



OVCTTAC



Shelter and Housing Options for Human Trafficking Victims

September 18, 2014

3:15 – 4:15 PM EST

Presenters:

Nicole Cisne Durbin, Director, SafePath Survivor Resources of Family Resources

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The material presented during today's webinar session will be available on the Human Trafficking Learning Community.

The session will be recorded and will begin shortly.

As with all technology, we may experience a momentary lapse in the Webinar session. In the event of a problem, please be patient and remain on the line. If the problem persists, please contact HumanTrafficking@ovcttac.org for technical assistance. The Webinar session will resume shortly.



OVCTTAC



Office for Victims of Crime
OVC

Tip of the Month:

Overview of VictimLaw



Legal Assistance for Crime Victims

An OVC Training and Technical Assistance Initiative

VictimLaw

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Online database with over 23,000 federal, state, and tribal victims' rights related statutes, codes, regulations and constitutional amendments.

Accessing VictimLaw: www.victimlaw.org



Search by:

- Topic
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- Citation

VictimLaw also includes:

- Information about the justice system
- A legal glossary
- Federal and State resources

Rights included in VictimLaw



- Right to Attend
- Right to Protection
- Right to Compensation
- Right to Restitution
- Right to Be Heard
- Right to Return of Property
- Right to Be Informed
- Right to A Speedy Trial
- Right to Enforcement

Technical Assistance



If you need technical assistance when using VictimLaw, please contact me at: bmatelevich-hoang@ovcttac.org

Visit the Legal Assistance [webpage](#) to view archived Webinars (click on the training tab).

It's more than shelter: Eliminating housing barriers for survivors.

Nicole Cisne Durbin – *SafePath* Survivor Resources of Family Resources

Objectives

1. What challenges exist in obtaining shelter and housing for those in need and how do you address them?
 2. How can you get creative about addressing housing options for human trafficking victims? What kind of non-traditional partnerships do you need to develop?
 3. What are some of the different considerations in responding to victims in rural, suburban and urban settings?
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SafePath Survivor Resources Program Overview

Sheltering and Housing Services

- 6 counties (5 in IA and 1 in IL)
- 54 bed Emergency Shelter for victims of violent crimes in Davenport
 - Services Coordinators
 - Shelter Advocates
 - Youth Advocate
- Rapid Re-Housing Program
- Hotel/Motel Vouchering System
- Mobile Housing Advocate

Comprehensive Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Services (non-shelter)

- ▶ 6 counties (5 in IA and 1 in IL)
 - DA and SA Advocates
 - Medical and legal advocacy, training, prevention, community engagement and collaboration, awareness raising, etc.
 - Mobile Advocacy
 - Master's Level Therapists
 - Volunteer Program
 - 24 Hour Crisis Lines

Challenges in obtaining shelter and housing....

▶ Urban

- Large number of individuals requesting shelter/sheltering/housing
- Long waiting lists for public housing
- Affordable housing options
- Employment
- Securing proper documentation and/or paperwork

▶ Rural

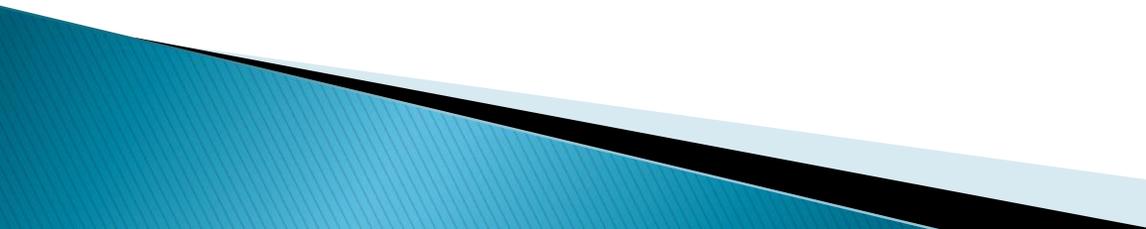
- Transportation
- Lack of affordable housing options such as rental units in rural communities
- Long distances to nearest bricks and mortar shelter
- Employment
- Confidentiality within small communities
- Securing proper documentation and/or paperwork

Housing First

- ▶ It is an approach that falls under the Maslow's Hierarchy model; house people quickly (meeting basic physiological needs) and then follow through with providing services as needed.



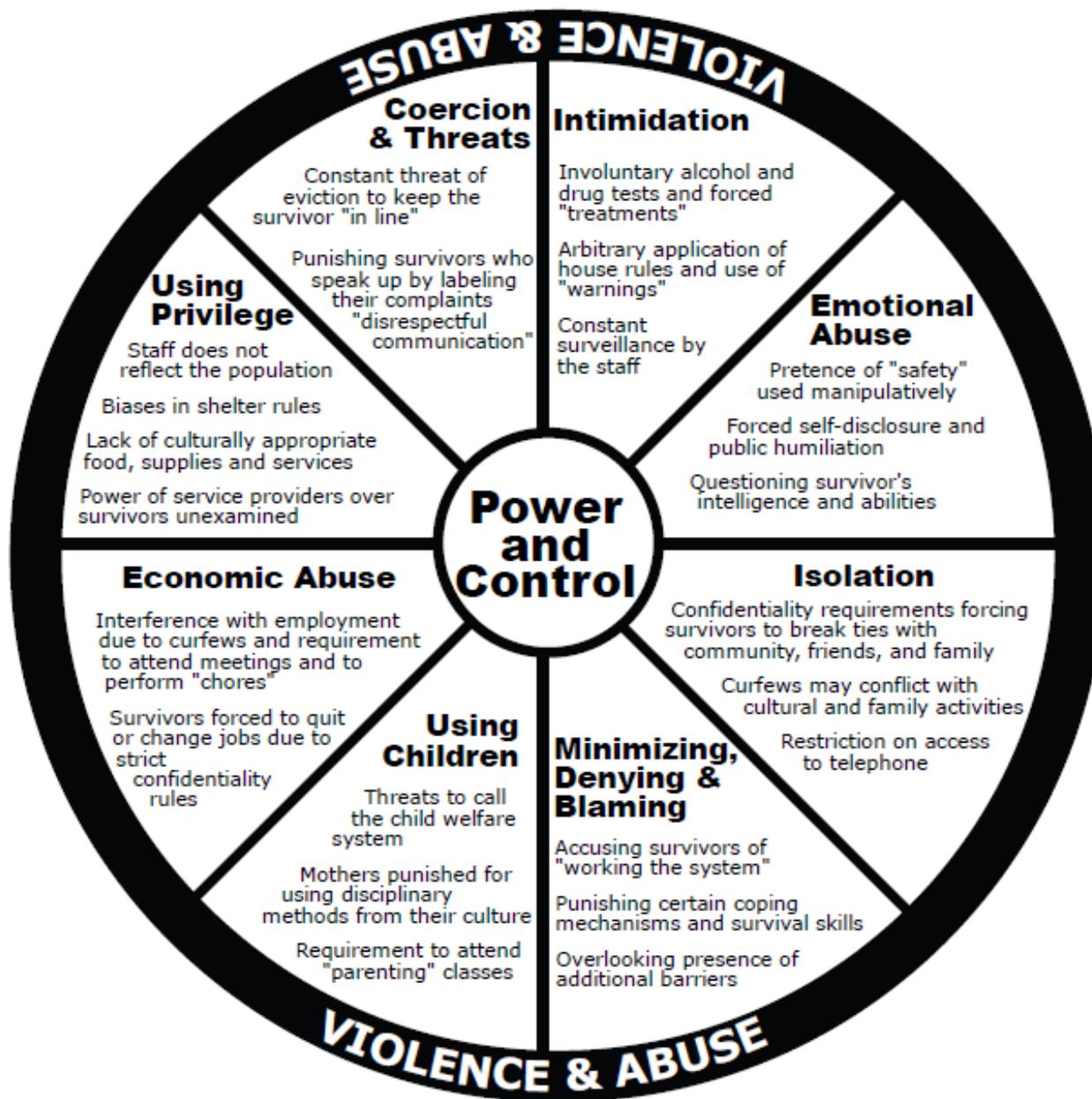
Their Challenges are Our Challenges

- ▶ Assess what level of sheltering is necessary based on lethality, barriers, and risks
 - Do they need to come a long distance to a physical shelter?
 - Do they have other people they feel are safe they can stay with short term?
 - ▶ Develop a Landlord network
 - ▶ Develop relationships with non-traditional partners
 - ▶ Confidentiality – Can sometimes be more of our issue than theirs.....
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Non-Traditional Partners Poll

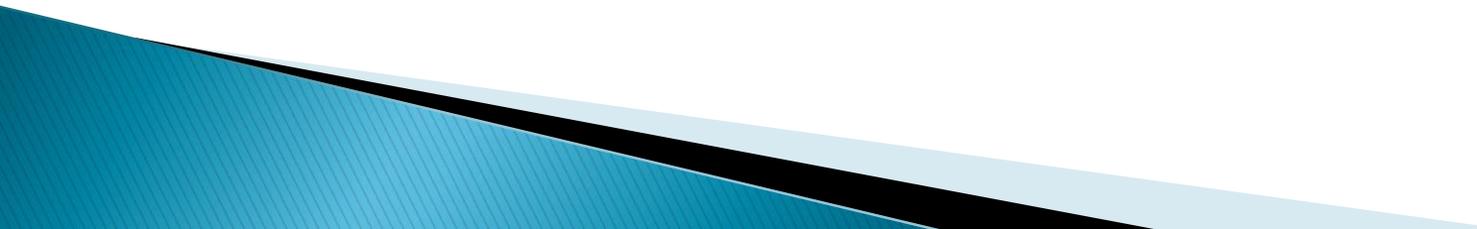
- ▶ Who are some non-traditional partners you can think of in your service area who would be important to develop relationships with?

Abusive Power and Control within the Domestic Violence Shelter



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Service Prioritization

- ▶ The Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) is an evidence informed tool for assessing the needs of homeless individuals and families and for deciding the appropriate level of intervention to resolve each individual's or family's homelessness.
 - ▶ VI-SPDAT and Family VI-SPDAT
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Consistency

- ▶ The SPDAT addresses the barriers the clients face and helps to identify their needs.
- ▶ Staff can consistently identify a quick transition OR the appropriate referrals to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs or Transitional Housing (TH) programs.
- ▶ Most of the clients fall into the Rapid Re Housing scoring.
- ▶ In Davenport from January 1 to August 5th there have been 464 SPDAT's completed by all of the shelter programs in the area.
- ▶ *SafePath* has completed 79 SPDAT's in this time frame.

Does it work?

- ▶ SPDAT using clients had an 88% housing stability rate vs. 63% rate for non-SPDAT users
- ▶ Housing stability rates were highest where there were high investments in training.
- ▶ Other factors that were common (though not universal) in SPDAT-using communities with higher housing stability rates included:
 - standard review during team meetings
 - minimal staff turnover
 - dedicated intake specialists/assessors

Who you should know...Landlords

- ▶ On Time Rent
- ▶ Stable Renters
- ▶ Good Neighbors
- ▶ Property Care
- ▶ Cold calls
- ▶ Direct mail
- ▶ Network meetings
- ▶ Host a landlord event
- ▶ Word of mouth referrals, testimonial from a current landlord that has used the program

Core Business Concerns and Needs

Landlord Recruitment

What worked for us?

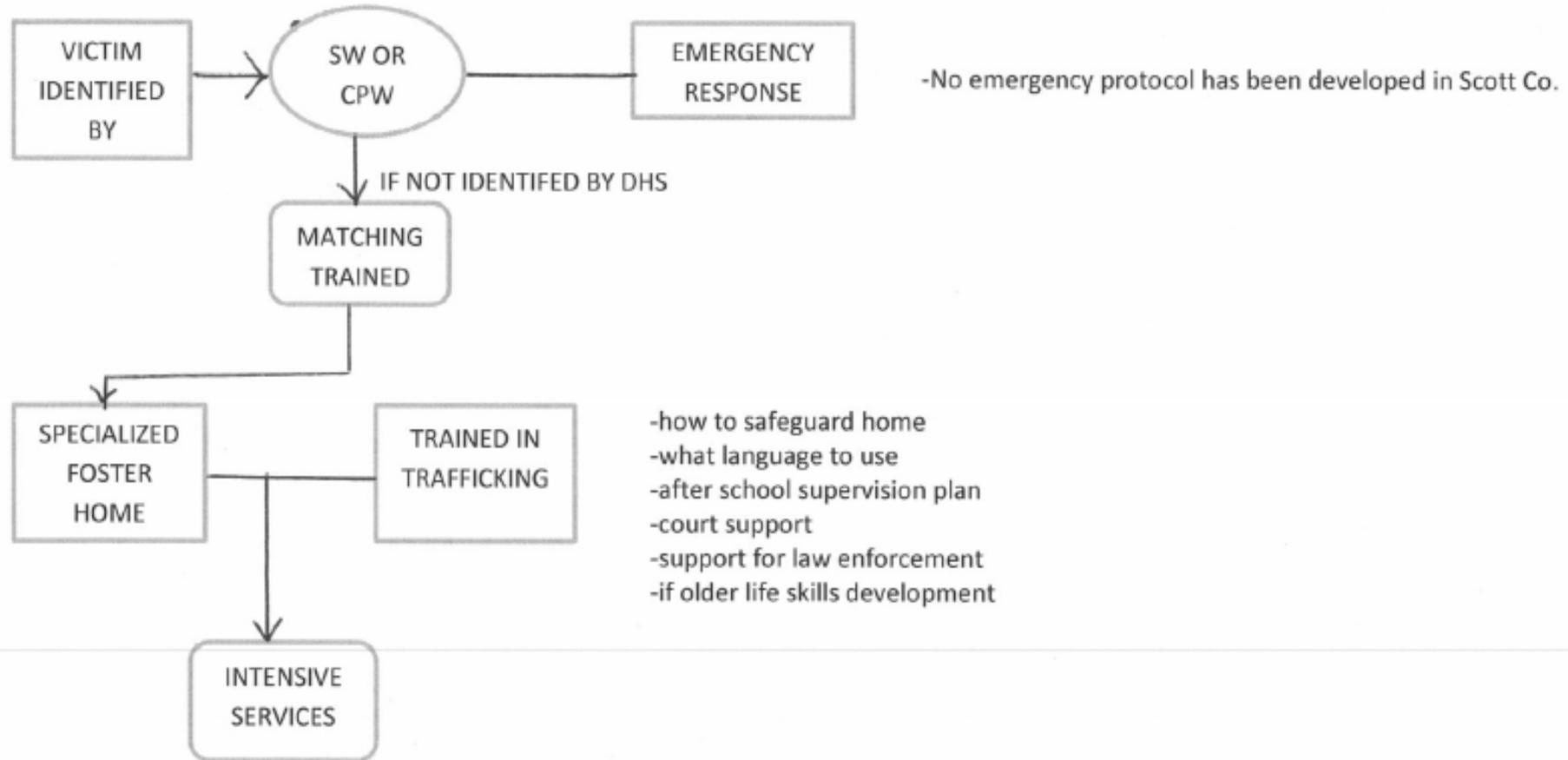
- ▶ Cold calls
- ▶ Education
- ▶ One key landlord can be the gatekeeper to other landlords
- ▶ Landlord Association Meetings
- ▶ Develop and nurture the relationships
- ▶ Be consistent with payments
- ▶ Landlord agreement form
- ▶ Know the laws and tenant rights
- ▶ 6 landlords in our network have been “burned” by clients and only 2 of those 6 stopped working with us
- ▶ Good Case Management

Rapid Re-Housing

- ▶ Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is a strategy to assist homeless women and families to access housing as quickly as possible and deliver services to help maintain a stable home.
- ▶ Key Components of Rapid Re-Housing:
 - Housing Identification
 - Rent/move in assistance
 - Case Management Services
 - Keep them in housing and linked to services

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN FOSTER CARE

PILOT PROGRAM



-No emergency protocol has been developed in Scott Co.

- how to safeguard home
- what language to use
- after school supervision plan
- court support
- support for law enforcement
- if older life skills development

- must begin immediately
- in home therapy w/experienced, trafficking trained therapist (SafePath)
- weekly contact face to face w/IKN support worker
- mentor

Tying it all together....

- ▶ Trauma
 - ▶ Collaborations and relationships assist in developing a trauma informed community
 - ▶ Trafficking survivors have experienced similar dynamics to domestic violence survivors
 - ▶ Need to re-think shelter and its role in service delivery
 - ▶ Be flexible and do not create more barriers
 - ▶ Ask your clients what it is they need....
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Contact Information & Questions

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