

Program Overview: Domestic Violence Home Visit Intervention

Please note that the accuracy of the contents of this inventory cannot be guaranteed until the program director has reviewed this summary for accuracy. Changes may be pending.

Category	Home Visit Intervention/ Out of Home Placement Programs	Definitions/ Notes
Program Name	Domestic Violence Home Visit Intervention	
History of Program	<p>Developed by the Yale Child Study Center, DVHVI is an intervention program targeted at adult female victims of intimate partner violence.</p> <p>In the DVHVI program, teams consisting of a neighborhood police officer and a clinically-informed domestic violence advocate visit the home of female victims of domestic violence with children within a few days of any incident in which the police were summoned. Unlike the initial police response, which focuses on acute safety concerns, the follow up visit attempts to connect the family with resources and information that can address the underlying causes of the incident.</p>	blank
Description of Program as it Relates to addressing Children Exposed to Violence	<p>The Domestic Violence Home Visit Intervention (DVHVI) program aims to interrupt the cycle of repeat- and intergenerational- domestic violence by providing victims and their children with coordinated crisis response, psychoeducation, and assistance in identifying and utilizing resources available through social service organizations and the broader community. The program helps coordinate the efforts of diverse organizations that respond to families exposed to violence including mental health, law enforcement, and social service professionals. Participants who engage with the DVHVI have been shown</p>	

Highlighted text indicates program components are currently under review. Changes may be pending.

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	<p>to be more likely to contact the police for subsequent events of domestic violence. The program might be especially useful in helping to increase engagement between law enforcement and racial or ethnic minorities that have historically been suspicious of police intervention.</p>	
Service Continuum	Crisis Response	ank
Primary Exposure Type	Domestic Violence	ank
Target Population	<p>Individual Parent/Caregivers(s)</p> <p>Systems Other (Please describe): Police; Responding MH Systems</p>	
Target Age	<p>0 - 2 Early Childhood (3-5) Middle Childhood (6 - 12) Adolescence (13-21)</p>	Program targets all children living the in household with the victim of intimate partner violence.
Target Gender	Both	
Appropriate for Unique Ethnic, Cultural, or Linguistic Populations?	<p>Has this program been used or evaluated with minority, cultural, or linguistically diverse groups? Yes</p> <p>If yes, please indicate: Latino/Hispanic African American</p>	Results for Hispanic victims who were matched with Hispanic advocates have been especially promising, supporting the use of culturally relevant services.
Primary Settings	Homes (biological/adoptive)	
Persons or Entities in charge of delivering Program	<p>Home Visitors Other (Please describe): Law enforcement Domestic violence advocate</p>	

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Primary Components	Referrals Home-Visiting	

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Resource & Capacity Planning

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Length/Duration of Program	Home visits are approximately a half-hour in length, but vary depending on needs of the victim and family (range = 0-4 hours). Participants may request a second follow up visit from the domestic violence advocate if needed.	
Required Materials	Manuals/Program materials	
Training Requirements		Police officers receive specialized training in the effects of violence exposure on children. Advocates are paraprofessionals with training in domestic violence law, services, and modes of referral.
Provider Certification/ Training/ Requirements	Program Specific Certification/Training Required	
System or Agency Recommendations for Serving CEV Populations	Cross Systems/Sectors Support & Infrastructure	
Costs of Implementation	Not Yet Available	

Evidence for Children Exposed to Violence

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Evidence for Preventing or Addressing Violence Exposure	In general, when implemented with minimal fidelity this program demonstrate promising (perhaps inconsistent) empirical findings showing reductions in risk of exposure or ameliorating the effects of exposure using a reasonable conceptual framework and a limited evaluation design (single group pre-post-test) that requires causal confirmation using more appropriate experimental techniques.	
Evaluation Design of Studies with Children Exposed to Violence	Quasi-experimental design	
Violence Exposure-Related Outcomes	<p>Parent (Briefly Describe) Participating DVHVI mothers were more likely to call police for subsequent incidents of domestic violence during the 12 month monitoring period compared to those without DVHVI services. Participant characteristics that predict engagement with the program services include the number of children in the home, the severity of the violent incident, and ethnic match of victim and advocate.</p>	
Additional Research Information	<p>Study 1: Design, Setting, Participants: All reported cases of domestic violence (N = 301) from half of the police districts in a small city for a period of 18 months were referred for the DVHVI program. DVHVI teams composed of a specially trained police</p>	<p>Study 1: Stover, C. S., Rainey, A. M., Berkman, M., Marans, S. (2008). Factors associated with engagement in a police-advocacy home-visit intervention to prevent domestic violence. <i>Violence Against Women</i>, 14(12).</p>

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	<p>officer and a domestic violence advocate visited the home of the victim. Upon contact, teams attempted to help the victim address immediate concerns to health and safety by identifying services and organizations that offer support to victims of domestic violence. Teams successfully made contact with 67.8% (N = 204) of the victims referred to the program.</p> <p>Outcome Measures: Outcome measures were intended to assess the degree to which victims of domestic violence engaged with the DVHVI program, including number of minutes the response team spent with victims, number of services (safety, legal, psychoeducation, etc.) utilized, and whether or not a follow up visit from the team or the advocate was requested.</p> <p>Study 2:</p> <p>Design, Setting, Participants: 512 female victims of intimate partner violence in New Haven Connecticut were tracked for a period of 12 months following a serious DV incident. DVHVI teams attempted to contact all victims. Participants were then divided into three groups for the purposes of analysis: (1) those that teams were unable to make contact with after repeated attempts (2) low-dosage participants, defined as spending 20 minutes or less with teams and (3) high-dosage participants, defined as spending more than 20 minutes with teams. These three groups were compared to a control group which was comprised of victims in the same city which teams did not attempt to contact.</p> <p>Outcome Measures: Outcome measures were designed to assess</p>	<p>Study 2: Stover, C. S., Poole, G., Marans, S. (2009). The domestic violence home-visit intervention: Impact on police-reported incidents of repeat violence over 12 months. <i>Violence and Victims, 24</i>(5).</p>

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	<p>the efficacy of the DVHVI program across various levels of engagement. There were no between-group differences in the time until the first repeat call to police for a subsequent incident of domestic violence, or severity of violent incident. However, those participants in the high-dosage group were significantly more likely to call police in the 12 months following the initial incident. No specific DVHVI service components were associated with recidivism.</p>	
Sources	<p>Empirical Studies (peer-reviewed journal) Review Article (peer-reviewed journal)</p>	

Contact Information

Dr. Carla Stover, Ph.D

Campus Address

Child Study Center
230 South Frontage Road
P.O. Box 207900
New Haven, CT 06520-7900

E-mail

carla.stover@yale.edu

Office Phone

203-785-2048

Fax

203-785-4608

Selected Publications/References

Harris, W. W., Lieberman, A.F., Marans, S. (2007). In the best interests of society. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 48*(3/4).

Stover, C. S., Rainey, A. M., Berkman, M., Marans, S. (2008). Factors associated with engagement in a police-advocacy home-visit intervention to prevent domestic violence. *Violence Against Women, 14*(12).

Stover, C. S., Poole, G., Marans, S. (2009). The domestic violence home-visit intervention: Impact on police-reported incidents of repeat violence over 12 months. *Violence and Victims, 24*(5).