

# EMPOWERED VOICE

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER

## Advocacy Days in Olympia

Advocates and DV professionals statewide came together on January 26th and 27th in Olympia for Advocacy Days, hosted by the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (WSCADV/SA). New Beginnings' staff and survivors proudly joined this moment of community support and solidarity.

Just like our advocates show up for survivors as a part of their journey, it's key to show up as an organization to advocate for fighting and legislation. These days offer an opportunity to spotlight the importance of policy and budget support for survivors of domestic violence and prevention education.

"There's a big sense of community from it," shared a CAP survivor advocate who attended the event. "These funds don't just change lives—they save them too." Attendees also highlighted how impactful the chance to hear from survivors was, not only for advocates and fellow survivors, but for the legislators and aides who were supportive and moved by their stories.

We're happy to say that this year's advocacy and solidarity have paid off. Victim services remains fully funded at \$21.3 million statewide in the



final budget. This is a massive difference from the proposed budget, which had cut the funding down to \$12 million.

**This change is only possible because of the advocates and allies in this community who spoke out—and we are so grateful for each and every one of you.**



Save the date  
to GiveBIG!



We all open doors  
with survivors.

GiveBIG 2026 kicks off on April 28th for early giving and culminates in a 24-hour giving event on May 5th! Invest in providing essential services and support that survivors can use to open doors to safety, health, and joy.



Mark your calendars now  
for this opportunity  
to support our mission!

## 3rd Annual Unbreakable Spirits Event and Fundraiser

Thursday October 2, 2026

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Skybound Spirits

945 Elliott Ave W #203, Seattle

Save the date for our third annual Unbreakable Spirits Event and Fundraiser! We can't wait to see you all there to support and celebrate the work of New Beginnings programs for survivors.

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## A Letter from Executive Director Aja Osita



As we move further into the year, I'm moved by the resilience, creativity, and deep sense of community that continues to define New Beginnings. Even in a landscape marked

by uncertainty and shifting resources, our team and the survivors we serve have created moments of connection and progress that remind us why this work matters.

At Home Safe, our community building efforts have flourished. From a vision board gathering complete with pastries from Sea Wolf Bakery to a New Year's event where residents wrote letters to their future selves, to a Valentine's Day celebration centered on selflove, these gatherings have offered residents a chance to breathe, connect, and feel at home. These events have also given staff the gift of getting to know residents outside the structure of formal meetings — strengthening advocacy relationships and helping newer residents settle into our community with confidence.

We've also deepened several key partnerships — including with the King County DV Prosecutor's Office, the Protection Order Advocacy Program, and the DV Firearm Unit — expanding the network of support available to survivors navigating complex systems. DVHopeline has undergone an exciting

restructuring, welcoming new Assistant Directors and full time advocates, with additional roles on the horizon thanks to King County's Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy funding. We're expanding our electronic referral network, strengthening our presence in Maple Valley, and investing in staff wellbeing and sustainability through the "Signals of Survival" training series through a partnership with Coalition to End Gender-based Violence.

Of course, this year has not been without challenges. The RRH funding uncertainty forced us to briefly pause new housing services in the Home Safe program, a difficult moment for both staff and families. Yet our Housing Advocates have met the moment with determination, and services are now back in full swing. Meanwhile, our Employment and Education Advocates continue to build a strong foundation for survivors seeking stability through budgeting support, job searches, and long-term planning, even as the housing affordability crisis persists.

As national tensions mount and attacks are targeted, New Beginnings remains steadfast in our commitment to Black, Brown, Indigenous, LGBTQIA+, and Immigrant survivors. Pushing back against fear tactics designed to derail us from our work. Through every challenge and every win, our mission remains clear: to ensure survivors feel safe, supported, and are never alone.



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Have you heard?

It's easier than ever  
to **DOUBLE** the impact  
of your giving!



New Beginnings is happy to announce that we have a new tool available to make it easier for you to apply for matching gifts through your workplace!

Please scan the QR code or visit [newbegin.org/employer-gift-matching](https://newbegin.org/employer-gift-matching) to use our simple workplace giving search. It's as easy as search, send, and match!



### SEARCH

Use our workplace search tool to determine if your employer participates in matching giving.



### SEND

Submit the request for matching to your employer using the instructions provided.



### MATCH

Your employer sends a match that can double or even triple the impact of your gift for survivors!

Have any questions?  
Please contact [give@newbegin.org](mailto:give@newbegin.org)



PO Box 75125, Seattle, WA 98175

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[newbegin.org](http://newbegin.org)

*Due to the sensitive nature of this material, all names and identifying details have been changed to protect the confidentiality of survivors; these blended stories represent the challenges and successes of many survivors who have used our programs. In addition, stock photography is used in most cases to further protect the ongoing safety of our current and past participants.*