

# The ACCOUNTABILITY DIALOGUES



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## *Summary of Recommendations for the White House Gender Policy Council*

In the Fall of 2021, Futures Without Violence, Latinos United for Peace and Equity, The National Center on Violence Against Black Women (Ujima, Inc.), and Women Transforming Families, a project of Ujima, came together with survivors of domestic violence who were impacted by the child welfare system, along with state, tribal, and federal policymakers in the *Accountability Dialogues*. The Accountability Dialogues created a platform that elevated the voices of survivors and provided an opportunity for survivors, policymakers, advocates, and judges to listen to one another and advance policy solutions that would prevent further injustice to adult and child survivors of domestic violence. These recommendations and policy solutions offer a new framework: work diligently with care and compassion, and without bias, to keep families together; robustly support survivors and their children, in their community and with the resources and supports that they have identified, to meet their family's needs; and invest in communities and culturally responsive, community-based organizations to help families thrive.

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1. Host roundtables and listening sessions to highlight and share innovative policies and practices that improve the health and well-being of women, children, families, and communities, including innovative poverty reduction and family violence prevention strategies and effective measures for eliminating bias in the child welfare system.
  
2. Advance gender equity and equality by recommending that the Children's Bureau:
  - Issue an Information Memorandum to states on domestic violence (DV) and child welfare;
  - Integrate gender into the equity focus for child and family services reviews;
  - Increase federal funds to Native American and rural children and families;
  - Establish active efforts as the standard in all DV/child welfare cases;
  - Assemble a task force on mandated reporting;
  - Foster innovation and collaboration to create a Family Assistance Pathway for families;
  - Host a convening to co-design a child and family well-being system.