DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING SERIES

PART 2: SAFETY PLANNING & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
Health Care Program

Dishpaul S. Dhuga, J.D.
Agnes Pala Bukhala
OBJECTIVES OF WEBINAR

As a result of this training, you will:

- Learn about safety and safety plans
- Become more knowledgeable and comfortable with domestic violence resources to support your clients
SAFETY PLANNING

Building on What you Have
FAMILY RESILIENCE

A combination of internal/individual factors that promote resiliency:

- Problem-solving skills
- Ability to make own decisions
- Sense of purpose and future
- Optimistic thinking
- Self-control
- Self-esteem
SAFETY PLANNING WITH THE NON-OFFENDING PARENT

- Ask... Ask... Ask...
- Listen.
- Provide information and brainstorm options.
- Refer her to the local domestic violence program if she is ready.
- Keep in mind that she is the best judge on what is safe.
- Be aware that information in case notes may be accessible to the abuser, abuser’s attorney, and the court.
SUPPORT PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

- Support participant’s right to make decisions.

- Define success based on what you do, not on what patient/victim does or does not do.

- Recognize your frustration/fears & bias.

- Address the secondary trauma this work can generate.

- Provide program links for the participant with reliable services.
KEEP IN MIND...

- She may not be in a position or ready to accept any help.

- Inaction may be part of her safety strategy.

- This is no reflection on your success with the family.
SAFETY PLANNING WHEN THE ABUSIVE PARENT IS PRESENT

Keep in mind safety is paramount – both your safety and the safety of the family you are supporting:

- If necessary, do not verbally screen for abuse
- Document all events carefully
- Do not engage abuser in discussions around abuse
- Discuss event (s) with your supervisor
Planning for Safety

Planning for safety is an ongoing, ever-changing & adaptive process;

- It is not just a document.

- Safety measures for one family may be quite different for another family.

- Realize that a safety plan will take many attempts to address all the family issues.
LINKS TO SCREENING TOOLS

- H.I.T.S

- RADAR
  http://www.opdv.ny.gov/professionals/health/radar.html
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES
The Affordable Care Act

- The Affordable Care Act (enacted 2010) ensures that women and children receive preventive health care which includes domestic violence screening and counseling which is now covered and reimbursed. These guidelines were based upon the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) report: *Clinical Preventive Services for Women: Closing the Gaps.*
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT OF 1987

- Every county provides a domestic violence program:
  - residential
  - non-residential services

- Victims can access shelter services

- Confidential shelter locations

- Intake prior to admission to a shelter
Core Services of Domestic Violence Service Providers

- Emergency shelter
- 24-hour hotline
- Information and referral services
- Support groups
- Community education/outreach
- Counseling
- Children’s services
- Medical services
- Transportation
- Follow-up
- Advocacy
REFERRALS

- OCFS licensed shelters

- New York State Domestic Violence Hotline
  1-800-942-6906

- Additional information on domestic violence services in New York State
COMMUNITY STRATEGIES

- The White Ribbon Campaign
  www.whiteribbon.ca

- A Call To Men
  www.acalltomen.com

- Stand Up Guys
  www.standupguys.org
IMPACT ON THE WORKER

- Home visitors working with families where trauma is present can be impacted by the trauma.

- This impact is referred to as “secondary” or “vicarious” trauma.

- It occurs when a caregiver who works with victims of trauma absorbs and integrates disturbing aspects from the traumatic experience into his or her own functioning.
Balance is Key to Life

Monitor yourself

Make time for yourself

Separate yourself from the trauma

Establish healthy limits with your families

Empower and renew yourself
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- **Intervention**: to take action to modify outcome of events.
- **Resilience**: ability to recover readily from illness, depression, adversity, or the like.
- **Autonomy**: the ability to make one’s own decisions.
- **Coercive**: behaviors that dominate or control especially by exploiting, fear, anxiety, etc.
- **Perpetrator**: the person responsible for the act.
- **Vicarious**: experienced in the imagination through the feelings or actions of another person.
THANK YOU

New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

Health Care Program

opdvhealthcare@opdv.ny.gov
www.opdv.ny.gov
518 457 5800