

Application for Training and Technical Assistance The Connecticut Lethality Assessment Program

Project Description

On September 15, 2012, the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) and its 18 member organizations began partnering with law enforcement from across the state to implement nationally recognized risk assessment strategies to better serve victims of intimate partner violence.

As of November 2017, 100% of Connecticut's law enforcement and CCADV's 18 domestic violence member programs are working together to assist individuals experiencing potential lethal abuse. The purpose of this assessment program is to create a statewide systemic response to promote and enhance lethality prevention and officer safety in Connecticut.

Under this Program, CCADV provides *cost-free* train-the-trainer instruction and technical assistance to domestic violence victim services programs and their partnering law enforcement agencies to support Connecticut's Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment Program (CTLAP) in their jurisdictions.

CTLAP is a three-pronged intervention course of action in which police officers identify victims of intimate partner domestic violence who are at risk of being seriously injured or killed by their partners and immediately connect them to the domestic violence agency in their area.

Once trained, police officers at the scene of an intimate partner domestic violence incident will complete an evidence-based lethality assessment tool which was developed by the professionally respected Jacqueline Campbell, PhD., RN from Johns Hopkins University. The lethality assessment tool is a series of 11 questions that include such questions as:

- Has your partner ever tried to or used a weapon against you?
- Has your partner ever threatened to kill you or your children?
- Is your partner violently or consistently jealous or does your partner control your daily activities?
- Have you left your partner or separated after being married or living together?
- Has your partner ever tried to choke you?

Upon completion of the assessment if an officer discovers the potential for lethality is high the officer will make an immediate referral so the victim has instant access to their local domestic violence agency. Here the victim can speak with an advocate, and together they can develop and implement a tailored plan of safety which will include follow-up check-ins to ensure the victim remains safe. Through this high-priority response, all project partners expect to reduce the overall number of potential fatalities. The LAP enables police officers and local domestic violence victim services programs to work as partners in a more coordinated, communicative, and cooperative manner to engage victims who would otherwise be unlikely to seek the support of domestic violence services.

How to Apply

Applicants must apply as a team: At least one (1) law enforcement agency and at least one (1) community-based domestic violence victim services program. Appointed representatives will be required to sign and submit the application as well as serve as the coordinator/point of contact. The same individual agrees to facilitate and coordinate training and technical assistance activities as necessary.

Train-the-Trainer Session

CCADV's director of law enforcement services and a victim services program coordinator, working as a team, will conduct a one-day, six-hour train-the-trainer session that must be attended jointly by participating law enforcement agency officers and victim services program staff who will provide in-service training to their officers and staff. The class is offered five times a year.

In-Service Training

Through either a regular one-hour in-service session or over several roll calls, the coordinators will conduct regular in-service training for their officers and victim services program staff.

Data Collection

CTLAP statistical data will be collected by law enforcement agencies and victim services programs to assess the fidelity of LAP at the agency and program levels. Law enforcement will enter their agency data by the 10th of the month. Victim services programs will enter their data by the 15th of the month.

Statistical Report Due Date

The victim services program will submit a CTLAP quarterly report to CCADV per the prescribed reporting schedule.

Submission of Applications

Completed applications with required signatures may be scanned and e-mailed, or mailed. Applicants will receive an e-mail confirmation upon receipt of their application.

Send applications with the required signed attachments to:

Daniel Cargill, Director of Law Enforcement Services
Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence
655 Winding Brook Drive | Suite 4050
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Direct: (959) 202-5007
Main: (860) 282-7899
E-mail: Dcargill@ctcadv.org



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**Application for Training and Technical Assistance
The Connecticut Lethality Assessment Program**

I. Law Enforcement Coordinator Information

Law Enforcement Coordinator will serve as the point of contact for this project and will facilitate and coordinate the team's training and technical assistance activities as necessary.

Name of the appointed representative _____

Title (and rank, if applicable) _____

Agency/Program _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Signature of Appointed Coordinator

Date

II. Domestic Violence Service Provider Coordinator Information

Domestic Violence Service Provider Coordinator will serve as the point of contact for this project and will facilitate and coordinate the team's training and technical assistance activities as necessary.

Name of the appointed representative _____

Title (and rank, if applicable) _____

Agency/Program _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Signature of Appointed Coordinator

Date

Attachment A

CCADV Eligibility Requirements

1. _____ At least one participating law enforcement agency and domestic violence victim services program on our team.

The current agency and program are: _____

2. _____ All of our participating law enforcement agencies *and* domestic violence victim services programs have language access policies and procedures in place that comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Safe Streets Act of 1968.

3. _____ All of our participating domestic violence victim services programs have policies and procedures in place that provide access for individuals with disabilities per the Americans with Disabilities Acts of 1990 and 1991.

We the undersigned certify that our team meets the three CCADV-mandated conditions set forth above.

Participating Team Law Enforcement Agency

Participating Team Victim Services Program

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Print Name

Print Name

Law Enforcement Agency

Domestic Violence Program

Attachment B

Lethality Assessment Program Implementation Readiness Checklist

This Readiness Checklist sets out the minimum required criteria needed for implementing the Connecticut Lethality Assessment Program (CTLAP).

Yes or No

- 1. Does your team consist of at least one (1) law enforcement agency and at least one (1) community-based domestic violence victim services program serving the same jurisdiction?
2. Is there a 24/7 domestic violence hotline/LAP-line available for officers to call?
3. Is there a full-service domestic violence victim services program, including shelter, available?
4. Have you, the participating law enforcement agencies and domestic violence victim services programs, specifically communicated about the CTLAP, and do you wish to participate as a team in the CTLAP?
5. Is there an agreement by participating law enforcement agencies and victim services programs to use the Lethality Screen for First Responders, which is in the form of 11 questions that are asked of victims?
6. Is there an agreement by participating law enforcement agencies that their officers will utilize the CTLAP phone protocol, which consists of making the call to the domestic violence hotline/LAP-line from the scene of a High-danger scored screen?
7. Is there an agreement by participating law enforcement agencies that their officers will encourage high-danger victims to speak on the phone to the hotline worker from the scene?
8. Is there an agreement by participating domestic violence victim services programs to conduct immediate safety planning with the victim and encourage the victim to go into services?
9. Is there an agreement by participating law enforcement agencies that their officers will remain on the scene during the brief 5 minute phone conversation the victim has with the hotline worker?

We the undersigned certify that our team meets the implementation readiness checklist set forth above.

Participating Team Law Enforcement Agency

Participating Team Victim Services Program

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Print Name

Print Name

Law Enforcement Agency

Domestic Violence Program

Attachment C, Letter of Commitment

We, the undersigned, are submitting this Letter of Commitment as part of the Application for CTLAP Training and Technical Assistance. Our agency/program agrees to all of the following:

- To comply with and agree to the minimum criteria outlined in the CTLAP implementation Readiness Checklist.
- To commit to having our respective law enforcement agencies and victim services programs participate as a team in the development, training, and support of the CTLAP.
- To appoint a contact person who will serve as our coordinator and who will work with CCADV in scheduling training and technical assistance activities as necessary to fulfill the requirements of the program. Should the contact person leave their position, we will promptly assign another individual to fulfill the duties of the contact person.
- To ensure that the train-the-trainer session is attended as needed by both law enforcement agency officers and domestic violence victim services program staff who will train and support their respective staff.
- To complete in-serve or roll call training of participating law enforcement agency officers and victim services program staff as needed.
- To collect CTLAP data and enter the collected data into the CTLAP website database.
- To develop and implement a written policy & procedure for the CT LAP protocol.
- To give permission for participating officers and victim services program staff to be surveyed by the CCADV to assist in program evaluation.
- To make a good faith commitment to continue the CTLAP within our participating agencies and programs.

Participating Law Enforcement Agency

Participating Victim Services Program

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Signature of Highest Ranking Official / Date

Printed Name

Printed Name

Law Enforcement Agency Name

Victim Services Program Name