

FOSTERING RESILIENCE IN CHILD SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



Roadmap to Resilience: Supporting Children Experiencing Stress and Trauma

Dr. Bianca Harper is a Clinical Associate Professor at the ASU School of Social Work and oversees the Arizona Child and Adolescent Survivor Initiative (ACASI) that supports child and adolescent survivors of intimate partner homicide.



How Can Primary Caregivers Support Child Survivors?

1

Create space for open communication when the child or adolescent needs it. Restricting a child from talking about certain subjects can impede healing.

2

Prioritize and track what the child or adolescent wants over what you, as a mental health professional or caregiver, might want.

3

Consistently care for the child or adolescent throughout their healing process. After a traumatic experience, children are often shuffled between different service providers. Children need someone who will be consistently there to support them.

4

Help children and families develop their values, self-perceptions and coping skills.

5

Focus on the safety and comfort of the child or adolescent.



“On average, 3,000 children a year lose a parent to intimate partner homicide in the U.S.”

- Dr. Bianca Harper

Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide/Violence



HISTORY OF
VIOLENCE



UNADDRESSED
MENTAL HEALTH
CONCERNS



HISTORY OF
PAST SUICIDAL
IDEATION



ACCESS TO
FIREARMS



SUBSTANCE
ABUSE