

STAAR

STOP Technical Assistance to Administrators Resource Project

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Hello!

Below are relevant resources that we hope you will find helpful. We encourage you to forward this email to STOP subgrantees and others in your state who you think could benefit from the material.

If you have any questions about STOP planning, implementation, or related topics, contact us at ALSOSTAARProjectTA@also-chicago.org.

-The STAAR Project Team

STAAR Project Announcements

October is DVAM

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) aims to elevate the voices of survivors while drawing attention to an issue that affects 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men. More resources and information specific to DV will be shared later this month. Keep an eye on your inbox for future emails!



SITAP Applications Due Soon

Applications for the STOP Intensive TA Project (SITAP) are due next on Tuesday, October 8. Don't miss your chance for this unique opportunity!



Most Recent STAAR Project Webinars

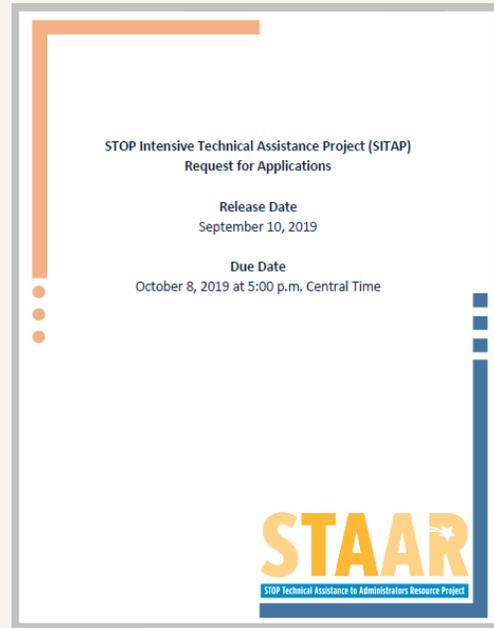
- [STOP Intensive Technical Assistance Project \(SITAP\) Informational Webinar](#)
- [For Deaf, By Deaf: What STOP Administrators Can Do to Support Deaf Survivors' Healing and Justice Webinar](#)

Visit our [webinars page](#) to access recordings and materials of all webinars

STOP Intensive Technical Assistance Project (SITAP)

We are pleased to announce the availability of a new opportunity for STOP Administrators and State/Territory partners to receive tailored technical assistance on the STOP Formula Grants Program!

SITAP is a technical assistance initiative designed to provide in-depth, tailored assistance to STOP Administrators and their partners on STOP Formula Grant Program-related topics. SITAP seeks to help States and Territories ensure that STOP planning and/or implementation processes, activities, and outputs are as effective as possible in their ability to respond to needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking, and to hold offenders accountable.



Learn more about the project by watching this [informational webinar](#).

Applications must be submitted online by **October 8, 2019** at 5pm Central Time.

[Apply Now!](#)

Tribal Consultation

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 14th annual OVW Tribal Consultation held on August 21 - 22, 2019. The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians graciously hosted the two day event in New Buffalo, MI. This event demonstrated how to consistently ensure meaningful government-to-government consultation with sovereign tribal nations.

OVW provided **written notification** to tribal leaders in April 2019 in a letter that was sent out in the mail. The letter was posted on the OVW website as well, to provide enough time for travel arrangements to be made.

The OVW Tribal Consultation **website** includes information including:

- The **agenda**, which was modified as the event progressed to allow enough time for all of the tribal leaders to speak and be heard;
- The **Framing Papers** describing the input that OVW is seeking;
- Information on how to provide oral and/or written **testimony**; and
- Previous years' **reports**

The consistency of the event helps build relationships and trust, while providing significant opportunities for tribal leaders to share recommendations and concerns to improve responses to violence against American Indians and Alaska Natives.

ALSO offers a variety of technical assistance, resources, and tools designed to support you in your work, including this **Planning Participation Workbook** to assist with tracking efforts to consult and coordinate with Tribes (*2nd tab*). Contact ALSO at

Sexual Victimization of Men with Disabilities and Deaf Men: A National Snapshot

Allison Hastings and Sandra Horrell

July 2017
Brief

Introduction

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines disability as any "physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities."¹ Major life activities include seeing, hearing, reading, walking, and eating. Based on this definition, approximately 20 percent of Americans have a disability.² Unfortunately, research suggests that having a disability may increase a person's risk for experiencing victimization. Based on the most recent national estimates, the rate of violent victimization against people with disabilities was more than twice the rate for those without disabilities.³ The rate of serious violent victimization (including sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) was more than three times higher than the rate for people without disabilities. Studies also show that people with disabilities have a higher probability of repeat victimization, and by multiple perpetrators.⁴

Since 2005, the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) has been working within communities to address victimization of people with disabilities. In those communities, we have heard a common refrain: At the intersection of violence and disability, men with disabilities experience domestic and sexual violence at rates higher than their counterparts without disabilities. Because so much of the narrative surrounding domestic and sexual violence has assumed that the primary victims are female, Vera sought to better understand the victimization experiences of male survivors with disabilities and those who are Deaf and delineate the challenges they face when accessing victim services. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), Vera's Center on Victimization and Safety launched a project to explore these issues in depth. The goal was to raise awareness of these underserved survivors, build consensus about the barriers to services, and begin identifying potential solutions.

Vera INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

233 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10279

212 334 1300

vera.org

Sexual Victimization of Men with Disabilities and Deaf Men: A National Snapshot

This brief examines the unique needs of male survivors of sexual violence with disabilities and those who are Deaf. Included in this brief is the research on rates of sexual violence for disabled and deaf men, the barriers they face when seeking services, and avenues that stakeholders in the community can take to ease access to services for these survivors.

[Read more](#)

Culture, Language, and Access: Key Considerations for Serving Deaf Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence

This article summarizes the findings from roundtables conducted to discuss the specific needs of Deaf survivors of gender-based violence. Within are best practices for developing culturally and linguistically competent services to Deaf survivors, and recommendations for creating equal access to services and the criminal justice system.

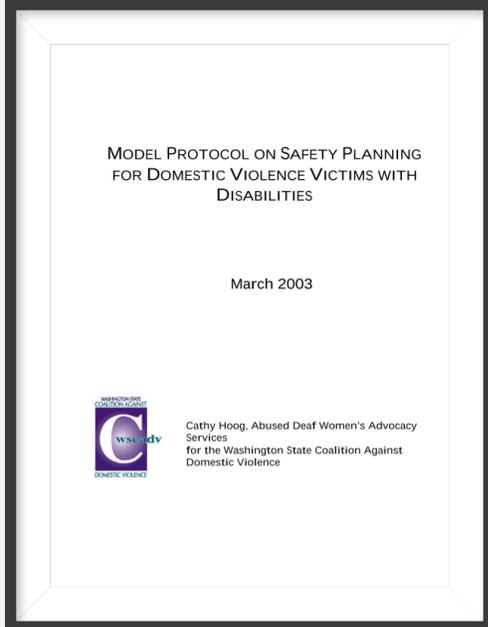
[Read more](#)



Model Protocol on Safety Planning for Domestic Violence Victims With Disabilities

This article offers recommendations and best practices to increase the efficacy of safety planning for people with disabilities. Domestic violence service providers can utilize this document to assess their current safety planning practices and put in place new practices that take into account the specific needs of victims with disabilities.

The version from 2003 breaks down specific needs for various disabilities and



reviews a possible safety issues and solutions for each. The updated version, updated in 2010, gives additional questions to ask when safety planning.

[Read Version 1](#)

[Read Version 2](#)

Adapted or Modified TF-CBT

Survivors with disabilities will need a range of ongoing holistic healing options to address the impacts of trauma. Mental health providers can offer art, equine, and traditional therapy techniques. An example of a more traditional technique is Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). Some techniques will require modifications or adaptations to meet the unique needs of individual survivors. [This publication](#) reviews literature and research on different treatment options for trauma survivors with disabilities.

TF-CBT
Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

WHAT IS TF-CBT?
TF-CBT is a therapeutic intervention designed to help children, adolescents, and their parents overcome the impact of traumatic events. For example, it is designed to help with traumas related to sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic violence, and community violence, an unexpected death of a loved one, natural disasters and war.

The focus of treatment is to:

- Assist the child or adolescent to develop coping strategies for traumatic stress reactions.
- Reduce symptoms of depression, anxiety, or acting out behavior which are common in children exposed to trauma.

TF-CBT is provided to children from 3 to 18 years of age by a professional who has received training in TF-CBT. The treatment typically lasts between 12 to 16 sessions. These sessions include:

- Individual sessions for child or adolescent.
- Individual sessions for parents.
- Conjoint sessions between parent and child or adolescent.

Numerous studies have demonstrated that TF-CBT is more effective in helping children overcome trauma than other therapeutic interventions.

WHAT ARE SOME REACTIONS TO TRAUMA?
Children and adolescents who have been traumatized can develop an intense fear regarding any reminders of the traumatic event. This fear may encourage the child to avoid any traumatic reminders and may not want to talk about what occurred. The child may become more isolated, not express his or her feelings or thoughts, and feel emotional numbing and tension. This stressful state can cause the child to develop symptoms such as:

- Inability or unwillingness to recall trauma details
- Difficulty stopping thoughts about the trauma
- Emotional and physical numbing
- Recalling physical sensations that occurred during trauma
- Difficulty staying still or fidgeting
- Sleeping routine is disturbed (not wanting to sleep alone, nightmares, waking up in the middle of the night)
- Rapid changes in mood
- Difficulty concentrating
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Low self esteem
- Inability to trust others
- Drug use
- Desire to hurt oneself or others

Exhibiting one or several of these symptoms or behaviors places the child at risk of having problems at school, or isolating themselves from others, or having conflicts or lack of communication with parents and peers. These symptoms or behaviors, if left untreated, may impede in the child's normal developmental process.

June 2006

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network [NCTSN](#) has several webinars that provide more information about TF-CBT.

[Read more](#)

Sexual Assault Forensic Exams

This protocol gives guidance on considerations and reasonable accommodations to make when an individual with a disability obtains a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE): [Victim Centered Care](#)

Email Checklist

You can now view all official emails sent by the ALSO STAAR Project in one place!



Tip: This will be especially helpful if you are a new STOP Administrator and want to catch up on what you've

missed.

[Log-in to access emails](#)

Don't have an account? Create one **[here!](#)**
