ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

As people are asked to stay at home, reports of partner and domestic violence are on the rise. Women and children are at particular risk of violence in their homes. Preventing and responding to violence is an important component of the COVID-19 response. It requires action by program managers and policymakers across sectors, including the health sector.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- **Include domestic violence** when designing, implementing and monitoring 1. health emergency preparedness and response plans.
- Deliver and resource the prevention of and response to violence 2. as essential services in the context of COVID-19.
- Strengthen access to online services such as hotlines, mHealth 3. and telehealth.
- **Innovate** ways to provide information and support, e.g., through pharmacies, 4. supermarkets, etc.
- **Train health sector staff** on how to identify survivors and how to provide first-line support. 5.
- 6. **Provide guidance** to shelters, care homes and other institutions to facilitate ongoing support to survivors.
- Prevent harm to children e.g., by supporting parents, preventing long-term 7. child-family separation, and establishing safe and acceptable alternative care arrangements in case of illness or death of a caregiver.
- **Share information** on available support with survivors and communities 8. and engage them in developing responses.
 - Mobilize communities to promote gender equality and zero tolerance for violence. 9.

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10. Coordinate with other sectors to address the risk factors of violence (e.g., harmful use of alcohol) and to protect women and children in the context of COVID-19.

THERE IS NEVER ANY EXCUSE FOR VIOLENCE



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BE AWARE. PREPARE. ACT.



