

2022

## Why A Women's Domestic Violence Long-Term Shelter Is Needed

Markquatt Ford  
*Walden University*

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# Walden University

College of Health Sciences and Public Policy

This is to certify that the doctoral study by

Markquatt Ford

has been found to be complete and satisfactory in all respects,  
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the review committee have been made.

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Walden University  
2022

Abstract

Why A Women's Domestic Violence Long-Term Shelter Is Needed

by

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MS, Keller Graduate School of Management, 2008

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BS, DeVry University, 2002

Doctoral Study Submitted in Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree of

Doctor of Public Administration

Walden University

November 2022

## Abstract

This qualitative project provided a content analysis of primary and secondary data to do a need assessment of how a short-term shelter, a home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, Mo, can turn into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. This organization was a short-term shelter, a not-for-profit organization that works for the positive social change and rehabilitation of female victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, Mo. The organization followed a traditional organizational model with a short-term scope of action. A long-term shelter is supposed to provide the residents with sufficient programs for recovery to return to society as valuable, productive citizens. Therefore, the study did a needs assessment of making a short-term shelter into a long-term shelter for women who have experienced domestic violence. Sixty-eight online survey questionnaires were completed. In-depth interviews and discussions of 15 participants, such as managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government officials, and beneficiaries of short-term shelter services, were recorded and analyzed through the thematic method. The analysis indicated the following themes: the short-term shelter program, Shelter services, facilities at the shelter, domestic violence, administrative steps, and the shelter's effectiveness in providing shelter and protection. The findings of this study provided data that there was a need to provide long-term rehabilitation facilities for these women to help incorporate them into society after proper rehabilitation. The results of this study may promote positive social change by increasing awareness of advocacy and counseling programs and their importance to women affected by domestic violence.

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## Dedication

First, giving honor to God, my Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ, who is the head of my life. This doctoral project is dedicated to my lovely wife, Krystal Ford, for her support; this would not be possible without her. To our beautiful daughter Amoriel Ford, who I will always love for sacrificing daddy-daughter time. To our boys, Markel, Eric, D'Khari, and my God sons Jamarion and Jacoby, whom I hope seeing me strive on this journey to my doctorate, will inspire them to achieve all their goals. I would also like to thank my mother, Gloria Ford-Jones. Her encouraging words and tremendous faith helped me accomplish this goal. A big thanks to my brother Pastor Seante Ford and his wife, Mattie Ford, for their ongoing support.

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## Section 1: Introduction to the Problem

### **Introduction**

Domestic violence is common in the United States. Domestic violence occurs when family members engage in violent actions or activities against one another.

Domestic violence is usually the act of a husband beating the wife and vice versa and parents abusing their children (Ashraf et al., 2017). One key solution to ending domestic violence in the United States is setting up shelter homes where the victims of domestic violence can take refuge (Buzawa & Buzawa, 2017). In this study, I conducted a needs assessment of a short-term shelter, the nonprofit women's domestic violence shelter in Kansas City, MO, to assess the work needed to be done to transform it from a short-term domestic violence shelter into a long-term domestic violence shelter. I assessed the viability score of developing a long-term women's domestic violence shelter in Kansas City, MO, and an estimation of the time needed to provide resources to a short-term shelter to achieve these goals.

Women's shelters safeguard the female victims of domestic violence, helping them choose how to move forward. They help women and children in terms of counseling and legal guidance, helping them determine their next course of action. Most nations have developed shelter programs, including Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States. In the United States, Haven House was the first women's shelter to be opened in California in 1964, where others like Ruby's Place ink followed in 1972 (Outsworn et al., 2018). People used to volunteer to house women in their homes before opening the shelter programs (Outsworn et al., 2018). The shelter programs like the

Grassroots community were dedicated to offering services to victims of intimate partner violence (Outsworn et al., 2018).

However, most of these programs offer short-term stays, but the few sponsored by the Violence against Women Act offer longer-term stays. They offer services for both women and children. Since 1977, the number of shelter programs for women has increased in the United States, but most offer short-term stays Abramowitz (2017).

Short-term shelters offer temporary refuge to the women who escape from domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Some women who leave their abusive homes become homeless. Abramowitz (2017) argued that gender inequality has become the most pervasive form of inequality worldwide, denying women their voices, making the positions women hold unequal to those of men, and to some extent devalues their work. Society has attempted to empower the women, but it becomes very hard for them to succeed due to cultural issues and the society diminishing their roles. Al-Shame et al. (2014) stated that no country has achieved economic equality with men and women worldwide. Thus, more women still live in the property and solely depend on men as their sole breadwinners. This is why most women find it hard to leave their homes even if they face domestic violence.

Jane was a 29-year-old married woman who sought refuge at a short-term shelter for 17 days with her two children. Jane had PTSD and stated that her husband became abusive (Johnson & Zlotnick, 2009). The husband was verbally and emotionally abusive, and she faced physical abuse for 5 years and 6 months in their marriage. According to Jane's case, Jane persevered all those times without seeking any mental and marital abuse

assistance but left her husband for the first time to seek help at a shelter. On arrival at the short-term shelter, she presented significant intimate partner violence related to Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms. The short-term shelter treated Jane's conditions and helped her cope with the difficulties she was going through, establishing treatment goals and plan to decrease the PTSD conditions. They also focused on safety planning where Jane decided to drop the civil protective order (CPO), claiming that the CPO interfered with her husband's ability to maintain the relationship with their two children. After a few days of treatment, Jane returned to her husband at home despite the abuses. She did not have an alternative because she was financially unstable and could not afford to raise her two children alone. Johnson and Zlotnick (2009) discussed that Jane left the short-term shelter disappointed because as much as Jane got treatment concerning her conditions, Jane went back to the person who caused her pain. She admitted that she decided to go back in fear of her children's safety and financial problems, which most women report. Shelters need to employ a long-term shelter program to help women manage their fears and assets and then find opportunities to be financially stable Johnson and Zlotnick (2009).

Women's significant challenges make them report physical and verbal abuse, including underpayment, and undervaluing of their efforts in the community. Pisani and Priklopil (2017) stated that women are the lowest paid worldwide, with approximately 24% earning less than men, with an estimate of 170 years before they earn the same as men. Seventy-five percent of women in the developing countries are in informal sectors with less employment contradicts, social protection, legal rights, and less payment to

escape poverty. Therefore, approximately 600 million people are in the most precarious and insecure forms of work. Moreover, most women do at least twice the unpaid work of childcare and housework as men. The value of the estimated unpaid work is almost \$10.8 trillion (Oxfam International, n.d.). Assessing both the unpaid and paid work, women work longer days than men yet are still poor.

Regarding poverty among women, it makes it hard to leave their homes where they face domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Long-term shelter programs help such women realize their potential in increasing their economic statuses and reducing poverty among the women.

According to the national network to end domestic violence, there is increased demand for shelter services in the United States and specifically in Kansas City (Bates & Douglas, 2020). The report indicates that the agency shelter programs served over 66 591 people, and the shelter programs could not meet over 9,000 requests. Women with children use the shelter programs, with rural women finding it hard to access the shelter program due to limited resources (Bates & Douglas, 2020).

### **Short-Term and Long-Term Domestic Violence Shelter Programs**

The issues of homelessness and housing insecurities are a concern in most countries, especially for domestic violence survivors. When most survivors, especially women, leave their abusive marriages, they tend to remain homeless or find shelter in poor housing structures to save their lives. Despite both men and women being a victim of domestic violence, women are affected mainly by varied forms of abuse such as sexual abuse or severe physical injuries (de Avila, 2018). The trend also results in most children



being homeless since mothers chose to leave with their children to protect them from further domestic violence from their spouses or family members. Short-term and long-term shelter programs for domestic violence survivors focus on providing freedom for survivors through providing safe housing. Also, through other supportive programs, like counseling, technical training, and social groups to help them manage their psychological and emotional distress (de Avila, 2018).

However, some barriers hinder domestic violence survivors from achieving freedom despite them acquiring safe housing. For instance, financial abuse as part of domestic violence leads to most women living without access to any finances, whether family or individual savings, as their abusive partners do not allow them to work to earn money for themselves, or they destroy their credit scores (Clark, Wood & Sullivan, 2019). Therefore, once they move out, they cannot afford to maintain safe housing; thus, they are forced to find refuge in unsafe areas. Some people stigmatize and discriminate against domestic violence victims based on their offenders' violent actions, making it difficult for survivors to stay in the area for long since it can lower their self-esteem and they could be subjected to mental torture. Additionally, because domestic violence survivors require some unique confidentiality and safety needs to prevent their perpetrators from locating them, they are limited from staying in some locations, including some homelessness assistance programs, for fear of extended violence from their partners. These barriers result in most domestic violence survivors remaining homeless and some of them, especially those with children, return to their abusive marriages since they do not want their children to remain homeless (Stylianou & Pich,

2019). Other than being homeless, the survivors may be subjected to further abuse like rape and sickness because they have no place to get shelter. Some end up staying on the streets without food, thereby endangering their health status and their children.

To address the issue of housing securities, both short-term and long-term domestic violence shelter programs are dedicated to enhancing the availability of housing options for the survivors, both with children and those without children. Long-term programs provide long-term housing for the survivors and their children and empower them to attain independence through supportive programs like psychological counseling and technical training to enable them to start their income-generating activities (Arroyo et al., 2017). Formulation of social support groups is also part of these programs initiative that helps survivors make friends that they may depend on in case of any need or crisis. This helps them relieve their emotional distress, enhances positive self-esteem, and promotes good mental health by obtaining a positive self-image.

Short-term and long-term domestic violence shelter programs are doing more to help survivors gain independence by providing necessities. However, they collaboratively work with various agencies, states, and communities to promote efficiency in service delivery. Examples of groups the programs work together are the National Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium, National Resource Centre on Domestic Violence, the National Alliance for Safe Housing, Department of Homeless Services, and Human Resources Administration. Together with these agencies, the domestic violence shelter programs provide technical training support and develop

resources that support cases related to domestic violence. Collaborative working improves policies that govern domestic violence issues, strengthen collaborations between homeless providers for domestic violence survivors and housing, identify promising and practical practices to aid the survivors, and improve state domestic coalitions (Goodman, Epstein & Sullivan, 2018). Short-term and long-term domestic violence shelter programs ensures that domestic violence survivors receive adequate supportive and confidential services irrespective of the area they seek refuge from the shelter programs. Collaborative working also increases the number of housing facilities in different areas for the survivors to accommodate the increasing numbers of victims of domestic violence.

Short-term shelters, also known as emergency shelters, deal with the survivors' immediate safety needs by providing short-term housing with some supportive services like counseling. It is the most affordable and easy access to most survivors, and it empowers them to start rebuilding their lives as they wait for permanent or long-term shelter (Sullivan, 2018). Transitional housing is essential in short-term shelter programs due to domestic violence survivors' unique safety and personal needs. There are various models like the scattered-site model established within the community with the organization in charge of paying rent to the landlord. A local shelter program usually owns clustered model, and it consists of one big building with several small private units to house each survivor's family. The communal model provides each survivor's family with a private bedroom, but all survivors share living areas like the living room and kitchen in the building (Sullivan, 2018). Transitional housing models provide supportive

services and financial support for up to two years. These models are used by survivors to achieve their goals for long-term safety and stability through self-empowerment services.

Irrespective of the support provided by short-term and long-term domestic violence shelter programs, public policies help reduce barriers towards safe housing for survivors. The programs are registered with relevant councils; thus, they operate through federal housing legislation and regulations to ensure that services promote life and self-sustainability to survivors. The programs operate following the violence against women act (VAWA, 2013) with extension to local levels to make the services easily accessible at all levels to enhance effective enforcement of VAWA. Since the programs aim to provide safety to the victims of domestic violence, the organization should provide adequate safety through flexible systems to ensure that no survivor is evicted from the area because of the perpetrator's action (VAWA, 2013).

### **Problem Statement**

There is a need to establish a long-term shelter program for women experiencing domestic violence in society. The short-term shelter program provides temporary shelter for the women, which the short-term shelter will let the women go, with some opting to return to the same homes and others becoming homeless. As research indicates, a large group of women faces domestic violence and sexual abuse which they find the shelter programs the only hope (Eaton et al., 2021). However, most of this short-term shelter program requires them to take a shorter time in the shelter than expected, with most of them only staying days to weeks. This endangers them, especially if the cases were not solved legally or the perpetrators apprehended (Eaton et al., 2021). Most homeless

women who leave the short-term shelter programs face poverty, unemployment, trauma, sudden serious illness, mental and substance uses due to depression and anxiety (Caton et al., 2005). Some of them get involved in criminal activities and other actions that endanger their lives and that of their families (Caton et al., 2005).

The inability of the shelter programs to provide shelter to the women for a longer time has also resulted in the reluctance of women to seek help for the domestic abuses they face. The situation has led to more women suffering inside homes without speaking to someone who can provide help for them (Sullivan, 2011). Sullivan explained that nonprofit organizations provide a solution for the domestic violence recorded in society. However, funding for the shelter programs in the United States and other nations is becoming a problem (Sullivan, 2011).

The influx of women victims makes it hard for the shelter program to run effectively due to limited resources such as skilled manpower, funding among other issues. According to Sullivan, long term shelter programs would be efficient since the survivors who seek help have different needs and life circumstances with most of them, unwilling not to go back and have nowhere else to go (Sullivan, 2011). The resource outcome evaluation on short-term shelter programs shows that they were effective for that minor domestic violence. However, in terms of abuse like sexual and other issues, very few women were able to recover from them. Another problem is the increased premeasure in the short-term shelter programs with most of the clients keep coming back for help which indicates that as much as the organizations provides them with help, it is very difficult for them to settle the issues at once (Perez et al., 2012).

Prevailing literature on domestic violence in the United States focuses on the forms of domestic violence that are prevalent in this part of the world, and the extent to which victims of domestic violence suffer (Ashraf et al., 2017). The role of shelter homes in the United States of protecting victims of domestic violence is discussed in prevailing literature on the subject. However, the literature does not mention how and why short-term shelter homes can turn into long-term solutions for victims of domestic violence, providing them with the care and assistance they did not anticipate (Rowe et al., 2021). I addressed this gap in the literature in this study. I used primary research methods to assess the workings of the shelter and to decide whether it should continue to function as a temporary shelter or whether there are efforts that need to be made to transform it into a long-term center of rehabilitation for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO.

### **Purpose Statement**

The short-term shelter program in Kansas City, MO has operated as a short-term shelter providing shelter for the women for a short period and has effectively performed its duties into ensuring that women in the shelter program not only receive security but also treatments of various mental and physical conditions that accrue as a result of domestic violence. As a short-term shelter program, shelters may not effectively serve the community, especially the victims of domestic violence. The women sheltered in the program may become homeless. The women may suffer more injuries when they return to their homes and sometimes live their entire lives in poverty due to lack of financial support and adequate resources to keep their family and themselves from moving on with quality life. Therefore, the shelter program in Kansa city, MO may need to become a

long-term shelter program to assist these women. By becoming a long-term shelter, they can provide services to women who are victims of domestic violence adequately until they are financially stable. Short-term shelter as a long-term shelter program will benefit the women and eradicate domestic violence cases in Kansas City, MO. Which would help stakeholders find jobs for the women to become financially stable and help them afford homes. Offering long-term shelter for the women will help them get guidance on their legal rights without worrying about where they have to go next. Thus, empowering the women, giving them freedom of expression, and claiming what is rightfully theirs. In addition, the victims of domestic violence will receive mental, physical, and emotional treatment that would help their recovery from the previous symptoms such as PTSD.

The purpose of the research was to assess how a short-term shelter, a home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO, can turn into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. Providing them with the help, care, and assistance they need to emerge as an essential shelter base for such victims, now and in the future.

### **Nature of the Study**

Domestic violence is a common form of violence that is engaged in by family members against one another. In essence, the term domestic violence connotes the type of behavior that borders on threats, coercion, intimidation, and the complete victimization of a person. Domestic violence is quite frequent in various parts of the world. Parents who partake in abusive behavior with their children or with each other are said to be indulging in domestic violence. Domestic violence is regarded as a serious offense under the legal system in the United States. Those who are found to be guilty of domestic violence can

be sent away to prison for several months and years. There are numerous shelter homes in U.S. cities and towns that provide victims of domestic violence with the care and the assistance that they need in order to be able to escape from their violent domestic situation and to begin life anew. Often, the victims of domestic violence are women as well as their dependent children, who find themselves at a loss as to where to seek protection and rehabilitation when faced with domestic violence at the hands of their family members (Rutberg & Christina, 2019).

I used a qualitative research design for this study. Qualitative studies include methods such as participant observations and in-depth interviews. Silverman (2020) stated that qualitative research involves collecting analytics and nonnumerical data. Qualitative research is used to understand individual perspectives on various factors or phenomena (Silverman, 2020).

Domestic violence continues to be a significant problem not only in the United States, but worldwide, and long-term shelter programs could be necessary to help the victims of domestic violence (Rowe et al., 2021). The purpose of this study was to perform a needs assessment to establish whether short-term domestic shelter program should transform from a short-term shelter program to a long-term shelter program that could provide full support for the victims of domestic violence over a more extended period of time.

I gathered information about short-term domestic shelter in Kansas City, MO, and determined whether the institution was suited to be a long-term shelter program. I evaluated the existing short-term shelter program. I used critical incident evaluation



techniques, objective knowledge and skills tests, self-assessment techniques, gap analysis, and reviewing peer-reviewed papers to identify the needs of the long-term shelter program. I determined if short-term domestic shelter in Kansas City, MO, is in the position of transforming to a long-term shelter program, thus helping to develop a plan for short-term domestic shelter in Kansas City. In the methodology section, I describe the study area, the study design employed, techniques for data collection that I used in the need assessment, data analysis, and ethical consideration for the study.

### **Research Questions**

Research Question 1 (RQ1): What are the ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter at short-term facilities?

Research Question 2 (RQ2): How effective is a short-term shelter in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence?

Research Question 3 (RQ3): What administrative steps must be taken by the short-term shelter to become a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence?

### **Rationale for the Study**

I conducted this study because of the rise in domestic violence cases in the United States. My goal was to determine how shelter homes can provide a long-term source of protection and care for victims of domestic violence in the United States.

This research project conducts an examination of a short-term domestic shelter, a shelter for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO. The project aims to understand whether short-term domestic shelter should transform into a long-term rehabilitation center for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO.

### **Significance**

The sources of information that will be used in the study will be of both a primary and secondary nature. The primary sources of information shall be extracted from interviews and discussions conducted with key stakeholders of the project, managers, and workers at a short-term domestic shelter, in Kansas City, MO.

In short, it is worthwhile to point out that this is a research project that is aimed at understanding how short-term domestic shelter can be transformed into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence and how it is to overcome many of the administrative challenges that it is likely to be faced with, in this respect. short-term domestic shelter transformation into a long-term shelter and providing complete rehabilitation services to victims of domestic violence can promote positive social change.

### **Summary**

The current study thus seeks to understand how short-term domestic shelter in Kansas City, MO, can be converted into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence, with in-depth qualitative research being undertaken to arrive at this understanding. It is expected that the findings that are generated from this study will provide the researcher with a firm understanding of whether short-term domestic shelter, a shelter home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO, should be converted into a long-term housing shelter. It is expected, specifically, that the findings of the study will throw light on the valuable and beneficial work that Kansas City, MO, short-term domestic shelter is undertaking in providing victims of domestic violence with care,

assistance, and protection, the relevance of the work that is being done, so a decision can be arrived at how a short-term shelter for domestic violence victims can be transformed into a long-term shelter, that offers care assistance and services 24x7 for domestic violence victims in Kansas City, MO. The next section will discuss the conceptual approach and background.

## Section 2: Conceptual Approach and Background

### **Introduction**

The participating organization of this resource opened a short-term domestic violence shelter in Kansas City, MO, to create a safer environment. The purpose of the shelter is to help those affected by domestic violence. The short-term domestic violence shelter in Kansas City, MO, has outlined the signs of domestic violence. It offers an educational program to create awareness so that people can notice violent acts or intentions earlier before the situation worsens. The shelter also provides supportive services to empower those impacted by violent acts to break the cycle of domestic violence. Short-term domestic shelter in Kansas City, MO, advocates for the change in the social practices to protect the human rights to life, thereby promoting life free from domestic abuse.

Domestic violence has several impacts not only to the individual but also to the family. For instance, the feelings and behaviors of an individual who has been involved in domestic violence drastically change when compared to previous behaviors. Depression is the common behavior that is portrayed by most victims through excessive substance abuse or social withdrawal that can result in suicidal attempts when they do not find someone whom they can talk to and share their pains with. Beleche stated that with properly installed reporting agencies on domestic violence, the suicide rate related to domestic violence is reduced with a significant percentage since they provide access to legal institutions thereby improving the victim's wellbeing (Beleche, 2019). He also describes that the increasing number of mental illnesses results from the increased

anxiety and post-traumatic stress that result from domestic violence incidences (Beleche, 2019).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was increased number of domestic violence especially when the restriction measures ordering people to stay at homes were put in place. Since most families were not used to staying together, misunderstandings were on the rise resulting in a 9.7 % increase of calls concerning domestic violence only in the fifth week of staying home (Leslie & Wilson, 2020). Some deaths occurred due to domestic violence, especially to those who did not report the cases early to seek help. It is therefore essential to have report or seek refuge from domestic violence to promote quality life. The healthcare sector also provides hope for the domestic violence victims and help promote quality lives. Victims of domestic violence have access to other clinical approaches through listening to their sorry without passing harsh judgment but in respectful encounters to make them regain the lost hope. Health facilities organize educational programs to educate their workers on how to approach those who have encountered domestic violence to create a good rapport with them so that they can open up to express themselves (Walling et al., 2018).

It is difficult to prevent domestic violence, but the cases can be reduced through number of ways. For instance, increasing funding and supporting services for domestic violence cases will help prevent domestic violence. Increasing funding for a short-term shelter will help ensure that any harm resulting from domestic violence the shelter can manage, and this will help promote quality of life and everyday living. The court systems involved in handling domestic violence cases should be changed to ensure that justice is

rendered to the victims and the culprits are prevented from repeating the same violent acts. Changing social living conditions like cultural practices, domestic violence policies and environment are the root prevention strategies for domestic violence since they change on how people perceive, acknowledge, and respond to domestic violence (Korsakoff & Pursell, 2020)

This study and the practices of short-term shelters in Kansas City, MO, and other similar organizations in the city will provide the basis for developing the problem solution. Shelters available in the city for domestic violence victims are scarce and provide only short-term shelters (Glenn & Goodman, 2015). These short-term shelters help in giving instant support, care, and protection to victims. However, the essential element of healing these female victims is to help them for a long period so that they can be able to become valuable citizens again (Sullivan, 2018). Therefore, women who have been victims of domestic violence feel the need for long-term shelter. (Babcock et al., 2016). If these women have the facility of staying at long-term shelters, they would be able to recover completely from the injuries, mental hazards, and other after-effects of domestic violence (Baker, Billhardt, Warren, Rollins, & Glass, 2010).

In this section, I review the concepts, models, and theories relevant to victims of domestic violence in the greater Kansas City metro area. This section also examines the relevance of the problem to public organizations. The section further covers the organizational background and context and the roles of the researcher.

## **Concepts, Models, and Theories**

The current study will use the technique of thematic analysis in order, to assess and interpret the findings that will be derived from qualitative research. The thematic method of analysis is a common feature of qualitative research, and it is used mainly when focus group discussions, interviews and basic surveys form the main method of data collection for a given research project (Flick, 2018). In this context, the themes selected and used for analysis for this project are themes based entirely on the research questions. Each of the themes that were analyzed and kept focused and to the point for accuracy (Flick, 2018).

### **Models and Theories for Needs Assessment**

Needs assessments have various models and theories that are professional and applicable. The system model emphasizes the flow and influence of information between modules. It establishes an interaction with various operations processes to enhance the performance of a given program (Hurrell et al., 2013). The system model provides various measures the community uses to address its challenges.

### **Author's Performance Evaluation Matrix**

Author's model tries to assess the problem, starting with customer's analysis and suppliers. This context comes with improvement and development software that Authors try to investigate where the problem is found. Author's model also concentrates on the efforts of the required end-users or absolutely the external paying customers. Author's model says the process should inspect when discussing customer and supplier requirements. Inspecting the process will identify all the defects that might have been

within the cycle process. Data is to be used to identify the defects caused in each cycle, and lastly, to try to improve the cycle process, every time data is taken through.

Author's model also develops more on the assessment model by making a plus on the performance evaluation matrix within the problem areas and a specifying guide to identify a problem. This model concentrates not only on organizational or societal results but also on the quality requirements of customers, either internally or externally, providing tools for software developers to produce the product. Nevertheless, before thinking about making any improvement, the software developer should be able to determine or put into consideration if the initial development software derived from the need's assessment was initially derived.

#### **Burton and Merrill's Four Phase Model**

Burton and Merrill proposed models which were in four-phase which aided in needs assessment which were used by practitioners in different disciplines and was observable by all clients both internally and externally (Burton and Merrill, 1988). Burton and Merrill (1988) also went further to propose that this model is one of the models based on assessment needs that were applicable in the development of materials which were instructional materials at different levels. However, unfortunately, it does not come out clearly on the issue of organizational results and society (Burton and Merrill, 1988).

Burton and Merrill (1988) quote depend on the assumption which says that acquiring skills will lead to a high outcome of societal and also high outputs of organization. Burton and Merrill's model uses instructional goals but not a performance



that are measurable objectives and are presumed to be specifically practical and are dependable on making decisions, and they will be accurate (Burton and Merrill, 1988).

### **Darragh's Six Step Model**

In his article, Darragh described the six-step model for assessment needs that looks like that in determining real, optimal attitudes and causes (Rosettes, 1987). Rosettes (1987) suggests 15 questions that have proven essential in the needs assessment process. The questions that Darragh proposed may be important to the orientation of the assessment needs. The six steps cited in the article had no link with organizational, societal, or accomplishment by individuals and may guide the process of conducting a needs assessment (Rosettes, 1987).

### **Gilbert's Performance Matrix**

Gilbert, in his book, provides helpful discussions explaining why and how people have different opinions that provide solutions to discrepancies in performance (Winfield et al., 2021). Gilbert firmly focused on improving processes, which are quality management, through which performance measures have the ability to lock with efficiently available resources (Winfield et al., 2021).

Gilbert gave out two versions that aided in Gilbert's performance matrix, which included one full scale, and the other was a truncated version for the application. Gilbert's proposal for a performance matrix did not address the desired results linked to the organizational, societal, and small group levels (Winfield et al., 2021).

Gilbert says that the higher level should be identified fast at any level that we wish to have conclusions on performance. However, he discussed a framework that began

at a philosophical level and drew down a tactical and logistical level that would be reduced in that application process to make the performance matrix simple which does not go beyond one organization (Winfield et al., 2021). According to Gilbert's performance matrix, it goes beyond achieving internal accomplishment, which is necessary to close discrepancies between organizational performance and individual closure.

### **Gordon's Front-End Analysis Model**

According to Gordon, it suggests different approaches to needs assessment as an analysis activity. It does not identify and document gaps that organizations acquire in prescribing training and non-training solution to internal clients (Gordon, 2016).

Gordon rolled down the front-end analysis mode to individual results. However, it does not precisely address groups that are small organizational results. Instead, it works to identify the unavailable resources for the shortcomings in the performance of individuals. For any organization to be successful, quality, and available inputs are essential, but Gordon does not address systemic errors. The model operates primarily in a reactive mode so that gaps between goals are shaped accordingly by end users' convenience rather than data-based organizational requirements (Gordon, 2016).

### **Existentialism Model**

Specifically, politically, socially, and economically, women have been discriminated against in society. A series of research has been done on gender issues and indicates that gender injustices have impacted humanitarian work leading to declined economic development. However, there have been significant campaigns to ensure

gender justice in society. However, for the past century, women are not provided the same opportunities as men, and in most cases, they are not treated equally to men. They are the victims of economic, political, social, and cultural rights (Anderson & Miettinen, 2017). Anderson & Miettinen (2017) define gender justice as full equality and equity between women and men in policies, decisions, and life structures. According to the Anderson & Miettinen (2017) study, women have become most victims of hunger and other forms of injustice; at least 70% of women make up the world's hungry population. In most managerial positions, women have been underrepresented globally in government or private institutions. Some problems women experiences are lack of security and not being included in the process of decision-making (Baily & Holmarsdottir, 2015). All women and girls are entitled to live in freedom and dignity without intimidation. By allowing equal responsibilities and power-sharing between men and women in national and international communities.

### **MAP and MAP-IT Model**

Community health projects provided essential services to the community, prioritizing patient care. Developing a logic model helps the community members define a common understanding of the activities and goals, thus identifying short-term and long-term success indicators. Also, the logic model helps determine the areas where technical support and research are needed to support future efforts to evaluate the partnership. It also communicates about the external stakeholders (Cullen et al., 2016). The specific problem in the community has been acknowledged and addressed, based on the model,

through the input of resources and strategies to address the challenges determined to achieve the best outcomes.

MAPP and MAP-IT models provide a strategic planning process that improves the community's health. Depression and anxiety are the primary health problem affecting the community. MAPP and MAP-IT enhance planning and partnership where public health leaders in the community work with the residents in strategic thinking on interventions that they could use to solve the increased level of depression and anxiety in the community (Schiffer decker et al., 2016). The models help them identify adequate resources to address the community health problem. MAPP model values collaboration and partnership of the public health system and the community to set goals and identify the strategies to solve the problem. At the same time, MAP-IT plans and evaluates the public health interventions for the community. The model mobilizes the community, assesses, and prepares the intervention. After implementation, tracking of the interventions is necessary for the model. The two interventions would improve the support and acceptance of the critical community members.

The component of the MAPP model that they did not discuss is community collaborations. The public health system's collaboration with the community helps identify the factors and behaviors related to health concerns. The community will be willing to provide information that solves the issue. The community leaders would support the interventions encouraging full participation of the community. Tracking the interventions for the MAP-IT model was also missed, which would help the community

leaders find if the measures taken are assisting the community to recover, thus having support from community leaders (Schiffer decker et al., 2016).

### **Ecological Model**

Attitude, beliefs, and culture form determinants of health. According to the ecological model, a person's negative attitude reinforces mental stress since a person feels less worth anticipating social rejection, which leads to depression and anxiety. Also, beliefs in terms of religion and other aspects contribute to depression and anxiety. Studies indicate that those devoted to a particular religion tend to record fewer symptoms of depression and anxiety as they can cope with stress (NewsAsia et al., 2019, p.389). Differences in culture impact depression, with those from oppressed cultures or cultures that discriminate against them recording increased anxiety and depression.

Lower social-economic status is associated with higher risks of depression and anxiety than those with a higher social and economic status. Also, a person's environment determines depression and anxiety, with those in a busy working environment with harassment recording higher depression levels. Also, environments with noise pollution, air pollution, inadequate housing, and weather conditions increase stress, contributing to increased depression (Beater et al., 2015).

Poor access to health care has contributed significantly to increased anxiety and depression. Beater et al. (2015) discuss that access to mental health services in the area reduces the risks of chronic stress that results in anxiety and depression. As a determinant of depression and anxiety, healthcare services save lives and give people hope. Patients

with depression and anxiety have been assumed with limited health facilities for support, increasing their mortality rates (Beater et al., 2015).

### **System Model**

System theory provides interrelated prevention and treatment measures for depression and anxiety. The concept behind a system theory explains that a system shows observable behaviors that strategies may influence where something else observes and influences the system's reaction, called the system's environment (Nursing Theory, 2016). The factors contributing to depression and anxiety from the system, with preventive and treatment measures influencing the system's reaction. Stressful life events such as divorce, illness, bereavement, and redundancy are the significant causes of depression. However, according to System theory, primary preventive measures include reducing episodes of depression. In contrast, secondary prevention measures include the reduction of the progression of mental disorders through early identification, screening, and brief treatment. The tertiary measures focus on minimizing the impact of illness and improving functioning (Nursing Theory, 2016).

### **Domestic Violence: Definitions and Concepts**

Domestic violence is the physical abuse perpetrated against people in a domestic or familial setup by family members. It can take the form of a spouse hitting the other spouse in a marriage, partners hitting each other, or one being attacked by the other when in a live-in relationship, and it can happen when parents start hitting their children. The beatings take on a seriously harsh or cruel nature (Goodman et al., 2018). Domestic violence is illegal in the strictest sense of the term, and it should not be allowed to persist

in any or every part of the USA (Goodman et al., 2018). Many civil society organizations, including human rights organizations and not-for-profit organizations. These organizations have been agitating for the end of domestic violence, that is, for there to be strict laws and policies to keep domestic violence from occurring once and for all. However, while there is legislation in place to take punitive action against those responsible for domestic violence, this is still a common occurrence in the different states of the United States, and Kansas is no exception (Jetelina et al., 2021). Domestic violence has come to be one of the greatest ills that are in the United States today. Civil rights activists and legal practitioners have been agitating to make this crime appear more severe and harsh than it does in an American court of law (Ashraf et al., 2017).

The nature and the extent to which domestic violence takes place in America can be better understood when analyzing the causes of domestic violence. One of the most important causes of domestic violence, and how it takes place in the USA, is the prevalence of unemployment (McPhedran et al., 2017). Quite often, people are unemployed, do not have a regular source of income, and are deprived of the ability to take care of their family members. They end up venting their frustration and anger by hitting people close to them, or rather, who are in the same physical space. The husbands beat their wives and their children in several parts of the United States because they have been laid off from their jobs or forced to retire early (McPhedran et al., 2017).

Domestic violence is one of the gravest problems that society in the United States today, and the issue of unemployment is something that serves as a trigger for such a form of violence to take place. Domestic violence is a pertinent issue in US society also

because of how easy it is triggered or caused by alcoholism. Studies have proved that alcoholics often beat up their family members, be it their partners or their children, in a fit of rage and a drunken state (Rowe et al., 2021). There are many victims of domestic violence in the USA whose partners or parents have unleashed much violence on them because they are alcoholics and have no control over their drinking (Zeoli et al., 2019).

There are many civil society activities, practitioners, and researchers in the United States. They believe that if alcoholism in the United States ended once and for all and, with it, drug abuse as well, then the issue of domestic violence is also something that could be addressed quite effectively in the different parts of America (Rowe et al., 2021). Research findings show that domestic violence in the United States is more common in cities or urban spaces than in rural areas. Furthermore, women and their dependents, especially their children, are the greatest victims of domestic violence here (Sharma & Borah, 2020).

Children especially become unwilling victims of domestic violence when their father or mother decides to be physically abusive in their behavior on account of the daily problems they face, be it the issue of unemployment, the problem of alcoholism, or both (Ashraf et al., 2017). Often it is seen that those who suffer from unemployment in America take to increased drug use and the increased consumption of alcohol and which leads them to be violent later, either with their partners or with their children. In certain instances, partners beat up their better halves in front of their children, which has a traumatic effect on them (Buzawa & Buzawa, 2017). The repercussions of domestic violence are, therefore, intense, and this is one of the main reasons why the issue of



domestic violence has become recognized as one of the biggest social problems that the country of America faces today (Ashraf et al., 2017).

### **Relevance to Public Organizations**

The organization of this study is currently a short-term shelter for women who have been unfortunate victims of domestic violence in the greater Kansas City metro area. Research conducted by an independent professional stated that well-treated individuals in shelters achieve the point of self-assertion by going through the phases of assessment, analysis, and action (Gordon, 2016). Adequate shelters help individuals in finding their identity and establishing their objectives. They provide the needed resources, empower them, and improve their quality of life. The interpersonal support given to the victims positively impacts their personality development (Gordon, 2016).

The resource has shown that the women who had come to these shelters for recovery remained more successful in forgetting the unfortunate experiences of domestic violence than those who could not have the same chance. Successful programs provide proper guidance to individuals seeking recovery (Wood, 2018). These programs target the conscience of the individuals and build a sense of integrity in them (Hackett, McWhirter, & Lesher, 2016). The individuals are motivated to contribute to the community where they live and interact. The collective efforts of the shelter staff have helped eradicate the feeling of loneliness, helplessness, and isolation.

### **Organization Background and Context**

The organization opened to create a safer environment within the Kansas City metro area for everyone and to ensure those affected by domestic violence find freedom from the abuse and somewhere safe to seek refuge. The organization pledges to provide

shelter, safety, support, education, and other services to empower those individuals who have been affected by domestic violence. They want to bring about social change in the community, ensuring that all people have the freedom of choice and live secure life. The organization's vision is to make the Kansas City area free of domestic violence. The organization gives hope and confidence to the survivors of domestic violence so that they can utilize facilities and get benefits offered in their recovery programs. People impacted by domestic violence are encouraged to come to their place and avail of their services (Krahé, 2018).

The organization strives to make them believe they are worthy community members and that the victims of domestic violence have chosen the right place to stay for recovery. The shelter ensures that the victims of domestic violence have individual support and specialized treatment to become productive members of the community. The organization started operations in the early eighties and provided shelter facilities to a limited number of women and children. The shelter has A 24-hour hotline for the victims of domestic violence. The hotline calls were received and answered without a miss. The organization expanded its shelter over time to accommodate more women and children. The shelter facilities provide the residents with the necessary resources and activities. The organization started to advocate for victims in court in the late eighties (Krahé, 2018). Court advocacy was incorporated into the portfolio of the organization's programs to bring justice to victims, as most of the victims were not in a position to hire court advocates.

The organization planned to build a new independent facility in the late nineties. The shelter raised funds to meet the goal and build a new campus comprising more than eight acres. The organization also expanded its outreach services by opening additional community facilities. Support groups give members various types of help, empower them, and create a sense of community. Later, the shelter hired a full-time attorney and had a civil legal program to represent the organization (Krahé, 2018). The victims could benefit from the accomplished services of the organization to pursue the case in court. The new facilities offered more beds for the shelter residents and expedited emergency calls. People showed increased trust in the organization and considered it a preferred option in an emergency.

During the first decade of the twenty-first century, the organization sought further expansion of its services. Families are paid for by programs to organize the residents' visits. The meetings were arranged in a way to ensure the safety of the residents. The shelter monitored the exchanges made between the visitors and residents. The organization made great efforts to provide healthcare facilities for the refugees. Healthcare was accomplished by collaborating with other local facilities for domestic violence and enabling the residents to acquire services from well-reputed hospitals in the community. Other programs enabled the police officers to assess the seriousness of injuries and associated risks in a particular case. The organization continued the expansion of its shelter services and provided the residents with access to the hospital, sewing hall, and salon (Krahé, 2018).

The organization is well-structured and displays a hierarchy of its employees. There are chief executive officers, chief operating officers, chief financial officers, chief development officers, and chief quality officers in the company who supervise their respective functions. The team of workers is efficient, result-oriented, and cooperative. They consist of a group of individuals equipped with varied, valuable skills to benefit the victims of domestic violence. Female representatives were appointed to answer the calls made by female victims. The outside stakeholders of the organization are community volunteers, consultants, law associates, donors, and relatives of the shelter residents. The young staff members of the organization have oriented themselves to expand support and services by initiating new projects and building productive relationships within the surrounding community (Krahé, 2018).

The female victims of domestic violence need protection and shelter for stability in their life. Their needs range from physical aid to psychological treatment to adequate housing facilities. Several shelter programs have started in the Kansas City metro area, which support the homeless people seen on the city streets or congregating near the city shelters. Women affected by domestic violence are in these shelters. However, the need for long-term shelter for female victims of domestic violence is still unfulfilled (Krahé, 2018). Long-term shelters help the victims recover from adversities inflicted on them by domestic violence. There exist no long-term shelters in the city to offer the victims sufficient resources to develop skills for rehabilitation.

Domestic violence shelters in Kansas City are Domestic Abuse Triage. These organizations' common purpose is to reduce domestic violence incidents so that people

can live without fear of abuse. They have developed programs to achieve their objectives. Some of these organizations have been working for more than half a century. However, the common lapse in their strategy is that all work is for providing short-term support and shelter to women. They offer emergency shelters for immediate relief. Their contribution to the community is excellent but not sufficient. The outcomes of their efforts are valuable but not long-lasting.

### **Role of the Researcher**

I am pursuing a Doctoral degree from Walden University. I worked with a nonprofit organization to conduct a needs assessment for transforming from a short-term to a long-term shelter for women with domestic violence experiences. I worked for months with the selected organization to collect the necessary data. I have studied numerous articles on domestic violence impacts during my education career, especially those related to women.

I used a qualitative research approach to gather non-numerical data regarding long-term shelter for women experiencing domestic violence. The content analysis technique examined previous studies to ensure a better understanding of the topic at hand. The thematic method of analysis made it convenient for me to report and evaluate all the information gained from different data collection methods. I find an attachment to the issue and feel impassioned for proposing a solution.

### **Summary**

The selected organization for conducting research has its main shelter facility in Kansas City, MO. It provides short-term shelter to survivors, along with needed support, education, counseling, advocacy, and resources for helping them rehabilitate. The context of the issue has been described that reveals the sufferings of women who experience domestic violence. The needs of survivors have been brought to light. These victims need a long-term stay in shelter homes provided to them. They need proper treatment, enough resources, and sufficient moral support to recover and rehabilitate. The next section will discuss the data collection process and analysis.

### Section 3: Data Collection Process and Analysis

#### **Introduction**

Domestic violence continues to be a significant problem in the United States and worldwide. Long-term shelter programs would be necessary to help the victims of domestic violence. The need assessment is to determine whether the organization's short-term domestic shelter program should transform from a short-term shelter program to a long-term shelter program that could provide full support to the victims of domestic violence over a more extended period. The needs assessment is to gather information about the short-term shelter organization in Kansas City, MO, to help determine whether the institution is suited to be a long-term shelter program

The essential purpose of this research study is to find out how a short-term shelter home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO, can be transformed into a long-term rehabilitation center. While good literature exists on the causes of domestic violence, solutions to the same, and the role that civil society can play in combating domestic violence. More research can be done, like the role that shelter homes play in providing protection and rehabilitation to victims of domestic violence on a long-term basis. This current study has discussed the gap in the literature review regarding Kansas City, MO.

#### **Practice-Focused Questions**

The primary means of data collection for this study are interviews and discussions. One of the ways to form such research and engagement is by two specific questionnaires. There is a separate questionnaire based on practice-focused questions

designed for the interviews and a separate questionnaire designed for discussions. The interview questionnaire and discussion questionnaire were developed by referring to several scholarly papers on developing research instrumentation. The information from the questionnaires was sufficient for deriving information that would help answer the critical research questions.

### **Sources of Evidence**

The short-term shelter program in Kansas City is the scope of the study. The facility ensures that every woman and child affected by domestic violence finds freedom and refuge and helps them recover from domestic violence by providing treatment. The facility breaks the domestic violence cycle by providing supportive and safe refuge educating and empowering those affected by domestic violence advocating for the particular changes that eradicate domestic violence. The shelter helps the survivors of domestic violence in Kansas City who feel unworthy and scared by providing safety (Hsu & Henke, 2021).

The collection of data for the current study is one that was performed by conducting qualitative and primary research and by conducting a certain amount of secondary research as well. Regarding the qualitative methods used to perform this study, interviews and discussions were used to understand the subject of the study. The interviews I conducted were with a specific participant population. In contrast, discussions conducted were with yet another participant population, with both sets of participant populations conceived separately for this study. I chose interviews as a



method for data collection because of the volume of data I could gather using such research methods.

Conducting research using interviews did help me to gain a holistic understanding of the subject matter of the investigation. At the same time, discussions made it possible for me to do the same from a different perspective. There is plenty of information that I was able to obtain through the use of both techniques. A considerable amount of secondary research was undertaken for this study as well, with books, and journal articles, to get a proper understanding of the subject matter of the study. I took much care during the selection of secondary resources. I used popular online databases such as Google Scholar and Science Direct to extract sources relevant to the research subject matter. They could provide a thorough overview of the research problem or the investigated research situation.

### **Sample Size and Sampling Procedure**

The target population for the study was managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government informants, and beneficiaries of the shelter services. Determination of the sample size was necessary to obtain the number of participants to participate in the study. The study employed Fisher's formula to calculate the sample size due to its high confidence interval, reduced random error and high accuracy.

$$N = \frac{(Z)^2 \times P(1-P)}{(d)^2}$$

Where N is the actual sample size, Z represents 95% confidence interval,

d is the 5% random error, with p representing the population percentage yielding the largest sample size. Therefore, when *p* is 95%, the sample size was:

$$N = \frac{(1.96)^2 \times 0.95(1-0.95)}{(0.05)^2}$$

$$N = 72.9904$$

N=73 respondents

Because the study population is diversified, I used convenience sampling to select the participants who were available during the study I chose to participate. Besides, the sampling technique is elective, subjective, and judgmental since it relies duly on the researcher's decision in selecting the subjects to participate in the research (Etikan, Musa. & Alkassim, 2016). The method was relevant since it was impossible to determine which participants were available during the data collection (Köbler et al., 2010). However, only those participants who could consent and were available for the study were involved in the study. I conducted random sampling.

**Table 1***Search Methodology*

Search	Search Terms	Databases used	Other Search Terms	Number of sources Found
1	Short- Term Shelter programs	EMBASE, ProQuest,	Domestic violence	100
2	Long-Term Shelter	ASSIA, PubMed Central,	Domestic violence victims	50
3	Administrative Steps	Sociological Abstracts, Cochrane	Long term domestic violence shelter programs	20
4	Women's Long Term Domestic Violence Shelter	Library, Jstor, Google scholar, PubMed, Google blogs, SocINDEX w/Full Text, Social Services Abstracts, and Social Sciences Citation Index.	Short- Term Shelter, Kansas City	160

**Qualitative Data**

Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data from text, videos, and audio to understand the opinions and concepts elaborated in the study. The method is suitable for generating new ideas and gathering in-depth insights into a problem (Silverman, 2020). For the research purposes, search electronic databases to examine the current performance, improvement, and services that the short-term shelter program provides to the residents of Kansas City that could encourage their transformation into a long-term shelter program.

I collected data from secondary sources. The data selection included titles and abstracts to identify the source articles that complied with inclusion criteria. The

extracted data from the sources are on study characteristics, short-term shelter characteristics, interventions and controls, outcomes, and conflicts of interest. Therefore, the article's content analysis utilized a qualitative research method. However, the study designs determine the relationship between the variables, answering the research questions.

### **Protections**

I followed ethical research practices during the process of collecting data and analysis. Before beginning my research, I acquired Walden University Institution Review Board (IRB) approval. During my research study, it is necessary to ensure that all ethical standards were fully complied with to enhance the credibility and reliability of the study. It is one of the most critical aspects of the research study, as it ensures that participants are not subject to any harm during the research study. My responsibility was to ensure that the dignity of the research participants did not become compromised during the entire process. To maintain the integrity of this research study, I did obtain a complete consent form prior to the study from the participants.

### **Analysis and Synthesis**

Both reliability and validity are matters that I considered in the research process. As such, these are techniques that I used to ensure that the study conducted is of quality and that there are no loopholes associated with the investigation's subject matter (Lenger, 2019). In qualitative research, performed validity by ensuring that the respondent population is of a substantive size and by ensuring that most of the answers provided by most of the members of the research population are consistent. First, it addressed

reliability and validity by ensuring that the instrument used for the research was authentic and accurate (Lenger, 2019). As such, all the questions incorporated in the interview questionnaire and the questionnaire used for conducting discussions are questions based on the subject of the study. I used questionnaires to ensure that the answers provided by the study participants were valid. Also, relevant to the topic of the study instead of deviating from the same in any given way.

Thematic methods, Excel, and SPSS software analyzed the collected data. I used thematic methods to analyze secondary sources and interviews. The data was organized based on critically analyzed themes, presenting the results. The themes included the short-term shelter program, shelter services, effectiveness of short-term shelter program in providing shelter, domestic violence, and administrative steps. Further divided were the themes into sub-themes or labels. To determine the relationship between the research questions and the study problems, I used Microsoft Excel to determine regression analysis to conclude the research hypothesis.

**Table 2***Thematic Methods*

Themes	Labels	Source
Short-Term Shelter Program	Knowledge and understanding of short-term shelter program.	Interview
	What the respondents do for a living	Interview
	Benefits of a long-term shelter programs	Interview, secondary sources
	Success of short-term shelter in addressing domestic violence cases	Interview, secondary sources
	Failures of short-term shelter in addressing domestic violence cases	Interview, secondary sources
	Beneficiary from short-term shelter and their experiences.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Availability of services and facilities and transformation to a long-term shelter program.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Shelter services	Examples of available shelter services at short-term shelter.
Ways in which short-term shelter provides shelter service to domestic violence victims.		Interview, secondary sources.
Opinions on the shelter services, and ways of giving them in relation to a long-term shelter program.		Interview, secondary sources.

**Table 3 Continued**

Effectiveness of short-term shelter in providing shelter	How effective is short-term shelter program in providing shelter to victims of domestic violence.	Interview, secondary sources.
	How effective is short-term shelter program in providing protection to victims of domestic violence.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Does the effectiveness of short-term shelter in providing shelter and portion be sufficient for long term shelter program?	Interview, secondary sources.
Domestic violence	Contribution of the broader community to increased domestic violence in Kansa City.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Victims of domestic violence seeking help.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Causes of domestic violence.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Reoccurrence of domestic violence after discharge from short-term shelter and how a long-term facility addresses the issue.	Interview, secondary sources.
Administrative steps	Challenges short-term shelter faces in addressing domestic violence cases.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Ways short-term shelter need to implement to address the challenges.	Interview, secondary sources.
	Nature of short-term shelter administration and what steps need to be done to transform to a long-term shelter.	Interview, secondary sources.

## **Summary**

This section has outlined the various qualitative approaches that I deployed to partake in a study on how a shelter home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, Mo, can be transformed into a long-term center of rehabilitation for victims of domestic violence. Qualitative research methods were more effective in the study, helping me to collect enough data and present the procedure of the thematic method that I used for analysis and synthesis. The following section will discuss the evaluation and recommendations.



## Section 4: Evaluation and Recommendations

### **Introduction**

The purpose of this research was to assess how a short-term shelter, a home for victims of domestic violence in Kansas City, MO, can turn into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. Providing them with the help, care, and assistance they need to emerge as an essential shelter base for such victims, now and in the future. The research questions that guided this study:

Research Question 1 (RQ1): What are the ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter at short-term facilities?

Research Question 2 (RQ2): How effective is a short-term shelter in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence?

Research Question 3 (RQ3): What administrative steps must be taken by the short-term shelter to become a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence?

This chapter presents data analysis, results, and interpretation. This analysis logically used texts, graphs, percentages, numbers, and tables. The specific research question assessed how victims of domestic violence are provided shelter at the short-term shelter and their effectiveness in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence. I then successfully analyzed the administrative steps the short-term shelter should implement to become a long-term shelter for domestic violence victims. The study assessed the participants' opinions, attitudes, awareness, and knowledge, including managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government officials, and beneficiaries of short-term shelter services, proving the

results and interpretation of the study. Sixty-eight online survey questionnaires were emailed and returned. I randomly identified other participants based on the inclusion criteria ensuring that the response rate met the minimum sample size of 73 participants. The in-depth interviews and discussions of 15 participants, such as managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government officials, and beneficiaries of short-term shelter services, were recorded and analyzed through the thematic method. The results of the study are represented and interpreted in this section.

## Findings and Implications

**Table 3**

*Demographic Information*

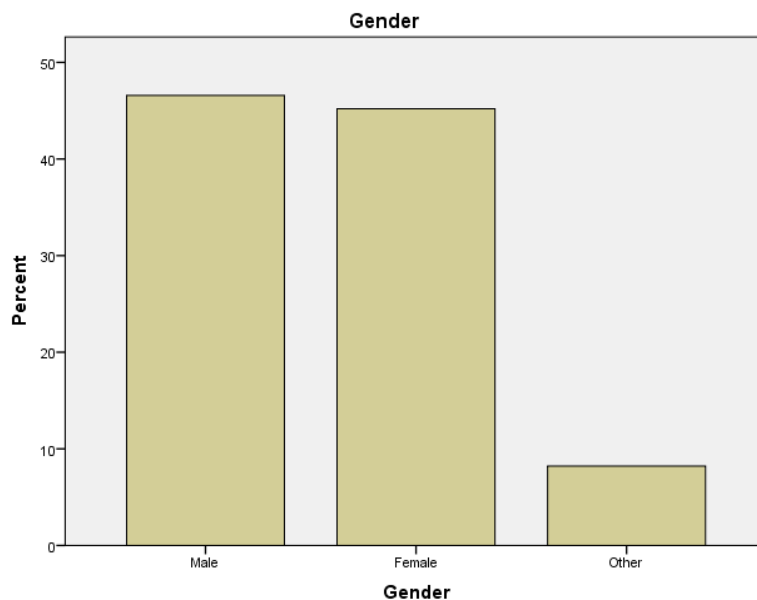
<b>Gender</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Male	34	46.6	46.6	46.6
	Female	33	45.2	45.2	91.8
	Other	6	8.2	8.2	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	
<b>Age</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	18-30	14	19.2	19.2	19.2
	31-40	26	35.6	35.6	54.8
	41-50	19	26.0	26.0	80.8
	Above 50	14	19.2	19.2	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	
<b>Level of Education</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Uneducated	6	8.2	8.2	8.2
	Primary	19	26.0	26.0	34.2
	Secondary	16	21.9	21.9	56.2
	Tertiary	32	43.8	43.8	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	
<b>Source of Income</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Business	13	17.8	17.8	17.8
	Farming	23	31.5	31.5	49.3
	Employment	30	41.1	41.1	90.4
	Other	7	9.6	9.6	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	

**Table 3 Continued**

	<b>Working with the shelter</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Less than 5 years	13	17.8	17.8	17.8
	6-10 years	26	35.6	35.6	53.4
	10-15 years	19	26.0	26.0	79.5
	above 15 years	10	13.7	13.7	93.2
	Never worked	5	6.8	6.8	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	

### **Discussion of the Results**

Seventy-three participants in the online survey were managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government officials, and beneficiaries of participating in short-term shelter services. However, the demographic information assessed the participants' gender, age, level of education, source of income, and if they had worked with short-term shelters. I assessed their knowledge of how victims of domestic violence stay at a short-term shelter. The effectiveness of short-term shelters in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence and the administrative steps that the short-term shelter should take to become a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. Out of 100% (n=73), 46.6% (n=34) were male and 45.2% (n=33) were female while 8.2% (n=6) described themselves as other. Men and women represented well according to the online survey results. The increased men's participation was attributed to the most administrative position in various departments since the study selected the participants.

**Figure 1***Gender*

The inclusion criteria only allowed those 18 years and above to participate.

However, out of 100% (n=73), 35.6% (n=26) was the highest, representing participants aged 31 to 40. Therefore, from this perspective, I conclude that most participants were above thirty years. The second-largest age bracket was 41 to 50 years, representing 26% (n=19), followed by those above 50 and 18 to -30 years, representing 19.2% (n=14).

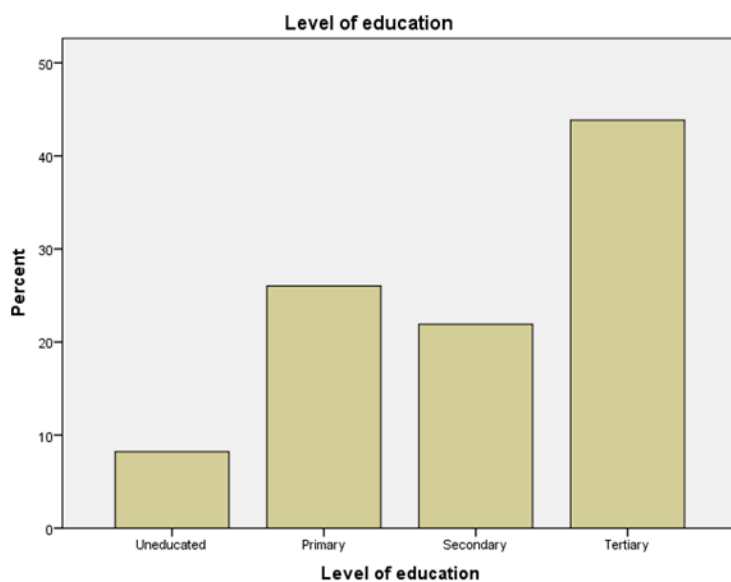
Therefore, most of the participants had experience with domestic violence and knew the short-term shelter's operations.

The level of education was also vital to understanding the validity of the information. However, most participants were educated from the study, as 43.8% (n=32) represented the tertiary level of study. The group represented managers, supervisors, and employees, among others. The second group, 26% (n=19), represented the primary level, mainly the beneficiaries of the short-term shelter and casual workers who understood the

facility well. Secondary school represented 21.9% (n=16), with uneducated accounting only for 8.2% (n=6). Therefore, the participants for the online survey had different education levels, with the tertiary population leading.

**Figure 2**

*Level of Education*



The source of income indicates that 41.1% (n=30) were employed, 31.5% (n=23) farming and 17.8% (n=13) business with only 9.6% (n=7) specifying others. Therefore, a large group of participants made up of the employment class that was the key government official, supervisors, managers, and employees. Some of the beneficiaries were farmers and businesses selected to participate in the study. Information on how well they have known and worked with the short-term shelter indicates that the majority worked with the short-term shelter between 6 to 10 years, representing 15.6% (n=26), with 26% (n=19) indicating that they have worked with the short-term shelter for ten to 15 years. Above 15 years, they represented 13.7% (n=10), and those less than 5 years were 13 representing

17.8%. Only five individuals had never worked with the short-term shelter, but some responded that they knew the short-term shelter well and its services in the interview. Therefore, the participants understood the short-term shelter and provided the best information about the shelter they knew, making the need assessment successful.

## Thematic Analysis

**Table 4**

*Thematic Analysis Results*

Themes	Labels	Source	Results and few transcripts from interview.
The Participating short-term shelter program	Knowledge and understanding of short-term shelter program.	Interview	All 15 participants explained that they know the shelter as a refuge center for domestic violence victims.
	What the respondents do for a living	Interview	Averagely 15 people participated in interviews. Two were managers, two supervisors, three employees, two women's rights representatives, one public health officer, two key government officials, and three beneficiaries of the shelter services. Apart from the beneficiaries, the rest indicated that they earn their living from employment. Two beneficiaries said they get help from the charity, and one runs a small business.
	Benefits of a long-term shelter programs	Interview, secondary sources	Ten participants thought that the long-term would be beneficial to the community. They explained that a long-term shelter program provides content help and support.



**Table 4 Continued**

Success of the shelter in addressing domestic violence cases	Interview, secondary sources	The major success of the shelter is its ability to break the cycle of domestic violence in Kansas city by providing supportive services and safe refuge, empowering the victims of domestic violence. It has also advocated for social change, which engenders and proacts a person's right to live a life without abuse.
Failures of the shelter in addressing domestic violence cases	Interview, secondary sources	Some participants pointed out failures of the shelter
Beneficiary from the shelter and the experiences.	Interview, secondary sources.	Three respondents were beneficiaries of the shelter, while the rest understood and knew people who benefited from the shelter. Most of them explained that the experience was good, but four participants explained that they were not pleased with the services at the shelter.
Availability of services and facilities and transformation to a long-term shelter program.	Interview, secondary sources.	All the participants agreed that the shelter readily provides shelter services for victims of domestic violence ranging from physical, emotional, sexual, and social. It has well-established facilities necessary to transform into a long-term shelter program

**Table 4 Continued**

Shelter services	Examples of available shelter services	Interview, secondary sources.	The shelter provides emergency shelter, Social Services, Crisis Intervention, legal advocacy, medical services, Counseling, Support Groups, and Child Counseling.
	Ways in which the shelter provides shelter service to domestic violence victims	Interview, secondary sources.	One participant in an interview said, “the shelter healed me; I came here brutally bitten and had psychological stress which they helped me recover and understand myself.”
	Opinions on the shelter services, and ways of giving them in relation to a long-term shelter program.	Interview, secondary sources.	The participants said that the shelter provides the bests counseling to women, men, and children, community-based advocacy and safe plan for domestic violence victims, supervised visitation services, housing stability, and civilian advocacy.

**Table 4 Continued**

Effectiveness of the shelter in providing shelter	How effective is the shelter program in providing shelter to victims of domestic violence?	Interview, secondary sources.	The results show that all the participants explained that the shelter provides emergency shelter services to the victims of domestic violence.
	How effective is the shelter program in providing protection to victims of domestic violence?	Interview, secondary sources.	The results show that the shelter has protected the victims of domestic violence through advocacy and the provision of health services required.
	Does the effectiveness of the shelter in providing shelter and portion be sufficient for long term shelter program?	Interview, secondary sources.	They agreed that the shelter is well suited to be a long-term domestic violence program due to its stability and consistency in providing help.

**Table 4 Continued**

Domestic violence	Contribution of the broader community to increased domestic violence in Kansa city.	Interview, secondary sources.	Gender discrimination, racial discrimination, poverty, and inequality were significant societal contributions to domestic violence. Abraham (2005) explains that immigration is a major cause of domestic violence.
	Victims of domestic violence seeking help.	Interview, secondary sources.	Men, women, and children all faced domestic violence. However, women and children reported higher cases of domestic violence. However, very few victims seek refuge from the shelter due to fear of the long-term solution.
	Causes of domestic violence.	Interview, secondary sources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of nonviolent social problem-solving skills.</li> <li>• Low education and income.</li> <li>• Low self-esteem.</li> <li>• Aggressive or delinquent behavior as a youth.</li> <li>• Depression and suicide attempts.</li> <li>• Heavy alcohol and drug use.</li> <li>• Anger and hostility.</li> </ul>
	Reoccurrence of domestic violence after discharge from the shelter and how a long-term facility.	Interview, secondary sources.	Most of the cases reoccur due to a lack of a long-term solution. However, this who live in their homes reports low reoccurrences. A long-term shelter program would help them seek long-term help to avoid reoccurrences.

**Table 4 Continued**

Administrative steps	Challenges the shelter faces in addressing domestic violence cases.	Interview, secondary sources.	The results indicated that the shelter faces housing problems due to the increased number of victims of domestic violence. They also resorted lack of rigorous and regionally diverse shelter evaluations, lack of long-term support, inadequate budget support, limitations on available services, narrow scope of shelter services, limited availability, and coverage of safe shelter spaces.
	Ways the shelter need to implement to address the challenges.	Interview, secondary sources.	The results indicate that the following intervention would work for the shelter. A crisis hotline; transitional housing; emergency shelter; permanent housing; addictions counseling; individual, group, and family therapy; children's services; court, outreach, and hospital advocacy; supervised visitation and monitored custody exchanges; and civil legal counsel.
	Nature of the shelter administration and what steps need to be done to transform to a long-term shelter.	Interview, secondary sources.	Reinforce lawsuits against those committing domestic violence, good planning and organization, proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources. Crisis intervention, safety planning, counseling, enhanced women and health services, domestic violence education, and legal advocacy would help recover the domestic violence victims at the shelter.

## **Discussion of the Results**

The results from the interview session and secondary sources indicate that the short-term shelter can transform into a long-term shelter program. The three objectives of the needs assessment are how victims of domestic violence are given refuge at the shelter, the effectiveness of the shelter in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence. The administrative steps need to be taken by the shelter to become a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. I divided the analysis into the following categories: The short-term shelter program, Shelter services, facilities at the shelter, domestic violence, administrative steps, and the shelter's effectiveness in providing shelter and protection.

### **Short- Term Shelter Program**

I asked the participants to describe how well they know and understand the shelter and their source of income. Some participants explained that they have been working as psychologists, supervisors, managers, and other employees at the shelter, which has significantly grown in the past years. They discussed that the shelter is readily available for the victims of domestic violence, caring for women and children. One of the participants said that "the shelter provides refuge and freedom to any woman and child at no cost. even those who need interpretation are provided with an interpreter at no cost." It shows that the shelter has successfully provided shelter services for the victim of domestic violence.

A content analysis of a non-profit overview suggests that the shelter has addressed the causes of homelessness, housing, family violence shelters, and domestic violence, as outlined in its mission and vision. Some participants explained that they witnessed the shelter establishments providing safety and hope for survivors of domestic violence. The interview transcripts quote, "Many people facing violence run to the shelter for assistance; they respond and address the issues. I like the shelter, and everyone in Kansas City does." Therefore, the participants understood the shelter's operations and progress, which is necessary to provide the needed answers for the Needs assessment.

From the interview participants, most of them, precisely twelve out of fifteen, earned their income from employment, two from help from good wishers, and one from running a small business. The increased number of employed participants was attributed to particular purpose sampling employed as I only wanted specific individuals who could provide relevant information on the study. Therefore, two were managers, two supervisors, three employees, two women's rights representatives, one public health officer, two key government officials, and three beneficiaries of the shelter services.

I assessed if the shelter's transformation would benefit the Kansas City community, where the findings indicated that it was necessary to have a long-term shelter program due to its increased benefits. The ten participants suggested that a long-term shelter would benefit the community; it shows that it has increased benefits and will significantly help the community. It is justified by CAWC (2021), discussing that long-term shelter protects survivors and their children from regaining their lives. They emphasize that if a person seeks refuge in a long-term shelter facility, they will have

access to help to regain their lives through long-term steps (CAWC, 2021). Besides, they emphasized that domestic violence never discriminates against the poor from the rich or any form of prejudice. They protect the survivors and their children. Other participants argued that a long-term shelter program provides consistent help and support. One of the participants said, "of course, long-term shelter programs are beneficial to our society. It empowers the survivors and prevents future violence." Studies have indicated that many people who sought help from long-term domestic shelter programs could succeed in their lives as children. Therefore, long-term shelter programs would benefit the Kansas City community. However, two said the shelter can still perform well during a short-term shelter program. One said, "there is no difference between long- and short-term shelter programs because the services are the same." The other said, "public health should add resources to shelters and run as a short - term as people may refuse to leave if converted to a long- term." The other three explained that they did not know the benefits. It is not a significant number. Therefore, it can deduce that a long-term shelter program would have many benefits compared to a short-term shelter program demanding the need to transform into a long-term shelter program for the benefit of society.

The results indicate that the shelter has successfully broken the cycle of domestic violence in Kansas City by providing supportive services and safe refuge, empowering the victims of domestic violence. It has also advocated for social change, which engenders and protects a person's right to live a life without abuse. Schumacher and Holt (2012) discuss that most of the established domestic violence centers have good management, which addresses most of the issues that residents face, including offering



rehabilitation facilities for addicts of drugs and substance abuse. Therefore, the shelter is putting necessary interventions to reduce domestic violence cases in Kansas City to enhance its success. From the interview discussions, the participants discuss that the shelter has managed to protect women constantly, and children from family and domestic abuse, providing them with hope and a better future. Therefore, the ability to allow these women and children to seek refuge from the facilities indicates its success in fulfilling its mission vision. The results indicated that some participants pointed out the failures of the shelter. Like one said, "those existing in the facility end up experiencing much heavier violence than before since they are left with no choice but to return to their homes." Another one said, "it is rare to find a shelter that will sue the perpetrators of Domestic violence. I have never seen one." These weaknesses indicate that the shelter needs to provide long-term shelter only to allow recovered victims to sustain themselves before leaving the facilities. Stylianos and Pich (2019) argue that most individuals facing housing instability seek refuge in domestic violence shelters. Still, since they do not stay for long, they are forced to leave the facilities and experience a homeless life, which most consider returning to their houses. Therefore, the short-term shelter needs to transform into a long-term facility to address these issues.

The results show that the participants benefited or knew people who benefitted from the program. Despite most of them claiming that the experience was good, four participants described the space as awful and never leased it. One of the beneficiaries of a short-term shelter is that it presented intimate partner violence related to PTSD (Johnson

& Zlotnick, 2009). She was comfortable with the services provided at a short-term shelter, including a plan incorporating cognitive-behavioral techniques, which assisted her in managing PTSD. However, she explains that she decided to return to her husband after six weeks since she could not find housing. Johnson and Zlotnick (2009) explain, "She left the shelter six weeks after completing the short-term shelter program. She had no success finding independent housing and decided to return to her husband." She denied further abuse after returning to her husband, which might not be accurate. Therefore, transformation to a long-term shelter program could help women and children who experience later problems like her. Johnson and Zlotnick (2009) found that the experience at the shelter is incredible. Most women get the assistance they need, including shelter, psychoeducation, helping them cope with current difficulties, and other treatments involving self-esteem and PTSD-associated anxiety symptoms.

### **Shelter Services**

The participating short-term shelter provides several services to victims of domestic violence, including emergency shelter, life skills training in goal setting, individual and group counseling, safety planning, and budgeting. Medical services for victims who face abuse, including mental and physical, are also provided. They also provide legal advocacy for domestic violence victims, including court orders and immigration. The shelter provides the victims with educational information, income, housing, and employment. Also, children who have witnessed domestic violence are provided with specialized services to help break the cycle of violence in families. The

program is to provide freedom and refuge to women and children affected by domestic violence.

Moreover, the participants in the survey results also indicated that the respondents knew how the shelter provided shelter to the victims of domestic violence. The table below shows the results.

**Table 5***Ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter*

Statement	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
To what extent do you agree that the shelter provides the best short-term domestic violence shelter to the residents?	10	13.7	10	13.7	10	13.7	24	32.9	19	26.0	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that the shelter provides emergency shelter services and counseling to women, men, and children of domestic violence?	11	15.1	6	8.2	9	12.3	20	27.4	27	37.0	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that the shelter provides the best community-based advocacy and safe plan for domestic violence victims?	11	15.1	16	21.9	13	17.8	19	26.0	14	19.2	73	100.0

**Table 5 Continued**

<b>To what extent do you agree that victims of domestic violence enjoy supervised visitation services, housing stability and civilian advocate from the shelter program?</b>	11	15.1	12	16.4	14	19.2	23	31.5	13	17.8	73	100.0
<b>To what extent do you agree on the effectiveness of the shelter on the ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter?</b>	8	11.0	10	13.7	11	15.1	23	31.5	21	28.8	73	100.0

### Discussion of the Results

Out of 100% (n=73), 32.9% (n=24) and 26.0% (n=19) agreed and strongly agreed that the shelter provides the best short-term domestic violence services to the residents. However, only 13.7% (n=10) strongly disagreed and indicated that they were neutral. About the interview and research, most victims of domestic violence are satisfied with the refuge provided by the shelter. One of the participants in the interview transcripts said, " the shelter healed me. I came here brutally bitten and had psychological stress, which they helped me recover and understand myself." Studies indicate that survivors of domestic violence often feel scared and unworthy, but the shelter has given them hope

and a way out of misery. A shelter is a place of safety for everyone who seeks assistance from domestic violence and creates an individual plan to provide the necessary help.

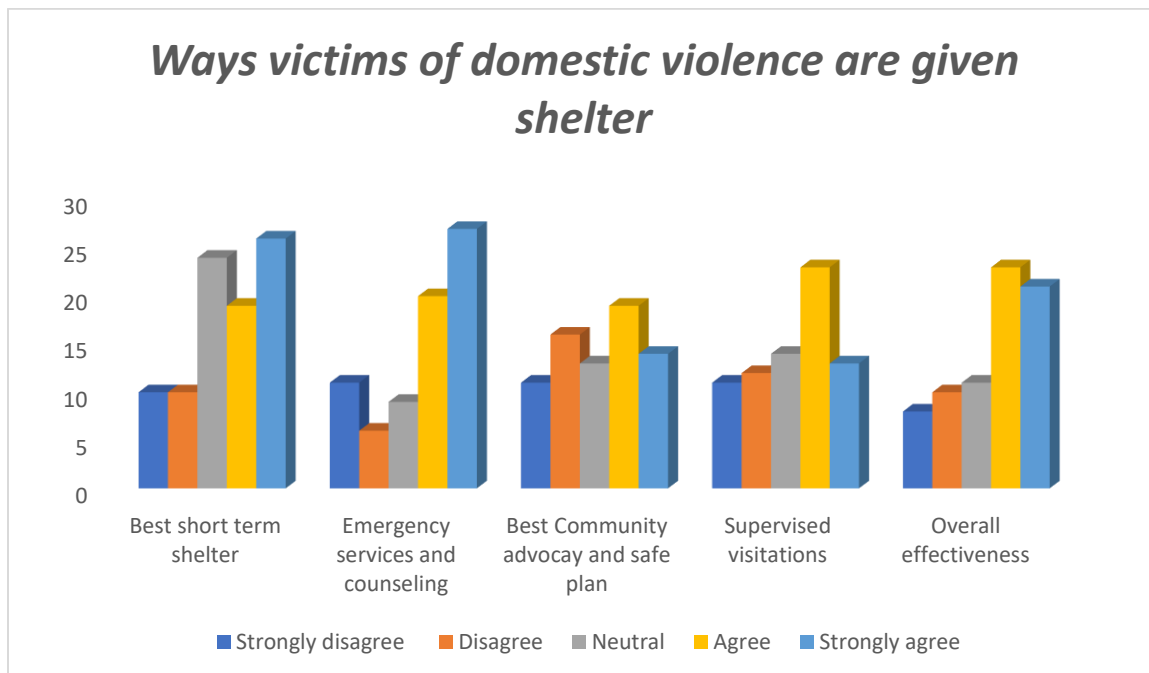
Also, the shelter provides emergency shelter services and counseling to women, men, and children of domestic violence. 37% (n=27) and 27.4% (n=20) strongly agreed that the shelter provides emergency shelter services and counseling to women and children of domestic violence. 12.3% (n=9) were neutral, 8.2% (n=6) disagreed, and 15.1% (n=11) strongly disagreed that the shelter provides emergency shelter services and counseling to women and children of domestic violence. Moreover, 26.0% (n=19) and 19.2% (n=14) agreed that the shelter provides the best community-based advocacy and safe plan for domestic violence victims. Although, a large group of 21.9% (n=16) and 15.1% (n=11) disagreed and strongly disagreed that the shelter provides the best community-based advocacy and safe plan for domestic violence victims. The interviews and secondary sources support the shelter in providing the best community-based advocacy and safe plan for domestic violence victims.

The interview participants explained that these services have been effective at the shelter reports also indicate that the shelter provides confidential and safe refuge to up to 122 adults daily. The shelter program helps the victims figure out what to do afterward, helping them recover from stress. Reports from the shelter also show that they provide therapy through individual counseling for all ages. Those with addiction issues have the option to get help through support groups for families, friends, and victims. The reports also indicated that the shelter provides outreach programs through working with local enforcement, hospitals, and therapists to provide safety for survivors of all ages.

Moreover, the survey results show that 31.5% (n=23) and 17.8% (n=13) agreed and strongly agreed that victims of domestic violence enjoy supervised visitation services, housing stability, and civilian advocacy from the shelter program. 19.2% (n=14), were neutral, 16.4% (n=12) disagreed while 15.1% (n=11) strongly disagreed. The results indicate that supervised visitation services, housing stability, and civilian advocacy are some of the services provided by the shelter. In a discussion, a participant said, "the shelter is reachable; if you need their services, you can call them through 911 or their helpline. They always help the victims of domestic violence without hesitating." It indicates that the shelter has made its services available to the victims of domestic violence at no cost. Shelters take in the victims of domestic violence through appointments or those who have just come (Kirst-Ashman & Hull, 2014). Once accommodated, they have 24-hour support, accompaniment, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, education, counseling, and support groups. Therefore, the shelter is highly effective in the ways it provides shelter to the victims of domestic violence, which qualifies it to be a long-term shelter program.

**Figure 3**

*Ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter*





**Table 6***Effectiveness of the shelter in providing shelter and protection*

Statement	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
To what extent do you agree that the shelter has readily provided services to victims of domestic violence during emergencies?	6	8.2	12	16.4	12	16.4	20	27.4	23	31.5	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that victims of domestic violence are fully satisfied with the shelter services in addressing domestic violence?	6	8.2	17	23.3	13	17.8	15	20.5	22	30.1	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that the shelter management is well established and provides all supported needed by the victims of domestic violence?	19	26.0	10	13.7	6	8.2	20	27.4	18	24.7	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that victims of domestic violence significantly benefited from the shelter during Covid – 19 pandemics?	7	9.6	8	11.0	11	15.1	25	34.2	22	30.1	73	100.0

**Table 6 Continued**

<b>To what extent do you agree that health care interventions provided by the shelter is appropriate for the cases victims of domestic violence presents?</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>To what extent do you agree that the shelter has been permanently solving issues of domestic violence reported by the victims?</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Overall effectiveness of the shelter in providing long term shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence?</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100</b>

## Discussion of the Results

From the survey, 31.5% (n=23) and 27.4% (n=20) strongly agreed and agreed that the shelter has readily provided shelter and protection services to victims of domestic violence during emergencies. 16.4% (n=12) indicated neutral and disagreed, with only 8.2% (n=6) strongly disagreeing, which was significant. Also, 30.1% (n=22) and 20.5% (n=15) strongly agreed and agreed that victims of domestic violence are fully satisfied with the shelter services in addressing domestic violence. 27.4% (n=20) and 24.7% (n=18) agreed and strongly agreed that the shelter management is well established and provides all support needed by the victims of domestic violence. 34.2% (n=25) and

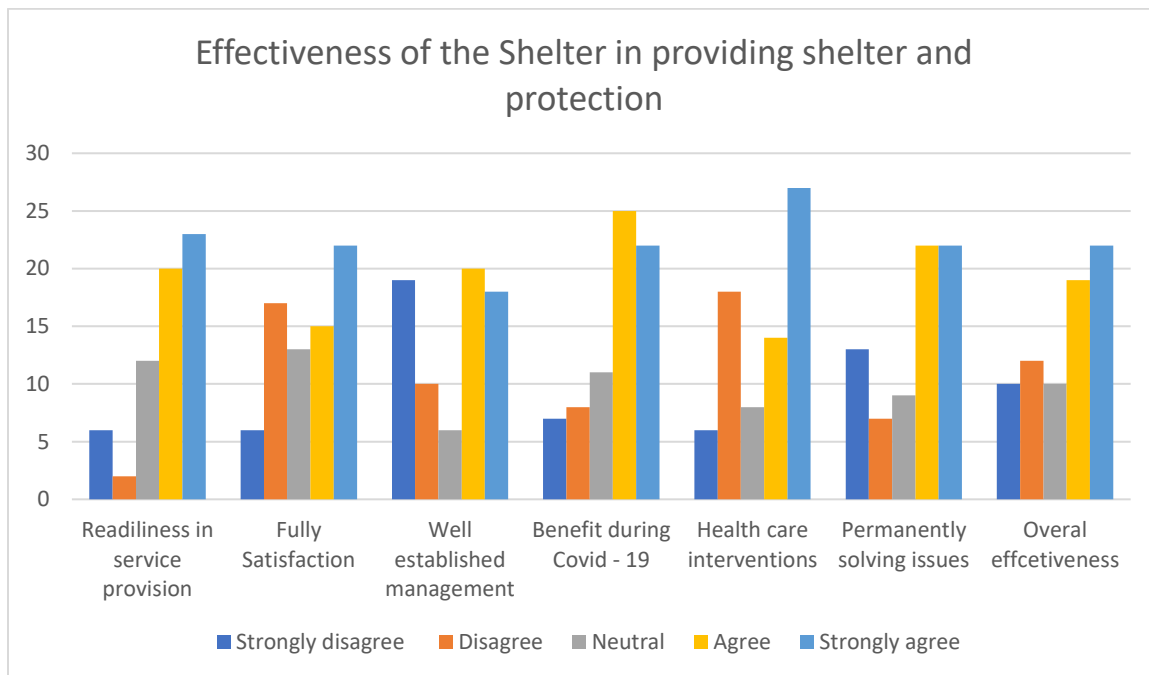
30.1% (n=22) agreed and strongly agreed that victims of domestic violence significantly benefited from the shelter during Covid – 19 pandemics. It indicates that the shelter succeeds in addressing domestic violence issues by providing shelter and protection to the victims of domestic violence. 37.0% (n=27), 19.2% (n=14), and 11.0% (n=8) indicated that they strongly agreed, agreed, and neutrally agreed that health care interventions provided by the shelter are appropriate for the cases victims of domestic violence present. Therefore, the shelter has successfully provided good health care services to the victims of domestic violence. 30.1% (=22) strongly agreed that the shelter had been permanently solving domestic violence issues reported by the victims, with 12.3% (n=9) nearly agreeing. Therefore, the shelter has served its best in solving the problems of domestic violence. The shelter's overall effectiveness in providing shelter and protection indicates a firm agreement of 30.6% (n=22) and 26.5% (n=19) having agreed. Generally, the shelter has successfully addressed domestic violence issues and is a long-term shelter program.

From the interview and secondary sources, the shelter provides emergency shelter services to the victims of domestic violence. For instance, a participant said, " the shelter provides shelter when you need it most, and as a beneficiary, I would say the shelter is excellent." From this perspective, it is ideal to argue that most victims are getting shelter from the shelter since they find it easier to access their services (Davidov et al., 2021). Moreover, its ability to help domestic violence victims get justice and medical attention and a way out of domestic violence make it a better place to protect the victims of domestic voice. Therefore, transformation to a long-term shelter program would benefit

the shelter. Studies indicate that the shelter provides support, safety, and hope for survivors of domestic violence in Kansas City. Besides, the shelter's physical facilities have expanded. Most survivors identify and demonstrate the need for the shelter services offered through crisis hotlines and counseling. According to the participating shelter in 2021, the shelter provided shelter to 480 dependents; 677 women and one adult with unspecified gender survivors benefited. Advocates provided a total of 5171 hotline calls. Therefore, the shelter offers the most efficient shelter and protection that puts it an upper hand in a long-term shelter program.

**Figure 4**

*Effectiveness of the Shelter in providing shelter and protection*



### **Domestic Violence**

The interview and review of secondary sources identified that immigration, gender discrimination, racial discrimination, poverty, and inequality are significant societal contributors to domestic violence. Abraham (2005) explains that immigration is a major cause of domestic violence.

Abraham (2005) identified immigration as one of the significant factors contributing to domestic violence in the United States. Maung et al. (2021) also argue that refugee women reported higher domestic violence cases.

Garay-Huamán and Irazábal-Zurita (2021) argue that racial discrimination and social classes contribute to domestic violence. For instance, Latinos and African Americans have rated increased incidences of domestic violence than other races.

Therefore, the broader community contributes to increased domestic violence cases in Kansas City

The interviewer asked the participants if all victims of domestic violence seek help from short-term shelters. However, the respondents said that very few women and children facing domestic violence seek refuge in short-term shelters. They examined that most victims decide to endure the suffering because they updated that a short-term shelter program is a short-term service, and they could have nowhere else to go after leaving their homes. The case study presented by Johnson and Zlotnick (2009) explains that she was frustrated with the shelter environment and thought profoundly about where to go afterward. Besides, victims leaving the facilities and returning to their homes suffer increased insecurity and related domestic violence, making them fear seeking help when needed. However, establishing the short-term shelter as a long-term program shall address the issue. The short-term shelter addresses domestic violence's identified causes: lack of nonviolent social problem-solving skills, low education and income, and low self-esteem. Shelters must address this issue to prevent future incidences (Kinanti, 2019). Young age, aggressive or delinquent behaviors as a youth, depression and suicide attempts, heavy alcohol and drug use, anger, and hostility also lead to domestic violence.

**Table 7****Administrative steps that need to be taken in order to become a long-term shelter**

Statement	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
To what extent do you agree that the shelter administrative strategies are fit to run a long-term domestic violence shelter program?	15	20.5	13	17.8	10	13.7	22	30.1	13	17.8	73
To what extent do you agree that engaging workers of the shelter domestic violence shelter would be appropriate for a long-term shelter program?	11	15.1	10	13.7	8	11.0	25	34.2	19	26.0	73
To what extent do you agree that reinforce lawsuits to those committing domestic violence would be appropriate administrative steps for the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program?	11	15.1	14	19.2	11	15.1	23	31.5	14	19.2	73

Table 7 Continued

To what extent do you agree that good planning and organization would enable the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program?	1 3	17.8	10	13.7	10	13.7	21	28.8	19	26.0	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources within the shelter would help in becoming a long-term shelter program?	8	11.0	16	21.9	14	19.2	23	31.5	12	16.4	73	100.0
To what extent do you agree that the overall administrative steps established will help the shelter become a long-term domestic violence shelter program?	9	12.3	12	16.4	10	13.7	22	30.1	20	27.4	73	100



## Discussion of Results

Out of 100% (n=73) in the survey, 30.1% (n=22) and 17.8 (n=13) agreed and strongly agreed that the organizational strategies of the shelter are fit to run a long-term domestic violence shelter program. However, 20.5% (n=15) strongly disagreed, although those who nearly agreed to agree strongly were significant, 34.2% (n=25) and 26.0% (n=19) agreed and strongly agreed that engaging the shelter domestic violence shelter workers would be appropriate for long-term shelter programs. 31.5% (n=23), 19.2% (n=14), and 15.1% (n=11) agreed, strongly agreed, and neutrally agreed that reinforcing lawsuits against those committing domestic violence would be appropriate administrative steps for the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program. Besides, 28.8% (n=21), 26.0% (n=19), and 13.7% (n=10) agreed, strongly agreed and neutrality agreed that good planning and organization would enable the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program. 31.5% (n=23), 16.4% (n=12), and 19.2% (n=14) agreed, strongly agreed, and neutrally agreed that proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources within the shelter would help in becoming a long-term shelter program.

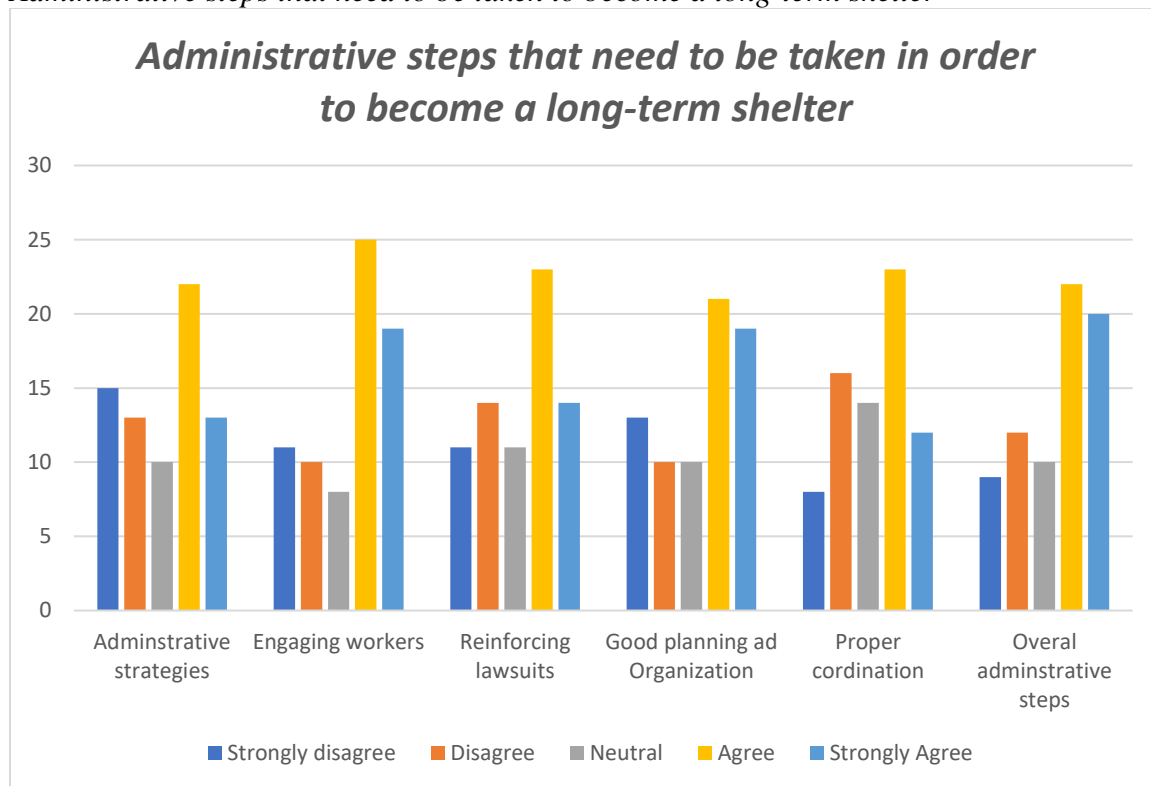
However, those who disagreed were small insignificant numbers showing that the suggested administrative steps would help the shelter become a successful long-term shelter program. The overall relevance of the administrative steps for the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program show an agreement of 30.1% (n=22) and a strong agreement of 27.4% (n=20). Those for a neutral agreement were ten representing 13.7%. 16.4% (n=12) disagreed and 12.3% (n=9) indicating a strong disagreement. In

summary, reinforcing lawsuits against those committing domestic violence, good planning, organization, proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources would be the best administrative steps the shelter should implement for a long-term shelter program.

Analysis of the interview transcripts and review of secondary sources shows that the shelter faces some challenges which they must address to establish a long-term shelter program successfully. The results indicated that the shelter faces housing problems due to the increased number of victims of domestic violence. They also resorted to a lack of rigorous and regionally diverse shelter evaluations, long-term support, inadequate budget support, limitations on available services, narrow scope of shelter services, limited liability, and coverage of the shelter spaces. Social norms and structures have been significant challenges that reduce women's accessibility to support services in Kansas City. Besides, women face more risks of violence through future retaliation from the abuser and even persecution which has been a challenge for the shelter. The challenges have resulted in the dissatisfaction of most domestic violence victims, which requires better administrative steps. There are several reviews and complaints about the shelter's management; it needs to address its issues. These are some excellent administrative steps involving reinforcing lawsuits against those committing domestic violence, good planning and organization, proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources. Moreover, the operation of crisis intervention, safety planning, counseling, enhanced women and child services, domestic violence education, and legal advocacy would help recover the domestic violence victims at the shelter.

**Figure 5**

*Administrative steps that need to be taken to become a long-term shelter*



**Table 8***Regression Analysis*

<i>Regression Statistics</i>								
Multiple R	0.15517							
R Square	0.024078							
Adjusted R Square	-0.01835							
Standard Error	1.399717							
Observations	73							
<i>ANOVA</i>								
	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>			
Regression	3	3.335254	1.111751	0.56745	0.638318			
Residual	69	135.1853	1.959207					
Total	72	138.5205						
	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	3.072507	0.712106	4.314679	5.22E-05	1.651895	4.493119	1.651895	4.493119
Ways victims of domestic violence are given shelter	0.33307	0.126394	0.26401	0.792562	-0.28552	0.218781	0.28552	0.218781
Effective in providing shelter and protection	0.50197	0.115264	0.44224	0.659701	-0.28092	0.178971	0.28092	0.178971
Effectiveness of administrative steps	0.94407	0.122184	1.179122	-0.2424	-0.09968	0.387821	0.09968	0.387821

## Discussion of the Results

The inferential analysis helped conclude the research hypothesis from the results, which was necessary to explain how the findings may be important for policy, practice, or theory. The results indicate that the shelter can transform into a long-term shelter program. I performed a Pearson correlation to determine how they evaluated how victims of domestic violence are given shelter at the shelter and how adequate the shelter is in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence. The administrative steps correlate with transforming the shelter into a long-term shelter for victims of domestic violence. However, there was a significant positive correlation between the three aspects with the transformation of the shelter into a long-term domestic violence shelter program. The regression ( $r^2$ ) = 0.024078, indicating that the independent variables had 2.4% impact on dependent variables with the Probability (p) = 5.22E-05 at the intercept and observations (n) = 73. The probability for the Ways victims of domestic violence were given shelter was -0.792562, where  $p < 0.05$  and the coefficients were 0.33307, indicating a positive correlation between the ways victims of domestic violence were given shelter and the transformation of the shelter into a long-term domestic violence shelter. Effective in providing shelter and protection had a probability ( $p < 0.05$ ) = -0.659701 and correlation coefficient of 0.50197, indicating a strong positive correlation with the transformation of the shelter to a long-term shelter program.

Similarly, the effectiveness of the proposed administrative steps had a probability ( $p < 0.05$ ) = -0.2424 and a correlation coefficient of 0.94407, which also indicated a strong positive correlation with the transformation of the shelter into a long-term shelter

program. These results deduce that the administrative steps indicated a stronger positive correlation, followed by the Effective in providing shelter and protection and how victims of domestic violence were given shelter at the shelter. Filieri, Galati, and Raguseo (2021) discuss that smaller p values ( $P < 0.05$ ) indicate significant values.

The results help the government provide relevant practical approaches at the community level in controlling and preventing domestic violence. Hence, significantly improve the socio-economic standards of people. They will also help the government reduce treatment costs and curative, preventive programs. People shall use the knowledge of the consequences of domestic violence to stop and avoid domestic violence. The results also provide a go-ahead for the shelter to transform into a long-term domestic violence shelter program.

### **Recommendations**

The participating short-term shelter program has the potential to transform into a long-term shelter program. However, the study recommends a few measures that the shelter needs to run a long-term shelter program successfully. The organization needs to improve its facilities and ways of handling the victims of domestic violence. The results indicate that there have been several complaints about its services despite providing good services to most people. Therefore, employing proper administrative strategies, which include the engagement of workers in policymaking and handling of domestic violence cases, would be appropriate. Also, reinforcing lawsuits against those committing domestic violence and enhancing good planning and organization would enable the shelter to become a long-term domestic violence program. The shelter needs to improve

proper coordination, control, direction, and evaluation of human and non-human resources within the organization would help to become a long-term shelter program. Lastly, future studies on the effectiveness of every service the organization provide to domestic violence victims and strategies it employs to prevent domestic violence cases.

### **Strength and Limitations of the Project**

Different participants like managers, supervisors, employees, women's rights representatives, public health officials, key government informants, and beneficiaries of the shelter services who participated in the online survey, interview, and discussions were challenging to find time for the interview, making it take longer time than expected. However, after agreeing to participate, they provided truthful answers without any form of exaggeration, exhibiting a positive attitude toward the effectiveness of the short-term shelter program in transforming into a long-term shelter program. Another strength of the study was its scope conducted in the organization. The short-term shelter program in Kansas City, MO, is the scope of the study. The facility is helping to ensure every woman and child affected by domestic violence finds freedom and refuge and helps them recover from domestic violence by providing treatment. Its efforts to break the domestic violence cycle by providing supportive and safe refuge educating and empowering those affected by domestic violence advocating for the remarkable changes that eradicate domestic violence. The scope was a significant strength of the study since it covered a broader aspect of the research.

## Section 5: Dissemination Plan

Developing a dissemination plan for the relevant organizations is essential to provide suitable evidence-based foundations to the principal executive leadership. A practical method of action is crucial to meeting the aims of proper and long-term shelter and stability for female victims of domestic violence. The dissemination plan for this organization is to recommend practical approaches for a nonprofit organization. I will present disseminated results for this project to executive leadership in a presentation.

### **Project Overview**

Currently, the organization's primary focus is on temporarily providing shelter, relief, and treatment services to the victims of domestic violence. This study conducted a needs assessment of a short-term shelter, the nonprofit women's domestic violence shelter in Kansas City, MO, to assess the work needed to transform it from a short-term domestic violence shelter into a long-term domestic violence shelter.

The ultimate goals of this disseminating plan are to propose better practical activities to ensure long-term shelter and stability facilities for the females who left their houses due to domestic violence. Policymakers and the staff members working in the organization are the main executive leaders of the entire context of improving rehabilitation services for female victims

### **Key Messages**

The development of current strategies of rehabilitation and shelter for the women victims of domestic violence is not enough. There is a need for improved practical measures to attain the objectives of long-term shelter in the vicinity of the organization.



Functional changes are required to provide proper social grounds for female victims. This perspective is essential so they can start contributing to social development as an important member of society.

### **Dissemination Activities, Timings, and Responsibilities**

I will present an oral presentation to the executive leadership, human resource staff, and anyone else the organization would like to invite. The organization can share the project results with its staff members during meetings, training, and conferences. The core message of this dissemination plan can effectively go through the active involvement of all the shelter staff. The role of government entities and the organization's officials is essential to implement functional domains according to the changing requirements. Relevant information is also attained from different reputable research articles to attain relevant information. This form of information also helps to examine different areas of shelter and rehabilitation for the victims of domestic violence in the case of a long-term approach.

The success of the dissemination plan depends on the adoption of relevant activities and instruments. Adopting briefing presentations for the executive leadership is essential in delivering the vital source of information to all the appropriate authorities. Active delivery of instructions helps all the staff members to recognize their responsibilities and work accordingly. Developing a collaborative team in the context of the organizational approach is essential to guarantee the successful application of the entire idea. The proper schedule must be determined to differentiate between short-term and long-term shelter and rehabilitation requirements for the victims of domestic

violence. This specific prospect needs to be actively aligned with the needs of everyone, considering the paradigm of situation analysis.

### **Evaluation**

A critical assessment of the dissemination plan is also an essential practical step in examining the effectiveness and suitability of the entire line of action. The criteria of assessment of the project ultimately make it helpful to identify the specific areas that require improvement in the future. Active adoption of change is another critical aspect of determining the changing needs of female victims of domestic violence. The main stakeholders need to consider the importance of the situational approach and modify the plan according to changing needs.

### **Conclusion**

The prevalence of domestic violence against women is increasing in Kansas City. Several welfare organizations in Kansas City provide short-term shelter facilities and financial support for domestic violence victims. A critical analysis of the entire scenario of domestic violence against women indicates that there is an immense need to provide potential services for these women. Victims of domestic violence had to suffer from various physical and psychological issues. Short-term welfare facilities only provide them with limited support. The lack of proper rehabilitation for women who experienced domestic violence is missing in Kansas City. The organization in this study is providing temporary shelters for women affected by domestic violence, but its limited effectiveness could be due to the short duration of time. There is a need to provide long-term

rehabilitation facilities for these women to help incorporate them into society after proper rehabilitation efficiently.

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## Appendix A: Interview Questions

Thank you for agreeing to meet with me today. This interview will take approximately one hour. I want to reassure you again that whatever you say to me will be kept in the strictest confidence. This means that whatever you say to me will be kept in the strictest confidence. This means that what you tell me will help me understand what it's like to receive services at a shelter; no one will know that it was you who said these things.

1. Briefly tell how you know the shelter?
2. Do you think a long-term shelter program is beneficial to a community?

Why?

3. From your understanding and/or experience explain how effective is the shelter in providing shelter and protection for victims of domestic violence?
4. Do you think the victims recovering from domestic violence discharged from the shelter still face domestic violence issues when they go back to their homes?

What do you think should be done?

5. In your opinion, what do you think are challenges the shelter is facing in addressing domestic violence issues?
6. Do you think the facilities available in the shelter are suited for a long-term domestic violence shelter?

If not, what should be adjusted to make it effective?

7. What services and objectives do you expect from a long-term shelter program?

Do you have anything else that you would like to add?