

## **Provider Guide:**

# Male-Identified Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

This guide is designed to help health and human service professionals provide support and safety planning for male-identified individuals experiencing IPV.

#### **OBSTACLES THE CLIENT MAY FACE**

- Not being believed
- Stigma and shame
- Fewer services for men
- Fear of losing children

# THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN INTERACTING WITH THE CLIENT

#### Gender and "Safety"

The client may interpret questions about safety as questions that don't necessarily address underlying abusive dynamics of power, control, fear, and isolation. Let the client know that abuse can also be emotional, verbal, financial, or related to immigration status.

#### Stigma

The client may face judgement and contempt from family, friends, police, and courts. In addition, they may feel shame and confusion stemming from the belief that IPV can't or shouldn't be happening to them.

#### • "Women-centered" Services

The client may be hesitant to receive services from an agency with "women" in the title. Recommend them to welcoming services in the "Resources" section and complete a warm referral when possible.

#### Child Welfare System

Acknowledge that the client may fear or assume that agencies like DHS or certain systems (family court, the custody system, etc.) are stacked against them.

#### **USEFUL QUESTIONS TO ASK THE CLIENT**

Who are the people you're able to talk with honestly?

Work with the client to identify trustworthy and supportive individuals. People experiencing abuse are often very isolated, and fear and stigma worsen this isolation.

 Do you have any support networks outside of your partner and shared friends?

Recommend options for developing other emotional support networks including domestic violence counselors, peer specialists and support groups.

 Are you and your partner using the same services, like support groups, health centers, faith communities, or community centers?

Brainstorm with the client different resources they could use or consider whether a friend could accompany them to appointments/meetings, etc.



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#### **RESOURCES**

#### **SHELTER**

#### Women Against Abuse Emergency Shelter

All survivors with or without children (866) 723-3014
Confidential location

#### **Appletree Family Center**

Men seeking shelter with children 1430 Cherry St. (215) 686-7150

#### **Roosevelt Darby Center**

Single men seeking shelter 802 N. Broad St. (215) 686-5671

#### **IPV SERVICES FOR MEN**

#### Philadelphia Domestic Violence Hotline (24

hours) 1 (866) 723-3014

#### **Lutheran Settlement House**

Bilingual Domestic Violence Program (215) 426-8610 ext. 1236 1340 Frankford Ave.

#### Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Latina Domestic Violence Program (215) 763-8870 ext. 1353 216 W. Somerset Avenue

### Women Against Abuse Legal Center

(215) 686-7082 100 S. Broad St. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

#### **Women In Transition**

(215) 751-1111 718 Arch St. Suite 401N

#### **RAPE/SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Women Organized Against Rape (215) 985-3333 1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Suite 800