

## ***The Blueprint for Safety: An Interagency Response to Domestic Violence Crimes*** **Adapting the Blueprint: Steps & Activities**

### **KEY STEPS**

1. Secure community will
2. Form the adaptation team
3. Assess current policy and practice
4. Write Blueprint policies and protocols
5. Launch and implement the Blueprint
6. Monitor the Blueprint

### **KEY ACTIVITIES**

Communities have available to them Blueprint-specific templates and other tools to assist in adapting, implementing, and monitoring policies and protocols.

#### ***Step 1: Secure community will***

- ✓ Identify and bring together Blueprint organizers and key champions.
- ✓ Assess community capacity and infrastructure to support Blueprint adaptation, implementation, and monitoring.
- ✓ Articulate the distinctive response that the Blueprint brings to the community and the problem of domestic violence.

#### ***Step 2: Establish a Blueprint adaptation team***

- ✓ Identify and bring together community-based advocates, practitioners who are influential in their agencies, and others who will develop and guide the Blueprint.
- ✓ Select a Blueprint Coordinator.
- ✓ Write a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Blueprint participating agencies.
- ✓ Establish a plan for guiding the Blueprint and establishing needed work groups.
- ✓ Establish a plan and timeline for Blueprint goals and activities.

#### ***Step 3: Assess current policy and practice***

- ✓ Compare current policy with essential elements of the Blueprint.
- ✓ Collect baseline statistical data for domestic violence-related crimes.
- ✓ Use multiple focus groups and a survivor's advisory group to learn about victims/survivors' experiences with the criminal legal system.
- ✓ Map each point of criminal case processing (911 through to probation monitoring).

- ✓ Analyze case records to compare current practice with recommended practice.
- ✓ Interview agency directors, supervisors, and practitioners about current practice.
- ✓ Observe criminal case processing.
- ✓ Coordinate and facilitate meetings to review, interpret, and analyze assessment data throughout the process.
- ✓ Keep a written record of all discussions and recommendations.

**Step 4: Write Blueprint policies and protocols**

- ✓ Organize small work groups to accomplish policy and protocol development.
- ✓ Use the practice assessment to identify policy revisions and additions to current practice.
- ✓ Adapt from Blueprint templates to incorporate essential elements.
- ✓ Adjust to reflect local conditions and state law.

**Step 5: Implement the Blueprint**

- ✓ Adapt and approve all Blueprint policies and protocols.
- ✓ Launch the Blueprint with specific events that announce the implementation and convey the meaning and intent of the Blueprint (i.e., what the Blueprint will address and how).
- ✓ Conduct agency-specific and interagency training.
- ✓ Plan and implement agency-specific and interagency monitoring activities.

**Step 6: Monitor the Blueprint**

- ✓ Collect statistical data for domestic violence-related crimes, including 911 calls, arrests, crimes charged, disposition, sentencing, and demographics.
- ✓ Develop a plan and timeline for agency-specific and interagency monitoring activities.
- ✓ Form small interagency work groups to review cases using the checklist or other tools developed to guide the monitoring.
- ✓ Conduct annual focus groups with victims/survivors to learn about their experiences with the implemented policies and practice.
- ✓ Present an annual report on Blueprint implementation internally to administrators (agency-specific monitoring) and to the Blueprint implementation team (interagency monitoring)

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