# Empowering Black Female Elders



Agenda

### Objectives

- Develop skills to effectively communicate with individuals affected by intimate partner violence.
- Identify resources available to individuals and communities affected by intimate partner violence.
- Understand the dynamics and impact of intimate partner violence on individuals and communities.
- Recognize the different forms and signs of intimate partner violence.

## ICE BREAKER

### "Picture Perfect Memories"

1. Instruct the participants to think about their lives and relationships.

a. What are some words that you would use to describe a healthy or unhealthy relationship in your life? 2. What advice would you give to a young couple who is thinking of marriage?







### <u>Understanding Healthy Relationship</u>

#### RESPECT

They do not belittle, criticize, or control each other, and they treat each other as equals.

#### TRUST

They do not lie, cheat, or betray each other, and they honor their commitments and promises.

#### EMPATHY

They try to understand each other's perspectives, validate each other's feelings, and offer support and comfort.



#### SUPPORT

They celebrate each other's achievements, help each other through tough times, and encourage each other to pursue their goals and interests.

#### COMMUNICATION

hey listen to each other, express their needs and feelings, and work together to solve problems and conflicts.

### Cultural Norms and Expectations (Back Home)

#### Silence and privacy

This may lead to a reluctance to report or seek help for abuse.

#### Gender roles and power dynamics

Power dynamics may contribute to the normalization or acceptance of intimate partner violence, particularly when it involves male perpetrators and female victims.

#### Family and community involvement Pressure to maintain the relationship and avoid conflict

lead to the belief that men have the right to exert control over their partners.

#### Patriarchy and male dominance

#### **Religious** and spiritual beliefs

Some religious beliefs may promote forgiveness and reconciliation, even in cases of abuse.

### How to change it as pillars of the community

- Empowerment and Advocacy
- Role modelling and mentorship
- Education and awareness
- Counselling and Therapy



What are the impacts that IPV had in the community on individuals or families?



### Impacts of IPV on Individuals and

### Community

#### Men in Black Families

- Stigma/shame
- Legal consequences
- Difficulty accessing support

#### **Women in Black Families**

- Mental health difficulties i.e depression and anxiety
- Family dysfunction

#### Youth/Children

- Increased risk of sleep difficulties
- Eating problems
- Aggressive behaviours
- Excessive irritability
- Academic difficulties
- Anxiety and conflict/problem-solution skills

#### **Communities**

- Job loss, missed work and financial instability • Relationship issues

# THANK HANK YOU

