

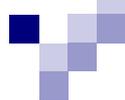
SAIL Project

Joint Project between the Alabama Department of
Human Resources (DHR) and the Alabama
Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV)

Welfare Reform Act of 1996 and DRA of 2005

- Allowed states to use TANF funds to address domestic violence
- Family Violence Option – encouraged states to provide services to victims of domestic violence
- Alabama adopted the Family Violence Option in 1998





SAIL Project

Special Assessment,
Intervention and
Liaison





SAIL Goals

- Safety
- Self-sufficiency for each domestic violence victim and her family

SAIL Objectives

- To increase the number of clients who receive SAIL Services
- To increase the number of Family Assistance clients who obtain employment by eliminating DV barriers
- To increase the amount of services provided to victims that would not otherwise have been available



SAIL Project Created Because...

- Statistics show the high correlation between domestic violence and receipt of welfare
 - Among welfare recipients, DV victims are more likely than non-victims to be long term (5 years or more) welfare recipients
 - Welfare recipients are 3 to 3 1/2 times more likely to suffer from DV than non-recipients
- Domestic violence creates barriers that interfere with a woman's ability to comply with TANF and child support requirements

SAIL Project History

- Starting in 1998, DHR and ACADV worked together to provide training on domestic violence to all TANF staff
- Eventually able to provide training on domestic violence and agency protocol to every agency staff person— over 4000 employees
- Long standing relationship between DV community and Child Welfare but little interaction with TANF staff
- Formed a steering committee of state and county TANF, food assistance, child welfare, and adult services staff as well as staff from domestic violence programs to design the program and to develop a screening instrument

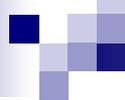


SAIL Project Implementation

- Pilot began October 2000
- Implemented statewide in 2002
- Project provides each county DHR office access to a SAIL specialist, either on-site or by phone
- SAIL specialist works with DHR staff to help victims of domestic violence

SAIL Project Seeks to...

- Determine the extent to which domestic violence affects the client's life
- Assess the risk of harm faced by the client and her children
- Determine service needs of the client and her children
- Determine if participation in work activities and/or child support enforcement activities puts the client at **increased risk of danger**
- Examine the effects of the violence on the client's efforts and abilities to participate in employment activities



SAIL Project Financial Picture

- Budget for FY11 is \$946,248
- ACADV subcontracts with 18 DV shelters
- Staff
 - ❖ Project Director (50%)
 - ❖ 2 Consultants (75%)
 - ❖ 25 SAIL specialists (full-time)
 - ❖ 1 bookkeeper (65%)



Eligibility Requirements

- Must be willing to be referred to the SAIL project
- Must be current or past victim of domestic violence
- **Available** income must be equal to or less than 200% of federal poverty level
- Must be member of a family that includes minor child under 18 or 18 and in school
- Must be willing to sign a release of information that allows for the sharing of information that affects her/his eligibility for cash assistance and/or other DHR services



Family Assistance (FA) Staff

- Screens at eligibility application and review of case
- Uses the DHR-FAD-2080 screening form
- Sends, with client's knowledge and permission, referral to DV specialist if any answer is marked "yes" on form

JOBS Staff

- Discusses answers on the screening instrument (Form 2080) at each assessment and reassessment
- If no Form 2080 from FA, JOBS case manager discusses domestic violence in overall context of work and barriers to self-sufficiency

SOS PLAN

SECURING OUR SAFETY AND (FINANCIAL) SELF-SUFFICIENCY

1. If the SAIL participant is a FA recipient, the JOBS case manager works closely with the SAIL specialist and the client to develop the SOS plan.
2. The SOS plan will be in addition to and consistent with the client's work plan and will include any needed JOBS supportive services such as transportation, child care, clothes, car repairs, school supplies and tools.
3. The SAIL Specialist will take the lead in assisting the client with safety planning and handling of issues related directly to DV, regardless of whether the client is a FA recipient.



SAIL Project Services

- Develop Safety Plan
- Assist in obtaining safe housing
- File for protection orders
- Attend court proceedings with the client
- Provide referrals to individual and group counseling and /or support groups
- Identify community resources and obtain other necessary services and/or goods
- Educate employers about domestic violence and its cost to the individual **and** to the employer



SAIL Project Financial Help

- In addition to services listed on the last slide, a special category of supportive services called **Domestic Violence Alternative Services (DVAS)** was established to ensure the safety of the victim and her children in their current home and/or to assist the victim and her children in relocating (fleeing) to a new home away from the violence
- Up to \$1000 may be paid for DVAS on behalf of the victim and her/his family
- DVAS funds are in addition to JOBS supportive Services provided for employment

SAIL Project Financial Help

Examples of allowable DVAS expenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Repairs for damage done by the perpetrator to the home in which the client lives such as broken windows, doors, locks, etc.
- Repairs for damage to the victim's car that was done by the perpetrator and are necessary to safely operate the car
- Deposits for rent and utilities for the victim to move away from the violence
- Certain transportation costs, such as commercial travel fare, gas, truck/van rental (not insurance)

DVAS expenditures are handled by the SAIL specialist and the supportive services are provided by the DHR JOBS case manager

FY2010 Statistics

■ Total referrals from any source:	3826
■ FA screening tool	1516
■ JOBS assessment	356
■ Child Protective Services	250
■ Child Support/Food Assistance/Other DHR	118
■ Self-Referrals	537
■ Referrals from community	1046

**Cumulative number of individuals
participating in the SAIL Program in
FY2010 = 1428**

Conclusion

- Project has been very successful
- After our very first kick-off meeting, a staff person in a small, rural county called to share results of one of her first screenings - one client answered yes to several of the questions. Concerned because she had worked with this family for years and thought she knew them pretty well, she asked the client about her reason for not telling us before. Client responded, “Nobody ever asked me.”
- Over the past 10 years, over **38,000** referrals have been made to the SAIL Project

For additional information contact:

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