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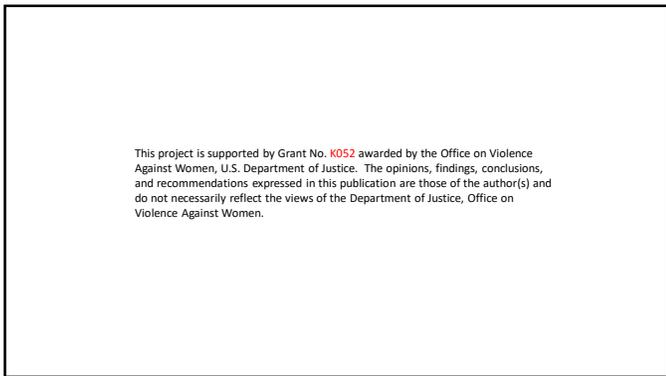
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## Lack of access to courts

- Court hours may be limited, along with survivor's fear of going to court for help due to infection
- Protection orders may lapse while survivors obey stay-at-home orders
- Survivors may not know how to get modifications in existing orders or provisions in new orders that will provide more safety around firearms at home
- Making sure court orders include firearms removal orders for local law enforcement

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## Lack of access to law enforcement

- Some law enforcement agencies are taking police reports over the phone rather than coming in person, raising questions about how enforcement of violations of the protection orders will be handled
  - E.g., if the abuser is purchasing firearms during the COVID-19 pandemic or hiding firearms in undisclosed locations, it may be harder to get in person law enforcement assistance
  - Firearms removal programs may be less resourced during COVID-19 emergency or suspended due to need to shift LE resources to other emergency responses
- Some communities will not contact law enforcement
  - African-American community
  - Immigrant community

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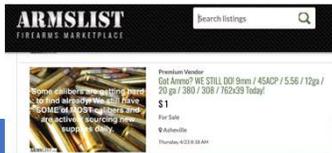
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COVID-19 has made it far more likely that abusers have access to a firearm in a domestic violence situation

Background checks are up, indicating increased sales by FFLs

- According to the FBI, 3.7 million background checks were done in March 2020—the most for a single month since the system began in 1998. ABC News, April 1, 2020



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**Safety First:  
When Stay-at-Home orders collide with domestic violence and firearms**

Points of lethality: firearms and COVID-19 threats

Threats of firearms violence to control survivor's response to COVID-19

- Keeping survivor/child from obtaining food/medicine or otherwise leaving house
- "Punishing" survivor/child for "causing infection"
- Threats of suicide/homicide around job loss
- Increased frustration/anger + access to firearms = imminent danger

Survivor and children trapped at home

- Unable to make phone calls
- Unable to escape to public locations/institutions (like children's school) to seek immediate help

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**Safety Planning with Survivors**

What threats or actions have taken place?

Full discussion of firearms with client

- What is survivor most concerned about regarding the abuser's firearms?
- What kinds and numbers of firearms does the abuser have access to? What related items (like ammunition) should be addressed?

Addressing threats/imminent danger

- Safety of children and other family members

Importance of listening to the survivor's concerns and experience

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**Safety Planning with Survivors**

Identifying allies and resources

Remedies to discuss

- Requiring abuser to surrender firearms
- Monitoring abuser compliance
- Ensuring that law enforcement know of any firearms prohibitions

Discussing relocation

Evaluation of updating of safety plan

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**Safety Planning with Survivors**

IF SAFE TO DO SO: call 911

Use Emergency SOS on iPhone  
<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT208076>

Use emergency location sharing on Androids and iPhones  
<https://www.theverge.com/2019/3/18/18267500/how-to-set-up-emergency-location-sharing-android-ios>

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**National Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

Comprehensive list of resources useful for DV programs including resources about:

- Animals and IPV
- Child abuse
- Culturally specific programs
- Deaf community and persons with disabilities
- Emergency preparedness
- LGBTQ+ community
- Immigrant communities
- Medical issues
- Safety planning
- [https://assets.speakcdn.com/assets/2497/covid\\_19\\_resources\\_by\\_topic.pdf?1585929833746](https://assets.speakcdn.com/assets/2497/covid_19_resources_by_topic.pdf?1585929833746)
- Firearms and domestic violence: [www.DisarmDV.org](http://www.DisarmDV.org)



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**National Indigenous Women's Resource Center**

- Guidance for Tribal Programs
  - Confidentiality
  - Precautionary Measures
  - Provision of Alternative Services
- <https://www.niwrc.org/news/resources-response-coronavirus-covid-19>



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### Ujima, The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community

- Information and resources on COVID-19 and the Black community
- <https://ujimacommunity.org/covid-19/>



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### Casa de Esperanza

- Comprehensive Spanish language resources on COVID-19
- English language resources on COVID-19
- [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15gXDRnaSMLFrku2p6HoMmHa\\_TnFSAViBo5rL6Zvq7Dc/edit#gid=118969425](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15gXDRnaSMLFrku2p6HoMmHa_TnFSAViBo5rL6Zvq7Dc/edit#gid=118969425)



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### Asian-Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

- Comprehensive list of COVID-19 resources that are especially focused on immigrant issues and multilingual access to information and support
- [www.api-gbv.org](http://www.api-gbv.org)



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### Centers for Disease Control

- Print resources from the CDC on COVID-19 in languages other than English:
- [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc&CDC\\_AA\\_reftval=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunication%2Ffactsheets.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc&CDC_AA_reftval=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunication%2Ffactsheets.html)




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### National Domestic Violence Hotline

- 24/7 national advocacy and referral services
- Immediate safety planning
- Self-care resources
- Survivor-focused information on DV and COVID-19
- Phone: 800-799-SAFE (7233)
- Chat: [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)
- Text: LOVEIS to 22522
- <https://www.thehotline.org/2020/03/13/staying-safe-during-covid-19/>




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### National Immigration Law Center

- Regularly updated information on immigrant's rights during COVID-19 crisis:
  - Workplace
  - Access to Health Care & COVID-19 testing
  - Immigrant workers' rights
  - Immigration concerns & rights
  - Webinar trainings
- <https://www.nilc.org/>




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National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

- Comprehensive guide: national and international resources about domestic violence and COVID-19
- Many guidance documents on shelter operations
- Faith-based and community organization resources
- Pregnant women & children
- <https://vawnet.org/news/preventing-managing-spread-covid-19-within-domestic-violence-programs>
- Emergency preparedness
- <https://vawnet.org/sc/disaster-and-emergency-preparedness-and-response>



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American Bar Association  
Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence

- Provides summary of survey from victims' attorneys across the country during the COVID-19 health crisis
- List of national organizations and resources
- Access to webinar on "Remote Representation for DV Clients: Privacy & the COVID Pandemic" (Presented by Alicia Aiken)
- [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/domestic\\_violence/initiatives/covid-19/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/domestic_violence/initiatives/covid-19/)



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Workplaces Respond National Resource Center

- **When Work is Safer Than Home: Supporting Workers Experiencing Domestic & Sexual Violence During the COVID-19 Pandemic:** [www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/supportingworkers](http://www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/supportingworkers)  
Spanish: [www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/apoyopara-lostrabajadores](http://www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/apoyopara-lostrabajadores)
- **COVID-19, Survivors & the Workplace Resource**  
Hub: [www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19](http://www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19)  
Spanish: [www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/espanol](http://www.workplacesrespond.org/covid19/espanol)



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**Futures Without Violence**

- Resources for Economic Empowerment Programs Responding to COVID-19
- Comprehensive information on:
  - Federal economic impact payments under CARES Act
  - Emergency sick leave
  - Unemployment insurance
- <https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/human-trafficking/covid-19-economic-resources>




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**National Network to End Domestic Violence**

- Resources for Domestic Violence Coalitions and Local DV Shelter Programs
- Cleaning/Disinfecting Shelters and Facilities
- COVID-19 Testing and Local Health Departments
- Remote Workplace and Technology Resources
- Resources for Survivors
- [https://nnedv.org/latest\\_update/resources-response-coronavirus-covid-19/](https://nnedv.org/latest_update/resources-response-coronavirus-covid-19/)




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**YWCA USA**

- "Keeping Up With COVID-19: What You Must Know" (Podcast with Alejandra Castillo, CEO YWCA USA and Dr. Meg Doherty, Director, Department of Global HIV, Hepatitis and STIs Programmes at the World Health Organization)
- <https://www.ywca.org/blog/2020/03/20/keeping-up-with-covid-19-what-you-must-know/>




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For grantees receiving Violence Against Women Act funding

**Office on Violence Against Women COVID-19 Announcement**

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) has developed a resource guide to address some of the most pressing questions that it has received related to grantee obligations and options regarding how to operate, provide services, and manage OVW grants.

Follow this link to learn more: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1270681/download>

Additional resources can be found here: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-and-faqs-grantees>.



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For grantees receiving Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funding



330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20011 | [www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov)



DATE: March 30, 2020

FROM: Ben Goldhaber, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration and Chief Grants Management Officer, Administration for Children and Families

TO: Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Grantees and Recipients

SUBJECT: Information Memorandum: IM-ACF-OA-2020-01: ACF grant flexibilities in conducting human service activities related to or affected by COVID-19

[https://www.niwrc.org/sites/default/files/acf\\_im-acf-oa-2020-01\\_covid\\_flexibilities\\_final\\_march\\_30\\_2020.pdf](https://www.niwrc.org/sites/default/files/acf_im-acf-oa-2020-01_covid_flexibilities_final_march_30_2020.pdf)

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Thank you!

- NCADV
- 303 839 1852
- NCADV.org
- Follow: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest
- NCPOFFC
- 800 903 0111 choice 2
- [ncffc@bwjp.org](mailto:ncffc@bwjp.org)
- [fullfaithandcredit.org](http://fullfaithandcredit.org)
- Follow: Facebook, Twitter

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