



National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Enhancing Services to Male-identified Survivors Technical Assistance Framework

Historically, domestic violence (dv) programs were born from the women's liberation movement of the 1960's to address the needs of female survivors. Over time, it has come to be understood that anyone can be a victim of domestic violence regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Both research and practice-based evidence underscore the [need to improve services for male victims of domestic violence](#).

"The men had their own complicated stories of abuse." – Julia Perrilla

This Technical Assistance Framework describes NRCDDV's approach to build the capacity of the domestic violence field to better address the needs of male-identified survivors across the gender spectrum. Service providers should be prepared to provide services to male victims in an effective, holistic and comprehensive manner. Providing survivor-centered and culturally relevant services to male-identified survivors is not only required by law, but it is ethical and right thing to do.

Healthy and whole communities can only be realized when all survivors have the support they need to begin the path to healing from abuse.

When it comes to readiness to assist male identified survivors, it is helpful to ask...

- When you think about male victims of abuse, who comes to mind?
- When it comes to gender-inclusive services, how can you do better?
- What is your organizational culture regarding male-identified victims of domestic violence?

NRCDDV's Technical Assistance Approach

Technical Assistance (TA) is the sharing of information, resources, referrals, and/or materials on topics related to domestic violence in response to requests from anyone who wishes to expand their knowledge or build their capacity to address these issues.

Core Elements of NRCDDV's Technical Assistance Approach:

- Connect to accessible information and resources
- Share knowledge
- Self-reflection/commitment to upgrade skill
- Critical thinking
- Application to work
- Center racial equity
- Creation of a network or a relationship (Relational TA)*

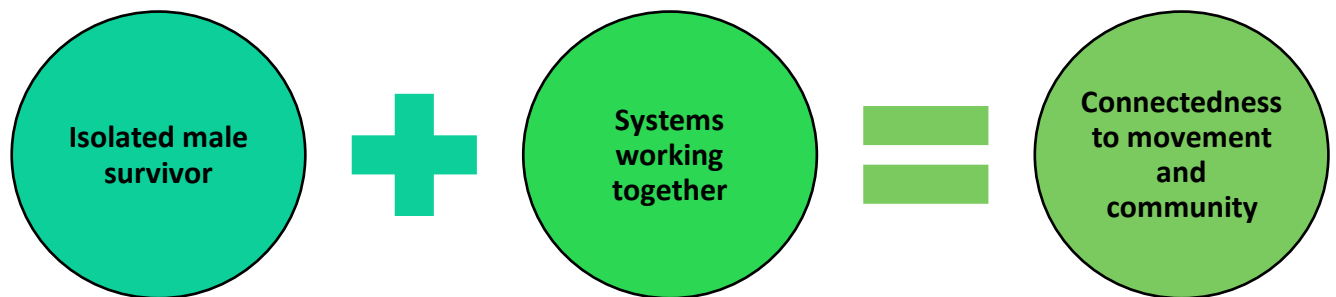
** NRCDDV defines Relational Technical Assistance (RTA) as technical assistance that fosters relationship building between the providers and the requestor.*



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The goals of NRCDV's gender conscious technical assistance framework for enhancing services to male-identified survivors are to: 1) center racial equity, 2) create a pathway for healing, 3) eliminate isolation, 4) increase access to life-saving and holistic services, 5) foster meaningful dialogue around supporting inclusive services, and 6) encourage the culture change necessary to build and sustain systemic and programmatic change.

Additionally, NRCDV's TA approaches promote community mobilization strategies and center the lived experiences of men and boys from historically marginalized communities.



Core Principles

To advance the work, it is necessary to implement a set of core principles for effectively serving male-identified victims within organizations that have historically served primarily women.

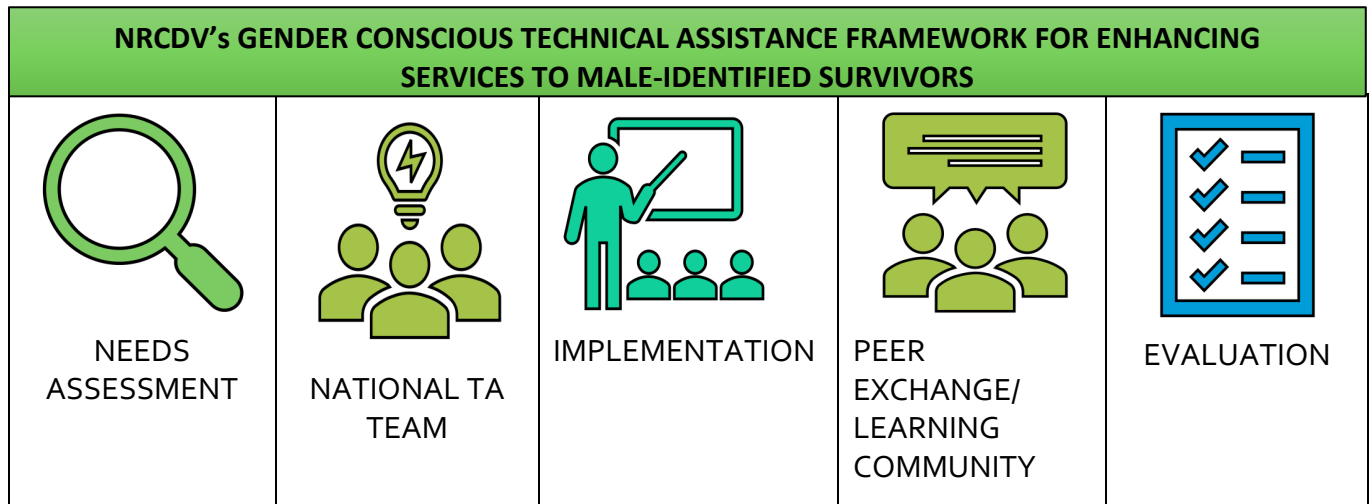
These principles should be:

- Gender consciousness
- Survivor centered
- Trauma informed
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Collaborative
- Result driven

Systems that are frequently accessed by the community should work together with local domestic violence and sexual assault programs and coalitions to eliminate the barriers that prevent male-identified survivors from escaping violence or abuse. For example, a local dv program might build relationships with non-traditional dv service providers that male-identified survivors regularly access. This may include Centro Latinos, mental health providers, LGBTQ organizations, faith groups, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.

Intended Audience

The audience for this framework are TA providers at local and state/territory DV coalitions and programs who have the legal and ethical responsibility to provide accessible, empowering, survivor-centered, culturally-relevant and trauma-informed services to male victims.



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A needs assessment is the process used to determine the type of assistance a program or an individual needs. It helps to be better prepared to convey pertinent information to the requestor of TA to make informed choices about services they wish to obtain.

- NRCDV receives TA requests via email, phone, in-person or mail. Basic information is gathered from the requestor (identify gaps, identify needs, and list of existing services and resources, etc.)
- Narrative description of the presenting problem and requested assistance is developed by TA provider.
- NRCDV staff respond to typical requests. Examples include requests for information on local resources and/or financial assistance.
- Complex and unusual requests are directed to the National TA Team. Examples include requests related to promising practices, program and resource development, etc.

NATIONAL TA TEAM FOR RESEARCH & RESPONSE

The National TA Team is comprised of community-based organizations, national TA providers, researchers, and male-identified survivors.

- National TA team conducts a preliminary analysis of underlying issues and needs contributing to the issue, as well as the goals of the TA engagement.
- TA action necessary to address the issue is identified.

National TA Team Members

Laura Berry, [Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
 Roy Rios, [Texas Council on Family Violence](#)
 Karma Cottman, [Ujima](#)
 Leo Martinez, [National Latino Network](#)
 Emily Douglas, <https://www.emilymdouglas.net/>
 Ronit Barkai, [Transition House](#)
 Sean Whiteman, [Lutheran Settlement House](#)
 Rosa M. Greenlee & Tiffany McDaniel, [The Family Place](#)



National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation is the phase where visions and plans become reality. It involves carrying out the activities that were specifically designed to address the specific identified needs. During this phase a capacity building plan is developed for the requestor and/or their organization. The plan will include a series of training and/or targeted TA with the National TA Team. The purpose of the training is to enhance the following five capacities in order to ensure effective responses to male-identified survivors:

1. Engage effectively with those accessing services
2. Identify and assess risk
3. Manage risk and prioritize safety
4. Provide effective services
5. Advocate for legislative, policy and practice reform

After the training plan is completed, peer-to-peer learning opportunities will be organized. Small groups from a select cities or regions will come together to create strategies on developing a culture change tool to help inform and shape the field of practice.

EVALUATION

The evaluation phase will assess the effectiveness of a coordinated TA response by the National TA team through an online survey. An evaluation will help to ensure that objectives are met, will identify successes, and will identify any issues so that they can be rectified. All of the data collected will be documented, analyzed, and used to make adjustments to the overall TA plan.

NRCDV's gender conscious technical assistance framework will help inform and is informed by broader TA and training efforts to the domestic violence field. Examples include, but are not limited to, indication of trends and emerging issues, publication development, and webinar presentations. As a result of access to high quality training and TA through this project, DV coalitions and programs will remain adaptive and responsive, with increased commitment and capacity to sustain comprehensive survivor-defined, accessible, trauma-informed and culturally relevant services for diverse male survivors of DV.

If you have questions related to this framework or need support adapting this framework to your specific needs, contact NRCDV at nrcdvTA@nrcdv.org

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