EMPOWER TOOLKIT
DVAM 2020

This toolkit was created for Healthcare Providers in collaboration with DV Advocates for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In this toolkit, you will have access to valuable resources and learn more about our specialty trainings.

HEALTH CARES ABOUT DV PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Interface • P. 2
About DVAM & Welcome Letter • P. 3
Impact of DV on Health • P. 4
Training & Technical Assistance • P. 5
Responding to DV • P. 6
Provider Scripts • P. 7
Additional Resources • P. 8
ABOUT INTERFACE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Established in 1973, Interface Children & Family Services is the region’s most comprehensive nonprofit social services agency providing direct, responsive, wrap-around services to address the complex needs of client and community.

As a critical safety net for children and families, Interface provides 30 distinct programs across seven core program areas including mental health and trauma treatment, domestic violence and child abuse prevention, youth crisis intervention, human trafficking, reentry services, early child and family development, and 2-1-1 information and referral in 21 counties.

INTERFACE IS HERE TO HELP!

During the current COVID-19 crisis, Interface wants the community to know that vital services are still being offered to assist individuals and families in need. Click on the service to learn more about our programs and ways to access support.

2-1-1 Information and Referral
Child Abuse & Domestic Violence Prevention
Early Child and Family Development
Human Trafficking
Justice Services
Mental Health
Youth Crisis and Homeless Youth Services

Contact us:
24-hour Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-800-636-6738
24-hour Youth & Housing Crisis Hotline: (805) 469-5882
Mental Health Intake Line (Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm): (805) 485-6114 ext. 662 or email intake@icfs.org
Intake Application Online
OCTOBER 2020

DEAR HEALTHCARE PARTNERS,

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH! WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO ENGAGE IN OUR EFFORTS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ITS IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH AND FAMILIES. IN THIS TOOL KIT YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES YOU CAN SHARE WITH YOUR PATIENTS. WE HAVE ALSO INCLUDED A LINK TO ACCESS OUR NEW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & HEALTHCARE POSTERS TO DISPLAY IN YOUR WAITING AREAS, BATHROOMS OR PATIENT ROOMS. OUR POSTERS WERE CREATED WITH THE INTENT TO ENCOURAGE POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO SPEAK TO THEIR MEDICAL PROVIDERS ABOUT HOW THEIR RELATIONSHIPS MAY BE IMPACTING THEIR HEALTH AND THE HEALTH OF THEIR CHILDREN.

WE INVITE YOU TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING AND GAIN ACCESS TO ALL OUR AVAILABLE RESOURCES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING ALONGSIDE YOU AND SUPPORTING YOUR EFFORTS TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

SINCERELY,

THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION TEAM
DV LEADS TO ADVERSE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

BY BLUE SHIELD FOUNDATION

Victims of domestic violence experience short and long-term physical and chronic pain. There is 2\times the risk of asthma, irritable bowel syndrome & diabetes. DV survivors are 3\times more likely to have a mental health condition such as depression, as high as 70\% and PTSD as high as 84\%.

Health risk behaviors: DV survivors are 6\times times more likely to become dependent on drugs or alcohol, 2\times more likely to smoke, become obese and practice sexual risk behaviors, increasing the risk for STD’S and HIV.

The medical cost burden from DV in the first year after victimization is as high as 7 billion dollars! Our health care utilization and costs for abused women are up to 20\% HIGHER and stay higher for up to 5 years after victimization. Children who witness abuse are 3\times more likely to use mental health services, and are more likely to use all health care services.

This only one part of the picture, domestic violence often goes undiagnosed and undisclosed. The collaboration between health care providers and advocates is of the greatest importance to help prevent this from happening.
Health CARES about DV
Training & Technical Assistance

Responding to Domestic Violence in Healthcare Settings

Learning Objectives:
- Learn the definition of domestic violence and its impacts on health
- Learn how to recognize potential domestic violence victims
- Learn best practices for screening and responding
- Review CA Mandated Reporting Laws
- Become familiar with local and national resources available

Training Description: This training will provide a general overview of the dynamics of domestic violence and discuss its impact on health. Recent statistics show that domestic violence is a significant problem in Ventura County, with local law enforcement receiving more than twice the statewide rate of DV-related calls. Healthcare visits represent a critical window of opportunity to provide universal education on healthy relationships, assess patients for domestic violence and intervene if abuse is identified. Participants will learn Trauma-Informed approaches to prevent, identify and screen for potential victims of domestic violence and review mandated reporting laws for suspicious injuries. Participants will learn whom they can contact for support and will be given safety cards to share with patients with local resources for potential victims.

Technical Assistance and Support is Available

- For technical assistance or to learn more about our programs and resources, contact our Project Specialist at (805) 850-4563 or email FVISPresentation@icfs.org.
- To speak to an advocate 24/7 contact our Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-636-6738.
- To schedule a presentation for your site, fill out our presentation request form here.
RESPONDING to Domestic Violence in a Healthcare Settings Tools

POSTERS
To request posters for your site click here.

SAFETY CARDS
To order safety cards with our local hotline information, click here.
To order safety cards with general information, click here.

TRAININGS
To schedule a presentation on How to Respond to Domestic Violence in Healthcare Settings, click here.
INCREASING SAFETY FOR PEOPLE SURVIVING ABUSE PROVIDER SCRIPTS

YOUR SAFETY
"Are you able to move to a safe place where you feel more comfortable to speak to me freely?"

Normalize information about relationships, health and stress during COVID.

CONFIDENTIAL
"Everything you say here is confidential, your medical information is confidential, that doesn't change even if we remain in this setting. I will not share anything we talk about here."

See patient alone.

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION
"We know that COVID is making life much harder. Because people are stressed, we may experience more stress now in our relationships including increased fighting or harm, and that can affect our health."

Empathize.

NORMALIZE FINANCIAL STRUGGLES
"Many people are also feeling pressure around money and paying rent or bills—sometimes others take advantage of people for work and in relationships. You are not alone."

Provide 211 resource.

SHARE WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY
"You can also share these resources with friends or family if you think it may help them, too."

Normalize, this is for everyone.

PROVIDE SUPPORT
"Thank you for sharing this with me. A lot of my patients experience things like this and there are people who can help. I can connect you today if that interests you—even right now if you like—and I can stay on the line with you—whatever you like."

Be open to what is best for them.

To view the full resource, click here.
Resource Links

**Provider Resource Links:**
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
National Center Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
CA Suspicious Injury Report
Futures without Violence Health Program
Futures Intimate Partner Violence Toolkit

**Patient Resource Links:**
Teen Dating Rights
DV Impacts on Health Infographic – English
DV Impacts on Health Infographic – Spanish
Power & Control + Equality Wheel – English
Power & Control + Equality Wheel – Spanish