# "The Challenge Ahead: Stopping DV Mass Murderers: Family Justice Centers, High Risk Teams, Collaboration, and Lethality Assessment Programs"

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November 10, 2011

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#### Dedication



Officer Brad Jones
Glendale Police
Department
Glendale, AZ
Saturday, October 29, 2011



Deputy James "JD" Paugh Richmond County Sheriff's Office Richmond County, Georgia Sunday, October 23, 2011



# In the Line of Duty...



Sgt. Paul Starzyk



And many others...



# At its core...this is a war on women...



Rose Jovero

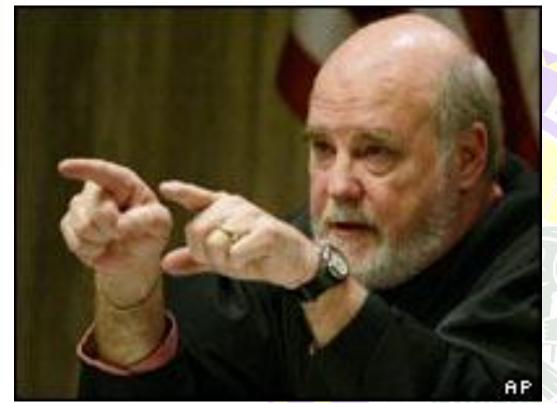


# But don't forget the children...



The Dumas Children









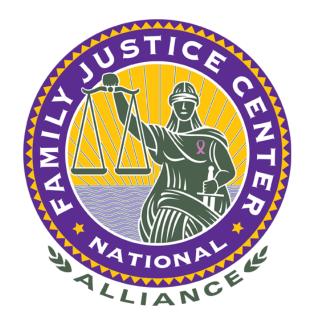
Judge Rowland Barnes (Court clerk Julie Brandau and Deputy Hoyt Teasley)

## Rowlett, Texas June 22, 2010



Judge Belinda Loveland





# The last fifteen weeks in the United States of America...

#### DV Mass or Near Mass Murders

 June 15, 2011 - Arkansas Baptist College student Brinton Millsap killed 23-year-old Alexandria Pierce (University of North Carolina senior), 24-year-old Amesha Page-Smith and 22-year-old Adrianne Stevens and then killed himself.









 July 8 - Wheatland, Wyoming: Everett Conant killed his brother, Nacuma, and his three sons (Everett, Charles, and Joseph ranging in age from 12 to 18) and tried to kill his wife, Suzett, but she escaped. He is being prosecuted for the murders.







 July 18 - Medford, Oregon: Jordan Criado stabbed his wife, Tabasha, and four children (Elijah, 7, Issac, 6, Andrew, 5, and Auroja,2) and set the house on fire. Jordan Criado is being prosecuted for their murders.







 July 23 - Grand Prairie, Texas: Tan Do killed his wife, Trini, and four of her relatives (her sisters Lynn and Michelle and her brother Hien and sister in law Thuy) at his son's 11th birthday party at a roller skating rink. Tan killed himself after pointing the gun at his eleven year old son and three year old daughter as they mourned over their dead mother. Police authorities said the children were "unharmed."



- August 7 Copley, Ohio: Michael Hance shot his girlfriend Becky Dieter and then killed seven others before chasing her 11 year old nephew Scotty Dieter through the neighborhood and executing him in a neighbor's basement. Hance was killed in a gunfight with police.
- August 19 Newport News, Virginia: John Ragin killed his wife, Crystal, and three of his four children (Sierra, 15, Rasheed, 10, and Lakwan, 6) and then set them on fire. Ragin is now being prosecuted.







- September 5 Morgantown, WV: Shayne Riggleman killed Charles Richardson and his wife, Karin, her children (Kevin, 17, and Katrina, 20), Katrina's unborn baby, and killed Robert Raber, who was living in their home. He killed himself hours later in Kentucky after a police chase.
- 'The murder scene was very horrific to see it,' State Police Captain James Merrill told the West Virginia Metro News. 'It was one of those things you won't ever forget.'

 September 18 – Lakeland, Florida: Jeremiah Fogle shot and killed his wife Theresa in their home and then burst into a Sunday morning church service at Greater Faith Christian Center Church and shot Senior Pastor William Boss and Assistant Pastor Carl Stewart in the head. William Boss survived and recovered. Carl Stewart is still in critical condition. Jeremiah Fogle is being prosecuted.

(Fogle killed his first wife in 1986)





- September 25 Morgantown, PA: Kevin Teagarden killed his wife, Tammy, and their two small children (Madison, 8; and Kevin Jr. 22 months) and then killed himself.
- October 13 Seal Beach, CA: Scott Dekraai killed his ex-wife Michelle Fournier and seven others in a hair salon including the owner, patrons, and people on the street.



 October 18 – Cross River, New York: Sam Friedlander, Associate Counsel at the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, killed his wife Amy, Vice President for Chase Manhattan Bank and his son, Gregory, 8, and his daughter Molly, 10 before killing himself









## And yesterday...

 Smith County, Mississippi – Elvin Thorton killed his wife Ethel and his son Elvin before killing himself. Their daughter discovered the murder-suicide scene last night...



#### What is it?

- Family Annihilation
- Mass Murder
- Escalating DV
- Failed Intervention
- Societal Breakdown
- A Wake Up Call
- A Call to Action



#### Violence Policy Center Study (2008)

(www.vpc.org)

- Of the 554 murder-suicide deaths, 234 were suicides and 320 were homicides. 95% of murder-suicides were committed by men.
- Nine murder-suicide events occurred in the United States each week during the study period.
- Seventy-three percent of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner (spouse, common-law spouse, ex-spouse, or girlfriend/boyfriend). Of these, 94 percent were females killed by their intimate partners.
- Forty-five of the homicide victims were children and teens less than 18 years of age. Forty-four children and teens less than 18 years of age were survivors who witnessed some aspect of the murdersuicide.
- Most murder-suicides occurred in the home (75 percent).
- (Family annihilators are a subset of male murder-suicide perpetrators)



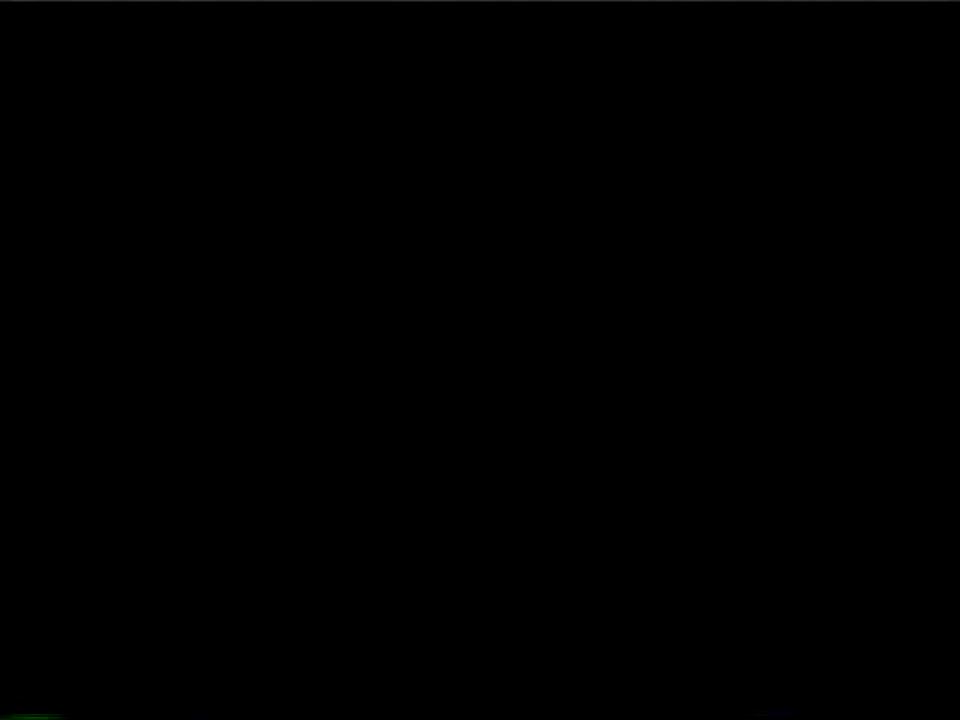


# Domestic Violence Homicides Are Predictable

If they are predictable, they are preventable...



As a starting point, we must never forget what victims are experiencing...



#### What Can We Do?

- Public Awareness/Social Norms and Values
- http://intimateviolencedeathnews.blogspot.com/
- Resource and Priority Shifts
- Get Guns Away from Abusers
- http://erx.sagepub.com/content/30/3/237.extract
- Coordinated Community Responses (Blueprint for Safety) – www.praxisinternational.org
- Lethality Assessment Programs
- High Risk Teams
- Family Justice Centers



# The Criminal Justice System Journey

- Do Nothing
- Do Something Even It Does Not Work
- Do Everything
- Do What Needs To Be Done
- Do What Works
- Do It in Partnership With Others



## Progress

- The Bureau of Justice Statistics and FBI data show that between 1993 and 2008, the annual incidence of domestic violence dropped by 53% nationwide
- Individuals killed by an intimate partner declined 32% for women and 63% for men.
- Ellen Pence: "We have reduced 'wife beating' in America but we have not changed the culture."



#### What Should We Envision Now?

- A future where...
  - All the needs of victims are met
  - Children are protected
  - Violence fades,
  - Aggressors are held accountable
  - Justice increases,
  - Families heal and thrive,
  - Hope is realized, and
  - We ALL work together...





# The Only Difference Between a Vision and a Hallucination

The number of people who see it...

#### What is the future?

- Collaborative, coordinated public health approaches with CA/DV/SA together
- Co-located, bundled services (Victim-centered)
- Multi-disciplinary/multi-agency services and team approaches with a focus on high lethality and high risk cases
- New communities/cultures with increasing focus on prevention...the "before"
- Criminal and civil justice system professionals (law enforcement, prosecution, victim-witness advocacy, and community-based domestic violence/sexual assault programs, counseling services, medical services, spiritual support, economic assistance, and...
- A rejection of the categorical social service referral system...
- A rejection of silos...separate organizations each pursuing their own agenda/mission without integration
- Creating vehicles for community capacity building with accountability to survivors
- A bigger pie...

#### COPS Conference 2011

Power of Family Justice Centers

**Priority - Collaboration** 







# Don't Buy the Lie...That You Cannot Afford It...



## The Cost of One Murder

	Cost
Four Police Responses	\$ 1,582
Two Temporary Restraining Orders	\$ 1,400
180 day Jail Term	\$19,292
Two years Probation	\$ 4,104
One Emergency Room Visit	\$ 1,855
Two weeks in a DV Shelter	\$ 2,094
One week @ Polinsky x 3 Ch.	\$ 4,200
One Year of Foster Care x 3	\$18,756
Coroner's Autopsies (2)	\$ 5,510
Court Prosecution	\$1,500,000
State Prison Sentence (2 life terms)	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
TOTAL	\$2,558,793

Source: HHSA - Office of Violence Prevention 1994

## Informed by...

- Child Advocacy Centers
- Rape Crisis Centers
- Research and Evidence-Based Practices
- Multi-Disciplinary Work of DV Shelters
- MDT Models/CCR Models
- Survivors
- Greenbook Initiative Project
- 80 Operating Family Justice Centers



# Start with "Coordinated, Community Response" But It Is Not Enough

- Law Enforcement
- Prosecutors
- Advocates/Shelters
- Judges
- Court Staff
- Probation/Parole
- Military
- Social Services/Advocacy
- Government City, County
- Government State, Federal
- Federal agencies
- Medical/Fire

- Media
- Business/Employers
- Education (K-12, Secondary)
- Faith Community/Spiritual Care
- Parenting Programs
- Pregnancy Services
- Pet Care Services
- Prevention Programs
- Public Health
- Sexual Assault Professionals
- Child Abuse Professionals
- Elder Abuse Professionals





## A Lesson in 1998

## The Collaboration Journey

- DV Task Force
- Specialization
- DV Court
- Law Enforcement DV Units
- Prosecution DV Units
- Probation DV Units
- Batterer Intervention Programs

- Multi-Disciplinary
   Work
- Multi-Agency Work
- Multi-Disciplinary
   Teams
- Blueprint
   Communities
- High Risk Teams
- Family Justice Centers
- = True Accountability





# Assessing Risk

The Basics

# Red Flags

- Frequency of violent incidents
- Severity of injuries
- History of violence
- Threats to kill victim
- Threats of suicide
- Use of drugs, alcohol or weapons
- Forced sex
- Pet abuse
- Strangulation





# Specialized DV Form - Lethality

#### Delaware Domestic Violence Incident Report

RISK FACTORS  In the course of the investigation, attempt to identify any of the following risk factors. Check the corresponding block(s), and give a detailed explanation in the narrative.					
☐ 1. GUN PRESENT IN THE HOME OR ACCESSIBLE TO SUSPECT.	☐ 11. SUSPECT HAS SAID, "IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU, NO ONE CAN."				
☐ 2. SUSPECT HAS USED OR THREATENED TO USE WEAPON.	☐ 12. SUSPECT THREATENS TO KILL.				
☐ 3. PARTIES HAD A RECENT SEPARATION OR THREATENED SEPARATION.	☐ 13. SUSPECT CONTEMPLATED, THREATENED, OR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.				
☐ 4. SUSPECT ABUSES ALCOHOL.	14. SUSPECT VIOLENT TOWARD CHILDREN.				
☐ 5. SUSPECT USES ILLEGAL DRUGS OR ABUSES LEGAL DRUGS.	☐ 15. SUSPECT HAS INJURED OR KILLED PETS.				
☐ 6. INCREASE IN FREQUENCY OR SEVERITY OF VIOLENCE.	☐ 16. SUSPECT HAS FORCED VICTIM TO HAVE SEX WHEN VICTIM DID NOT				
☐ 7. SUSPECT IS VIOLENT OUTSIDE THE RELATIONSHIP.  AGREE. ☐ 17. SUSPECT HAS DIRECTED VIOLENCE TOWARD PREGN					
☐ 8. SUSPECT HAS DESTROYED CHERISHED PERSONAL ITEMS.	☐ 18. VICTIM IS CURRENTLY PREGNANT.				
9. SUSPECT IS JEALOUS OR ATTEMPTS TO CONTROL PARTNER'S DAILY ACTIVITIES.	19. VICTIM CONTEMPLATED, THREATENED, OR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.				
☐ 10. SUSPECT HAS ACCUSED THE VICTIM OF CHEATING.	i				
CODE 48 CONTINUED ITEMS:	PLEASE DRAW ON DIAGRAM(S)				



# Mosaic Method

- Developed by Gavin DeBecker
- www.mosaicmethod.com
- Computer Program which assesses lethality based on 5,000 DV homicide cases
  - Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
  - Whittier Court
  - San Diego City and District Attorney



# Danger Assessment Tool

- www.dangerassessment.org
- Validated instrument
- Simple, Quick
- Always to be used in conjunction with dialogue with the victim...
- Victims may underestimate the danger they are in, but they rarely overestimate the danger they are facing.

#### Dr. Jackie Campbell's Danger Assessment Tool

#### DANGER ASSESSMENT

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN
Copyright 2004 Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing

Several risk factors have been associated with increased risk of homicides (murders) of women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using the calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex partner. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

- 1. Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain
- 2. Punching, kicking; bruises, cuts, and/or continuing pain
- 3. "Beating up"; severe contusions, burns, broken bones, miscarriage
- 4. Threat to use weapon; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury, miscarriage
- 5. Use of weapon; wounds from weapon

(If any of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark Yes or	No for	each of	the t	following

("He" refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner, or whoever is currently physically hurting you.)

Yes	No		
		1.	Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
		2.	Does he own a gun?
		3.	Have you left him after living together during the past year?
		_	3a. (If have never lived with him, check here)
		4.	Is he unemployed?
		5.	Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?  5a. (If yes, was the weapon a gun?)
		6.	Does he threaten to kill you?
		7.	Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
		8.	Do you have a child that is not his?
		9.	Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
		10.	Does he ever try to choke you?
		11.	Does he use illegal drugs? By drugs, I mean "uppers" or amphetamines, speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or mixtures.
		12.	Is he an alcoholic or problem drinker?
		13.	Does he control most or all of your daily activities? (For instance: does he tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car)?  (If he tries, but you do not let him, check here:)
		14.	Is he violently and constantly jealous of you?  (For instance, does he say "If I can't have you, no one can.")
		15.	Have you ever been beaten by him while you were pregnant?  (If you have never been pregnant by him, check here:)
		16.	Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
		17.	Does he threaten to harm your children?
		18.	Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
		19.	Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages on answering machine, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?
		20.	Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?

Thank you. Please talk to your nurse, advocate or counselor about what the Danger Assessment means in terms of your situation.

#### DANGER ASSESSMENT

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN
Copyright 2004 Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing
Corrections to calendar scale 2/3/2010

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Mark Yes or No for each of the following.

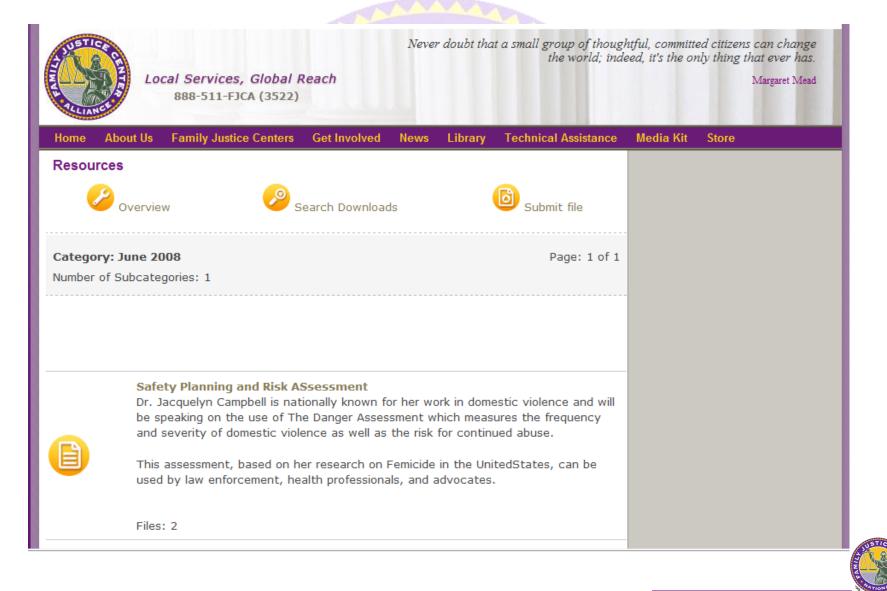
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### www.dangerassessment.org

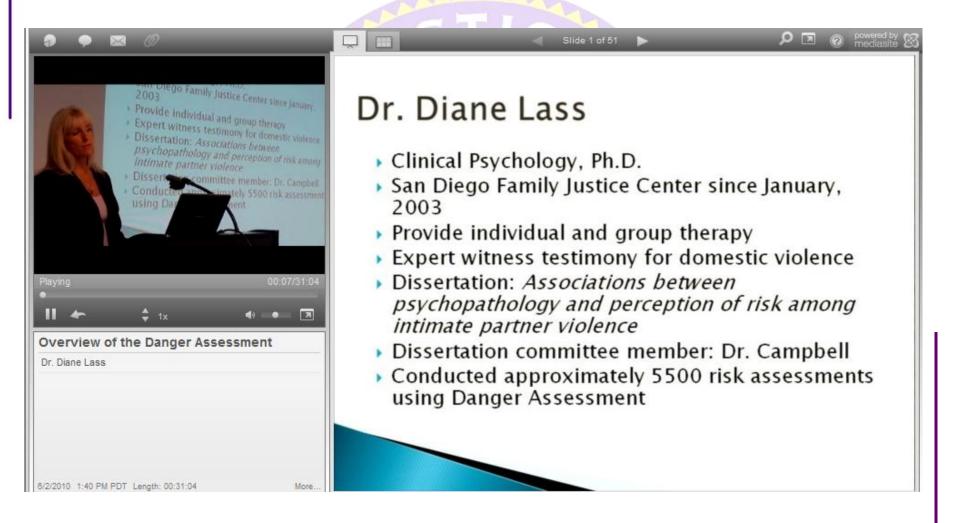
Gael B. Strack, JD @ 2010



# Webinars to Watch



# Webinars to Watch







# Maryland Model

Lethality Assessment Program

# Maryland Lethality Assessment Model

- Created by the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
- Contact David Sargeant -dmsargent47@msn.com





#### Status

### **Maryland & Other States**

#### 12 States since June 2009

- 100+ law enforcement agencies (incl. LVMPD, Broward County SO, KC, Savannah, Ft. Wayne, Gainesville)
- 33 partner DV service providers
- > 34 counties

#### Maryland since October 2005

- > 106 law enforcement agencies (94% of 113)
- 20 partner DV service providers (100% of 20)
- **24** counties (100% of 24)

## Maryland & Six Other States' Stats (FL, GA, IN, NH, MO, OR)

Six StatesJuly-Dec. 2009 1,747,500 27 agencies	2,215 1/397	1,464 (66%)	925 (63%)	347 (38%)
Maryland—2006-2009 4,288,500 88 agencies	22,428 1/375	12,069 (54%)	7,090 (59%)	2,072 (30%)



# Heart of the Maryland model

- ★Officers assess for high risk at scene of crime with 11 questions
- ★If high risk, officer calls the local hotline and offers the phone to the victim
- If victim declines advocacy support, officer provides "advisal" and referrals
- ★If victim accepts advocacy support, officer participates in advocacy process as needed.





#### NEW HAMPSHIRE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### LAP SCREEN FOR FIRST RESPONDERS



Officer:	Date:	Case #:					
Victim:	Offender:	•					
□ Check here if victim did not answer any of the questions.							
► A "Yes" response to any of Questions #1-3 au.	tomatically triggers the protoco	l referral					
1. Has he/she ever used a weapon against you or			□Not Ans.				
2. Has he/she threatened to kill you or your child	lren?	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
3. Do you think he/she might try to kill you?		□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
► Negative responses to Questions #1-3, but positive responses to at least four of Questions #4-11, trigger the protocol referral.							
4. Does he/she have a gun or can he/she get one	easily?	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
5. Has he/she ever tried to choke you?	Λ-Λ ·	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
6. Is he/she violently or constantly jealous or do of your daily activities?	es he/she control most	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
<ol> <li>Have you left him/her or separated after living</li> </ol>	g together or being married?	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
8. Is he/she unemployed?	K / J	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
9. Has he/she ever tried to kill himself/herself?		□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
10. Do you have a child that he/she knows is not	his/hers?	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
11. Doe <mark>s</mark> he/she follow or spy on you or leave thr	eatening messages?	□ Yes □ No	□ Not Ans.				
► An officer may trigger the protocol referral, if not already triggered above, as a result of the victim's response to the below question, or whenever the officer believes the victim is in a potentially lethal situation.							
Is there anything else that worries you about your	safety? ( <i>if 'yes')</i> what wornes	s you?	A				
7 7		47/					
Check one:/ictim screened in according to the protocol/ictim screened in based on the belief of officer/ictim did not screen in							
If victim screened in: After advising her/him of a high danger assessment, did the victim speak with the hotline advocate?							

**Note:** The questions above and the criteria for determining the level of risk a person faces is based on the best available research on factors associated with lethal violence by a current or former intimate partner. However, each situation may present unique factors that influence risk for lethal violence that are not captured by this screen. Although most victims who screen "positive" or "high danger" would not be expected to be killed, these victims face much higher risk than that of other victims of intimate partner violence.

- 1) Call Crisis Center Hotline at: 603-330-0214
- 2) Tell them your name, department and that it is a LAP call.
- 3) Give them your call back number.
- \*\*DO NOT USE VICTIM'S PHONE NUMBER AS CALL BACK NUMBER.\*\*
- 4) Give screening form to department LAP contact.



# The Screen and Protocol

- Simple 11 question tool
- Developed, researched and implemented by the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
- Unique because of the accompanying response protocol.



# The Screen

- Yes to any of the first 3 questions indicates high danger and triggers the protocol referral
- No to the first 3 but yes to any 4 of the remaining questions triggers the protocol referral.
- First responders may trigger the protocol referral even if the victim doesn't screen in.



# Protocol Referral

- A victim that screens in is told:
  - She/he are in danger and
  - People in his/her situation have been killed.



## Protocol Referral

- The victim is then told that the first responder is going to contact an advocate.
- The victim is given the opportunity to speak with the advocate.
- The advocate will go over safety planning with the victim and give a brief summary of other assistance that they can provide.



# Protocol Referral

- If the victim declines speaking with an advocate then the Officer obtains safety planning advice and shares it with the victim.
- Calls last 10 minutes or less.
- Overall goal of the call is to get victims connected with confidential advocacy to prepare a safety plan.



# DV High Risk Team Models

- Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center –
  Newburyport, MA
  <a href="http://www.jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org/high-risk-case-teams">http://www.jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org/high-risk-case-teams</a>
- San Diego County High Risk Response Team

http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/grandjury/report s/2010-2011/DomesViolenceFinalReport\_respons e1.pdf

# Other Model High Risk Case Approaches

- New Mexico Paul Szych,
   Dynamic Stalking
   Intervention
- Cook County TAC
   Program https://www.ncjrs.gov/App/p
   ublications/Abstract.aspx?id
   =182286







# Family Justice Centers/MDTs

# FJC Movement

- 80 Operating FJCs/Other MDT/Multi-Agency Models
- ½ coordinated by shelters/communitybased DV agencies
- ½ coordinated by District Attorney's Offices or Police Departments
- 140 Communities in active discussions

- Centers in 10 countries
- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban
- Tribal
- Regional Centers
- Leading Centers in New York, California, Idaho, Washington, Florida, Alabama, Arizona, Tennessee...



# **Basic Services in Centers**

- Food
- Clothing
- Restraining orders without going to court
- Free cell phones with free minutes
- Free Internet access
- Spiritual support
- Transportation assistance
- Free medical assistance; dental assistance

- DA Victim-Witness Assistance
- Counseling
- Support Groups
- Safety Planning
- Child care
- Support services for children
- Law enforcement assistance
- Free locksmith services
- Pregnancy counseling



# And the Most Used Service Providers Are...

- Restraining Order Clinics/Civil Legal Services/Immigration Legal Services
- Advocacy/Counseling/Safety Planning
- Law enforcement/prosecution services
- Children's Services 1
- Forensic Medical Unit/Health Services 1
- Chaplain's/Volunteer Advocacy/Peer Support
- Transportation 1
- Public Benefits 1



# FJC Services Evolving...

- Easily accessible county wide resource network/locations
- Economic/financial assessments
- Financial literacy
- Credit repair
- Asset Development
- Education/Computer Training
- Personal Coaching
- Job Training/Job Placement
- Housing/Services Coordination Emergency, Transitional, and Affordable
- Campus approaches...



# San Diego Family Justice Center



# San Diego FJC New Home: Co-Located with the San Diego Housing Commission at Smart Corner October 1, 2010







### The FJC Alliance Team



Casey Gwinn, JD



Gael Strack, JD



Sgt. Robert Keetch,



Jennifer Anderson



**Brenda Lugo** 



Lori Gillam, CPA



**Yvonne Coiner** 



**Mehry Mohseni** 



Melissa Mack



Alexia Peters, JD



# NFJCA Website



JUSTICE CE Z









# Fall 2010



a simple, complicated idea to stop family violence

Casey Gwinn with Gael Strack





# Tulane University Survey Range of Co-Located Services in Centers

- Criminal Justice
- Medical Services
- Civil Legal Services
- Child Care/Child trauma/Advocacy Services
- Child Welfare
- Subject Matter Focus Areas: Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Stalking/Elder Abuse
- Living Provisions/Needs
- Financial & Employment Assistance
- Public Benefits
- Social Services
- Spiritual Support
- Community Education/Outreach/Prevention
- Camping/Mentoring Programs



# Fort Worth FJC Planners





# The Dreams Are Getting Bigger







What is the biggest problem in trying to create and maintain High Risk Teams/FJCs/MDTs?

Power and Control!!!!

# What are the biggest problems developing true collaboration?

- Power and control
- Personality conflicts
- Ego struggles
- Politics/Competition/Limited resources
- Different value systems, priorities, goals
- Different visions for service delivery
- Lack of grace, mercy, forgiveness
- Lack of accountability and mutual respect
- Poor, inconsistent communication
- Lack of compromise, negotiation
- No one listens to survivors and let's them participate in the design of the service delivery model
- Weak collaborative leadership



# The Attributes of Healthy Relationships in Responses to High Risk DV

- Grace
- Mercy
- Forgiveness
- Humility
- Unselfishness
- Sense of humor
- Affirmation
- Encouragement
- Mutual Respect
- Shared Resources
- Massive amounts of communication



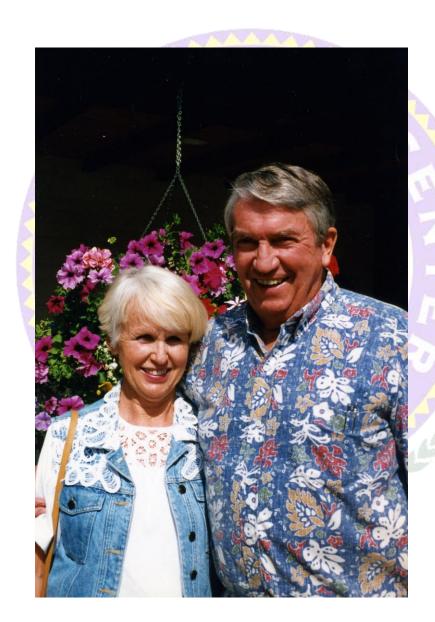
## Reminders for Dreamers

- Be Focused and Persistent
- You Don't Have to Say Jesus to be Jesus
- Be Overcomers
- Stay Humble
- Come Alongside those in the Trenches
- Listen to Advocates/Survivors
- Always Aspire, Never settle
- Beyond services...what is your Camp Hope?













# Thank you! www.familyjusticecenter.org



