

***I Am Shared Safety***  
**Liz Pride, MPH**  
**Senior Project Manager,**  
**Office of Domestic**  
**Violence Strategies**



Liz Pride grew up near Portland, Maine, and moved to Philadelphia to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology with minors in Spanish and women's studies. She earned her Master of public health at the University of Pennsylvania, focusing her research on domestic violence.

Before joining the city's Office of Domestic Violence (DV) Strategies last fall, Liz served Philadelphia's Department of Public Health's Division of COVID-19 Containment. Prior to her work for the city, Liz gained valuable experience at the Women Against Abuse (WAA) Legal Center.

Liz spoke with Stephanie Levin, a member of Shared Safety's communications subcommittee, about her new role at the ODVS, which includes Shared Safety, and her experience at the legal center at WAA.

**SL: As senior project manager at the ODVS, what are your responsibilities?**

LP: I manage the behind-the-scenes logistics so the city agencies and organizations we partner with can focus on the work of improving the identification of, and response to, domestic violence in Philadelphia. I also manage shorter-term projects and supervise our interns and AmeriCorps VISTA program participants so they can do meaningful work.

**SL: What has surprised you most about working at the Office?**

LP: The level of engagement needed among existing city agencies to improve services and policies that impact those who have experienced gender-based violence. There is room to improve all of these systems so they can promote a culture that's friendlier to people who are vulnerable.

**SL: What role does Shared Safety play in your work?**

LP: Shared Safety is a core part of my job description. I serve as the logistical backbone – scheduling and convening meetings, organizing and disseminating materials – of the coalition's committees and groups. Since I am new to the Office, I am working to get caught up on how Shared Safety operates; to keep it going, expand, and move forward so it continues to be an important partnership for the organizations involved.

**SL: What did you learn during your time at WAA?**

LP: My experience at WAA (as a paralegal, intake coordinator, and high-risk coordinator) offered an interesting mix of combining traditional social service skills – working from an empowerment-based model – with meeting the objectives of a rigid legal system, collaborating with paralegals and attorneys to come up with creative solutions for our clients.

**SL: What was the biggest challenge for you at WAA when COVID emerged in 2020?**

LP: Getting complex information to people who need it, especially when it's changing so frequently.

**SL: What activities do you enjoy when you're not working?**

LP: During COVID, I've been streaming a lot of TV. I also enjoy cooking, and being outside – I like taking walks in my neighborhood and hiking in Wissahickon Valley Park. I look forward to traveling again when that's a safe option!

*This I Am Shared Safety feature was shared in the January 2022 Shared Safety Newsletter.*

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