



Welcome and thank you for joining us today.

The webinar will begin in just a moment.

Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking:

Collaboration between Medical-Legal Partnerships, FQHCs, and Domestic Violence Programs to Support Patients

March 24, 2021

Acknowledgements



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Housekeeping

By default, everyone joins on **mute**

Type questions **into the Chat Box**

This session will be **recorded**

Email aprildaniels@gwu.edu for help.



Thank you frontline workers.



Virtual Webinar Training Agreements

Because domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking are so prevalent, assume that there are survivors among us.

- Be aware of your reactions and take care of yourself first. It's ok to step away from Zoom if you need to.
- Respect patient or client confidentiality.





Learning Objectives

1. Raise awareness of health issues and experiences of survivors of intimate partner violence and human trafficking during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Promote collaboration between domestic violence service providers, medical-legal partnerships, and community health centers.
3. Identify practical strategies and tools that community health center and medical-legal partnership staff can implement to address the needs of survivors and promote prevention.





The Medical – Legal Partnership Approach: An Overview

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What is a Medical-Legal Partnership?

MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP (MLP)

is an intervention where legal and health care professionals collaborate to help patients resolve

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

that contribute to

HEALTH DISPARITIES

and have a remedy in civil law.



MLPs embed lawyers as members of the health care team, creating:

- Healthier patients
- A stronger health center workforce
- Improved health equity

Legal Assistance

to address patients' social needs & help the health center workforce operate at "top of license"

Training

to build knowledge, capacity & skills that strengthen the health center workforce's response to SDOH







Clinic-Level Changes

that leverage legal expertise to shape clinical practices to address many patients' needs at once

Policy Change Strategies

that advance healthy regulatory, administrative, & legislative policy solutions for whole communities

How lawyers help address patients' social needs

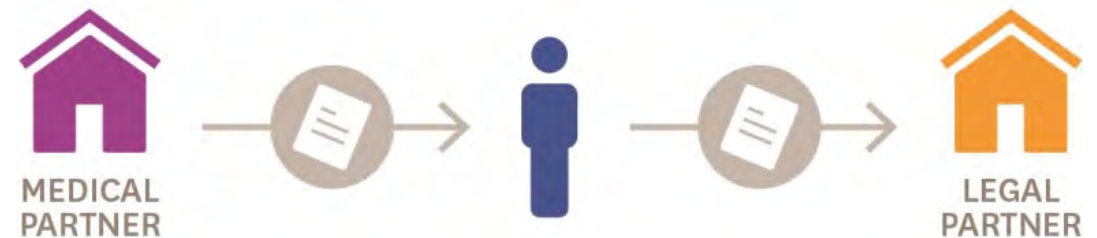
I-HELP™		How Lawyers Can Help
Income & Insurance		Food stamps, disability benefits, cash assistance, health insurance
Housing & utilities		Eviction, housing conditions, housing vouchers, utility shut off
Education & Employment		Accommodation for disease and disability in education and employment settings
Legal status	 	Assistance with immigration status (e.g. asylum applications); Veteran discharge status upgrade; Criminal background expungement
Personal & family stability		Domestic violence, guardianship, child support, advanced directives, estate planning



Referral Network



Coordinating Staff



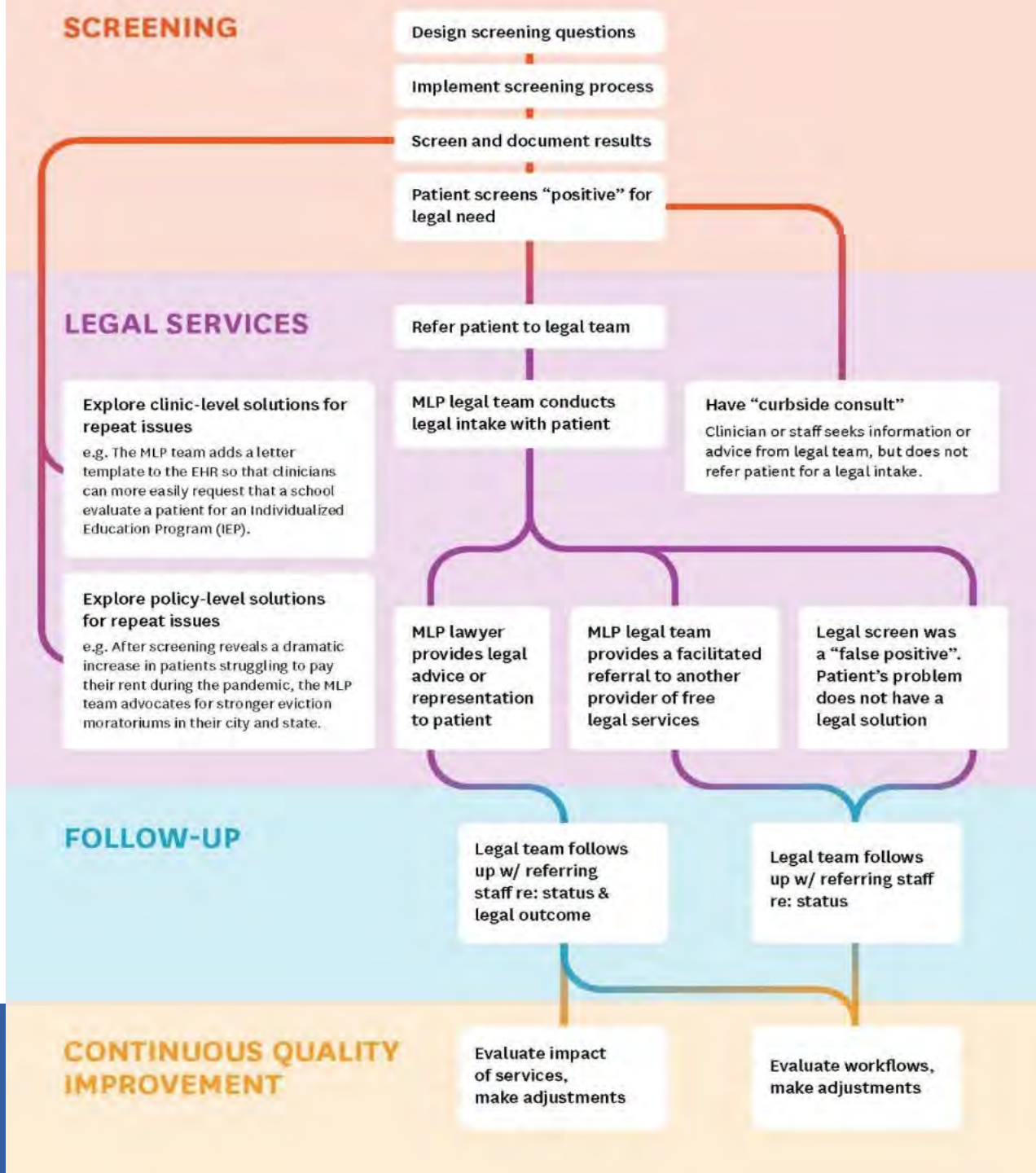
One Organization



The MLP approach is flexible.

Models vary to connect patients with legal partners to resolve health-harming legal needs.

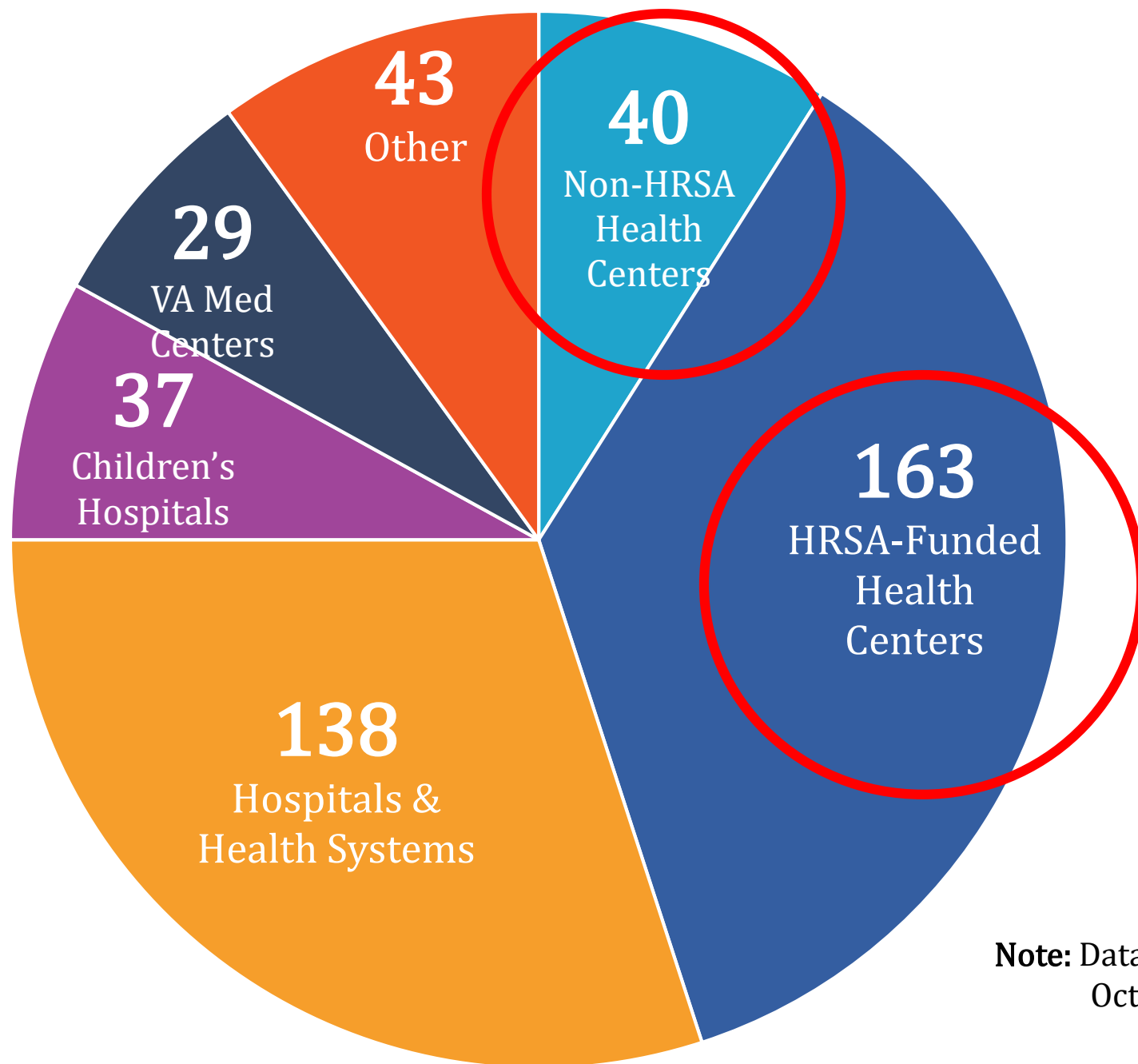
Screening & service delivery flow chart



The MLP Landscape



MLPs at
450
health care
orgs in
49
States & D.C.



Note: Data current as of
October 2, 2020.

***How can Legal Partners, FQHCs, and
Domestic Violence Programs
Collaborate to Support Patients?***

Presenters

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Presenters



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National Association of Community Health Centers





National Health Network on Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking

The **National Health Network on Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking** is led by Futures Without Violence (FUTURES) to work with community health centers to support those at risk of, or surviving intimate partner violence (IPV), human trafficking (HT) and exploitation, and to bolster prevention efforts.

Learn more: www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health/nationalhealthnetwork

Email: ipvhealthpartners@futureswithoutviolence.org



Resources for Supporting Staff

1. Academy of Medical Royal Colleges: [Reflective Practice Toolkit](#)
2. Workplaces Respond to Domestic & Sexual Violence <https://www.workplacesrespond.org/>
3. www.IPVHealthPartners.org/covid19
4. Capacitar International: Mindfulness Videos www.capacitar.org/capacitar-videos/
5. *What About You?* A workbook for those who work with others (includes self-care and org-care checklists) www.homelesshub.ca/resource/what-about-you-workbook-those-who-work-others





Patient Case Study: “OT”

24 year old women (G1P0) with severe morning sickness comes to clinic every few days to get IV Fluids for dehydration.

“He said that he would fire me, my husband, my brother-in-law, and all the refugee employees at the restaurant”

OT

22





Defining Success

“

Success is measured by our efforts to reduce isolation and to improve options for safety.

”

Futures Without Violence





CUES: An Evidence-based Intervention

Confidentiality
Universal Education
Empowerment
Support





Why might a patient or client choose not to disclose?

- Judgment and stigma
- Fear of immigration enforcement, child welfare, and/or police involvement
- Fear of losing their job
- Not knowing what is going to happen with the information
- If there is someone controlling/exploiting them, fear that the person could find out that they told you
- Lack of awareness of rights





What if disclosure/identification is no longer the goal?

Rethinking screening

- Low disclosure rates
- Not survivor centered
- Resources offered only based on a patient's disclosure
- Missed opportunity for prevention education





CUES: An Overview

C: Confidentiality

See patient alone, disclose limits of confidentiality

UE: Universal Education + Empowerment

Normalize activity:

"I've started giving two of these cards to all of my patients—in case it's ever an issue for you because relationships can change and also for you to have the info so you can help a friend or family member if it's an issue for them."

Make the connection—open the card and do a quick review:

"It talks about healthy and safe relationships, ones that aren't and how they can affect your health. It provides tips so you don't feel alone."

S: Support

"On the back of the card there are 24/7 text and hotlines that have folks who really understand complicated relationships. You can also talk to me about any health issues or questions you have."





What is Intimate Partner Violence?

A **pattern** of methods and behaviors to gain **power and control** over and/or hurt an intimate partner.





Federal Human Trafficking Definition

Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA)

Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

Labor trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

For more information on federal legal definitions of human trafficking, see National Human Trafficking Hotline, “Federal Laws” page at <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/federal-law>





Labor Exploitation, Wage Theft, Labor Trafficking: A Spectrum of Experiences



Labor exploitation: an employer unfairly benefits from employee's work. Labor exploitation is not a legal term—in fact, not all forms of labor exploitation are illegal.

Labor violations: a legal term used when employers violate federal, state, or municipal laws related to worker treatment, workplace safety, or recordkeeping requirements.

Source: <https://combathumantrafficking.org/2020/01/labor-trafficking/>





Consideration for Both IPV and Human Trafficking

Terms such as “victim/ization”, “survivor”, “exploitation”, and “trafficking” may not reflect one’s experiences or perceptions related to intimate partner violence and human trafficking.





Health Impact of IPV/HT

IPV:

- Asthma
- Bladder and kidney infections
- Circulatory conditions
- Cardiovascular disease
- IBS
- Chronic pain syndromes
- Central nervous system disorders
- Gastrointestinal disorders
- Joint disease
- Migraines and headaches
- Fibromyalgia

(Black/CDC, 2011)

Human Trafficking:

- Headaches
- Back pain
- Stomach pain
- Dental pain
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Weight loss
- Chest/heart pain
- Respiratory problems

(Ottisova, 2016; Oram 2016)





IPV, HT, and Behavioral Health

- Anxiety and/or depression
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Antisocial behavior
- Suicidal behavior
- Low self-esteem
- Emotional detachment
- Sleep disturbances
- Substance dependency

(Tjaden P, 2000; Coker AL, 2002;
Mazeda 2010; Zimmerman 2011;)

Research suggests that women may also be more likely than men to use prescription opioids to self-medicate for other problems including anxiety or stress. (McHugh 2013)





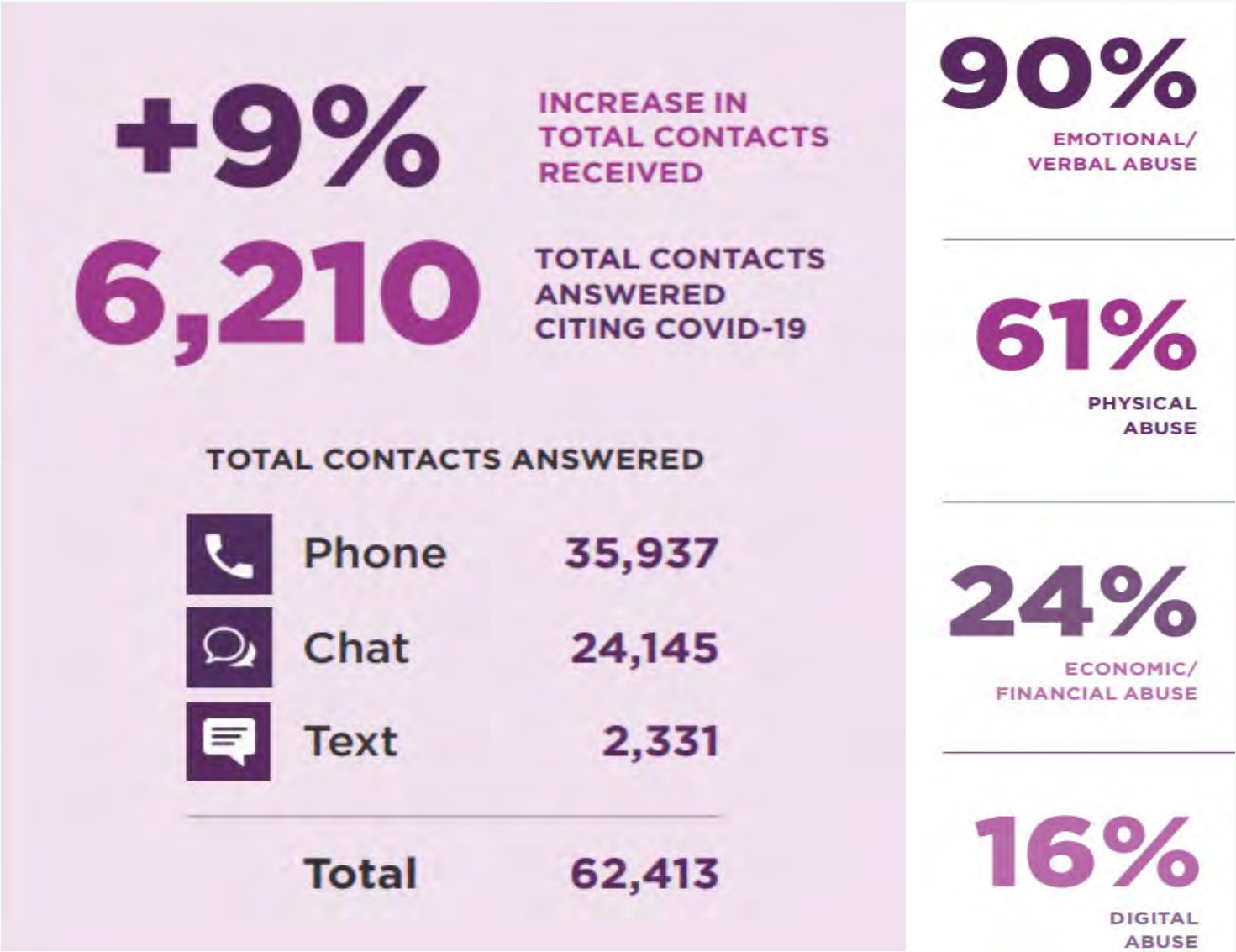
In the chat:

How is intimate partner violence or human trafficking showing up for clients or patients during the COVID-19 pandemic?





Statistics from the National DV Hotline Callers: March 16, 2020- May 16, 2020



From the National Domestic Violence Hotline:

COVID-19 SURVIVOR STORIES FROM THE LINES

"A caller said they could not file paperwork to remove the abuser from their home, because courts are closed due to COVID-19."

"A chatter stated that they have known for a long time that there were red flags in the relationship, but things are escalating with the pandemic, and they can't even go to therapy."

"A caller was experiencing an escalation of abuse. They had tested positive for COVID-19, and the abuser was using isolation to keep them from contacting family. The abuser threatened the survivor with deportation (survivor is currently in the process of becoming a US citizen)."



"A chatter mentioned that the abuser was using the virus as a scare tactic to keep the survivor away from their kids."



About Domestic/Sexual Violence Advocacy Programs

Domestic violence and sexual assault programs have vast experiences working with survivors of violence and assist them to identify ways to increase personal safety while assessing the risks.

Advocates connect patients to additional services like:

- ✓ Crisis safety planning (usually 24/hr hotline)
- ✓ Housing (emergency and transitional)
- ✓ Legal advocacy for IPV/HT, family court, immigration, labor
- ✓ Support groups/counseling
- ✓ Leadership Programs
- ✓ Children's services
- ✓ Employment support





Information for DV Advocates about Health

An essential part of safety planning and wellness:

- ✓ Understanding that IPV/HT/exploitation has serious health impacts and advocates are in a unique position to intervene
- ✓ Improves client access to care/medical home, including for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and mental health support
- ✓ Holistic approach to healing and support
- ✓ Opportunity to deepen partnerships with local community health centers





Overview of Community Health Centers (CHC)

Community health centers are community-based and patient-directed organizations that deliver no-cost/ low-cost comprehensive primary health care.

They often include:

- ✓ pharmacy
- ✓ mental health services
- ✓ substance abuse programs
- ✓ oral health services

Located in medically underserved areas and for medically underserved populations.



Photo: CHC Staff at Asian Health Services in Oakland, CA in 2021

<https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>



Health Care Providers Are Lifelines

Health providers may be:

- ✓ **first** responders for people experiencing IPV/HT and exploitation
- ✓ the only other person your patient is allowed to speak to
- ✓ the only kind words your patient has heard
- ✓ the only access to information on help and safety
- ✓ A trusted resource about COVID-19, the vaccine, and vaccine eligibility



Learn More

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-SAFE (7233);
TTY 1-800-787-3224

Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-422-4453

Sexual Assault Hotline

1-800-656-4673 (HOPE)

StrongHearts Native Helpline

1-844-762-8483;
<https://www.strongheartshelpline.org/get-help/>

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-422-4453
<https://www.childhelp.org/hotline/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-8255; <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/talk-to-someone-now/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health

National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (5347)

Changing Minds

www.ChangingMinds.org

Futures Without Violence

www.FuturesWithoutViolence.org

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Legal Services Programs and Domestic Violence

Types of legal services programs may provide that support survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking:

- Housing: eviction, support on other housing protections that may be available
- Family Law: child custody, separation and divorce, child or spousal support
- Orders of protection
- Immigration-related legal assistance for survivors of domestic violence
- Public benefits and economic security issues
- Criminal record expungement





Precarity and Prevention: Civil Legal Aid for HT

- Health care eligibility
- Housing issues / tenant rights
- Public benefits eligibility
- Employment law services
- Educational services
- Civil litigation
- Family law

**Decrease precarity and vulnerability,
thereby preventing human trafficking**





Other Legal Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

Immigration Legal Services

- Continued Presence
- T Visas, U Visas
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- VAWA self-petitions
- Asylum
- Safe repatriation

Criminal Justice Legal Aid

- Defense Attorneys: HT victims may have criminal records from coerced crimes
- Expunging or vacating criminal records



The Heart of the Model: Building Meaningful Partnerships

Partnerships help promote bi-directional warm referrals for clients/patients and increase staff engagement and support.



Download a sample MOU:

<https://ipvhealthpartners.org/partner/>



Tools to share with staff, partners, and patients/clients



Health centers are key to violence prevention

- Setting and pop-specific safety cards
- Webinar series
- Training curricula + videos
- Clinical guidelines
- EHR and Documentation tools
- Posters
- Technical assistance

www.ipvhealthpartners.org

Email: ipvhealthpartners@futureswithoutviolence.org

+ New guidance on COVID-19 and telehealth support

<https://ipvhealthpartners.org/covid19/>

FUTURES Safety Card Tools

Population and Setting Specific

- Adolescent Health
- American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hawaiian
- College Campus
- HIV+
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Questioning (LGBQ)
- Parents and Caregivers
- Pediatrics and Home Visitation
- Pregnant or parenting teens
- Primary Care
- Reproductive Health Settings
- Transgender/Gender Non-conforming
- Muslim Youth

By language:

- Available in English and most in Spanish.
- Our Primary Care (General Health) safety card is available in the following languages: Armenian, Chuukese, Farsi, Hawaiian, Korean, Marshallese, Modern Standard Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Samoan, and Tagalog –

store.futureswithoutviolence.org





Questions & Answers

Type your questions into the chat. They will be read by our moderators:

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Upcoming Opportunities to Learn More and with Peers



**National Health Network on Intimate
Partner Violence and Human Trafficking**

National Center for Medical  Legal Partnership
AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

National Health Network on IPV & Human Trafficking: Upcoming Learning Collaboratives

- Supporting Providers and Centering Survivors: Rethinking Success Through Partnerships and Innovations To Support People Experiencing Homelessness **apply by May 21, 2021**
- Aging with Respect: A Framework for Addressing Intimate Partner Violence in Older Adults Learning Collaborative **apply by April 16, 2021**

To learn more visit:

www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health/nationalhealthnetwork





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Health Center MLP Toolkit & 5-Part Webinar Series

Moving upstream to address SDOH and health equity at a policy level

APRIL 6, 2021 at 1PM ET

**Rebecca L. Sandefur, Ph.D.
Keegan Warren-Clem, JD, LLM
James Teufel, MPH, Ph.D.**

Register at:

<https://medical-legalpartnership.org/webinars/toolkit-series>

National Center for Medical  Legal Partnership

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Thank you.

Please complete the survey.