

# Q&A on Applying as a Research and Capacity Building Project



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# QIC-Domestic Violence in Child Welfare (QIC-DVCW)

### Purpose:

- To test innovative, collaborative models and responses to improve how child welfare agencies work with community partners to serve families who are experiencing DV or co-occurring DV and child maltreatment; and
- To evaluate the impact of these collaborative models and responses on outcomes for children and families.

### **Research Questions**

- Does a collaborative, adult and child survivor-centered approach -- that includes safely engaging and establishing accountability of the DV offender -- improve adult and child survivor safety, child permanence, and child and family wellbeing for child welfare involved families experiencing DV?
- For which families, and in which social contexts, does an adult and child survivor-centered approach improve these outcomes?

QIC-DVCW Sep 1, 2017

## Research Questions (cont.)

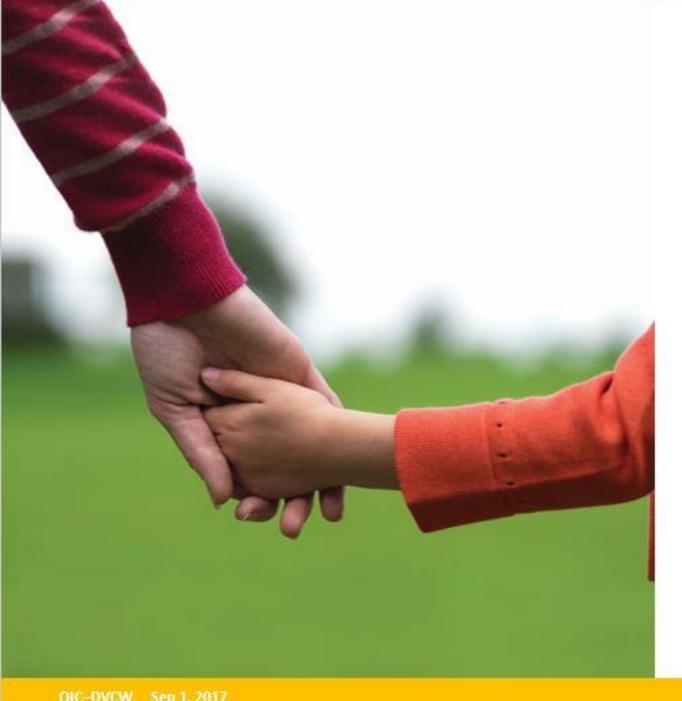
 What factors are associated with successful implementation and sustainability of an adult and child survivor-centered approach?

 What are the costs associated with the implementation and maintenance of an adult and child survivor-centered approach, and how do these compare to the costs of "practice as usual"?

QIC-DVCW Sep 1, 2017

# Research and Capacity Building Projects (Projects)

- Build capacity in child welfare agencies and among community partners
  - Required partners: DV programs that serve survivors, DV offender intervention programs, dependency courts
  - Additional partners may include early childhood programs, other child-serving organizations/systems (e.g., schools), immigrant and refugee programs, faith communities, culturally specific organizations, mental and behavioral health partners, substance misuse treatment programs, etc.
- Evaluate the impact of the adult and child survivor centered



## Adult and Child Survivor-Centered Approach

- Cross-System Collaboration
- DV Risk and Protective Factors Framework
- DV Offender Accountability and Positive Change Framework

## Who Can Apply?

- State, county or tribal child welfare agencies from the U.S.
  - Child welfare systems are strongly encouraged to partner with a domestic violence agency or coalition as co-applicant
  - Child welfare applicants who do not have a DV partner agency as a co-applicant will need to justify their decision in their application.
  - DV programs must co-apply with a public child welfare entity. They are not eligible to apply as the

# Benefits to Research and Capacity Building Projects

Financial support in the range of \$125,000-150,000 per year, over 4 years

#### Substantial training and technical assistance (TTA) to:

- Strengthen and build collaborative capacity
- Develop policy and practice
- Strengthen judicial and dependency court leadership
- Enhance responses of DV programs that serve survivors and offenders
- (Negotiated with Projects) Enhance responses of other community-based organizations
- Begin to examine disparities in DV practice and access to services
- Evaluate the impact of enhanced practice on outcomes for families

### **Participation in a Learning Community**

## **Training and Technical Assistance**

- Establish Management and Implementation Teams
- Explore current practice and policy, strength of existing collaborations
- Determine interests of Projects
- Develop and execute Project Implementation and Evaluation Plans to:
  - Meet Project needs

## **Examples of Data Collection at Projects**

- Child welfare agency administrative data
- Web-based surveys of child welfare workers and supervisors
- In-person computer-assisted interviews of survivors, survivors' partners, and/or children
- Qualitative interviews or focus groups of child welfare caseworkers, supervisors, and managers; survivors; survivors' partners; and/or community partners

### **Evaluation-Related Criteria**

- Set of conditions and tasks to ensure the rigor of the evaluation (i.e., ability to evaluate impact of intervention)
- Evaluation-related criteria will be used to assess an applicant's "evaluation readiness"
- Additional evaluation-related tasks and responsibilities listed in RFA

- Note, criteria are <u>not</u> thresholds or cut-offs
- Each criteria describes a continuum, ranging from preferred (ideal) to not preferred (worst case)

## Preferred = ideal

(i.e., supports our ability to evaluate impacts)



## Not preferred = worst-case

(i.e., undermines our ability to evaluate impact)

Criteria	Preferred	Not Preferred
Two equivalent project sites	<ul> <li>Project with 2 participating sites (i.e., communities / offices)</li> <li>Participating sites that are "equivalent" with respect to their service capacity, population needs</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Single site</li><li>Sites that are substantively different</li></ul>

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### **Timeline**

- Project selection: By end of October 2017
- Pre-implementation work: November 2017 -- March 2018
- Implementation April 2018 End of projects

\*Dependent on availability of federal funding, projects will continue through September 2021 with 12-month budget periods.

## **Application Process**

### **Optional**

Submit a Letter of Intent to Apply by Sep 8, 2017.

Email Letters of Intent and Applications to Wendy Gutierrez at: WGutierrez@futureswithoutviolence.or g.

### Required

Submit an application by September 29<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

Selected Research and Capacity Building Projects will be notified by October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### **Contact**

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(413) 336 - 6767

#### For more information:

https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/children-youth-teens/quality-improvement-center-domestic-violence-child-welfare-advancing-adult-child-survivor-centered-practice/