

## APFC CO-FOUNDERS

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*Allison Bressler and Gloria Sgrizzi co-founded APFC in 2009.*

### ALLISON BRESSLER, MA

Allison holds a master's degree in Counseling and Human Development and has worked with hundreds of victims of intimate partner abuse since 1999. She's the former Director of Non-Residential Services of *Hope's Door* in Westchester; Director of Programs at *The Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation*; and worked as the Director of the Non-Residential Counseling Program at the *YWCA of Union County* where she also supervised the DVRT (Domestic Violence Response Team) program. Allison's article on domestic abuse in affluent communities appeared in *Scientific American Mind* magazine. She maintains a private practice in northern NJ, works as an expert witness on domestic violence cases throughout the state and continues to empower and educate people about the issue. Her passion for the issue along with her dynamic and inspiring style, has made her a sought-after speaker and motivated many to play a role in breaking the cycle of violence.

### GLORIA SGRIZZI

Gloria began her work in the field of domestic violence and dating abuse in 1993 at the *Center for Safety & Change* in Rockland County, NY where she served as a hotline crisis counselor, trained volunteers, and managed special events. Later, as the Director of Outreach & Development at *Hope's Door* in Westchester, she oversaw fund development activities, worked on a county-wide task force to enhance victim services, and designed and conducted community education programs. Her work with teens at *Hope's Door* includes developing and implementing an award-winning and internationally recognized teen dating abuse awareness initiative known as STAR. Gloria has supported domestic violence agencies in NJ as a grant writer and consultant and is committed to advancing APFC's efforts in eliminating abuse in the lives of women and children.

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Your support is needed and appreciated.  
If you'd like to be our partner-in-change, please consider a tax-deductible contribution. You can donate on our website or send your support to:

**A Partnership for Change**  
**PO Box 523 - Oradell, NJ 07649**



A Partnership for CHANGE

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*Education*

*Empowerment*

*Ending Family Violence*

**A Partnership for Change (APFC)** is a New Jersey-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic violence and dating abuse.

*As partners in change, we can make a difference.*

## MISSION

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APFC's mission is to end the increasing problem of domestic violence and dating abuse through the provision of comprehensive education, outreach, and prevention programs.

Initiatives are designed to reach first responders, educators, students, social service professionals, healthcare personnel, business leaders – in fact, all community members – so they better understand the issue, identify resources, and safely support someone they know.

We know from our many years of experience in the field (and confirmed from our program evaluations) that many people – whether in a personal or professional capacity – are unaware of how to help victims or where to go for help.

Our dynamic and wide-ranging programs reach victims *directly* by providing immediate crisis intervention, safety planning and referral, and *indirectly* by providing first responders and helpers with practical, valuable, safe and real-life approaches for effective intervention.

## FACTS

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Statistics reveal that one in four women and one in three teenage girls will experience intimate partner abuse in their lifetime. Therefore, it is likely that you know, have known, or will know, someone who is affected:

- *Do you want to help but are not sure how?*
- *Are you aware of the resources for support?*
- *Do you know about the risks?*
- *Are you familiar with safety plans?*

*Educational programs play a key role in reducing domestic violence and dating abuse, and all community members are needed to initiate change.*

## PROGRAMS (GRANT FUNDED)

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### PowerBack & PowerBack Plus

Dating abuse is a serious problem in NJ: our surveys of 23,000+ students reveal that 72% say dating abuse is happening at their school. PowerBack prepares teens to become peer leaders on campus: they learn how to recognize all forms of abuse, how to safely help friends, and where to go for support. PowerBack prepares students to become PTA's (PowerBack Teen Advocates) in their school and both PowerBack and the Plus program engages students through interactive presentations, offers school-wide awareness events, includes presentations for adults and more!

### PREP & LEO/In-service

PREP (Police Response Enhancement Program) provides law enforcement personnel, victim witness advocates & VCCO staff with critical information through a series of workshops and webinars. Topics include *Understanding the Victim of Domestic Violence, Children & Teens Exposed to DV at Home, Non-fatal Strangulation, Insights on Batterer Behavior, and Teen Dating Abuse*. Department in-service opportunities are also available.

### DATA

The Domestic Abuse Training & Assistance (DATA) program is an in-depth training series for elementary, middle and high school counselors, nurses, coaches and health teachers in NJ. DATA was developed in response to our confidential surveys that revealed many are not equipped to handle incidents of dating abuse or reports from students disclosing exposure to domestic violence at home.

### DV-SOS

DV-SOS provides two-hour webinars to personnel who work for various social service agencies throughout the state. The program provides information on how to identify, respond and support adult and child victims of domestic violence.

## PROGRAMS (FEE BASED)

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### IPVA Certification Program

The Intimate Partner Violence Advocate (IPVA) certification program is an in-depth series offered once a year and targeted to social workers and LPC's. Check our website for current schedule and location.

Classes include:

- DV101: Domestic Violence Introduction
- DV102: Understanding the Victim/Survivor
- Effects of Domestic Violence on Children
- Abuse in Teen Dating Relationships
- DV103: Advocacy & Community Response

Select IPVA classes provide CEUs; IPVA evaluations revealed that 100% of attendees would recommend the program to colleagues. An addendum class, Insights to Batterer Behavior is also offered.

### Expert Witness Services

We provide attorney consultation on dynamics of domestic violence, case evaluation/reports, and testimony at trial or deposition. Email us for more information and fees.

### Workshops on Request

APFC offers half-day or full-day workshops to any community organization, social service provider, school, healthcare facility or business that wants to educate their staff or students. Fees are based on your timeframe and location (travel costs apply).

*For more information on our programs, or if you'd like to schedule a presentation for your community group, agency, or business, email us:*

[Info@APartnershipForChange.org](mailto:Info@APartnershipForChange.org)

[www.APartnershipForChange.org](http://www.APartnershipForChange.org)