



# **COVID-19: THE IMPACT ON VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

## **How Advocates Can Help: A Creative Approach**

**Advocates can be ready for safety planning and provide resources while maintaining safe conditions during COVID-19.**

One way is through COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Agencies must work NOW to develop partnerships with faith-based organizations, summer camps, youth clubs, libraries, public swimming facilities, & youth sports leagues to create potential opportunities to detect and report child abuse or neglect ——PARTNER UP NOW

**Become a strong Advocate**

We can **GET OFF THE SIDELINES** and **ADVOCATE**

- **For governments to keep community services open in a safe manner**
- Everyone to have access to person protective equipment
- Advocate to add more helpline services and online technologies to provide guidance and crisis intervention

As advocates, we must acknowledge that some old ways of doing things are no longer effective and Find New Solutions

Encourage the use of phone support and online technologies when it is safe

**Advocates can be attentive to their surroundings and what they see during this quarantine, to detect if an individual is making an outcry for help.**

**BE ATTENTIVE TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS ....IT MAY TAKE A VILLAGE!**

Many postal workers, garbage collectors, food delivery staff, and home repair agents

- These individuals re traveling through the neighborhood routinely during the global crisis without raising any concerns – they may still have opportunity to detect violence in the home and report their concerns to the proper authorities.

Using Social media to your advantage:

- Staying connected to all forms of social media so victims will have another avenue to seek help.
- Some individuals are reaching out to organizations by sending messages on social media. Having a social media presence is imperative.

Raise Awareness:

- We must ensure that everyone is aware of the current increased risk of family violence at this time, encourage others to check on their neighbors, friends, and family while maintaining safety precautions and report ANY concerns they see or hear to the proper authorities.



## Change our approach to increase safety

- Instead of passing out flyers or pamphlets a safer option could possibly be to provide safe contact information on something as small as a business card that may be undetectable by perpetrators.

## Find out what others may be doing to help and what is working well.

### The Salvation Army of Dallas uses a creative approach to providing a safe contact

- **The SALVATION ARMY OF Dallas delivers food and slips notes in the bread bag to make sure the person is safe or have contact information if they want to leave.**

### Street Outreach Teams

- Some people are sleeping in their cars, storefront parking lots, Walmart, and risky places since COVID-19 has made it unsafe to stay with relatives.  
**Street outreach teams can be created to serve people in those hot spots.**
- Collaborating with community industries such as hotels and other places of residence for gifting of a certain number of rooms. This can work together with the efforts of the street outreach teams.
- Run Campaigns for cell phone donations: Cell phones for victims that can't be traced by their abuser can be extremely helpful in this time of crisis.

## What can we expect in the future for providing services to those impacted by domestic violence?

**We can expect to see a New Way of Providing Support  
New creative ideas that will scale up treatment in the midst of a crisis**

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