



Governor's Family Violence Council Strategic Plan

2017-2018

Updated 7/2018

Mission Statement

The mission of the Governor's Family Violence Council (Council) is to provide the Governor with timely and accurate information on family violence with recommendations that will reduce and eliminate abusive behaviors.

Family Violence Council Structure

The Council was organized by the Lieutenant Governor and the Attorney General in 1995. The Council's executive order states that there shall not be more than 28 members. The Council represents all areas of the criminal justice system, elected officials, advocates, scholars and citizens.

Members of the Council include:

- ❖ the Lieutenant Governor, or a designee
- ❖ the Secretary of the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene, or designee
- ❖ the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, or designee
- ❖ the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services, or designee
- ❖ the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Services, or designee
- ❖ the State Superintendent of Education, or designee
- ❖ the Secretary of the Maryland State Police, or designee
- ❖ the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, or designee
- ❖ the Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children, or designee
- ❖ the Attorney General, or designee
- ❖ a Representative of Maryland Judiciary designated by Chief Judge Court of Appeals, or designee
- ❖ two Senators, or their designee
- ❖ two Delegates, or their designee
- ❖ a representative of the Maryland State's Attorney's Association, or designee
- ❖ Twelve interest members who encompass expertise from the faith community, domestic violence service providers, the legal field and victims and survivors of domestic or family violence

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (Office) is the overseeing body of the Council. The Council is currently chaired by Jeanne Yeager, Executive Director, Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence.

Statewide Victim Services Needs Assessment

The Governor's Family Violence Council and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention are very passionate about delivering effective victim services and reducing domestic and family violence in the State of Maryland. In 2016, the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention conducted a [statewide victim services need assessment](#). This study was designed to assess the efficiency of current victim services and identify areas the Office can give priority attention in its efforts to promote access to victim services, especially for the underserved, while

carrying out the goals of federal grants awarded to Maryland. The goal of the assessment was to create a comprehensive approach to funding, strategic planning, crime data analysis, best practices, research, and results-oriented customer service to decrease gaps in services. The assessment consisted of interviews, focus groups and electronic surveys.

High priority recommendations from the needs assessment were:

- Invest in core services by building capacity (infrastructure, staff), strengthening effectiveness (expanding services and locations), and focusing efforts to underserved populations.
 - Collaborate with Mass Transit Authority to explore the feasibility of extending public bus transportation routes and schedules to facilitate transporting victims closer to victim service locations.
 - Increase staff, specifically bilingual counselors, case managers, social workers and victim –witness advocates
- Seek alternative and expansive housing solutions
- Develop and implement a standardized data collection, tracking, reporting software and processes statewide

Outcome Based Strategic Plan for Victim Services

Based on the results of the needs assessment, the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention tasked the Family Violence Council, along with the Children’s Justice Act Committee, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Neshante and Chloe Davis Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force to create outcome based strategic plans for their specific victim populations. These plans will then be incorporated into an overall outcome based strategic plan for victims in Maryland.

Needs of Family Violence Victims

1 in 4 women and just over 1 in 7 men in the United States report experiencing violence by a current or former spouse or dating partner at some point in their life (Center for Disease Control, 2010). Domestic violence is prevalent in every community and is often paired with psychological trauma, depression, suicidal behavior, and economic impacts. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence reported that intimate partner violence amounts to 15% of all violent crime (NCADV, 2015).

National Census in Maryland 2016

Maryland participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services on September 14, 2016, where 22 domestic violence programs participated in collecting information on the services provided within a 24-hour survey period. In that one day, 956 victims were served, 407 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing and 549 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services. There were 156 unmet requests for services, 42% of which were for housing requests (Domestic Violence Counts: Maryland Survey, 2016). Unmet services are often due to lack of resources and funding, and lack

of staffing support. This census information helps to see where the gaps in services are and how victim services can be improved in Maryland.

Services Provided by Local Programs	September 14, 2016
Children’s Support or Advocacy	82%
Emergency Shelter	77%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	68%
Homicide Reduction Initiative/Lethality Assessment	55%
Bilingual Advocacy (services provided by someone who is bilingual)	32%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	32%

Family Violence Council’s Strategic Planning Process

Family Violence Council members began with creating a vision about what outcomes should be achieved for victims of family violence in Maryland. As part of this process, members reviewed the House of Ruth Maryland’s Measuring Success Project.

The Project model aims to improve the safety of the women and families it serves by increasing their housing, financial, and life stability, and by raising individual and community awareness of intimate partner violence issues. Researchers and experts in the field of domestic violence created this theory to show that if victims are stable and aware then they are safer.

Based on the House of Ruth Maryland model, the Family Violence Council members identified three specific Goals to be achieved: **Victims Are Safe, Victims Are Self-Sufficient, Victims and Community Are Aware.**

Members of the Council were then provided with logic models to complete; these tools are used during the planning and implementation processes to visualize change. The model used for the Council’s strategic plan provided a way to organize outcomes, activities, participation, benefits, outputs and inputs, external factors and timelines for each goal. With the logic model, members drafted outcomes and worked backwards, producing activities, outputs, and the other attributes that are needed to achieve the outcomes for each goal.

Members also drafted examples of external factors, or situational circumstances about the victim, the abuse, the abuser and victim’s relationship or the community, which are outside of the entity’s control and may affect the outcomes. Examples of external factors include poverty, physical disability, and language barriers. External factors can also be associated with a program’s capacity to provide services, law enforcement and other victim assistance personnel’s interest in training, and funding limitations, to name a few.

For each goal, outcomes were identified, entities (participants) were identified that would be needed to help family violence victims achieve the outcomes, what those entities need to provide (activities/services) to help family violence victims achieve the outcomes, the measurement tools to track achievement of outcomes, specified timeline, outputs to report methodology and the benefits of achieving the outcomes. Members also developed a logic model specific to immigrant/Non-English speaking victims, law enforcement, and state’s attorney’s offices to show how the plan can address specific victim populations and agencies that serve victims.

Outcomes for Family Violence Victims

Victims Are Safe

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic violence programs • Victim services staff • AIP facilitators and AIPs • Parole and probation • Law enforcement • Faith communities • Schools, colleges, universities • Department of Social Services • Division of Corrections • Courts • Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) • Media • Community • Attorneys • Maryland State Police Gun Center • Commissioner • Secretary of State's Office • Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support groups • Obtaining protective orders/other legal actions • Divorce/ custody issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make arrests/prosecute offenders • Case management services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Culturally relevant services • Abuser Intervention Programs (AIP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue/improve AIP certification ▪ Review AIP curriculums • Transportation • Lethality screenings • Mental Health therapy • Washington College geographic information system mapping • Child care • Assistance with obtaining Violence Against Women Act and U Nonimmigrant status (U Visa) relief • Multi-disciplinary response teams • Involve community agencies focused on safety and services • Media to encourage domestic/ family violence awareness • AV equipment for court video testimony • Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program • Trainings • Safe shelter for pets • Abuser repository for guns • Shelter and housing assistance • Probation conditions • Pre-trial conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of calls for police responses to domestic violence • # of prosecutions for domestically related crimes • # of lethality assessment screens • # of victims applying for protective orders • # of victims being granted protective orders • # of victims utilizing safe visitation/exchange centers • # of convicted abusers required to wear tracking monitors • # of follow up calls and meetings with survivors • # of staff attended trainings • # and type of crisis services provided • # and type of transitional services provided • # and type of therapy services provided • # and type of legal services provided • # and type of transportation services provided • # and type of housing services provided • # of safety plans created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in intentional safety planning • Increase ways to plan for safety • Increase engagement with programs and supportive services for victims • Increase healthy support systems • Decrease in time from abuse to receiving help • Decrease in victim risk/threat/lethality • Decrease isolation • Decrease trauma symptoms • Decrease in number of violence incidents by perpetrators

Assumptions: Only perpetrators can effect change on # of incidents of abuse, however victims can become more intentional in their safety planning, regardless if perpetrator attempts to harm, AIP (contents are appropriate for targeted behaviors, clients are capable of change, staff are qualified, success of the program is measured by low recidivism), mandatory reporting for gun seizures will require legislation and would need to be funded

External Factors: Protective orders and other legal actions to decrease harm, access to victim services and tools, type of abusive partner, are they likely to follow protective order and stay away/likely to change?, community denouncement of domestic violence, assign responsibility to abuser, there are political agendas in the field of domestic violence, some of the funds come from the federal government and those funds are discretionary, victims' willingness/ability to receive services to protect themselves and their children

Victims are Self-Sufficient

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapists • Support group facilitator • Victim services staff • Domestic violence programs • Legal services programs and attorneys • Department of social services • Academic institutions and community colleges (career development/ESL classes) • Housing programs • Law enforcement • Financial institutions • Job training programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety planning • Therapy/counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support groups • Information and referral for housing assistance and economic empowerment services • Permanent housing • Obtain employment, established a career/started a business • Job placement services • Financial literacy classes • Family maintenance support • Transportation and other material assistance • Transportation for protective orders provided by law enforcement • Child care • Obtain child support • Learn English as a second language • Restructured debt/credit • GED classes • Crisis shelter • Enroll in healthcare with employer/enroll in Medicare/Medicaid • Connection to community safety net resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post budget • Court restitution of the offender • # of people accessing homeless shelter beds • # of victims who gain employment • # of victims who start their own business • # of victims who obtain training/education after seeking services • # of survivors attending counseling and support groups • # of survivors receiving legal advocacy • # of cases with legal representation in Consumer Law Matters • # of victims who obtain permanent housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase ability to meet basic needs • Increase ability to support self and family, • Obtain permanent housing • Obtain permanent transportation • Increase financial stability and live independently • Increase in control over finances • Decrease dependence on abuser for income • Decrease in debt • Decrease need for public benefits support • Decrease amount of public benefits received • Increase employment among victims • Increase in victim's ability to manage household expenses on their own • Increase in education skills

Assumptions: Constant abuse creates physical limitations on social and emotional stability (can't attend work with broken bones, etc.), the ongoing psychological effects of trauma can hinder stability of goals (loss of concentration, depression, etc.), survivors need both social (housing, economic) and emotional (trauma symptoms, social support) stability to achieve self-sufficiency

External Factors: Stalking, severity of abuse and injury, access to community safety net resources, abuser who are required to send family maintenance or child support payments but do not comply, individual police departments level of interest or ability

Victims & Community are Aware

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic violence programs • MD Crime Victims Resource Center • Faith based organizations • Schools, colleges, universities • AIP facilitators • Hospital based programs • Community centers • Domestic Violence Coordinator with law enforcement • Law enforcement • Outreach programs/specialists • Crisis advocates • Media • Prosecutors • Courts • MNADV • Legislature • Victims • Therapists • Case managers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Outreach • Therapy/counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support groups • Assistance with connecting to resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocacy/case management • 24-hour crisis hotline • Training sessions • Develop curriculum about trauma and its effects on children and adults • Community presentations on domestic violence and awareness • Outreach to AIP participants' victims • Social media communications and resources • Focus groups • Legislative briefings for victims • AIP participants • Lethality screenings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of domestic violence educational awareness events • # of participants in educational awareness events • # of activities promoting domestic violence services • # of culturally appropriate information disseminated • # of victims engaged in legislative education processes • # of referrals • # of focus group participants • # of support group participants • # of support groups provided • Development of teen dating and trauma curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effects on children and adult's curriculum • # of trainings provide using curriculums • # of lethality screens • # screened high danger • # of AIP groups provided • # of AIP participants • # of times victims received services • Length of time engaged in services • # and types of legislative initiatives supporting outcome/goal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase victim holding abuser responsible • Increase community holding abuser responsible • Decrease abuser holding victim responsible • Increase community's knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effects on children, teen dating violence, healthy relationships, dynamics of domestic violence, programs and services • Increase victim's knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dynamics of domestic violence, effects on children, service providers and community resources, legal options (criminal and civil), rights and compensation, healthy relationships, awareness of risk/lethality, physical and psychological effects of trauma caused by others • Increase victim's healthy support systems/social connectiveness • Increase self-worth/self-esteem • Assign responsibility of abuse • Increase public denouncement of domestic and family violence • Increase victim's engagement of services after outreach

Assumptions: Survivors/community must know that abuse is not okay, they don't have to live this way, they know help is available and can access resources, many victims do not recognize or understand litigation abuse as form of domestic violence

External Factors: Enough community programs to provide help, education is meaningful to audience, stability factors are not compromised if survivor seeks help, budget limitations, law enforcement's level of interest in training (manpower and funding constraints on police departments)

Immigrant/Non-English Speaking Victims
Victims & Community Are Aware, Victims are Safe, Victims are Self-Sufficient

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courts • Victim Advocates • Victim Assistance • Legal Programs • Domestic Violence Programs • Family Justice Centers • Coalitions • Interpreters • Translators • Programs that Immigrant victims trust • Immigrant Community • Faith Based Organizations • Law Enforcement • Prosecutors & Attorneys • Judges • Health and Mental Health Providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure Technical Assistance training on language access plans from API Institute on gender based violence for advocacy, legal, police, prosecution agencies • Identify language resources in State that could be shared and utilized by all programs • Require certification by all federally authorized agencies • Police, Prosecutors and courts receive U/T visa certification training • Lethality Assessments conducted in the State include immigration related abuse • All agencies distribution information on VAWA, T, U and SIJS screen early and help immigrants apply • Courts and attorneys receive training on child support as part of protections, child and spousal support cases • Screening for relief of children • Courts receive training - SIJS • Provide annual training about legal rights and options for immigrant victims • Develop evaluation tools for training i.e. pre and post • Identify data collection occurring • Develop short victim surveys that providers can use with immigrants they serve • Examine the system for providing interpreters by each profession • Utilize multi-lingual training material • Identify top 10 LEP languages and foreign born populations in MD • Utilize existing multi-lingual brochures that can be adapted for MD • Identify qualified translator for top 10 languages spoken in MD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of trainings for diverse professionals conducted • # of legal rights topics covered in training • # and types of professionals trained • # of service providers aware of benefits/services available • # of victims aware of legal options and program resources • # of materials distributed by language, geographic locations • # of immigrant serving platforms utilized i.e. radio, TV, social media • # of agencies with language access plans • # of agencies with bilingual staff or contracting with interpreters • # of immigrants served • # of immigrants with pending/approved applications by immigration case type • # of immigrants eligible but on a wait list • # of U, T Visa certification signed or denied by agency • # of agencies doing safety planning related to immigration threats or related abuse • # of victims in which qualified interpreters were used at crime scene • # of immigrants receiving PO & Peace Orders • # of victims receiving benefits (health care, driver's licenses, state tuition, food stamps) • # of victims receiving child and spousal support • # of immigrant victims' children filing or receiving SIJS status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase victim and community holding abuser responsible • Decrease abuser holding victim responsible • Increase victim's and community's knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dynamics of domestic violence, effects on children, service providers and community resources, legal options (criminal and civil), rights and compensation, healthy relationships, awareness of risk/lethality, physical and psychological effects of trauma caused by others • Increase victim's healthy support systems/social connectiveness • Increase self-worth/self-esteem • Increase public denouncement of domestic/family violence • Increase victim's engagement of services after outreach • Increase in intentional safety planning • Decrease in time from abuse to receiving help • Decrease in victim risk/threat/lethality • Decrease isolation • Decrease trauma symptoms • Decrease in number of violence incidents by perpetrators • Increase ability to meet basic needs, support self and family • Obtain permanent housing and transportation • Increase in education skills • Increase employment among victims • Decrease amount of public benefits received • Decrease in debt • Increase financial stability and live independently

Law Enforcement Agency
Victims & Community Are Aware, Victims are Safe, Victims are Self-Sufficient

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courts • Law enforcement • Law enforcement stakeholders • Law enforcement partners • Community partners • MSP Gun Center • Advocates • State’s Attorney’s • Community • Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission • School Resource Officers (SRO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims video conferencing to testify in court proceedings • Secure AV equipment in courts to allow victims to video conference • Develop a task force to identify efficient and effective methods to promptly serve victim with protective orders • Establish an abuser repository • Develop a comprehensive uniform LAP reporting form • Identify and report cases where domestic violence crimes were committed in the presence of children • Law enforcement training • Hire Domestic Violence Coordinators within law enforcement • Establish Special Victims Units within law enforcement • Secure child custody exchanges • Law enforcement providing victims transportation to courts/commissioners offices to obtain protective orders • Input protective orders • Follow up with victim • Maintenance of property rooms (eg guns) • Develop DV training awareness programs for SROs • Evidence-based prosecution model • Collection of evidence • Law enforcement interaction with victim/children/witnesses at the scene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of courts allowing victims to video conference into the court proceedings • # of victims receiving protective orders • # of guns seized from domestic violence offenses • # of lethality assessment screens conducted • # of domestic violence cases committed in the presence of children • # of law enforcement trained on how to communicate with victims • # of victims received transportation by law enforcement to obtain protective orders • # of re-offenses • # of follow up calls to victims by law enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease re-victimization • Increase reporting of gun seizures resulting from domestic violence offenses • Decrease in victim risk/threat/lethality • Increase penalties for offenders who commit domestic violence crimes in the presence of children • Decrease fear and intimidation offender has over victim • Increase victims’ positive outlook towards law enforcement • Increase support by law enforcement to victims • Increase victims’ knowledge of services by law enforcement

State's Attorney's Office
Victims & Community are Aware, Victims are Safe, and Victims are Self-Sufficient

Providers	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistant State's Attorneys • Legal Assistants • Victim Coordinators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecute offenders • Designate specialized domestic violence prosecutors, legal assistants and victim coordinators where possible • Train all SAO staff on domestic violence prosecution and victimization • Coordinate with victim service providers • Connect victims to community safety net resources, including victim relocation support • Distribute information about local services to victims • Certify U/T Visas where appropriate • Train law enforcement • Educate community members • Educate teenagers • Adopt culturally sensitive policies • Offer multi-lingual support to victims • Utilize Domestically Related Designation where appropriate • File sentencing enhancements for crimes committed in the presence of a minor where appropriate • Participate in multi-disciplinary teams, including fatality review • Request pretrial conditions, including GPS, that address victim and community safety • Request probation conditions, including AIP participation, that address victim and community safety • Utilize trauma-informed methodology when speaking to/interviewing victims • File timely motions to revoke bond where appropriate • File violations of probation where appropriate • Evidence-based prosecution model • Vertical prosecutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # cases prosecuted • # of jurisdictions with specialized divisions • # of SAO staff trained • # of victims referred to services • # of victims aware of service providers and available resources • # of victims receiving relocation support • # of victims receiving U/T Visas • # of law enforcement members trained • # of community members educated • # of teenagers educated • # of victims receiving services in a language other than English • # of cases receiving DRC designation • # of cases with enhanced penalties for crimes committed in the presence of a minor • # of cases discussed by multidisciplinary teams • # of cases with pretrial conditions • # of cases that include AIP as a probation condition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase criminal justice system holding offender accountable • Increase victim holding offender accountable • Increase community holding offender accountable • Decrease offender holding victim responsible • Increase offender compliance with pretrial supervision • Increase offender compliance with probation conditions • Increase number of cases designated DRC • Increase number of cases of enhanced penalties for crimes committed in presence of a minor • Increase community awareness • Increase victim awareness • Increase victim's healthy support systems/social connectiveness • Increase self-worth/self-esteem • Increase public denouncement of domestic and family violence • Increase victim's engagement of services after outreach • Increase in intentional safety planning • Decrease in victim risk/threat/lethality • Decrease isolation • Decrease trauma symptoms • Decrease in number of violence incidents by perpetrators • Increase ability to meet basic needs, support self and family • Increase victim access to culturally sensitive support • Increase victim access to multi-lingual support

Application of the Strategic Plan Outcome Based Programming

The following outcomes and activities for each goal are provided as examples. The Family Violence Council recognizes that as Outcome Based programming and reporting evolves, there will be other specific Outcomes and methods to evaluate the effectiveness of programs and services.

Goal	Victims are Safe
Outcomes	Increase intentional safety planning, increase ways to plan for safety, decrease risk/threat, increase awareness about domestic violence
Participation	Domestic Violence Program
Activity	Case Management Sessions
Measurement Tool	HRM Safety Planning Score, Dutton's Threat Appraisal Scale
Timeline	Case Manager does Safety Planning Measure after each interaction with victim; Victim does On-going Threat Appraisal Score
Outputs	# of Case Management interactions with client, # of measures completed
Benefits	Victims become empowered to manage their safety and threat, more informed about power and control dynamics through understanding types of threats

Goal	Victims are Self-Sufficient
Outcomes	Increase in ability to meet basic needs, increase in control over finances
Participation	Legal Services/Accompaniment Program or Economic Empowerment Program
Activity	Assistance Obtaining Final Protective Order or Divorce and Custody, Enforcement of Court Orders
Measurement Tool	Ability to Meet Basic Needs Survey
Timeline	Pre Final Protective Order or Divorce and Custody Case, post Final Protective Order or Divorce and Custody Case
Outputs	Amount of family maintenance ordered by court, amount of child support ordered by court, number of court cases
Benefits	Victims have more financial resources to support self and children, more stable income

Goal	Victims & Community are Aware
Outcomes	Decrease in abuser assigning abuse to victim
Participation	Abuser Intervention Program (AIP)
Activity	AIP Group
Measurement Tool	Assigning Abuse Questions
Time Line	First Support Group Session and last Support Group Session
Outputs	# of sessions provided
Benefits	Abuser came to accept they are responsible for the abuse

Goal	Victims are Aware
Outcomes	Increase in assigning abuse to the abuser, increase healthy support systems through other support group participants and support group facilitator
Participation	Domestic Violence Program
Activity	Support Group – 8 weeks
Measurement Tool	Assigning Abuse Questions
Time Line	First Support Group Session and at the last Support Group Session
Outputs	# of sessions provided
Benefits	Victims know where to find help and support, understand more about domestic violence

Goal	Community is Aware
Outcomes	Increase assignment of abuse to abuser, increase knowledge about domestic violence, increase awareness of resources
Participation	Outreach Programs/Specialist
Activity	Presentations
Measurement Tool	Beliefs and attitudes about domestic violence, assignment of responsibility for abuse
Timeline	Pre and Post Presentation
Outputs	# of presentations, Topics presented, # of people trained
Benefits	Community holds abuser accountable, community provides healthy support systems for victims

Examples of Possible Measurement Tools

- House of Ruth Maryland (HRM) Safety Planning Score
- Risk Assessment
- Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence (MSCFV) Ability to Meet Basic Needs
- MSCFV Victims Assignment of Responsibility
- MSCFV Abuser Intervention Program – Assignment of Responsibility
- MSCFV Community Feedback Form
- Dutton’s Threat Appraisal Scale
- [Stages of Change](#) (Prochaska and DiClemente)
- Beliefs & Attitudes Survey
- Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) Lethality Assessment
- HRM Social Connectedness Scale
- HRM Responsibility for Abuse Scale
- HRM Public Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Knowledge
- [Beck Depression](#) & Anxiety Scales
- Trauma Symptoms Scale
- HRM Social Connectedness Scale
- Post Traumatic Symptom Checklist
- Acceptance of Couple’s Violence Scale (Foshee, Fothergill and Stuart)

- [Campbell's Danger Assessment](#)
- Social Media Analytics
- Washington College GIS Mapping

Evidence Based Practices and Research to Support the Family Violence Council Strategic Plan

Agencies and programs can demonstrate the success of their programs by aligning with best practices and evidence-based programs. The following reports and research support the Family Violence Council's strategic plan and its goals.

2016 Biennial Report to Congress on the Effectiveness of Grant Programs Under the Violence Against Women Act

The 2016 Biennial Report to Congress on the Effectiveness of Grant Programs Under the Violence Against Women Act details ways Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grantees are using VAWA funds to help victims and administer justice. Under the section 'Effectiveness of VAWA Funding', the report outlines how a coordinated community response, criminal justice response, and services to victims and families can provide positive outcomes to domestic and family violence victims. The services and outcomes outlined in the Family Violence Council's Strategic Plan align with those included in the 2016 Biennial Report.

Examining the Evidence: How Domestic Violence Programs Promote Survivors' Social and Emotional Well Being

The Domestic Violence Evidence Project looked at empirical evidence for four common domestic violence services: emergency shelters, advocacy, counseling, support groups. Their research shows that as a result of a shelter stay, survivors report increased feeling of safety, increased feeling of hope, increase in knowledge about domestic violence and its effect on themselves and their children, increase in self-efficacy, decrease in isolation, and a decrease in trauma related symptoms. All of these outcomes align with the Family Violence Council's Strategic Plan. The research on outcomes for advocacy, counseling and support groups also support the outcomes within the Family Violence Council's Strategic Plan.

Civil Protection Orders and Subsequent Intimate Partner Violence and Injury

One approach to preventing subsequent violence against women is obtaining civil protection orders. A study was conducted to compare victims of intimate partner violence who obtained protection orders with those who did not to determine characteristics that might alert clinicians or others to a woman's readiness to obtain such an order, and to assess the association between obtaining a protection order and the risk of subsequent intimate partner violence and injury. The study consisted of three telephone interviews, about one month after the incident, 4.8 months after the incident and 9.4 months after the incident. Researchers found that women who had protection orders were less likely than those who did not to be contacted by the abuser, to experience injury or weapons threats, and to receive abuse-related medical care between the first

and second follow up interviews. This study supports the outcomes for family violence victims as presented in the Family Violence Council's Strategic Plan.

The Kentucky Civil Protective Order Study: A Rural and Urban Multiple Perspective Study of Protective Order Violation Consequences, Responses and Costs

This study examined aspects of protective orders in Kentucky, focusing on rural and urban jurisdictional differences in the protective order process, protective order outcomes, costs of portative orders, economic impact of protective orders on victims and societal costs of partner violence. The study found that without justice system interventions, partner violence offenders are likely to continue a variety of criminal behaviors because partner violence is a pattern of criminal behavior. The study noted that women who received a portative order saw a decrease in abuse, decrease of fear of future harm, and decrease in distress due to the abuse. These results support the Family Violence Council's Strategic Plan.

Sources

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