

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
END DOMESTIC ABUSE WISCONSIN, THE WI COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, INC.
(End Abuse)

AND

WISCONSIN BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE (WI BOSCOC)

PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), while not a legally binding document does indicate a voluntary agreement and commitment to assist in partnership activities outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU specifies the terms of a formal partnership between the WIBOSCOC and End Abuse to address the housing needs of domestic abuse survivors.

COMMON MISSIONS and VALUES

The WI BOSCOC's mission is to end homelessness by supporting local coalitions throughout Wisconsin.

End Abuse's mission is to promote social change that transforms societal attitudes, practices, and policies to prevent and eliminate domestic violence, abuse and oppression. Part of End Abuse's core work includes advocating for the needs of domestic violence survivors across systems and agencies.

The missions of End Abuse and the WI BOSCOC intersect at the provision of housing services for domestic violence victims experiencing homelessness or facing the threat of homelessness. The WI BOSCOC and End Abuse recognize and value each other's missions and agree to partner to address the unique needs of domestic violence victims experiencing, or in danger of experiencing, homelessness.

SUPPORTING AN ON-GOING COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP

Recent studies have shown that most women experiencing homelessness have also experienced domestic violence, and more than half report that domestic violence was the cause of their homelessness.¹ These statistics highlight the need for intensive cross training between DV service-providers and housing providers.

End Abuse and the WI BOSCOC agree to support each other in the provision of annual training opportunities at statewide conferences, or regional conferences, when available. Training content may include, but is not limited to, the rules and laws governing housing providers and DV service providers, dynamics of domestic violence and dynamics of homelessness, DV Housing First, trauma-informed care and victim/survivor-centered practice, and serving marginalized and culturally specific populations, among other topics.

¹ https://safehousingpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/2017-05/SHP-Homelessness%20and%20DV%20Infographic_1.pdf

Additionally, End Abuse and the WI BOSCOG agree to encourage their respective membership organizations to provide local cross-training opportunities to enhance relationships and understanding between local providers.

CONSULTATION

End Abuse will serve as a resource to the WI BOSCOG on best practices in response to DV survivors, national and state rules and laws that govern DV service provision, and systems collaboration, among other areas. The BOSCOG will serve as a resource on homelessness, housing service provision best practices, and Housing First and other HUD-related rules and priorities, among other areas. When requested, End Abuse and WI BOSCOG will provide resources and technical assistance to one another.

CONFIDENTIALITY

End Abuse and WI BOSCOG each appreciate the rules and laws that govern confidentiality. End Abuse agrees to provide technical assistance and expertise to the WI BOSCOG on the unique rules and laws regarding confidentiality for DV survivors. The WI BOSCOG agrees to respect and accommodate DV survivor confidentiality rules and privacy rights in compliance with state and federal law.

ENHANCING PARTNERSHIP AND IMPACT


End Abuse and WI BOSCOG agree to partner on policies and proposals where both organizations and/or their membership will mutually benefit. This includes state and federal policy advocacy, and local and state policy implementation and practice, among other areas. End Abuse encourages a member of the WI BOSCOG membership or Board of Directors to participate in its legislative agenda-setting process. End Abuse will prioritize service on the WI BOSCOG Board of Directors by recommending a representative to serve on the board from End Abuse or from the broader community of DV survivors and service providers.

End Abuse also agrees to provide assistance to local agencies to develop MOUs, similar to this one, in their communities, when possible.

WI BOSCOG agrees to identify and support ways to maintain and enhance DV survivor voices in decision-making, either through innovative strategies to include survivors' voices on the Board level, or with leadership at the local coalition level.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

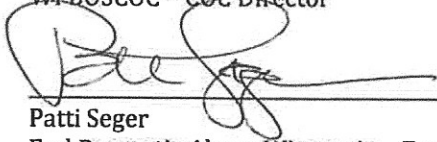
The term of this MOU is ongoing with regular reviews, when necessary. The MOU may be amended by agreement of the parties signing the MOU, or alternate parties designated by the Directors of both agencies.



Carrie Poser
WI-BOSCOC - COG Director

8/27/18

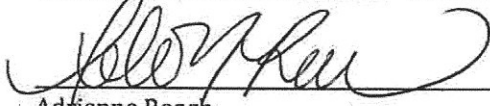
Date



Patti Seger
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin - Executive Director

8/27/18

Date



Adrienne Roach
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin - Policy and Systems Analyst

8/27/18

Date