MCEDV. The Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence

Impact of Economic Abuse on Domestic Violence Survivors in Maine

WHAT IS ECONOMIC ABUSE?

Abusers limit their partners' economic safety and security by preventing resource use, preventing resource acquisition, and exploiting their partners' resources.

HOW DOES ECONOMIC ABUSE AFFECT SURVIVORS?*

Impairs a Survivor's Ability to Separate: 81% of survivors cite economic abuse as a barrier to separating from the abuser.

Impairs Employability and Wage Growth: For **62%** of survivors, abusers interfered with their ability to maintain employment, using such tactics as turning off alarm clocks, hiding car keys, physical injury, refusing to provide agreed upon child care, and intimidating co-workers.

Impairs Credit Long Term: 57% of survivors reported the abuser incurred debt in their names, and **72%** reported abusers lied about paying the bills.

Impacts Resources for Children: Of survivors who reported impacts on their children**, 85%** reported that their abuser's economic tactics made it difficult for them to provide for their children's basic daily needs**.**

LASTING FINANCIAL CONCERNS OF SURVIVORS:

WHY IT MATTERS:

There is a reciprocal relationship between domestic violence and economic instability – abuse creates economic instability. In turn, economic instability reduces safety options for survivors and makes them more vulnerable to continued violence and isolation.

**See* "A Report on the Impact of Economic Abuse on Survivors of Domestic Violence in Maine," presented to the Maine Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary (February 7, 2019). Accessible at: https://bit.ly/2Djs9f4