**Advocacy Programs Activities**

**Coordinated Community Response**

**Criminal Justice System Effort**

To enhance the criminal justice system’s capacity to protect victims and hold offenders accountable in a coordinated community response or inter-agency effort requires the integration of a number of coordinator and advocacy functions. The coordinator position is best housed in the independent community-based advocacy program and the success of the CCR effort is also enhanced through the assumption of specialized legal advocacy functions within the same program. This assures that the safety needs of individual victims and victim defendants as well as the collective needs of all victims who are impacted through the law enforcement intervention are met.

Below is a list of which summarizes the various broad functions/ activities for Community-based advocacy programs in a CCR or inter-agency effort. This is intended as a guide. Depending upon local conditions and resources, it may make sense to distribute tasks differently.

**A. Coordinator .25 – 1 FTE**

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| **1. Ongoing** |
| * Identify, document, analyze, consult regarding response problems |
| * Research/ understand laws, local policies, procedures, protocols that govern/organize current responses |
| * Interview/ observe practitioners, understand problem from perspective of system |
| * Track and monitor all cases through the system |
| * Produce statistical reports of law enforcement and criminal justice system response from tracking and monitoring activities |
| * Consult state, national resources, research to identify **best practices,** strategies, solutions to existing gaps |
| * Gain support of responsible agency decision-makers to enhance local responses through development/ modification of local policy, procedures, protocols to include best practices |
| * Review best practices with wider reference group to identify adaptability to local conditions and avoid unintended consequences |
| * Coordinate/ facilitate ad hoc meetings to enhance and evaluate policy |
| * Coordinate information sharing |
| * Coordinate/ facilitate inter-agency meetings |
| * Identify and document deviations of policy and address with appropriate agency |
| * Provide ongoing evaluation, address concerns, promote success |
| * Promote community support |
| * *Other:* |
| **2. “Best Practice” policy, procedure, protocol development with criminal justice agencies** |
| * Agreement for advocacy- law enforcement linkage to provide Advocacy-initiated Response |
| * Advocacy- Prosecution Working Agreement |
| * Agreements for sharing data needed for tracking / monitoring |
| * Law enforcement policy, procedure, protocol, checklist to incorporate attention to risk/safety, threats to victim for cooperation with system |
| * Law enforcement/ dispatch/ jail policy |
| * Other criminal justice agency policy, protocol, procedures |
| * *Other:* |

**B. Legal / Institutional Advocate - .25 – 1 FTE**

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| **1. Advocacy- initiated response** |
| * Contact victims immediately (asap) after arrest |
| * Contact victims of ongoing domestic violence asap who were arrested for illegal use of violence or were erroneously arrested due to law enforcement failure to identify self-defense acts or predominant aggressor |
| * Contact non-arrest victims within a week of law enforcement contact |
| * Maintain contact with victim throughout court process |
| * Contact law enforcement liaison to discuss concerns on individual cases |
| * Document and address response concerns / deviations of policy |
| * *Other* |
| **2.** **Institutional advocacy** |
| * Identify and document response problems for victims in the legal system |
| * Work with coordinator to effectively resolve problems through your CCR |
| * Assure that potential solutions work for all women, regardless of race, culture, class, etc. |
| * Provide opportunities for battered women’s involvement in CCR/ social change efforts |
| * *Other:* |

**C. Advocacy program management, supervisors - .025 - .05 FTE**

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| **1. Internal policy, procedure, protocol development** |
| * Job descriptions, procedures, forms for |
| * + CCR coordinator |
| * + AIR hotline/crisis line |
| * + legal/institutional advocate, |
| * + supervisor |
| * *Other:* |