



Welfare Peer TA Network Webinar

Overcoming Domestic Violence as a Barrier to Employment through TANF Partnerships

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 ❖ 3:00 – 4:00 pm Eastern Time

Presenters:

- ♦ Marylouise Kelley, Ph.D., Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau ♦
 - ♦ Anne Menard, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence ♦
- ♦ Mary Roberto and Ruth Glenn, Colorado Department of Human Services ♦

David Camporeale, Moderator, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families

Welcome! The session will start momentarily.



Welfare Peer TA Network Webinar

Webinar Learning Objectives:

- To give TANF agencies an overview of existing models for partnership to serve individuals and children escaping domestic violence who access TANF.
- To raise awareness of how programs are making the workplace safer for TANF participants fleeing abuse and present models for implementing safety policies with employers.
- To encourage collaboration between TANF agencies and the domestic violence community.



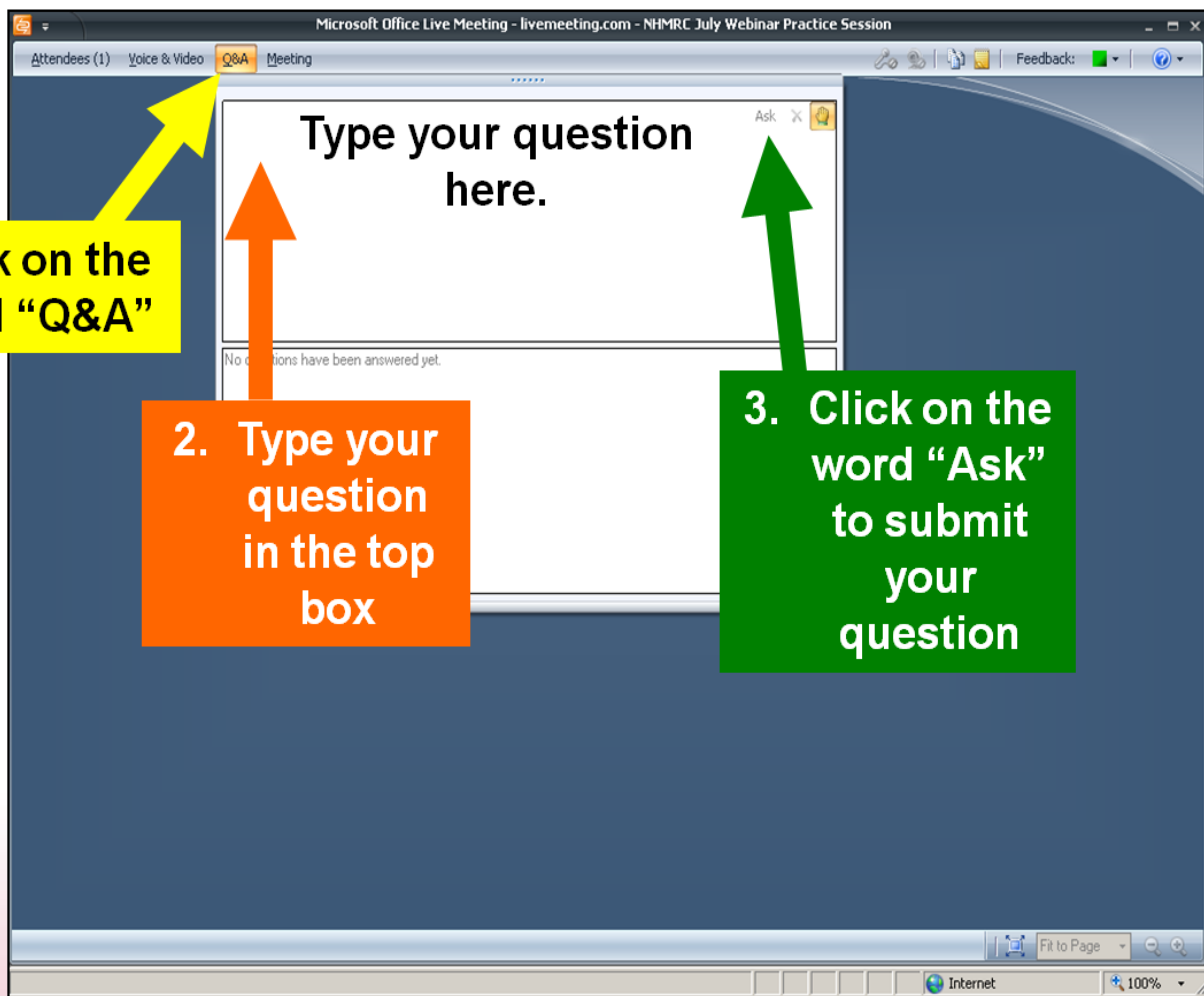
Welfare Peer TA Network Webinar

Agenda:

- 3:00 – 3:05 p.m. Welcome, Overview, and Webinar Logistics (David Camporeale, OFA, Welfare Peer TA Team)
- Topical and Presenter Overview (David Camporeale, OFA)
- 3:05 – 3:20 p.m. Presenter # 1 (Marylouise Kelley, Family and Youth Services Bureau)
- 3:20 – 3:35 p.m. Presenter # 2 (Anne Menard, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence)
- 3:35 – 3:50 p.m. Presenter # 3 (Mary Roberto and Ruth Glenn, Colorado Department of Human Services)
- 3:50 – 4:00 p.m. Question and Answer Session (David Camporeale, OFA)
- 4:00 p.m. Webinar Poll (Welfare Peer TA Team)

How Do I Ask a Question?

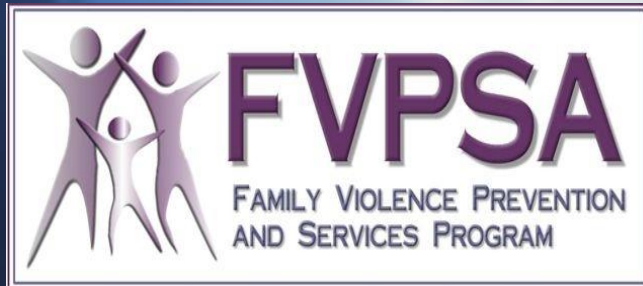
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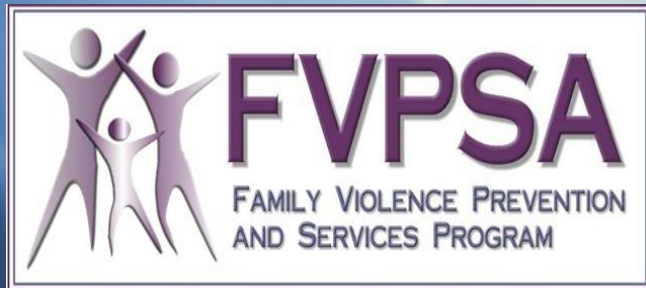


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Overcoming Domestic Violence as a Barrier to Employment through TANF Partnerships





Marylouise Kelley

Director

Division of Family Violence Prevention
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services



Anne Menard

Director

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Family Violence Prevention & Services Family & Youth Services Bureau Administration for Children & Families

- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA)
- Purpose: to assist States (and Territories) in establishing, maintaining, and expanding programs and projects to prevent family violence and to provide immediate shelter and related assistance for victims of family violence and their dependents.

FVPSA Support for the Network of Domestic Violence Services - *Local Programs*

- FVPSA funds part of 1,675 local domestic violence programs
 - 1,330 Shelters and 342 Non-residential programs
- These domestic violence programs:
 - Served over 1.2 million adults and children
 - 78% in non-residential services
 - 22% in shelter
 - Provided more than 7.1 million bed nights for survivors and their dependents
 - Answered more than 2.7 million crisis/hotline calls
 - Served over 309,000 children, 116,000 of those in shelter
 - Reached over 1.6 million youth through youth-targeted community education presentations

FVPSA Support for the Network of Domestic Violence Services - *State and National Programs*

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
 - 800-799 SAFE (7233)
 - Crisis intervention and referrals for services throughout the country
 - Responds to over 22,000 calls each month

- **State Domestic Violence Coalitions**
 - <http://www.nnedv.org/resources/coalitions.html>

- **National Resource Centers and Culturally Specific Institutes**

*When we say “domestic violence”,
what do we mean?*

A pattern of abuse and coercive behaviors, including physical, sexual, and psychological abuse as well as economic coercion, used against an intimate partner.

Domestic violence often involves the use of a combination of tactics aimed at establishing control of one partner over the other.

Not just physical violence...

- ◆ Stalking and threats to kidnap, kill, or otherwise harm family, friends, or property
- ◆ Threats to commit suicide
- ◆ Repeated use of degrading or coercive language
- ◆ Controlling access to food or sleep and withholding access to money, credit cards or medical care
- ◆ Denying contact with friends or family

What do we know?

Key findings from NVAW Survey:

- ◆ Nearly 1 in 4 women are beaten or raped by a partner during adulthood.
- ◆ Each year approximately 2.3 million people (disproportionately women) are raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend.

What do we know?

The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports:

Every day in the United States, an average of 3 women are killed by a current or former intimate partner.

What do we know?

- ◆ Leaving an abusive relationship does not guarantee the reduction or elimination of violence or risk.
- ◆ In fact, leaving may create new risks or increase existing ones (kidnapping, threats against family and friends). The rates and seriousness of physical abuse increase during periods of separation or divorce.

What do we know?

- ◆ While domestic violence occurs in all social groups (as defined by age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or economic circumstances), poor women experience violence by their partners at higher rates, partly because they have fewer options.
- ◆ The combination of poverty and violence creates particular difficulties for women's well-being and ability to achieve self-sufficiency. Access to independent economic resources, including welfare, is central to abused women's decision-making and safety planning.

Domestic Violence and Economic Support

- ◆ Women with abusive partners often use welfare as a bridge out of these relationships.
- ◆ Numerous studies have found that between 40-60% of current welfare recipients have experienced domestic violence at some point in their lives. Up to 25% report that the abuse is a current problem.

Domestic Violence and Economic Support

*Meeting Survivor's Needs:
A Multi-State Study of
Domestic Violence Shelter Experiences,*
surveyed 3,400 shelter residents in 8
states in 2008 and found that 93% of
these survivors reported needing help
with economic issues, including
finding affordable housing, job training,
transportation, and education and
assistance managing money.

**Each
domestic violence
victim's circumstances,
risks and resources
will be different,
and may change as the
tactics used by an abusive
partner change.**

Not Enough: What TANF Offers Family Violence Victims

*Findings from a national survey
conducted in late 2009 by
NRCDV and Legal Momentum*

<http://www.vawnet.org> > Search: Not Enough

THE SURVEY - Fall 2009

- Nearly 600 respondents, including individuals from all 50 states and Washington, D.C.
- The majority (78%) of respondents work at domestic violence or dual domestic violence/sexual assault programs. Also responding were staff from legal aid or other anti-poverty programs (13%) and from TANF/CSE agencies (5%).
- Most respondents (82%) provide direct services to victims.

KEY RESULTS

- TANF is important to domestic violence victims (96%).
- TANF can make a significant difference
 - when it works well.
- TANF can make a significant difference
 - when it doesn't work well.

KEY RESULTS

When TANF does work well for victims --

- Collaboration between DV and TANF and Child Support agencies
- Trained responders
- Flexible use of TANF funds
- Streamlined processes
- Benefits for immigrant victims

KEY RESULTS

When TANF doesn't work well for victims --

- Application process creates barriers
- Benefits too low and often delayed
- Screening is often inconsistent and ineffective
- Notification of FV specific waivers, services is often ineffective
- Disclosures may not lead to needed help
- Some responses make things worse = less safe
- Child support enforcement is also inconsistent in addressing safety and financial concerns

MAKING TANF MORE EFFECTIVE

(top ranked from 1st)

- Employment services
- Child care
- DV training for CS/TANF workers
- Relocation assistance
- Transportation
- Improve FV screening
- Increase TANF benefit levels

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Shorten application process/less documentation
- Flexible FV exemption and work requirements
- Access to mental health, substance abuse, and trauma services
- Onsite advocates, TANF workers
- Pre-sanction screening for domestic violence
- Improve confidentiality
- Remove barriers for immigrants
- More specialized services

Overcoming Domestic Violence as a Barrier to Employment through TANF Partnerships

Colorado's Approach



Presenters

Ruth M. Glenn

Director, ***Domestic Violence Program***

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Mary E. Roberto

Section Manager, ***Colorado Works Program***

CO Dept. Human Services

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State Partnership

Domestic Violence Program



Colorado Works / TANF Program



Models

- Family Violence Option (FVO)
- Co – Location Project
- Funding
- Promoting Responsible Fatherhood



Family Violence Option Training

- State Rule on TANF/DV protocols under the FVO
- State DV program delivers frequent training to TANF workers statewide

Co – Location Project

- DV advocates in TANF offices
 - Provide more immediate / comprehensive services to victims/survivors
 - Immediate access to address survivor needs
 - Cross training and referrals
 - TANF funding available to pilot

TANF Funding

- State and local TANF resources support domestic violence programs
 - TANF-eligible victim / survivor population
 - Local programs and CLP
 - FVO training



Promoting Responsible Fatherhood

- Community Access Grant
- Situated in Colorado Works / TANF
 - Required to collaborate with DV programs
 - Develop Protocols
 - Develop Screening Instruments

Colorado Men Against DV



Successes

- Cross trained / educated personnel
 - Local and State
- Collaborations between DV and TANF
 - Local and State
- Innovative use of TANF funds
- Standard policies and procedures

Lessons Learned

- Keep needs of victims/survivors first
- Must have the difficult conversations
- Keep leveraging of resources in mind
- Understand the barriers that exist for systems
 - (policy, procedure, etc)
- Gain understanding regarding commonalities
 - (mission, philosophy, etc)
- Understand collaboration does not happen overnight

Recommendations

- Work together to create standards / procedures for both entities
 - Cross referrals
 - Cross trainings
- Include program content in curriculums
- Engage in continual dialogue
- Continual assessment of victim/survivor needs from systems



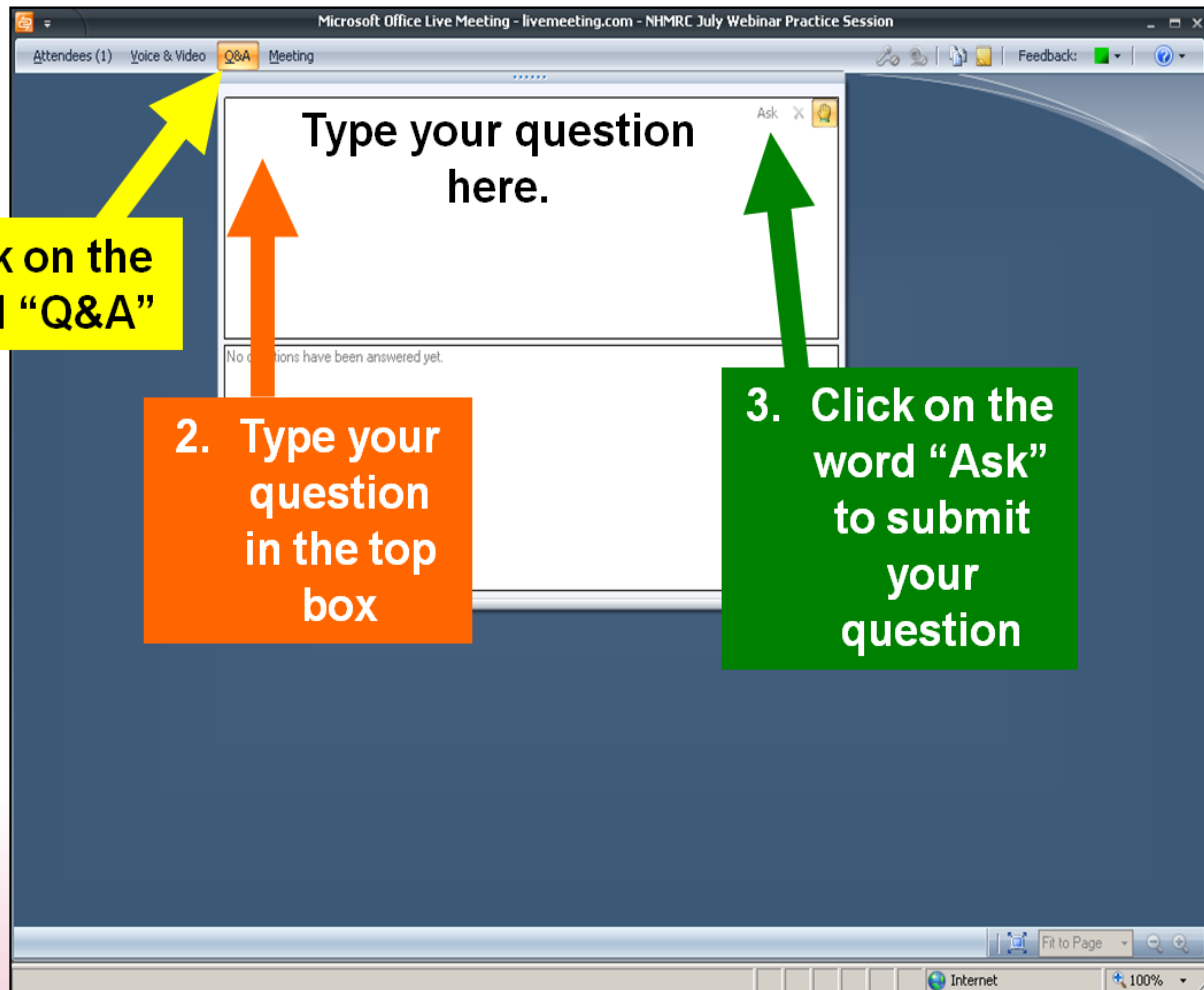


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Question and Answer Session

How Do I Ask a Question?

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Thank You for Participating in Our Poll.

Please help us to expand our network and reach a greater number of people by directing interested colleagues from your local and State networks and agencies to <http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov>.





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THANK YOU for attending the Webinar!

A transcript and audio recording will be available in 5-10 days on the Welfare Peer TA Web site at <http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov>.

Please be sure to register for additional upcoming Webinars through the Welfare Peer TA Network Web site.

