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For national participants in the
MNADV's Lethality Assessment Program

A periodic newsletter to update Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) participants throughout the country on events, reports, best practices, and other significant actions occurring in participating jurisdictions related to implementation of the LAP.

National LAP Technical Assistance Award

We are happy to announce that the MNADV will continue as the national technical assistance provider on the Lethality Assessment Program. As a TA provider, we will continue to provide cost-free training and on-going technical assistance to new jurisdictions and to current LAP participants. Please contact the Project Manager if you have any questions or to request training and technical assistance.

Introducing the new Project Manager

Megan Rosenfeld has joined our team as the Project Manager of our National LAP Technical Assistance and Training Project. She came to us after working as the Domestic Violence attorney at a legal aid provider in North-Central Florida. Megan worked extensively with a number of law enforcement agencies and domestic violence victim services providers across six counties to make sure victims did not fall through the cracks of the legal system.

Megan says: "I am so excited to join the Project! Having worked the last few years in Alachua county, the first county in Florida to implement the LAP over four years ago, I had a great model for how the LAP can increase victim safety. The Alachua County Sheriff's Office worked hand-in-hand with Peaceful Paths, which led to increased trust in law enforcement and increased use of domestic violence program services. The collaboration between domestic violence victims service providers, law enforcement, and other community agencies was inspiring."

Please get in touch with me if you have any on-going technical assistance questions, a need for re-training, or any other problems. My e-mail address is MRosenfeld@mnadv.org. I look forward to working with you!

2012-2013 Data Report Results

The **20 jurisdictions** who participated in LAP training over the last couple of years represented over **6.7 million residents**.

Officers completed **5,148 screens**.

3,578 people, or **70%**, screened in as high danger.

2,728 people, or **76%** of those who screened in as high danger, spoke to a hotline worker.

803 people, or **29%** of those who spoke to a hotline work, ended up going in for further services.

We'd like to give a special thank you to the law enforcement officers in Bismarck, North Dakota; Clinton/Shiawasse counties, Michigan; Columbia, Tennessee; Trinidad, Colorado; Stearns/Benton counties, Minnesota; and Paducah, Kentucky who all had a 90% or higher "spoke to hotline worker" rate.

Another special thank you also to the domestic violence victim service providers in Bismarck, North Dakota; Norfolk, Virginia; the Pennsylvania coalition; and Troy, New York who all had a 70% or higher "came in for further services" rate.

And thank you to everyone for submitting your data. Please keep it up! This information helps the program moving forward.



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Law Enforcement and Advocate Survey Results are in:

Thank you to all the law enforcement officers and advocates who took the time to respond to our survey. Over 650 people responded, giving us excellent feedback about how the LAP is being implemented in your jurisdictions. We received valuable information that we will integrate into our plans moving forward!

When surveyed:

69% of officers reported that the LAP took an additional 15 minutes or less per call.

88% of advocates responded they felt more confident in dealing with a High Danger situation because of the LAP screening results and our Guidelines.

91% of advocates said the Guidelines helped focus the conversation with the victim.

The LAP improves communication and collaboration between the advocates and the law enforcement officers.

"The officer took the emergency call seriously and they wanted the client to know they have options."

"Great communication between agencies."

"Officers feel that they can call and see we are working together as a team"

"The level of comfort between advocates and law enforcement has greatly improved."

"Program creates focus and collaborative environment, promotes victim centered response that bring services to victim when they most likely need options."

We asked officers to describe the most significant by-product that has resulted from implementing the LAP, and here is what the officers said:

"It is showing the victim that the police are working with others who can help them and that we are not just there taking the report and leaving."

"LAP provides the victim with a better understanding of the situation, and allows them to seek the help needed."

"It helped the victim know someone was there for them even after the police departed."

"I found it easier to convince the victims to get help. You can show the answers they gave and show them what danger they are in. I feel that when they see their answers it changes how they think."

"The victim opens up more and tells you additional information that they may not have told you in the beginning."

We are interested in working with state domestic violence coalitions. If you have already been trained, but know of other, untrained law enforcement agencies who are interested in the LAP in your county or region, let's work together to spread the LAP in your area.