



MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESPONSES TO COMPLEX HOMICIDE TRAINING

Homicide is defined by the FBI as the willful killing of one human being by another, and encompasses both murder and non-negligent manslaughter. According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report, the overall homicide rate in the US has steadily declined since 1990. However, homicides continue to plague our nation, and certain demographic groups are disproportionately affected. Certain types of homicides have a higher level of complexity that requires specialized and coordinated multidisciplinary responses from law enforcement, victim service providers, and other criminal justice professionals. Victim service providers must therefore be equipped to offer holistic approaches addressing the complexity of victimization and foster long-term individual, family, and community healing.

The principles and practical steps outlined in the following are based on a range of feedback garnered through public school training on dating violence, victim focus groups, webinars, academic journals, research studies, and substantive content provided by the DOJ, Office for Victims of Crime.

Goals and Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the various types of homicide, including the unique dynamics of each type; their effects on individuals, families, and communities; and the resulting need for specialized and coordinated multidisciplinary responses.
- Identify the organizations and agencies needed for successful MDTs, and understand the role of each in responding to complex homicide cases.
- Provide a best practices model for victim service providers, law enforcement, victim advocates, and clinicians on victim-centered responses to families and communities who have experienced a homicide.
- Provide training data from a wide range of subject-specific workshops established under an Office for Victims of Crime-funded complex homicide project.

TTA Type: Training

TTA Format: Available in person and virtually

Intended Audience: Homicide detectives and victim service providers

Length: Due to the breadth of topics, this training is designed to be presented in portions, depending on what is most relevant to the site seeking technical assistance. Before conducting the training, presenters will discuss specific areas of interest/need and desired length of the training with the requesting organization.

Agenda

The course will begin with a presentation covering various topics, including: (1) an overview of TDV and why it is an important issue to address, (2) ways to identify signs of TDV, (3) effective intervention and prevention methods, and (4) law enforcement specific tactics for intervention. Finally, the training will include an interactive quiz, in which we provide a range of hypothetical situations and ask trainees to point out signs of TDV, signs of healthy adolescent relationships, and warning signs of adolescent relationships on the verge of becoming unhealthy. The PSN TTA team will also request responses for the trainees and have a class discussion to consider possible courses of action for each hypothetical situation. Upon certifying a trainee's responses, that trainee will receive a formal certification for the course.

SMEs

The course will be presented by the project coordinator and project manager of the Complex Homicide Project and may be augmented by various other SMEs.