

Survivor-Centered, Offender-Focused

Survivor-Centered Approach

Utilizes a human rights-based approach to designing and developing programming that ensures that survivors' rights and needs are first and foremost. The survivor has a right to:

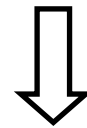
- be treated with dignity and respect instead of being exposed to victim-blaming attitudes.
- choose the course of action in dealing with the violence instead of feeling powerless.
- privacy and confidentiality instead of exposure.
- non-discrimination instead of discrimination based on gender, age, race/ ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, HIV status or any other characteristic.
- receive comprehensive information to help her make her own decision instead of being told what to do.

Offender-Focused Approach

- Interventions are aimed at changing the offender's behavior rather than the survivor's behavior.
- Very focused formal and informal sanctions against the offender are central to all interventions.
- The burden of addressing offenders is moved from survivors to the state, police or social service agency.

Combined these approaches provide:

For people experiencing a pattern of power, control and exploitation; called "survivors"



Self Determination
Safety

For people establishing a pattern of power, control and exploitation; called "abusers"



Accountability

This document was created by Carmen Wargel, Chair of the MCDVC, using information from The Northwest Network of Bi, Trans, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors of Abuse; The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; and *Offender Focused Domestic Violence Initiative: The First Two Years* available at the DOJ website. For more information, please contact MCDVCouncil@gmail.com.