We Advocate

Raise awareness about the prevalence and negative impacts of sibling aggression and abuse.

Train clinicians and practitioners to recognize and respond to sibling aggression and abuse.

Add sibling aggression and abuse into family violence, anti-bullying, and parent education programs.

Learn from and incorporate voices and perspectives of survivors of sibling aggression and abuse.

The Issue:

Sibling aggression is the most common form of family violence, yet it remains hidden.
Sibling aggression and abuse are often mistaken for sibling rivalry. A national survey shows that about one-third of children aged 0–17 experienced sibling victimization in the past year. Sibling aggression and abuse can have short- and long-term negative impacts on physical and mental health. Experiencing sibling aggression puts children at risk of involvement with both peer bullying and dating violence. Sibling aggression is linked to family adversity, family violence, harsh parenting, lack of supervision, corporal punishment, and maltreatment. How parents respond to sibling aggression matters for lifelong parent–child and sibling relationship quality.