

Strategies for Maximizing the 5% Courts Allocation Under the STOP Formula Grants Program

ALSO STAAR Project
Center for Courts Innovation
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Presenters

- **Robyn Mazur**, Director of Gender and Justice Initiatives, Center for Court Innovation
- **Jenna Smith**, Project Coordinator, Gender and Family Justice, Center for Court Innovation
- **Amber Moe**, LCPC, Statewide Domestic Violence Court Manager, Idaho Supreme Court
- **Diana L. Ramos-Reardon**, Esq., CCE, Policy Counsel, Supreme Court of Ohio

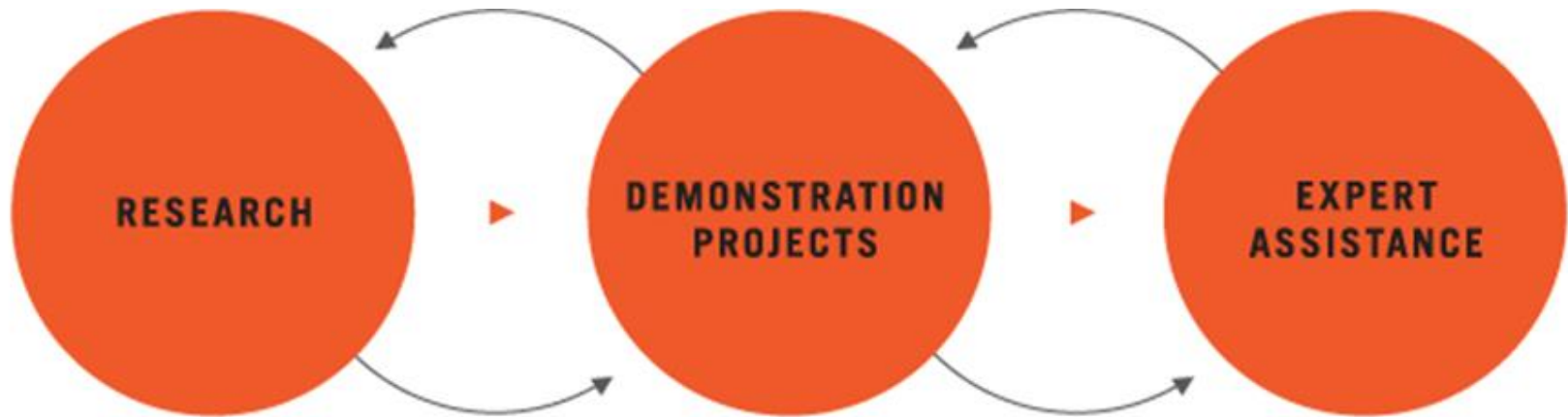
Learning Objectives

1. Explore court-based options for use of the 5% Courts allocation;
2. Provide an overview of the Center for Court Innovation's work in supporting these court-based initiatives and available technical assistance;
3. Offer tips for improving court responses within STOP; and
4. Discuss how two states have used STOP funds to promote and implement promising practices in response to identified needs.

Who's on the webinar?

- Please type in the chat box your name, professional role, and state

Center for Court Innovation



Gender & Family Justice Mission

Reducing System Gaps

→ Promote cross-system collaboration to improve how the justice system handles domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases.

Gender and Family Justice Team



Site Visits



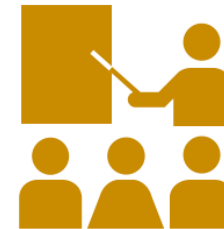
**Strategic
Planning**



**Needs
Assessments**



**Targeted
Training**



Evaluation

Core Competencies

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graph LR; A[Core Competencies] --- B[Collaboration]; A --- C[Leadership]; A --- D[Community]; A --- E[Holistic Response]; B --- B1[Coordinated community response]; B --- B2[Information sharing]; B --- B3[Risk assessment]; C --- C1[Court engagement and judicial leadership]; C --- C2[Informed decision making]; D --- D1[Access to justice]; D --- D2[Reducing bias]; E --- E1[Victim safety, autonomy, and services]; E --- E2[Offender engagement and accountability]; E --- E3[Individualized responses];
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Collaboration

- Coordinated community response
- Information sharing
- Risk assessment

Leadership

- Court engagement and judicial leadership
- Informed decision making

Community

- Access to justice
- Reducing bias

Holistic Response

- Victim safety, autonomy, and services
- Offender engagement and accountability
- Individualized responses

What is a specialized DV court?

- Separate docket with DV cases
- Designated judge or judges hearing the cases
- Designated court staff
- Separate safety measures in place for victims and linkages to services, advocates
- Accountability measures for offenders to ensure compliance and linkages to service interventions
- Specialized training for all staff on dynamics of DV
- Regular and ongoing meetings with community partners and system stakeholders

Ways to use STOP Grant Funds for DV Courts

- New staff – paid originally through grant funds and later institutionalized by the court system
 - Resource coordinator
 - Defendant monitors
- Staff for Partners – paid originally through grant funds and then either absorbed by agency or other sustainability methods
 - Victim Advocates

Domestic Violence Courts Today

- Approximately 300+ domestic violence courts in the United States
- Represents over 27 states
- More than 50 domestic violence courts internationally
- A diversity of models, policies and practices

Models

Criminal
Domestic
Violence Court

Integrated
Domestic
Violence Court

Civil Domestic
Violence Court

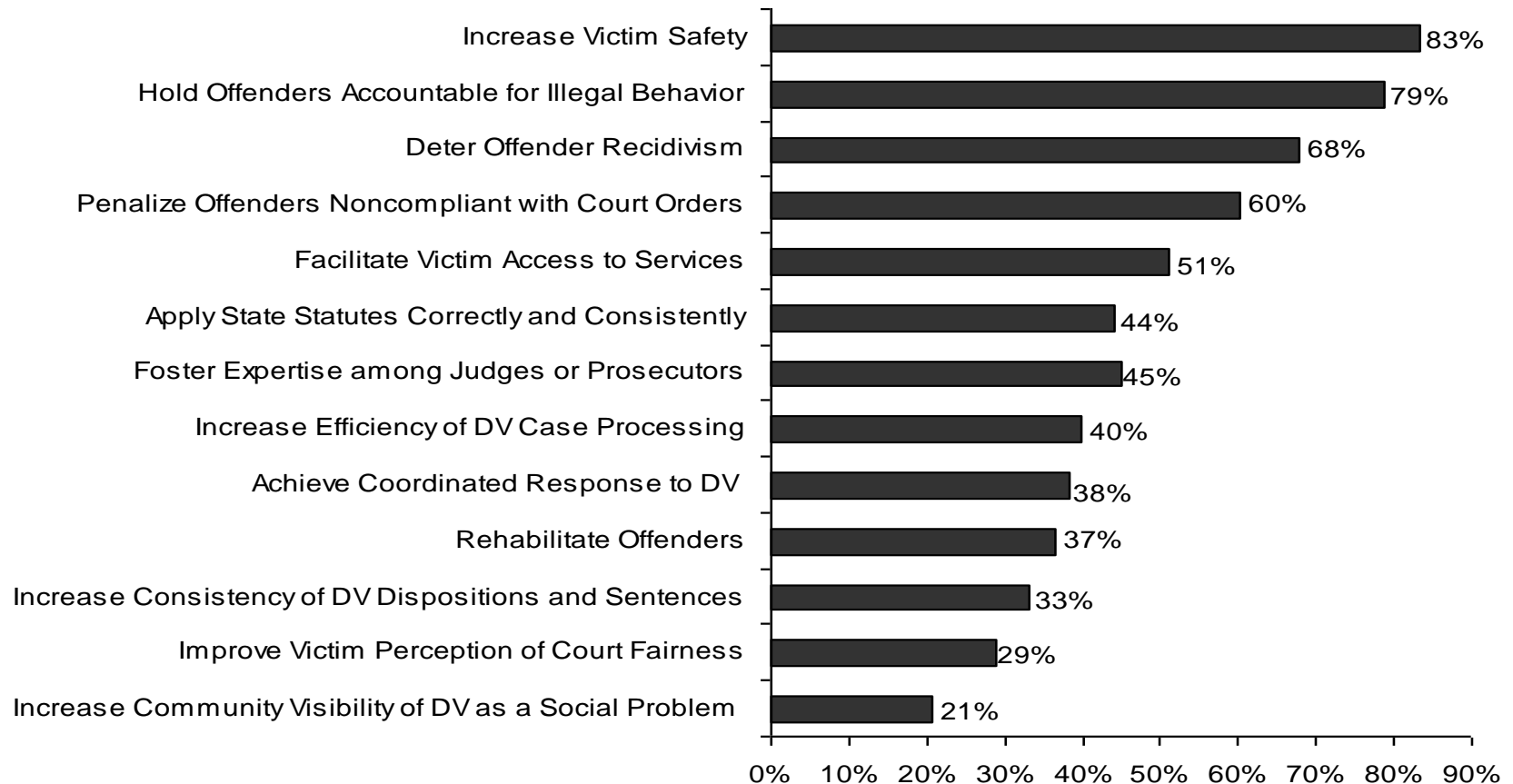
Juvenile
Domestic
Violence Courts

Domestic Violence Courts Promote

- An engaged judiciary
- Coordination between courts as well as stakeholders
- Improved victim safety for petitioners/children
- Identifying offender risk and needs
- Improved information sharing between agencies where appropriate
- Evaluation and research

What are Domestic Violence Court Goals?

Domestic Violence Court Goals: Percentage of Court Survey Respondents Rating Each Goal as "Extremely Important" (N=129)



Components to Consider in a DV Response

Victim safety and Services

- Courthouse safety
- Access to victim advocates
- Attention to safety plans
 - Nexus to risk and lethality assessments
- Plan for firearms and their role in orders of protection

Offender Accountability

- Broad use of:
 - Risk assessment
 - Probation and judicial monitoring
 - Compliance reviews

Components to Consider: Informed Decision-Making

- History of violence
- Weapons check
- Ask about children
- Pre-sentence report from probation
- Post-disposition
 - Defendant assessment and placement
 - On-going monitoring
 - Intensive supervision
 - Information on compliance
 - Probation Officer in court

Trends and Areas for Future Innovation

- Procedural Justice
- Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR)
- Civil/Criminal Coordination
- Impact on Kids

Resources

- DV Court Toolkit
- [Court Self-Assessment](#)
- [Training Needs Assessment](#)
- DV Court Forum
- [Listserv](#)

Contact us for more info or TA

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Poll Question:

Does your state/territory have a dedicated DV coordinator statewide?

Amber Moe, LCPC, Statewide
Domestic Violence Court
Manager, Idaho Supreme Court

Idaho's STOP funding

- Idaho applies and receives STOP funding annually
- 5% court set-aside
- 18% discretionary

Idaho Projects funded with STOP funds

- Statewide DV Coordinator &/or assistant at AOC
- Translation of Civil Protection Order forms
- Interpreter services for Civil Protection Orders
- Printing Civil Protection Order Benchcards

Using STOP funds for Training

- Annual judicial training (dv, sexual assault, stalking)
- Out of state judicial training (Enhancing Skills in DV cases)
- DV Court Conference (judges and DVC teams)
- Other court personnel training (clerks, Family Court)
- In-state training through the Idaho Council or Idaho Coalition
- Stakeholder/community training (attorneys, law enforcement, evaluators, providers)
- Statewide interpreter training (NCSC)

Diana L. Ramos-Reardon, Esq.,
CCE, Policy Counsel, Supreme
Court of Ohio

Making Friends

- Working with SAA
- STOP VAWA Implementation Plan
- Tale of Two Challenges: Grant award & Match

Thinking Big!

- Court TA Program
- Curriculum Development
- Domestic Violence Court Standards
- Translation of Protection Order Forms

Serving Our Constituents

- Judicial College
- Court Services Division
- Statewide Conference

Questions?

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