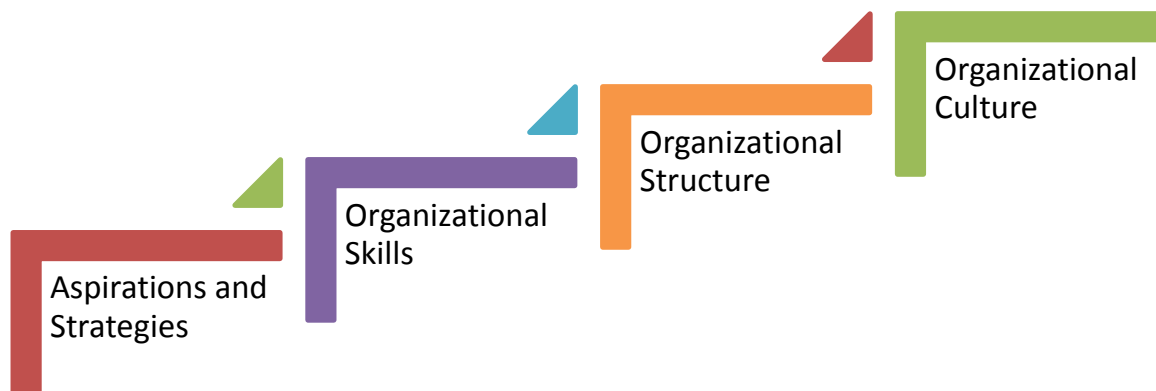


# Building Capacity for Prevention\*

\*The **willingness and ability** of staff members AND agencies to engage in **mission-driven** efforts seeking to prevent violence in an **effective manner**.

*What does it take to build capacity for prevention?<sup>1</sup>*



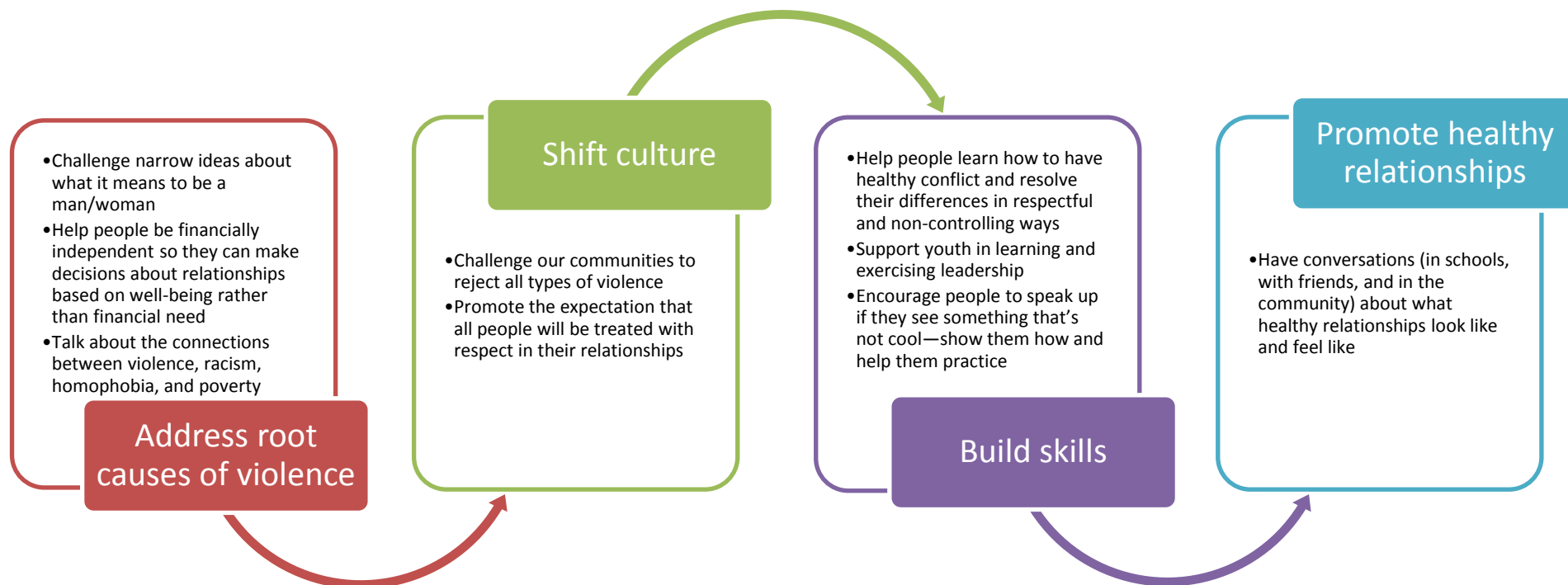
*Questions to consider when thinking about building and sustaining capacity for doing prevention work.*

<b>Aspirations and strategies</b>	<b>Organizational skills</b>
<p>Do you have a clear agency-wide prevention agenda? How will you realize it?</p>	<p>Do staff have the ability (and support) to conceive of, map-out, execute, and regularly adjust the implementation of prevention initiatives?</p>
<b>Organizational structure</b>	<b>Organizational culture</b>
<p>Do managers understand the knowledge and skill sets necessary for prevention positions? Are they able to accurately represent that understanding in recruitment?</p>	<p>How does your organization see itself? Do you, and your community, see it as primarily a service delivery organization, a social change organization, both, or neither/other.</p>

<sup>1</sup> For more on these strategies, check out VSDVAA's [Moving Upstream Newsletter](#) (Volume 6, Issues 1 & 2)

# Preventing violence in your community

Successful prevention efforts seek to bring about change in individuals, relationships, communities, and society through strategies that:



## What does this look like for WSCADV?

Our Domestic Violence Housing First program is focused on eliminating housing as a reason to stay in an abusive relationship, which helps prevent future violence.

The Refuse To Abuse® domestic violence prevention campaign with the Seattle Mariners uses male athletes as role models to promote respect and healthy masculinity.

WSCADV launched a Teen Leadership Council (TLC). We recognize the importance of youth leading us (and each other) in the work to end violence in relationships.

We developed *In Their Shoes: Teens and Dating Violence*, a scenario-based training that helps adults talk to young people about their relationships.

# Planning for Prevention

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Prevention work	Address root causes of violence	Shift culture	Build skills	Promote healthy relationships
Activities we're already doing				
Activities we'd like to be doing				

**Next Steps**

What	By When

# 5 ways to increase your program's capacity to do prevention

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## Get your board on board

- Affirm that your organization has a commitment to prevent violence.

## Start talking

- Domestic violence is preventable! Spread this message.

## Stay connected

- Network with other people doing prevention work and share ideas. We do this work better together!

## Try it out

- Evaluate how it went and learn from it.
- Try again.

## Make the connection

- Share with your funders and your community how prevention work connects to victim services.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Prevention work is in service to and is directly linked to the experiences of victims and survivors for a variety of reasons:

- Victims don't want their kids to experience domestic violence.
- Victims inform what we know about the nature of abuse dynamics and therefore inform our strategies to prevent it.
- Prevention strategies help victims in future relationships.
- Skills for healthy relationships keep everyone safe (including victims) from future violence.