

WHAT IS DOMESTIC ABUSE PROJECT?

We build communities free from violence by providing healing for every member of the family.



WHAT IS CHANGE STEP?

- Change Step is a group therapy program for men who have served or are currently serving in the military who have used abusive behaviors in their relationships.
- Our veterans are heroes who may return home without the tools needed to reintegrate. They are trained to get the job done in combat but not always how to rejoin civilian society, take care of their families, and be healthy.
- Change Step consists of two major components – education and process (therapy) time. Some of the topics the men explore include understanding the cycle of abuse, discussing gender norms, practicing communication, taking responsibility for an abusive incident, and the effects of violence on children.
- The veterans who go through Change Step are encouraged to attend a Circle of Security group to regain healthy relationships with their children, as well as work with a Change Step case manager to understand the resources available to them.



- 96% of veterans who complete our program do not reoffend within one year.
- 50% of the veterans are self-referred - meaning they are seeking services to end the abuse.
- Upon completion, program participants are assessed on the topics and objectives covered in the curriculum.
 - 83% are able to be non-violent
 - 77% are able to avoid using threats of violence
 - 87% are able to recognize cues to violence
 - 77% have improved attitudes that help end violence (e.g. accept responsibility for violence)



CHANGE
STEP.



MNDAP.ORG

THE FUNDING REQUEST

Domestic Abuse Project is asking for support of veterans and their families in the Change Step Program at the amount of \$398,000.



In 2010, the Hennepin County Probation Department created the Hennepin County Veterans Court in order to better serve veteran defendants struggling with addiction, mental illness, and/or co-occurring disorders. Along with the creation of the court, Hennepin County asked DAP to create a domestic violence program for men who have served in the military.



In addition, DAP is one of only two agencies that meets the state statute for domestic violence programming for those who have used abuse and we are the only agency that offers a specific program for men who have been in the military. Change Step goes beyond other programs for veterans and service members by working with all veterans regardless of military branch, discharge status, or service duration.



DAP's Change Step case manager also helps clients navigate the complex Veteran Assistance (VA) system as well as other social service systems. In addition, the Change Step case manager attends the Hennepin County Veterans Court every week to reach out to other veterans seeking treatment for using domestic violence in their relationships as well as follow-up on current Change Step clients' cases.

WHY FUND DAP?

Since 1979, Domestic Abuse Project has served the Twin Cities community with innovative and successful programming to end the intergenerational cycle of domestic violence.

Domestic Abuse Project promotes safe and healthy family relationships by stopping domestic violence as it occurs and working to prevent it in the future.

To achieve this mission, we provide counseling, case management, education, and advocacy to families affected by domestic abuse to give them the tools to transform their lives.

CONTACT US

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WHO DOES DAP SERVE?

Domestic Abuse Project has served more than 200 veterans and service members from more than 15 counties across Minnesota.

