

Increasing Access for Male Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

FEBRUARY 12, 2015



Intention and Grounding

- ▶ The intent of this training is to provide:
 - ▶ Trauma informed best practices
 - ▶ New guidelines presented by Office of Civil Rights
 - ▶ Openly discuss challenges and concerns
 - ▶ Share peer feedback, support and expertise

- ▶ The training is grounded in:
 - ▶ Change and transitions are hard
 - ▶ Every program is different
 - ▶ We are all in this movement together
 - ▶ We want to create safer communities and provide survivor-centered services



VAWA 2013

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Celebrating hard-fought inclusivity!



VAWA 2006 Re-Authorization

- ▶ Nothing in this title shall be construed to prohibit male victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from receiving benefits and services under this title.



VAWA 2013

- ▶ No person in the United States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity (as defined in paragraph 249(c)(4) of title 18, United States Code), sexual orientation, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under [VAWA], and any other program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated for grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance administered by the Office on Violence Against Women.



Exception

In certain instances:

If sex-segregation or sex-specific programming is necessary to the essential operation of a program, nothing in this paragraph shall prevent any such program or activity from consideration of an individual's sex.

In such circumstances, grantees may meet the requirements of this paragraph by providing comparable services to individuals who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming.



Sex-Segregated and Sex-Specific

Sex-Segregated Programming

- ▶ Males and females receive services in separate settings
 - *Ex.: Emergency shelter for domestic violence victims is an example of a service that victim service providers historically have segregated by sex*

Sex-Specific Programming

- ▶ OVW-funded organization designs programming differently for males and females
 - *Ex.: Bystander intervention education on college campuses often teach different violence-prevention skills to male and female students*



Some Implications with Sex-Segregated & Sex-Specific Services

- ▶ In both cases, program participants choose the appropriate sex-specific program based upon their gender identity (see *OVW FAQ*)
 - Best practice indicates grantees should ask participants which group or service they desire – however, grantees should not ask about anatomy, medical history, nor demand identity documents
- ▶ Other concerns, challenges, limitations:
 - Exclusive reliance upon “male” and “female” binary for sex/gender excludes others who may not identify with one of these two options
 - Although personal identification is important, self-selection into particular service programs may force individuals to “out” themselves

Determining: “*Necessary to Essential Operation of Program*”

- ▶ Onus is on grant recipient to articulate clearly why sex-segregation or sex-specific programming is necessary to essential operations
 - Support justification with assessment of facts and circumstances surrounding specific program
 - Take into account established best practices and research findings as applicable
 - Justification cannot rely on unsupported assumptions or overly broad sex-based generalizations

- ▶ Some relevant factors:
 - Nature of the service
 - Anticipated positive/negative consequences to all eligible participants
 - Literature on the efficacy of service being sex-segregated or sex-specific
 - Impact on transgender individuals seeking services
 - Whether similarly situated grant recipients providing the same services have been successful in providing services effectively in a manner that is not sex-segregated or sex-specific
 - May not provide sex-segregated or sex-specific services for reasons that are trivial or based solely on convenience

Comparable Services

- ▶ A comparable service is one that is designed to confer a substantially equal benefit

- ▶ Factors to consider in determining whether services are comparable:
 - Nature and quality of services
 - Relative benefits of different therapeutic modalities or interventions
 - Geographic location or other aspects of accessibility
 - Characteristics of facilities where services are provided
 - Characteristics of individuals who provide services



Ex.: Shelter vs. Hotel Stay

Are These Comparable?

Communal Emergency Shelter

- ▶ 30 days or more, kitchen, laundry, toiletries, food
- ▶ Often 24/7 access to in-person advocate, additional onsite services
- ▶ Safe and secure location

Emergency Hotel Voucher

- ▶ 1-3 nights, limited or no access to food, laundry, kitchen
- ▶ Advocate available by phone, need transportation to other services which may be in multiple locations
- ▶ May need to leave site alone for necessities



*DO NOT ASSUME THAT, BECAUSE
SERVICES HAVE BEEN
SEGREGATED/SPECIFIC IN PAST,
THAT CONTINUED PRACTICE IS
“NECESSARY”*

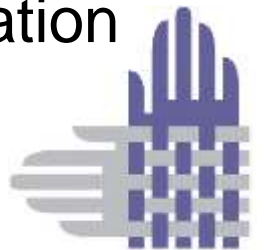


Which OVW Grants are Covered?

- ▶ VAWA Grant Programs:
 - Grants to Encourage Arrest
 - College Campus Grants
 - Culturally Specific Services Grants
 - Grants to Support Families in Justice System
 - Legal Assistance for Victims
 - Rural Grants
 - End Violence Against and Abuse of Women w/ Disabilities
 - End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life
 - Tribal Programs
 - Sexual Assault Formula Grants
 - Transitional Housing
 - Children & Youth Exposed to DV
 - Engaging Men & Boys
- ▶ OVW grants (federal) fiscal year 2014 (see OVW FAQ)
- ▶ Direct OVW grant recipients
- ▶ Cal OES receives STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program
 - This \$ is then sub-awarded to some DV shelters, law enforcement projects, prosecution teams, etc.
 - Cal OES and sub-recipients must comply w/ VAWA non-discrimination grant condition
- ▶ Other Sub-recipients (e.g., from Feds-to-Police-to-CBO)

Any Program or Activity Funded *in Whole or In Part*

- ▶ Irrespective of amount of federal OVW \$
- ▶ Applies to all victim service operations in funded organization
 - Even if non-VAWA \$ supports services
 - Partially-funded programs may not discriminate
- ▶ Faith-based organizations, like all other recipients of funding, are subject to the VAWA nondiscrimination grant condition* (see *OVW FAQ*)
- ▶ VAWA nondiscrimination grant condition prohibits employment discrimination by recipients under covered grants



The previous information was adapted from more extensive guidance provided by the Office of Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

If you have questions or comments about the new VAWA nondiscrimination grant condition, or if you would like further information about any of the information provided here, contact the Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice at:

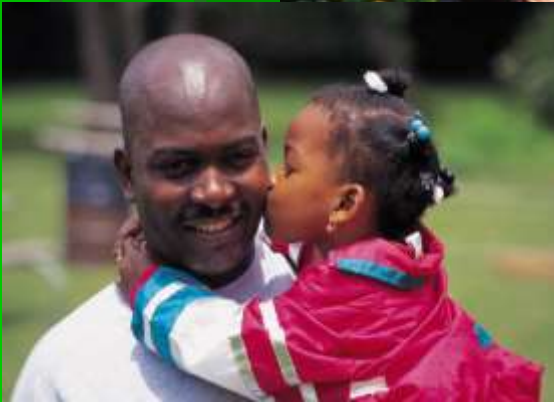
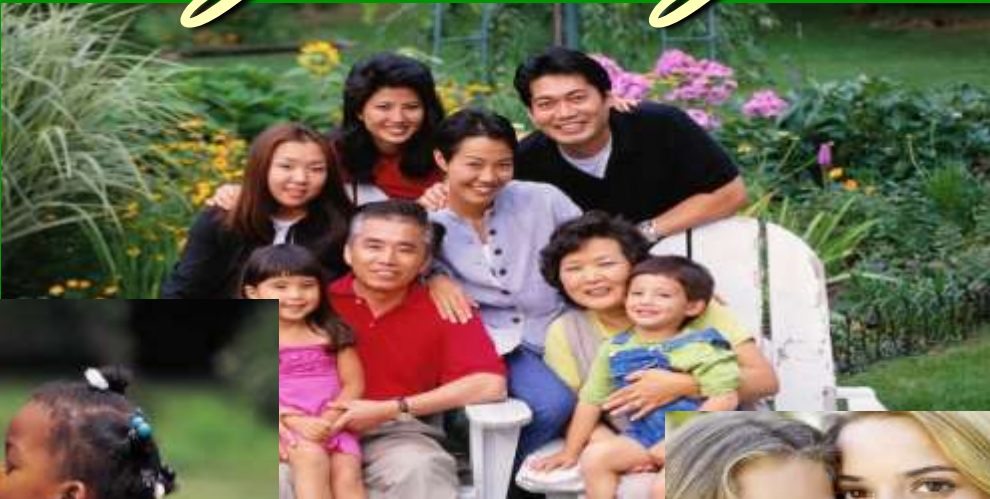
VAWAcivilrights@usdoj.gov





Lake Family Resource Center

Strengthening Families



Presentation By:

- Sheri Young – Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center Program Manager



Our Mission

*Lake Family
Resource Center
Strengthens Our
Community
One Family at a Time*



A photograph of a family of three running happily on a grassy field. The mother, on the left, is wearing a blue sleeveless shirt and a purple floral skirt. The father, on the right, is wearing a red polo shirt and brown trousers. The child, in the center, is wearing a striped shirt and overalls. They are all smiling and holding hands. The background is a lush green field with trees.

Our Vision

Lake FRC supports Lake County to achieve safe, sustainable, and healthy families & communities



SERVING ALL OF LAKE COUNTY
Offices in Kelseyville, Lakeport, & Clearlake



CHAT
Differential Response
Early Head Start
Teen Parenting
CA Prep
Nurturing Parenting
Cal Fresh
Mental Health Services
Domestic Violence Assistance
Rape Crisis Center



FREEDOM HOUSE



FH Houses men too??



Freedom House

- No Criminal Report/TRO Needed
- House Men
- House teen male children



New Freedom House in 2010



How DOES it work??

- 8 Individual Rooms
- Common Kitchen
- Common Living room
- All can participate in groups
- Males room with Males
- Females room with Females
- Male Advocates/Female Advocates





Domestic Violence Assistance Program

- 24/7 hour crisis hotlines
- Counseling
- Emergency shelters for victims and families
- Emergency food and clothing
- Emergency response to calls from law enforcement assistance
- Hospital emergency room protocol and
- Emergency transportation
- Counseling for children/adults
- Court and social service advocacy
- Legal assistance with temporary restraining orders
- Community resource and referral
- Household establishment assistance

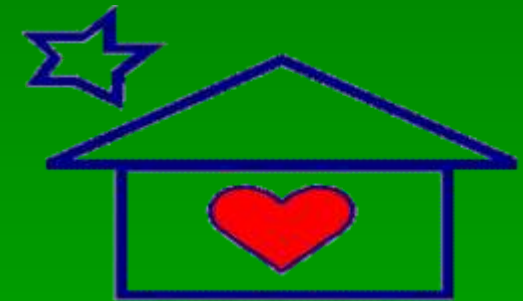


Freedom House

Domestic Violence Shelter

Provide supportive services and safe shelter

- 24 hour crisis hotline
- Emergency transportation
- Support groups and classes
- Household establishment assistance
- Counseling for women, men and their children
- Community resource and referral services
- Court and social advocacy
- Legal assistance with restraining accompaniment



Freedom House
Domestic Violence
Family Shelter
orders/Court



Freedom House Philosophy

- EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO TAKE CHARGE OF THEIR OWN LIVES.....





Lake Family Resource Center

Serving all Lake County residents





- Located in Butte County in Northern California
- The mission of Catalyst is to reduce the incidence of intimate partner violence through crisis intervention services, community education and the promotion of healthy relationships.
- Services include:
 - 24-hour hotline
 - Counseling
 - Education and Prevention
 - Drop-in services
 - Legal Advocacy
 - Domestic Violence Response
 - LGBTQ+ Services
 - Safe housing:
 - Emergency Shelter (HAVEN)
 - Transitional Housing (Cottages)
- Jackie Burris
 - Housing Program Manager

Our Process

- Strategic Plan: (2+ years: 2012-2014)
 - Increase capacity to provide services to male victims, including housing
- Housing Program Retreat- November 2012
- Focus groups/surveys- October 2013

Survey

- Men as victims of domestic violence
- Comfort level of:
 - Support groups with men
 - Men attending educational/non-therapeutic groups
 - Meals with men
 - Men housed in bedrooms inside the shelter
 - Men housed in a cottage next to the shelter
 - Men participating in house activities/celebrations
- Concerns
- Positive feedback

Focus Groups

- Two staff members per group
 - Facilitator
 - Scribe
- Survey provided opportunity to respond anonymously
- Focus groups allowed for open discussion and clarification from staff

Where we are now

- Strategic Planning for 2015
 - Identified as an immediate priority
- Moving forward with utilizing a cottage for male housing
 - Currently housing a male participant in a cottage for transitional housing
 - Currently 6 bedrooms in shelter
 - Closest cottage will provide space for bedrooms 7 and 8
 - Space is being updated to reflect the larger shelter space
 - Forms have been changed to reflect gender neutral language
 - Male participants will be able to participate in support group, educational groups and activities, etc.
 - Women only spaces?

Agency priorities

- Increase awareness of services to men in the community
- Provide further training for staff regarding assessments of victims/abusive partners
- Continue conversation regarding any potential biases we have
- Increase training for law enforcement/hospitals/other community agencies
- Increase recruitment of male volunteers and staff
- Create consistent messaging to share with the community

Let's talk it out...

- ▶ What concerns does this conversation bring up?
- ▶ What expertise do you have to share?
- ▶ What support and/or training do you need?



Together we're stronger.

Questions? Need TA?
Contact the Capacity-Building Team:

Emily Martin, emily@cpedv.org
Natalie Nguyen, natalie@cpdev.org
Jacquie Marroquin, jacquie@cpedv.org

Or call us at 916-444-7163

- ▶ [FAQ VAWA Non-Discrimination Clause](#)
- ▶ [Resource List for Male Survivors](#)
- ▶ [Northwest Network Trainings](#)
- ▶ [National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs](#)
 - ▶ [2013 LGBTQH IPV Report](#)
- ▶ [Forge Network](#)

