukazo, at her apartment. When she moved, he then stabbed her four times in the torso and one time to the left side of her neck and broke her ribs. Krissy moved to Minneapolis from Kentucky in November 2010; she was Minneapolis' first homicide victim in 2011.

# DISABILITY

Individuals with disabilities experience disproportionately high rates of relationship violence, as well as unique barriers and challenges to accessing services. Women with disabilities have a 40% greater likelihood of experiencing intimate partner violence than women without disabilities.

While all victims of relationship abuse can experience similar forms of abuse, people with disabilities may experience unique forms of abuse that are difficult to recognize — making it even harder to get the kind of help they need. Such abuse may include:

- Removing or destroying a person’s mobility devices (e.g., wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, hearing aid device).
- Denying access to and/or taking prescribed medication from someone.
- Forcing someone to take medication against their will.
- Forcing someone to lie in soiled undergarments.
- Preventing access to food.
- Inappropriately touching a person while assisting with bathing and/or dressing.
- Denying access to disability-related resources in the community and/or to health care appointments.
- Perpetrating violence against service animals.

For some, their intimate partner is also their caregiver and thus has significant power and control over them. All of these tactics are further exacerbated by the lack of adequate accommodations for victims, who routinely face stigma, structural barriers, and discrimination in their daily lives.



**FOUND BY WHEELCHAIR**  
**Jody Lee Morrow**  
**June 21, 2009**  
**Albert Lea**

Chad Jamie Gulbertson went to Jody’s home in violation of the order for protection. He killed her by hitting her in the head with a hammer. Legal documents show that he had physically abused and threatened to kill her in the past. Gulbertson turned himself into the police later that morning. The police found Jody lying on the floor in front of her wheelchair. The floor and the wheelchair were covered in blood.



**BEATEN SERVICE DOG**  
**Cristina Prodan**  
**January 4, 2018**  
**Edina**

Cristina Prodan was killed by her ex-boyfriend, Joseph Sean Anthony Porter. Although under an active Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (DANCO), Porter was known to stop by Cristina’s apartment. Porter beat Cristina and then choked her to death. He then drove Cristina’s body to New Orleans where he put her in a junkyard shipping container and burned it. Porter has an extensive criminal history with numerous domestic violence charges and No Contact Order violations. Both Cristina and Porter’s mothers commented on Porter’s history of abuse, stating he had raped and beat Cristina and had a history of harming animals. Cristina had epilepsy and Porter had beaten her service dog.

# YOUTH

Violent and controlling adolescent relationships, which may be characterized and dismissed by adults as “young love” or simple jealousy, are equally as dangerous, as adult relationships. As with adults, the precipitating factor for youth relationship homicides is often the ending of a relationship. Over half of adolescents report experiencing physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse from a current or former dating partner. Over 7% of Minnesota's victims of intimate partner homicide over the past 30 years (50 individuals) were under the age of 18.

Youth often face systemic and legal barriers to accessing relationship abuse services as minors, especially in regards to safe housing and healthcare support. Many youth are not given the opportunity to learn about the dynamics of a healthy relationship or may witness unhealthy models of relationships at home. A 2018 pediatrics study on intimate partner homicide of adolescents between 2003 and 2016 found that 90% of victims were female, and in 27% of cases perpetrator jealousy and/or a breakup had preceded the deaths.



## CONTROL & MISOGYNY

**Michelle Eardley**  
**Age: 17**  
**November 2, 1995**  
**Blaine**

The bodies of Michelle and her mother, Susan Eardley, were found in their home. Both were shot to death. Michelle's former boyfriend, Dallas Lee Thompson, was arrested and charged with their murders. He had lived with Michelle and her mother until Michelle ended the relationship. Friends report Thompson had been violent in the past and that Michelle was afraid of what might happen if she broke up with him. Michelle's brother had called her recently to say he feared violence from Thompson and other friends said he had kicked, slapped, and hit her. Once a friend tried to stop an assault and he hit the friend, too. After the arrest, police discovered a videotape of Thompson at a party about the time of the breakup where he spoke with disgust for girls, branded women as two-faced liars and talked about having a hit list. He boasted, "I'm killing people tonight. There's the evidence tape."



## ANIMAL ABUSE

**Anna Hurd**  
**Age: 16**  
**February 23, 2013**  
**Maplewood**

Anna Hurd was stabbed to death by her boyfriend, Anthony Joseph Mitchell, Jr., age 17, the night before she was expected to move to Texas. Anna was attempting to break up with Mitchell at the time of the murder. Her friends said Mitchell was jealous and controlling and that they witnessed outbursts of anger from him in the weeks before Anna's death, including an incident in which he bashed her kitten against her car's steering wheel. Friends said that Anna and Mitchell broke up several times and that she talked of ending things for good but she was afraid of what he might do.



# SENIORS/OVER 50

While public perception around abuse of seniors often focuses on financial exploitation by caregivers and persons in positions of authority, elderly persons can experience physical, sexual, and emotional abuse from their intimate partners as well. In the last 30 years, 116 people over the age of 50 were killed due to intimate partner homicide. This accounts for nearly 17% of total victims of intimate partner homicide. Victims over the age of 50 also make up 26% of murder-suicide victims. Many victims over the age of 50 do not access relationship abuse services because of the emphasis many domestic and sexual violence programs place on meeting the needs of younger women and girls. Victims in this age category may have difficulty accessing support groups or legal services, and may not qualify for certain financial assistance services to help them become independent from their abusive partners.



## NURSING HOME

**Elizabeth Topel**

**Age: 86**

**December 15, 1992**

**Minneapolis**

Elizabeth, a resident of a Minneapolis nursing home, and her husband of 60 years, Vincent, were found dead in the bathroom of her room at the nursing home. Police have determined that Vincent shot Elizabeth and then turned the gun on himself.



## CONCERNING EMAIL

**Caron Fine**

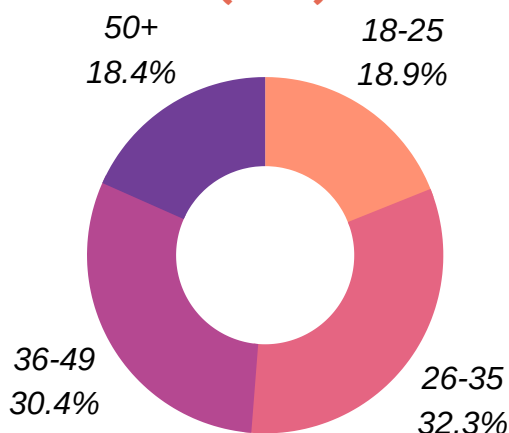
**Age: 67**

**February 12, 2013**

**Ramsey**

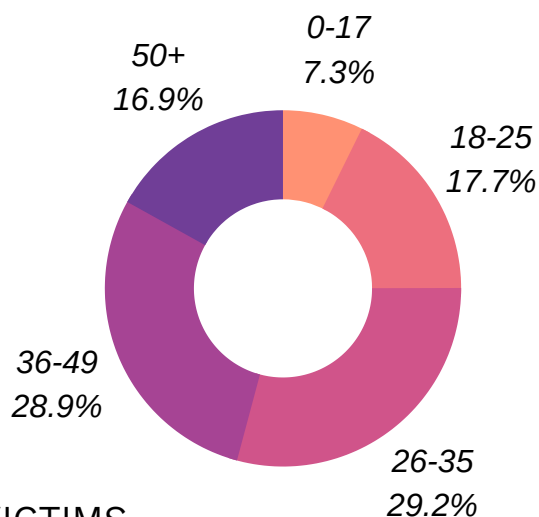
Police found the bodies of Mitchell Wolfe Fine and Caron Margaret Fine, following their adult daughter's request for a welfare check at their house. The daughter called authorities after she received a concerning email from her father. Mitchell Fine and Caron Fine's bodies were found in a bedroom with gunshot wounds to their heads. Nine cats were also found dead from apparent gunshot wounds. Caron Fine was killed by Mitchell Fine before he committed suicide.

## VICTIM AGES: ADULT WOMEN (18+)



523 VICTIMS

## VICTIM AGES: TOTAL VICTIMS



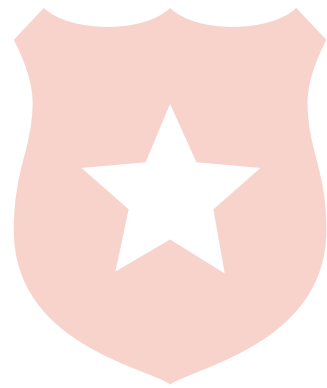
685 VICTIMS

INCLUDES: INTIMATE PARTNER, FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND BYSTANDERS



# BARRIERS TO SAFETY

While victims of relationship abuse face numerous barriers to safety, economic instability, criminalization of the victim, and immigration status were the three most noteworthy barriers that surfaced from our review. These barriers are experienced widely today by victims and survivors of domestic violence. Victims experiencing housing instability, homelessness, and financial abuse face greater risk for continued violence and control as they often lack the financial resources to access support services. Victims who engage in self-defense or use other survival strategies may appear as violent, be criminalized for their actions, and be penalized by the systems that are supposed to support them. Abusers may also use the immigration status of their victims as a control tactic, threatening to report the victim to ICE for deportation, isolate them from their ethnic community, or sabotage their immigration paperwork.



# ECONOMIC INSTABILITY: HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, FINANCIAL ABUSE

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 can include:

- Prohibiting a victim from working or forcing a victim to work and taking their paycheck.
- Using tactics that cause a victim to lose their job or public benefits.
- Forcing a victim to engage in prostitution.
- Exploiting the fact that a victim has been a stay-at-home parent for years, telling the victim that they will not be able to get a living wage job if they leave the abuser.
- Forcing victims to commit criminal acts to support themselves and their children.
- Denying child support or making it too dangerous to pursue child support.
- Ruining a victim's credit or preventing them from having a credit history.
- Causing a victim to get evicted from, or denied access to, housing.

Research indicates that financial abuse is one of the most commonly given reasons domestic violence victims stay with or return to an abusive partner. Victims have to choose between staying in an unsafe home or having no home at all. Domestic violence is also 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. While we have not had access to consistent data on the economic abuse experienced by the homicide victims, throughout our reports we found women who had faced economic instability in the past and/or suffered from a lack of economic resources in the five years preceding their murder.



## CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

**Jewell Burnett**  
**July 11, 2008**  
**Minneapolis**

Jewell's relationship with Christopher Jefferson had been violent in the past. Jewell had ended the relationship with Jefferson. Investigators believe that tensions over child support payments escalated to murder-suicide. Jewell and Jefferson had been in and out of court regarding unpaid child support payments.



## PAST HOMELESSNESS

**Miranda Schunk**  
**December 29, 2014**  
**St. Paul**

Less than two weeks after Miranda Schunk obtained a protection order against her ex-boyfriend, Kevin Scott Evans, he returned to her apartment and repeatedly stabbed her, inflicting wounds to her head, chest, and abdomen. Miranda is known to have experienced homelessness in the past.

# CRIMINALIZATION OF VICTIM

We know that victims are labeled as both victims and offenders within the criminal justice system. Research shows that anywhere between 60% to over 90% of incarcerated women have histories of domestic and sexual violence victimization. Victims are criminally charged for a variety of reasons, including retaliating, 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. Due to a scarcity of resources, including effective and affordable treatment and services for mental health needs, many victims end up in the criminal justice system.



## "THE AGGRESSOR"

**Woynshet Woldemariam**  
**July 14, 2012**  
**Apple Valley**

Woynshet Woldemariam and her husband, Anteneh Tesgaye, were involved in various court procedures – protective orders, police calls, and custody proceedings. On paper, Woynshet Woldemariam was identified as "the aggressor" of the relationship. She was charged with violating two orders of protection, arrested for hitting her husband, and convicted on domestic abuse charges. Nevertheless, Woynshet was shot to death by Tsegaye in a parking lot outside of her home where she lived with the couple's two children. Tsegaye then turned the gun on himself and committed suicide. After the incident, family and friends living close to the couple shared another version of their abusive relationship, including that Woynshet was the victim of emotional and physical abuse. Tsegaye took advantage of the system, recording Woynshet's statements and using them out of context to characterize her as the abusive partner. He also used their children to manipulate and abuse her, forcing her to have sex with him in order to see her children. This story was confirmed by law enforcement officers who previously worked with the couple.



## CODEFENDANTS

**Tasha Lynn Hanson**  
**May 12, 2016**  
**Lewiston**

Kyle Benjamin Allers killed his girlfriend, Tasha Lynn Hanson, 24. Five year earlier, police responded to Tasha's call for assistance when her boyfriend assaulted her. Tasha reported that Kyle held her against her will in the bathroom of their home for 30 to 45 minutes, strangled her until she couldn't breathe, threatened her with a gun, and told her he should have tied her up and thrown her in the weeds. Tasha explained that during the course of this attack, she found a knife and used it in self-defense. After listening to Tasha, officers made her take a breathalyzer test because her eyes were bloodshot (a possible sign of strangulation) and she "smells of alcohol." Kyle was transported to the hospital with a cut to his abdomen and scratches. When police interviewed Kyle, he told them he got into an argument with Tasha and that she started biting and clawing at him. He said he was trying to calm her down, but she stabbed him. When asked if a gun was involved, he responded, "I live for her and would never do something like that," and that no gun was involved. The police gained access to the house and found signs of a struggle, a broken knife in the bathroom, and an unloaded rifle in the bedroom. The police also found damage to both Tasha and Kyle's cars including destruction of Tasha's car windows. They arrested both Tasha and Kyle as "codefendants." Kyle was charged with terroristic threats and domestic assault, was convicted of the domestic assault charge and was sentenced to four days in jail and one year of probation. Tasha was charged with second degree assault, destruction of property, and domestic assault. She was convicted of the domestic assault charge, sentenced to six days in jail and one year of probation. Kyle killed Tasha by strangulation and beating. Law enforcement found her body in the woods.

# CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

Immigrant victims of relationship abuse, whether they are documented or undocumented, often face unique hurdles to accessing advocacy services. Abusive partners may use the immigration status of victims as a control tactic by threatening to get them deported or separated from their children if they reach out for help. Immigrant victims may also be hesitant to work with law enforcement and may face cultural and linguistic barriers in accessing information about domestic abuse services. They may also be unfamiliar with the resources available or their rights in Minnesota.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline's 2018 Impact Report revealed that 4,565 victims reported threats related to their immigration status when calling the hotline that year. The 2017 Advocate and Legal Service Survey Regarding Immigrant Survivors documented that 78 percent of advocates reported that immigrant survivors were concerned about calling the police. The same survey documented that 43 percent of advocates had worked with immigrant survivors who dropped civil or criminal cases due to fears related to their immigration status.



## IMMIGRATED FROM POLAND

**Jadwiga Babowicz**  
**January 12, 2006**  
**Bloomington**

Jadwiga was found shot to death in the home she once shared with her estranged husband, who then took his own life. Her body was found after coworkers became concerned when Jadwiga failed to appear at work. It was determined that Jozef Babowicz shot Jadwiga and then shot himself. Jadwiga and Jozef had immigrated to Minnesota from Poland and the couple had recently separated. Jadwiga had been planning to change the locks on her house.



## BURIED IN KENYA

**Esther Muchina-Dobie**  
**March 30, 2015**  
**Savage**

Esther Nyambura Muchina-Dobie was shot in the head by her husband, Rodney Terrell Dobie, before he killed himself. Police found their bodies while responding to a welfare-check call from Esther's employer after she did not report for work that morning. Esther was last seen leaving work on March 28. Neighbors shared that the couple had moved into the neighborhood within the past 12 months, and that police had visited the home about two weeks before the homicide. According to a death announcement, Esther was buried in her home country of Kenya.

# PERPETRATOR HISTORY: FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT

Victims whose abusers are in law enforcement experience unique challenges and are unlikely to look to the criminal justice system for protection and safety. Victims in officer-involved domestic violence cases are often hesitant to report the abuse out of fear that there will be no response, that responding officers will support their abuser, or that their abuser will gain information to use against them. Abusers who have increased knowledge of the criminal justice system and access to tools to monitor and harm the victim can use their expertise to assert even greater power and control over their victim. Additionally, law enforcement officers might find themselves in the challenging position of responding to a call for help by a colleague or supervisor's victim.

Adequate and consistent data on law enforcement involved domestic violence cases is lacking. A commonly quoted statistic that 40% of law enforcement families experience domestic violence is from a nearly 30 year old study by the National Center for Women & Policing. Better data needs to be collected and compiled in order for us to know the true prevalence of domestic violence in law enforcement. Recently, USA Today found 85,000 police officers from departments around the country had been investigated or disciplined for misconduct, and uncovered 2,307 cases of domestic violence committed by said officers. The uniqueness of officer-involved domestic violence highlights a need to take proactive measures to ensure safety and protection for these victims, as well as for the officers who respond to domestic violence calls.



## **CASE NOT REFERRED**

**Laura Simonson**  
**November 2, 2013**  
**Rochester**

Laura Simonson was last seen entering a Rochester hotel with Steven Zelich, a former police officer from Wisconsin. On June 5, 2014, police in Wisconsin discovered two bodies in suitcases along a highway and identified one as Laura Simonson. Rochester police say Zelich and Laura were known acquaintances that had a previous relationship through the Internet. In 2001, a woman had reported to the police that Zelich had attempted to rape her. Zelich's case was never referred to prosecutors for possible criminal charges. Zelich was sentenced to 25 years for Laura's murder, and an additional 10 years for hiding her body. Laura Simonson was the mother of 7 children.



## **ESCALATING STALKING**

**Barbara Larson**  
**December 23, 2016**  
**Faribault**

Barbara Larson was shot and killed at her workplace, the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce, by her ex-husband and retired police officer, Richard Larson. Larson then committed suicide. Barbara was married to Larson for several years and divorced him in 2014. She was granted a Harassment Restraining Order (HRO) against Larson, which was served the week of the murder. Barbara informed the courts of physical abuse and repeated, escalating stalking by Richard.



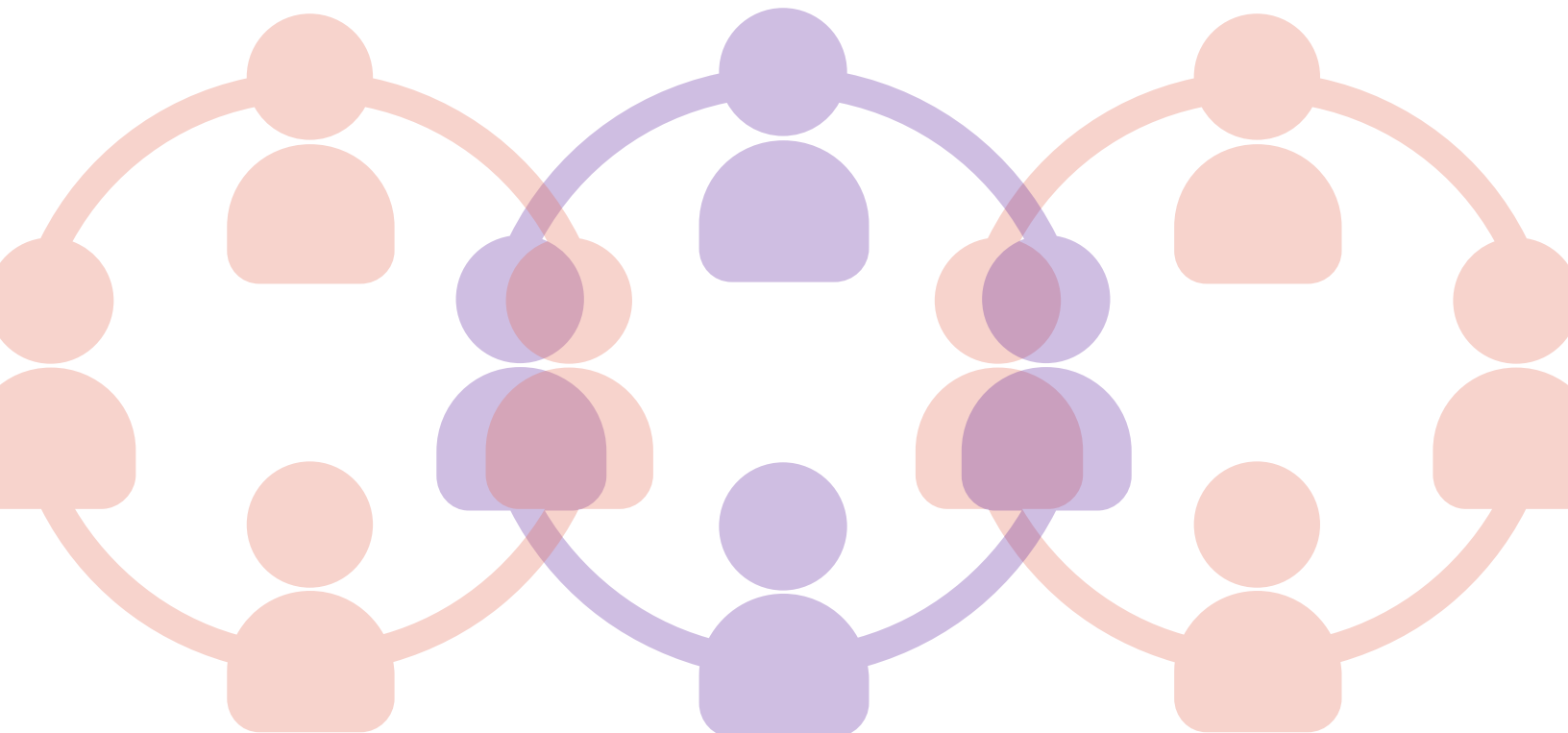


# COMMUNITY IMPACT

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.

Abusers intent on ending their victims' lives may carry out their acts in public and against those who witness or try to intervene, whether those witnesses or interveners are friends, family members, coworkers, advocates, or law enforcement. Because relationship abuse centers around an abuser's need for power and control, those who attempt to take that control away too often suffer the consequences, while those who witness the ultimate act of control are left with life-long trauma. Whenever there is an intimate partner homicide, we must provide trauma care for children, family members, workplaces, faith institutions, and impacted communities. Trauma and healing resources should also be provided to direct service providers and interveners such as EMTs, law enforcement, crime beat reporters, and domestic violence advocates, and those collecting data and conducting research.



# PUBLIC HOMICIDE

While abusers are frequently characterized as charming and charismatic, oftentimes family members and friends of the victim are well aware of violence and control in the relationship. It is not uncommon for abusers to publicly humiliate and criticize victims in front of other people as a tactic of power, with public homicide signaling the ultimate act of control and violence. An abuser who commits relationship homicide in public has not “snapped” or “lost control,” but in fact has already engaged in continuous violence at home. A study published in the Annals of Epidemiology in 2012 found that from 2003-2008, nearly 33% of women killed in the workplace in the U.S. were killed by a current or former intimate partner. Acts of relationship homicide in public raise questions around bystander intervention and cause trauma with long-lasting consequences for witnesses and interveners. 113 of the 685 victims (or 16%) of intimate partner homicide in our reports were bystanders or interveners.



## LOOKED FOR HELP

**Tensia Richard**  
**October 25, 2012**  
**Cottage Grove**

Tensia Richard was killed by her estranged husband, Chevel Richard. Tensia was attacked outside Anytime Fitness center, chased across the parking lot to a Jimmy John’s restaurant where she tried to signal for help. Once inside, the restaurant employees ran and hid inside the freezer, leaving Tensia alone and helpless with her husband who then shot her. After killing his wife, Chevel then shot and killed himself. Chevel had a long history of domestic violence, including a protective order Tensia had against him. Just two weeks before the incident Tensia had separated from her husband and was in the process of filing for a divorce.



## IN AN INTERSECTION

**Trisha Nelson**  
**February 12, 2016**  
**Plymouth**

Trisha Nelson was shot and run over with a car by her fiancé, Corey Perry. According to witnesses who were present at the scene of the homicide, Trisha exited a vehicle and pleaded with occupants of a car for help as Perry chased her and fired as many as 20 shots in her direction. He then ran her over at a high speed. Perry fled to the apartment he shared with Trisha. Several people called the police from the apartment complex to report a man with a gun. When police arrived, gunshots were exchanged. Perry was shot, but autopsy showed he died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was wearing tactical gear and was in possession of multiple weapons at the time of his death. While Perry did not have any documented history of abuse against Trisha, family and friends say he was abusive to her and his behavior had escalated in the last year. Perry also had a history of public violence, including use of his firearm, and was on felony probation at the time of the murder-suicide.

# BYSTANDERS: LAW ENFORCEMENT

Domestic violence calls are among the most dangerous for law enforcement, who are shot and killed more frequently when responding to domestic violence than to any other firearm-related crime. FBI data from 1988 to 2016 show that law enforcement officers are killed with nearly double the frequency when responding to domestic violence calls than when responding to narcotics calls. Abusers often respond violently to those who are perceived to be taking away their control, and may view the victim reaching out for help as a loss of power that requires escalation to regain. The point at which a victim attempts to access emergency services can be an incredibly volatile and unpredictable period for all involved.



## HELPED ESCAPE

**Officer Shawn Schneider**  
**December 30, 2011**  
**Lake City**

Police officer Shawn Schneider was shot in the head while responding to a domestic assault call. Alan Sylte, Jr., shot Officer Schneider as he helped Sylte's former girlfriend escape the house. The ex-girlfriend was not injured. Officer Schneider died from the gunshot wound. Sylte died from self-inflicted gunshot wounds.



## PUSHED INTO SAFE PLACE

**Officer Richard Crittenden**  
**September 7, 2009**  
**North St. Paul**

Officer Richard Crittenden responded to a call at the home of Stacy Terry for a violation of an Order for Protection (OFP), which was issued against Devon Dockery. Dockery had been arrested for violating the order on May 18 and again on August 26. The police had also gone to the home on September 6, but Dockery had already fled. Dockery had a long history of abuse against his estranged wife, Stacey Terry. The criminal complaints indicate that he had physically abused and made terroristic threats against her for nine years, and she had obtained at least four orders for protection against him. On the morning of September 7, Stacey called the police because she feared Dockery was inside her apartment waiting to ambush her and her daughter. When Officer Crittenden, along with another officer, Stacey, and her daughter, entered the apartment, Dockery charged at the group with an accelerant-soaked flaming rag. Officer Crittenden pushed Stacey and her daughter into a safe place in the kitchen while he and the other officer fought Dockery in the living room. Dockery burned Officer Crittenden on his head. In the melee, Dockery was able to grab the officer's gun and shoot Officer Crittenden in the head at close range. The other officer also suffered a gunshot wound to her arm as she and Dockery exchanged gun shots. Both Officer Crittenden and Dockery were pronounced dead at the scene.

# BYSTANDERS AND INTERVENERS

Abusers who are confronted or witnessed while assaulting and threatening victims may also respond with violence against these bystanders or interveners who may be friends, family members, neighbors, coworkers, or complete strangers. The end result is the loss of additional lives, creating a ripple effect of devastation that spills beyond the initial target of abuse.

## **CALLED NEIGHBOR**



**Christina Ayers  
Kris Elsenpeter  
Deborah Martin  
June 27, 1996  
Crystal**

Christina was living with a couple who had taken her in. The husband, Murray Bunness, came home and shot his wife, Deborah Martin. He then went upstairs and shot Christina. Police found her with a phone still in her hand. Evidently she had tried to call for help. Bunness then went downstairs and while standing over his wife's body, called his friend and neighbor Kris Elsepeter to come over. When Kris arrived, he saw his friend, gun in hand, standing over the body of his wife, Deborah. Bunness turned the gun on Kris and shot him.



## **AT HIS BIRTHDAY PARTY**

**Prince Pope  
January 25, 2014  
St. Paul**

Prince Pope was murdered at his 32nd birthday party. Pope and his brother, Rico Jackson, were both upset about their sister having a black eye and suspected that her boyfriend, Damonta Jones, had been violent towards her. Jackson confronted Jones and was stabbed by Jones's friend, Leevester Rhodes. Pope was fatally shot as he intervened.



## **FRIEND CALLED 9-1-1**

**Sonya Marie Hennagir  
January 29, 2008  
Park Rapids**

Sonya had just invited a friend over to her home. When her friend arrived, she saw a car with Michigan plates at the house. When the friend walked in, she found Sonya dead in a chair and began to worry about Sonya's children. When she went further into the house she saw Richard Derek Wright sexually assaulting Sonya's six-year-old daughter. Wright came after her as she ran from the home calling 911. Police arrived to find Wright choking Sonya's friend. Wright, who was in Minnesota working on a pipeline and dating Sonya, was from Michigan where he was married and had three children. Wright had previous violent felonies.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

Review of thirty years of information around intimate partner homicides in Minnesota makes abundantly clear that the impact of intimate partner violence is far-reaching and not the “private matter” it was once thought to be. Not only has intimate partner violence led to the tragic loss of so many lives, but it has touched thousands more who have witnessed, intervened, advocated, or been caught in the cross-fires of the violence. And this report only reflects the impact when the violence turns lethal; so many others are affected by the coercive, controlling tactics used against their loved ones.

Many of the findings, including the high incidence of firearms-related homicides, the rate of murder-suicides, and the number of children impacted by the violence, demand that we treat intimate partner violence as a public-health issue and not simply a criminal justice or family law matter. A public health approach to tackling the issue of intimate partner violence will provide us with greater research and will support more comprehensive strategies for prevention and intervention that may one day reduce the rate of intimate partner homicide in Minnesota.





# DATA COLLECTION

Violence Free Minnesota is the only entity in Minnesota that collects intimate partner homicide information. Recent partnerships with the Minnesota Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety have increased the kinds of information available to us, but no government agency collects information based on an intimate partner definition.

Violence Free Minnesota invests significant time and resources to collect this information annually. While most of the information gathered is public and mandatory for different government agencies to collect, we face challenges accessing this information and find it is not collected consistently across the state. To identify the gaps in the system that need to be bridged in order to prevent domestic violence fatalities, we need reliable and consistent data collection on domestic violence incidents beyond what currently exists.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS ALL DATA COLLECTION MEET THESE GOALS:**



Use common definitions that distinguish between intimate partner violence and family or household violence.



**Easily accessible data.** Violence Free Minnesota relies on public data for this report. Others should have access to the data as well.



**Utilize community experts.** Agencies and organizations setting up and/or revising data collection methods should utilize Violence Free Minnesota and other community experts. A starting point would be for the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to work with **community experts** to more accurately classify race categories and to identify ways to collect better race data; this should include looking specifically at mixed race categorizations. MDH's work can be a model for race classification for other departments.





# DATA COLLECTION

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DATA INCLUDE:



Criminal justice system agencies across Minnesota consistently capture information regarding intimate partner violence. This includes keeping data from 911 calls, arrests, charges, convictions, sentencing, incarceration, supervision, and probation violations. All agencies should collect reliable, consistent data to more fully capture information relevant to domestic violence.



Government agencies beyond the criminal justice system - specifically the Departments of Health, Public Safety, Human Services, Housing Finance, and Corrections - work with Violence Free Minnesota to identify important areas for data collection and broaden the data collected in the state on intimate partner homicides.



Continue supporting the Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women's (MMIW) Task Force and similar projects focused on Native women and girls in their efforts to collect data on the disproportionately high rates of violence experienced by this community. Good data collection is essential to understanding what is happening to Native people and fashioning effective responses.



### CASE HIGHLIGHT: ROSE DOWNWIND

**October 20, 2015**  
**Bemidji**

Rose Downwind was killed by her ex-boyfriend, Marchello Anthony Cimmarusti, with whom she had three children. Rose was reported missing on October 21. After a two-month search, Cimmarusti confessed to killing her. Cimmarusti had been abusive to Rose in the past and was charged with domestic assault against her on October 7. As a result of those charges, a court issued a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (DANCO) preventing Cimmarusti from contacting Rose. On October 20, Cimmarusti assaulted and killed Rose as she attempted to take a video of him violating the DANCO. Cimmarusti's cousin and friend assisted him in hiding Rose's body, which was found burned and buried in a shallow grave in December.





# DATA COLLECTION

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DATA INCLUDE:



Processes similar to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Task Force be explored and implemented to **address issues within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus communities**. Data on LGBTQ+ communities is severely lacking, and is 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. We thus do not have an accurate count of LGBTQ+ victims in Minnesota. We need to have a better understanding of what is happening in Minnesota and what we can do to make this more visible and respond appropriately.



### CASE HIGHLIGHT: MICHAEL REICH

**June 9, 2008  
Minneapolis**

When officers arrived, they found Michael dead from stab wounds and arrested his partner, Harold Meeks, who was also the person who made the emergency call. Michael's death was the first same-sex domestic violence homicide documented in the city of Minneapolis in over two years.



Family court and child protective services collect data with specific focus on the **intersection of race, domestic violence, and homicide**. To date, the place where data on domestic violence has been available has been within the criminal justice system. It may be that lethality factors present in family court and/or child protection cases are different than those that appear in criminal justice system cases. With the rates of racial disparity surrounding children involved in these systems, data collection should include race data.



# DATA COLLECTION

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED):



Improve collection and require reporting of missing person information to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). Require reporting of information on both adults and minors, including race data, and final disposition information. The BCA should create a mechanism for individuals and other entities to report missing person information to them. For women who are missing - and Native women in particular - data shows that many are later found to be murdered and murdered by an intimate partner. Missing persons data is not consistently reported, is not verified, and dispositional information is not included. Much of this information is not reflected in this report because the information on missing persons is not complete or reliable.





Violence Free Minnesota is not a research agency and the information in the *Intimate Partner Homicide Report* is not research. Rather, it is a collection of publicly available information and our observations and recommendations based on forty years of expertise working with domestic violence advocates and survivors. Trained and funded researchers should take this charge. The agencies that collect the information upon which we rely have access to the underlying, individual data and thus could make more informed observations about the relationship between certain factors, such as race or murder-suicide rates, than is possible with publically available aggregate data.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



Research be conducted in partnership with community experts specifically when looking at the intersection of various factors. For example, race is an imprecise term but a critical factor to be considered; community experts can assist researchers to more accurately analyze race data.



Researchers investigate areas where anomalies appear in the data reflected in this report. There are eleven counties in Minnesota, mostly located on the western edge of the state, where we have no record of an intimate partner homicide in 30 years of data collection. Our records also show counties where the rates of intimate partner homicides are significantly higher or lower than would be anticipated based on population. Research could determine if there are factors that account for the difference in the rates of homicides within a county.



## **SPECIFIC AREAS FOR RESEARCH:**



Test the reliability of lethality assessment screening tools being used by various law enforcement and court systems.



Look into the missing persons data to determine what can be learned from this distinct data pool.

## **POLICY CHANGE NEEDED FOR FIREARMS RESEARCH:**



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.



### **CASE HIGHLIGHT: MIKAYLA OLSON**

**September 3, 2004  
St. Paul**

A motorist in Polk County, Wisconsin, discovered the bodies of five-year-old Mikayla Olson and her father, John Tester, inside a car around midnight. Police determined that Tester shot his daughter and then himself. Tester and Mikayla's mother had divorced two years before. Despite the fact that Tester had abused his former wife and was jailed four times for violating the order for protection against him, Tester was given unsupervised visitation rights with his daughter. The murder of his daughter was a premeditated act, driven by a desire for revenge on his former wife. At 8 p.m. on the night of the killings, Tester called his ex-wife to say he was "sorry" and had Mikayla speak to her mother and say, "she was going on a long journey with daddy." "I think it was his way at getting back at [his ex-wife]," said Gina Tester, a sister-in-law.



# POINTS FOR INTERVENTION

One primary goal of research should be to identify points for earlier intervention and to find what types of interventions are effective and, equally as important, to identify what interventions cause harm. In many of the cases compiled in this report, opportunities existed for interventions that could have made a difference in the outcome. These “points of intervention” are varied. Often perpetrators or victims made specific statements or actions that indicated there was imminent danger that no one acted on, and others show missed opportunities to provide meaningful services after victims were assaulted. Many of these points of intervention arise shortly after attempts or plans are made by a victim to leave the relationship, including periods in which victims are gathering their belongings, have sought help from law enforcement, or have shared concerns about their relationship with peers. We must take seriously the statements from victims and perpetrators indicating danger and fear of harm, provide robust safety planning with victims who engage in contact with perpetrators after breaking off a relationship, and provide appropriate interventions and services to perpetrators at these critical junctures.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



Individual agencies **annually review** intimate partner homicides or near-fatal incidents to identify possible places for earlier intervention. Such reviews should take place in partnership with community-based advocates and community experts familiar with the unique circumstances raised by the cases. Violence Free Minnesota is a resource for these type of reviews. We caution that changing agency policy *without* input from community experts can create policy that has unintended negative consequences for victim/survivors and their families.



**Conduct institutional audits** to identify weaknesses and strengths within an agency or system for addressing domestic violence. Minnesota has national experts on institutional audits. Audits can identify, at the institutional and systemic level, where to make improvements.





# POINTS FOR INTERVENTION

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:



Expand the use of lethality assessments tools. Using evidence-based research, experts have developed several tools for assessing the likelihood that intimate partner violence may lead to a fatality. Law enforcement, advocates, corrections professionals, and judges in several cities and counties in Minnesota use these tools to screen victims at high risk of murder. Law enforcement uses these assessments to determine whether to immediately connect a victim to advocacy services and to inform bail and sentencing. Family courts, healthcare facilities, churches, workplaces, and others should consider adapting and using these tools as well.



### CASE HIGHLIGHT: SUSAN MARIE COURTEAU

**October 13, 2011**  
**St. Paul**

Susan Marie Courteau was stabbed to death. On October 13th, she called police to say that her boyfriend, Patrick Benton, had been drinking and was scaring her. Officers escorted him off the property and cited him for trespass. Later that day, Susan was killed. Benton told a family member that he needed a “cooling off period” after having a fight with his girlfriend. Benton had a criminal record that included assaults and violations of protective orders.



Strengthen lethality tools, including elevating victims' reports of threats to kill. While most lethality assessments include threats to kill as one factor, it is important to elevate this factor as it is based on victim report and often overlooked. Research has shown that victims are often accurate in predicting future risk, a woman's perception of danger being the single best predictor of re-assault, and we should rely on their expertise.



# POINTS FOR INTERVENTION

## RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED:



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 LGBTQ+ victims).



### **CASE HIGHLIGHT: PANHIA YANG AND KONG MENG LEE**

**March 24, 2013**  
**St. Paul**

On March 22, 2013, Panhia Yang filed a restraining order against her husband, Chue Lor, after years of abuse. Panhia told her sister that Lor had been controlling and accused her of cheating, though she assured him she had not. Lor had also physically assaulted and threatened to kill Panhia in the past. Two days later, when Panhia returned to their St. Paul apartment to gather her belongings, she called a non-emergency police dispatch to ask for an escort. Officers, busy on emergency calls, did not immediately respond. Panhia then talked to Lor on the phone. Her family thinks he convinced her it was safe to come in their apartment and she did not wait for the police. Panhia's 18-year-old brother, Kong Meng Lee, had come along to protect her. Just over an hour after Panhia called for a police escort, police received a 911 call about the killings. Police suspect Lor stabbed his wife and her brother before committing suicide. The couple's four children, ages 3 to 9, were in the apartment at the time of the killings.





We need widespread investment to reduce intimate partner homicide and prevent relationship abuse. Time, energy, and innovation are essential but nearly impossible without significant financial investments. Diverse financial support is paramount; funding must be provided through the government, foundations, and private donors. All funding to end violence must be informed by both experts and those most impacted in the field; address the significant gaps and disparities that currently exist; and be a long term, stable commitment in order to both make and sustain systemic change.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



Identify gaps in services around the state and create a comprehensive plan to fill those gaps. Assessment and plan development must happen with community experts, experts in the field of domestic and sexual violence, and public and private funders. 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, consistent financial support for programs to meet the local needs across the state. Communities that have no programs currently should receive priority consideration.



**Invest in domestic violence transformation programming.** Minnesota has not made a financial investment in programming directed at changing the behavior of those who have perpetrated intimate partner violence. If the sole focus remains on intervention after violence has occurred and on the separation of an individual victim and perpetrator then - even if we are successful in protecting that individual victim - we will continue to see ongoing violence against others. Until there is an investment in changing perpetrators' behavior, there will always be another victim and domestic violence will continue.



## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:



Invest in violence prevention efforts. If we are to end violence in Minnesota, it is critical for both government and private funders to invest in both meaningful intervention and violence prevention work.



Funding must reach all communities within Minnesota. Because Native people live in every county and city in Minnesota, policy, practice, and resources must also support programs working with Native people living outside of reservation communities.



Funders should require appropriate training and policies/protocols creation for grantees on intimate partner violence as a condition for funding, not only when funding domestic violence specific programming but when funding any program that intersects with families (e.g. maternal health clinic grants and early childhood programming).



# POLICY AND PRACTICE

Domestic violence intersects with a vast array of social issues and lived experiences. For our educational system to be successful, we must address violence children experience in the home in order for them to be able to learn. For victim/survivors to achieve stability and safety, we need to provide economic opportunity and affordable housing. In order to end violence, we need to provide effective programming to transform abusive behaviors. Numerous policy and practices changes should take place, and there are immediate and specific changes we recommend to lay the foundation towards a violence free Minnesota.



To address the racial disparities present within all systems victims interact with, we recommend focusing time, energy, and resources on culturally-specific programs in underserved and marginalized communities.

## **SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE:**



Support changes to federal laws to allow tribes to enforce tribal law and protect people on tribal lands.



Strengthen relationships between the FBI and tribal law enforcement to capture more accurate information from reservation communities and to fashion better interventions.



Every agency must provide for accessibility for non-English speakers. **Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plans** need to be in place, be regularly updated, and known throughout each agency. The communities directly impacted by the LEP plans should be involved in their development and review.



Start and/or continue to **name and acknowledge the realities of racial bias and disparity in policing**. Law enforcement must address issues of sexism, racism, heterosexism, etc. and implicit bias in order to remove barriers and increase options for victims who may need to rely on law enforcement to stop the violence they are experiencing.



# POLICY AND PRACTICE

## BROADER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE:



Firearms policies be tailored in response to the research/data on how people access firearms. Policies based on the premise that mental health is the identifying factor for firearm threats should be avoided; a focus on a person's mental health diagnosis will not address the threat of firearm deaths by intimate partners.



All firearm regulations and laws be adequately funded and be capable of implementation across the state by all communities and all law enforcement/court systems.



Prioritizing victim requests for assistance in retrieving property from their homes and recovery of minor children. We know that there are increased safety risks in and around the time when victims leave a relationship. Victims typically seek law enforcement assistance but at times reach out to other agencies/services. All should have prioritization policies.



Law enforcement agencies create joint programs and/or projects with community based advocacy organizations specifically to respond to domestic violence calls. This could include embedding an advocate into a law enforcement agency or connecting an advocate to a victim at the crime scene.



Standardized training and protocols not only for law enforcement, but for social workers, mental health professionals, and healthcare providers to recognize the signs of strangulation and screen for strangulation. Every SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) or person filling this role should conduct a strangulation screening as part of the SANE exam.



Create and strengthen partnerships with disability rights and service organizations as well as those who work with elders. Understand the unique role of caregivers and the impact of caregivers when they are abusive, and have systems that keep services flowing to a victim if reporting the violence removes the caregiver.







# PREVENTION

If we want to see a reduction in relationship abuse, and specifically, homicides, the focus must be on prevention, as well as earlier and more effective interventions. The work of prevention involves wide-ranging institutions and systems that are interacting with families.



## VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:



Schools, organized sports programming, and after-school programs make **healthy relationship curriculum** standard for all ages. There are many effective prevention strategies and resources for working with children, youth, and families.



**Prevention programming across the full age spectrum.** Care facilities, home healthcare services, and those working with elders should have training and policies, not only for recognizing and responding to intimate partner abuse, but also to implement prevention strategies.



**Implement universal screening models and response protocols within every healthcare provider setting.** The Project Connect evidence-based model of universal screening during health care visits and warm referral to a community based advocate has been tested for youth, general maternal health, and with Indian Health Boards.




**Training and protocol development for any professional going into homes to provide services.** This includes school resource officers, family home visiting nurses, mental health home-based providers, probation agents, and others. Seeing families in the home setting provides unique access to what is happening within a family; these professionals need to be trained to recognize signs of violence and provide meaningful interventions, warm referrals, tailored responses and follow up services.





# PROTECTING CHILDREN


Due to the impact of intimate partner violence on children, all systems that support children - including family and juvenile court, child protection, and schools - must evaluate how they are responding to reports of such violence.



## VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:




Family court considers the relevance and impact of domestic violence in all of its proceedings, not just in protective order hearings. Family court is the place where the majority of child custody and parenting time matters are handled and the court is a system that has not historically been looked at to protect children from violence and abuse.



### CASE HIGHLIGHT: SVETLANA VLADIMIROVNA MUNT

**March 28, 2010**  
**Mankato**

Svetlana Munt and Joel Munt were divorced. There had been multiple court hearings regarding custody and parenting time. Joel Munt had a history of threatening and abusing Svetlana. Court records referenced incidents where Joel Munt threatened to hurt and kill Svetlana. At one point, an order for protection was issued against Joel Munt. Joel Munt had supervised parenting time with the couple's three minor children. On March 28, Svetlana picked up the children from parenting time. As she drove away, Joel Munt rammed Svetlana Munt's car into a tree with her and the three children in the car. He then approached the car and shot Svetlana through the car window, hitting her seven times in the head while the children - ages 4, 5, and 7 - watched. Joel Munt then put the children into another nearby vehicle, which he took from its owner at gunpoint, and drove away. After a car chase, Joel Munt was arrested.





# PROTECTING CHILDREN

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:



**Juvenile court** needs to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions in ending violence within families, not only whether or not children are removed from situations of imminent danger.



The **child protection system** must evaluate the impact of their practices, looking closely at “failure to protect” practices, and determine whether each practice re-traumatizes the family, reduces the parent’s ability to protect the child, or supports families. Child protection reforms must also address issues of racial disparity. Indications of successful reform should result in families seeking out child protection for services, rather than families recoiling in fear when child protection is contacted.



**Training and protocol development for all personnel within family and juvenile court and child protection** to identify domestic violence, understand 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.



Extend the work of protecting children to **schools and early childhood professionals** who need to take up domestic violence as a core issue.



Understanding that victims of relationship abuse are too often criminalized and that criminalization impacts both the adult and their children. Support legislation that directs sentencing judges and the Dept. of Corrections to consider **alternatives to incarceration for primary caregivers**.





# ECONOMIC SECURITY

Victims are confronted with the intersection between relationship abuse, poverty, and financial barriers. We can work towards safety by creating fair, equitable conditions for victim/survivors to obtain stable, safe housing and opportunities for financial independence. These conditions empower victim/survivors to make decisions about their lives and intimate relationships without fear.



## VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:



Extensive work with **both public housing and private market landlords** to ensure that legal protections for victims are understood and enforced, that landlords understand how to provide safety in housing, that affordable housing is also safe housing, and to strengthen partnerships between community advocacy programs and landlords.



Increase **low barrier access to financial resources** for victim/survivors that not only addresses their financial needs but includes a process for accessing funds that empower victim/survivors.



Support **financial security/empowerment legislation** and policies like the Women's Economic Security Act, paid leave for victims of domestic violence, living wage legislation, and increases to Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP).



Support legislation for **child support** obligations not continuing to amass during incarceration, creating insurmountable debt obligations that negatively impact families and don't result in financial gain.





# LAW ENFORCEMENT

As our findings support, law enforcement is involved in many of the homicides, most often as a first-responder, sometimes killed in the line of duty, and other times as a perpetrator with unique power over their intimate partners. Given the complexities of the profession, we developed specific recommendations for law enforcement as interveners, victims, and perpetrators.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



For officers and families of officers, increase currently existing **support systems** to better understand the impact of trauma on the profession.



Provide mental health support and on-going awareness of the lasting impact of trauma for law enforcement and families upon retirement.



Minnesota's Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board should create **model policies and protocols** for law enforcement agencies to use when an officer is suspected or known to be engaging in or a victim of relationship violence.





Media plays a critical role in shaping public opinion on domestic violence, victim/survivors, and people who abuse. Violence Free Minnesota relies heavily on media coverage for the information included in our *Intimate Partner Homicide Reports* and journalists engaging best practices help shape the quality and scope of both the report and recommendations. Mass media should be used to accurately inform the public about domestic violence and provide safe, reliable resources to people who may be experiencing harm.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



Covering the full spectrum of domestic violence in our communities. While intimate partner homicide coverage is important, coverage should not focus exclusively on homicides. Highlighting local programming, resources, and innovative collaborations when a homicide has not happened can increase safety for victims and keep the public aware and engaged.



Intentional and directed efforts to cover domestic violence homicides in rural communities and victims from marginalized communities. In reviewing the public media records of homicides over the past 30 years, it is clear that media coverage varies depending on the victim's identity and where they were killed.



Strengthen the relationships between media and domestic violence experts, specifically implementing opportunities for training and increased collaboration.



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 24-hour crisis lines.







# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

In addition to the work of government agencies and other institutions like the media, ending intimate partner homicides will require much broader engagement by private institutions and individuals.



## **VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA RECOMMENDS:**



All churches, synagogues, mosques, faith institutions, and religious/spiritual leaders recognize the critical role they play in communities. Faith communities need to promote education, resources, and policy/practice development to proactively address relationship abuse and to respond to both perpetrators and victims. Religious/spiritual organizations can play a role far different than that of government agencies and that role can be critical in transforming abusive behavior and providing support for healing. As many religious institutions have contributed to relationship violence, either explicitly or implicitly, religious leaders should collaborate with community experts as they do this work.



### **CASE HIGHLIGHT: PAMELA SWEENEY**

**May 31, 1991  
Andover**

Pamela was murdered in her home. She was struck on the head, shot in the head with a .22 revolver, and stabbed four times in the chest with a butcher knife. Patrick Walsh was convicted of first-degree murder in her slaying. Pamela and Walsh were acquaintances and coworkers. They had carpooled to work until Pamela stopped because of her apprehensions about him. She told her minister that Walsh called her repeatedly, came to her house at night, and harassed her in other ways. She had told her coworkers that she feared Walsh but did not report him to police because she feared what he would do.





# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:



All workplaces have policies and practices that appropriately respond to relationship abuse of their employees, that encourage both perpetrators and victims to report and address abusive behaviors, and have policies and practices that do not penalize parties for reporting and dealing with violence issues happening within their relationships. Further, all workplaces should have policies in place to respond to violence that happens within the workplace, whether by employees or customers.



Public awareness and action campaigns be widely supported and promoted. Public awareness campaigns should not only increase understanding of relationship abuse, but should provide courses of action and involvement for individuals, with family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.



Increase support for families/friends of homicide victims, including greater awareness of crime reparations and survivor resources. All resources must be culturally responsive. Those working with families/friends should have policies that provide the greatest level of transparency and most dignified treatment possible during a criminal homicide response.





## WE REMEMBER: STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING

As we compiled this report - and each of the previous 30 reports - we learned about each victim's untimely death. Sometimes, we were able to gain insight into the days or weeks leading up to their murder. When the media shines its spotlight on a victim's case or we have contact with friends, family members, or co-workers, we have the gift of learning more about the victim as a whole person: how they lived, who was important to them, what brought them joy. *She was known for her bubbly and spunky personality. He found joy working on his motorcycle every Saturday morning. She looked forward to watching "The Voice" with her daughters.* While we cannot capture the totality of each victim's life, we know that remembrance and memory-keeping are essential, not only to honor the victims and their loved ones, but to propel the movement to end violence.



# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING

**Violence Free Minnesota memorializes the victims of intimate partner homicide as a commitment to end relationship violence.**



**The *Homicide Report*:** In 1989, the coalition began documenting intimate partner homicides in what was known as *The Femicide Report* in an attempt to gain insight into how we might prevent such tragedies from happening in the first place. Each year, we attempt to expand the report's scope and recommendations in an effort to implement meaningful, preventative policy changes.



**The Clothesline Project:** In 1992, the coalition started the Minnesota Clothesline Project at a statewide conference for survivors and advocates in Brainerd, Minnesota. The Clothesline Project, a national art project started in Massachusetts, is a visual memorial to victims of domestic violence. Annually, artists, advocates, and victims' loved ones design shirts to remember the victims of intimate partner homicide. The shirts, which include a description of the victim and how they died, are hung on a clothesline and displayed in a public location. Violence Free Minnesota has a collection of Clothesline Projects from 1992 to the present that are available for exhibit throughout the state.



**We Remember:** Public awareness and action to end domestic violence is cornerstone to the mission of Violence Free Minnesota. Over the years, many efforts have been made to cultivate public interest, mobilization, and media attention including the "Live Free Without Violence" campaign. In 2014, the coalition purchased the rights to utilize an awareness campaign developed by Terre des Femmes, a women's rights NGO in Germany. Terre des Femmes created a flag campaign to promote awareness of violence against women and recognize the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. For five years, the coalition sent participating agencies, businesses, community organizations, and individuals notifications to display the flag each time Minnesota experienced an intimate partner homicide. In October 2019, in tandem with the launch of the 30-year report, Violence Free Minnesota closed the "Live Free Without Violence" campaign and launched "We Remember," a web-based memorial. Violence Free Minnesota continues to issue notifications each time there is an intimate partner homicide in Minnesota and directs the media, member programs, and committed individuals to the "We Remember" section of Violence Free Minnesota's website to learn more about the victim and ways to take action against relationship abuse.



# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING

When we remember the people killed due to intimate partner violence, we collectively acknowledge the reality that the most extreme manifestation of domestic violence is a victim's death. We keep the memory of each victim's life alive so that we will not forget our work is to mend and heal our communities and work towards a world free of violence. Memory-keeping takes many forms. Family members, friends, artists, domestic violence programs, schools, community organizations, and local governments are just some of the entities that have established memorials. We have been able to capture but a fraction of the many ways Minnesota's victims of intimate partner homicide are remembered and honored. Each of the 685 victims in this report was loved by someone. Each victim was someone's child, someone's relative, someone's friend, someone's neighbor.



## MANDY MATULA

The family of Mandy Matula - killed in 2013 in Stearns County by her ex-boyfriend - dedicated a **memorial bench at the Minnesota State Fair** in her honor. The bench, which can be found rotating throughout the fairgrounds, is marked with Mandy's name and photo. Family members encourage fair-goers to take breaks and selfies on the bench to keep Mandy's memory alive.



Eden Prairie community members held a fastpitch **softball tournament** - the Mandy Matula Tourney - in Miller Park in 2018 to honor Mandy's memory. Throughout her childhood, Mandy played softball in the same park. Her University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD) number 14 softball jersey was retired in a 2014 memorial ceremony during the team's first home game that year. Miller Park is also the site of a purple **memorial bench**, depicted with Mandy's retired UMD number 14.

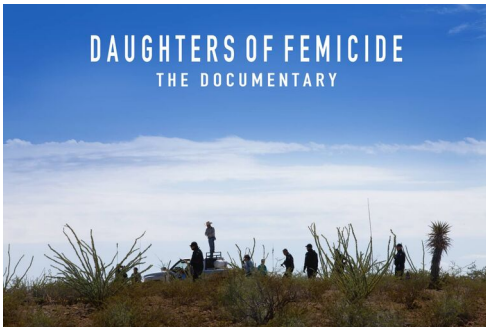


# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING: FAMILY



## SHARLA KOSKI

Sharla Koski was killed in Duluth in 1997. Her daughters, Stephanie Koski Strother, Stacey Mortensen, and Sherri Rose, have memorialized their mother through a **plaque** at Grand Avenue Nordic Center at the base of Spirit Mountain. Sharla was an avid skier, and her daughters loved spending time with her on the slopes on weekends.



## ASHLEY ANN SULLIVAN

Ashley Ann Sullivan was killed alongside her stepfather Chet Gronewold in Antrim Township in 2010. Anna Gronewold, Ashley's mother, has appeared in two **documentaries about femicide** with her grandchildren to discuss the impact of Ashley's death. One documentary, "Fighting Femicide," focuses on relationship abuse in the United States, while the other, "Daughters of Femicide," focuses on violence against women in Mexico and the U.S.



## LINDA MUGGLI

The family of Linda Muggli, who was killed in 2010 on her property in Ray near Koochiching County, **cleans a section of highway every year** in her honor. A **sign** along the highway bears Linda's name.





# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING: COMMUNITY



## KIRA SIMONIAN

Kira Simonian was killed in 2007 by her husband. Her friend, Margaret Noble, shared a **song** about Kira during an experimental works showcase called "This is Not a Test: The Chicago Sound Experience" at Millennium Park in 2008. The song included the only recording Margaret had of Kira's voice.



## BARB LARSON

Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce employees, whose beloved colleague Barb Larson was killed at work by her husband in 2016, commissioned a **mosaic** in her memory and held a dedication ceremony in 2017 to honor and remember Barb. The title of the mosaic is "Love Remains."



## SVETLANA VLADIMIROVNA MUNT

A small **memorial** rests in Rasmussen Woods Park in Mankato for Svetlana Vladimirovna Munt, who was killed in 2010 in the nature area by her former husband. The memorial includes a photo, flowers, and a candle.



# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING: COMMUNITY



## PAW BOH HTOO

Paw Boh Htoo moved to Minnesota in 2011 from Burma and was an active member of the Karen community. She was killed in 2017 while helping a friend who was trying to leave her abusive husband. Century College in White Bear Lake, where Paw Boh Htoo was a student, created a **memorial scholarship** in her name to provide financial support to first-generation students who pursue a degree in the Liberal Arts.



## TRISHA NELSON COURTNEY MONSON

In May 2016, Anoka County held a “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” domestic violence awareness walk to raise funds for Alexandra House. The walk featured a speech from Tanya Fure, the sister of Trisha Nelson, who was killed in Plymouth only a few months earlier. The walk team "Courtney's Tribe" also participated in the event to support the children of Courtney Monson, who was killed in a murder-suicide a month before the walk.



## NICOLE MEIER

The **Nikki Foundation** was established shortly after Nicole Marie Meier’s death in Blaine in 2011 to offer aid to surviving children of families who have suffered domestic violence. A benefit dinner and silent auction was held through the foundation at Shoreland Country Club in St. Peter in 2014.



# STORIES OF MEMORY KEEPING: ORGANIZATIONS



## HOLIDAY TREE

Mid-Minnesota Women's Center displays a **holiday tree** every year at their Brainerd shelter in honor of Erika Dalquist, who was abducted and killed in 2002, and Dru Sjodin, who was abducted and killed in 2003.



## TRANSCENDING COURAGE BANQUET

In past years, Hmong American Partnership, Asian Women United, and Community-University Health Care Center have hosted an annual **Transcending Courage Banquet** to celebrate the lives of victims and survivors. Each year, they list victims' names and memorialize them with candles, cards, and ribbons. The ribbons are purple for domestic violence awareness and represent Hmong women's headaddresses.



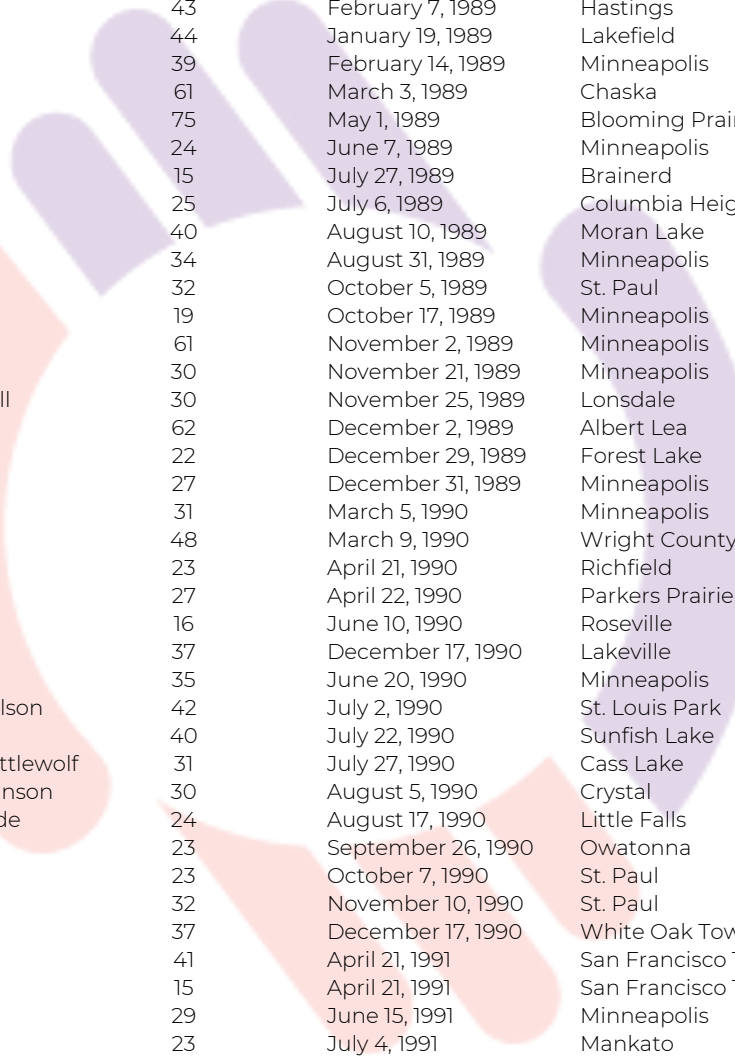
## ROCK GARDEN

Pearl Crisis Center in Milaca, which provides domestic and sexual violence services to the community, maintains a **rock garden** at their offices with several rocks painted and decorated with victims' names. The community chips in every year to keep the rocks polished.



**OVER 30 YEARS, AT LEAST 685 PEOPLE WERE KILLED  
DUE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN MINNESOTA.**

# WE REMEMBER



NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Patricia Snelson	43	February 7, 1989	Hastings
Marna Christenson	44	January 19, 1989	Lakefield
Francine Hill	39	February 14, 1989	Minneapolis
Irene Bauder	61	March 3, 1989	Chaska
Margaret Cole	75	May 1, 1989	Blooming Prairie
Anita Ross	24	June 7, 1989	Minneapolis
Shanna Pesheck	15	July 27, 1989	Brainerd
Cindy Sue Gonzales	25	July 6, 1989	Columbia Heights
Elaina Meachum	40	August 10, 1989	Moran Lake
Viola Mae Beeks	34	August 31, 1989	Minneapolis
Priscilla Adams	32	October 5, 1989	St. Paul
Tracy Carlson	19	October 17, 1989	Minneapolis
Daisy Hammer	61	November 2, 1989	Minneapolis
Lori Ann Behr	30	November 21, 1989	Minneapolis
Roselyn May Boswell	30	November 25, 1989	Lonsdale
Bonnie Haugen	62	December 2, 1989	Albert Lea
Barbara Provost	22	December 29, 1989	Forest Lake
Catherine Jones	27	December 31, 1989	Minneapolis
Mavis Eagleman	31	March 5, 1990	Minneapolis
Rita Ziechwein	48	March 9, 1990	Wright County
Colleen Buckley	23	April 21, 1990	Richfield
Dawn LaMere	27	April 22, 1990	Parkers Prairie
Bethany Muller	16	June 10, 1990	Roseville
Kate Hebert	37	December 17, 1990	Lakeville
Beverly Newell	35	June 20, 1990	Minneapolis
Cynthia Schegel-Wilson	42	July 2, 1990	St. Louis Park
Linda Simmons	40	July 22, 1990	Sunfish Lake
Barbara Dokotah-Littlewolf	31	July 27, 1990	Cass Lake
Nicole Christine Johnson	30	August 5, 1990	Crystal
Kimberly Marie Leyde	24	August 17, 1990	Little Falls
Mindy Wright	23	September 26, 1990	Owatonna
Michelle Warren	23	October 7, 1990	St. Paul
Magdaline George	32	November 10, 1990	St. Paul
Karen Casarez	37	December 17, 1990	White Oak Township
Mary Ann Johnson	41	April 21, 1991	San Francisco Township
Jodi Johnson	15	April 21, 1991	San Francisco Township
Jo Carrol Reed	29	June 15, 1991	Minneapolis
Wanda Mobley	23	July 4, 1991	Mankato
Geraldine O'Meara-Steinbuch	38	July 17, 1991	St. Cloud
Jessica O'Meara	12	July 17, 1991	St. Cloud
Ashley Steinbuch	3	July 17, 1991	St. Cloud
Brenda Seykora	48	July 24, 1991	Mankato
Matt Zaharris	9	July 24, 1991	Cottage Grove
Ronnie Singer	11	July 24, 1991	Cottage Grove
David Geissler	14	August 7, 1991	Minneapolis
Ruth Joannna Greenfield	76	September 9, 1991	Albert Lea
Joan Green	40	December 19, 1991	Chaska
Perotta Thirkfield	32	June 16, 1991	Minneapolis
Julian Segura	35	August 30, 1991	Eagan
Pamela Sweeney	35	May 31, 1991	Andover
Ruth Munden	61	June 6, 1991	Minneapolis



# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Rhonda Fairbanks	22	January 1, 1992	Minneapolis
Debra Lynn Porter	36	January 23, 1992	Duluth
Lyle Philblad	55	January 25, 1992	St. Paul
Patricia Mullaney	40	February 4, 1992	Brooklyn Park
Gwendolyn Lewis	52	February 8, 1992	Minneapolis
Melinda Neumann	18	February 24, 1992	Coon Rapids
Patsy Dillard	37	March 1, 1992	St. Paul
Gloria Letness	57	March 25, 1992	Moorhead
Dorothy Walters	48	March 27, 1992	Fairmont
Gladys Lange	68	April 3, 1992	St. Cloud
Catherine Bliss	39	May 20, 1992	Golden Valley
Susan Yach	44	July 4, 1992	Winona
Barbara Lund	55	August 5, 1992	Minnetonka
Kevin Kelly	49	August 5, 1992	Minnetonka
Leslie Perkins	30	August 6, 1992	Minneapolis
Angie Kelker	15	September 2, 1992	St. Paul
Pamela Lindstrom	28	September 23, 1992	So. St. Paul
Holly Schwerzler	35	October 1, 1992	Osseo
Christine Hecker	23	October 4, 1992	Carlton County
Cassandra Norcross	16	November 5, 1992	Detroit Lakes
Eloise Davis	27	November 13, 1992	Minneapolis
Marylen Morton	26	November 26, 1992	Duluth
Erica Lynn Grothe	14	December 8, 1992	Minneapolis
Elizabeth Topel	86	December 15, 1992	Minneapolis
Paula Sue Danielson	40	December 20, 1992	Grand Marais
May Catherine Young	34	December 23, 1992	Minneapolis
Thomas Hanks Jr	1	July 11, 1992	Minneapolis
Christina Gretilland	4	October 3, 1992	Rapidan
Blia Young	29	January 19, 1993	Rochester
Bridget Risley	15	January 20, 1993	Minneapolis
Sherri Kay Kadin	29	January 30, 1993	Floodwood
Karen Nelson	35	February 14, 1993	Crookston
Debra Blackstock	31	February 17, 1993	Silver Bay
Dawn Rung	25	January 4, 1993	Coon Rapids
Daillene Counts	23	March 21, 1993	Red Wing
Jayne Annette Gray	34	April 19, 1993	Bagley
Taquita Johnson	30	April 28, 1993	Bloomington
Carol Terry	33	May 27, 1993	Minneapolis
Jacqueline Schultz	30	June 13, 1993	Rockford
Jeanne "Jeanie" Childs	35	June 13, 1993	Minneapolis
Amber DeMarrias	19	June 27, 1993	St. Paul
Diane Schultz	27	July 5, 1993	St. Paul
Brian Donahue	25	July 5, 1993	St. Paul
Wanda Woodruff	36	July 14, 1993	Minneapolis
Katherine Fritz	55	August 1, 1993	Duluth
Violet Kubart	55	August 1, 1993	Duluth
Harold Kubart	64	August 1, 1993	Duluth
Roberta Lindberg	27	September 10, 1993	Duluth
Barbara Jean Smith	31	September 26, 1993	New Hope
Jennifer Noack	23	October 16, 1993	Crystal
Cynthia Grube	26	October 26, 1993	Appleton
Barbara Ann Scott	33	October 25, 1993	Falcon Heights
Janice Floyd	50	November 21, 1993	Shoreview
Kenneth Hoppe	61	November 21, 1993	Shoreview
Sandra Jackson	41	November 21, 1993	Minneapolis
Mary Ann Hagford	20	December 19, 1993	Crystal
Louella LeTourneau	55	December 13, 1993	Eveleth
Timothy Vojta	1	August 17, 1993	Brooklyn Park
Aurora Delgado	47	March 14, 1993	St. Paul

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Kim Bryant	29	January 24, 1994	Minneapolis
Renee Brown	37	January 31, 1994	Winona
Chala Davis	18	February 23, 1994	Minneapolis
Ann Weiland	47	March 4, 1994	La Crescent
Sheila Lodermeier	37	March 26, 1994	Woodbury
Kimberly White	25	May 30, 1994	Ponemah
Sheila Burns	31	June 11, 1994	Minneapolis
Theresa Lynn Robinson	24	June 22, 1994	St. Paul
Lana Lee Martin	30	September 10, 1994	Maplewood
Dianne Emmerson	44	September 10, 1994	St. Paul
Lois Cooke	48	September 25, 1994	Racine
Holly Cooke	15	September 25, 1994	Racine
Nicole Cooke	14	September 25, 1994	Racine
Sandra Jackson	41	November 21, 1994	Minneapolis
Tulin Schreiber	39	November 23, 1994	Coon Rapids
Shyla Mujwid	17	November 23, 1994	Coon Rapids
Raquel Renee Ripka	25	December 30, 1994	Plymouth
Pamela Bennet	34	January 5, 1995	Bemidji
Pamela Kay Currie	45	January 14, 1995	St. Francis
Roxanne Waa	30	March 5, 1995	Moorhead
Ruby Hughes	61	April 10, 1995	Minneapolis
Donna Mary Patrice Thillen	31	April 18, 1995	Caledonia
Roxanne Jackman	27	April 30, 1995	St. Peter
Christa Marie Moman	30	May 4, 1995	Blaine
Jerome Caldwell III	1	May 18, 1995	Minneapolis
Konii Robinson	23	May 4, 1995	Minneapolis
Susan Carol Peterson	40	June 5, 1995	Aitkin
Kim Ballandby	34	June 23, 1995	Stillwater
Ramona Berger	47	June 24, 1995	Minneapolis
Marletta Kulah-Reed	38	August 5, 1995	Minneapolis
Ava Margarette Scott	31	August 8, 1995	Minneapolis
Theresa Reagle	59	August 15, 1995	Rochester
Vicky Jo Peacock	44	August 16, 1995	Rush City
Laura Clement	33	August 29, 1995	Itasca County
Ernestine Medicine Elk	40	September 11, 1995	Minneapolis
Alicia Srozinski	29	September 20, 1995	Minneapolis
Linda Rae Olson	55	September 29, 1995	St. Paul
Marlene Mayhak	50	October 9, 1995	Faribault
Sandra Lee Waller	41	October 12, 1995	Meadowlands/Duluth
Michele Eardley	17	November 2, 1995	Blaine
Susan Eardley	42	November 2, 1995	Blaine
Cindy (Larson-Sandlin) Smith	25	November 26, 1995	Caledonia
Jessica Turner	8	March 31, 1995	St. Paul
Adrian Brasch	3	April 19, 1995	Minneapolis
Jonathon Town	31	August 6, 1995	Apple Valley
Jodi Ann White	39	December 25, 1995	Minneapolis
Genelda Campeau	65	January 12, 1996	St. Paul
Kami Talley	22	February 14, 1996	Bloomington
Kimberly Schoen	33	March 1, 1996	Truman
Sue Akin	49	May 9, 1996	Onigum
Tabitha Jutten	19	May 21, 1996	Little Falls
Loretta Strand	62	June 4, 1996	Ramsey
Barbara Korte	39	June 8, 1996	Brook Park
Deborah Martin	41	June 27, 1996	Crystal
Christina Ayers	16	June 27, 1996	Crystal
Kris Elsenpeter	43	June 27, 1996	Crystal
Heidi Haines	20	June 28, 1996	Minneapolis
Ida Strouth	42	June 28, 1996	Minneapolis
Jake Strouth	9	June 28, 1996	Minneapolis



# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Jeremiah Sponsel	13	June 28, 1996	Minneapolis
Jennifer Bradley	30	July 2, 1996	Minneapolis
Rita Walker	59	July 5, 1996	St. Paul
Shauntai Johnson	27	July 20, 1996	Wadena
Colene Navratil Wenzel	24	July 23, 1996	Osakis
Jane Rhodes	35	August 2, 1996	Mankato
Carolyn Joy Seitz Voorhees	25	August 6, 1996	Duluth
Esther Marie Stynski	81	August 8, 1996	Ivanhoe
Yvonne Thompson	41	August 25, 1996	St. Paul
Julie Ann Carroll	43	September 12, 1996	Faribault
Tuyet Dao	1	May 13, 1996	Minneapolis
Catina Faye Henning	24	March 1, 1997	Lakefield
Jamie Sawatsky	20	March 3, 1997	Redwood Falls
Laura Rosengartner	35	April 28, 1997	Park Rapids
Nancy Marie Hart	44	May 29, 1997	Minneapolis
Dorothy Sandberg	61	June 13, 1997	Burnsville
Linda Lambert	47	June 19, 1997	Crosby
Carla Dunn	28	July 21, 1997	Minneapolis
Rhonda Overall	23	September 7, 1997	Minneapolis
Nirmala Singh	19	September 8, 1997	Brooklyn Park
Linda Boykins	39	September 13, 1997	Rochester
Ilka Mondane	32	September 29, 1997	Minneapolis
Deonna Jones	17	October 3, 1997	Minneapolis
Theresa Carpenter	19	November 27, 1997	Calumet
Sharla Koski	50	December 5, 1997	Duluth
Kincsem Teta	23	January 18, 1998	Prior Lake
Lori Beth Lewis	23	March 14, 1998	Arden Hills
Kriston Sjoberg	43	March 16, 1998	Minneapolis
Ellen Bauer	43	March 16, 1998	Minneapolis
Marilyn Ford	55	March 27, 1998	St. Paul
Nicole Mosser	18	April 5, 1998	Madelia
Brandi Summer Survis	21	April 16, 1998	Rochester
Nanette Henderson	29	May 16, 1998	St. Paul
Lynn Slabaugh	52	June 9, 1998	Owatonna
Debbie Swigerd	33	June 13, 1998	Coon Rapids
Regina Melina	37	July 4, 1998	St. Paul
John Lindahl	36	March 28, 1998	Minneapolis
Pa Lor	18	September 20, 1998	Brooklyn Park
Jill Marie Petschel	29	October 15, 1998	Oak Park Heights
Amanda Carlson-Bey	24	October 21, 1998	St. Paul
Jereau Carlson	24	October 21, 1998	St. Paul
Lois Johnson	35	December 5, 1998	Red Wing
Westin Johnson	3	December 5, 1998	Red Wing
Cory Johnson	5	October 5, 1998	Red Wing
Oceales Annette Gillam	37	December 10, 1998	Eagan
Reneese Smith	40	December 27, 1998	Minneapolis
Bao Lor	28	September 24, 1998	St. Paul
Lisa Kramer	32	January 14, 1999	Fergus Falls
Corinne Kramer	32	January 14, 1999	Fergus Falls
Shaw Kramer	32	January 14, 1999	Fergus Falls
Latisha Joy Brien	32	January 15, 1999	Granite Falls
Germaine Chatkana	24	February 2, 1999	St. Cloud
Tara Carlson	31	April 19, 1999	Zumbrota
Nancy Licari	42	April 23, 1999	Stanchfield
Farrah Mohammed	23	May 4, 1999	Bloomington
Valantina Voight	26	May 29, 1999	Eden Prairie
Sheila Hagen	66	July 28, 1999	Elk River
Richard Thompson	41	July 29, 1999	St. Paul
Linda Freeman Wooten	45	September 2, 1999	Eagan

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Heidi Ray Johnson	37	September 4, 1999	Brooklyn Park
Cynthia Rathman	45	September 13, 1999	St. James
Mary Zaman	34	September 20, 1999	Rochester
Mohammed Tahseen Tuef	34	September 20, 1999	Rochester
Sophia Tareq	34	September 20, 1999	Rochester
Deborah Renee Tollhurst	44	September 21, 1999	St. Cloud
Jean Ann Weaver	43	October 19, 1999	White Bear Lake
Patricia Shea	38	October 18, 1999	Fridley
Sally Latterell	51	October 22, 1999	Kelliher
Asmeret Gebrihiwat	34	December 3, 1999	Worthington
Catherine Ranft	48	December 8, 1999	Lonsdale
Caroline Stepniewski	48	December 8, 1999	Lonsdale
Meredith Stepniewski	48	December 8, 1999	Lonsdale
KiAnn Rivas	48	December 8, 1999	Lonsdale
Tyler Rivas	48	December 8, 1999	Lonsdale
Suji Rimal	26	December 20, 1999	Richfield
Albert Mays	31	January 14, 1999	Minneapolis
Kenny Kramer	26	May 10, 1999	Brownsville
Lamart Wallace Jr	27	October 13, 1999	Minneapolis
Diocelina Villegas-Cortez	36	January 2, 2000	Minneapolis
Gam Lang	36	January 3, 2000	Blaine
Roxanne Bloomfield	33	January 4, 2000	Zumbrota
Yang Her	35	January 31, 2000	St. Paul
Doris D. Olson	43	February 9, 2000	St. Paul
Nikki Norris Washington	33	March 7, 2000	Minneapolis
Lisa Mae Koestler	43	March 15, 2000	Rice
Joshua Jasper	24	March 21, 2000	St. Michael
Dena Jasper	24	March 21, 2000	St. Michael
Serene Mankoff	36	April 1, 2000	St. Louis Park
Ollie Belinda Hill	33	April 5, 2000	Minneapolis
Alberta Johnson	66	April 15, 2000	Cold Springs
Katherine Helt	39	May 11, 2000	Browerville
LeeAnn Pankow	44	May 25, 2000	Edina
Tammy Saice	40	June 17, 2000	New Brighton
Diane Wessels	40	June 28, 2000	Breckenridge
Minnetta Louise Kloeck	52	July 3, 2000	Minnetonka
Yolanda Pagan	37	July 20, 2000	St. Paul
Scot Marie Hermanson	31	August 13, 2000	Apple Valley
Kimberly Kaye Harmon	36	August 16, 2000	St. Paul
Marie Heu	38	August 22, 2000	Eagan
Ruma Hamid	38	May 1, 2000	Jordan
Nicole Mae Wittkop	24	August 29, 2000	Duluth
Jilmarie Hann VonHennchen	38	September 5, 2000	Duluth
Latisha M. Barnes-Froysland	28	November 5, 2000	St. Paul
Xia Mee Vang	21	November 25, 2000	St. Paul
Zoua Thao	47	December 3, 2000	Minneapolis
Mayra Georgia Calderon	30	December 18, 2000	St. Paul
Melissa Stammer	36	December 18, 2000	Starbuck
Joanne Marie Olson	55	December 24, 2000	Rochester
Tricia B. Rosberg	27	December 31, 2000	Duluth
Jolene Stuedemann	17	July 11, 2000	Woodbury
Carrei Ann Martinson	28	November 12, 2000	St. Cloud
Phordy Bounlangsy	47	January 12, 2001	Robbinsdale
Tonia Michelle Nelson	38	January 15, 2001	Minneapolis
Geraldine Whipple	20	January 22, 2001	Cass Lake
Svetlana Pedash	29	February 24, 2001	Eden Prairie
Shelby Davis	40	March 28, 2001	Minnetrista
Nancy Draper	43	April 12, 2001	Inver Grove Heights
Tatiana Bily	80	April 28, 2001	Golden Valley

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Colleen Horn	41	May 1, 2001	Twin Valley
Anne Marchand	57	May 6, 2001	Grand Marais
Wendy Bozeman	42	May 1, 2001	Golden Valley
Dianne M. Geist	29	June 8, 2001	Merrfield
Darcy Jean Galuk	45	July 8, 2001	Watson
Delayne Rae McBride	40	August 5, 2001	Roseau
Leanniatia Cinvelett Thomas	18	August 11, 2001	Fridley
Cheryl Rich	35	September 18, 2001	Kennedy
Nancy C. Jagunich	42	October 1, 2001	Eveleth
Sheryl Ann Rhodes	33	October 12, 2001	Hayward
Petra Diaz-Brione	36	November 22, 2001	Minneapolis
Colleen Cram	46	December 5, 2001	St. Paul
Sally Flores	40	December 31, 2001	St. Paul
Zewu Nantambi	45	December 23, 2001	N. St. Paul
Laura Vasquez-Ruelas	23	December 29, 2001	Lester Prairie
Danielle Price-Weaver	36	October 28, 2001	Minneapolis
Robert L. VanDerMolen	37	January 8, 2001	Two Harbors
George Berndt, Jr	36	March 18, 2001	Worthington
Tammie Lee Olson	33	March 21, 2001	Keewatin
Mark Place	33	March 21, 2001	Keewatin
Kristina Zierman	34	January 24, 2002	Maple Grove
Bonnie Givens	33	January 27, 2002	Prior Lake
Anne Nicole Gunther	30	March 5, 2002	Richfield
Deborah Hollermann	41	March 22, 2002	Princeton
Krista DeGrote	29	March 24, 2002	Raymond
Maureen Chapman	27	April 27, 2002	Wabasha
Cha'Nar Lavon Kennedy	21	May 11, 2002	Coon Rapids
Rhoda Ann Stately	31	May 28, 2002	Redby
Brooke Thompson	22	August 14, 2002	Brooklyn Park
Bonita L. Weber	54	August 24, 2002	Bowstring Township
Willa Lind	50	September 8, 2002	Minneapolis
Erin Colleen Shelton	20	October 5, 2002	Minneapolis
Franchesca Gonzalez	31	October 6, 2002	Bemidji
Cindy Peterson	45	October 23, 2002	Minneapolis
Stephanie Ziegler	33	November 1, 2002	Erhard
Susan Radil	39	December 16, 2002	Alexandria
Ryder Meyer	3	June 21, 2002	Clarissa
Erika Dalquist	21	October 30, 2002	Brainerd
May Peltó	88	November 9, 2002	Maple Grove
Jane Samec	45	February 17, 2003	North Branch
Sharlene Lussier	34	March 17, 2003	Bemidji
Karen Schmidt	40	March 17, 2003	Oakdale
Megan I. Fischer	29	March 22, 2003	Minneapolis
Katharina Franz	22	March 26, 2003	Minneapolis
Shemeka Lott	20	April 25, 2003	St. Paul
Jullie Bottema	53	May 12, 2003	Minneapolis
Olga Yolanda Vasquez-Young	66	May 13, 2003	Minneapolis
Mary Klatt	53	May 29, 2003	Blue Earth
Mee Vue	53	September 2, 2003	St. Paul
Amber Gross	19	November 15, 2003	Bemidji
Lou Thao	46	December 2, 2003	St. Paul
Mark Sullivan	23	December 8, 2003	Caledonia
Robert Hannah	23	December 17, 2003	Brooklyn Park
Dao Xiong	35	December 1, 2003	Dakota County
Pennie K. Rossland	47	February 29, 2004	Coon Rapids
Helen Menden	69	January 1, 2004	Shakopee
Pa Moua Lee	35	March 15, 2004	Island Lake Township
Helen Strubbe	43	March 26, 2004	Glyndon
Lynette Rossin	49	May 8, 2004	Goodview

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Erin K. Rooney	38	July 14, 2004	Burnsville
Sheng Vang	22	July 18, 2004	Minneapolis
Angela Sangster	51	September 4, 2004	Minneapolis
Cassandra Current	31	September 10, 2004	Minneapolis
Renee Brown	31	September 10, 2004	Minneapolis
Wayne Huotari	31	September 10, 2004	Minneapolis
Mary Johnson	43	October 28, 2004	Alexandria
Crystal Lindorff	32	November 19, 2004	St. Paul
Stacy Ziegler Smith	21	December 16, 2004	Winona
Taylor Swanson	21	December 19, 2004	Winona
Katelyn Thongratsamy	42	October 31, 2004	St. Michael
Darryl Horton	46	March 25, 2004	Minneapolis
Tina Gerving	44	January 23, 2005	Erskine
Cassandra Koochek	50	February 15, 2005	St. Paul
Moonku "Marissa" Persaud	37	February 18, 2005	Eagan
Jessica Rose	29	March 5, 2005	Duluth
Mai Yia Lee	27	March 26, 2005	Minneapolis
Patricia McGhee	34	May 14, 2005	Burnsville
Tammy Hughes	32	May 27, 2005	Albert Lea
Tiffany Bowes	21	June 11, 2005	St. Paul
Angelina Garley	33	June 24, 2005	Brooklyn Park
Susan Keezer	47	July 22, 2005	Bagley
Laurie Bird	52	August 2, 2005	Champlin
Beverly Benson	73	August 3, 2005	Bloomington
Roman Kidane	55	August 25, 2005	St. Louis Park
Sheila Hollie	34	October 14, 2005	Minneapolis
Crystal Halloran Drummer	26	October 18, 2005	Plymouth
Linda Klyve	46	December 18, 2005	Rolling Forks Township
Jadwiga Babowicz	53	January 12, 2006	Bloomington
Janaya Allen	19	January 22, 2006	St. Paul
Kerri Robinson	44	January 30, 2006	Franklin
Joane Khang	30	February 7, 2006	St. Paul
Diane Putnam	45	April 1, 2006	Cloquet
Lucretia Dixon	24	May 20, 2006	St. Joseph
Taryn Baumgardner	27	May 21, 2006	St. Paul
Darle Darling	35	May 29, 2006	St. Paul
Nhia Xiong	29	June 7, 2006	Walnut Grove
Amanda Meyer	23	June 10, 2006	Winona
Linda Green	50	August 14, 2006	Osakis
Amy Wollard	33	August 21, 2006	Bloomington
Terri Lee	46	September 22, 2006	W. Lakeland Township
Tim Hawkinson	46	September 22, 2006	W. Lakeland Township
Kathryn Malli	49	September 30, 2006	Granger
Rachel Kastner	35	October 15, 2006	Burnsville
Giuseppa "Maria" Wallace	65	November 7, 2006	Bloomington
Cindi Rinkenberger	35	November 26, 2006	Coon Rapids
Randy Silbaugh	39	April 23, 2006	Coon Rapids
Miguel Castillo	35	August 13, 2006	Monticello
Marcus Black	35	September 29, 2006	Minneapolis
Michael Dudo	36	November 21, 2006	Fridley
Sai Xiong	29	January 5, 2007	St. Paul
Mosetta Peters	20	January 16, 2007	New Brighton
Ja'Naurri Allen	20	January 16, 2007	New Brighton
Roselynn Habu	21	May 8, 2007	Brooklyn Park
Sheila Chrast	35	May 13, 2007	Sauk Rapids
Jacklyn Norman	27	May 23, 2007	Blaine
Sandra Davis	67	May 23, 2007	Minneapolis
Savannah Stevens	24	May 26, 2007	Brooklyn Park
Judy Carrico Reeve	64	June 27, 2007	Baldwin Township

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Kira Simonian	32	June 28, 2007	Minneapolis
Helen Tomassoni	45	July 21, 2007	Blaine
LaToya Burks	21	August 1, 2007	Cass County
Alison Daniels	24	August 4, 2007	Minneapolis
July Lynn Rush	56	August 23, 2007	Columbia Heights
Doris Warren	86	September 3, 2007	Manhomen County
Elizabeth Marxen	29	November 17, 2007	N. Mankato
Sheri Lynn Schaumburger	48	December 15, 2007	Minneapolis
Kristine Larson	19	December 19, 2007	Minneapolis
Jacqueline Wells	33	December 25, 2007	Brooklyn Center
Darrell Buesgens	57	June 20, 2007	Emily
Sharon D. Chouinard	35	January 26, 2008	East Bethel
Sonya Marie Hennagir	40	January 29, 2008	Park Rapids
Susan Jean Schaefer	57	February 7, 2008	Clearwater
Katrin Rose Czeck	35	April 13, 2008	Hutchinson
Joquese (Jacques) Loyd (Brown)	15	April 26, 2008	Minneapolis
Youa Her	41	June 10, 2008	Brooklyn Center
Jewell Burnett	28	July 11, 2008	Minneapolis
Christine Nguyen	48	July 17, 2008	New Brighton
Sherrill R. Harnden	59	July 18, 2008	Columbia Heights
Anthonia E. Iheme	28	July 24, 2008	St. Louis Park
Deloris Heald	56	August 19, 2008	Zimmerman
Rory S. Zitir	47	August 19, 2008	Zimmerman
Jamie M. Gage	32	September 13, 2008	Big Sandy Lake
Mark Root	51	September 13, 2008	Big Sandy Lake
Natasha Waalen	28	September 18, 2008	Andover
Kelly Dahm	19	September 20, 2008	Washington County
Gabriela Romo	31	September 30, 2008	St. Paul
Pam Sjogren	51	October 25, 2008	Minneapolis
Angela Vigen	40	October 27, 2008	Moundsview
Jolyn Vigen	75	October 27, 2008	Moundsview
Jennifer Vigen	35	October 27, 2008	Moundsview
Teresa Bugarin	27	November 8, 2008	Dodge Center
Ismael "Nick" Bugarin	12	November 8, 2008	Dodge Center
Ruth Lipka	45	November 12, 2008	Prior Lake
Violet Jackson	25	December 3, 2008	Minneapolis
Annshalike Hamilton	15	December 15, 2008	Minneapolis
Susan Levoir	44	December 16, 2008	St. Louis Park
Tina Marie Tracy	18	January 11, 2009	Virginia
Brittany Givens-Copeland	24	January 25, 2009	Bloomington
Sharon Kathleen Nyren	67	February 24, 2009	Fairhaven Township
Jennifer Linnear	26	March 5, 2009	St. Paul
Savang Sath	27	March 28, 2009	Big Lake
Heather Rose McPherson	24	April 19, 2009	Plymouth
Jody Lee Morrow	38	June 21, 2009	Albert Lea
Erica Ann Wilson	38	July 30, 2009	Circle Pines
Candice L. Ouellette	38	August 5, 2009	Harris
Officer Richard Crittenden	57	September 7, 2009	N. St. Paul
Pamela A. Taschuk	48	October 1, 2009	Lino Lakes
Lori Roberts	49	October 2, 2009	Doran
Matthew David Albert	27	October 21, 2009	Shooks
Jean A. Wassenaar	67	November 2, 2009	St. Paul
Kathryn Rose Anderson	19	December 3, 2009	Morris
Trudy Kline Propps	62	December 11, 2009	Stillwater
Ashley Ann Sullivan	25	January 17, 2010	Antrim Township
Chester Gronewold	59	January 17, 2010	Antrim
Sarah Mitzuk	32	January 19, 2010	Hugo
Darius Maxwell	17	January 30, 2010	St. Paul
Debrah Nederhiser	59	February 23, 2010	Nodine

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Edward J. Walberg Jr.	40	March 6, 2010	Chisholm
Brittany a. Ellis	19	March 14, 2010	Brooklyn Center
Svetlana Vladimirovna Munt	32	March 28, 2010	Mankato
Pauline Nash	42	April 2, 2010	Minneapolis
Natalia Jurjevna Tomasovic	55	April 17, 2010	Columbia Heights
Barbara Miller Deboise	56	April 20, 2010	St. Louis Park
Amy alese Terborg	28	April 29, 2010	Minneapolis
Kay Marie Peterson	50	May 27, 2010	Duluth
Svetlana Hanson	25	August 20, 2010	Eagan
Charles Hanson	56	August 20, 2010	Eagan
James Nibbe	26	August 31, 2010	Lake Crystal
Wendell Abraham	64	September 23, 2010	Garrison
Bilha Omare	32	October 11, 2010	Vadnais Heights
Ilyn Ogendi	8	October 11, 2010	Vadnais Heights
Kinley Ogendi	12	October 11, 2010	Vadnais Heights
Lisa Grijalva	15	October 12, 2010	Lakeland
Jessica Eve Buboltz	20	October 29, 2010	Kasota
Linda Muggli	61	November 26, 2010	Ray
Krissy Bates	45	January 10, 2011	Minneapolis
Leila Kim Scott	44	January 21, 2011	St. Paul
Katherine Marei Pohjonen	19	January 25, 2011	Vadnais Heights
Nicole Marie Meier	26	February 1, 2011	Blaine
Rondy Sorgatz	75	February 22, 2011	Truman
Cynthia Hickman	34	February 26, 2011	Brooklyn Park
Tabitha Lee Belmonte	16	March 21, 2011	Amor
Dawn Anderson	45	March 22, 2011	Park Rapids
Abigail M. Fedeli	20	April 8, 2011	Brooklyn Park
Michael Maurice Hable	21	April 8, 2011	Brooklyn Park
Kristopher Miller	27	May 11, 2011	Minneapolis
Linda Kay Norman	51	June 2, 2011	Granada
Kristen E. Sandeen	40	June 5, 2011	New Hope
Georgia Lee Bogema	58	June 10, 2011	Dayton
Kandace Blaine Dunn	22	June 26, 2011	Cass Lake
Josselyn Bishop	19	July 8, 2011	Henderson
Kimberly Paulette Grew	51	August 13, 2011	Virginia
Laura Therese Hulke	51	August 19, 2011	Linwood Township
Mauryn E. Masire-Moore	38	September 13, 2011	Brooklyn Park
Cinta Guadalupe Ornelas Bustos	28	September 15, 2011	Oakdale
Angela Uscanga Gonzalez	43	September 15, 2011	Oakdale
Stephanie Jaeb Maxam	51	October 3, 2011	St. Paul
Renata Fernandez-Ramon	30	October 6, 2011	Ortonville
Susan Marie Courteau	44	October 13, 2011	St. Paul
Megan Sheree Neely	27	October 15, 2011	St. Paul
James Kelly Omara	43	October 29, 2011	Sauk Rapids
Francisco Hernandez	21	October 30, 2011	Minneapolis
Po Lye	40	November 19, 2011	Albert Lea
Lori Christina Baker	39	December 28, 2011	Oakdale
Officer Shawn Schneider	32	December 30, 2011	Lake City
Patrick Jaworski	20	January 1, 2012	St. Paul
Vinessa Lozano	18	January 13, 2012	Montevideo
Christine Schnor	39	January 25, 2012	Moundsview
Bret Struck	42	February 12, 2012	Brooklyn Park
Dominga Limon	40	February 21, 2012	Glenco
Christopher M. Fulmer	37	February 21, 2012	Blue Earth
Carolyn Leete	32	March 3, 2012	St. Paul
Ashantai Nicole Finch	32	April 10, 2012	Brooklyn Center
Sharon Love	38	April 18, 2012	Alexandria
Kathleen Ponsness	57	April 30, 2012	Lake Edward
Lora Ann Wright	45	May 16, 2012	St. Anthony



# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Georgia Lynn Rogers	42	July 4, 2012	Richfield
Adelaida Sadd Lane	26	July 14, 2012	Minneapolis
Woynshet Woldemariam	41	July 14, 2012	Apple Valley
Jennifer Smith	27	September 14, 2012	Robbinsdale
Tensia Richard	22	October 25, 2012	Cottage Grove
Danielle Jelinek	27	December 9, 2012	Chisago City
Lolitta Malone	43	December 27, 2012	Minneapolis
Rosemary Oberg-Johnson	55	December 28, 2012	Grand Rapids
Manya Johnson	32	January 6, 2013	St. Paul
Mark Urang	50	January 31, 2013	St. Paul
Brittany Clardy	18	February 11, 2013	Brooklyn Park
Caron Fine	67	February 12, 2013	Ramsey
Kira Stegar	30	February 22, 2013	St. Paul
Cynthia Ann Lakeman	45	February 23, 2013	Little Sauk Township
Anna Hurd	16	February 23, 2013	Maplewood
Margorie Holland	37	March 7, 2013	Apple Valley
Panhia Yang	27	March 24, 2013	St. Paul
Kong Meng Lee	18	March 24, 2013	St. Paul
Geraldine Kading	69	April 10, 2013	Detroit Lakes
Klaessa Lorayne Cook	24	April 11, 2013	Brooklyn Park
James Schwartzbauer	57	May 31, 2013	Lake Hattie Township
Nancy A. Sullivan	57	June 4, 2013	Shoreview
Yesenia Gonzalez	20	June 6, 2013	Mankato
Janell Norrbom	47	June 14, 2013	Clear Lake
Perry Paulson	49	June 20, 2013	Moundsview
Jacquelyn Marie Johnson	48	June 24, 2013	St. Peter
Landon J. Pederson	21	June 25, 2013	Minneapolis
Arnong Rajvong	26	July 13, 2013	Minneapolis
Sonya Ann Smith	43	July 24, 2013	Deer River
Ethan M. Honer	20	July 31, 2013	Dent
Staff Sgt. Brandon Horst	25	August 5, 2013	St. Paul
Eddie Sole	58	August 21, 2013	Shorewood
Nancy Elaine Williams	58	August 22, 2013	Long Prairie
Sherell Montrese Craighead	30	September 1, 2013	St. Paul
Kara Ann Monson	26	September 2, 2013	Granite Falls
Nerissa Shaw	46	September 4, 2013	St. Louis Park
Joseph Yang	33	September 5, 2013	Roseville
Christopher Panitzke	28	September 8, 2013	Granite Falls
Anitra Rochelle Williams	26	September 21, 2013	Eden Prairie
Anarae Schunk	2	September 22, 2013	Rosemount
Palagor Obang Jobi	23	September 22, 2013	Burnsville
Steven Lee Vasey Jr.	31	October 8, 2013	Rosemount
Mandy Matula	24	October 26, 2013	Eden Prairie
Laura Simonson	32	November 2, 2013	Rochester
ShoLanda Clark	35	December 30, 2013	Ponsford
Prince Pope	32	January 25, 2014	St. Paul
Kiela Gem Knowles	19	February 23, 2014	Park Rapids
Katie Ray Christopherson	29	February 24, 2014	Hudson Township
Amelia Analesse Ramirez	1	March 15, 2014	Cottage Grove
Carrie Olson	29	April 5, 2014	Hastings
Beverly Gongoll	62	April 8, 2014	Waconia Township
Michelle Ploetz	20	April 18, 2014	St. Paul
Doris Doust	86	May 2, 2014	Worthington
Towanda Harris	46	May 10, 2014	St. Paul
Francesca Desandre	24	July 5, 2014	Minneapolis
Kelly Lund	32	July 12, 2014	Menahga
British Morris-Rice	22	July 20, 2014	West St. Paul
Kelly Phillips	48	August 11, 2014	Arden Hills
Richard Alan Baity	41	August 15, 2014	Ogema

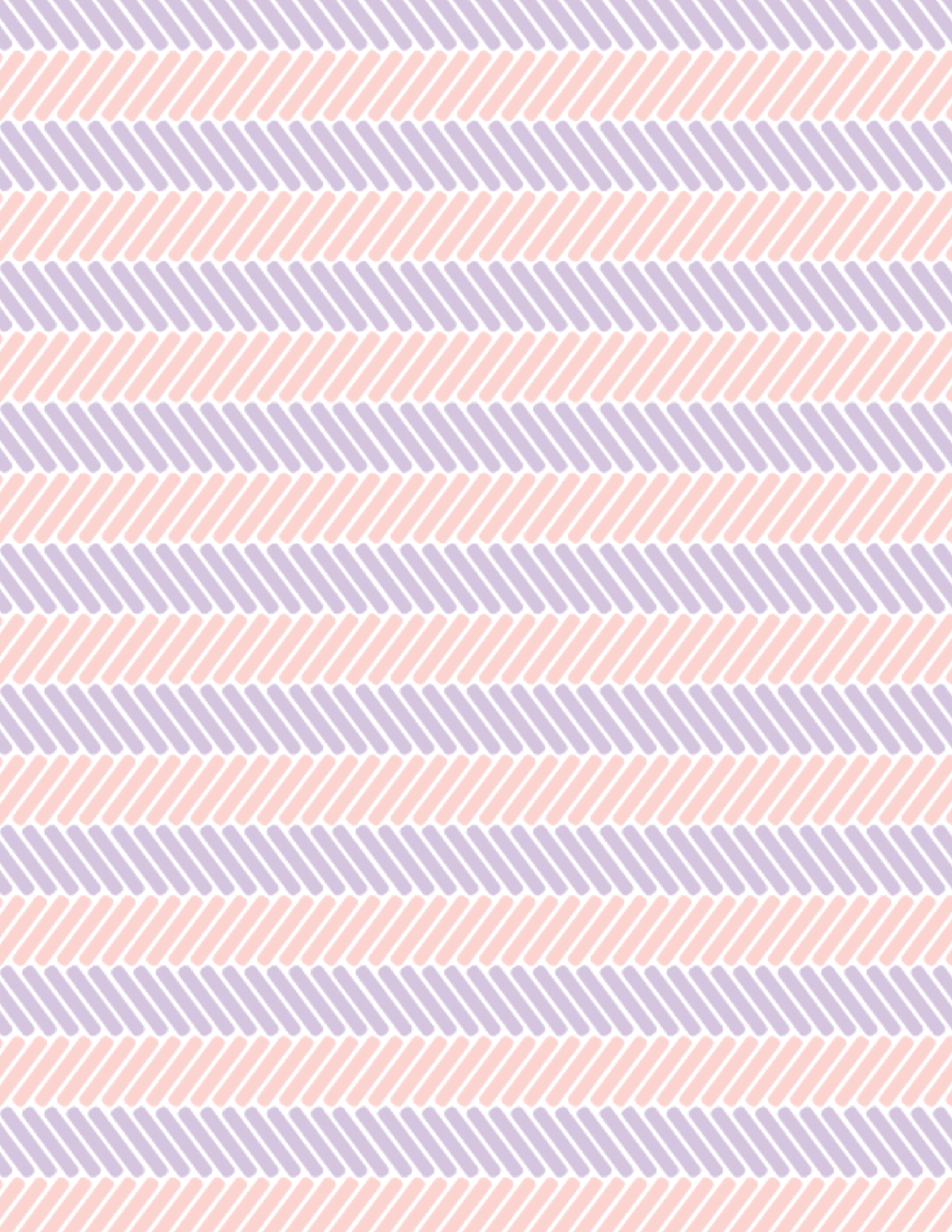
# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Angel (Dorothy) Redd-Lowe	24	August 10, 2014	West St. Paul
Angel L. Linderman	28	September 9, 2014	Lake City
Amber elena Lechuga	22	September 25, 2014	Springfield
Lorraine Swor	85	October 6, 2014	Minneapolis
Miranda Schunk	28	December 29, 2014	St. Paul
Susan Marie James	59	December 29, 2014	Plymouth
Komel Crowley	28	December 30, 2014	Apple Valley
Raniya Crowley	5	December 30, 2014	Apple Valley
Krista Fisherman	35	February 13, 2015	Bemidji
Lanaea Harrison	23	March 11, 2015	Norwood Young America
Linda Boehme	65	March 17, 2015	Granite Falls
Esther Nyambura Muchina-Dobie	39	March 30, 2015	Savage
Samirria White	19	April 4, 2015	St. Paul
Ayan Abdi Abdulahi	21	April 11, 2015	Bloomington
Mai Nhue Her	41	May 12, 2015	St. Paul
Carol Lee Alexander-Pickart	76	May 15, 2015	Winona
Lisa Isham	52	May 16, 2015	Duluth
Addison Hillard	58	May 29, 2015	St. Paul
Anthony Morgan	21	June 10, 2015	Minneapolis
Elizabeth Gregg	45	June 11, 2015	Franklin
Shelley Walley	69	July 29, 2015	Madison
Krista Ambers	36	August 6, 2015	Brooklyn Park
Kelly Ann Anderson	45	August 7, 2015	So. St. Paul
April Erickson	41	August 23, 2015	Maplewood
Grace Ann VanNorman	36	September 8, 2015	Forest Lake
Karen Short	48	September 8, 2015	Greenwood
Cole Short	17	September 8, 2015	Greenwood
Madison Short	15	September 8, 2015	Greenwood
Brooklyn Short	14	September 8, 2015	Greenwood
Ramona Turner	54	September 17, 2015	St. Paul
Eugenia Tallman	48	September 25, 2015	Minneapolis
Victoria Alvarez	15	September 25, 2015	Minneapolis
Flowera Ransom	53	October 1, 2015	Minneapolis
Steven Sandberg	60	October 18, 2015	St. Cloud
Rose Downwind	31	October 20, 2015	Bemidji
David Madison	39	November 1, 2015	Austin
Julie Hildreth	49	November 8, 2015	Aurora
Adelle Jensen	25	November 18, 2015	Minneapolis
Thomas Calvin Donald Jenkins	21	December 5, 2015	St. Paul
Dominic Jasper	26	December 10, 2015	St. Paul
Kavonta Pratt	23	December 10, 2015	St. Paul
Kimberly Hernandez	48	January 29, 2016	Good Thunder
Trisha Nelson	28	February 12, 2016	Plymouth
Tanya Skinaway	23	March 2, 2016	Isle
Courtney Monson	28	April 22, 2016	Ramsey
Barbara Wilson	54	April 26, 2016	Mankato
Tasha Lynn Hanson	24	May 12, 2016	Lewiston
Lyuba Savenok	23	May 14, 2016	Eden Prairie
Beverly Miller	85	May 20, 2016	Woodbury
Ashley Hasti	31	June 2, 2016	Brooklyn Park
Melissa Norby	35	June 22, 2016	Bemidji
Elizabeth Thompson	68	August 9, 2016	Manohmen
Danielle Aimee Denney	29	August 15, 2016	Hastings
Rebecca Drewlo	34	August 18, 2016	Coon Rapids
Luis Ronquillo	13	September 30, 2016	Minneapolis
Nahily Ronquillo	10	September 30, 2016	Minneapolis
Elisa Gomez	47	October 11, 2016	Minneapolis
Roberto Bernabe Cortez	37	October 24, 2016	Minneapolis
Lynn Marie Josephson	56	November 3, 2016	Apple Valley

# WE REMEMBER

NAME	AGE	DATE	LOCATION
Margaret Flath	27	November 7, 2016	Wadena
Amy Allwine	43	November 13, 2016	Cottage Grove
Barbara Larson	59	December 23, 2016	Faribault
Senicha Marie Lessman	25	January 24, 2017	Eagan
Alicia Ann Swenson	33	February 17, 2017	Rosemount
Lacey J. Kuschel	35	February 2, 2017	Todd County
Maria McIntosh	19	April 7, 2017	St. Paul
Olivia McIntosh	17	April 7, 2017	St. Paul
Wade McIntosh	47	April 7, 2017	St. Paul
Tawnja Rene Wallace	48	May 3, 2017	Crookston
Iesha Lanell Wiley	26	May 12, 2017	Minneapolis
Stacy A. Buckanaga	49	June 6, 2017	Minneapolis
Sandra Kay Sandland	53	July 12, 2017	Crystal
Jaida Marie Hoffman	34	April 24, 2017	Winona
Kristie Steinke	49	June 8, 2017	Minneapolis
Michelle Le	48	September 25, 2017	Minneapolis
Dominga Mejia Guerrero	58	July 27, 2017	Long Prairie
Vanessa Rae Danielson	36	September 28, 2017	Minneapolis
Elizabeth Perrault	41	November 1, 2017	Burnsville
Martina Lopez Garcia	35	November 2, 2017	Minneapolis
Dawn Marie Blomberg	59	November 5, 2017	Minneapolis
Ruzana Semenovna Yedvabnik	34	November 6, 2017	Shakopee
Melissa Seefert	65	November 17, 2017	Scandia
Jessia Suzanne Ludenia	33	November 14, 2017	Watertown
Phanny Phay	28	November 19, 2017	St. Paul
Sarah Ruth Benson Cheshire	41	December 6, 2017	Fergus Falls
Linda Pa Vue	29	November 19, 2017	St. Paul
Carlton Campbell	58	April 24, 2017	New Brighton
Jody T. Fry	29	June 16, 2017	Robbinsdale
Paw Boh Htoo	29	November 7, 2017	Minneapolis
Cristina Prodan	27	January 4, 2018	Edina
Lori Ann Wiederhoeft Moore	43	February 17, 2018	Beauford
Eileen Viveros-Vargas	18	March 9, 2018	St. Paul
David Leonard Riess	58	March 23, 2018	Blooming Prairie
Lashay M. Whittaker	41	April 21, 2018	St. Paul
Dwayne Hawkins Jr.	29	April 26, 2018	Minneapolis
Christina Marie Woods	28	June 13, 2018	Beatty Township
Joyce Ann Engelbrecht	67	June 16, 2018	St. James
Rachel Elaine Schulz Linder	43	June 16, 2018	St. James
Shequill Terall Halbert	24	July 19, 2018	Minneapolis
Shana Lynne Hollins	39	July 23, 2018	St. Paul
Enedelia Perez Garcia	27	August 12, 2018	Shakopee
Dah Dah Ray	58	August 18, 2018	St. Paul
Jennifer Lee Moy	45	September 29, 2018	St. Cloud







## **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. After 40 years, the coalition formerly known as the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women (MCBW), updated our name to reflect the future we work towards every day. 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.

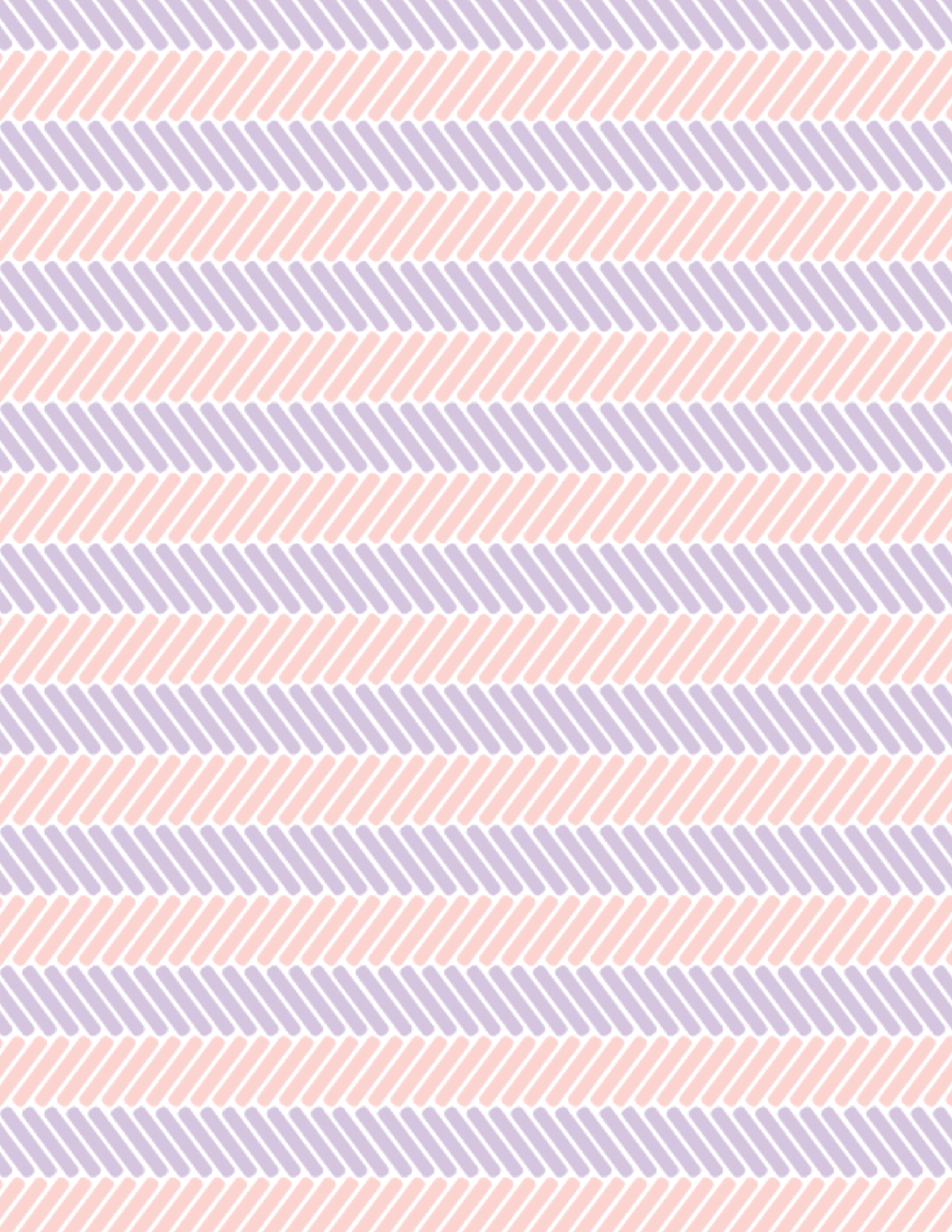
### **OUR MISSION**

- 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