

Module 4: Identifying Common Ground

Time Required

1 hour, 45 minutes

Purpose

The purpose of this module is to discuss the organizational principles and values shared by crime victim and disability service providers and advocates.

Lessons

1. Roles in the Crime Victim and Disability Service Professions (15 minutes)
2. Understanding Other Disciplines (45 minutes)
3. Differences and Commonalities (45 minutes)

Learning Objectives

By the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- Identify professional roles in the crime victim and disability service professions.
- Discuss the principles and values shared by crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.
- Identify other organizations that work with crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.

Participant Worksheets

No worksheets are required.

Equipment and Materials

No special equipment or materials are required.

Preparation

- Review the video *Disability, Violence and Survival: A Personal Story*.
- Prepare and post three tear sheets, one titled Crime Victim Service Providers, the second titled Disability Service Providers and Advocates for People with Disabilities, and the third titled Allied Professionals.



Show Visual 4-1.

Introduce Module 4 by **explaining** that the purpose of this module is to discuss the organizational principles and values shared by crime victim and disability service providers and advocates.



Show Visual 4-2.

Review the learning objectives.

By the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- Identify professional roles in the crime victim and disability service professions.
- Discuss the principles and values shared by crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.
- Identify other organizations that work with crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.

1. Roles in the Crime Victim and Disability Service Professions (15 minutes)

Paraphrase:

When a person becomes a crime victim, a number of professionals could be involved to guide and support the crime victim through the healing and legal process *if* the individual decides that they want to participate in either or both of these processes. Individuals should be aware that the services exist, and that they are welcome to them, but they should never be forced to participate.



Show Visual 4-3.

Ask participants for examples of some of the professional roles – and the type of support that should be offered – to maximize support for *any* crime victim. To put this into perspective, think of the different types of services that may be needed to support a child, an immigrant, a person who doesn't speak English, a person with a disability, someone with cultural and religious issues you aren't familiar with, or a combination of any of the above. Responses may include:

- Crisis counselors (e.g., domestic violence or rape crisis counselors).
- Intake interviewers (at counseling or social service centers).
- Victim service providers.
 - ~ System based (e.g., legal and law enforcement).
 - ~ Non-system based (e.g., community).
- Agencies for people with disabilities (professional and self-advocacy).
- Interpreters (for the Deaf and for individuals who do not speak English).
- Forensic interviewers (law enforcement).
- Medical, health, or hospital personnel.
- Mental health personnel.
- System-based victim advocates – law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary, probation, corrections.
- Crime victim compensation programs.
- State agency representatives (e.g., adult protective services).
- Child advocacy.

State that all participants in this training are likely to be a representative of one of these professions, or another related profession.

Ask participants: How might you initially come into contact with a crime victim with a disability? How about a crime victim who has become disabled as a result of a crime?

2. Understanding Other Disciplines (45 minutes)



Show Visual 4-4.

Paraphrase:

There are many different types of organizations within the disciplines of “victim services” and “disability services.” Each discipline has its own mission and values. And each organization within those two disciplines has its own mission and values as well.

However, there are many values that are common to both disciplines and all the organizations within those disciplines. So in this module we're going to take a look at the mission and values of these groups and the allied professionals. For our purposes, "allied professionals" refers to professions other than those in the crime victim or disability service and advocacy fields, such as professionals in law enforcement, the criminal justice system, or medical and mental health.



Show Visual 4-5.

Introduce the activity



Activity: What Would You Like To Know? (30 minutes)

The purpose of this activity is to create a common understanding of what crime victim service providers, disability service providers, and allied professionals do.

- 1. Refer to the tear sheet titled Crime Victim Service Providers and ask participants representing advocates for people with disabilities and allied professionals what they do not know – but would like to know – about the field of crime victim supports and services.***
- 2. Write key responses on the tear sheet.***
- 3. Refer to the tear sheet titled Disability Service Providers and Advocates and ask participants representing crime victim service providers and allied professionals what they do not know – but would like to know – about the field of disability service.***
- 4. Write key responses on the tear sheet.***
- 5. Direct participants to the tear sheet titled Allied Professionals and ask participants representing crime victim and disability service providers and advocates what they do not know – but would like to know – about allied professions such as law enforcement or legal services, as they related to crime victims and people with disabilities.***
- 6. Write key responses on the tear sheet.***
- 7. Ask participants who are crime victim service providers if they are surprised by the responses from the other groups and if so, why. Ask volunteers from crime victim service organizations to address all the issues listed on their discipline's tear sheet.***
- 8. Ask participants who are disability service providers and advocates if they are surprised by the responses from the other groups and if so, why. Ask volunteers from disability service organizations to address all the issues listed on their discipline's tear sheet.***

9. Ask participants who are allied professionals if they are surprised by the responses from the other groups and if so, why. Ask volunteers from the allied professionals to address all the issues listed on their discipline's tear sheet.

Debrief the activity by stating that before people from different professions can begin to work together and collaborate, they need to understand what others do. Often there is a lack of knowledge or misconceptions of other service providers and this can get in the way of providing coordinated services for victims of crime with disabilities.



Show Visual 4-6.

DVD Show the video *Disability, Violence and Survival: A Personal Story* that is in the PowerPoint slide by clicking on the black box in the slide.

After the video, **ask** participants:

- What services did Kimberly need, and when did she need them?
- Who could have provided these services?
- Could your organization have intervened in any way? If so, how?
- If you were assisting Kimberly, what would you say to her? How would you validate her feelings?

Paraphrase:

All too often, professionals involved with crime victims with disabilities – even advocates – don't see the whole person. They can't visualize her going about daily life, or having dreams and fears. Remember that when you are assisting crime victims with disabilities: **they are people first**. If you are unsure what to do, ask the crime victim what he or she needs; don't assume you know.

3. Differences and Commonalities (45 minutes)



Show Visual 4-7.

Paraphrase:

From the exercise you just did, you learned that the other disciplines represented in this room have questions about your own discipline. I hope the responses that were given brought us all one step closer to understanding one another.



Show Visual 4-8.

Paraphrase:

Another way we can develop a deeper understanding *and* begin to identify ways to work together more effectively is to identify what we have in common. But first, we need to ensure that members from each discipline are on the same page.

This may not always be easy. Members of the same discipline sometimes disagree with their own agency's position on specific issues.

Tell participants that the projects and associations that you will now discuss are in the Participant Manual as Appendix E – Descriptions of Disability and Crime Victim Organizations – which includes descriptions and mission statements from various disability and crime victim organizations.

Paraphrase:

If you weren't familiar with these organizations you would assume that the focus of all of them is essentially the same. But they are all different. Take a few minutes to look them over.



Show Visual 4-9.

American Association of People with Disabilities

AAPD, the country's largest cross-disability membership organization, organizes the disability community to be a powerful voice for change – politically, economically, and socially. AAPD was founded in 1995 to help unite the diverse community of people with disabilities, including their family, friends and supporters, and to be a national voice for change in implementing the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
www.aapd.com

The Arc of the United States

The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It provides an array of services and support for families and individuals and includes over 140,000 members affiliated through more than 730 state and local chapters across the nation. The Arc's vision is that every individual and family affected by intellectual disability in the United States has access to the information, advocacy, and skills they need to participate as active citizens of our democracy and active members of their community. www.thearc.org

Centers for Independent Living

CILs are part of a federal program that supports CILs which are designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities, and provide an array of independent living services, including the core services of information and referral, independent living skills training, peer counseling, and individual and systems advocacy.

The purpose of the independent living programs is to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities and to integrate these individuals into the mainstream of American society. Independent living programs provide financial assistance to provide, expand and improve independent living services; develop and support statewide networks of centers for independent living; and improve working relationships among state independent living rehabilitation programs, centers for independent living, statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), Rehabilitation Act programs outside of Title VII, and other relevant federal and non-federal programs. www.virtualcil.net/cils/

Childhelp® National Child Abuse Hotline

Childhelp® is a leading national nonprofit organization dedicated to helping meet the physical, emotional, educational, and spiritual needs of abused, neglected, and at-risk children. Childhelp's approach focuses on prevention, intervention, and treatment. The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-4-A-CHILD®, operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and receives calls from throughout the United States, Canada, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam. Childhelp's programs and services also include residential treatment services (villages), children's advocacy centers, therapeutic foster care, group homes, child abuse prevention, and education and training. www.childhelp.org

Identity Theft Resource Center

ITRC is a nonprofit, nationally respected organization dedicated exclusively to the understanding and prevention of identity theft. ITRC provides victim and consumer support as well as public education, and advises governmental agencies, legislators, law enforcement, and businesses about the evolving and growing problem of identity theft. 1-888-400-5530; www.idtheftcenter.org

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

NACVCB is a network of professionals in state and local government crime victim compensation programs, working together to provide financial assistance for victims of violent crime. The Association links managers, staff and Board members in states and jurisdictions across the U.S. to share information, ideas, and strategies for improving the administration of crime victim compensation programs, and for serving victims and their families better. www.nacvcb.org

National Association of the Deaf

NAD is the nation's premier civil rights organization of, by and for Deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the U.S. The mission of the NAD is to preserve, protect and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of Deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States of America.

The NAD's advocacy is very broad, covering the areas of early intervention, education, employment, health care, technology, telecommunications, youth leadership, and more – improving the lives of millions of Deaf and hard of hearing Americans. The NAD also carries out its federal advocacy work through coalition efforts with specialized national Deaf and hard of hearing organizations, as well as coalitions representing national cross-disability organizations. www.nad.org

National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI is a grassroots organization of individuals with mental illnesses, especially serious mental illnesses, their family members, and friends whose mission is to advocate for effective prevention, diagnosis, treatment, support, research and recovery that improves the quality of life of persons of all ages who are affected by mental illnesses. The primary functions of NAMI are support, education, and advocacy for consumers and their families; research and services; and the education of all professionals, providers, and the general public. www.nami.org

National Center on Elder Abuse

NCEA serves as a national resource center dedicated to the prevention of elder mistreatment. It was first established by the U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA) in 1988 as a national elder abuse resource center. NCEA disseminates elder abuse information to professionals and the public, and provides technical assistance and training to states and to community-based organizations. NCEA makes news and resources available on-line and an easy-to-use format; collaborates on research; provides training; identifies and provides information about promising practices and interventions; operates a listserv forum for professionals; and provides subject matter expertise on program and policy development. 1-800-677-1116; www.ncea.aoa.gov

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, National Advocacy for Local LGBTQH Communities

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) is a coalition of 40 anti-violence organizations that monitor, respond to, and work to end hate, domestic and sexual violence, HIV-related violence, and other forms of violence affecting LGBTQH communities. NCAVP is a program of the New York City Anti-Violence Project. 1-212-714-1141; www.avp.org/ncavp.htm

National Council on Independent Living

As a membership organization, the mission of NCIL is to advance independent living and the rights of people with disabilities through consumer-driven advocacy. NCIL is the longest-running national cross-disability, grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities. Founded in 1982, NCIL represents thousands of organizations and individuals including: Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), individuals with disabilities, and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States.

An outcome of the national Disability Rights and Independent Living Movements, NCIL was founded to embody the values of disability culture and Independent Living philosophy, which creates a new social paradigm and emphasizes that people with disabilities are the best experts on their own needs, that they have crucial and valuable perspective to contribute to society, and are deserving of equal opportunity to decide how to live, work, and take part in their communities. ncil.org

National Disability Rights Network

NDRN's mission is to promote the integrity and capacity of the Protection and Advocacy and Client Assistance Program (P&A/CAP) national network and to advocate for the enactment and vigorous enforcement of laws protecting civil and human rights of people with disabilities. www.napas.org/

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Hotline advocates are available for victims or anyone calling on their behalf to provide crisis intervention, safety planning, information, and referrals to agencies in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Assistance is available in English and Spanish with access to 170 languages through interpreter services. 1 800 799-7233; www.thehotline.org

National Organization on Disability

The mission of NOD is to expand the participation and contribution of America's 54 million men, women and children with disabilities in all aspects of life. NOD works in partnership with businesses, government, national philanthropies and local organizations to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. www.nod.org

National Sexual Assault Hotline

RAINN (Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network) provides support for sexual assault victims and their loved ones through two hotlines at 800.656.HOPE and online.rainn.org.

The National Sexual Assault Hotline has more than 1,100 trained volunteers on duty and available to help victims at RAINN-affiliated crisis centers across the country. When people call, they are directed to a rape crisis center near their area.

The National Sexual Assault *Online* Hotline is the first secure web-based crisis hotline providing live and anonymous support through an interface as intuitive as instant messaging.

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline

loveisrespect.org provides resources for teens, parents, friends and family, Peer Advocates, government officials, law enforcement, and the general public. All communication is confidential and anonymous. loveisrespect, National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline was launched in February 2007 with help from founding sponsor, Liz Claiborne Inc. It is a national 24-hour resource that can be accessed by phone or the Internet, specifically designed for teens and young adults. The Helpline and loveisrespect.org offer real-time one-on-one support from trained Peer Advocates. Managed by the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH), loveisrespect, National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline operates from a call center in Austin, Texas. Peer Advocates are trained to offer support, information, and advocacy to those involved in dating abuse relationships as well as concerned parents, teachers, clergy, law enforcement, and service providers. 1-866-331-9474 or 1-866-331-8453 (TTY); www.loveisrespect.org

Office for Victims of Crime, Directory of Crime Victim Services

This is an online OVC resource designed to help service providers and individuals locate nonemergency crime victim service agencies in the United States and abroad. You can search by location, type of victimization, service needed, or agency type to identify appropriate services. ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices

Parents Of Murdered Children

POMC[®] provides the on-going emotional support needed to help parents and other survivors facilitate the reconstruction of a "new life" and to promote a healthy resolution. Not only does POMC help survivors deal with their acute grief but also helps with the criminal justice system.

The staff of the National Headquarters of POMC will assist any survivor and if possible, link that survivor with others in the same vicinity who have survived their loved one's murder. In addition, the staff is available to provide individual assistance, support and advocacy. The staff will help interested parents or immediate family members form a chapter of POMC in their community.

POMC will provide training to professionals in such fields as law enforcement, mental health, social work, community services, law, criminal justice, medicine, education, religion, the media, and mortuary science who are interested in learning more about survivors of homicide victims and the aftermath of murder. 1-888-818-7662; www.pomc.org

Sacred Circle: National Resource Center to End Violence Against Native Women

Sacred Circle, located in Rapid City, South Dakota, was established in 1998 as the fifth member of the Domestic Violence Resource Center Network. This network was created in 1993 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families as a result of the Violence Against Women Act. Sacred Circle provides technical assistance, policy development, training, materials, and resource information regarding violence against Native women, and assists in developing tribal strategies and responses to end the violence. 1-877-733-7623; www.sacred-circle.com

United Cerebral Palsy

UCP promotes change and progress for persons with disabilities. UCP's mission is to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through an affiliate network. UCP affiliates provide services such as housing, therapy, assistive technology training, early intervention programs, individual and family support, social and recreation programs, community living, state and local referrals, employment assistance and advocacy. Each affiliate offers a range of services tailored to its community's needs. The organization also develops forward-thinking programs, information and referral service, legislative advocacy, technology initiatives and research. www.ucp.org

World Institute on Disability

The mission of WID in communities and nations worldwide is to eliminate barriers to full social integration and increase employment, economic security, and health care for persons with disabilities. WID creates innovative programs and tools; conducts research, public education, training, and advocacy campaigns; and provides technical assistance.

WID's mission is realized when there is full employment at the same rate as the general population; the barriers to asset building are removed, and people with disabilities have the tools, information, and resources to achieve economic security and build wealth; and people with disabilities have seamless, continuous access to affordable, quality health care and support services. www.wid.org

Ask: According to their mission statements, what are the differences among these organizations? What do they have in common?

Ask participants if they have had contact with these organizations, or if they have been involved with them in any way. **Ask** if anyone would like to share his/her experiences.

Paraphrase:

There are many other national and local organizations that support people with disabilities; this list by no means covers them all. Even if similarities are not obvious, the crime victim services and disabilities services field have a great deal in common in intent and purpose. Later we will examine how these commonalities can be put to use in a multidisciplinary approach to service crime victims with disabilities.



Show Visual 4-10.

Paraphrase:

Of course, whether you are in the crime victim services field, the disabilities services field, or an allied profession, you probably interact with other organizations that are not represented in this training.

Ask participants to mention a few of the agencies or organizations they work with that are not represented at the training. **Write** them on a tear sheet. Responses may include:

- Sexual assault organizations.
- Domestic violence organizations.
- Mental health professionals.
- Day and residential programs for people with disabilities.

Ask the following questions:

- What do all these other organizations have in common?
- How are these organizations different?
- What are their values?
- How are their values similar to those of your own organization?

Ask: Could any single organization provide all these services?



Show Visual 4-11.

Review the learning objectives and **ask** whether these were met.

By the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- Identify professional roles in the crime victim and disability service professions.
- Discuss the principles and values shared by crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.
- Identify other organizations that work with crime victim service providers and disability service providers and advocates.



Show Visual 4-12.

Ask if there are any final questions before moving to the next module.