

## **HOMEWARD BOUND: A NABB Special Series on Homelessness**

### **Fast Facts: Home Is Not a Safe Place for Victims of Domestic Violence**

In 2020, The Boston Police Department's Crime Statistics recorded 897 Domestic Aggravated Assaults. Still, more than half of assaults in the home are never reported to law enforcement.

\* Domestic violence is stated as the direct cause of homelessness by 1 in 4 homeless women according to the US Department of Justice. Women with incomes below the poverty level disproportionately experience domestic violence.

\* Dangerousness spikes when victims attempt to leave abusive relationships. Help is available 24 hours a day on the SafeLink Domestic Violence Hotline at 877-785-2020. Counselors help callers develop safety plans, locate domestic violence shelters and obtain legal assistance.

### **What You Can Do:**

\* Read the book, **No Visible Bruises** by journalist Rachel Louise Snyder to learn more.

\* Volunteer. Jane Doe, Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, has a spectrum of volunteer opportunities. Explore them at [www.janedoe.org](http://www.janedoe.org) or call at 617-248-0922.

\* Donate if you are able. Casa Myrna Vasquez, Boston's largest DV service provider, operates the Massachusetts-wide SafeLink Hotline which receives 27,000 calls a year. Casa Myrna also has 3 residential programs and provides housing assistance and advocacy among other services. Please visit [casamyrna.org](http://casamyrna.org) to see how your donation can help.