

## NYSCADV 2023 DAY OF ACTION PARTICIPANT TALKING POINTS

***Thousands of New Yorkers experience domestic violence every day. Despite a tremendous demand for housing and other assistance, New York does not sufficiently fund domestic violence services, preventing victims from getting the help they need.***

- New York State has the highest demand for domestic violence services in the country.
  - NNEDV National Survey:
    - 9,157 adult and child victims of domestic violence received services – a 38% increase from the year before.
    - Nearly 1,000 victims did not receive the help they asked for due to lack of resources and staff.
- New York does not provide DV programs/us with the funding to provide survivor-centered, trauma-informed services. Programs/We are laying off staff, intentionally keeping vacant positions open, cutting programs and taking out lines of credit just to pay staff.
- DV programs/We are required to have multiple contracts with numerous state agencies to get funding. We spend too much time on paperwork and chasing down payments, diverting critical resources away from direct services for victims.
- Despite being frontline, essential workers, DV advocates have never received a cost-of-living adjustment or other salary increases that other human service workers have received. We were ignored again and not included in this year's COLA. DV programs/we cannot retain staff or recruit new employees, resulting in hundreds of vacancies across DV programs statewide.
- Survivors are bearing the brunt of New York's failure to invest in these critical services. Each day, thousands of DV survivors and family members are not getting the assistance they need.
- New York's DV service delivery system is at a tipping point – one that we will surely cross unless New York chooses to invest in these critical, life-sustaining services.
- The Governor and Legislature have spent weeks discussing public safety and law enforcement, yet the needs of crime victims have been ignored. We hope to see additional funding for crime victims in the Final Budget. Lawmakers still have time to dedicate critical funding to victims of domestic violence and other crimes so they can get the help they deserve.