THEORY OF CHANGE

PROBLEM
Domestic Violence is one of many interconnected forms of systemic oppression & unequal power which silences diverse perspectives & prevents us from reaching our full potential.
The problematic public narrative about DV contributes to its’ pervasiveness & has thwarted our ability to find effective solutions.
Leadership is needed to coalesce a broad-based coalition bringing expert attention to the issue & real solutions.

STRATEGIES

FIELD STRATEGIES (CA DVresponse)
Strengthen capacity of the field to listen to the voices of survivors, families & communities.

MOVEMENT STRATEGIES (national/global)
Lead & energize the DV movement
Lift up structural & systemic factors which contribute to DV
Position DV issue along with other movements
Advocate for effective public policies.

OUTCOMES

INTERIM (state focused)
The DV community profile represents & respects all voices
DV system responds to the evolving needs of survivors, families & communities
DV system reflects an integrated approach that combines services & social change.

LONG TERM (national and global)
DV prevention has support, visibility & momentum
Individuals & relationships safe, healthy & respectful
Families thrive in interconnected, just & prosperous communities.

ASSUMPTIONS
The lived experiences of People of Color differ from that of white people
Intentional power sharing is uncomfortable & is the means to lasting social change
Ending DV requires an array of approaches which respond to the voices & needs of all survivors, families & communities
The best ideas come from having everyone at the table
Working collaboratively leads to more effective and sustainable solutions.

COMMUNITY ASSETS
Partners & allied coalitions actively engaging in social change efforts
Greater frequency of conversations across fields & sectors about the root causes of domestic violence
Willingness for leaders & advocates to have discussions with opposing & unified viewpoints in search of real solutions

CONTEXT
There is increased attention on & investment in issues affecting women & girls
Recent investments within CA provide a foundation for & support momentum toward addressing root causes
Starvation funding cycle & crisis mindset in the DV field make it challenging to engage in work that moves beyond day to day
Leadership transitions, intergenerational work & energized movements are prompting the DV field to revisit & revise long-held approaches.

VALUES / GUIDING PRINCIPLES

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE: We represent California’s rich diversity.

PARTNERSHIP: As a connector & network weaver, we promote collective strength through reciprocity & interdependence.

EQUITY: We shift power so underrepresented voices frame our approach.

BELOVED COMMUNITY: We are part of a “bigger we” & intentionally stand in intersectional solidarity with communities.

BRAVERY: We embrace discomfort, taking informed & inspirational risks to disrupt the status quo.

STANCE
The Partnership...
Keeps one foot anchored in DV while pivoting towards intersectional social justice movements
Intentionally “passes the mic” to survivors, families & communities at the margins
De-centers criminal legal responses in favor of survivor & community-led solutions to prevent & end DV
Uses power & privilege to challenge status quo in service of a “bigger we”
Follows strategically when asked, and leads strategically when appropriate.