Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program

Key Considerations
Housekeeping

Orange Arrow:
• This will minimize and maximize your control panel

Audio:
• Choose “Computer Audio” to use your computer’s speakers for sound.
• Choose “Phone Call” to use your telephone for sound, then dial in using the information provided.
• Click “Sound Check” if you have any issues.
Housekeeping

Poll Questions:
• Select your answer(s) on screen

Raise Hand:
• Raise virtual hand if you have a comment or when asked by facilitators

Questions:
• Submit questions and comments via the questions panel.
Presenters

Emily Burton-Blank
Project Manager
IACP

Ariel Ervin
Project Manager
IACP

Amy Durall
Project Manager
IACP

Rachel Lane
Unified Solutions

Lori Fralick
Lead Facilitator
IACP

Stephanie Hamilton
Lead Facilitator
IACP
Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program (LEV)
LEV Overview

“Assist state, tribal and local law enforcement agencies to develop or enhance a victim specialist program that connects survivors and families to coordinated and trauma-informed services”
Project Partners

Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group

National Crime Victim Law Institute

Justice Research & Statistics Association
LEV Overview

• Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) initiative

• Training & Technical Assistance provided by IACP
  • Webinars
  • Regional Meetings
  • Publications

• 3-year grant (Oct 2019 – Sept 2022)
FY 2019 LEV Sites

1. Salinas PD (CA)
2. Chicago PD (IL)
3. Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KS)
4. Overland Park PD (KS)
5. Jeffersontown PD (KY)
6. Louisville Metro PD (KY)
7. Lafayette City Parish Consolidated Gov (LA)
8. County of Baltimore (MD)
9. Brockton PD (MA)
10. Battle Creek PD (MI)
11. Grand Rapids PD (MI)
12. Michigan State Police (MI)
13. Saginaw PD (MI)
14. Red Lake Band of Chippewa DPS (MN)
15. Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska (NE)
16. Reno PD (NV)
17. City of Auburn (NY)
18. Johnson City PD (NY)
19. Livingston County SO (NY)
20. County of Cleveland (NC)
21. Gaston County SO (NC)
22. County of Hocking (OH)
23. City of Fairland (OK)
24. City of Tulsa (OK)
25. City of Memphis (TN)
26. Bellaire PD (TX)
27. Fort Worth PD (TX)
28. Harris County SO (TX)
29. Montgomery County SO (TX)
30. Salt Lake City Corporation (UT)
31. Newport News PD (VA)
32. Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Nation (WA)
33. Wheeling PD (WV)
34. Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (WI)
35. Wisconsin DOJ (WI)
36. City of Lander
Objectives

• Demonstrate knowledge regarding foundational elements of law enforcement-based victim services.

• Prepare for application of *Key Considerations* to jurisdiction.
Victims’ Rights
Victims’ Rights

• Responsibility of ALL criminal justice professionals

• Consider:
  • State constitutional amendment and provision
  • State statutory rights
  • Agency policy on dissemination and implementation*

• NCVLI – Victims’ Rights Jurisdiction Profiles
  • https://law.lclark.edu/centers/national_crime_victim_law_institute/professional_resources/ncvli_library/pretrial-working-with-law-enforcement/
Advocacy Parameters
What do we mean by “Advocacy Parameters”? 
POLL
Personnel Hiring & Selection

• Position Descriptions

• Applications and Interview

• Background and Training

• Processes for Interns and Volunteers
Reporting Structure & Supervision

Where will victim services personnel be placed in the organizational chart?

Who will supervise victim services personnel?

How will supervision of victim services personnel be structured?

What are expected duties of victim services personnel?

What plans are in place to support and grow victim services?

Why is your agency providing victim services?
Span of Responsibility

Agency & Crime Type
- Agencies and Jurisdictions
- All crime types? Which ones?

Service Delivery
- Mode of contact
- Time frames

Role Clarification
- Internal staff
- External agencies
Ethical Approaches
Documentation Practices
Location and Access

- **Community- or university-based personnel:**
  - Agency guidelines should be followed and explained to victims.
  - May not be accessible to other agencies, including law enforcement.

- **System-based personnel:**
  - Advise victims of wide access (public, prosecutor, perpetrator, etc.)
  - How is victim safety protected with policies for access to documentation?
Content

- Victim services documentation = Services provided and actions taken between the advocate and victim
- Law enforcement documentation = Case details

Victim Blaming

Linguistic Avoidance

Language Of Consent
Complex Documentation

• Are processes for reporting concerns or grievances established and communicated to victims (bulletin boards, website, etc.)?

• Documentation should include a summary of the victim’s expressed experiences, using the victim’s words as much as possible. For example, “The victim reported...”
Subpoena Concerns and Other Legal Intersections

• Obligations and parameters for testimony determined by whether advocate is system- or community-based and established protocol.

• Fact vs. expert witness
Partnerships & Collaboration
POLL
Internal Partners

- Cross-training
  - Mutual awareness of roles
  - Policy development

- Across ranks and disciplines
External Partners

• Collaboration & cross-training

• Across levels of staffing
Formal Agreements

- Informal to Formal
- Shared Language
- Training
- Consistency
- Clearly Defined Roles & Responsibilities
Agency Incorporation of Victim Services
Budget Process

Salary and Benefits

Workspace and Equipment

Supplies and Uniforms

Professional Development

Sustainability Planning
Victim Intersection Points

**On-Scene Response**
- Dispatcher
- Patrol Officer
- Patrol Sergeant
- Victim Services
- EMS
- Fire

**Hospital**
- Nurse (ER/Forensic)
- Doctor
- Social Worker
- Chaplain
- Investigator

**Follow-Up Interview**
- Front Desk
- Victim Services
- Investigator
- Crime Scene/Evidence (Photos)
- Records (Incident Report for Victim Compensation)
- PIO

**Order of Protection Application**
- Front Desk
- Paralegal
- Advocate
- PO Prosecutor

**Criminal Prosecution**
- Criminal Prosecutor
- Paralegal
- Victim/Witness Advocate
- Judge
- Defense Attorney
Crisis Response Plans

- Activation of Victim Services Personnel
- Large-scale Events
- Preparedness and Cross-training
Training & Technical Assistance

In-Person

Regional Meetings*
- All LEV Sites attend within first two years
- Participants: (1) advocate, (1) supervisor, (1) leadership
- Partial coverage of travel cost

Sustainability & Networking Meetings*
- All LEV sites attend during final year
- Participants: (1) advocate, (1) supervisor, (1) leadership
- Partial coverage of travel costs

Ad hoc

Lead Facilitator
- First point of contact for TA requests
- Monthly calls / office hours

* Pending conference approval
Lead Facilitators

Unified Solutions
TA Track 1

Stephanie Hamilton
TA Track 2

Amy Smith
TA Track 3

Lori Fralick
TA Track 4

Elynne Greene
TA Track 5

Tonia Cunningham
TA Track 6

Maria Gonzalez
TA Track 7

Stephanie Gonzales
TA Track 8

Teri Mingus
TA Track 9
Reminders

**Quarterly Meeting**
Topic: *Key Consideration* Application
Week of May 11th - 15th
- TA Track 1: Date/time TBD
- TA Track 2: Friday, May 15th at 10am EST
- TA Track 3: Tuesday, May 12th at 2pm EST
- TA Track 4: Thursday, May 14th at 1pm EST
- TA Track 5: Tuesday, May 12th at 10am EST
- TA Track 6: Monday, May 11th at 1pm EST
- TA Track 7: Wednesday, May 13th at 10am EST
- TA Track 8: Friday, May 15th at 1pm EST
- TA Track 9: Wednesday, May 13th at 1pm EST

**Supplemental Virtual Training**
Topic: Ethics in Victim Services
June 17th at 1PM EST/ 12PM CST / 11AM MST / 10AM PST

**Program Personnel Virtual Training**
Topic: Victims’ Rights
July 9th at 1PM EST/ 12PM CST / 11AM MST / 10AM PST
Questions?