

Safe and Together Collaboration
Training
Day 2

David Mandel & Associates, LLC
Oregon

Using a Focus on Perpetrators as a Tool for Collaboration

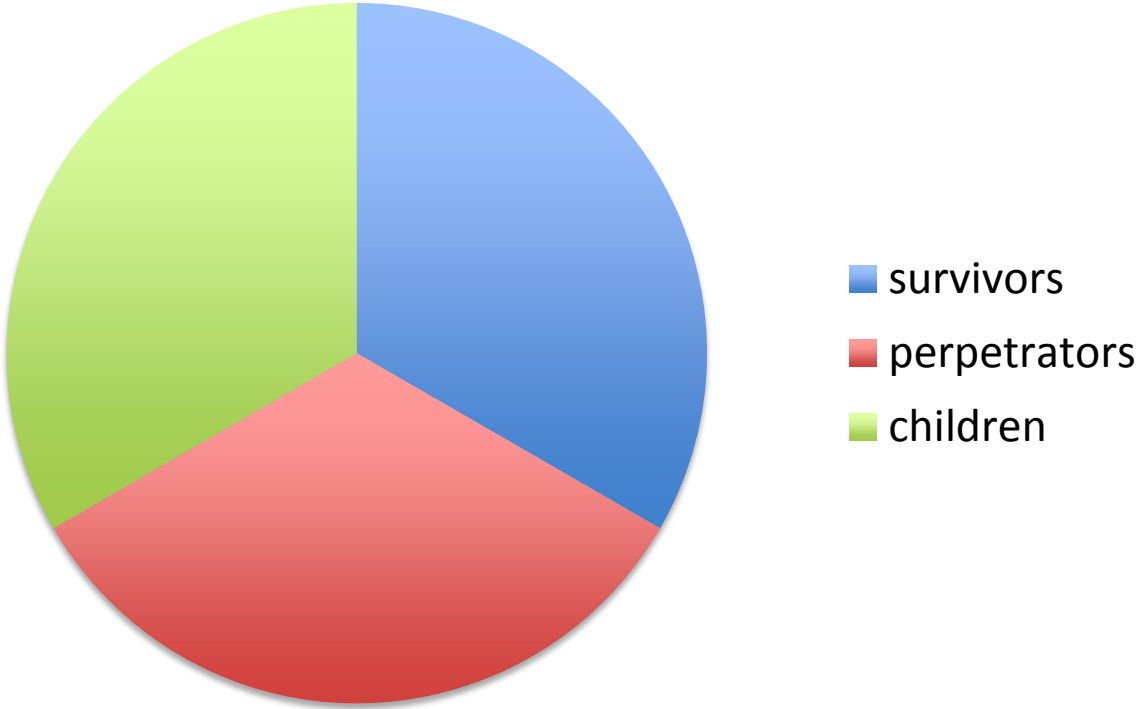
Perpetrators are the source of harm to children when domestic violence is the issue

Regardless of our roles, domestic violence perpetrators' behaviors are interfering with our efforts to enhance safety for child and adult survivors

Perpetrators' behavioral change is our goal

- We have an opportunity to collaborate around ways to intervene to keep families safe

How Much Do we Talk About Perpetrators?



Video

Something My Father Would Do

What about Perpetrators should we Focus on?

- Behavior patterns
- Impact on children
- Sabotage of services/resources
- Isolating behaviors
- Access to the children
- Opportunities to use courts to gain access to children
- Parenting
- History of following (or not) court orders
- Engagement with services (particularly BIPs)
- Changes in perpetrators' circumstances (job changes, housing changes, recent losses)

How Does this Focus Help Work with Survivors and Children

Adult Survivors

- Gives context to safety plans
- Provides you with strategies to build on existing safety plans
- Gives context to decision making
- Supports her efforts in spite of abuse
- Leads to creation of plans that are directly suited to perpetrators' dangerousness
- Allows for insight into her experience

Children

- Gives meaning to their relationship with the perpetrator
- Provides risk assessment that may protect them at various stages and in various systems (family court, CPS, child support, etc.)
- Gives context to behavioral issues
- Gives context to trauma related issues
- Provides understanding about access to resources and services
- More clearly articulated impact
- Provides service providers with better information to support healing
- Allows for more instances where children can stay in the care of survivors

Why is this a Common Ground for Collaboration

Perpetrators:

- May be very emotionally important to a child
- May be dangerous
- May be a financial support for children's needs
- May continue to harm children long after your involvement

We all want the abuse to stop

Activity

In pairs, identify 3 ways that you could each personally enhance a focus on perpetrators in your work/collaborative efforts

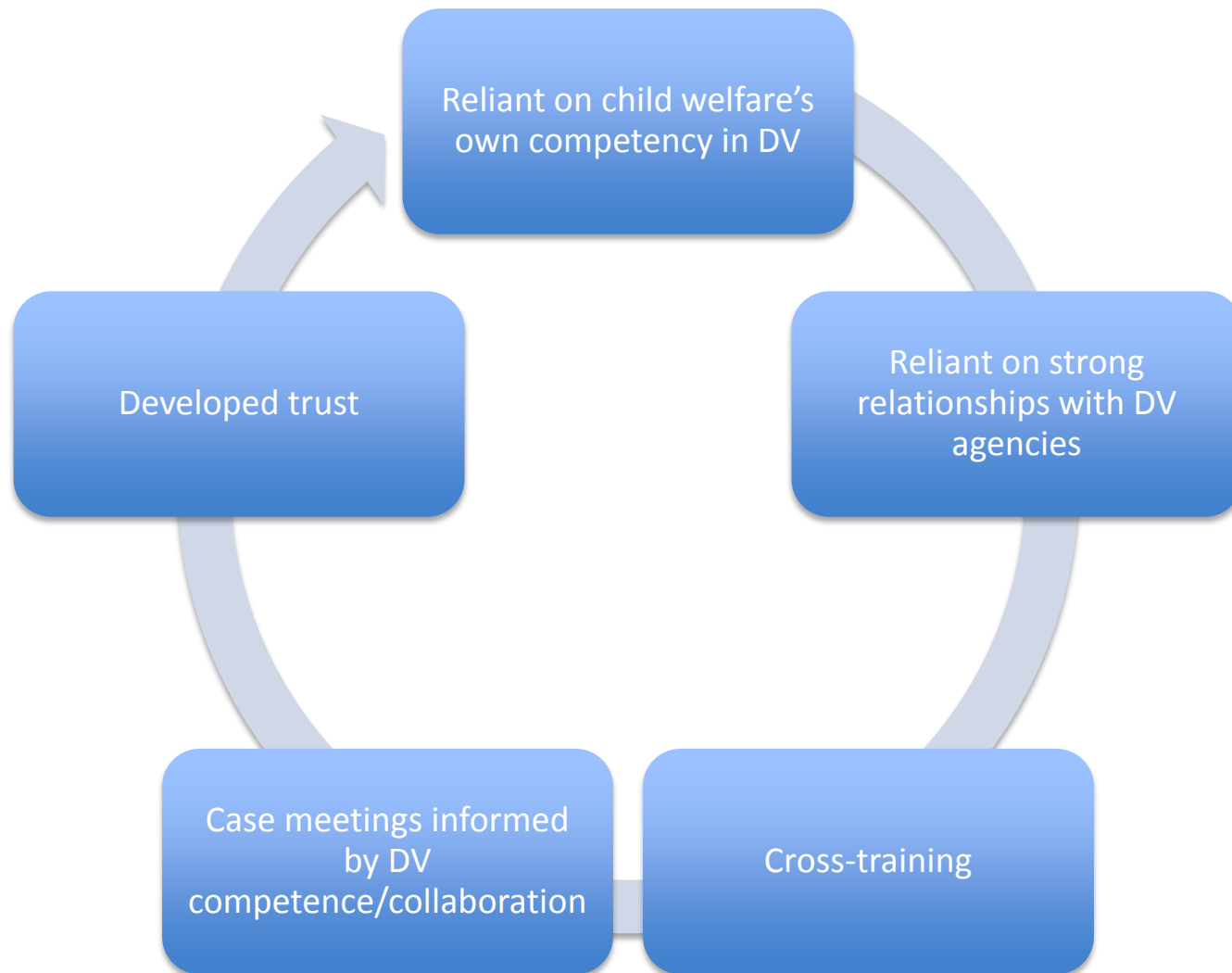
Individual Activity

- If you are an advocate, write down 5 things advocacy agencies/advocates do that support children
- If you are in child welfare, write down 5 things that CPS does that can support an adult survivor of domestic violence

Domestic Violence Informed Child Welfare System: Competency Continuum

- Designed to look at systems' competencies
- Many systems are in different stages on different areas of practice
- To achieve proficiency, strong collaboration is imperative

DV Informed Child Welfare System and Collaboration



What is the Place for Advocates?

Support child welfare's learning centered around their mission

Develop strategies for collaborating (co-located advocates, team meetings, community coordination)

Address own policies (confidentiality, advocacy practice, community coordination practice) and identify where there are opportunities to work together

Make collaboration a priority

Develop a practice with child welfare that supports the needs of survivors and their children through the CPS process

Action Planning Examples

- Practice:
 - Engage perpetrators
 - Create behavior-specific plans with perpetrators (including consistent court steps)
 - Partner with survivors
 - Identify actions perpetrators take to harm children
 - Develop safety plans with survivors based on their realities and needs for children
- Policy:
 - Address issues of confidentiality, referrals, releases
 - Create policy that supports universal screening for DV
 - Create policy that perpetrators must be intervened with
 - Develop training staff wide that supports good practice
 - Remove cookie cutter expectations (orders of protection in every case, etc.)
- Collaboration:
 - Create meetings or forums for case and/or case practice discussion
 - Identify ways to work together despite barriers
 - Create liaisons and relationships

Case Discussion

Contact Information

- David Mandel & Associates, LLC
- www.endingviolence.com
- heidirankin@endingviolence.com
- kylepinto@endingviolence.com