

# SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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2022 Conference Presentation to the American Trauma Society,  
Pennsylvania Division

# Take Care of Yourself

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# Let's Take a Breather

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Hills and Valleys



Pick a flower,  
blow a candle



4-7-8 Breathing

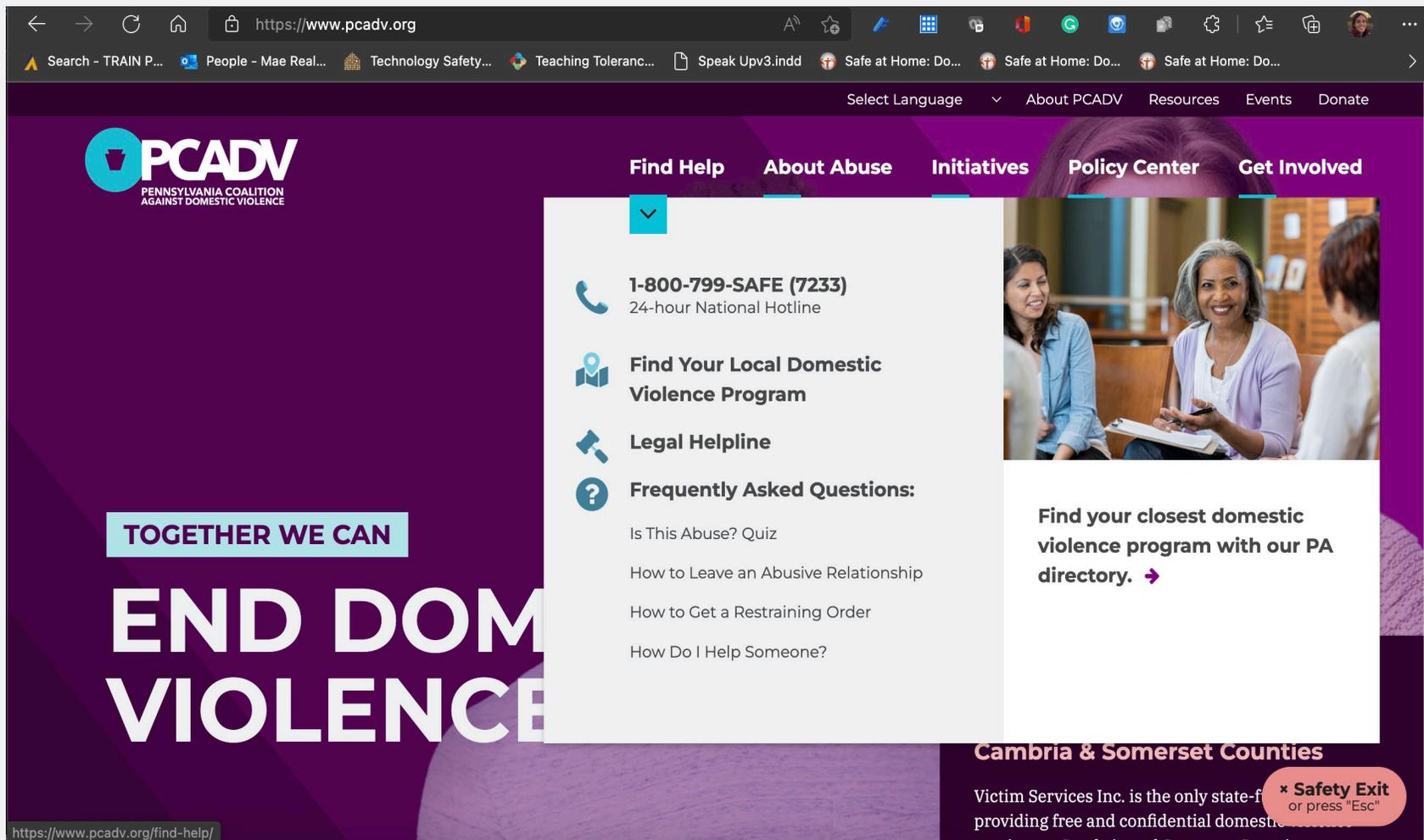
# Objectives:

Explain aspects of domestic violence relevant to healthcare providers' roles

Develop methods to incorporate information about support for domestic violence survivors that are not reliant on disclosure

Identify the benefits of healthcare provider and domestic violence program partnerships

# Take A Minute to Find Your Local DV Program



The screenshot shows the PCADV website with the 'Find Help' dropdown menu open. The menu options are:

- 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)  
24-hour National Hotline
- Find Your Local Domestic Violence Program
- Legal Helpline
- Frequently Asked Questions:
  - Is This Abuse? Quiz
  - How to Leave an Abusive Relationship
  - How to Get a Restraining Order
  - How Do I Help Someone?

The background of the website features the PCADV logo and the slogan "TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE". A navigation bar at the top includes "Select Language", "About PCADV", "Resources", "Events", and "Donate". A secondary navigation bar includes "Find Help", "About Abuse", "Initiatives", "Policy Center", and "Get Involved".

Go to [www.pcadv.org](https://www.pcadv.org)

Click the “Find Help” Tab.

Then, click on “Find Your Local Domestic Violence Program”

What are some possible indicators of domestic violence you see in your work?

1 Minute Think

3 Minute  
Talk

2 Minute  
Tell



# *Examining the Intersections*

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Traumatic Brain and Domestic Violence

&

Pregnancy and Domestic Violence

# Domestic Violence and Brain Injury

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Hitting a survivor in the head with an object, hand, or fist

Pushing a survivor's head into a wall, car, furniture, or other object

Hurting a survivor's jaw, teeth, eyes, and ears

Shaking a survivor

# Strangulation

Not always associated with physical abuse

Other injuries are more significant

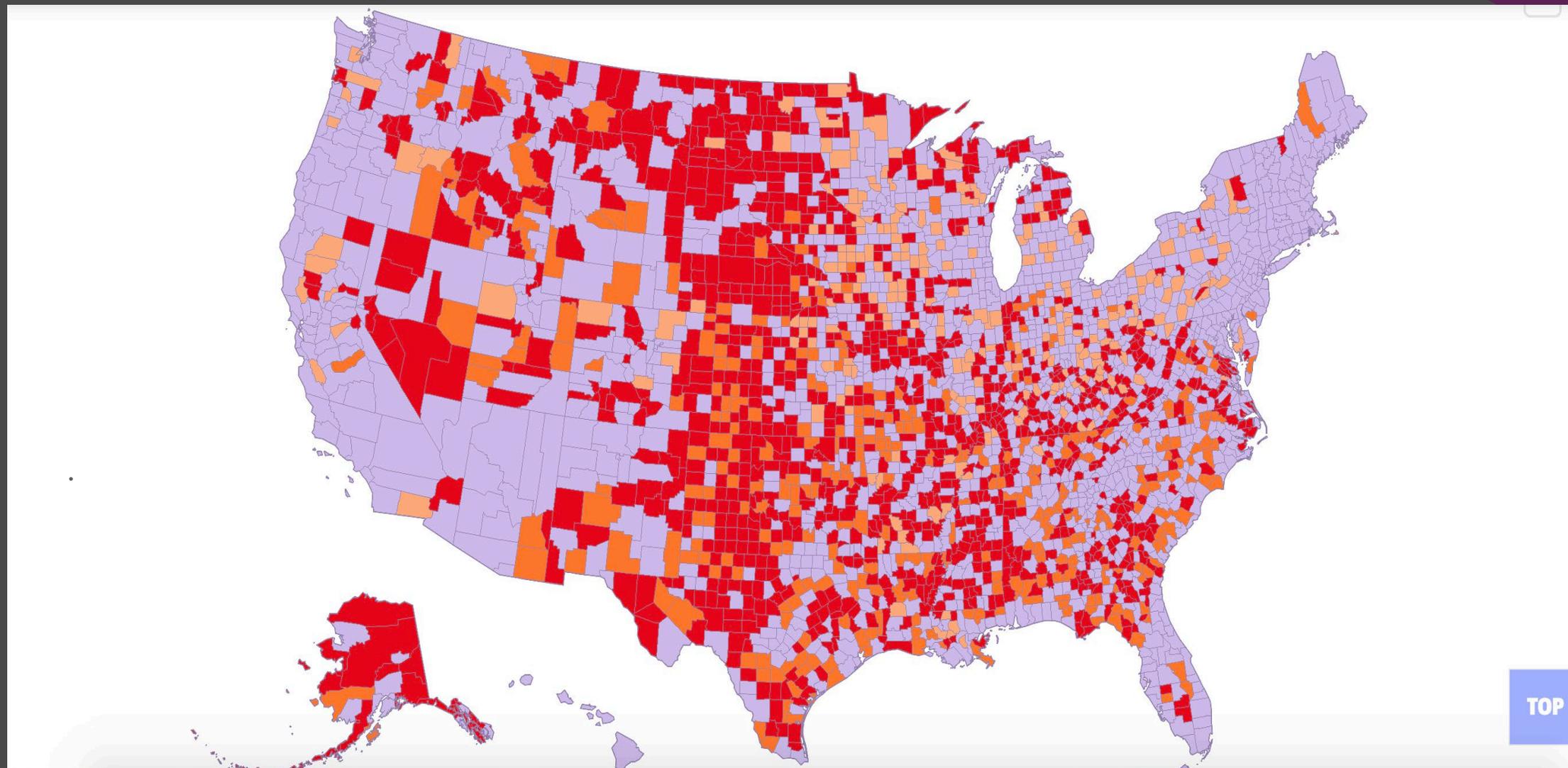
No loss of consciousness

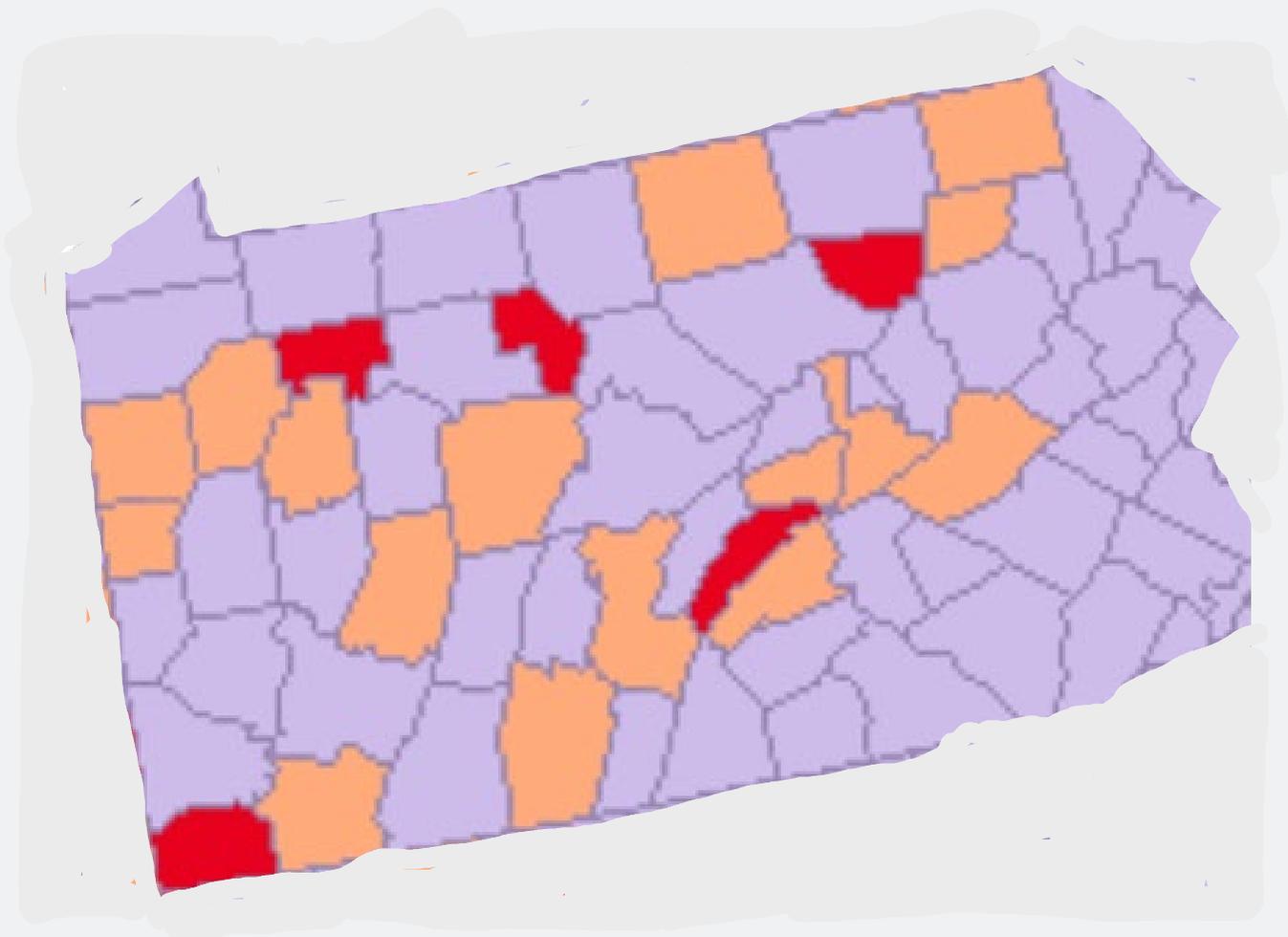
People who respond to survivors don't always ask



People who perpetrate intimate violence gain additional coercive tactics when someone is or has recently been pregnant.

# Birthing Health Care Deserts





5 Counties are  
Birthing Healthcare  
Deserts

15 Counties have  
[only] Moderate  
Access to Birthing  
Healthcare

# *Asking about Domestic Violence and Supporting Survivors*

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# Trauma-Informed Survivor Centered Approaches



Incorporate an understanding of trauma and its impact



Create opportunities to chance to develop rapport and trust



Provide resources and support



Focus on survivor's wants, needs, and experiences



A close-up photograph of a light-colored wooden door with a dark brown sign that reads "PRIVATE" in white, serif capital letters. The sign is mounted on the door with two screws. In the upper left corner, there is a teal-colored banner with white text. In the lower right corner, there is a light blue box with a 3D effect containing dark grey text. The background is the wood grain of the door.

Always ask in private!

What are some strategies you use to get privacy with a patient?



Talk about the limits to your confidentiality.

## Asking about Domestic Violence

Normalize the conversation.

Reach out to your DV program to talk about how to ask.

Express concerns without judgment.

An aerial photograph of a long, multi-span concrete bridge crossing a wide river with clear, turquoise water. The bridge has several tall, rectangular concrete piers. Two white cars are visible on the bridge, one in the middle and one towards the right. The surrounding landscape is lush with green trees and vegetation. The text is overlaid on a dark teal, trapezoidal shape in the lower-left quadrant of the image.

Survivors share  
their story because  
they TRUST you.

Survivor-centered  
responses are rooted  
in listening, not  
generating  
outcomes.



# Some Helpful Questions

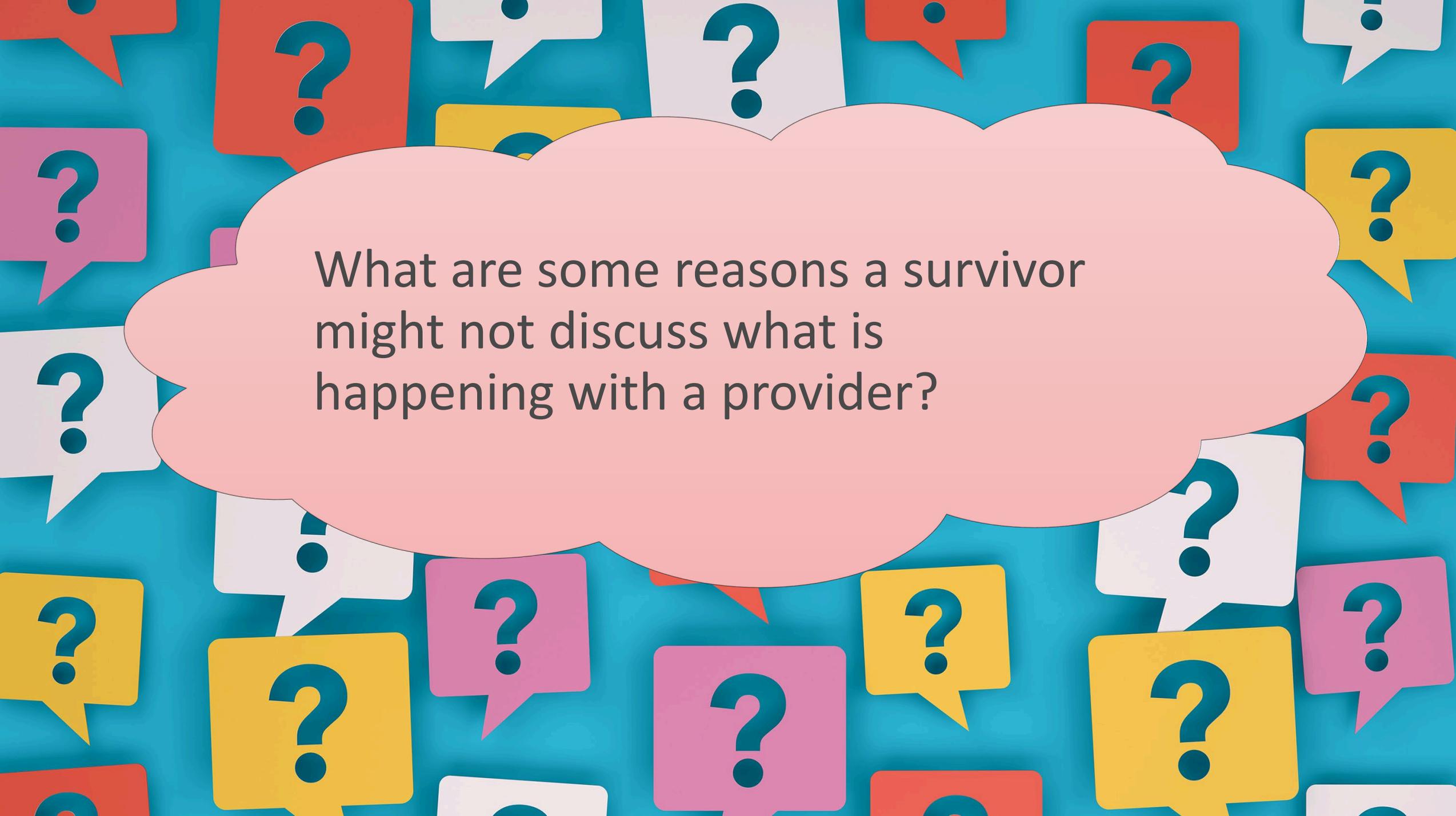
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What do you need from me?

What do you need from [your organization]?

What are you most concerned about?

What do you need today?



What are some reasons a survivor might not discuss what is happening with a provider?

# Idea Generating

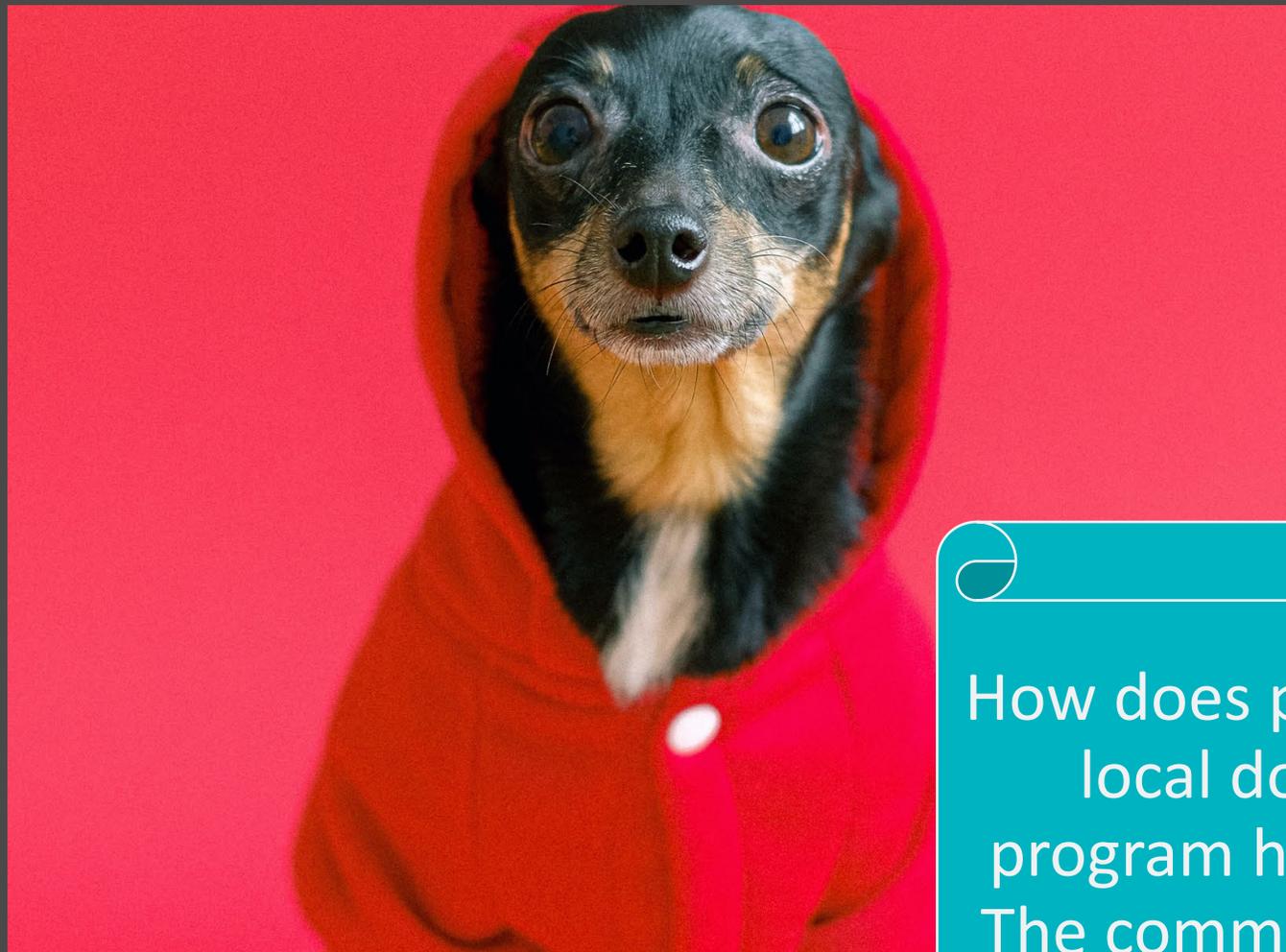
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What are some ways you could share information about available supports that don't rely on a survivor disclosing?



# *Partnering with Your Local DV Provider*

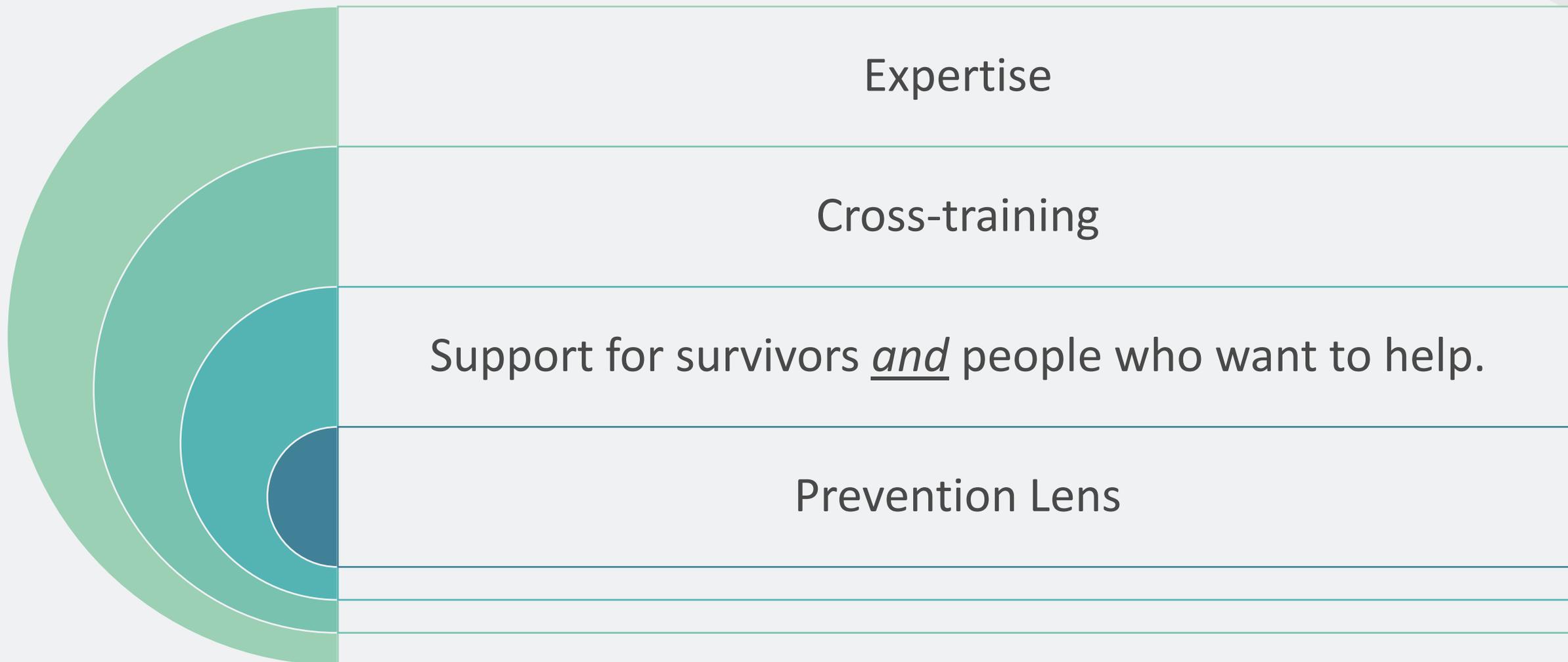
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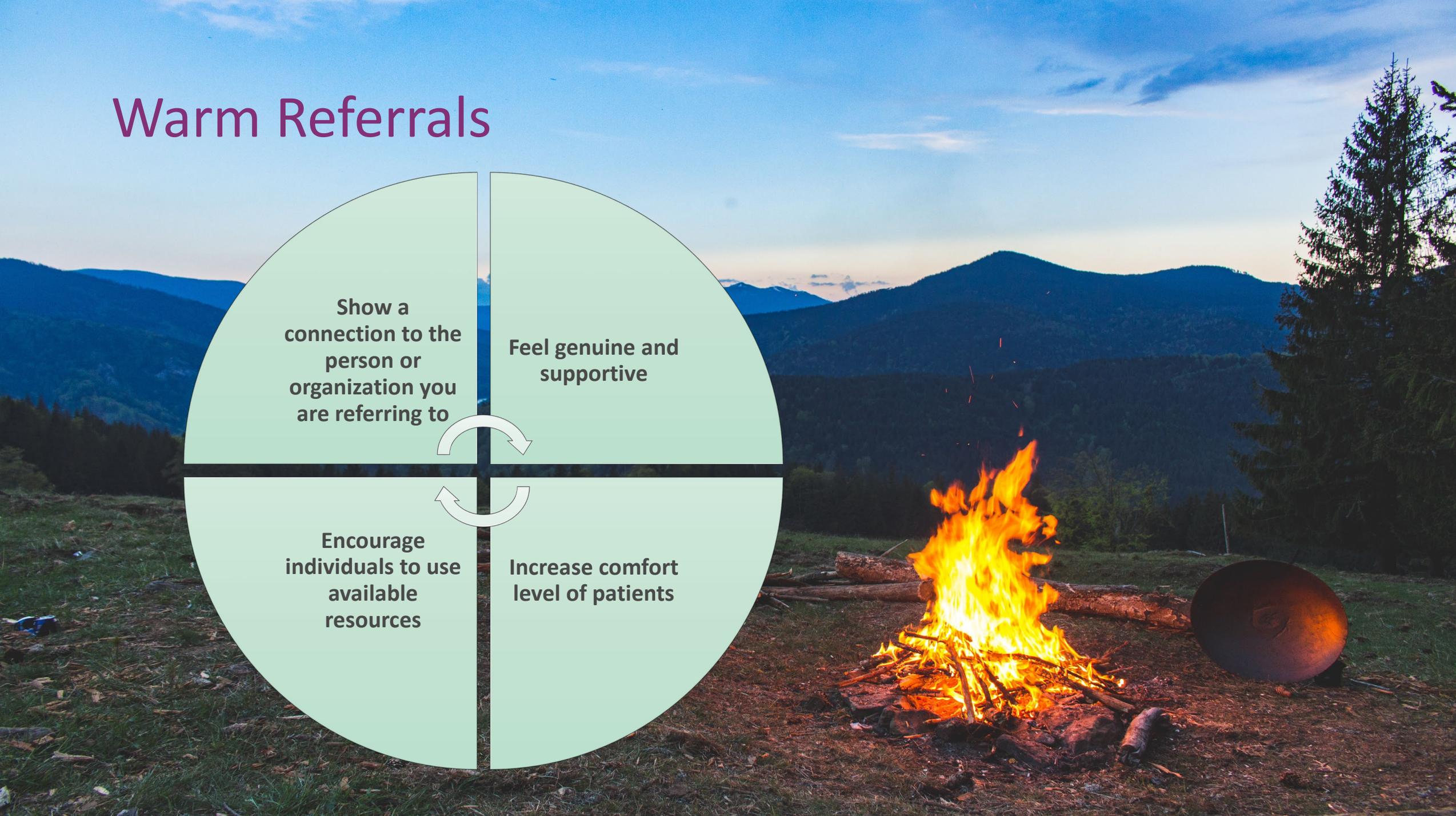
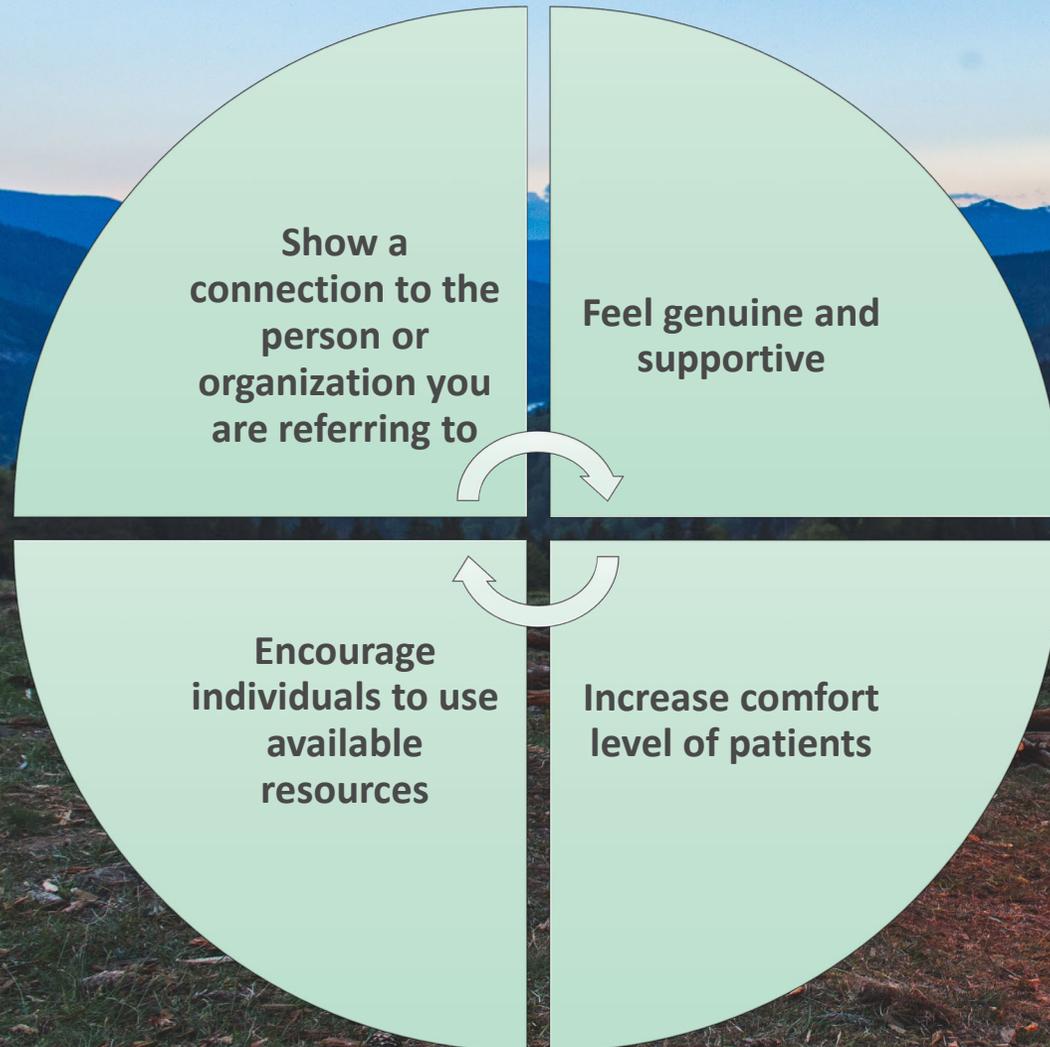
How does partnering with your local domestic violence program help survivors? You? The communities you practice in?

# Partnerships with DV Programs

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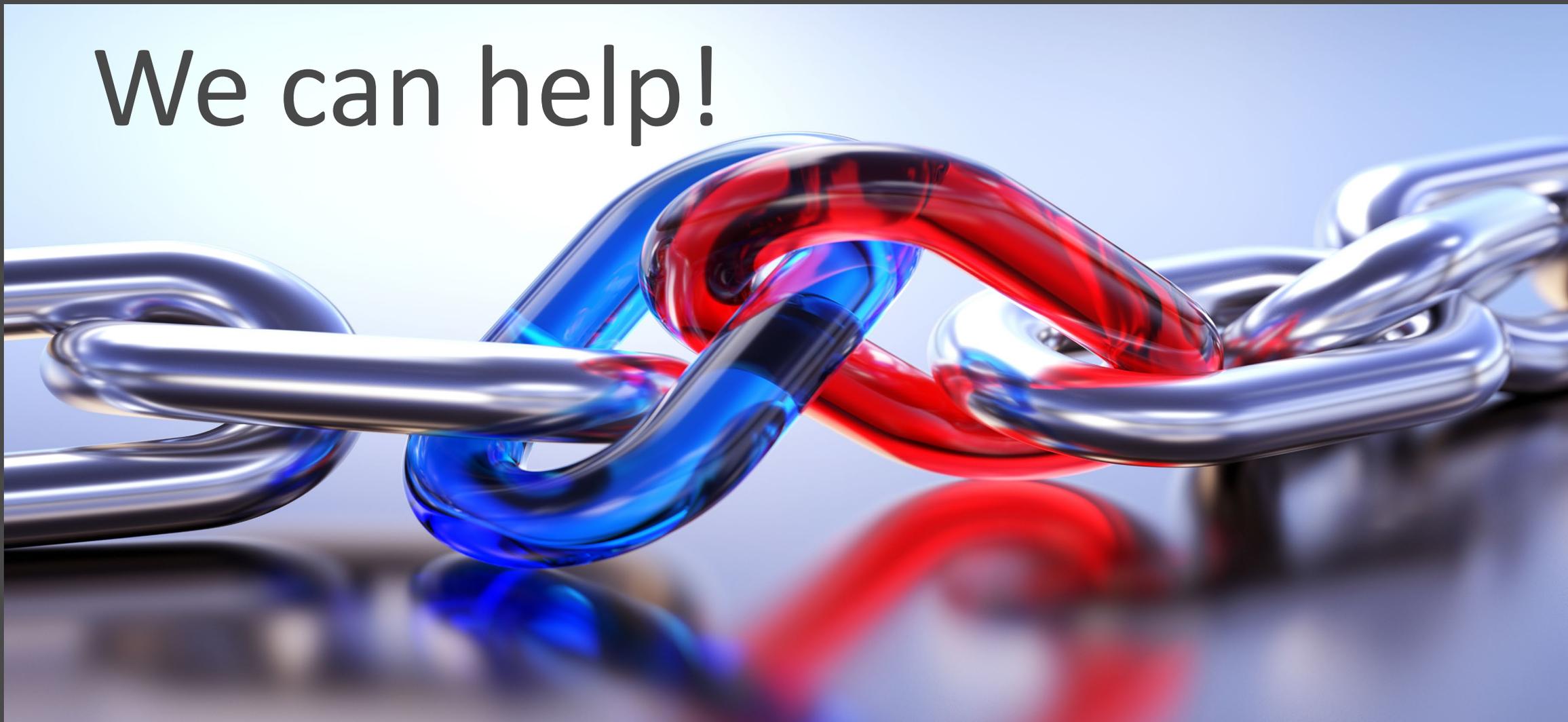
# Warm Referrals

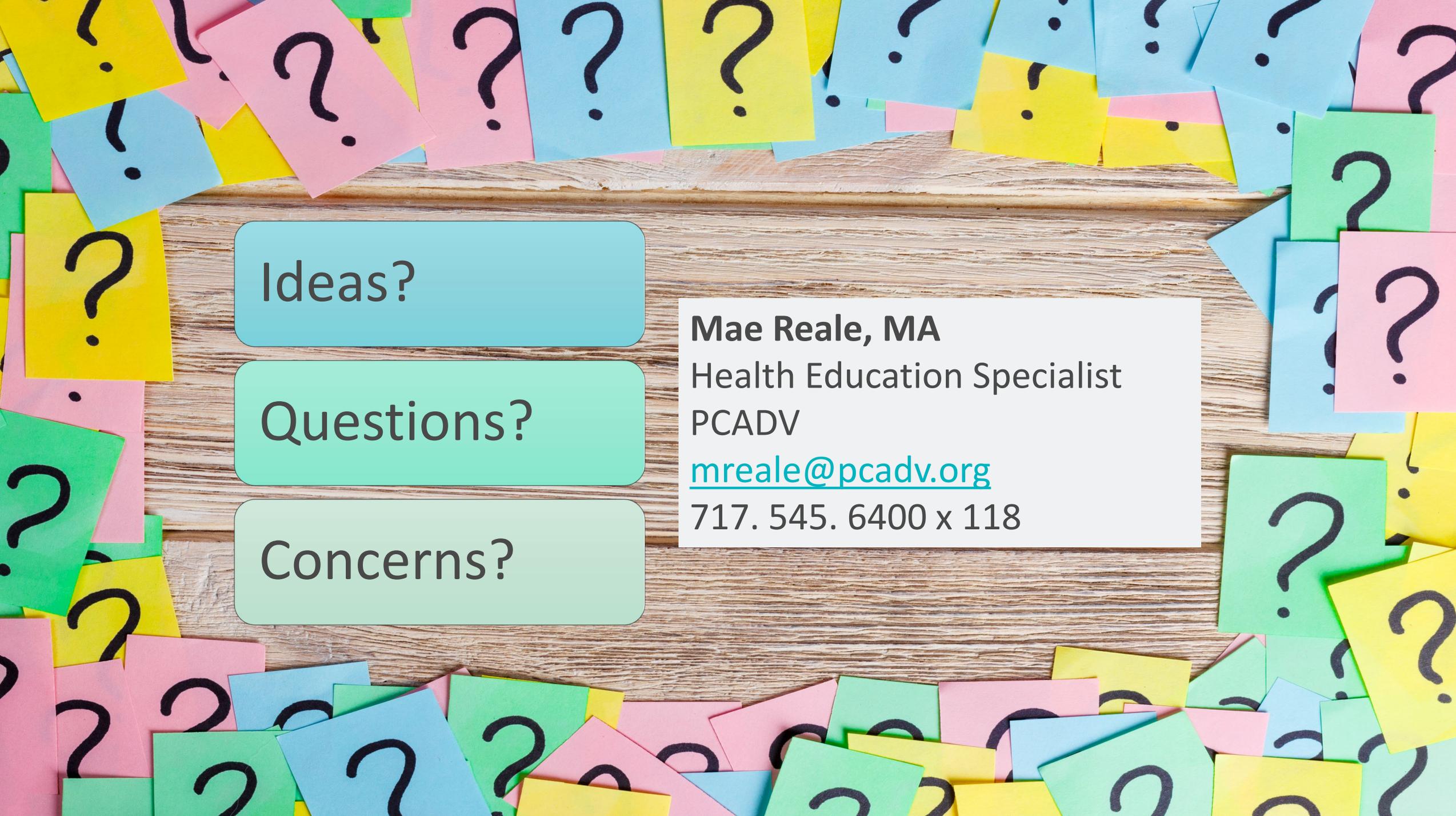


Need help connecting with your local program?

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We can help!





Ideas?

Questions?

Concerns?

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