

Road Map to Safer Communities: The Importance of Law Enforcement and Victim Advocate Relationships

Day Two
Session 3C
New Orleans, LA

Introductions

- Officer Michael LaRiviere
 - Officer, Investigator, Salem Police Department
- Inspector Antonio Flores
 - Inspector, Special Victims Unit, San Francisco Police Department
- Aparna Bhattacharyya
 - Director, Raksha Inc.
- Session 1: Honorable Mary Weir
 - Jackson County Court, Kansas City, Missouri

Learning Objectives

By the end of this workshop, you will be better able to:

- Understand why it is important for law enforcement and advocates to have a better understanding of each other's roles when serving victims
- Build a better relationship between victim advocates and law enforcement

Small Table Activity

- What are some of the positive collaborative experiences you have had?
- What are some of the challenges you have experienced in collaborative relationships?



Report Back

One person from each table report back to the large group



Large Group Discussion: Needs of the Survivor

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Survivor

- Safety planning
- On-going violence
- Violations of court orders
- Trauma
- Court testimony
- Holding offender accountable
- A safe location (shelter)
- Follow-up with law enforcement
- Follow-up with advocates
- Survivor moves on-healing process begins

Large Group Discussion: Needs of the Survivor

Sexual Assault (adult/child)

Sexual Assault Survivors (adult/child)

- Initial contact by law enforcement/advocate
- Sexual assault exam
- Multi-display interview
- Obtaining evidence
- Follow-up with investigator/advocate
- High profile/media
- Follow-up with prosecutor
- Court proceeding
- Social media impact
- Survivor working with mental health professionals

Large Group Discussion: Needs of the Survivor

Human Trafficking (sex)

Human Trafficking Survivors

- Under age survivors
- Smuggled/trafficked
- Forced labor
- Commercial sex
- Immigration issues
- Working with law enforcement/advocate vs. earning money
- Power and control
- Sexual assault
- Victim has warrants
- Victim has pending case or convictions from being forced

Large Group Discussion: Needs of the Survivor

Trauma-Impacted /Mental Health

Mental Health Survivors

- Dual diagnosis
- Homeless
- Veterans (male/female)
- Unreported incidents
- In and out of the court system
- Danger to themselves or others
- Safe locations
- Working with other government groups (adult/child protection service/VA)
- Working with families

Raksha Video

- Note: holistic approach and the different disciplines that collaborate to serve survivors

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9z_nJjwSjFrMkVzMHRcRjl0LVE/view

How would you build a safer community?

Break out into groups

(One person from each discipline should be in each group)

Case Exercises

Review the case

Locate the problems

What agencies would you use?

Come up with solutions

Case Exercise 1

The DA's Office approaches an investigator to take on a case involving a 15 year old female with cognitive disability, who had been "pimped out" and sexually assaulted by a suspect. She was rescued by LAPD but they were unable to prosecute the suspect for human trafficking charges, because the victim did not want to testify and her family was afraid. Suspect is on felony probation for human trafficking of a minor. Suspect met the victim in San Francisco. Prior to the hearing an Assistant District Attorney, victim witness advocate and investigator met with the victim's case workers.

Case Exercise 2

Officers conducted an investigation on a “sweatshop” in residential area in San Francisco (Happy Day Sewing Factory). An inspection is conducted by the San Francisco Building Department and the San Francisco Fire Department along with officers. The investigation revealed the factory was non-compliant with the code and was staffed with elderly Asian female workers. Some revealed to police that the supervisor had touched them inappropriately during their shifts at the factory. The building and fire inspectors stated, “it was a death trap, if a fire starts.” The owner is on site.

Case Exercise 3

The victim is a 25 year old who recently immigrated from Lebanon. Her boyfriend is 65 years old and has a drinking problem. Several calls to 911 have been made from the victim's home. The victim has been assaulted by the boyfriend but refuses to tell police. She tells an advocate.

Case Exercise 4

An investigator with the Department of Public Health met with a victim that worked at a massage parlor. The owner was forcing Asian women into prostitution and forced labor. The victim is afraid because the owner of the parlor has told the victim that she will tell the victim's family in China that she is a prostitute. The owner has also told her that she will not pay her if she reports her to the police or tells anyone.

Report Back

Road Map for a Safer Community

- Know each other's roles
- Come to the table and have open communication
- Make committees which develop realistic goals and that will achieve these goals
- Committee should have a representative from each group/multidisciplinary
- Develop new policy
- Communicate the small problems before its too late

Technical Assistance and Materials

- Power Point presentations and materials for this conference at www.niwap.org/go/NOLA2016
- **NIWAP Technical Assistance:**
 - Call (202) 274-4457
 - E-mail niwap@wcl.american.edu
- Web Library: www.niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu

Questions



Evaluations



Thank you!

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