



**PARTNERSHIP TO REDUCE  
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND HIV**



**PILOT IMPLEMENTATION, SUCCESS &  
CHALLENGES**

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[www.reduceipvandhiv.org](http://www.reduceipvandhiv.org)



# Partnership Overview



- **Developed by The Wright Group**
  - Socially responsible health and human services agency
    - ✦ *Mission: To help organizations grow by developing solutions that will amplify the impact of their practices within the communities they serve.*
  
- **Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health (OWH)**
  - Small Business Contract
    - ✦ **Prevention and Intervention AIDS-Related Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence Initiative**



# Partnership Overview



- **What is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)?**
  - *Definition: A pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors including physical, sexual and psychological abuse, that adults or adolescents use against their intimate partners.*
    - ✦ **Intimate partner violence can be seen at all socioeconomic levels, in all races and in both same sex as well as heterosexual relationships.**
  
- **What is the IPV and HIV intersection?**
  - According to research, the prevalence of intimate partner violence among women at risk for HIV may be as high as 67%.
  - The association between IPV and HIV risk and/or infection may be explained in part by the fact that abused women face difficulty in effectively negotiating sexual matters with their partners, thus increasing their risk significantly.



# Partnership Overview



- **What is the Partnership to Reduce Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and HIV?**
  - **Pilot Program**
    - ✦ Formed in October of 2006, as a growing national effort to educate domestic and intimate partner violence counselors and shelter workers on the relationship between IPV and HIV in female survivors.



# Partnership Focus



- The Partnership focuses on:
  - Training counselors and shelter workers on the intersection of IPV and HIV to strengthen prevention messages and program interventions for female survivors.
  - Increase access and awareness of testing, utilization of local state and regional HIV services, referrals and partnerships.
  - Builds HIV/AIDS capacity in IPV agencies for institutional and systems change.
    - ✦ Infrastructure development in IPV agency for HIV prevention programming.
    - ✦ Organizational leadership development in IPV agency staff with respect to HIV/AIDS.



# Goals/ Objectives



- **Goal #1:** Provide a three day, 8-hours training series to 20 IPV providers to increase their overall HIV knowledge, and understanding of the IPV and HIV intersection in female survivors.
  - Objective: Enroll 50% of agency shelter staff in training series.
- **Goal #2:** Increase networking between both IPV and HIV communities, to encourage HIV testing and referral services for female survivors in the DC metropolitan area.
  - Objective: Establish DC Partnership Working Group



# Partnership Components



- Organizational HIV Systems Change Assessment
- Develop a gender-specific IPV/HIV training curriculum
- Conduct pre-training assessments for individual participants
- Implement training series (minimum of 24 hours)
  - ✦ *Module I: HIV/AIDS 101 and Confidentially: Gender-Specific Focus*
  - ✦ *Module II: IPV Social Norms/ Relationship of IPV and HIV in Women*
  - ✦ *Module III: Client Centered Counseling Skills for HIV Risk Reduction*
  - ✦ *Evaluation: Pre and Post test evaluation for Modules I through II*
    - *3 month follow-up*
    - *Optional Follow-up training sessions*



## Partnership Components (Cont.)



- **DC Partnership Working Group**
  - **Nine community based organizations (CBOs) developed gender-specific prevention and intervention service recommendations for the District of Columbia HIV/AIDS Administration**
    - ✦ **Local Action**
      - **Recommendations provided to:**
        - **Mayor of the District of Columbia**
        - **The DC HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG)**
        - **Office for Women's Policy**
        - **Over 40 nonprofit health and social service organizations servicing women in the District of Columbia**





# Project Results



- **9-month intervention**
- **Trained 31 IPV providers in HIV prevention:**
  - **Professional Disciplines**
    - ✦ **12- Mental Health Professionals (38.7%)**
    - ✦ **7- Social Workers (22%)**
    - ✦ **4- Substance Abuse Professionals (12.9%)**
    - ✦ **3- Outreach Workers/Health Educators (10.3%)**
    - ✦ **5- Other Professional / IPV Advocates (16.1%)**
  - **Racial/Ethnic Background**
    - ✦ **6- Hispanic/Latino (19%)**
    - ✦ **5- White or Caucasian (16%)**
    - ✦ **20- Black or African-American (65%)**



# Project Results



- **Module I: HIV/AIDS 101 and Confidentially for Women**
  - **20-Item Questionnaire**
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 13.48 (n= 31)**
  - **Post-test Increase in Knowledge**
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 18.48 (up 5.00 from pre-test scores; n=31)**
  - **3 month follow-up (HIV Knowledge Retained)**
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 18.03 (retained 4.55 from post-test for 29 participants)**



# Results



- **Module II: IPV Social Norms/Relationship with HIV**
  - 14-Item Questionnaire
  - Pre-test
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 11.61(n= 31)**
  - Post-test Increase in Knowledge
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 13.35 (up 1.71 from pre-test scores; n=31)**
  - 3 month follow-up (HIV Knowledge Retained)
    - ✦ **Mean Score: 13.82 (up .47 from post-test for 29 participants)**



# Project Achievements



- Exceeded our goal to train 20 intimate partner violence providers by 66%, training 31.
- Established HIV prevention and testing referral recommendation procedures into the in-take process (resident and non-resident) in all four agencies.
- Established HIV Confidentially Policies Recommendations for clients (which was previously not instituted).
- Dissemination Outcomes
  - ✦ Provided over 727 women with HIV prevention materials and local testing site information.
    - 50% above the original objective to provide HIV testing referral and prevention information among 250 women within IPV agencies.
  - ✦ Promotion of [www.reduceipvandhiv.org](http://www.reduceipvandhiv.org) website



## Challenges and Lessons Learned



- **IPV/DV not seen as public health issues by CBO**
- **Staff turnover in CBO's**
- **Impact of local government in relation to CBO participation**
  - CBOs image to local government
- **Documenting Clients HIV testing**
  - Follow-up
- **IPV Partners not allowing direct access to clients**
  - To ensure validity of self-reporting and evaluation



## Next Steps for 2007-2008



- **Expansion and replication in Northern Virginia and Atlanta, GA.**
- **Continue working in District of Columbia and Baltimore, Maryland with new partners.**
- **Establish and track detailed quantitative outcomes for female clients getting tested for HIV**
  - Document partnerships.
- **Reach women with disabilities who are IPV providers through on-line technology.**