



Formerly Family Violence Prevention Fund

## Creating a Domestic Violence Health Care Response: Worksheet

### 1. Set Up a Collaborative Working Group

Recruit key people within the clinical setting plus representatives from local domestic violence/sexual assault advocacy programs. Involve multidisciplinary staff: physicians, nurses, behavioral health staff, public health nurses, reception, coders, translators, and others.

### 2. Develop Collaborative Relationships with Community Domestic Violence Experts

Develop a close, working relationship with your local domestic violence shelter or advocacy program. Identify and reach out to programs that specifically work with Native communities.

### 3. Develop a Protocol

Develop and institutionalize a protocol. Visit <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health> to review and adapt model domestic violence protocols from large hospitals, small clinics and urban programs.

### 4. Develop Routine, Site-Specific Assessment and Response

Determine who will screen, how often, local referrals, and documentation. See the National Consensus Guidelines on Identifying and Responding to Domestic violence Victimization in Health Care Settings for more information

### 5. Develop and Institutionalize a Staff Training Program

Train staff on the dynamics of domestic violence, the health impact of abuse on victims and their children, perpetrator issues, how to assess, intervene and document in the clinic setting, and culturally relevant resources and referral agencies in the community. Invite a local advocate to help you with the training and utilize training resources from the Add IPV content to new employee orientation. [www.workplacesrespond.org](http://www.workplacesrespond.org).

### 6. Order/Adapt Resource Materials for Clinicians and Patients

Model materials may be easily obtained from the National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence ([www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health)).

### 7. Increase Community Awareness

Participate in health fairs, radio, television and print news segments and other community events where you can distribute materials, or send prevention and intervention messages. Paint a mural in the hospital, or hang a banner on the building with healthy families/prevention messages.

### 8. Integrate Domestic Violence Prevention into Wellness Programs

Integrate domestic violence prevention messages into wellness activities as part of wellness fairs, family activities and other preexisting wellness efforts.

### 9. Establish Quality Assurance Mechanisms to Monitor Response

Evaluate the IPV assessment rates, percentage of patients who were offered safety cards and or referral and systems changes that support providers. Some sites elect to conduct chart reviews to analyze prevalence of abuse, how often assessment is taking place, and whether intervention, referral and follow-up were conducted.

### 10. Engage Youth, Boys and Men

Encourage men to mentor boys about relationship violence and how to respect women by hanging posters from the Futures Without Violence "Coaching Boys into Men" campaign. Visit: [www.futureswithoutviolence.org/CBIM](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/CBIM) for more information.