Kelly Dunne

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INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE PREVENTION EXPERT | RISK ASSESSMENT STRATEGIST | NATIONAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SPECIALIST

Kelly Dunne is the **Executive Director** of the **Geiger Institute**, creator of the nationally acclaimed **Domestic Violence High Risk Team Model** and co-creator of the **Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement** risk assessment instrument. With **over twenty years** of experience in domestic violence advocacy, program development, and nonprofit management, she is a recognized expert and thought leader in **intimate partner homicide prevention**.

Kelly has played a key role in the development and spread of the Domestic Violence High Risk Team Model through national training and technical assistance efforts. She has contributed to its adaptation in various jurisdictions and has worked on prominent projects, including the Department of Justice - Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative, the Department of Defense Military Domestic Violence Pilot Initiative, and New York State Statewide STRIVE Initiative.

As a **thought leader** in the field, Kelly has provided **expert testimony** in Washington State on domestic violence **legislation** issues. Her leadership has also been integral to the advancement of the Geiger Institute**.** She continues to be recognized as a leading voice in **promising practices and innovative approaches** to intimate partner homicide prevention.

Kelly has trained multidisciplinary audience nationwide and has been published in leading outlets, including the Domestic Violence Report and Social Work Research. Her work has also been featured in The New Yorker, HuffPost, and Slate Magazine, and cited in books such as *No Visible Bruises* by Rachel Louise Snyder.

The Domestic Violence High Risk Team Model has received the Mary Byron Celebrating Solutions Award, the National Network to End Domestic Violence Spirit of Advocacy Award and was recognized by the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women as a “successful homicide reduction model” in intimate partner homicide prevention.

Experience

2024- Present

Executive Director | Geiger Institute, a Division of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center

Served as the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center’s Chief of Operations from 1998-2024, working directly with the Chief Executive Officer to develop the Geiger Institute and became its Executive Director in May 2024.

Awards and Recognition

White House Champions of Change 2011
Working to End Domestic Violence
(in recognition of the Domestic Violence High Risk Team Model)

White House Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2010

Mary Byron Foundation 2009
Celebrating Solutions Award

National Network to End Domestic Violence 2007
Spirit of Advocacy Award

Essex County Anti-Crime Council 2006
Good Citizen's Award

Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women 2006
Massachusetts Unsung Heroines Award

Key Appointed Roles & Advisory Engagements

Massachusetts Governor's Council | 2015 - Present
Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Assessment Response Subcommittee

Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy | Faculty 2008 – 2021

Conference on Crimes Against Women Web Series | Faculty 2020

Biden Foundation | Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Convening 2019

National Institute of Justice | Standing Review Panelist 2015 & 2016

Selected Speaking Engagements and Trainings

Institute for Coordinated Community Response	2020 – 2022
Conference on Crimes Against Women	2015, 2017, 2019, 2020
Danger Assessment and Risk Management Conference	2006 – 2019
Driving Change Conference	2013 & 2015
Broadening Your Multi-Agency Responses – Battered Women's Justice Project	2015
Jewish Women's International: Emerging Models	2012
Institute on Advanced Law Enforcement Practice	2010
Women in Policing National Conference, "High Risk Team Model"	2010
Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Conference	2007
Harvard Law School	2005, 2006, 2008
International Conference on Abuse, Violence, and Trauma	2006

Publications

Dunne, K., & Mathis, C. M. (2022). Practice note: Domestic violence advocacy and response to intimate partner homicide in the COVID-19 era. Homicide Studies, 26(4), 333-344.

Messing, J.T., Campbell, J.C., Dunne, K., & Dubus, S. (2020). Development and testing of the Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement (DA-LE): An intimate partner violence risk assessment for use with Domestic Violence High Risk Teams. Social Work Research.

Dunne, K., & Chadwick, J. (2007). Redefining safety. Domestic Violence Report, 12(4).

Kelly's work has also been featured in numerous publications including the New Yorker, Huffington Post, Slate Magazine, Cosmopolitan Magazine, and in several books including: No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us by Rachel Louise Synder, and Upstream: The Quest to Solve Problems Before They Happen by Dan Heath

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Skills

Expert in Intimate Partner Homicide Prevention: Recognized thought leader in the field, with over 20 years of experience.

Program Development & Implementation: Extensive experience designing, launching, and managing innovative programs aimed at reducing intimate partner violence and homicide.

Risk Assessment Design & Application: Co-creator of the Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement (DA-LE) tool, a leading instrument in risk assessment for domestic violence cases.

National Training & Technical Assistance (TTA): Leading trainer for law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary, domestic violence agencies and community partners to implement the DVHRT and DA-LE approaches.

Public Speaking & Advocacy: Engaging public speaker, providing testimony to legislative bodies (e.g., Washington State) and representing key policy changes and improvements in domestic violence prevention.

Award-Winning Leadership: Creator of the Domestic Violence High Risk Team Model, recipient of multiple national awards, including the Mary Byron Celebrating Solutions Award.

Collaboration & Partnership Building: Proven ability to work with various stakeholders, including government agencies, nonprofits, and law enforcement, to promote domestic violence prevention initiatives.

Cross-Jurisdictional Model Adaptation: Skilled in adapting successful programs to fit diverse jurisdictions, ensuring local relevance and effectiveness.

Research & Analysis: Contributor to leading publications in the domestic violence field, including the *Domestic Violence Report* and *Social Work Research*, and featured in high-profile media outlets like *The New Yorker*.

Innovative Thought Leadership: Creator of cutting-edge tools and models, such as the Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT), contributing to the evolution of domestic violence response strategies.

Program Evaluation & Impact Measurement: Expertise in measuring program success and impact, ensuring effective strategies for homicide prevention and domestic violence intervention.

Crisis Management: Strong ability to respond to high-risk domestic violence situations, offering solutions and strategies to mitigate violence and save lives.