

Serving Male-Identified Survivors

Crisis/Helpline Services

- Advocates/hotline volunteers should be trained on the diverse experiences and needs of male victims and strategies for receiving and processing men's crisis calls.
- Agencies should regularly revisit their screening process for callers, with careful attention to men's unique barriers and challenges when reaching out and accessing services.

For additional tips, please visit the Technical Assistance Guidance: [Serving Male-Identified Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence](#) (July 2017).

For help, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233



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Shelter Services

- Remember off-site hotel or partner shelter (homeless shelter) may worsen the male victim's feelings of isolation, expose them to further harm, or limit their access to additional supportive services.
- Explore ways to reasonably meet the safe housing needs of males on site, and enhance staff capacity to provide equal services.
- Maximize spaces by reconsidering shelter layouts, candid dialogue within the agency board, staff, volunteers, and those they serve in conjunction with outside partners.

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Create inclusive awareness materials



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- Be attentive to the images and messages used in your agency's posters, brochures, and campaigns
- Be sure that male victims can see reflections of their experiences, faces, and voices.
- Be mindful of the language you use when speaking to traditional media or engaging with social media audiences.

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Counseling and Creating Community

- Males from diverse backgrounds and cultures may not seek counseling services because it may challenge their idea of masculinity and make them feel vulnerable.
- Agencies can seek training on alternative counseling styles and approaches that may be more effective with males.
- Advocates can explore other ways of providing similar support in a different setting, like playing basketball, talking at a kitchen table over coffee, or in a setting where the counseling may be folded into another activity.

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Sharing stories

- Speaking out and sharing one's story of survival can be a helpful part of the healing journey, offering personal empowerment and fostering resilience.
- Agencies should support male survivors who wish to build their capacity to speak publicly or tell their story through various creative outlets.
- Create opportunities during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, campaigns, and other outreach efforts to highlight the stories of male survivors

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