Moving Beyond the Shelter Model: A Mobile Full Family Approach to Supporting Survivors

Session Objectives

- Overview of WTLC's survivor driven advocacy approach beyond the shelter setting for survivors of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking
- Overview of the program development process
- Discuss the challenges and benefits of supporting non-shelter survivors and their families

WTLC Model

1. Survivor Driven/Trauma Informed Services
   - Services in Shelter/Housing
   - Services in Community Based Center(s), FRC's, Justice Center, etc.
   - Services in home and community
2. Full Family Approach
   - Batterer Engagement
   - Multi-generational supports
   - Ecological Perspective - survivor supports
3. Culturally appropriate/sensitive services
   - Multiple languages, respect, responsiveness
   - Partnerships to ensure access
   - SAFE Zone
   - PETS in Shelter

Our Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Continuum</th>
<th>Support Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency (shelter &amp; safety net)</td>
<td>24/7 support line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>Health and Mental Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>Addiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>RRH</td>
<td>Case Planning/Goal Setting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perm Housing</td>
<td>Alternative housing options</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Legal Advocacy</td>
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<td>Restraining orders</td>
<td>Engagement/Trainings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Law support</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partnerships</td>
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Need for mobile support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Inputs</th>
<th>WTLC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 in 3 women (NI/IOV)</td>
<td>Support line requests increase for non-shelter supports</td>
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<td>8500 shelter beds in California</td>
<td>Survivor Driven/ Trauma Informed</td>
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<td>Decreased funding</td>
<td>Evidence based/Best Practices</td>
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Assessment of environmental factors
- Are you at risk of a natural event?
- Are there other factors that pose a risk for danger (weather, climate, etc.)?

Assessment of participant’s living space
- Do you have the complete and exact address of the visit?
- Is the place of visit in a well-lit area?
- Are there other factors that may pose a risk for danger (weather, disaster, protests, etc.)?
- Who is likely to be in the participant’s home during the visit?
  - Children
  - Parents
  - Other relatives/friends
  - Pets including guard dogs
  - Does accessing the space require the use of flight of stairs?
- Is the family known to have weapons in the home?

Assessment of participant’s condition
- Does the participant have an active substance abuse problem?
- Does the participant have a mental health illness or violence behavior?

Assessment of Advocate’s appearance & condition
- Are you working alone?
- Are you wearing accessories that have symbols (such as political or religious) that may trigger aggression?
- Is your phone fully charged?
- Is your vehicle in good working condition?
- Do you have your supervisor’s and emergency contact’s phone number on you?

Need for Co-Homeless/DV Services

- Victims of domestic violence lost about 8 million days of paid work because of the violence that they experienced.
- Considering the cost and prevalence, as well as the direct relationship between housing and domestic violence, a majority of homeless women are victims of domestic violence.
- 28% of families were homeless because of domestic violence in 2008 (U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2008).
- 39% of cities cited domestic violence as the primary cause of family homelessness (U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2007).

http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/domestic.html

Ecological Perspective = Full Family Approach

Culture Awareness Is key

Why?

Funders  Need  Evidence
Homeless - DV Collaboration
Best Practice
• Cross Training
• Trauma Informed Services
• Coordination of Services

Challenges
• Housing Guidelines
• Limited Housing
• Serving full family

Transition/Development

Discussion:
• How do you or your organization view the survivor in his/her decision making?
• In our communities, how do we support the full family in an effort to decrease homelessness?
• What is the reason for closed services for domestic violence? How can an open conversation on this open to integrate into other services within homeless services?
• Collaboration?

Resources
• http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/domestic.html
• https://wscadv.org/projects/domestic-violence-housing-first/booklet/7
• https://www.domesticshelters.org/domestic-violence-articles-information/we-ill-come-to-you#.WIXNfm_yULk

Gigi Tsontos, LCSW MPA
Chief Executive Officer WTLC
gtsontos@wtlc.org
714-992-1939 x 106
www.wtlc.org
24 hour HOTLINE: 877-531-5522