Promising Futures: Capacity Assessment for DV/SV
Programs for Supporting Parents

Presenters:
- **Amy Torchia**, Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
- **Mie Fukuda**, Futures Without Violence

**Welcome to the Webinar**

We will begin at 11:00am (PT) / 2:00pm (ET).

A recording will be available after the webinar.
Your line will be muted to cut down on background interference so please use the chat box to share your name, your organization, your location and any questions you have for our featured speakers.
How to use this technology

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• There will be time for Q & A at the end of the presentation.
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PromisingFuturesWithoutViolence.org

Mie Fukuda,
Futures Without Violence
Project Objectives:

- Provide intensive TA to 4 states—ID, WI, AK, NJ
- Provide national training and technical assistance
- Build capacity of domestic violence programs to provide effective interventions for children and youth
- Provide access to information on the wide range of existing interventions, services, and best practices
- Advance the field towards more programs incorporating evidence-based, research informed, and promising practices
- Develop Promising Futures, and online resource and capacity building website and other resources for the field
FUTURES partnered with many advocates to conduct the research and develop the website:

• The 4 FVPSA Funded enhancing services for children and youth grantees: AK, ID, NJ, & WI

• The 3 FVPSA-funded culturally specific resource centers: CASA, API-GBV, & IDVAAC

• A national leadership committee of state coalitions, researchers, local domestic violence programs, national partners and others.
Promising Futures Guiding Principles

• Mothers’ and children’s safety and wellbeing are inextricably linked
• Implementing trauma-informed approaches is an effective way to reduce the effects of domestic violence on mothers and children.
• Culturally relevant programming is essential.
• Emphasizing protective factors, resiliency, and strengthening the mother-child bond is effective in breaking the cycle of violence.
Research Project Components

• Culturally relevant focus groups
• Survey of state domestic violence coalitions
• Review of research based interventions
• National practice-based evidence conversations with allies and partners
Resources

- Promising Futures Website: www.promisingfutureswithoutviolence.org
- Comprehensive Review of Interventions for Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence.
- 16 Trauma-Informed, Evidence-Based Recommendations for Advocates
- Promoting Resiliency Info-graphic
- Building Promising Futures: Guidelines for Enhancing Response of Domestic Violence Programs to Children and Youth
- Developing Outcome Measures for Domestic Violence Programs’ Work with Children and Youth
- Building Competence and Resilience in Children and Parents: The Advocate as Change Agent (2 day in-person training)
Almost 30 million American children will be exposed to family violence by the time they are 17 years old. Kids who are exposed to violence are affected in different ways and not all are traumatized or permanently harmed. Protective factors can promote resiliency, help children and youth heal, and support prevention efforts.

Research indicates that the #1 protective factor in helping children heal from the experience is the presence of a consistent, supportive, and loving adult—most often their mother.

Protective Factors that Promote Resiliency

**Individual**
- Temperament
  - Individual temperament or sense of humor
- Understanding
  - Ability to make sense of their experiences
- Mastery
  - Opportunities to experience mastery
- Expression
  - Opportunities to express feelings through words, music, etc.
- Conflict Resolution
  - Development of conflict resolution & relaxation techniques
- Culture
  - Strong cultural identity

**Family**
- Relationships
  - Ability to form relationships with peers
- Role Models
  - Adults who role model healthy relationships
- Supportive Relationships
  - Positive child-caregiver relationships
- Health
  - Healthy caregivers
- Networks
  - Relationships with extended family members and others

**Community**
- Access to Services
  - Basic needs, advocacy, health
- School
  - Positive school climate and supports
- Mentors
  - Role models & mentors, i.e., coach, faith leader
- Neighborhood Cohesion
  - Safe & connected communities

Get started at www.PromisingFuturesWithoutViolence.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)
National Dating Abuse Helpline: 1-866-331-9474 or text “loveis” to 77054
Promising Futures: Best Practices for Serving Children, Youth & Parents Experiencing Domestic Violence

Structure:
1. What do children and youth need?
2. What capacity do we have? What do we need?
3. What models and tools are out there?
4. How can I meet the specific needs of my community? Support parenting?
5. How can I make my program more trauma and research informed? Short term and long term steps?
6. How do we advance the field?
7. How can we create a community of practice?
Next Steps

- Dissemination!!!
- Solicit new content from the field
- Highlight more communities
- Add content on special topics
- Release framework and national recommendations for children’s programs
- Create a community of learning

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Upcoming Webinars:

- April 19th, 2016
  Building Promising Futures: Guidelines and Outcome Measures for Enhancing Response of Domestic Violence Programs to Children & Youth

- May 12th, 2016
Assessing and building capacity in our DV/SV work with children, youth, and parents

Vermont strategies and tools

Amy Torchia
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Why?

- Our Rural Project
- Benefits of strong children/youth/family advocacy
- Break the ground

**Goal:** To reflect on our work and make it better
How?

- Rural Grant deliverable
  - Program input to tool and process
  - Key leadership & Children’s Advocates
- Adapted tool from RSP SV Assessment for Dual Programs (NSVRC)
- Survey Monkey
- Reports
- Retreats

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Design

• Personal & Organizational

• Personal section
  • I can, I feel, I think
  • 23 questions to scale
  • Scale: Strongly Disagree - Strongly agree
  • 3 open ended: Strengths, Challenges, Actions
Design

• Organizational
  • Values
  • Policies
  • Practices

PLUS:
3 open ended – Organizational strengths, challenges & actions
1. Children and Teen Program Readiness:

a. Our staff has had conversations about ageism and adultism.
   1 2 3 4 5 n/a

b. All staff members feel comfortable working with children and teens.
   1 2 3 4 5 n/a

c. Our program considers children and teens direct recipients of our services.
   1 2 3 4 5 n/a

COMMENTS:
Tool

- Organizational values
  - Talking about our beliefs, philosophy, and agreements

- Children/Teens
- Parents/Caregivers
- Child abuse/reporting
Tool

- Organizational Policies
  - Reflecting best practice
    - Overarching
    - Staff recruitment and hiring
    - Staff development & support
    - Program
    - Shelter
    - Child abuse/reporting
Tool

- Organizational Practice
  - Reflecting best practice

- General
- Supporting children and teen healing
- Supporting parents
- Child abuse & reporting
- Community connections
Reports

- One per program based on surveys
- Narrative highlighted
  - Highest averages
  - Lowest averages
  - Large gaps in scores
- Included grids
- Time consuming/helpful
Retreats

- Homework
- Breathing with Elmo
- Present/synthesize
- Sharing
- Visioning: Purpose statements
- Action planning
- Next steps
Retreats
Our experience...

- Strong practice with children, teens, and supporting parents
- Strong relationship with Child Protection (RG)
- Policies/statements to write
- More clarity
- Conversations
Our experience...

• Visioning/Purpose statements
• Action Steps
• Strategies
• Next steps
Questions...

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Getting Help with Domestic Violence

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
  - 1-800-799-7233

- **National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline**
  - 1-866-331-9474

- **National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN)**
  - 1-800-656-4673


Free and confidential help is available for victims of domestic violence 24 hours a day.
FVPSA’s National and Special Issue Resource Centers

- National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence (HRCDV) – [www.futureswithoutviolence.org](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org)
- Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Child Protection and Custody (RCDVCC) – [www.ncjfcj.org/dept/fvd](http://www.ncjfcj.org/dept/fvd)
- National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV) – [www.nrcdv.org](http://www.nrcdv.org) and [www.vawnet.org](http://www.vawnet.org)
- Battered Women’s Justice Project: Criminal and Civil Justice Center (BWJP) – [www.bwjp.org](http://www.bwjp.org)
- National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health (NCDVTMH) - [www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org](http://www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org)
FVPSA’s Culturally Specific Special Issue Resource Centers

- Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence (API-GBV) www.api-gbv.org
- Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community (IDVACC) – www.idvaac.org
- National Latina Network for Healthy Families and Communities - Casa de Esperanza www.casadeesperanza.org
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Please take a moment to take a short survey regarding today’s webinar and future webinars.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R87MMCV

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