



THREE BIRDS
alliance

Formerly known as Gateway Domestic Violence Services

Soaring to a future free from domestic violence.

THE NEST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | February 2025

Three Birds Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster resilience, promote safety, and restore hope among individuals impacted by domestic violence.

Uncertainty in Future Federal Funding Puts Survivors' Safety At Risk

As you may have heard by now, Three Birds Alliance, like many other similar nonprofit organizations, are living in a state of limbo following the Executive Order (and OMB memo) directing a federal funding freeze on financial assistance. Though the memo has since been rescinded, the EO is still in place and it's entirely unclear where we stand moving forward. To put it plainly, these are very troubling and uncertain times for our organization. While we don't want to cause alarm, we do want to communicate the gravity of this situation.

Domestic Violence services agencies like ours depend on federal funding to keep our programs running and build capacities for historically marginalized communities at risk of domestic violence. Shelters were already facing a steep reduction in funds in 2025 from one of the main sources of federal funding, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) even

before the funding freeze, exacerbating an already difficult situation. The impact of not having this funding (that was appropriated by Congress and woven into our 2025 budget) is substantial – entire programs would need to be cut, numerous positions eliminated and victims of abuse left without a safety net. While we don't know for sure what the future holds, the potential for future funding disruptions pose a significant threat to our ability to provide a safe haven and support services to individuals fleeing abusive situations.

Survivors endure complex challenges as they work to rebuild their lives, often dealing with trauma that resurfaces, disrupting their stability, and reopening old wounds. When federal funding is suddenly frozen or paused, the impact goes beyond service disruptions—it re-traumatizes survivors. It instills fear of an uncertain future, and reflects the very patterns of power and control they are striving to break free from. While it is unclear whether these grants will be temporarily or permanently unavailable, any delay in funding will harm survivors who rely on these vital resources and puts their safety at risk.

Moments like these highlight the vital importance of private support from the community, which provides much needed stability and flexibility. Whether you've been a consistent donor over the years, or are new to our organization, please consider joining our monthly giving program, The Empowerment Circle. If you're currently a member, please consider increasing your monthly donation. You can sign up for simple, automatic monthly withdrawals

here: <https://threebirdsalliance.org/empowermentcircle/> Monthly gifts provide a reliable and steady source of income and allows us to focus on our mission.

Finally, we are incredibly grateful to State Attorney General's offices, including Colorado's own **Phil Weiser** and the **National Council of Nonprofits** among others who immediately filed suit in response to the directive to protect nonprofits providing critical services such as ours.

A huge thank you to our community for your unwavering support of our mission. We are determined to weather this storm; committed to continue providing critical, life-saving services to our clients; and, dedicated to our community of supporters, without whom our work would not be possible.

Time to Clean out Your Closets!
Community Clothing Drive is on February 23rd

Help us kick off a new partnership with local consignment shop, GGirls Closet, LLC by donating your clean, gently used items during our upcoming clothing drive! It's a perfect time to clear out your closets for the spring while providing much needed clothing for survivors in our programs. The drive will be held on **Sunday, February 23rd from 1 to 4 pm** at St. Thomas Episcopal Church *Parking Lot* in Park Hill, located at 2201 Dexter Street. Simply drive up with your items and we'll have volunteers on site to unload them. Through this partnership, survivors will be able to shop at GGirls Closet *at no cost*. This is critical as many arrive with only the clothing on their back. More than a just a clothing drive, this is a community event! A food truck will be on site - come for the donations, stay for the FUN! Please help spread the word by sharing with friends, family and colleagues. For more information, please contact Marnie Kamensky, Director of Development at mkamensky@threebirdsallianceorg or 303-577-7924.

Three Birds Alliance

in partnership with GGirls Closet

Clothing Drive

Sunday, February 23, 2025

1 PM to 4 PM

DROP OFF YOUR CLEAN, GENTLY USED DONATIONS AT:

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
2201 Dexter Street
Denver, CO 80207



Help survivors in need by dropping off your clean, gently used clothing between 1 and 4 in the parking lot of the church. A food truck will be onsite – come for the donations, stay for the fun!

This drive helps to kick off our new partnership with **GGirls Closet** consignment shop in Aurora. Your donations will allow our clients to shop at no cost!



Thank you for your generosity! Please spread the word to family and friends.

**For more information, contact Marnie Kamensky:
mkamensky@threebirdsalliance.org**

Volunteer Spotlight: Dianne Peck Recipient of the Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award



We were thrilled to celebrate Dianne Peck, one of our longest serving volunteers, as she received the prestigious Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award for her work with Three Birds Alliance's Court Advocacy Program (CAP). Dianne's professional experience coupled with her selfless contributions as a volunteer, make her an invaluable member of the CAP team. Her dedication to creating a safer community and supporting survivors of domestic violence is truly commendable, and she continues to be an inspiration to others. We cannot think of a more deserving candidate.

The Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award honors individuals who make unique contributions to the community. To learn more or nominate someone, visit: <https://www.sparkthechangecolorado.org/mycva.html>

Shining a Light on Teen Dating Violence During Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

During the month of February, we shine a light on violence in teen relationships during [Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month \(TDVAM\)](#). This annual, month-long effort focuses on advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts. Dating violence is more common than you may think, especially among teens and young adults: 1 in 3 U.S. teens will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they're in a relationship with before becoming adults. Nearly half (43%) of U.S. college women report experiencing violent or abusive dating behaviors. The theme this year is "Respect That", highlighting the importance of treating partners with dignity, listening to their viewpoints, respecting their boundaries, and valuing their autonomy by focusing on "respect." For more information and to recognize signs of abuse, visit: <https://www.loveisrespect.org>

DATING ABUSE

Dating abuse is a controlling behavior in which a partner uses to gain power over the other partner.

3 main types

PHYSICAL

1 IN 11

EMOTIONAL

1 IN 5

SEXUALLY

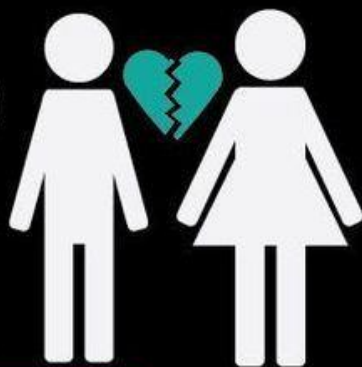
1 IN 3



80%

of girls who have been abused keep dating their

abuser.



1 in 4

teens who have been in a serious relationship say that they have been pressured to only spend time with their partner.

LACK OF AWARENESS

ONLY
67%



81%

of parents believe teen dating abuse is not an issue

FEBRUARY
is national
TEEN
DATING

Three Birds Alliance is a Participating Homeless Contribution Tax Credit Organization – What This Means for You!

Three Birds Alliance is a participating Homeless Contribution Tax Credit (HCTC) organization! The Colorado Homeless Contribution Income Tax Credit Program provides a state income tax credit to Colorado taxpayers who contribute to eligible homelessness-related projects within Colorado. The information below provides details about our participation in this program and how it can benefit you!

Donations directed towards our *Emergency Shelter Programs* qualify for HCTC.

This credit is optional for all donors. You can opt into receiving the tax credit by....

- Making a monetary gift of \$500 and above OR an in-kind gift of \$5,000 and above.
 - Gifts made by cash, check, and online giving are eligible
 - Gifts through intermediary nonprofits like Colorado Gives Foundation, United Way, and more
 - Donations through donor advised funds are not accepted at this time.
- The income tax credit of 25% will be given to qualifying donations.
- A donor's last 4 digits of his/her/their Social Security Number must be provided in order for a tax credit certificate to be issued. The Department of Revenue uses the Social Security Number and other personal information to verify identity.

Tax credit certificates will be issued on an annual basis. Certificates will be distributed via secure email. If you do not have an email or prefer not to use the email feature, the certificates will be sent via postal mail.

If you have any questions regarding HCTC, please contact Marnie Kamensky, Director of Development at mkamensky@threebirdsalliance.org For more information about the HCTC program, visit: <https://doh.colorado.gov/hctc>



Earn a 25% Colorado State Income Tax Credit

through the

Homeless Contribution Tax Credit Program (HCTC) when you donate to Three Birds Alliance Emergency Shelter Programs

ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE:

✓ **Monetary Contributions**
(minimum \$500)

✓ **In-Kind Contributions**
(valued over \$5,000)

✓ **Gifts through intermediary nonprofits** (Colorado Gives Foundation, etc.)

✓ **Direct from IRA's**

✓ **Stocks (over \$5,000)**

*at this time, donations from Donor Advised Funds are not eligible

For more information, contact:
Marnie Kamensky
mkamensky@threebirdsalliance.org
303-577-7924



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs

Join Our Team!

If you are looking for meaningful work where you will make a direct impact on survivors lives, then we want to talk to you! We are hiring various positions in our emergency shelter programs as well as administration. Please visit our [Career Page](#) to learn more about the following open positions:



Case Manager
Floating Advocate

Connect With Us



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

Donate Today!

Email us!

Visit Our Website

24/7 Crisis Hotline - 303-343-1851