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Making Your CCR Work: How the Blueprint for Safety Can Transform your Criminal Legal System Response to Domestic Violence

Denise Eng, Amalfi Parker Elder, Blueprint for Safety and current Blueprint sites

January 12, 2017

Please stand by for real time captions.

>> Hello everyone and thank you so much for joining us today. I want to welcome you to today's presentation, the blueprint for safety can transform your criminal legal system response to domestic violence. I would like to welcome Liz Carter. We also have people from the Blueprint [Indiscernible] from Louisiana .

>> Hello everyone and welcome and thank you so much for joining us. Just to orient you to this presentation today, we want to let you know that you have an option, on your screen. You can add, ask questions throughout today's presentation. There is a Q&A pod, to the right of your screen. And this will -- if you would like to adjust the specifics on how your Q&A pod, or the information is displayed, you can click on the icon, in the right-hand corner of the Q&A pod. You have various options in various settings. We are need to have Close Captioning. And if there is anyone who is participating by telephone only, you can send your questions and comments to live, and I will make sure you can get those -- I will make sure those get passed on to everyone. There is also a box that will provide a PDF.

>> This can connect to to things that we are going to present. And if you are connected with voice over IP, -- it would be better if you dialed the phone number. Then you can turn your speaker computer off.

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>> Denise we are ready to start.

>> Thank you list. --- Liz .

>> I just want to welcome everyone to today's webinar. We have some of our Blueprint colleagues throughout Louisiana. Also in Michigan. From New Orleans we have Amy Jackson. She has a dual master degree in [Indiscernible] and she is a licensed social worker. She became an advocate, for the District Attorney's Office. I think she started last year. Is that correct Amy?

>> Are you there Amy question

>> Yes

>> Along with Amy we have, Rick. He is in charge of the domestic violent unit in New Orleans. And from Michigan we have Vicki Wakeman, she did her undergraduate work from the central University of Michigan. She is currently, the [Indiscernible] . She is currently enrolled in the learning Center. And we are very happy to have her. And she is the Blueprint coordinator for the county. And finally, Vicki, is also a prosecutor, which he has done for the past three years so welcome to all of our presenters we are very pleased that you are here with us today.

>> I want to talk a little bit about what we are going to be learning about today. As we think about the Blueprint approach, and the community, and one of the things that we really want to dive into today. We want to see what difference the Blueprint can make in your community and what are the opportunities for those who are here today. And what is the impact about the Blueprint and what is unique for you . And we will talk about your community and your Blueprint . What is a Blueprint ?

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>> I will talk a little bit about the history of domestic violence. And for some of you who are on the webinar today, this might be repetitive and I do apologize for that. But I think for those who do not have a background, this is a little bit about it. This was a -- historically seen as a legitimate way for a man to force his authority. But state authorities, often did not intervene. And sometimes it resulted in death. And in the 60s, women began to pressure states in criminalizing domestic violence there and even so, even at that time domestic violence was seen as a marital -- marriage problem.

>> So in the early 1980s, we began to form the theoretical group. This was describing on pattern [Indiscernible] that is reinforced with -- sexual violence. There was the domestic stick abuse intervention. The burden of protecting, should be on the state rather than the thick. -- Rather than the victim.

>> So what they began to do is they went to the local police department. And persuaded the police chief, to have a policy in place. So when the implemented that, that reduced [Indiscernible] . And the police chief agreed to do this practice, in the city of Duluth. And we knew that working with the Police Department was not going to be enough. We wanted to strengthen their response and there was a criminal justice reform project. And some of you, on the telephone, probably have some kind of CCR in your community whether it is a task force. But there is an agency that will address this in your community. And what we found over time, there has been a dressed, away from the original intent to undergone -- undertake this kind of work. And some communities drifted into a pattern where people might be coming together, but they do not have a reform center. Sometimes they would have a plan of action and sometimes they did not know why they were meeting. Or sharing information. They may have done police training or policies or one or more agency but not for everyone. There might be some individuals, part of the community working as well. But the Blueprint was

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designed in order to help the CCR work more effectively. And in 2007, [Indiscernible] thought they could do Betty -- better. And we had the local advocacy group, at St. Paul. We began to work with a number of congregations. And together they went to legislator and asked for funding, to create a framework that would delineate [Indiscernible] domestic violent crimes. So from calling 911 and all the way to prosecution so we got together seven criminal agencies together. To develop a policy and practice to respond to domestic violence and then over the years legislator funded the project. We interviewed many different practitioners. We met a number of documents, please reports, prosecution files. We work together and try to figure out what we wanted to say, or what was the best community response to put in place. It took about one year to write the Blueprint . And in 2013, we had enhanced layer [Indiscernible] last year . This was a grant to further our response.

>> So having said that, so what is the Blueprint ? We think of it as a -- three things. This can help the community to answer the basic questions on, how are we doing? At is that having the impact that we want? And how can we work more effectively? It really has three components. And by that we mean we bring everybody together to share a way and think about -- to understand domestic violence. And it is also a document so each agency has a chapter in the Blueprint that guides the collective response . It is also a process we bring people together in an ongoing way in a problem-solving way and information sharing. And in response to working together. And here are the things that we thought were the key features of Blueprint . The first is, it is documented that it is a single overarching policy. Like I said each agency has its own chapter. But we think of it as a single overarching policy. And this policy fits within every other agency and their policies. And this is where the response to a particular practitioner, -- sometimes we would have to go back and negotiate on how everyone was going

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to work together effectively. So we wanted to come up with a single overarching policy first.

>> I also referenced that it is grounded in research. We had a researcher that was advising us on cases. And we also had many years of advocacy -- and legal system, prosecutors and judges and others so we do now what was a race testament path -- and we did know what was a positive response. Every worker in the system is guidance in a specific way to identify, document and [Indiscernible] . It is grounded in the experience of the Dems. I -- it is grounded in the experience of the victim. We wanted to make it more meaningful for them. And each worker again, is given a specific guidance. To take certain and particular actions that will help enhance the relationship and build a good partnership over time. And there is also interagency monitoring. I think this as the blue. -- glue.

>> Once the community decides what they want to say, and I have a policy and they train people, the final thing, there are specific ways in which the agency can guide to continue to work together over time. To see how our changes are even operating. Are they having the desired effect?

>> And that is, in a nutshell what Blueprint is . I am going to ask my colleagues to talk about what needs to happen in order to build a Blueprint Thank you Denise. Thank you so much for everybody who joined us today . It is great to have you. So when you were thinking if the Blueprint is right for your community there are some essential commitments that you and your partners should be thinking of and asking yourselves. They have four features. And it is here right on the screen for you to see. Self-examination and problem-solving. The Blueprint is channeling the spirit of trying new things and self reflection. And how are we responding to domestic violence? And Blueprint is not about working for a perfect community with a perfect CRR -- CCR. It really is a process in which your community will work together. They will all work together to identify where there might be gaps.

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Where there might be problems that you want to solve together. There is an opening a center willingness to examine all of that. And part of making that happen, is having leadership and commitment from your agency. And have key leaders in your agency who are respected. And the ability to make things happen, when you identify areas that you want to change. And this commitment is very important. When you are initially starting the work. And it is equally important when you have your Blueprint develop and you are implementing it, and as time passes, and this is something you might hear from the presenters today. There might be an area where justice is needed so that might be a key area that you need to move forward -- for continuous monitoring. And another piece of the self-examination, a willingness for you and your partners to be accountable to one another. It is interagency accountability. This is where you are all checking in with each other and that you are accountable to one another and those you were serving. Advocacy and leadership and partnership is so key. We will talk about Vicki's experience in Midland in a moment. But the Blueprint has six principles. These are really key to, what do find the Blueprint and what makes it unique. So putting all of the work that you do in your Blueprint project through the six principles is very important to -- and they consist of interagency approach and collective intervention goals. Essentially all of the agencies are working together to become successful. And attention to context and severity. To adjust to the level of violence that is occurring. There are different types of domestic violence. So you want to adjust to that. And more resources and attention will go into the more serious cases and you can save your resources, for those serious cases. And continuing engagement. And it is recognizing that these types of crimes are patterned. And they happen over and over and again in some cases. So we want to treat these cases as part of the pattern and use every opportunity to build a relationship over time. Every time you might come back to a certain case, you want those interactions to build on that continuing engagement --.

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>> Sure and swift consequences. It is not that we want to throw the book to every domestic violence that happens but we do want to respond quickly and make sure there are consequences every time. That we are sending a very clear message every time. And that plays into, messages and accountability. We want to send out a clear message. We want to be very consistent and what we are saying. So to victims, we want to say, there is help for EQ. -- help for you. And we want you to keep utilizing us and we want you to come back to us for help. And it is not your fault. So we want to be consistent what we are saying to them Dems. - - What we are saying to the victims. And to the batterer, we have to be consistent. And definitely to children as well. And we need to send them a message that, it is not their fault. And finally, reducing unintended consequences. We want to make sure that whatever we are doing to domestic violence -- we are not doing more harm. We have good intentions and what we're doing. But we have to see if there is anything that we are doing. For a -- quick example. Testifying, sometimes we think that is very powerful for movie night case forward but we have to think about the consequences for the victim if we asked her to participate in a -- when testifying.

>> I am going to shift gears. We want to hear from a representative from Midland and New Orleans. Community readiness. There is a checklist that we will provide to you in a URL, on our website. We will send all of this to everybody after the webinar. And we have a great [Indiscernible] and all of the considerations that the community may want to consider if they are going to decide if the Blueprint is right for their community . When you look at this checklist, we do not want you to think that you have to have everything on this list. But it is to help you guide having a discussion with your partners. Advocacy, partnership and leadership. Advocacy is very core to giving a voice to the victims. So at the moment, I will ask Vicki, to introduce yourself. And let us know how advocacy has worked for you in Michigan with your criminal goal -- legal stuff.

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>> Thank you. Advocacy really has been central to what I have been doing for the past 15 years as an advocate. We have a long-standing history in our community working with survivors. And providing legal advocacy. And there is also, a big evolution in it -- interagency collaboration. We get referrals from prosecutors office, and advocates -- and other agencies. We also hold a female and male intervention programs. So we have a long-standing partnership with a lot of different players. By working together and trying to partner, and putting the needs of the victim first.

>> Vicki, can you talk a little bit about starting Blueprint in your community?

>> Like I was saying, we have a lot of interagency coordination already. Also with the other players in the legal system. We do have a relationship with each other. We work together with drug courts, sexual assault, multidisciplinary team for our lard -- our local [Indiscernible] . We also build a relationship with just working together. We had a prosecutor that came from a different county, who had a history with domestic violence court. So he had a different experience and a different level of domestic violent people put -- working together.

>> We do have a question in the chat box. About funding that is used for Blueprint .

>> I just want to make sure that we answer this question. What kind of grant?

>> I would encourage you to get together with OUW.

>> This is for manly known as -- formerly known as [Indiscernible] .

>> I also would like to ask, if you could talk about what was a selling point for Blueprint in your office?

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>> As speaking had mentioned, we did get a new prosecutor. And one of his main focuses, is to improve the way we deal with domestic violent cases. When he approached us with this idea, it was truly a lining with what we wanted to do in our office and in the community anyway. He is big on open lines of communication between agencies and working together. Working together and try to understand each other. And there are so many different players involved in just one single domestic violent -- violence case. And when we work together we have potentially better outcomes. And so this program outlined with what we wanted to do anyway. And we also as going into it, had logistical questions. What were the expectations? What was the commitment? And what was the cost? And those were some of the initial concerns. And once we kind of learned that it was doable for us, we thought this was something that we could get on board with.

>> Vicki, can you share with loss, -- with us it eagerly challenges?

>> Sure. The checklist that you talked about was just a starting conversation. We had a conversation with our community partners. It really was going out and talking to people. And seeing if they were interested. And also what it would look like further office. Part of it was what we were asking for. We were asking for help and having a collaborative approach. We had a [Indiscernible] response program . So we are ready started to have a lot of those conversations though it did bring it to another level. We had clear expectations on what we were asking and also what we were. One bump in the road, was funding are [Indiscernible] because we are a community-based program . So we wanted to see what this was going to look like through the lens of OAW and how we function. And how we can work with everyone and answer them at the same time.

>> And for those who are not completely aware of, can you briefly describe the [Indiscernible] program ?

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>> This is a tragic -- this is an approach where we call the victim instead of waiting for them to call us. So let's say the police say that someone call through the cross us line, we follow up after the assault. And then we will show them there is an advocate. And we will also ask, -- also we answer any questions that they may have. They will also walk through the system with them.

>> Let's hear from New Orleans. We have a coordinator from New Orleans, Amy Jackson.

>> Amy, what bandwidth the Blueprint in your community ? Because each community has their own unique standing at their own unique starting right -- starting point. For your particular community what was that like?

>> The silver lining, there was a cultural change in new Florence -- New Orleans. We have that New Orleans justice family center. We met with national leaders, and we also contacted [Indiscernible] and that prompted New Orleans, to look at the Blueprint site .

>> So it was mandated that we needed to make changes. So we wanted to show them, the Blueprint . We began in 2011, it was initially housed in the Blueprint -- and we would address the violence in the community. And we also targeted New Orleans [Indiscernible] . And so we wanted to target domestic violence. First we went to the office of criminal justice. And in 2013 we did move to the office of [Indiscernible] and this was initially very good for us. So we were able to facilitate a conversation between agencies who were not able to talk to each other. And we knew this was a community problem. In the landscape of domestic violence. Because it does affect more than just the criminal justice. It also affects children, and education -- it is a public health problem not just a criminal justice problem. That is kind of what we went through in New Orleans.

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>> That is a great example on how there can be many different places where you can how to Blueprint . You can think about what is going to make sense for your -- particular community. And it does work well -- like what Amy was saying in her health department. That is something that can be unique to your community when you take on Blueprint . Rick, can you talk about the impact?

>> Essentially, we went into an agreement in 2012. And it was very extensive at the time. I just wanted to compare the domestic violence stuff. There was a huge, consistent dual arresting going on. It was probably a cultural thing that was happening over decades. -- We wanted to have a comprehensive policy. And we wanted to have guidelines on how we treated by -- victims. Essentially the Blueprint , gave us a roadmap. It was very concise on what needed to be done. It was very detailed. So we did come up with a new policy. And this was approved by the Department of Justice, I think about three years ago. So far, it has strengthen what [Indiscernible] and we are consistently monitored . There has been dramatic improvement on what is going on. And we also have a comprehensive data collecting -- we also are collecting data on the rest. -- arrest.

>> Amy, can you let us know what the [Indiscernible] that you are using in New Orleans ? We're using the same thing which is the criminal justice response.

>> Now we are going to shift gears. To what our presenters have learned in their Blueprint process . So starting out with Vicki. Can you share some of your perspectives on the early Blueprint experience and what you have learned so far?

>> Blueprint is big and so there is a lot to learn. So we went about it in a strategic way. The very first thing was teambuilding and promoting trust. We may be working together and have a relationship that we really wanted to build trust and understanding among the community partners. And whether that is having a conversation about our confidentiality mandate or dropping cookies off or a

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casserole. We really wanted to learn more about each other. Like I said there was a big learning curve. But we did take this -- attitude on training for skill. We wanted to get the right people in the right position and moving forward. One at other thing was that we wrote down everything. I have a notebook that I take to every single meeting. And everything is written down. I will read the notes and I will share with people, or I will follow what. I will email the people that I met with or who were on the team, and I will let them know what we need to do.

>> And for me it was also beneficial from coming from the advocacy background. We had a learning course, [Indiscernible] and that was phenomenal. Because it really did change my perspective rather than looking at things individually . It really did change my thinking and looking in this -- looking at the system. We wanted to see how this person was set up and how it was impacting the people that we worked with before.

>> Great.

>> [Indiscernible] what was your experience as a practitioner ?

>> Overall it has been enlightening. We sat down and talk to other people who play other roles in the system. We did learn, that we all need to be flexible as far as -- commitment for time and energy. When we first started out, we were meeting every so often but it did change over time. We would sit down for one hour meeting, or maybe we would go back in look through case styled -- case files. There were so many different things that we had to do throughout the process. Things like change -- I think the biggest thing was that we were always working on some -- working on something.

>> Let's shift over to New Orleans. Amy can you tell us what it has been like for you? Because you came to the [Indiscernible] after it was implemented in New Orleans, so what did you learn ?

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>> It has been a challenge. One of the most important things that I learned, was to be flexible. It was also helpful for me, to have my own goals. Because if you come in the middle, it is hard to have personal goals. So do not be afraid to take this up -- and create your own. And another thing is, -- Blueprint is a living and breathing document . So it is important not to get discouraged. Maybe the project is not following that timeline. So, and another thing, a lot of agencies have changed their leadership. The coordinator change some of the people who started the original Blueprint . And other agencies have new heads. So that actually helped me. Because some of the new people did not know what the Blueprint was so it was like starting from scratch together. And some of the new people were some of my biggest supporters. And we were lucky that their previous coordinator did such a good job selling Blueprint to the partners. I would say you need to be flexible. And do not worry if you are not following the strict timeline. Because as you know practice is not always -- you know, it does not happen like that theoretical model.

>> That is very important that you just pointed out. Because you have partners, like Rick who have been there from the beginning. So Rick, can you talk about starting Blueprint from the outset ? What has Blueprint been like for you as a practitioner? As a police officer questioned back

>> Basically I alluded to earlier domestic violence justice was not up to par. And again there was a lot that was thrown out. Because it was broken into pieces or stages. As a whole, it dramatically improved documenting the domestic violent -- domestic violence cases. We looked at the Blueprint and their risk assessment questions so when an officer is documenting these cases, and they have to get answers to a certain set of questions. Meaning that we want to get it right. -- And our previous arrest record with not existing. And again it did help us, -- I know that is not exactly what you were asking. But we want to get out from underneath

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the sink. We want -- train the officers. And as a police department we do have turnovers so we need to have training that is consistent. And that is my experience with it.

>> Great. Thank you.

>> What Rick was just describing to us, how the Blueprint has made an impact on his work with the police department. Amy, are there any other types of impact that you have seen that Blueprint has made in your community?

>> Yes. We have the mayors domestic working group. This was very important when working with Blueprint . It has impacted what we are doing right now. And because of the fostering between each agency.

>> Can you talk about this group?

>> It was a group that met more often at the beginning. It was led by Neal and I. We would have Rick, the leader from [Indiscernible] , and from the Sheriff's office. And various community leaders. So we would meet with them early. We go over what is going on in the community. We would look at the issues are occurring and what need -- needs there might be. I believe out of that meeting -- it was identified that probation was not be notified when a warrant was being issued. So now, we have a weekly arrest register so we can look for the probation cases that kind of closed out a gap. And this brought our communication together on these issues. And another example, that we learned from the meetings -- the Blueprint allows -- one judge told us that she had issues with [Indiscernible] and it would be helpful for the judges at the bench. We have a new law for DV and the judges have so many things that they have to keep up with. So we created a guide that would help the prosecutors and the judges. And it can be used when there is a crime. And it is great to encourage a conversation about different issues. And another thing that happened, we have funding to do a program, for guns and

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offenders. So there are new things that are being started from Blueprint and it is a amazing to see that happen .

>> It sounds like this group, really keeps the Blueprint alive and well in New Orleans .

>> Rick, you mention earlier about the risk assessment questions had a big impact on the police reports. If you could briefly described for the audience, what are those questions that you are referring to? What makes them so essential to Blueprint ?

>> Basically, these are questions that the police officer is going to ask during the interview. First of all, who is more fearful of the other? Is a getting worse? And this will give us a big picture because it is not a single event because it is usually a pattern that has been going on, for some years. So we can document these things. We were one of the first law agencies, to equip every officer with body camera. And here is another question. Do you think she or he will injured you, or your children? What makes you think so or not? Did they intimidate you are the salt you -- or assault you? And we are trying to document for beta what they are telling us. And it is on the camera and we can get a real time response. And described the time that you were most frightened. Have you ever been threatened or afraid from seeking help?

>> We also want to have questions indicating if there is a presence of firearms. So this is going to give us a big picture on what the situation really is.

>> This will give the DA office how seriously this was. Especially if they are asking for bond.

>> That you so much for describing all of that's for -- all of that for us.

>> I know that you have seen a lot of traction from your work already.

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>> We have. But one of the biggest impacts, is just having a conversation. And in every single meeting, we find out what the agency really does. For example, the law enforcement department has a policy in place, having a conversation -- looking at the impact down the road. For prosecution and probation. It really is hashing out different issues. It also helps us that a foundation to help us understand. And help us solve problems in the future. And to prevent problems from happening in the future we have already seen a ripple affect. Yes Blueprint is targeted for domestic violence -- but it did go into other agencies and department. For example, there are conversations -- things like children protective services, child advocacy centers, we really did see a ripple effect. It is helping any victims of crime, and there can be multiple layers to the system.

>> Is there anything you and your office has noticed coming out of the Blueprint process?

>> To us it was a good opportunity to sit down with law enforcement -- and talk about what we do in our individual offices. One example, we were doing a mapping exercise as part of Blueprint . As we were describing what we do in our job -- so we started asking questions of each other. One of the conversations that we had, was how to deal with the arrest. From the law enforcement perspective, it was something they were doing because it was easier for them. But it was causing a lot of confusion for prosecution. So just having that conversation and trying to figure out a better way, what we can do for each other to make those situations have a better outcome.

>> Thank you. At this point I will turn this back over to Denise. We want to move forward and think how Blueprint can be part of your community .

>> Thank you I first would like to respond to some of the questions in the Q&A pod. The Blueprint is a huge project. There is a lot of information that is available

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and we are able to talk to you when you have any questions. And somebody was asking about the advocacy response program. What happens if they are not arrested? The advocacy program will also work on protocol for law enforcement cases. Vicki can you say a little bit about what your agency does in those cases? I used to work in a program -- where we did initiate policies for non-arrest cases. But anyway Vicki can you say a little bit about what you do?

>> It is not a one size fits all so we do read each individual report. We will get together with the supervisor who was involved in writing that report. I know that we could do a whole webinar on this dynamic. We things like calling and having a scripted answer ready. We checked the jail roster to see if they have been arrested. Law enforcement will let us know, that the person has been arrested. So it is very dynamic and complex. We do have features written for multiple scenarios. I know it is very difficult to give you a one answer.

>> We need to make sure that we are prioritizing safety. This is something that we have to think about carefully and something that we can adjust to. I also want to say to folks, who are listening we do have a lot of resources on our website. Especially if you want to talk to anybody that is already implementing this.

>> Absolutely. And also reaching out having a one on one conversation.

>> We had a question of doubt [Indiscernible] and we do have a protocol for law enforcement. And we do have a training memo, that is issued to everyone that is in the legal system. And we also have a series of training memo's. And we also have additional resources for every agency. There are other issues as well, and we also have [Static or audio cutting in and out] I just want to let you know there are many aspects to Blueprint. So having gone through this discussion, the next question is, is Blueprint right for you?

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>> Is this something that you want to pursue? What do you think are the initial steps that you should take? If you want to pursue this kind of work?

>> After you are Blueprint is launched, [Indiscernible] funded three sites around the country. To test how St. Paul can be adjusted to your community. So Amy stepped in as Blueprint coordinator after Blueprint was launched. She did a lot of preparation work already. And then we funded to three additional communities. Including Midland. So that is the context and the background for all of this. I want to ask Vicki and Amy, -- what do you want to say to folks if they want to do this?

>> First educate yourself on what Blueprint is and what it looks like. And also communicate with potential partners. Because this is an active process. It is not a something that is good to be done in a meeting or two. It is constantly evolving. And another -- we have to look at ourselves in the mirror and figure out what are the questions that we want to ask ourselves? And go into the victim. Having focus groups. Or having a listen session. Or going to the experts. Or those who already went through the criminal legal system. We also had meetings with key partners. We had people who signed on -- we had the city police and prosecutors. Even though they were the key partners in the beginning we also had other meetings with central dispatch, we started to build that collective knowledge. And hopefully we started to generate excitement and how to figure out a -- how each agency can have a role. We'd looked at every single part of the system.

>> Amy, what would you say? I know that you were not involved in the early stages. I think what you might have to say is relevant. What would you say to a community that is thinking about doing this?

>> I think Vicki mention some things that I definitely agree with. You have to look at the needs for the victim and the community. I think it is important to visit the needs of the victim first. And each stage of the implementation. First you have to

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find out what problem you are trying to address. I know that people who are beginning these things, are often times a bit dumb -- oftentimes are a bit them -- victim. I know that the whole process can be theoretical. And remembering how it affects people on a daily basis -- is important.

>> It is just revisiting the victims needs.

>> If you can answer yes for those who are on the call today -- you may be well positioned to be [Indiscernible] and you do have a central role . And everybody is used to working together. Is everybody in your community transparent? I do not the gay community needs to function -- I do not think a community needs to function perfectly. But are we willing to be transparent? Are we willing to open ourselves up? Do we agreed to the Blueprint ? And if you can answer yes to any of these questions I think you are well on your way.

>> I just want to say a little bit about OVW that we can provide for Blueprint . And Blueprint is not [Indiscernible] . It is not name specifically. And somebody did ask a question about working with a tribal group. We have a strong relationship with a organization called Sacred Hoop.

>> And the blueprint guide is on our website. This is everything that we learn when we did the demonstration initiative. In the three sites. About how to implement Blueprint , and there are a number of documents in that guide that can be very helpful. We have a community readiness. We also have a checklist. We also have a sample animal you -- we also have a sample of an MOU that you can work with. This is what we are looking for -- essentially they are looking for a demonstration of people coming together in a collaborative way. And it does not specifically state that a MOU has to be done but you certainly want to have some kind of demonstration.

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>> And other documents in the Blueprint should include, the coordinator's role in responsibilities. We also have a sample of grant proposals. You can also use that, to think about how you can shape you are Blueprint work . We do have people that want to talk to you individually about putting together a Blueprint -- application. We want to help you with this application. We did get feedback, -- these applications are read by independent reviewers that may or may not know anything about Blueprint so you may want to have something about what Blueprint is . This was a brief overview on what Blueprint is, but we wanted to hear from sites that are doing Blueprint . And why this was so important for them. And if you are interested in learning more about Blueprint you can call us or email us. We also have some webinars that we did a couple of years ago, as we were preparing to encourage other communities to apply. We do have information about what the Blueprint is.

>> There is a short timeframe for the application. So please give us a call and we will be happy to talk to you. We are very eager to work with you.

>> And with that, -- I want to see if there are any other questions or comments?

>> I encourage you to reach out to us. We will send out information to all of you after today's webinar, with the links. That we have been talking about throughout today's presentation and we will get you connected to the website, the guideline in the appendices. And so we will try to connect you to as many resources as we can. So please do reach out to us. And if you want, you can reach out to us if you have any questions.

>> Thank you.

>> I see there is a question about the cost.

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>> I want to let you know there is information, in the guidance that is available on our website. But in general I would say, this work requires good coordination. We encourage you to look at the duties for the coordinator. And that is why we had Amy and Vicki here today so they could talk about the work that they are doing. And there are other costs as well. We think it is important to respond -- support the advocacy response. We also want you to think about training your practitioners when you're Blueprint policies are valid and you are ready to implement it . We encourage you to use focus groups. It is important to ask -- for expert help. And please give us a call. You can either call us or email us.

>> And with that -- I do not see any other questions I am so grateful to all of our presenters. Thank you so much for being here with us today. Thank you for your time and I want to thank everyone who is on the webinar.

>> Please fill out your evaluations. There is a link at the bottom of your screen, it would be very helpful to us if you take a couple of moments to fill out this evaluation. Thank you so much.

>> Yes, please fill out the evaluation because we do use it. Thank you so much and have a great day.

>> [Event concluded]