



Centering Survivors for
Transformative Change: Exploring
Economic supports to Prevent Sexual
and Intimate Partner Violence with
FreeFrom

Monday, October 25th, 2021

TV: Welcome everyone!! So nice to see so many people here!

TV: You can download the PowerPoint slides for this session here:

<http://www.preventconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FreeFrom-econ-supports-Oct-2021-final.pdf>

TV: Organizing for economic opportunity: Strategies to improve economic opportunities for sexual and domestic violence prevention:

<http://www.preventconnect.org/2017/06/organizing-for-economic-opportunity-strategies-to-improve-economic-opportunities-for-sexual-and-domestic-violence-prevention/>

Getting Started on Supporting Economic Opportunity for Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2018/11/getting-started-on-supporting-economic-opportunity-for-sexual-and-domestic-violence-prevention/>

TV: Economic security and safe relationships: Pathways and actions for partner violence prevention: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2019/04/economic-security-and-safe-relationships-pathways-and-actions-for-partner-violence-prevention/>

From paid leave to rent stabilization: Research and practice on strengthening economic security for violence prevention:

<http://www.preventconnect.org/2019/08/from-paid-leave-to-rent-stabilization-research-and-practice-on-strengthening-economic-security-for-violence-prevention/>

TV: Messaging the Connections: Explaining the links between strengthening economic supports and preventing sexual and intimate partner violence: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2020/07/messaging-the-connections-explaining-the-links-between-strengthening-economic-supports-and-preventing-sexual-and-intimate-partner-violence/>

Disproportionate Economic Impacts of COVID-19 & Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence Prevention: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2020/09/disproportionate-economic-impacts-of-covid-19-sexual-and-intimate-partner-violence-prevention/>

TV: Living Wages: Advancing Equity in Our Organizations: <http://www.nationalsexualassaultconference.org/2021/06/27/living-wages-advancing-equity-in-our-organizations/>

TV: Domestic Violence Awareness Month: <https://www.dvawareness.org/dvam-2021>

TV: PreventConnect & NRCDV DVAM 2021 podcast series: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2021/09/part-1-domestic-violence-awareness-prevention-month-2021-no-survivor-justice-without-racial-justice/>

TV: Text Chat Question: Where do you see the connections between racial justice and economic justice?

RC: Race is a caste system in the US that works to organize individuals by class.

GP: Racial injustice fuels economic injustice due to oppression.

NS: Class often is used to divide people along racial lines.

FO: I think the #landback movement is a perfect example.

RS: My organizations works with a lot of foreign born people and often it is harder for them to get work as a result of language or documentations barriers.

TV: STOP SV: A Technical Package to Prevent Sexual Violence:
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/sv-prevention-technical-package.pdf>

Preventing Intimate Partner Violence Across the Lifespan: A Technical Package of Programs, Policies, and Practices:
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-technicalpackages.pdf>

MR: Racial minority groups are more likely to hold unskilled labor jobs in my community, so overall they have less economic power and agency. I think transportation intimately connects with these things as well.

JC: Certain race inherit economic hardship by being in a class by an application for work, banking, insurance, etc.

DJ: Financial oppression keeps certain populations from justice, healing so many things.

TV: NRCDV + PreventIPV.org National Prevention Town Hall Register:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZosc-ChpjMpHgEPe6sKixjZXv_EJg-hFq2q Program: <https://nrcdv.org/2021-prevention-townhall>

DW: Avoid financial literacy programs for survivors that are "austerity measures" on the backs of poor women. Connect predatory lending practices to economic racist practices that cause strain and chaos for families.

MR: My agency will be going through Flourish Agenda's Healing Centered Engagement Certification Program, with the hope that this will empower us to break down "invisible" and "unspoken" biases around culture and identity:
<https://flourishagenda.com/healing-centered-engagement-certification/>

LB: Economic disparities are often a result and tool of racism. Its a powerful way to control individuals and limit their power and control in our capitalist society where money is needed. We know people of color have faced long upheld systematic disadvantages that have placed barrier after barrier to economic stability and opportunity. Economic and racial injustice are intertwined and to fight one we need to fight the other.

TV: Find the TA Question of the Month Casey mentioned at <https://vawnet.org/>

CK: Thanks, Tori!

AKJ: Thank you all for your responses to that first question

AR: I see a connection between redlining and then funding schools from property taxes. Racism and white supremacy pushing BIPOC communities into neighborhoods that are more heavily policed with less resources.

MR: Yes to all of these! We see each one of these needs in our community as well.

JC: Will we be able to have a copy of the power points by chance?

TV: Yes! You can download the PowerPoint slides for this session here: <http://www.preventconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FreeFrom-econ-supports-Oct-2021-final.pdf>

JC: Wonderful!! Thank you!

CK: Really appreciate all of these important reflections and examples at the intersections of economic and racial justice!

TV: Safe Housing Partnerships website that Shenna just mentioned: <https://safehousingpartnerships.org/>

SM: Absolutley!

TV: FreeFrom: <https://www.freefrom.org/>

SR: Thank you

TV: OMG their social enterprise website/shopping has astrology-themed gift boxes. Just thought folks should know there are amazing things on there!

KC: I am interested as to why there is a shift in language from "abusers" to "harm doers"

TV: Text Chat Question: How can policies and practices that support survivors' financial independence prevent sexual and intimate partner violence?

GP: These policies will take a source of power away from harm doers.

AK: It lessens a vulnerability that could be exploited by harm doers.

SR: It helps prevent sexual and intimate partner violence by empowering the abused to part ways and get out of that situation. Many people stay or deal with situations because they don't have the financial capacity to part ways.

EN: Economic justice is gender justice! Ensuring that survivors have access to and control over their own finances allows them to be the ones making decisions in their lives so it can prevent future harm in DV relationships, but also can keep them out of potentially dangerous situations that they get into as a result of financial need.

KC: Survivors who have the financial ability to get counseling, or go to the emergency room, get a hotel for the night when shelters are full will allow survivors to escape their abusers.

KK: I think that the policies and practices to support survivors financial independence can prevent sexual and intimate partner violence, by empowering the survivor with finances and being able to sustain without the dependence of a partner. Once, they have power and know their worth and value, they no longer rely on perpetrators.

WP: The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA)--a law in Illinois and some other states that provide employees who are survivors or employees with family members who are survivors with unpaid, but job-guaranteed leave, workplace accommodations, and prohibitions from discrimination.

LB: I find that survivors often know what is best to do when getting out of a situation or avoiding further harm it but often can't afford what they want to do.

AKJ: @Lauren yes, that is such a good point.

TV: @Lauren, we'll be highlighted a resource from FreeFrom soon called "Survivors Know Best." I feel like that speaks to your response to our question.

TV: Prioritizing Financial Security in the Movement to End IPV: A Roadmap:
https://www.freefrom.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Prioritizing_Financial_Security_Report.pdf

AKJ: supporting survivors' financial independence also gets to community risk and protective factors for violence.

SB: Relating a few slides back, just in case anyone is interested in disaggregated data for Asian workers reflecting far lower earnings on the dollar than .90 per white-earned dollar: <https://www.californialawreview.org/the-case-for-requiring-disaggregation-of-asian-american-and-pacific-islander-data/>

MR: For #2: <https://nnedv.org/webinars/tuesday-october-5/>

TV: Q&A with FreeFrom & Peers join link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PFSMSurvey>

SL: Sign up for the webinar about labor unions: <https://bit.ly/3CleZf6>

LB: Thinking about finances and working with survivors. I know most of the colleagues I have worked with get nervous about discussing budgets and finances with survivors because we all struggle with it and feel like we don't have any space to come from. In college I was a case manager at a dv shelter giving a support group on financial literacy then the next day at a store having my card declined on a \$15 and crying in front of the cashier. Who am I help to them when I couldn't help myself? How could I expect them to take this information and implement it in such a intense point of their life when I couldn't myself?

EN: ^that's a totally relatable & an understandable reaction Lauren. I think it's also something that we have to look at as far as what services we're offering - is it fair to suggest people budget themselves out of poverty? (i'd argue no)

AKJ: @Lauren thanks for sharing your experience. I think this is one of the reasons why looking internally at our organizations is such an important and sometimes missing piece of our work to advance prevention.

AR: @Emily...your comment about budgeting out of poverty is key. I agree very much.

SL: @Lauren, thank you so much for sharing and creating an open space for us all. + YES Emily!!

AA: another term we are toying with is Thriving Wage vs Living Wage--ie moving beyond just the minimal for survival.

AKJ: @Anisa I like that!

KCZ: Some of our directors in the state are reporting they are having issues staffing their programs but are not ready to increase wages, do you have any suggestions for starting the conversation with directors?

AR: Thriving wage!! I love it.

AKJ: <https://livingwage.mit.edu/>

AR: Thriving wage so people can get a cup of coffee, go on vacation, AND save for retirement. There should be no shame in that.

KC: What a life changing amount of benefits.

AA: yes, re: thriving wage!!

CR: wow

LB: I'm curious with the minimum wage you provide for your staff- is minimum wage for single adult? a certain number of children? Curious what number you use.

CR: I like the term Thriving wage.

GP: Thriving Wage!!!!

TV: Text Chat Question: What would it mean for sexual and intimate partner violence prevention and survivor support if sexual and intimate partner violence organizations prioritize the economic security of those working in the movement?

MR: It would be a game changer!

AK: we would be so much more effective!

CR: More may be likely to leave for good.

KC: The burnout would be less- we would hire people who have the experience necessary to work with just an emotional job and vulnerable population.

EM: A faster way to leave the abuser.

GP: It would minimize the revolving door of employees and strengthen the trust between the organization and those that are served.

LB: More survivors can afford to be in this movement. More BIPOC survivors, higher representation of those who experience it in working too. So many can't afford to do this work because we are unpaid and overworked- their voices are being lost.

MR: Oftentimes, that is all people ask for - money for new or back rent, and related things. And we always have to turn them away.

TV: I think about the connection to the Great Resignation/Great Reshuffle and how we as a movement could retain amazing, passionate staff because they're paid a thriving wage.

EN: a healthy group of helpers who aren't constantly pouring from an empty cup.

KE: I heard this at a C4 Innovations training and immediately wrote it down on a sticky note: "What if we began focusing on keeping violence from happening in the first place through economic justice and financial security?"

SS: Nice to be able to move away from "do as I say not as I do" lol

GP: As a part-time Social Work instructor it would have me not to have to feel torn when student's ask me is this work worth it.

AA: yes Samantha^

SG: I have only been here for a month, but this agency recently made a huge change towards more equitable and thriving wage for all pay categories. This definitely impacted my choice to work here and it feels different to work at an organization that has moved away from a culture of scarcity for staff and participants

AK: We would not have to be constantly rebuilding...

AKJ: @Gerald oh I feel that.

AKJ: @Angela yes. yes.

SSO: Just want to also mention the very real connection that lack of economic security for survivors has on physical and mental health.

KR: my client received this grant, they were very grateful that this fund was very low-barrier.

KD: ^^^ same.

TV: @Stacy, I saw a response to Calm App's tweet, "What is something your organization can do to improve your mental health?" that said, "Increase my salary." You're right on that it's a very very real connection!

AKJ: @Stacy thanks for lifting that up.

WP: similar to how folks use EITC refund.

TV: Survivors Know Best: <https://www.freefrom.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Survivors-Know-Best.pdf>

Trust Survivors: <https://www.freefrom.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/TrustSurvivorsReport.pdf>.

SC: How does a survivor get their name on the waitlist?

SC: Thank you Tannia!

TV: Contact Em Jackson at em.Jackson@freefrom.org for more information about the survivor financial peer-to-peer groups

TV: FreeFrom's National Survivor Financial Security Map and Scorecard: <https://mapandscorecard.freefrom.org/>

SR: will there be certificates for this webinar?

AKJ: We'll email a link to respond to a short evaluation survey and at the completion of that there is a link to download a certificate.

SR: perfect, thank you.

CM: Is there any guidance on how we can frame cash assistance to accounting and for financial audits?

AA: Thank you!

AM: I second Christina McGovney's question!

TV: Tannia Ventura - tannia.ventura@freefrom.org

GP: thank you Ashleigh

EN: thank you so much!

LB: Thank you so much! This was incredible!

CR: Thank you. This was great.

RL: Thank you!

AV: Thank you, Tannia!!! Great information

WP: the federal money coming to states--a good source of \$.

SB: Thank you so much!

AA: Thank you for your time and information. Take care!

EJ: thank you very helpful

RW: This was fabulous! Thank you!

EJ: very worth it.

TS: Thank you! What an eye opener! I can't wait to take this back to the team! Be Well!

IM: Thank you, for all this great conversation. can you email all the links on the chat please.

LM: Thank-you so much for all of this very helpful information!

HC: Thank you for all these helpful information.

AV: Yes, thanks for all the wisdom shared in the chat!!!

TV: FreeFrom: <https://www.freefrom.org/>

LB: I can't wait to share this with my colleagues! This was one of the best webinars I have attended! Great, great job!

CR: I agree

TV: Thank you all everyone! Y'all are amazing!++