

VOICES

Survivor Defined Success

Presented by Mary Claire Landry, Michael Burke & Survivors
Wednesday, April 13, 2015

Thank You to Our Sponsor



Introductions of our VOICES Members here today



Accountability to Survivors

Mary Claire Landry

Guiding Principles

Trauma-Informed Approach

1. Safety
2. Trustworthiness & Transparency
3. Collaboration & Mutuality
4. Empowerment
5. Voice and Choice
6. Peer Support and Mutual Self-Help
7. Resilience and Strengths Based
8. Inclusiveness & Shared Purpose
9. Cultural, Historical, & Gender Issues
10. Change Process

FJC Guiding Principles

1. Safety-Focused
2. Victim-Centered
3. Culturally Relevant
4. Community-Engaged
5. Survivor-Driven
6. Transformative (willing to change)
7. Relationship-Based
8. Prevention-Oriented
9. Kind-Hearted
10. Empowered
11. Offender Accountability



Where do you see HOPE?



The Five Domains of Wellbeing



Drawn from practice, validated by research.

Seeing People and Our Work Differently



The Five Domains of Wellbeing allows us to:

1. Put **people and their assets**, not their problems, at the center.
2. Recognize that all **behaviors serve a purpose**.
3. Ask, “**Is it worth it?**”
And then respond accordingly.



- We **all** have assets.
- We all have challenges.
- We all **work to meet our needs** in these domains simultaneously, as best we can given our experiences and what is available to us.
- Sustaining any change in one domain usually requires addressing the **tradeoffs** in the other domains.

Survivor Defined Success



Survivor Defined Success

- Despite the prevalence of intimate partner violence (which we use synonymously with domestic violence) and the resources directed at ending it, *there is a lack of information about how survivors themselves define success.*



Survivor Defined Success

- Survivors' examples of success centered on connection with family members, friends and other informal networks; on achieving something that created value and worth for themselves and others; and on moments characterized by calm, predictability and “normalcy.”



Survivor Defined Success

- Services provide the lens through which practitioners understand survivor identity and success, whereas survivors derive identity and purpose from connection and personal accomplishment, far beyond the bounds of the abusive relationship and the walls of programs.



Survivor Defined Success

- Taking what we have learned and aligning policy, funding, and service systems with truly survivor-defined success is our collective task at hand.



Survivor Defined Success

- Ultimately, service delivery systems may be designed around and held accountable for concepts of survivor success that are far too narrow and do not account for the diversity of survivor experiences and priorities.



Survivor Defined Success

Question	Survivor	Practitioner
Identification of Single Moment of Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal connections (29%) • Accomplishments (22%) • Normalcy (17%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivor shift in agency (24%) • Practitioner agency (24%) • Survivor insight (14%)
The Significance or Meaning of the Moment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal connections (24%) • Shift in confidence (20%) • Breakthrough realization (18.5%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivor breakthrough realization (25%) • Shift in confidence/behavior (22%) • Milestones (12.5%)
What or Who Enabled the Moment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self (21%) • Family (20%) • Friends and peers (15%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivor (19%) • Practitioner actions (17.5%) • Survivor family (17%)
How Does Survivor Cope in Between Moments of Success?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal connections (19%) • Self-care (17%) • God/faitH (12.5%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal Connections (18%) • Self-care (12%) • Use of conventional services (11%)

Survivor Defined Success

- Only 7% of survivor stories overall were about leaving or altering the relationship with the abusive partner.
- The remaining 93% were about connections with others, accomplishments outside the abusive relationship, and/or the normalcy of daily life.

Accountability to Survivors

Survivors should not have to adapt to what is offered by the service providers or systems

Responses should be based on asset building not problems to be solved

Accountability to Survivors

- Listen to the lived experiences of the survivor
- Be aware of your own bias and privilege
- Be open to doing the work differently based on what you are hearing from survivors
- Listen and hear rather than tell and direct
- Learn what is keeping survivors coming back for support
- Learn and be open to what is keeping them from coming back for support

History of VOICES

Michael Burke



VOICES



San Diego VOICES Committee History

- Established in 2003
- Mission – to share stories of courage, hope and empowerment as a way to be a voice for those who don't have one yet.
- Members served as an advisory committee for the San Diego Family Justice Center.
- Spoke at public events to bring awareness to the services provided at the Family Justice Center.

San Diego VOICES Committee Membership Started

- FJC clients referred by Dr. Lass, Psychologist from the San Diego Family Justice Center.
- Open membership

San Diego VOICES Committee Membership

- Monthly meetings
 - Consistent day each month – 3rd Thursday of the month
 - Email reminders 1 week & 1 day before meeting
 - Text reminders
 - Food and refreshments
 - Child Care
 - Varied meeting places



San Diego VOICES Committee Got Busy Fast

- Thomas Jefferson School of Law Conference



San Diego VOICES Committee

- 2009 – Empowered by the Verizon Foundation



San Diego VOICES Committee

- 2009 - Verizon Foundation Support
 - Logo, Stationary
 - Business Cards
 - Brochures
 - T-Shirts



San Diego VOICES Committee

- 2009 FJC Alliance Conference



San Diego VOICES Committee

- Advocating for the FJC at City Meetings



San Diego VOICES Committee


- Hope in the Park



San Diego VOICES Committee


- Vigils

Please Join Us for a Vigil in Loving Memory of
Christina Jones





*Date: Wednesday, December 30, 2009
Time: 4:15 pm
Location: Coronado Beach*

The VOICES Committee of the San Diego Family Justice Center (a dedicated group of domestic violence survivors) will hold a vigil for Christina Jones at the beach in Coronado. Christina so loved the beach. All interested community members can join Christina's family and friends in remembering her life and seeking to learn from her death.



*Directions: Meet at 1000 Ocean Blvd.,
(just North of the Hotel Del)
Take CA-75 S toward Coronado
Turn Left onto Orange Ave/CA-75 S.
Turn Slight Right onto Park Pl.
Enter next roundabout and
take 2nd exit onto Loma Ave.
Turn Left onto Ocean Blvd.*



San Diego VOICES Committee

- News stories & events



Starting a VOICES Chapter

Empowered Survivors

No one tells the story better than those that benefited from your center!



Dana Anderson

Founder of VOICES at One SAFE Place



Empowered Survivors

What is the VOICES Committee?

- Why are we here?
- What is our purpose?
- What we plan to accomplish?

Case Study – Shasta County

Why are we here?

The Shasta County chapter of VOICES was founded in June of 2011 and is patterned after the National Family Justice Center Alliance's VOICES Chapter.

With the support of the One SAFE Place VOICES started with three women who found their voices and wanted to speak out against family violence. The group quickly grew and has had as many as 15 active members.

What is the VOICES Committee?

The mission of the VOICES is to promote public support and bring awareness of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Elder Abuse and Child Abuse through community education by sharing stories of hope, courage and strength. VOICES seeks to break the silence that enables abusers and VOICES empowers survivors to take a stand by raising their voice.

What we plan to accomplish?

To be an advocacy group to end family and sexual violence in our community.

To be a voice for those who have lost theirs.



What is our purpose?



These women (and now men) share a common theme: They are all survivors of some sort of family violence, they all lost their voice as they were going through their abusive situations and they are all survivors who have found their **VOICE** and want to empower other victims to do the same.

What the VOICES Committee Is...

- A group dedicated to change
- An advocacy group
- A partner working with OSP and other partner agencies
- A speakers bureau
- A asset based group that looks for solutions

What the VOICES Committee is Not...

- A fundraising group
- A support group (although we support each other)
- A stand alone group (we partner with OSP and the partner agencies)
- Responsible for engaging the media, politicians, government officials or agencies without our partners
- A mascot for the movement

VOICES Membership...

- Survivors of family violence with passion, enthusiasm and commitment that desire to partner together to raise their voice to help bring public awareness about domestic violence, sexual assault, elder and child abuse.
- Members must be at least one year removed from the date of their last abuse and of their relationship with their abuser.
- Members must not currently undergoing a trial or court proceedings.
- Members must not currently be in a relationship with a convicted abuser.

VOICES Membership

Active Member – Attend monthly meetings, check Facebook group regularly and participate in events

Supportive Member – Follow Facebook group regularly, limited attendance at meetings and events



VOICES Membership

Areas of involvement:

Public Speaking

Media interviews

Community
presentations

Policy change

Writing for OSP newsletter

Participating in events



Structure of VOICES@OSP

The VOICES group operates under the direction of the Director and Assistant Director of Client Services at One SAFE Place.

Legally, the group falls under the liability of OSP but all partners involved in the prevention and intervention of family violence and sexual assault have a voice.

Structure of VOICES@OSP

The group is made up of four chair positions:

- Membership Chair
- Speakers Bureau Chair
- Social Media Chair
- OSP Staff Liaison

Our hope is each member will volunteer to work in one of these committee areas.

VOICES in the Community



VOICES in the Community



VOICES in the Community



VOICES in the Community



VOICES in the Community



VOICES in the Community



Going National

VOICES Survivor Advocacy Network

Survivor Engagement

- Creation of VOICES Tool Kit
 - Created with Survivors for Survivors
 - Create a VOICES Network in FJCs and MAMs



Empowered by:
blue  of california
foundation

Blue Shield of California Foundation is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Shield Association

Survivor Engagement

- Creation of Statewide VOICES Network in California
 - Joyce Bilyeu - Sacramento County
 - Susan Cain - Stanislaus County
 - Yvonne Coiner - San Diego
 - Patricia Duncan Hall - Contra Costa County
 - Christy Coleman- Shasta County
 - Julie Kundert - Van Nuys
 - April Romanek – San Joaquin

VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee

- The ultimate goal of the VOICES Survivor Network is to Strengthen the integration of systems and partners in the Family Justice Centers (FJC) and multi- agency models to better serve and be held accountable to survivor needs and self-defined successes.

VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee – Achieve Goal

- VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee Members or appointed survivors from each California Family Justice Initiative (CFJI) site provides feedback on Alliance for HOPE International (Alliance) tools and resources.

VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee – Achieve Goal

- VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee Members or appointed survivors provide feedback to local FJC on policies, procedures, intake process, and/or partnership agreements.
- VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee Members establish a statewide network.

VOICES Survivor Network

Steering Committee – Achieve Goal

- Alliance helps develop or strengthen VOICES Committees within CFJI sites, based on FJC stage of development.
- VOICES Committees in at least 3 CFJI sites report at least one activity where they contributed to organizational changes to benefit survivors.

VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee – Achieve Goal

- At least 3 CFJI sites update policies, procedures, and/or partnership MOUs based on survivor feedback.
- VOICES Committees and FJCs report increased commitment to work with FJC on survivor-centered initiatives.

VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee – Achieve Goal

- VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee Members attend the Annual International Family Justice Conference in San Diego April 12-14, 2016. The Alliance will pay all expenses for VOICES Survivor Network Steering Committee Members

Proyecto Esperanza

Lisbet Perez

What is Next?

Commitments

Questions or Comments?

Thank You!

Alliance for HOPE International

www.allianceforhope.com

www.familyjusticecenter.com

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