



MISSION

Apna Ghar provides critical, comprehensive, culturally competent services, and conducts outreach and advocacy across communities to end gender violence.

PURPOSE

Apna Ghar seeks to end gender violence through a three-pronged, solutions focused approach of highly effective and innovative **services** for survivors and those who perpetrate harm, **advocacy** and community **outreach** and accountability.

OUR SERVICE MODEL



Together with the Center for Urban Research and Learning at Loyola University, we developed a comprehensive, culturally competent model designed specifically for the population we serve that reflects a holistic understanding of the macro- and micro- level barriers faced by immigrant survivors of gender violence.

OUTREACH

We conduct outreach to raise awareness about gender violence, and community education to provide information on available resources, ways to help, and ways to shift community and societal norms. We provide the 40-hour domestic violence training, language advocacy training, and technical assistance to partner organizations.

HISTORY

Apna Ghar was founded by five pioneering women committed to helping under-served immigrant survivors of gender violence and trauma access the services and resources they needed to live lives free from violence. In the mid to late 1980s, hotline calls revealed a high incidence of domestic violence, abandonment, sexual assault and harassment among the growing populations of immigrants settling in the metropolitan Chicago area. They also found that immigrant survivors were reluctant to seek assistance because of linguistic, cultural and legal barriers.

Thus, by 1990 Apna Ghar grew from a volunteer run crisis line, to an incorporated organization with responsive, culturally appropriate and innovative programming to address the needs of Chicago's growing immigrant and refugee populations. Since then Apna Ghar has grown in size and scope to include comprehensive housing, advocacy and counseling services, community outreach, education and training, and public advocacy.

ADVOCACY

We work with legislators, policy advocates, community groups, community leaders, and the general public to ensure systemic and policy changes to improve current processes, responses and remedies, and to improve overall conditions for the survivors we serve.

DIRECT SERVICES

24-Hour Crisis Line

Crisis support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by phone, text and email. We provide crisis counseling, advocacy, safety planning, information, resources and connection.

Safe Home/Emergency Housing

Our safe home provides a culturally sensitive, secure and healing environment for survivors to begin their journeys of healing and rebuilding. Residents are supported 24/7 by trained agency staff members.

Transitional/Second Stage Housing

Our transitional housing apartments provide stable, long-term housing for the families we serve so they can achieve their goals of stability and self-sufficiency. Residents are supported throughout their stay by our trained staff.

Case Management/Social Services Advocacy

Case management services help survivors develop action plans for safety, stability and self-sufficiency. Our trained staff help program participants identify and address critical needs and connect to resources to achieve their housing, health care, employment, educational, financial and other goals.

Counseling

Individual, group and family counseling for both adult and child survivors enables them to process and heal from the trauma of abuse, using psycho-social education, narrative therapy, support groups, expressive art therapy, conflict resolution, and other modalities.

Legal Advocacy

Our advocates guide survivors through the legal system and help access available legal remedies, including civil and criminal orders of protection, pressing criminal charges, obtaining crime victims' compensation, filing for divorce, custody, and support, as well as accessing immigration remedies through protective statutes such as the Violence Against Women Act. We operate a volunteer attorney led family law clinic in partnership with Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS).

Supervised Visitation & Safe Exchange Services (SVSE)

SVSE creates a safe and healing environment for children to interact with visiting parents who have caused harm to the families. Our trained staff support these parents in repairing relationships with their children.



1 out of 3 women

will experience gender-based violence in her lifetime.



47%

of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetime.

Children who witness or experience violence are at serious risk for lifelong physical and mental health problems.



What is Gender Violence?

Violence committed against someone because of their real or perceived gender

Includes:

- Partner abuse, Child abuse and Elder abuse
- Physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, and psychological abuse
- Financial abuse
- Restricting movement, and withholding essentials
- Stalking
- Surveillance and cyber-stalking
- Trafficking, labor and sexual exploitation
- Forced or early marriage

Approximately **1 in 10 Americans aged 60+** have experienced some form of **elder abuse**.

In all societies,

women and girls are subjected to physical, sexual and psychological abuse that cuts across lines of income, class and culture.

24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days a year

Apna Ghar's availability for survivors of gender violence from under-served, marginalized and vulnerable communities.

Recent immigrants to the US face unique barriers that make it more difficult to reach out for help.

COMMUNITY OR EXTENDED FAMILY ATTITUDES

WITHHOLDING OF PASSPORTS

THREATS OF DEPORTATION

LANGUAGE BARRIERS

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS BARRIERS

24-Hour Crisis Services

Crisis Line

773.334.4663
or 800.717.0757

Text

773.899.1041

Email

help@apnaghar.org

Uptown Headquarters

4350 N Broadway, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60613
773.883.4663

Skokie Location

8324 Skokie Blvd
Skokie, IL 60077
847.983.4099

Ashburn Location

7924 S Pulaski Rd
Chicago, IL 60652
773.697.3272

Website

www.apnaghar.org

General Email

info@apnaghar.org

Social Media

[Facebook.com/ApnaGharInc](https://www.facebook.com/ApnaGharInc)
Twitter and Instagram
[@ApnaGharInc](https://www.instagram.com/ApnaGharInc)
[linkedin.com/company/apna-ghar-inc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/apna-ghar-inc)