



# **ECCOS**

Empoderando a Comunidades para Cambiar y Optimizar la Salud

2023 Cohort

# Who We Are

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**Empoderando a Comunidades para Cambiar y Optimizar la Salud (ECCOS) in Dane County** is a Pilot civic engagement program. It is also the Bilingual counterpart of Engaging Communities to Change Health Outcomes (ECCHO) which is carried out in Milwaukee and Rock counties.

**Our primary goal** is to engage individuals who have added barriers in participating in civics due to language, migratory status, and more. We provide information on how local government works and then ask them "What keeps you up at night?" Through the practice of radical imagination and reflection of their lived experience, the cohort develops a community - project to better address the needs of their communities.



## Dane County:

- 5 Cohort members
- DV

## Our Mission:

Center the voices and lived experiences of Black, Indigenous, cisgender and transgender women of color, and non - binary people of color (BIPOC) to transform local systems to equitably meet the needs of communities.

## Our Vision:

BIPOC women and non - binary people in Milwaukee, Rock, and Dane county have the resources and support they need to build collective power and improve the health outcomes of their communities.



# We are here today

**To:** Public and Judicial Protection Committee

**From:** ECCOS

**Date:** August 22, 2023

**Re:** Request for a comprehensive review of Dane County's domestic violence services, policies and procedures to improve outreach efforts to Spanish - speaking survivors in Dane County.



# Our Presenters

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Karina



Fernanda



Nora



# Fernanda's Story (Not DV survivor)

## The Problem:

- It is difficult to access information in Spanish
- Survivors are not always directed to domestic violence advocates



## The Solution:

- More service providers who are bilingual
- Improve referral procedures to survivors of DV

Facilitate ongoing communication between county government and the community, which includes community organizations and the people, to promote culturally relevant services and practices.



# Nora's Story

## The Problem:

- It is difficult to access information in Spanish

- Not knowing how to use internet
- Work schedules
- Not having access to computers



- It is difficult to decide to ask for help

- Generational trauma of Machismo
- Harm done to victim that decreases sense of power, self-esteem, capabilities



## The Solution:

- More service providers who are bilingual
- More outreach initiatives
- Improve referral procedures to survivors of DV



# Karina's Story

## The Problem:

- It is difficult to access information & help in Spanish
  - Was not connected to language Line
  - Was not connected to Spanish - speaking service provider when referred to community org
- Survivors are not always directed to domestic violence advocates
  - Was not connected to resources the night of her incident



## The Solution:

- More service providers who are bilingual
- Improve referral procedures to survivors of DV





# We believe there is a need for

**Comprehensive review of Dane County's domestic violence services, policies and procedures to improve outreach efforts to Spanish -speaking survivors in Dane County.**

- Facilitating an increase in the number of bilingual domestic violence service providers
  - Obtainment of information in Spanish
- Facilitate access to domestic violence advocates
  - More referrals
  - Promote ongoing communication between community organizations and community members with outreach efforts.
- Create a formal community liaison(s) to facilitate and maintain ongoing communication with county government and the community to promote culturally relevant services and practices.



*Please ask us any questions*



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# Thank you

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