A Needs Assessment of a Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Clinic’s Target Population in Gainesville, FL

By Rajbir Mangat
Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Clinic
THE SOURCE PROGRAM

A collaboration between:
UF College Of Law
UF College of Medicine
Shands Teaching Hospital & Clinics
Peaceful Paths Domestic Abuse Network
Definition of Domestic Violence

- The use of physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological abuse by current or former partner or spouse to maintain *power and control* over the other person. It can sometimes even result in death of the victim.

- Intimate partner violence (IPV) is also used by CDC which includes dating and sexual violence in same sex couples.
IPVAC Clinic

- Created with a $500,000 grant from the Department of Justice.
- A collaboration between College of Law, College of Medicine, Shands Teaching Hospital & Clinics, and Peaceful Paths Abuse Network.
- Provides screening questions for DV for medical staff in clinics.
- Increase awareness in community about DV and its effects on women and children.
Domestic violence happens between people who are dating, married, separated, and divorced.

It occurs in heterosexual as well as in gay and lesbian relationships and in adolescent dating relationships.

DV is a crime in all 50 states in U.S.A.
Victims

- Victims cross all socio-economic, religious, racial, ethnic, age groups
- Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women ages 15-44 in the United States
- Women represent 85% of adult victims
- Between 1 and 4 million women abused per year
- 1 in 4 women are abused during pregnancy
- Lifetime risk for women is about 20%
- Women report to police only 20% of all rapes, 25% of all physical assaults, and 50% of all stalking perpetrated by intimate partners
Cycle of violence

tension builds

apologies, excuses, amends

abuse takes place

Source:
http://www.deborahkingcenter.com/resources/advice/domestic-violence/
Power & Control Wheel

- **Using Coercion & Threats**: Making and/or carrying out threats to do something to hurt her, threatening to leave her, to commit suicide, to report her to welfare, making her drop charges, making her do illegal things.
- **Using Economic Abuse**: Preventing her from getting or keeping a job, making her ask for money, giving her an allowance, taking her money, not letting her know about or have access to family income.
- **Using Male Privilege**: Treating her like a servant, making all the big decisions, acting like the “master of the castle,” being the one to define men’s and women’s roles, societal privilege in general.
- **Using Children**: Making her feel guilty about the children, using the children to relay messages, using visitation to harass her, threatening to take the children away.
- **Using Intimidation**: Making her afraid by using looks, actions, gestures, smashing things, destroying her property, abusing pets, displaying weapons.
- **Using Emotional Abuse**: Putting her down, making her feel bad about herself, calling her names, making her think she’s crazy, playing mind games, humiliating her, making her feel guilty.
- **Using Isolation**: Controlling what she does, who she sees and talks to, what she reads, where she goes, limiting her outside involvement, using jealousy to justify actions.
- **Minimizing, Denying & Blaming**: Making light of the abuse and not taking her concerns about it seriously, saying the abuse didn’t happen, shifting responsibility for abusive behavior, saying she caused it.
Characteristics of Batterers

- Sense of Entitlement
- Controlling
- Uninvolved parent
- Show contempt for others
- Frequently Charming
- Emotionally needy
- Low self esteem
- Excessively jealous
- Manipulative
The Batterers

- DV Is Learned Behavior by Batterers
- DV Is NOT Caused By:
  - Illness
  - Genetics or gender
  - Alcohol or other drugs
  - Anger
  - Stress
  - Victim’s behavior
  - Relationship problems
What Makes Batterers So Powerful?

- Isolation of victim
- Societal Denial
- Use of Religious Issues
- Use of Cultural Issues
- Threats of Retaliation
Why victims do not report abuse

- Financial constraints
- Fear of being judged
- Fear of not being believed
- Does not want to see abuser punished
- Fear of the batterer and his actions
- Embarrassment
- Victim does not have time alone from abuser
- Distrust in the legal system
- Has children
The Children

- In 85% of police calls for domestic violence, children had witnessed the violence.

- Witnessing parental violence is a risk factor for:
  - Physical Injuries
  - Males- to physically abuse
  - Females- to become victims of abuse
Costs of DV on society

- Abused women have poor health status, tend to use the health-care services more
- Prevalence of depression, suicide tendency, mental health problems, substance abuse
- Children who witness violence at home display emotional and behavioral disturbances such as withdrawal, low self-esteem, nightmares, self-blame and aggression against peers, family members and property
Needs assessment for Mike’s Zone

- Crucial components of the needs assessment included: population demographics, rates of poverty, unemployment, the incidence and mortality of various health indicators, domestic violence shelter data.

- Efficiency was examined by evaluating the number of women who took shelter in the local domestic violence centers and the number of cases reported.

- The data for the assessment was collected from the local Police Department records.

- For population data of the county data was collected from Census data provided by Dr Nancy Hardt, Allison Law and Wayne Harvey.

- This data was compared to the national average data of USA provided by CDC. The health indicator data was compiled from the Florida Department of Health website.

- The barriers to reporting of domestic violence crimes were assessed such as wait period for subsidized housing for victims, health and safety issues, and lack of response by emergency room in hospitals; community resources like lack of transportation and problems in obtaining TANF.
## Mike Zone Crime Report Frequencies 2009

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<th>Frequencies</th>
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Total number of crimes reported in Mike zone for 2009: 1,819
Mike Zone Demographics 2000 census

- Total population: 6,365
  - Ages under 5: 588
  - Ages 5-17: 1,075
  - Ages 18-21: 862
  - Ages 22-29: 1,591
  - Ages 30-39: 949
  - Ages 40-49: 656
  - Ages 50-64: 393
  - Ages 65 and up: 251
- 1,333 families
  - Over 60% of these families consist of unmarried parents.
  - Over 40% are female headed households.
  - 5.7% are male headed households.
  - The average family size is 2.5381 people.

Source: 2000 Census Data provided by Dr. Nancy Hardt, Allison Law, and Wayne Harvey
Mike Zone Profile (2009)

Legend

Old Mike Zone 2009
Cases
- HOMICIDE
- ATTEMPT HOMICIDE
- PERSON SHOT
- ROBBERY-ARMED
- DISTURBANCE-ARMED
- SHOTS HEARD/FIRED
- PERSON STABBED
- ROBBERY-STRONG ARMED
- ROBBERY
- BURGLARY
- BURGLARY - BUSINESS
- BURGLARY - CONVEYANCE
- BURGLARY-RESIDENCE
- STOLEN VEHICLE

GAINESVILLE

While every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of this map, due to address irregularities, typographical errors and mistakes in geocoding some points may be displaced.
Number of Domestic Violence cases 2004-2010 in Mike’s Zone, Gainesville

Domestic Violence Cases 2004-2010

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>198</td>
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Reporting of DV cases to police (2010):

- Reporting on the same day: 181, 90%
- Reporting on different day: 21,10%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and the Emergency Department

- Entry into the health care system is an opportunity for detection of domestic violence and referral to appropriate community resources
- 30% of all female trauma patients
- 22-35% of all females presenting to the Emergency Department
- Most are repeat ED patients
- The average hospitalization costs for women who experience domestic violence are nearly $4.1 billion each year
How can Medical Community make a difference?

- Screening patients for IPV
- Screen patients especially in OB-GYN, ED, PEDIATRICS
- Provide resources to victims
- About 47% women killed by their partners went to the hospital for physical injuries within one year of their murder.
- Early intervention can definitely prevent such episodes of violence
Recommendations

- Education of the community on Domestic Violence crimes and prevention
- Community Oriented Policies
- Crime watch meetings
- Health and Safety Fairs
- Connecting the community to resources
- Community meetings and events
- Cater to specific Community needs
Domestic Violence Centers in Gainesville -

- Arbor House
- Pleasant Place
- Interface Youth Shelter
- Salvation Army (men)
- Peaceful Paths
- St. Francis House
- Interfaith Hospitality Network
- Vet Space
Questions?

A Sad and Mad Home isn't safe INTO IT Changes.