

Seminar:

Core Sexual Assault Services & Safety Planning

Presenter:

**Dr. Patricia Ann Davenport
Our House Inc.**

September 22, 2020




★ OBJECTIVES:

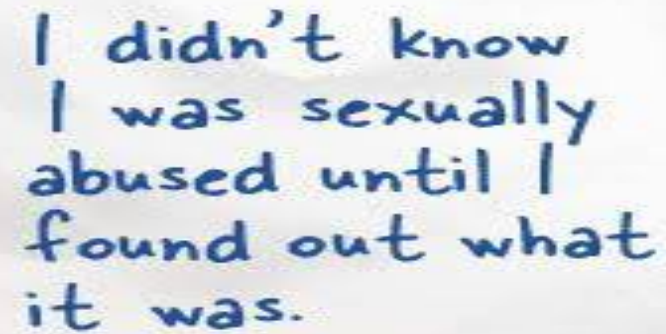
- ★ • To discuss five (5) core services ; and,
- ★ • Three (3) enhanced Sexual Assault Services, including goals and activities.
- ★ • To discuss safety planning

ALICIA KEYS – GOOD JOB



The background features a dark grey gradient. On the left, there are several overlapping, wavy, translucent shapes in shades of red and orange. On the right, there are similar wavy shapes in shades of yellow and green. A thin, vertical white line is positioned to the left of the main text.

WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT?



I didn't know
I was sexually
abused until I
found out what
it was.

Sexual assault is defined as “any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient.”



CORE SERVICES

5 main Core Services

Service	Goal	Activities
24-Hour Hotline: Telephone hotline services that are available 24/7.	Provide immediate assistance to caller.	Active listening, address immediate needs, manage coping skills, provide emotional support.
Information and Referral: Timely response to requests for information and assistance related to sexual violence.	Provide the person with specialized sexual violence related information and resources.	Referrals to other service providers to support survivors (e.g. therapists, housing, legal assistance, etc.)
Crisis Intervention: Timely response to victim in a crisis of sexual violence to address immediate needs.	Reduce the level of trauma by strengthening coping skills.	Empathic listening, address safety concerns, reactions to trauma, explore immediate needs and options.
Advocacy/ Accompaniment: In-person personal support and acting on behalf of victims.	Provide support, services and knowledge through relevant systems and providers.	Educate and accompany through the medical and justice system and assist in making informed decisions.
Community Awareness/ Outreach: Inform public about sexual violence, programs and services.	Increase community's awareness and knowledge about available programs and services.	Community involvement, educating multiple systems of care through networking and collaboration.



+



=



READ + LISTEN = LEARN

ENHANCED SERVICES

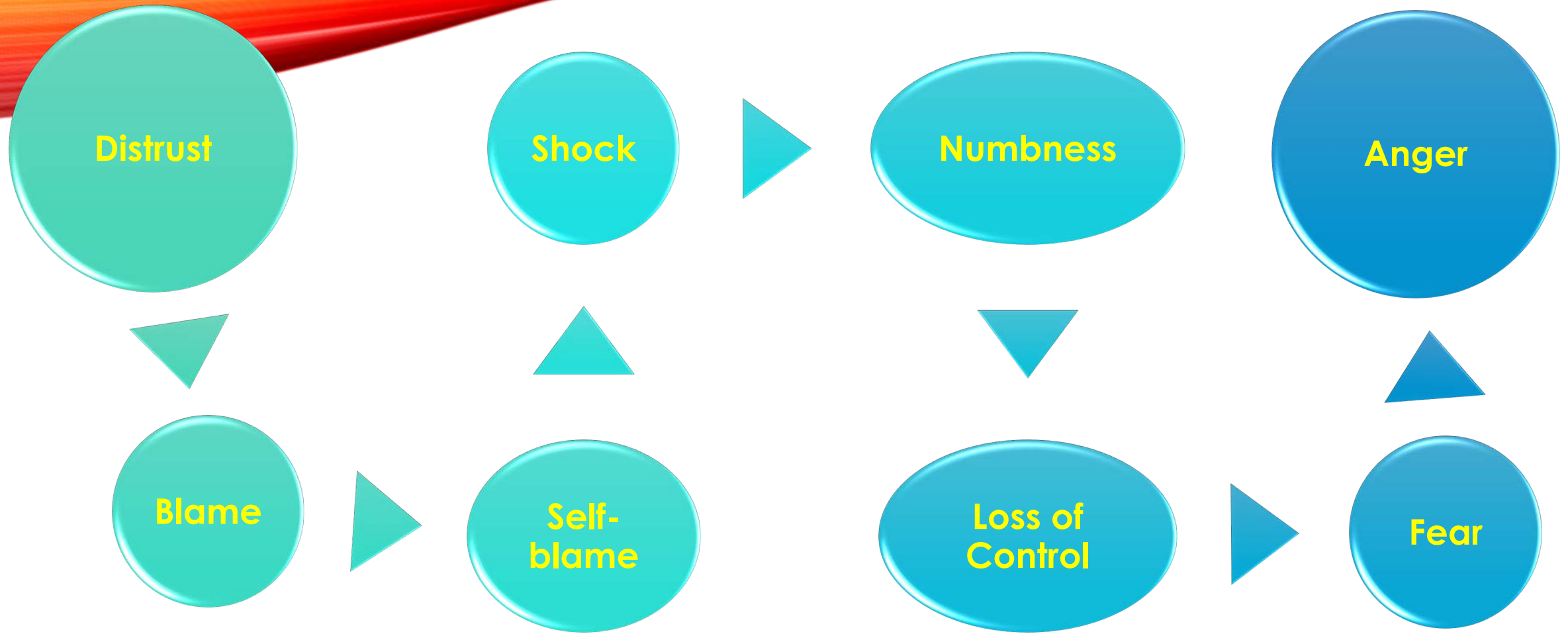
Service	Goal	Activities
<p>System Coordination: Development of relationships with programs/providers in providing an array of essential services.</p>	<p>Develop client-centered comprehensive continuum of services for all victims.</p>	<p>Participation in multi-disciplinary teams to promote effective relationships with diverse agencies.</p>
<p>Counseling/Support Groups: Individual and group guidance that assist in understanding the effects and responses to trauma.</p>	<p>Assist in private and/or group settings in finding trauma centered resolutions in recovery.</p>	<p>Exploring and validating feelings, non-judgmental environment, solution or action focused.</p>
<p>Prevention Education: Inform diverse systems how to address effective strategies in preventing sexual violence.</p>	<p>Increase awareness through institutions providing knowledge and education.</p>	<p>Raise community awareness by education, skill building, campaigns, distribution of materials and presentations.</p>



THE WASHING MACHINE STORY



It is common for a survivor of sexual violence to experience an array of feelings:



There is no “correct” way to react to these experiences, and each person who experiences a traumatic event responds differently.

Responses to the trauma of sexual assault will differ based on many factors operating in the victim's life:

the individual's personal circumstances

prior abuse history

relationship to the perpetrator

interventions offered to the victim

available support networks and services

quality and accessibility of care

degree of safety felt before the trauma

degree of safety felt after the trauma

community attitudes and values about sexual assault

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Crime Victim Compensation Division
Post Office Box 220
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0220
1-800-829-6766 or 601-359-6766
601-576-4445 (FAX)
(WEB)



For Office Use Only

CLAIM NO. _____

Received Date: _____

VICTIM COMPENSATION APPLICATION

APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND VICTIM/CLAIMANT TO NOTIFY THIS DIVISION OF ANY CHANGES TO ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Instructions

Please read the enclosed "General Eligibility Requirements" to see if you may qualify for this program. Fill out this form completely (please print). Attach any required documentation, including all itemized bills, and mail to the above address. If the victim is deceased, include itemized funeral burial expenses.

CHECK THE TYPE OF VICTIM COMPENSATION BENEFITS YOU ARE REQUESTING:

- Medical Expenses Transportation (funeral)
- Mental Health Counseling (victim) Domestic Violence Relocation Assistance
- Mental Health Counseling (family member) Domestic Violence Temporary Housing Assistance
- Transportation (Medical/MHC) Crime Scene Cleanup Assistance
- Funeral Expenses Court Related Travel Expenses
- Repair/Replacement Expenses
- Loss of Wages (victim) Loss of Wages (funeral)
- Loss of Wages (claimant) Loss of Support (dependents of deceased victim)
- Loss of Wages (court proceeding)

SECTION A – Victim Information

A. Please type or print legibly with ink. B. A separate application must be completed for each victim who received injuries. C. If a person witnessed the crime and is requesting mental health counseling, complete a separate application.

1. Victim's Name _____ 2. Marital Status _____

3. Mailing Address _____ 4. City/State/Zip _____

5. _____

8. Date of Birth: _____ : _____ #: _____

11. E-mail Address: _____

12. Briefly describe your injuries: _____

Person only and is needed to comply with federal regulations.

- A. Sex Female Male : Asian/Pacific Islander
- Yes No African American Caucasian
- C. Handicapped After Crime Yes No Alaskan Native
- American Indian Other

Hispanic

CRIME COMPENSATION APPLICATION

The Crime Victim Compensation Division provides financial assistance to victims of crime and their family members. The goal of the Crime Victim Compensation is to provide a method of compensating and assisting those persons who are innocent victims of criminal acts and who suffer bodily injury or death.

Safety Planning, v.

A **safety plan** is a survivor's individualized plan developed in partnership with an advocate that focuses on strategies for staying safe. It is typically used with survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. In creating a safety plan, advocates discuss the unique needs & circumstances of individual victims.

#DVdictionary
#31n31



SAFETY PLANNING

DR. PATRICIA ANN DAVENPORT, L.S.W.

Safety Planning Differences

Domestic Violence

Focus safety planning on anticipating the actions of the abuser, looking at dangers, recognizing that abusers shift their tactics, adaptable, exploring options, considerations for children, putting in place strategies to protect, to inform support, and to escape.

Dating Violence

Many people minimize the seriousness of the abuse safety planning will need to make sure supports will believe the victim. Social media and social community can be used to vilify the victim and further isolate, with possible retaliation.

Sexual Assault

Focus safety planning on knowing community resources, normalizing potential responses and triggers, creating a sense of safety within themselves and within their personal space as well as anticipating dangers that may result from the perpetrator.

Stalking

Stalking may not be the result of an intimate relationship. The abuser may not have had a relationship but is infatuated/obsessed with the person being stalked. Documentation is critical to demonstrate the existence and extent of the stalking.

A decorative graphic in the bottom-left corner consisting of several overlapping, curved, red ribbon-like shapes that create a sense of depth and movement.

SAFETY PLANNING

A safety plan is intended to assist victims in securing their physical safety and personal well-being. It is not a substitute for law enforcement and professional help.



SAFETY PLANNING

A safety plan empowers the victim to reclaim a sense of safety and security by addressing immediate safety needs and outlining strategies to help reduce incidents of harm.



SAFETY PLANNING

Unfortunately, constructing and implementing a safety plan cannot ensure that an individual will not face violence again.



**SAFETY
PLANNING**

The goal is to help victims be as safe as possible given their current circumstances.



SAFETY PLANNING

The Advocate's initial conversation with the victim should give the advocate a sense of his or her immediate safety needs, which in turn, will help the advocate and the victim to identify safety issues that require immediate attention and those that can be addressed when the advocate meet with the victim.



SAFETY PLANNING

When an advocate is assisting the person with a plan of safety, keep in mind the following:

- **Victims may not want to share the answers to all the questions that the advocate ask. It is okay.**
- **The advocate does not have to ask every question, because it may be overwhelming to the victim!**
- **Allow the victim's experience and current situation to help determine which questions are appropriate.**
- **Safety planning is an ongoing process, not a one-time conversation.**

SAFETY PLANNING

Different types of safety plans:

- *If the victim chooses to stay at their current address*
- *If the victim has left their current address*
- *If the victim has shared custody with the offender*



**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
SAFETY
PLAN**

SAFETY PLANNING

If the victim chooses to leave their current address, the advocate should:

- Inquire about the emotional state and safety of the victim.
- Explore housing and safety options with the victim
- Explore seeking medical attention and completing a “rape kit.”
- Ask the victim about their concerns and/or feelings of reporting the perpetrator to law enforcement.
- Discuss with the victim dynamics of The Victim’s Rights and Victim’s Compensation.
- Make referrals as needed.
- Make a list of individuals they can trust.

SAFETY PLANNING

Safety planning if the victims choose to stay at their current address:

- Ask the victim who can they trust that can respond to a crisis
- Advise the victim about the importance of preparing a “safety place” to go during arguments.
- Advise the victim to avoid rooms with no exits or rooms with weapons such as the kitchen.
- Advise the victim about the importance of teaching the children where to go to be safe and who to call for help.
- Share an option concerning the sleeping arrangements.



SAFETY PLANNING

Safety planning if the victims choose to stay at their current address:

- Share that it is important to regularly clear history and cookies on the home computer.
- Share safety tool of establish a “code word or sign that mean, “get out!” or share with your support network that means “I Need Help!”
- Share the importance of memorizing all important numbers.
- Share with the victim it is important to keep an old cell phone available.
- Suggest to the victim another safety plan is to park the vehicle in a parking spot so that they can leave quickly.

SAFETY PLANNING



Safety planning if victims choose to leave their current situation. The advocate can suggest the following options:

- Pack a bag that includes all important papers and documents
- Share that it is important to hide the bag in a secret location. If it is discovered call it a, “hurricane or tornado bag” or a if a fire occur!
- Download DocSafe, Ring, Life360 apps

checklist

what you need to take when you leave

- Identification
- Driver's license, car title & registration
- Children's birth certificates
- Your birth and marriage certificates
- Money, credit cards, ATM card, telephone calling card
- Restraining order
- Lease, rental agreement, house deed
- Checkbooks, bank books, & withdrawal slips
- Health insurance or medical card
- Insurance papers
- House & car keys
- Medications or prescriptions
- Address book
- Pictures
- Medical records for all family members
- Social security card, for self & children
- Welfare identification
- School records
- Work permits
- Green card/immigration papers
- Passport, for self & children
- Divorce papers, including custody order
- Jewelry
- Children's small toys
- Pets
- Other _____

Examples of important papers, documents and other items

- Bank Statements
- Marriage License
- Passport
- Social Security Cards
- Bills In Your Names
- Prescription Drugs & medical records
- Cash, Keys, and Credit Cards.





SAFETY PLANNING

- Do not tell the children your plans until it is time to leave. Reassure them they will be safe.
- An option is to relocate to the nearest domestic violence shelter or homeless shelter.
- It is important that the advocate share with the victim the importance of keeping their support network a secret.

SAFETY PLANNING

- Suggest to the victim when they feel comfortable to notify their employer, family and friends that they have left the abusive relationship and they do not want any contact with the abuser.
- Share with the victim they should change all appointments relating to medical and legal matters.
- Share with the victim another safety tool is to change phone and phone number as there are devices that can be placed on phones that monitors their current and present location.
- Another safety tool to share with the victim to change the password to their computer or take it with them when they are leaving.

Safety planning when victims are being stalked

- ❑ STALKING SHOULDN'T BE KEPT A SECRET. Share with parents, a trusted adult or the local police to determine if a report can be made.
- ❑ Keep cell phones charged and have emergency contact numbers programmed under a different name.
- ❑ Memorize all important numbers.

SAFETY PLANNING

REPORT STALKING

Stalking is a crime.

If you are experiencing stalking, please do not suffer in silence.

More advice and guidance on stalking can be found at www.glostakeastand.co.uk

Call Police on 999 in an emergency or 101



Stalking
Following
Hate mail
Monitoring
Fear
Cyber stalking
Spying
Damaging property
Threats
Unwanted gifts
Phone calls

Report it
Don't suffer in silence
Talk to someone
Help is available

SAFETY PLANNING WHEN VICTIMS ARE BEING STALKED

- Take different routes when driving or use the different modes of transportation.
- Current and long-term safety can be ongoing concern for victims. Safety planning should be periodic and conducted throughout the advocate-client relationship.
- However, if the victim fears for their life that they are in imminent danger should call 911 immediately!

SAFETY PLANNING



Checklist

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Safety Planning List

Here are some helpful items to get together when you are planning on leaving an abusive situation. Keep these items in a safe place until you are ready to leave, or if you need to leave suddenly. If you have children, take them. And take your pets, too (if you can).

Identification for yourself and your children

- birth certificates
- social security cards (or numbers written on paper if you can't find the cards)
- driver's license
- photo identification or passports
- welfare identification
- green card

Important personal papers

- marriage certificate
- divorce papers
- custody orders
- legal protection or restraining orders
- health insurance papers and medical cards
- medical records for all family members
- children's school records
- investment papers/records and account numbers
- work permits
- immigration papers

- rental agreement/lease or house deed
- car title, registration, and insurance information

Funds

- cash
- credit cards
- ATM card
- checkbook and bankbook (with deposit slips)

Keys

- house
- car
- safety deposit box or post office box

A way to communicate

- phone calling card
- cell phone
- address book

Medications

- at least 1 month's supply for all medicines you and your children are taking, as well as a copy of the prescriptions

A way to get by

- jewelry or small objects you can sell if you run out of money or stop having access to your accounts

Things to help you cope

- pictures
- keepsakes
- children's small toys or books

References

MSCASA Advocate Training Manual Basic Level 101, Chapters 1 & 2, Pages 4-14

“PICTURES: Celebrities Accused of Sexual Misconduct.” *Mcall.Com*,
[www.mcall.com/entertainment/mc-pictures-celebrities-accused-sex-misconduct-20171129-
photogallery.html](http://www.mcall.com/entertainment/mc-pictures-celebrities-accused-sex-misconduct-20171129-photogallery.html). Accessed 26 Aug. 2020.

Our House, Inc.
www.ourhousevoices.com
662-334-6873 office line

THE END



I SAY NO TO VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Dr. Patricia Ann Davenport
www.ourhousevoices.com

Why Advocate?

"Unless someone like you cares
a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better.
It's not."



Dr. Seuss,

The Lorax

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS



Dr. Patricia Ann Davenport,
Executive Director, Our House;

Becky Davenport, Service Animal; and,

Mrs. Cassandra Rule, Director, *Delta
Abuse Response Team*, Delta Health
Alliance.

AT STATEWIDE LUNCHEON FOR
VICTIMS