



Get to Know Your Community Partners

Handout for Partners for a Trauma-Informed Response Training

Adult Protective Services/Older Adult Services – There are many programs and services for older adults. Some programs have qualifying income requirements. Programs include:

- Adult Day Services are community-based day programs providing socialization, health monitoring, recreation and other services.
- Adult Protective Services conduct investigations and work with older adults and adults with disabilities living in the community in situations of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.
- Community Care Program for those aged 60+ and Medicaid eligible to receive in-home and community care services.
- Long-term Care Ombudsman Program monitors care and conditions in long term care facilities to ensure residents' rights are protected.
- Area Agency on Aging coordinates with community agencies in providing services to older adults. Getting to know your Area Agency on Aging is a good place for partners to start learning about area services and providers.

Disability Services – There are a number of different disability service providers in any given community. Some of the primary ones include:

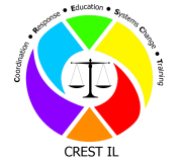
- Centers for Independent Living (CIL) provide community-based non-residential support for people with disabilities so they may achieve independence at home, work and school. Services can include information and referral, independent living skills training, peer support, advocacy and transition support.



- Developmental Disability Providers provide a wide-range of services and supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These can include in-home services, community day program and residential services. Some disability provider also provide vocational training and support, typically called supported employment services.
- Mental Health Providers include inpatient and outpatient services, residential providers, crisis intervention services, psychosocial rehabilitation programs, vocational training and combined substance abuse/mental health programs.
- Rehabilitation Services can help people with disabilities find a job, get vocational training and live independently in the community. They also work with many local community providers to broaden the network of vocational training and job opportunities for people with disabilities.
- Special Recreation Services provide a variety of community-based social and recreational activities for people with disabilities of all ages. They are often affiliated with local park districts or can be stand-alone special recreation associations.

Domestic Violence Services – Domestic Violence programs provide a range of services to individuals and families who have experienced harm from domestic violence. Services are typically offered for free and can include:

- Advocacy services – legal and medical
- Prevention education and community outreach
- Counseling
- Safety planning
- Emergency shelter and possibly transitional housing
- Hotline number operated 24/7
- Information and referral



Faith Based Services – Many faith-based social service programs and organizations provide culturally-relevant services. The services are not limited to those of the same faith. Services can include:

- Counseling
- Emergency food and clothing
- Assistance to immigrants
- Behavioral health
- Senior care
- Family support
- Youth care

Health Care – Health care services are provided across a range of options from private doctors, outpatient clinics, immediate care clinics, emergency rooms and inpatient hospitals. Some hospitals may have a victim services advocate who works with patients to get them connected to domestic violence services.

The Illinois Crime Victims Compensation Act can provide reimbursement for medical, hospital and dental expenses. It may also cover mental health treatment expenses. Individuals can apply directly or seek assistance from a domestic violence advocate or other criminal justice professional to determine if they qualify for coverage under this Act.

Housing – Emergency housing is often available through the local domestic violence organization, including accessible housing options. Some organizations also work to provide transitional housing when needed. Establishing a network of partners to address housing concerns for people who have been harmed by domestic violence and their dependents, especially in cases where accessibility is a concern is an important community asset and resource.



Legal/Justice –

- Legal Aid programs provide free legal assistance to those meeting income requirements. Some Legal Aid organizations have specific programs to assist people who have been harmed by domestic and sexual violence.
- Equip for Equality is an Illinois legal program that specializes in protecting the civil and human rights of people with disabilities. They may be able to assist and advise with issues, including accessibility issues, special education rights, abuse, employment discrimination and other issues.
- Legal Advocates from Domestic Violence Agencies can assist persons who have been harmed with education about their legal options, accompanying them to file a police report and attend court meetings and hearings, filing an order of protection or civil no contact order, applying for victim compensation and other activities.
- Disability/ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator – All Illinois courts will have a Disability or ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator. They can help ensure the necessary accommodations are made so people with disabilities can fully participate in the judicial process.

Social Services – Most communities have a wide range of social service providers who can provide information and offer services that can benefit and support individuals and families who have experienced harm from domestic violence. These can include:

- Child care services
- Emergency food and clothing
- Home-delivered meals
- Financial education and linkage to programs like food stamps (SNAP)
- Educational advocacy, particularly around the individualized education program (IEP) for students in special education