

*Domestic Violence Intervention – 2008*  
*Best practices from the Field*

***We work with Survivors...***

- We treat survivors with respect, dignity, empathy and compassion
- We empower the client
- We support survivor decision making as they choose the steps necessary to improve their safety
- We advocate for the survivor with law enforcement and the district attorney's office
- We connect survivors to domestic violence service providers and other resources in the community
- We have a specialized Domestic Violence unit within Self-sufficiency programs to address survivors specific needs
- Child Welfare supports survivors "where they are at" ... providing tools and resources even when Child Welfare is no longer involved
- Self-sufficiency staff stabilize the client before assigning JOBS activities in the self-sufficiency program
- Senior and People with Disabilities advocates for client safety and provides information and referral as needed
- Self-sufficiency staff maximize safety for clients by streamlining the process for applying for services
- Team decision meetings are held with the client as well as agencies/partners to ensure the clients needs are met
- We provide the client with options
- We're good at eliminating barriers
- Domestic violence point people in branches assist workers in supporting survivors

***We collaborate by...***

- Having good rapport with the local shelter program
- Listening to our domestic violence intervention partners
- Working together to find solutions
- Good coordination with Multi-disciplinary Team and having regular staffings
- Taking Systems issues to the local Domestic Violence Council

- Creating a cross discipline *victims support committee* which looks at reducing circumstances where negative actions are taken against a victim in child welfare and other court actions
- Child welfare partnering with parole and probation in annual domestic violence apprehension sweeps
- The Intensive Case Consultant facilitating communication and information sharing between self-sufficiency and child welfare to ensure coordination of services and joint plans with shared clients
- Having a child welfare point on-site at the court
- Coordinating services in a wrap-around approach
- Staffing cases with the JOBS team, managers and/or lead workers so that clients benefit from a number of different angles, perspectives and resource knowledge
- Child welfare coordinating joint training with law enforcement

***Our commitment...***

- We work together to benefit survivors
- Domestic violence situations get immediate attention - Survivors are seen within minutes of their request
- Staff and partners are well trained on domestic violence and a strength based approach to working with clients
- We created a information line for survivors, advocates and staff
- We continue to stress a “non-blame” approach in our work with domestic violence survivors
- We allow survivors to make choices about what to do next
- Case managers are extremely well versed in local resources
- We work with the crisis center to ensure the survivors needs are met as well as the needs of their children