

**DRAFT Adaptation of the
European Network Guidelines for
Working Responsibly with Perpetrators
of Domestic Violence During the COVID-
19 Pandemic for Perpetrator Programs in
the United States**

April 8, 2020

Webinar Logistics

- Please keep microphones **muted** and webcam off. Mute cell phones.
- Type questions into the chat box throughout the presentation
- Moderators will pose questions from your comments and questions from the chat box.
- A recording of the presentation will be sent to all participants

Webinar Host

Global Rights for Women

Global Rights for Women works with leaders around the world to advance women and girls' human right to live free from violence through legal reform and institutional and social change.

Partner Agencies in Writing the Draft Adaptation for the United States

European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (WWP EN)



WWP // EUROPEAN NETWORK

Pathways to Family Peace



Family Violence Project



Global Rights for Women



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DRAFT for Consideration in the US

- Adaptation of the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence Guidelines during COVID-19
- Draft Guide and a thoughtful first start and attempt to work with perpetrators of domestic violence responsibly during this global pandemic for United States perpetrator programs.
- Seeking input and comments to the draft that will be included in footnotes.
- Written document to be released later today – April 8, 2020

ASSESSING THE CURRENT THREAT AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN YOUR COMMUNITY / STATE

- Assess the current health risks that COVID-19 is posing and learn your state or community's current and projected response.
- Different all over the US
- How is it affecting men in your group? How are any of these changes connected to risk factors for lethality and dangerousness?

Domestic Violence in the Context of COVID-19

Women's access to safety will depend on:

- Community's commitment to intervening in domestic violence
- Context of where living
- Accessibility of advocacy services, police and court during lockdown
- Resources for women struggling financially
- Availability of safe shelter for women and children, or removal of perpetrator from home

ASSESSING THE CURRENT RESPONSE TO COVID-19 BY YOUR COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE (CCR)

- Are the police prioritizing domestic violence calls? Are they making arrests on domestic violence misdemeanors and felonies?
- Are advocates available for victims? Shelters available? In-person? By phone?
- Are courts providing any hearings for domestic violence? Are they in-person?
- How is probation coordinating their monitoring and accountability of offenders?

ASSESSING THE CURRENT RESPONSE TO COVID-19 BY YOUR COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE (CCR) (Continued)

- Consult with victims and victim-survivor support services for changes in perpetrator programming
- Perpetrator programs should continue to coordinate their work with their Coordinated Community Response (CCR). Doing so at the time of COVID-19 will likely bring new challenges in your efforts as part of a CCR. Addressing challenges that affect victim safety need to be prioritized.

GUIDE DOES NOT FOCUS ON FEMALE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMS

- Safety and Context
- Gendered Nature of Coercive
Control

GOALS AND OPTIONS FOR WORKING WITH PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19

1). **Individual work** with men for crisis management or for behavior change programming;

2) Working with perpetrators in a **group process** for crisis management or adapted behavior change

3) Suspend services

ASSESSING FOR RISK OF LETHALITY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19

- **Who will assess the risk?**
- **What are you assessing for?**
 - Lethality,
 - legal recidivism or
 - domestic violence perpetration
- **Risk factors based in research have NOT changed.**
- **The lived experience, culture and social world of perpetrators, victim and children has changed.**

HOW TO DECIDE WHICH OPTION IS BEST FOR A PERPETRATOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19

- **Voluntary participation**
- **Capacity to participate**
- **Living situation or where he is staying**
- **Level of risk for lethality and dangerousness**
- **Options provided by the perpetrator program**
- **Crisis level for COVID-19 in your community / state**

Options for Interventions with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence during COVID-19

A) Individual weekly support via phone/VCS for Crisis Management

AA) Individual weekly contact via phone/VCS for adapted behavior change programming

B) Intensive individual support for crisis management via phone/Skype for high risk cases

BB) Intensive individual contact for adapted behavior change programming via phone/Skype for high risk cases

C) Group format via videoconference software (Skype, Zoom, GoToMeeting, etc.) for Crisis Management and Support

CC) Group format via videoconference software (Skype, Zoom, GoToMeeting, etc.) for adapted behavior change perpetrator program

D) Partner support

A) Individual weekly support via phone/VCS for Crisis Management

- For individual contact approximately once per week
- Manage crisis of individual men during COVID-19
- Check-in questions about how they are managing during COVID-19
- Hotline for perpetrators of domestic violence

AA) Individual weekly contact via phone/VCS for adapted behavior change programming

- For men who cannot participate in group process AND adapted behavior change programming is appropriate
- Not in the “peak crisis” phase generally of COVID-19
- EXAMPLE: Send perpetrator a video to review or materials and then meet over phone or VCS to discuss it

B) Intensive individual support for crisis management via phone/Skype for high risk cases

- Focuses on high risk perpetrators of domestic violence
- Includes contact more than once per week
- Addresses concern of high risk for lethality and group is not available or appropriate during COVID-19 phase
- Check-in to address week to week stress of family situation during COVID-19

BB) Intensive individual contact for adapted behavior change programming via phone/VCS for HIGH RISK CASES

- Contact more than once per week because considered “high-risk”
- For men who cannot participate in group process AND adapted behavior change programming is appropriate more than once per week
- Not in the “peak crisis” phase generally of COVID-19
- EXAMPLE: Send perpetrator a video to review or materials and then meet over phone or VCS to discuss it AND address issues brought up by perpetrator that he is struggling with

C) Group format via videoconference software for Crisis Management and Support

- Videoconference groups where participants can participate via telephone, computer or tablet
- Facilitated by staff
- “Drop-in” groups
- Meet the crisis needs of men during COVID-19 and does not focus on “accountability” exercises
- Provide support and a place for the men to gather
- Can include “high risk” men and also provide individual support

CC) Group format via videoconference software for adapted behavior change perpetrator program

- Pathways to Family Peace has continued to meet using VCS in a group
- The Duluth Model's curriculum "Creating a Process of Change for Men Who Batter" Equality Wheel and Nurturing of Children Wheel
- End with reflection question and send via e-mail and have men answer by the start of group the next week
- Will adjust group as crisis increases

Considerations for Individual / Group Sessions

- Research says that individual sessions are not as effective as group sessions but needed during COVID-19
- Session credit
- Session fees
- Documentation of participation

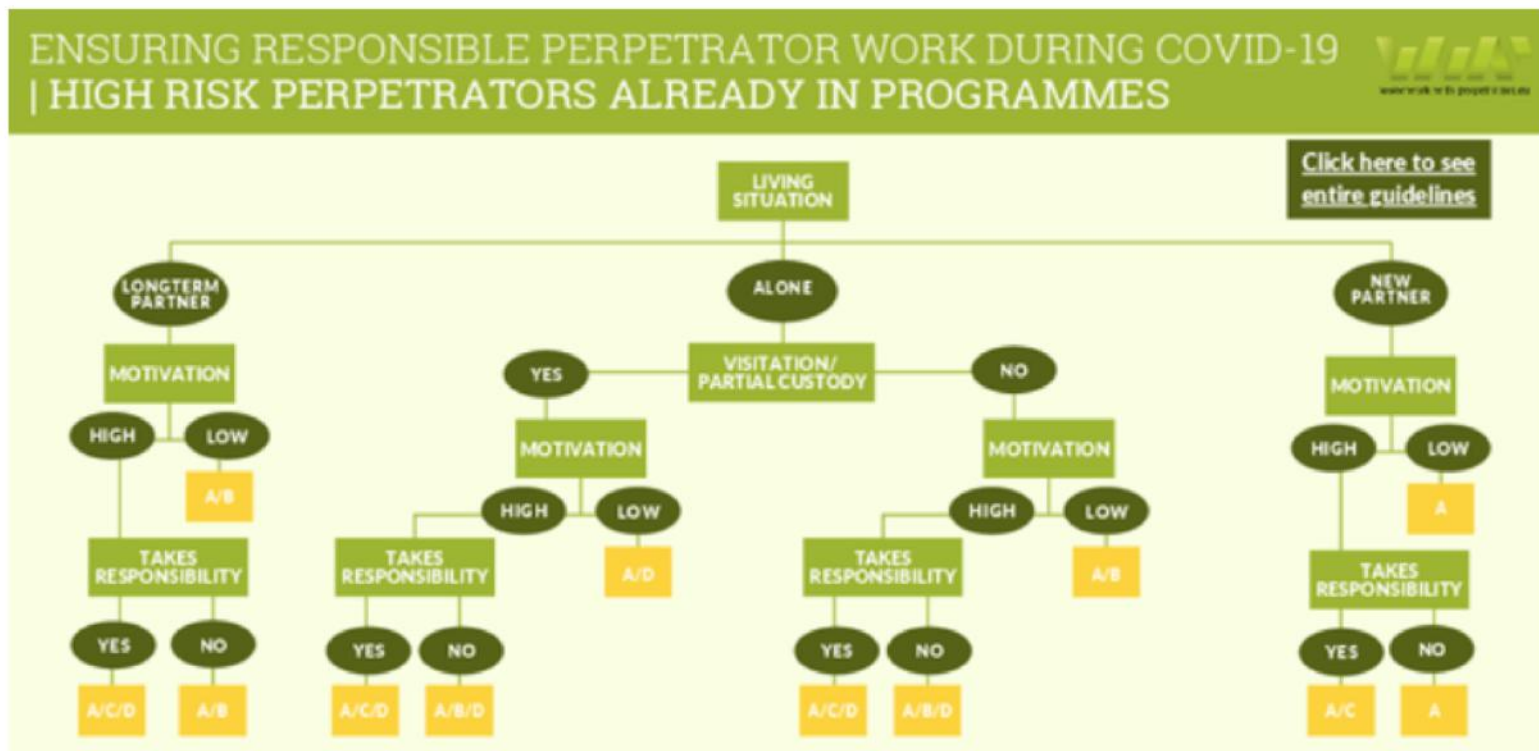
VCS Format, Guidelines, Considerations and Fees

- Private and quiet space
- Headphones / earbuds
- Confidential group
- Addressing the unexpected
- Two facilitators
- “Portrait effect” of virtual groups
- Size of groups
- Session credit and fees

D) Partner Support

- Begin by contacting your local victim-support agency to develop a plan and questions that would be helpful and appropriate for partner support. The plan could include examples and suggested questions for victims.
- Confirm that victims are in a safe situation. Ask victims what their preferred way to communicate privately is before continuing to speak. Text messaging, What's App or other social media is an option for this contact.

European Guidelines Chart for High Risk Perpetrators



How this might change our work in the future?

- How we work with men and our approach
- Opportunities to engage with men who use violence in the broader community

Questions / Next Steps

- Questions from Chat Box
- Next Steps

Contact

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