



UTAH
HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIP
TASKFORCE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2015

AWARENESS • EDUCATION • TREATMENT



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UTAH HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP TASKFORCE

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UTAH HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP TASKFORCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Utah Healthy Relationship Taskforce Statewide Strategic Plan was developed in an effort to establish a plan for Utah communities to address dating violence and explore ways to implement building healthy relationships among individuals in dating relationships.

The Utah Healthy Relationship Taskforce mission statement reads:

“We promote healthy and respectful relationships and support those affected by dating violence through advocacy, education, prevention, and treatment.”

DATING VIOLENCE IN UTAH

- Nearly 12 percent of high school students, or one in eight, said they were hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend.
Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System, 2011
- Thirty-eight percent of Utah teens thought dating violence was a problem in their school.
2011 Utah Department of Health
- Fifteen percent of Utah teens say they have been a victim of dating violence.
2011 Utah Department of Health
- Nearly half (48%) of Utah teens knew either an abuser or victim of teen dating violence.
2011 Utah Department of Health
- Of all Utah homicides committed from 2003-2008, more than one-fifth (21.2%) were committed by a current girlfriend or boyfriend.
Violence and Injury Prevention Program. Domestic Violence Fatalities in Utah 2003-2008. Salt Lake City, UT: Utah Department of Health, 2010.
- Of all Utah homicides committed from 2003-2008, 12 percent were committed by an ex-girlfriend or ex-boyfriend.
Violence and Injury Prevention Program. Domestic Violence Fatalities in Utah 2003-2008. Salt Lake City, UT: Utah Department of Health, 2010.
- Nearly 12 percent of students report that they have been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.
Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System, 2011
- Interpersonal violence (IPV) is linked to negative health behaviors. Females who experienced IPV had a significantly higher prevalence of being a current everyday smoker (13.4% vs. 4.4%) and of binge drinking (9.8% vs. 4.3%) than females who did not experience IPV.
Utah Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2008.
- Dating assault victims report having a lower quality of life than their peers who have not been victimized.
Utah Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2008.

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OVERVIEW OF THE TASKFORCE

HISTORY

In 2005, the Utah Office on Domestic and Sexual Violence collaborated with the Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-Violence Coordinating Council, the Utah Domestic Violence Council, and the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault to create the Teen Dating Violence Prevention Workgroup. The workgroup gathered national data, reviewed research and surveys, and developed a definition of dating violence.

In 2007, in an effort to rejuvenate the work group, the name was changed to the Dating Violence Taskforce. Committees were formed to work on supporting February as dating violence month, collecting data, developing legislation, and increasing education. The Taskforce continued to advocate for the dating violence protective order bill, and worked to increase awareness of the issue by creating a run/walk and supporting high schools in recognizing the issue during National Dating Violence Week.

In 2011, the Utah Department of Health was encouraged to house the Utah Dating Violence Taskforce. At that time, staff sent out letters of invitation to government agencies, non-profits, and community organizations that work with youth to join the Taskforce.

Upon meeting as a newly developed Taskforce, members voted to change the name from the Utah Dating Violence Taskforce to the Utah Healthy Relationship Taskforce (UHRT). This name change will create a more positive perception of dating violence prevention efforts and encourage buy-in from partners throughout Utah.

LEGISLATION

Since 2005, there have been efforts to pass a law that would protect individuals in dating relationships and allow them the same rights to obtain protective orders as couples who are married, living together, or have children together. However, none of the previous legislation has passed.

Representative Jennifer Seelig agreed to sponsor the 'Dating Violence Protective Act' during the 2013 Utah General Legislative Session, which would offer similar protections as previous bills.



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BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this body shall be the Utah Healthy Relationship Taskforce, here after referred to in these Bylaws as the "Taskforce."

ARTICLE II: PLACE OF BUSINESS

The place of business shall be determined by the Taskforce and shall be determined on an annual basis; however, it will remain in the state of Utah. The original place of business shall be the offices of the Utah Department of Health at 288 North Garside Street (1460 West), Salt Lake City, Utah.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Utah Healthy Relationship Taskforce is to promote healthy and respectful relationships and support those affected by dating violence through advocacy, education, and prevention.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

1. The Taskforce shall comprise no more than twenty-five (25) members representing, among other things, the various agencies and community groups that have expertise and/or involvement respecting issues of sexual violence. Membership shall presumably be indefinite in duration.
2. The Taskforce shall foster cooperation and coordination with other Utah state agencies, including, but not limited to, Boys and Girls Club of Weber-Davis, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Division of Child and Family Services, Division of Youth Services, Family Support Center, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Office for Victims of Crime, Prevent Child Abuse Utah, Rape Recovery Center, Sandy City Police Department, South Valley Sanctuary, University of Utah, Utah Board of Education, Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Utah Department of Health, Utah Domestic Violence Council, Utah's school districts, Utah State PTA, and Weber

State University Board of Regents. In addition to State agencies, the Taskforce shall invite individuals and organizations in the community that provide or contribute to services for individuals affected by sexual violence, including, but not limited to: school counselors, advocates, sexual assault nurse examiners, faith leaders, social workers, treatment providers, attorneys, and the community at large. Presumably, each such organization shall have no more than one (1) member serve as a representative on the Taskforce.

3. Most members of the Taskforce shall presumably be employees or agents of other agencies or organizations, such as those listed in the preceding paragraph. When an individual member resigns or otherwise becomes dissociated from the Taskforce, that same agency or organization may nominate a replacement member.
4. To become a member of the Taskforce, the Chair and Vice-Chair must unanimously invite the individual to join the Taskforce and the person must accept. Other members of the Taskforce are encouraged to propose new members to the Chair and Vice-Chair.
5. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall have the discretion to remove and expel any member, upon unanimous agreement by the Chair and Vice-Chair, with or without cause. Three (3) unexcused or six (6) excused absences in a one-year (1-year) period shall presumably constitute grounds for expulsion.
6. All members of the Taskforce shall serve without compensation.
7. A member may voluntarily withdraw from the Taskforce at any time, upon written notice (mail or email) to the Chair.

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8. Each member shall submit his or her contact information to the Chair and/or Vice-Chair, and email shall be the primary mode of communication used by the Taskforce and to give notice of upcoming meetings and other information.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1. The Officers of the Taskforce shall be the Chair and Vice-Chair, who shall be elected every two years at the September meeting and who may serve in the position for no more than two terms. A term shall be two years. The Chair and Vice-Chair must be Taskforce members.
2. The Chair shall preside over and conduct all Taskforce meetings and shall work with the other members and Committee Chairpersons to promote the Taskforce mission and goals.
3. The Vice-Chair shall act as assistant to the Chair and shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him or her by the Chair and shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the Chair in the absence or inability of the Chair to act.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

1. Regular Taskforce meetings shall be held quarterly at a regular time and place as determined by the Chair. Meetings shall be public and open meetings. Visitors are welcome and may participate in Taskforce meetings as recognized by the Chair. Visitors who become unruly or disruptive shall be subject to removal from any such meetings at the discretion of the Chair.
2. Workgroup meetings shall be held monthly or bimonthly, which will be determined by each Workgroup's Committee Chairperson.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

1. Subdivisions of the Taskforce shall be referred to generally as Committees, and the Committees shall include Workgroups, Ad Hoc

Committees, and the Executive Committee. Each Committee shall have a Committee Chairperson. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair shall be the Committee Chairperson of the Executive Committee. For all other Committees, Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Committee Chairpersons must be Taskforce members.

2. The duties of the Executive Committee are:
 - a. To resolve questions involving conflict of opinion among various Committees;
 - b. To recommend Taskforce action between regular meetings;
 - c. To submit reports on its activities to the Taskforce's regular meetings for ratification or disapproval;
 - d. To suggest agenda items for Taskforce meetings; and
 - e. To provide leadership and to act for the Taskforce between meetings when necessary.
3. The following Workgroups shall be actively working to provide priority issues for the Taskforce:
 - a. Awareness
 - b. Education
 - c. Treatment
4. Ad Hoc Committees may be established at the discretion of the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Committee Chairperson of an Ad Hoc Committee shall be a member of the Taskforce. Membership on an Ad Hoc Committee is not restricted to Taskforce members.
5. New Committees may be established to carry out the purpose and functions of the Taskforce. To establish a new Committee (except for an Ad Hoc Committee), any member shall make and present a detailed written proposal (via email) to the entire Taskforce at least forty-five (45) days prior to the next scheduled meeting, where it will be addressed as an agenda item. For the formation of a new Committee (except for an

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Ad Hoc Committee), the Chair, Vice-Chair, and two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting must approve the measure.

BYLAWS CONTINUED

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be reviewed and amended from time to time. To amend these Bylaws, any member shall make a detailed written proposal (via email) to the entire Taskforce at least forty-five (45) days prior to the next scheduled meeting, where it will be addressed as an agenda item. To amend these Bylaws, the Chair, Vice-Chair, and two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting must approve the amendment. Unless the amendment specifies otherwise, all amendments to these Bylaws will be in effect immediately upon adoption.

ARTICLE IX: STANDARDS

1. Minutes of the proceedings of each meeting of the general Taskforce and its Committees shall be kept and shall be made available for public inspection. At each meeting, the minutes of the proceedings of previous meetings shall be reviewed and approved. Minutes of the meetings shall be kept and preserved for at least two years, or as otherwise required by the Government Records Access and Management Act. The Chair shall be responsible for maintaining these records and all members shall be entitled to inspect and review the same.
2. All meetings of the Taskforce shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order" as revised, although the Chair in his or her sole discretion may deem it appropriate to suspend the application of Robert's Rules of Order. Nevertheless, the Chair shall not close discussion on any issue where any member present at such meeting has not had at least a brief opportunity to be heard. All voting shall be open and the minutes shall reflect the votes of each member if any member so requests.

UTAH HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP TASKFORCE

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AGENCY DESCRIPTIONS

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB-OGDEN

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Weber-Davis provide young people with fun, positive, safe programs that build character and strengthen life skills. Their mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

CANYON CREEK WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER

The Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center provides outreach to teens in their service area, which includes Iron, Garfield, and Beaver counties. Staff from the Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center have presented a teen dating violence awareness program to the eight high schools in the area and two girls, residential treatment centers, as well as a youth conference called 'Leaders for Life'.

COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

The purpose of the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice is to provide communication among practitioners via various commissions, legislative assistance, and research functionality. Its mission is to provide broad philosophical agreement and coordination among state and local criminal and juvenile justice agencies in Utah.

DIVISION OF CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

The Division's mission is to keep children safe from abuse and neglect and provide domestic violence services by strengthening families and working with communities.

DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES

The Division of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) will provide to the youth we serve the best

opportunity to realize their potential and improve their overall competence, which will help them to become law-abiding and productive citizens. The mission of DJJS is to provide comprehensive services for at-risk youth within the framework of the Balanced and Restorative Justice Model. Community protection, accountability, and competency development are integrated goals and philosophical foundations of the model.

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

The mission of the Salt Lake County Division of Youth Services (DYS) is "to provide children, youth, and families in crisis with immediate safety, shelter, and support." DYS offers free counseling, substance abuse, and prevention services for teenagers living in the Salt Lake Valley. DYS also provides shelter for children and teenagers who are in DCFS custody and a crisis shelter for teenagers in need of short term respite care.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Over the past 34 years, services have expanded in breadth and depth to offer a network of services to address multifaceted issues facing families today.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS UTAH (NAMI)

NAMI Utah's mission is to ensure the dignity and improve the lives of those who live with mental illness and their families through support, education, and advocacy. Our programs help to empower individuals to live healthy, productive lives through a "whole health" approach, providing information and education on effective mental, physical, and social health practices.

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) provides financial compensation for victims of crime, administers and monitors Victim of Crime Act Compensation and Assistance grants and Violence Against Women grants, network with victim services across the state, provides



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enhanced training, and provides staff support to the Utah Council on Victims of Crime.

PRIVATE GUARDIAN AD LITEM

Jim Hunnicutt is a private guardian ad litem, an attorney who often represents minor children in circumstances where the State's public Office of Guardian ad Litem cannot be (or chooses not to be) involved.

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE UTAH

Prevent Child Abuse Utah has developed a toolkit for student leaders to use to host a teen dating violence awareness week at their school. The toolkit includes posters, resource cards, brochures for parents, teachers, and other adult community members, and a manual with suggestions and activities for the students to participate in during their awareness week.

RAPE RECOVERY CENTER

The Rape Recovery Center works with several schools to create a youth council and participate in a 360-degree prevention campaign at the identified schools. The youth council executes a week-long community mobilization campaign for dating violence awareness week and a "do it yourself" action plan for use in other schools. At the end of each semester, groups measure the effectiveness of the campaign to change attitudes and beliefs that support violence.

SALT LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Salt Lake City School District advocates for all students, provides the highest quality education, and prepares students for a future of opportunities.

SANDY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sandy City Police Department serves the youth in a variety of ways, the first being the Police Explorer Program which is intended to educate and involve youth in police operations, interest them in possible law enforcement careers, and build a mutual understanding between the police and youth in the community. The second is the Youth Unit, a division of the police department

that consists of a sergeant and eight school resource officers. Officers are assigned to all of the schools in Sandy. The third is the Family Crimes and Intervention Unit, a division which consists of the CARI (Children At Risk Intervention) Program working with at-risk children and their families, CARI Team (multi-agency collaboration on cases), victim advocacy, investigation to crimes involving families, and a Youth Court (offering a second chance to first-time offenders by appearing before a jury of their peers).

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY SEXUAL ASSAULT AND ANTI-VIOLENCE INFORMATION OFFICE

The purpose of the Utah State University Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information Office is to advocate for survivors of interpersonal violence and educate for a violence-free campus and community.

SOUTH VALLEY SANCTUARY

South Valley Sanctuary (SVS) hosts the only Latino Coalition in the State of Utah. The coalition provides four workshops throughout the state of Utah on domestic and dating violence and other intersecting issues regarding the Latino community. SVS recently developed an awareness and education activity called "la casita" which was a success in reaching out to both adults and adolescents. SVS has one bilingual educator and one Spanish speaking-only educator.

UTAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Promises to Keep is a statement of vision and mission for Utah's system of public education. The statement relies on the language of the Utah Constitution for its central premise. It is intended to provide focus to the work of the State Board of Education, the Utah State Office of Education, and all school districts, local boards of education, and charter schools within the general control and supervision of the Board.



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UTAH COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT (UCASA)

Advocates for programs that support people affected by sexual violence. UCASA challenges the origin, representation, and practice of sexual violence. Its efforts aim to advance a society in which sexual violence is not tolerated.

UTAH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL

For the past 30 years, the UDVC has successfully been the key to a collaborative response to domestic violence in Utah. Working through a multidisciplinary council and focusing on organizing professional education and public events, the UDVC has served as the voice in Utah for domestic violence. Currently, the UDVC comprises 36 voting members with a 12-member Board of Directors. The Council employs seven staff and has four independent contractors and four dedicated volunteers. Four working committees and eight workgroups focus on collaborative efforts in public awareness, training, and education, best practices for domestic violence shelter programs and treatment providers, and cultural competency and policy. The Council also works closely with and provides limited funding to Utah's 22 local domestic violence coalitions, as well as collaborating with and providing resources and information to many individuals and agencies. UDVC also hosts the Domestic Violence LinkLine, which operates 24 hours a day.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH-CENTER FOR STUDENT WELLNESS

Provide quality evidence-based health care and wellness services to advocate for students and to empower them in their health care decisions, and to be an integral part of the larger University of Utah community.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

The University of Utah Women's Resource Center provides counseling, support groups, training, scholarships, and emergency grants,

as well as helps students negotiate the campus and the community. The Go Girlz Community Initiative targets first generation, minority, economically disadvantaged female students in grades 6-12 from Salt Lake valley school districts to participate in early intervention and academic preparation for higher education.

UTAH STATE PTA

The Utah PTA will help every child realize his/her full potential and will support and speak on behalf of children and youth; encourage positive involvement in all facets of a child's life; and assist in developing skills to raise and protect children and youth.

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CENTER

The mission of the Women's Center is to provide programs and services to women on campus and in the community to assist in their personal, academic, and professional goals. The Center serves as a resource and referral agent to empower women to overcome barriers and pursue their goals through mentoring, advisement, leadership opportunities, and support groups.



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WORKGROUPS

AWARENESS WORKGROUP

Mission Statement: Provide resources, outreach, and support to Utah's youth to increase the awareness of dating violence and the importance of building healthy relationships.

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EDUCATION WORKGROUP

Mission Statement: Promote healthy and respectful relationships and support those affected by dating violence through resources via presentations, written materials, videos, and trained facilitators.

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EDUCATION WORKGROUP CONTINUED

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TREATMENT WORKGROUP

Mission Statement: Provide treatment and resources for victims and offenders of dating violence.

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GOALS (2012-2015)

The Taskforce developed long-term goals for educating Utah's communities about building healthy relationships and to provide clinical services to victims of dating violence.

- Goal 1:** To advance social norms with Utah's youth (11-25 years old) that support healthy, respectful relationships throughout the lifespan.
- Goal 2:** To increase knowledge of dating violence and build healthy relationships within Utah communities.
- Goal 3:** Develop and distribute the tools necessary to educate Utah communities on building healthy relationships.
- Goal 4:** Provide clinical services to individuals affected by dating violence.

The three workgroups developed short-term goals that support the overall long-term goals of the Taskforce.

AWARENESS WORKGROUP GOALS

1. Annually by February provide assistance to schools and communities in planning and executing activities during Utah Dating Violence Awareness Month.
2. Annually by October plan and execute at least one fundraiser event throughout the year.
3. Annually by May plan and execute at least one fundraiser event throughout the year.
4. Annually sustain a social media campaign centered on building healthy relationships and awareness of dating violence.
5. Annually distribute four newsletters to bring about awareness of the issue of dating violence in Utah.

EDUCATION WORKGROUP GOALS

1. By September 2013, create a toolkit for educators (teachers, parents, adults, etc.) to use to educate teens on building healthy relationships.
2. By December 2013, create an in-depth PowerPoint presentation for educators (teachers, parents, adults, etc.) to use when making presentations.
3. By January 2014, establish a Speakers Bureau for each Judicial District of educators trained in the prevention and intervention of dating violence and outreach to survivors.
4. By September 2014, develop a statewide Dating Violence School Policy to serve as a template for school districts across the state.

TREATMENT WORKGROUP GOALS

1. By July 2013, explore current and promising research and approaches to clinical intervention for victims of dating violence.
2. By October 2013, explore current and promising research and approaches to clinical intervention for offenders of dating violence.
3. By January 2014, collect available community resources that may be used in treatment of dating violence survivors.
4. By July 2014, explore current online resources for treatment of dating violence survivors.
5. By January 2015, create a resource guide with available community and online treatment resources.





“We promote healthy and respectful relationships and support those affected by dating violence through advocacy, education, prevention and treatment.”