

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HIGH
RISK RESPONSE TEAMS IN
MASSACHUSETTS:**



Directory of Existing Programs

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Acknowledgments:

This Directory was updated by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, in consultation with the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence's Assessment and Response Subcommittee. It was originally created by the Promising Practices subcommittee of a prior Council:

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Introduction:

The purpose of this Directory is to direct readers to the existing High Risk Teams in Massachusetts, and provide information about how those programs operate. This information is based on survey questions that were sent to each program, asking them to briefly describe how they operate, identify their member programs, and discuss the keys, as well as barriers, to success. By asking each Team to address the same questions, we hoped to provide the reader with a roadmap to best practices to aid in the development of teams in new jurisdictions. This is a “working document” and will be periodically updated as existing Teams evolve and as new Teams are created and information changes. *Our goal is to make this compilation of resources as comprehensive as possible. Please contact the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security if you have new information to add to this Directory.*

[Barnstable County/Cape and the Islands](#)

Index:

- Cape Cod and the Islands High Risk Task Force

Name	Cape Cod and the Islands High Risk Task Force
Contact	Michael Patterson or Nancy Barrows
Phone Number	508-362-8113
Email	MPatterson@massmail.state.ma.us ; NBarrows@massmail.state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Cape and Islands District Attorney’s Office
Address	3231 Main Street, Barnstable, 02630

Program Description: The program provides a coordinated response to cases of domestic violence that have been deemed “high risk” through the application of risk assessments. Representatives from the DA’s Office, police departments, probation department, Sheriff’s Department, Independence House, and victim advocates meet optimally within three days of a referral. Each meeting is focused on the specific case to discuss strategies to increase the victim’s safety, and the group meets annually to review progress and goals for the task force. The program has been developing since its inception. There is a focus on training police, Assistant District Attorneys, and probation officers to increase the use of risk assessment.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Cape Cod: Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Eastham, Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Orleans, Provincetown,

Sandwich, Truro, Wellfleet, and Yarmouth. Martha's Vineyard: Aquinnah, Chilmark, Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and West Tisbury. Working on expanding to include Nantucket.

Members & Partnering Organizations: Massachusetts State Police, Barnstable Sheriff's Department, Cape Cod & Islands District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, Independence House, victim advocates, and police departments from covered towns.

Funding & Staffing: This program is not funded. Participation by members is voluntary.

Obstacles/Barriers: The program faces significant barriers without funding, as it creates limited resources to consistently provide the twenty-one police departments with updated trainings. The program has also faced issues with full and consistent attendance at meetings by team members.

Success Factors: The program has successfully laid the groundwork for potentially making great strides in protecting victims of domestic violence with the support of all the police departments, Probation, Independence House, and the Sheriff's Department. It has led to significantly increased communication and collaboration between partnering agencies.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Resources for training
2. Communication and collaboration among all team members
2. Full attendance at meetings

Key to Success: The key to success is the community of law enforcement that recognizes the importance of targeting those cases that are most likely to result in an escalation of violence or murder. All participants do their best despite the limitations due to a lack of funding.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

We use a "Danger Assessment" form and "Referral" form and are willing to share them with anyone interested in reviewing these forms.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

A meeting is promptly scheduled with the core group of the Cape Cod High Risk Domestic Violence Task Force: Assistant District Attorney, Victim Witness Advocate, Police Department, Probation Department, Independence House, and Victim Services at the House of Correction. The team reviews the case in its entirety including safety planning for the victim. The team comes up with a short and long term plan to most effectively protect the victim and strengthen the Commonwealth's ability to prosecute the case. At the end of the meeting each person is assigned a role to effectuate this goal.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

The supervising ADA of the CCHRTF continuously supervises each case so that the individual goals set forth are attained. A successful outcome can range from prosecution to a safety plan for the victim.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

It is determined on a case-by-case basis. The time period required for success varies from case-by-case. The victim has support from various agencies as long as the victim feels it is necessary.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We have not previously trained persons outside our organization, but would be open to doing so for no fee.

Berkshire County

None at this time

Bristol County

Index:

- Attleboro High at Risk Team (HART)
- Fall River High at Risk Team (HART)
- New Bedford High at Risk Team (HART)
- Taunton High at Risk Team (HART)

Name	Attleboro High Risk Team (HART)
Contact	Courtney Cahill / Lauri Burke
Phone Number	508-961-1800 508-961-1876
Email	courtney.cahill@state.ma.us ; lauri.burke@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Bristol County DA’s Office
Address	888 Purchase Street, New Bedford, 02740

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Attleboro, Mansfield, North Attleboro, and Norton (The Attleboro District Court catchment area)

Name	Fall River High Risk Team (HART)
Contact	Courtney Cahill / Mayka Rodrigues
Phone Number	508-961-1823 508-679-1911
Email	courtney.cahill@state.ma.us ; Mayka.rodrigues@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Bristol County DA's Office
Address	888 Purchase Street, New Bedford, 02740

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Fall River, Freetown, Somerset, Swansea, Westport (The Fall River District Court catchment area)

Name	New Bedford High Risk Team (HART)
Contact	Courtney Cahill / Bianca Lage
Phone Number	508-961-1800
Email	courtney.cahill@state.ma.us ; Bianca.r.lage@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Bristol County DA's Office
Address	888 Purchase Street, New Bedford, 02740

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: New Bedford, Dartmouth, Acushnet, Fairhaven (The New Bedford District Court catchment area)

Name	Taunton High Risk Team (HART)
Contact	Courtney Cahill / Caitlin Stone
Phone Number	508-961-1823 508-823-8801
Email	courtney.cahill@state.ma.us ; Caitlin.a.stone@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Bristol County DA's Office
Address	888 Purchase Street, New Bedford, 02740

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Berkley, Dighton, Easton, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Taunton (The Taunton District Court catchment area)

Program Description: Although the New Bedford HART was developed in 2006, in 2015 changes were made, and in 2016 HART was developed across the county in each of the district court jurisdictions. The teams are made up of a group of professionals representing agencies that may come in contact with the victim and/or the offender. Its goal is to identify, track, and monitor repeat serial batterers classified to the program while keeping their victims safe within their own community. Classified offenders are monitored through monthly review of their criminal records identifying new criminal charges and restraining orders, enhanced prosecution of all criminal charges, creating

electronic Offender Files that include all police reports and 209As that are kept at both the DA's Office and police departments, contacting the Parole Board prior to hearings, interviewing offenders prior to release from the House of Correction, and informing other DA's Offices when these offenders have cases in another jurisdiction and providing them with a copy of the HART Offender File.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: See above for each team

Members & Partnering Organizations: The Bristol County DA's is the lead organization. Partnering agencies include all 20 police departments across the county, Probation, Parole, DCF, DTA, the New Bedford Women's Center, the Women's Center at SSTAR, New Hope, the Batterer's Education Programs, Sheriff's Department, Clerk's Office staff, and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Representatives from all these agencies attend bi-monthly meetings.

Funding & Staffing: This program is unfunded. We do have several funding sources for Civilian Police Advocates across the county. The New Bedford Police Department funds one in their department, Attleboro and North Attleboro have one funded through New Hope/the United Way, and the Fall River Police Department has one funded through SSTAR/VAWA. The rest of the cities and towns have CPAs funded through a DOJ Grant to Encourage Arrest that was awarded in October 2017.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the beginning it was difficult to explain the program to the 20 cities and towns and all of the member agencies, but we took it slow and went courthouse by courthouse. There were no barriers to the development of this program. Everyone who was presented the idea was receptive and the agencies that were invited to be part of the team readily accepted.

Success Factors: Creating a strong working relationship with all of the team members has improved all domestic violence response, not just those classified to the HART program. We have seen an increase in the amount of defendants being held after Dangerousness Hearings, incarcerations have increased as well as referrals to the Batterers Education Program. This is a direct result of information sharing by all of the partners. The partnerships with victim service agencies are crucial to victim safety.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continue collaboration and meeting attendance with all team members
2. Recruit members from other victim service agencies including multi-cultural agencies
3. Dedication from the top of all partnering agencies

Key to Success: The key to success is the commitment from each agency and our ability to work as a team with one common goal – victim safety and offender accountability.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

A risk assessment and an intake are completed by the coordinator and presented to the team. The team then determines, based on degree of risk, whether or not this offender is classified to the program. We look at repeat domestic violence cases/restraining orders with the same victim or multiple victims, use and threatened of use of a firearm, violence in front of children, strangulation and recent escalation. Victims are not classified to the Program, but their abusers are. Recommendations for classification come from any team member or a member of their staff.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

When an offender is classified to the Program, an electronic Offender File is created including all police reports and restraining orders/affidavits. These files are kept at the DA's Office and the local police departments to be used by all Team members. Once classified, an offender's record is run monthly to monitor new criminal charges and restraining orders. Any criminal case, not just DV, is prosecuted with heightened awareness, and offenders are visited before release from incarceration. Parole is provided Offender Files for any hearings, and Probation/Parole heightens monitoring of the Offender. Services to victims are also heightened by increased communication and work by each team member focusing on what each individual needs to ensure safety. Cases vary so the team adjusts its plan of action for each individual case.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

When the offender is held accountable (e.g. incarcerated, Batterer Education Program, and/or monitoring bracelet) and the victim is able to safely get on with his/her life.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The Offender is classified to the Program for life and is monitored monthly for new activity.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We will train anyone about our program and there is no fee.

[Essex County](#)

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- Gloucester High Risk Team
- Greater Newburyport Domestic Violence High Risk Team
- Lynn High Risk Team
- Salem High Risk Team

Name	Gloucester High Risk Team
Contact	Jessie Ballantine
Phone Number	978-283-8642
Email	jessieb@hawcdv.org
Lead Agency	HAWC (Co-Chair Essex County DA's Office)
Address	5 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, 01930

Program Description: The team meets monthly to discuss new high risk cases as well as accepted cases. Discussion includes exploring ways the team can best support the victim, identifying needs of the victim and specific concerns for maintaining safety.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Gloucester, Rockport, Essex

Members & Partnering Organizations: Healing Abuse, Working for Change (HAWC), DA's Office, police departments, Probation, DCF, North Shore Rape Crisis Center, Batterer's Intervention Program

Funding & Staffing: There is no formal funding – members participate as part of their jobs in the individual agencies.

Obstacles/Barriers: There have been no major obstacles, but making sure that agencies maintain appropriate confidentiality has occasionally been an issue.

Success Factors: Communication has been greatly improved, particularly in cases that span more than one High Risk Team. Victims have felt very supported.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: It is essential to keep the attendance of the members consistent.

Key to Success: Continued participation and communication.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

The victim needs to be working with a member agency and after looking at the following high risk factors, if enough factors are present, we refer to the Team for acceptance to the Program.

Increase physical violence (severity or frequency) over time	Victim believes the perpetrator will kill her/him	Recent separation
Availability/Ownership of weapons	Forced sex	Hostage-taking, Abduction or Stalking

Strangulation or suffocation	Threats of homicide/suicide	Threats to harm the children
Child in the home is not perpetrators	Drug/alcohol abuse	Abuse during pregnancy
Violent & constant jealousy	Perpetrator is unemployed	Animal abuse

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

Services vary according to victim needs and current status, but in every case both of their records are pulled, as well as any details about the specific incidents that brought them to our attention (charges, court dates, sentences, etc.). Generally, the victim is contacted so we can offer support however appropriate. If anything changes, updates are shared with the team and any other necessary partners.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

If, after a period of time, there are no new incidents and no further concerning information, the client will first be moved to ‘monitor status’ and then removed from the list. At this point, we’d consider the outcome successful (although there is always the possibility they may return to active later on if need be).

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

Nothing formal – we’ll continue to work with the person as long as we feel there may be a safety threat and the victim can always return for more services.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We haven’t before, but may be open to the idea under the right circumstances.

Name	Greater Newburyport Domestic Violence High Risk Team
Contact	Kelly Dunne
Phone Number	978-834-9710
Email	kdunne@jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org
Lead Agency	Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center
Address	2 Harris Street, Newburyport, 01950

Program Description: This program focuses equally on victim safety and offender accountability. The model was developed in 2002 and the first team meeting was held in

2004. Meetings are held once a month. Partial funding for the project is provided by a Byrne grant, but the project went many years without any grant funding and was funded by a domestic violence agency's fundraising efforts.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury, Merrimac, and the team also accepts referrals from any town within the Newburyport District Court Division

Members & Partnering Organizations: This program has a formalized Memorandum of Understanding which must be updated.

Funding & Staffing: This program costs approximately \$70,000 a year to fund. The Byrne grant provides \$50,000 towards this funding. To obtain new grants or find new funding, the program would conduct additional grant writing and fundraising. The grant funds portions of various positions including: the High Risk Team Coordinator, Administrative Support, and Domestic Violence agency including Management, Staff Attorney, and Advocate. The in-kind positions are from partner agencies. In-kind positions include law enforcement, probation, batterer's intervention, Sheriff's Department, Parole, the DA's Office, and a hospital.

Obstacles/Barriers: Some of the obstacles during the development of this program were confidentiality concerns, legal issues, development of the program in unchartered territory, differing organizational cultures, concerns regarding subpoenas, and record keeping. Barriers to continuing this program are working with diminished resources from partner agencies.

Success Factors: This program has had success with offender containment; 59% of offenders were held pre-trial, most through dangerousness hearings. GPS monitoring was utilized in 25% of cases in both pre-trial containment and sentencing. Low dismissal rates (13% of cases were dismissed), high rates of guilty pleas (71% of offenders pled guilty), low re-assault rates (8% of victims reported being re-assaulted), reduced need for victims to enter shelters (93% of victims were able to remain in the community and did not relocate to shelters), and victims who actually accessed the services in their community (90% of victims used services at the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center) all contributed to the program's success.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Partner agency funding is needed.

Key to Success: Commitment to collaboration, relationships built over the years, and an equal focus on victim safety and offender accountability are the keys to this program's success.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

We use the lethality factors contained in the dangerousness assessment tool, as well as a review of the criminal history and additional police reports available to us to assess

danger/ potential lethality. We accept cases by vote after a careful review of available information.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

Various actions are taken depending on the specifics of each case. We try to come up with a case specific plan to increase victim safety and offender accountability. This may include: police adding information in their 911 system, doing house checks of the home, monitoring jail release dates, increased victim contact through probation, and monitoring probation compliance. Victim services include accompaniment to criminal court proceedings and legal services to address immigration and family law issues. Most importantly, we coordinate efforts and continue to share information as the case progresses.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? See the outcomes listed above.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

We keep the case on the active case load until we feel victim safety has been stabilized to a reasonable level.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

JGCC has recently received an OVW grant that will allow the agency to provide a limited amount of training and technical assistance at no fee to some OVW funded communities. We also offer fee based training.

Name	Lynn High Risk Team
Contact	Sheila Radziewicz
Phone Number	978-744-2299
Email	sheilar@hawcdv.org
Lead Agency	HAWC/DA's Office
Address	27 Congress Street, Salem, 01970

Program Description: The team meets monthly to discuss new cases and accepted cases. Discussion by the team explores ways the team can best support the victim, needs of the victim, and specific concerns for the safety of the victim.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Lynn, Nahant, Marblehead, Saugus, Swampscott

Members & Partnering Organizations: HAWC, DA's Office, Probation, Police Departments, Probate, DCF, and Neighborhood Legal Services

Funding & Staffing: There is no formal funding.

Obstacles/Barriers: There have been no major obstacles. However, a potential obstacle is that continued participation may be threatened by dwindling resources.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Member participation is the key thing needed for continued success.

Key to Success: The commitment of all member agencies is the key to success.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it? Our team accepts cases when there are activities that the team can do to enhance victim safety and batterer accountability.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender? The member signs a confidentiality form.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? If the victim's safety has been enhanced and we have been able to connect that person to resources, that is a successful outcome.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The team reviews cases monthly and as long as one member is providing services that case stays active.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Yes, we do training about our Program and there is a charge.

Name	Salem High Risk Team
Contact	Mary-Alice Doyle
Phone Number	978-745-6610
Email	mary-alice.doyle@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Essex DA Office
Address	10 Federal Street, Salem 01970

Program Description: The team meets monthly to discuss new cases and accepted cases. Discussion by the team includes exploring ways the team can best support the victim, specific needs of the victim and specific concerns for the victim.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Beverly, Danvers, Manchester, Middleton, Salem

Members & Partnering Organizations: DA’s Office, HAWC, Police Departments, Probation, Probate Court, and Sheriff’s Department

Funding & Staffing: There is no formal funding.

Obstacles/Barriers: There have been no major obstacles.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Consistent member participation is critical to continued success.

Key to Success: Commitment of all member agencies and the willingness to share information as well as the trust built up by meeting consistently.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?
 The victim needs to be working with a member agency. After looking at the following high risk factors, if enough are present, we refer to the Team for acceptance to the Program.

Increase physical violence (severity or frequency) over time	Victim believes the perpetrator will kill her/him	Recent separation
Availability/Ownership of weapons	Forced sex	Hostage-taking, Abduction or Stalking
Strangulation or suffocation	Threats of homicide/suicide	Threats to harm the children
Child in the home is not perpetrators	Drug/alcohol abuse	Abuse during pregnancy
Violent & constant jealousy	Perpetrator is unemployed	Animal abuse

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender? This varies according to victim needs and current status of the presented case. Services and actions are based on victim needs and what each individual Team member can do to assist the victim.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? There are many definitions of success and of course each case is different. We hope through our connections that victims are safer and batterers are held accountable.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender? We continue services and follow-up until the case comes off the list based on victim safety and offender accountability for open criminal charges. There is absolutely NO set period of time to work with a victim. Someone can also be put back on the list if necessary.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee? We are not in the position to do training, but are willing to speak with others to discuss the value of the team.

[Franklin County](#)

See Hampshire County under Northwestern DA's Office Domestic Violence High Risk Response Team

[Hampden County](#)

Index:

- Chicopee- STOP Team 2
- Springfield-STOP Team 1

Name	STOP TEAM 2 – Chicopee / Holyoke
Contact	Tina Walker / Melissa Doran
Phone Number	413-505-5651
Email	tina.walker@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Hampden DA's Office
Address	50 State Street, Springfield, 01102

Program Description: We are primarily a law enforcement team organized to enhance victim safety by coordinating a response which identifies and flags high-risk DV offenders in order to track them, monitor them, respond quickly to new incidents of abuse and take appropriate action to hold them responsible, while at the same time securing the needed services and support to protect the victim.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Holyoke, Chicopee, Palmer, Ludlow, East Longmeadow

Members & Partnering Organizations: District Attorney’s Office, Sheriff’s Department, Police Departments, Probation Departments, Parole, YWCA/ Womanshelter-Compañeras, DCF

Funding & Staffing: The District Attorney allocates three staff members to the STOP Teams, a lead prosecutor, an advocate, and a support staff coordinator. The Team ran for three years with no funding, however, we recently received STOP monies to partially fund a DV prosecutor, staff person, two community advocates, and Byrne money to partially fund a DV Counselor to provide services for offenders at the house of correction.

Obstacles/Barriers: High volume of high risk offenders in our area.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: We need our funding to continue in order to proceed with our work and continue to expand our catchment area, as well as continued cooperation from the members of the team.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?
The offender must present 3 or more of the high risk criteria we have agreed on.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

We first complete a needs assessment of the situation in its current state and communicate with the applicable parties, and proceed to take any steps necessary towards offender accountability and victim safety.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We need to develop specific performance measures; however, anecdotally, we have had many positive individual and systemic outcomes.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

We are currently working with the parties as long as needed.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Yes we will train on our Program and there is no fee.

Name	STOP TEAM 1 – Springfield
Contact	Tina Walker / Melissa Doran
Phone Number	413-505-5651
Email	tina.walker@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Hampden DA’s Office
Address	50 State Street, Springfield, 01102

Program Description: We are primarily a law enforcement team organized to enhance victim safety by coordinating a response which identifies and flags high-risk DV offenders in order to track them, monitor them, respond quickly to new incidents of abuse and take appropriate action to hold them responsible, while at the same time securing the needed services and support to protect the victim

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, Southwick, Longmeadow, Agawam, Russell Barracks, and the Hill towns

Members & Partnering Organizations: District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Police Departments, Probation Departments, Parole, YWCA/ Womanshelter-Compañeras, DCF

Funding & Staffing: The District Attorney allocates three staff members to the STOP Teams, a lead prosecutor, an advocate, and a support staff coordinator. The Team ran for three years with no funding, however we recently received STOP monies to partially fund a DV prosecutor, staff person, two community advocates, and Byrne money to partially fund a DV Counselor to provide services for offenders at the house of correction.

Obstacles/Barriers: High volume of high risk offenders in our area.

Key to Success: We need our funding to continue in order to proceed with our work and continue to expand our catchment area, as well as continued cooperation from the members of the team.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?
The offender must present 3 or more of the high risk criteria we have agreed on.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?
We first complete a needs assessment of the situation in its current state and communicate with the applicable parties, and proceed to take any steps necessary towards offender accountability and victim safety.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?
We need to develop specific performance measures; however, anecdotally, we have had many positive individual and systemic outcomes.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?
We are currently working with the parties as long as needed.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?
Yes we will train on our Program and there is no fee.

Hampshire County

Index:

- Northwestern District Attorney's Domestic Violence High Risk Team

Name	Northwestern DA's Domestic Violence High Risk Team
Contact	Mary Kociela / Katie Rosewarne
Phone Number	413-774-3186 ext. 5903
Email	mary.a.kociela@state.ma.us ; Katie.Rosewarne@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Northwestern DA's Office
Address	13 Conway Street, Greenfield 01301

Program Description: This program is a collaboration of law enforcement, courts, and victim service providers who come together to identify and monitor domestic violence high risk offenders. The mission of the HRT is to hold offenders accountable and increase safety for victims, thereby reducing serious injury and homicide in domestic violence cases. The HRT began reviewing cases in 2010 and is funded through an Improving Criminal Justice Response Grant (ICJR-formerly Grants to Encourage Arrest), and the Office on Violence Against Women. The Northwestern District has two HRTs, one in Franklin County and one in Hampshire County. Each team meets every other month, alternating counties.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: This program covers 47 towns in Hampshire and Franklin County, including the town of Athol.

Members & Partnering Organizations: Partners include representation from 5 MA State Police Barracks, 45 municipal police departments, Dispatch, DCF, Probation, Parole, Franklin County & Hampshire County Sheriffs' Office, Victim Witness Advocates, assigned DV prosecutors, local battered women's agencies (NELCWIT, Safe Passage, YWCA, CWC, The Women's Center), and local batterer's intervention program (Moving Forward Program and Proteus).

Funding & Staffing: An ICJR Grant funds a full-time High Risk Team Coordinator at 37.5 hours/week and a full-time DV Victim Witness Advocate, who are both employed by the Northwestern DA's Office. The HRTC position is responsible for gathering information on incoming referrals and preparing presentations for HRT meetings. The Coordinator also collaborates with HRT partners in an effort to ensure that team recommendations are being implemented on all HRO's and victims are provided with safe and confidential support services. The Coordinator also maintains the high risk offender files and database for tracking project statistics.

Obstacles/Barriers: During the development of this program, the obstacles that were faced included victim confidentiality and notification, team make-up, identification

process for HRO's, and with whom to share information. Current obstacles include fostering consistent collaboration and communication among project partners and the ability to obtain timely documentation when requested outside of our jurisdiction.

Success Factors: Having probation join the team, collaboration with parole and the house of correction, and training all first responders (including bail commissioners) in risk assessment and how to make referrals has contributed to the program's success.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Funding
2. Promoting ongoing team vitality by strengthening roles and participation among project partners
3. Tracking data to inform practice and identify gaps and successes

Key to Success: Some keys to our success included having a solid groundwork of working together established through prior work of the safety audit team, having a grant funded coordinator position, and always maintaining victim safety and offender accountability as primary project goals.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Yes, there are criteria to classify victims and offenders. The team uses research based lethality risk assessment criteria to make decisions. Some of the high risk behaviors that the team looks for in intimate partner domestic violence cases are: threats to kill, strangulation, use or threat to use a weapon, suicidal ideation/mental health issues, escalation of violence, history of intimate partner violence (multiple victims/restraining orders), child abuse or violence during pregnancy, animal abuse, sexual assault, alcohol or substance abuse, stalking behaviors, and visible injuries.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

When an offender is added, the HRT Coordinator informs all partners of new high risk offenders and ensures that all recommendations that were discussed at the HRT meeting are communicated to the necessary project partners. For example: local law enforcement, the probation department where the offender is being supervised, the Sheriff's Office (if the offender is incarcerated,) and all bail commissioners receive notification when an offender is classified. There are standard recommendations that are implemented on all HRO's as well as individual recommendations that are made case by case. Victim service providers are also informed in order to re-evaluate safety plans. The Coordinator creates a file for the offender and scans all police reports that have been obtained so that prosecutors and victim witness advocates can quickly access such information for priority prosecution purposes.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

Criteria used to measure success include: probation violations on a classified offender, increased or revoked bail, guilty verdicts as a result of priority prosecution, incarceration, found dangerous 58A hearing or denied parole.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person- either victim or offender?

Yes, there is continued follow-up to ensure the offender is being held accountable and that the victim and community are safe. Prosecutors are informed as to *any* new criminal charges, not only DV, and the information is scanned to the ADA folders. As of now, when an offender is classified “high risk”, the HRT Coordinator will track the offender until the offender is no longer living. If an offender is on “watch” they will be removed after 5 years if there are no new offenses.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Yes, we will train others and at no cost.

Middlesex County

Index:

- Ayer District Court High Risk Response Team;
- Cambridge, Arlington and Belmont High Risk and Response Team- CABHART
- Central Middlesex Assessment for Safety Team- CMAST- CMAST
- Framingham High Risk Team
- Greater Lowell Evaluation and Advocacy Network
- Malden High Risk Team
- Somerville High Risk Team
- Stoneham High Risk Team

Name	Ayer District Court High Risk Team
Contact	Karen Riley-McNary / Amarely Gutierrez / Felicia Sullivan
Phone Number	508-767-2505 ext. 3075
Email	agutierrez@ywcacentralmass.org ; krileymcnary@ywcacentralmass.org
Lead Agency	YWCA Central MA Domestic Violence Services
Address	54 Main Street Suite 001, Leominster, 01453 1 Salem Square, Worcester, 01608

Program Description: The Ayer District Court High Risk Response Team was established in 2008. The team provides a structure that delivers necessary services, identifies “high risk cases” and creates a vehicle for communication among disciplines to encourage an effective response to domestic violence. The team provides training to members on the High Risk model as well as an environment for members to coordinate and communicate information. It also serves to provide appropriate intervention and to contain and monitor offenders to keep victims and their children safe. There is no funding for this team. Meetings are held monthly on the last Thursday of each month at the Ayer

police department. There are formalized Memorandums of Understanding which are signed by the Chiefs of each police department, the DA Supervisor, and the organizations' Executive Directors. (This program is willing to share the MOU.)

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Ashby, Townsend, Pepperell, Groton, Shirley, Ayer, Devens, Littleton, Dunstable and Westford

Members & Partnering Organizations: Local police departments, State Police, Ayer DC Probation Department, victim witness advocates, Middlesex DA's Office, YWCA of Central Massachusetts DVS, Spectrum-P.A.V.E., DTA, and Nashoba Valley Medical Center, Parole Victim Services

Funding & Staffing: We receive no funding for the program. One to two employees are committed to assist and support this project at this time. The Director of DV services oversees the program and attends as needed. Manager of Intervention Services or designee attends all HRT meetings and coordinates with team directly, providing notes and reminders of meeting times etc.

Obstacles/Barriers: There is no funding to get one employee fulltime and dedicated to assist with gathering data and outcomes for the team mentioned above. Presently we coordinate the meetings and update everyone involved via phone or email, but would like to focus on outcomes and data. While developing this program, some obstacles that arose were regular attendance at meetings, participation, use of forms, overall communication throughout the month and receiving updated information for the coordinator. A current obstacle to maintaining the program is ensuring consistent participation.

Success Factors: This team has continued to provide support to each other and obtain feedback that can assist in holding the perpetrator accountable. Longevity, development of a cohesive team, and good tracking are the successes of this program.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Need to follow up with police departments more than we have been doing in order to keep them engaged. Need to dedicate a fulltime employee to assist with data/outcome and coordination of the HRT. Need some sort of alternate funding for police to be able to attend. Presently they may have only one police officer available to attend court or HRT.

1. Continued commitment of members
2. Evidence of effectiveness
3. Submission/reporting to Coordinator of case updates

Key to Success: Consistent leadership and tracking of cases.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Criteria include indicators on the Risk Assessment Form as well as known history of offender. Most of our team members work in rural areas where offenders are well known to police.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

YWCA of Central Massachusetts DVS provides outreach to the victim. Local police coordinate response as many of the offenders cross jurisdictional lines (again, typical of rural areas), probation officers coordinate conditions of probation as often there are multiple offenses out of different courts.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have no quality outcome indicators set. We are working on how to determine measurable outcomes

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The perpetrator stays on our list until the case has been closed by the DA’s Office. We then place them on a different list but continue to follow them to review for new offenses. For victims, we work with them for as long as they need us to.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We can assist anyone that is willing to train with us. We don’t charge.

Name	Cambridge, Arlington and Belmont High Risk and Response Team – CABHART
Contact	Rebecca Jones
Phone Number	781-686-5084
Email	rjones@riversidecc.org
Lead Agency	Riverside Community Care
Address	111 South Street, Somerville, 02143

Contacts: Rebecca Jones, Direct Care Coordinator CABHART at Riverside Community Care / Alyssa Donovan, Victim Advocate at Cambridge Police Department / Valerie Druckenmiller, Community Advocate & Community Support Partnership at Transition House

Contact: Alyssa Donovan, Victim Advocate at Cambridge Police Department

Phone Number: 617-349-3371

Email Address: adonovan@cambridgepolice.org

Address: 125 6th Street **City:** Cambridge **Zip:** 02141

Contact: Valerie Druckenmiller, Community Advocate & Community Support Partnership at Transition House

Phone Number: 617-868-1650

Email Address: valeried@transitionhouse.org

Address: PO Box 392016 **City:** Cambridge **Zip:** 02139

Program Description: A multi-agency collaboration to identify individuals at the highest risk of lethality due to domestic violence. The team identifies offenders who pose the greatest risk of harm through initial and continued assessment. The team jointly intervenes in these cases, increasing safety for the survivor and accountability of the abuser through a coordinated community approach.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Cambridge, Arlington and Belmont

Members & Partnering Organizations: Arlington Police Department, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC), Cambridge and Somerville Elder Services, Community Legal Services and Counseling Center, Cambridge District Court Probation Department, Cambridge Health Alliance, Cambridge Public Health Department, Cambridge Women's Commission, Community Legal Services and Counseling Center, Department of Children and Families, EMERGE, Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project, Harvard Legal Aid, Harvard Women's Services, Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers, Massachusetts Parole Board, Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Middlesex Probate and Family Court, Mt. Auburn Hospital, REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, RESPOND, Transition House, Riverside Community Care

Funding & Staffing: Currently funded through 2018 by a grant from MOVA. The Guidance Center at Riverside Community Care has requested funding from FY2019-2023 from MOVA and is awaiting response in March 2018.

Obstacles/Barriers: Stable Funding

Success Factors: The presence of a large group of committed agencies that have a long history of functioning well together as well as varied resources in the community. The team has screened in from its beginning in 2008 until now 199 new clients. Currently, there are 63 active high risk clients.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Increased participation of other agencies that are not currently involved
2. Continued addressing service gaps in the system
3. Continued cooperation between existing members. Continued support by leaders of the partner agencies which will encourage others.

Key to Success: Commitment and willingness of Team members to go the extra mile for our high risk clients and providing wrap around services to the families.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?
Yes, we use a version of the Jackie Campbell lethality assessment. Cases are accepted, monitored or pending for additional information.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person - either victim or offender?

Specific members of the team are assigned to work on each case depending on the needs of the survivor.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

If the survivor reports that the team supported them in whatever decision that they made. Success is determined by the ability to increase safety for the victims and accountability for the offenders through the courts and law enforcement. The number of referrals to the team and the outcomes of the work by different team members are the important criteria. Also, there is no lethality to this date amongst the program participants since the team’s inception.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

Cases may be classified as inactive but always monitored for additional supports or needs of the survivor. Offenders continued to be tracked after being on the high risk roster. Often times individuals determined to be in the “inactive” category become “active” again with new incidents.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We will train on our program’s model and if there is a fee that the agency would like to give us we will accept it to use for program participants’ needs. We offered many free training in the past.

Name	Central Middlesex Assessment for Safety Team – CMAST
Contact	Jacquelin Apsler / Alison Tarmy
Phone Number	978-318-3441 781-687-6187 ext. 119
Email	apsler@verizon.net ; atarmy@police.bedfordma.gov
Lead Agency	Domestic Violence Services Network, Inc. (DVSN)
Address	P.O. Box 536, Concord, 01742

Program Description: The Central Middlesex Assessment for Safety Team provides a formal process of communication and coordination among team members to identify victims who are at the greatest risk and to monitor offenders who pose a threat to them.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Acton, Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, Hanscom Air Force Base, (HAFB) Lexington, Lincoln, Maynard and Stow

*When appropriate, DVSN staff does participate with the Ayer Court, **the Framingham Court and the Waltham Court** high risk teams. **Three** additional towns, **Boxborough, Wayland, and Weston** are part of our DVSN coalition. When their cases are deemed high risk, we will participate with their team members if need be.*

Members & Partnering Organizations: DVSN's Executive Director, DVSN's **Director of Client Services**, Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Concord District Court ADA, Concord District Court Victim Witness Advocate, Concord District Court Probation, MA Parole Board, **Sheriff's Office, Billerica House of Correction VWA, and Police officers, detectives and/or command staff** from the Acton, Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, HAFB, Lexington, Lincoln, Maynard, and Stow Police Departments

Funding & Staffing: DVSN funds the process **via grants** and donations.

Obstacles/Barriers: Nothing substantial at the moment. Consistent use of the new high risk forms is a small challenge. Funding the agency is the biggest ongoing challenge.

Success Factors: Committed, consistent participation by 9 police departments, court officials, and the Middlesex District Attorney's Office.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued commitment by police
2. Continued commitment from the court
3. Continued commitment from Middlesex DA's Office officials.

Key to Success:

1. An incredibly supportive and productive partnership with **12** police departments, the Concord District Court officials, and the DA's Office.
2. Careful research and development of the program building on lessons learned and best practices developed by earlier teams.
3. A well-designed training program that implemented new high risk forms for nearly 300 police officers and dispatchers and over 75 HAFB Security Forces.
4. The strong support of our **12** police chiefs and other command staff as part of our Police Chiefs Council.
5. The expertise of Chief Kevin Mooney of Lincoln, Sgt. Jack Kennedy of Concord, and ADA Suzanne Kontz in helping DVSN to develop and implement the training, the forms, and the CMAST program.
6. Highly committed and dedicated DVSN staff and volunteers.
7. Previous funding from a DOJ grant in order to provide the necessary extensive training of our police and security forces.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

High risk factors as identified on our high risk forms, discussion by all the team members, and a vote to include an offender on our monitoring list.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

There is discussion of specifics regarding the offender including identification of procedures involved and probable next steps if there is a court case. There are also monthly reviews and updates of specifics related to the offender, changes in court dates, changes in addresses, new charges or incidents, etc. Information about victims is not discussed **by service providers** at the CMAST meeting. Advocates contact the identified victim separately from the CMAST meeting **to offer appropriate resources and referrals to meet their complex multiplicity of needs.**

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? Coordination and collaboration allows for more careful monitoring of offenders to minimize, mitigate, and/or eliminate the risk they pose to their victims.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender? Offenders stay on the list and are reviewed monthly. If they wish, victims are connected to services outside of the CMAST team.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee? We have willingly reported on our program when asked, but we have not had time to discuss the possibility of formally training others for a fee. We are amenable to doing so.

Name	Framingham High Risk Team
Contact	Tracey McHugh
Phone Number	508-820-0834 ext. 2112
Email	tmchugh@smoc.org
Lead Agency	Voices Against Violence
Address	7 Bishop Street, Framingham, 01702

Program Description: Voices Against Violence provides information, counseling and support to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence and their significant others in the Metro-west area. All our services are free and confidential regardless of race, religion, age, income, or sexual orientation.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Framingham, Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Sudbury, Dover, Framingham, Natick, Sherborn, Wayland and Weston

Members & Partnering Organizations: Framingham Police, Holliston Police, Wayland Police, Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Parole Board, District Court Probation, Ashland Police, Sudbury Police, Hopkinton Police, Framingham State University Police, Spectrum Health Services, and the Mass Parole Board.

Funding & Staffing: Funding provided by United Way for one staff member.

Obstacles/Barriers: Keeping attendance and usefulness for participants in addition to survivor participation.

Success Factors: Working collaboratively as a team and developing effective professional connections. We have had many positive outcomes with our cases due to the team's fantastic ability to work collectively.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

We are looking into more effective best practices around providing support to the survivors of our cases. It is been proven that the more engaged a survivor is in supportive services the more likely they are to participate in the criminal justice process. Increasing survivor safety and offender accountability.

Key to Success:

A mutually respectful team and a clear direction and purpose of the team lead to success.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

When any team member has a case that they feel is appropriate for the team, the member presents the case and its details and the team determines whether it will be screened in or put on "watch status."

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

That varies depending on the specifics of the case. Things that are considered: are there charges?; is the victim interested in services?; is there a RO?; what is the history of the case (have there been experiences with other members with the offender or survivor)?

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

The ideal is that the victim is able to maintain his/her supports in the community, get support from VAV, and heal from abuse, while the offender is held accountable for the incident, either through jail time and/or probation.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

Yes, if the victim wants services, we will support them throughout the whole criminal justice process, provide counseling and advocacy and any other identified services that would be beneficial. It is often very beneficial for the victim that the victim service agency provide support through the process and long after, if need be.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Sure. In the past, we have provided consultation at no cost.

Name	Greater Lowell Evaluation and Advocacy Network (GLEAN)
Contact	Kathy Kelley
Phone Number	978-458-0274
Email	altorg1@aol.com
Lead Agency	Alternative House
Address	517 Moody Street, Lowell, 01854

Program Description: The Program was developed for public and private stakeholders to better identify and respond to domestic violence cases that pose the highest risk of lethality. The Program works to protect and serve high risk victims through a collaborative, holistic approach.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Lowell

Members & Partnering Organizations: Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, Lowell Police Department, Alternative House, Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, Center for Hope and Healing, International Institute of New England, Merrimack Valley Legal Services, Lowell District Court Probation Department, Lowell Housing Authority, Lowell Senior Center, Lowell Alliance for Families and Neighborhoods, Lowell National Historical Park, Department of Children and Families, Community Teamwork Inc., Greater Lowell Technical High School, Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell General Hospital, Holy Family Hospital (Family Safety Project), MSPCC Healthy Families Lowell, UMass Lowell, Massachusetts Parole Board, Middlesex Sheriff’s Office, Massachusetts Department of Correction

Funding & Staffing: There is no funding for GLEAN and all of the staff that are part of this team are volunteering their time.

Obstacles/Barriers: Lack of funding, high risk/domestic violence training for agencies, knowledge of the team, releases of information.

Success Factors: Agency participation & support for community organizations, presentation of cases leading to the offering of resources to clients in need, collaboration between law enforcement and service providers.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Funding, High Risk Training, Consistency in agency attendance and participation.

Key to Success: Agency participation, presentations of cases,

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person- either victim or offender? : For offenders, law enforcement collaborates on ways to locate, contain or provide important information regarding the containment of this person. For victims, if it is needed, agencies that provide the service the victim needs will come together and create a service plan and decide how to best offer services to the victim. Updates on these types of cases are given monthly.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? We use a high risk assessment tool.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person- either victim or offender?: They are categorized as "high risk" or "watch list" and that determines the follow up. The high risk persons are discussed and a plan of action is put together immediately. The watch list (offender is in jail, victim is out of state or in shelter, etc.), periodically updates status of the individuals to ensure the case does not become a high risk situation.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?: We have no specific training model or materials. We are in the process of obtaining training for our team now.

Name	Malden High Risk Team (Team 5.0)
Contact	Amanda Reichmuth
Phone Number	617-625-5996
Email	amanda@respondinc.org
Lead Agency	RESPOND, Inc.
Address	PO Box 555, Somerville, 02143

Program Description: The Malden High Risk Team was started in 2016 due to the number of cases being handled by the Somerville High Risk Team from this jurisdiction. Its goals are to identify significant risk, lethality/harm, provide coordinated community responses, support the survivor, seek to hold offenders accountable, raise community awareness and resources, and identify gaps in the system. The team meets on a monthly basis, or as needed to address emergency situations.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Malden, Melrose, Wakefield and Everett

Members & Partnering Organizations: Middlesex DA's office, Elliot Batterer Intervention Program, legal services for immigration or family issues, parole officers, Malden, Melrose, and Wakefield Police Departments, Probation, Department of Children & Families, Elder Services, Cambridge Health Alliance and other community agencies as needed.

Funding & Staffing: The Malden team benefits from our contract with Malden PD and VAWA for the services of our High Risk Program Coordinator to the survivors in these towns through the police department offices. It contains approximately twenty-one positions in-kind from other agencies, such as Victim/Witness Advocates and Assistant District Attorneys from the DA's office, RESPOND's High Risk Program Coordinator, and a detective sergeant from the police departments as well as staff members from the above partnering agencies and organizations.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the development stage of the program, there were difficulties getting the program off the ground due to lack of funding. Funding continues to be an obstacle in continuing the program, and potential changes in leadership could affect the success of the program as well.

Success Factors: The coordination efforts of the team has resulted in a number of survivor success stories as well as created great relationships between member agencies and organizations, which continues to support success within the team.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued participation by range of participants
2. Leaders need to buy into the program in order to encourage others
3. Systemic approach – a model that shifts to offender accountability

Key to Success: The continued level of commitment by members and the relationship between the partnering agencies. An incredibly supportive and productive partnership with member police departments, the District Court officials, and the DA's Office Building and sustaining these relationships is key in victim safety/offender accountability.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

An intake and offender information is submitted to the team coordinator and the case is presented, utilizing the Jacquelyn Campbell Danger Assessment, to the team at the next meeting or sooner if the situation calls for immediate response. We use the lethality factors contained in the dangerousness assessment tool, as well as a review of the criminal history and additional police reports available to us to assess danger/ potential lethality. We accept cases by vote after a careful review of available information, not just basing the decision off the risk assessment but taking into account prior criminal history, severity of violence and other safety factors.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

Each case and circumstance is unique, and therefore calls upon the expertise of the different members of the team. The goal is twofold: victim safety and offender containment. Law enforcement officials work to utilize their skills and expertise to monitor the offender, and social service agencies work to support the victim.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

Safety is measured individually, on a case-by-case basis. General outcomes include the victim being safe and able to reside in their community, and the offender being held accountable for their actions (incarceration, bracelet, etc.) We are more often able to keep the victim in their community, and work to create stability for the family by working to allow safe continued connection to support systems whenever possible.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The client is able to connect with the team on an on-going basis until there is resolution. The survivor is able to continue working with the member agencies as long as they would like/need support. Specifically with Respond, Inc. our High Risk Program Coordinator located at Malden PD, Wakefield PD and Melrose PD continues to be available for support.

Do you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

The team is willing to send delegates to train others. There is no fee.

Name	Somerville High Risk Team
Contact	Amanda Reichmuth
Phone Number	617-625-5996
Email	amanda@respondinc.org
Lead Agency	RESPOND, Inc.
Address	PO Box 555, Somerville, 02143

Program Description: The Somerville High Risk Team has been in existence since 2008. Its goals are to identify significant risk, lethality/harm, provide coordinated community responses, support the survivor, seek to hold offenders accountable, raise community awareness and resources, and identify gaps in the system. The team meets on a monthly basis, or as needed to address emergency situations.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Somerville and Medford

Members & Partnering Organizations: Middlesex DA’s office, Batterer Intervention Program, legal services for immigration or family issues, parole officers, Somerville Police Department, Medford Police Department, Probation, Department of Children & Families, the Guidance Center (overseen by Riverside), Elder Services, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Cambridge Health Alliance, Community Action Agency of Somerville, the City of Somerville, and other community agencies as needed.

Funding & Staffing: The Somerville team is not funded through any program. It contains approximately twenty-one positions in-kind from other agencies, such as Victim/Witness Advocates and Assistant District Attorneys from the DA’s office, High

Risk Program Coordinator from RESPOND, and a detective, sergeant, and civilian advocate from the police department, as well as staff members from the above partnering agencies and organizations.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the development stage of the program, there were difficulties getting the program off the ground due to lack of funding. It's also a challenge to encourage partners to commit to a more formalized program. Funding continues to be an obstacle in continuing the program, and potential changes in leadership could affect the success of the program as well.

Success Factors: The coordination efforts of the team has resulted in a number of survivor success stories as well as created great relationships between member agencies and organizations, which continues to support success within the team.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued participation by range of participants
2. Leaders need to buy into the program in order to encourage others
3. Systemic approach – a model that shifts to offender accountability

Key to Success: The continued level of commitment by members and the relationship between the partnering agencies. An incredibly supportive and productive partnership with member police departments, the District Court officials, and the DA's Office Building and sustaining these relationships is key in victim safety/offender accountability.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

An intake and offender information is submitted to the team coordinator and the case is presented, utilizing the Jacquelyn Campbell Danger Assessment, to the team at the next meeting or sooner if the situation calls for immediate response. We use the lethality factors contained in the dangerousness assessment tool, as well as a review of the criminal history and additional police reports available to us to assess danger/ potential lethality. We accept cases by vote after a careful review of available information, not just basing the decision off the risk assessment but taking into account prior criminal history, severity of violence and other safety factors.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

Each case and circumstance is unique, and therefore calls upon the expertise of the different members of the team. The goal is twofold: victim safety and offender containment. Law enforcement officials work to utilize their skills and expertise to monitor the offender, and social service agencies work to support the victim.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

Safety is measured individually, on a case-by-case basis. General outcomes include the victim being safe and able to reside in their community, and the offender being held accountable for their actions (incarceration, bracelet, etc.) We are more often able to keep

the victim in their community, and work to create stability for the family by working to allow safe continued connection to support systems whenever possible.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The client is able to connect with the team on an on-going basis until there is resolution. The survivor is able to continue working with the member agencies as long as they would like/need support.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

The team is willing to send delegates to train others. There is no fee.

Name	Stoneham High Risk Team
Contact	Amanda Reichmuth
Phone Number	617-625-5996
Email	amanda@respondinc.org
Lead Agency	RESPOND, Inc.
Address	PO Box 555, Somerville, 02143

Program Description: The goals are to identify significant risk, lethality/harm, provide coordinated community responses, support the survivor, hold offenders accountable, raise community awareness and resources, and identify gaps in the system. The team meets on a monthly basis, or as needed.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Stoneham, North Reading, Reading, Burlington, Woburn, Winchester, Wilmington.

Members & Partnering Organizations: Middlesex DA’s office, Batterer Intervention Program, legal services for immigration or family issues, parole officers, RAC, Stoneham, North Reading, Reading, Burlington, Woburn, Winchester, Wilmington Police Departments, Probation, Department of Children & Families, DTA, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Hospitals, Clinics RESPOND Inc., REACH, and Saheli.

Funding & Staffing: The Stoneham team is not funded through any program. It contains approximately twenty-one positions in-kind from other agencies, such as Victim/Witness Advocates and Assistant District Attorneys from the DA’s office, High Risk Program Coordinator from RESPOND, and a detective, sergeant, and civilian advocate from the police department, as well as staff members from the above partnering agencies and organizations.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the development stage of the program, there were difficulties getting the program off the ground due to lack of funding. Now that the program has funding, it is a challenge to encourage partners to commit to a more formalized program.

Funding continues to be an obstacle in continuing the program, and potential changes in leadership could affect the success of the program as well.

Success Factors: The coordination efforts of the team have resulted in a number of survivor success stories and created great relationships between member agencies and organizations, which continues to foster success within the team.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued participation by range of participants
2. Leaders need to buy in to the program in order to encourage others
3. Systemic approach – a model that shifts to offender accountability

Key to Success: The continued level of commitment by members and the relationship between the partnering agencies. An incredibly supportive and productive partnership with member police departments, the District Court officials, and the DA's Office Building and sustaining these relationships is key in victim safety/offender accountability.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

An intake and offender information is submitted to the team coordinator and the case is presented, utilizing the Jacquelyn Campbell Danger Assessment, to the team at the next meeting or sooner if the situation calls for immediate response. We use the lethality factors contained in the dangerousness assessment tool, as well as a review of the criminal history and additional police reports available to us to assess danger/ potential lethality. We accept cases by vote after a careful review of available information, not just basing the decision off the risk assessment but taking into account prior criminal history, severity of violence and other safety factors.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

Each case and circumstance is unique, and therefore calls upon the expertise of the different members of the team. The goal is twofold: victim safety and offender containment. Law enforcement officials work to utilize their skills and expertise to monitor the offender, and social service agencies work to support the victim.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

Safety is measured individually, on a case-by-case basis. General outcomes include the victim being safe and able to reside in their community, and the offender being held accountable for their actions (incarceration, bracelet, etc.) We are more often able to keep the victim in their community, and work to create stability for the family by working to allow safe continued connection to support systems whenever possible.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The client is able to connect with the team on an on-going basis until there is resolution. The survivor is able to continue working with the member agencies as long as they would like/need support.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

The team is willing to send delegates to train others. There is no fee.

Norfolk County

Index:

- Norfolk County High Risk Assessment Program

Name	Norfolk County High Risk Assessment Program
Contact	Lisa Beatty / Megan Cronin
Phone Number	781-830-4800 ext. 301
Email	lisa.beatty@state.ma.us ; megan.cronin@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Norfolk DA's Office
Address	45 Shawmut Road, Canton, 02021

Program Description: In May 2008, the Norfolk County DA's Office implemented a High Risk Assessment Program, a collaborative, multi-disciplinary review of serious domestic violence cases. The program formally unites assistant district attorneys, victim witness advocates, probation and parole officers, battered women's shelter agencies, social workers, batterer's treatment providers, DCF staff, and law enforcement officers. The team meets monthly to discuss high risk cases in the county. The team works together regarding victim safety planning, child protection, offender treatment, and offender accountability. All meetings are held at the Norfolk DA's Office and all administrative support is provided by the DA's Office.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: All towns in Norfolk County

Members & Partnering Organizations: Norfolk County DA's Office, police, probation, DOVE, DCF

Funding & Staffing: The program does not receive any outside funding. Each partner agency contributes staff and time, with the Norfolk DA's Office serving as the lead agency providing a meeting place and administrative support. Some of the participants hold Office of Violence Against Women grant-funded positions but they are in kind from other agencies. The coordinator of the program is provided by the DA's Office.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the development stage of the program, it was difficult to determine the structure of the program and how each member could participate without breaching any confidentiality agreements. There were also many discussions on the high-risk factors and how cases were going to be reviewed. The program is continually facing obstacles regarding budgetary constraints as it is not funded, and it would be more beneficial to the program if it had staff specifically assigned to administratively track the cases from initial report through and after disposition.

Success Factors: The information-sharing portion of the program has resulted in increased offender accountability by coordinating efforts to build stronger cases against batterers, as well as coordinating efforts to provide shelter and safety for the victim. The program also helped identify training needs in the community.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued support of all partner agencies and full attendance at all high risk monthly program meetings
2. The availability of strong domestic violence victim witness advocates, victim service organizations, and shelter providers
3. Strong oversight of high risk offender cases by specialized domestic violence prosecutors, law enforcement officers, probation officers, and batterer's intervention counselors

Key to Success: The key to the success stems from the strong cooperative relationship that previously existed for over 30 years with the community domestic violence partners. The DA's office has specialized domestic violence ADAs and victim/witness advocates including an advocate in the probate court that monitor the high risk cases through the court process; the local and state departments have been trained to identify high risk cases and deal with the complex issues that may arise in these cases; there is a domestic violence session in Quincy District Court that exclusively handles these cases and the county has strong probation departments, batterer's programs, and victim service organizations. When the high risk program was initially discussed, the program found overwhelming support and continues to be successful due to the quality of the participants.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

The Norfolk High Risk team reviews any case submitted by its members. The submitting member fills out a form identifying the high risk factors that are present in each case. The case is then discussed by the team and a plan of action is put in place.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

The team reviews the case and the Norfolk District Attorney's Office facilitates the discussion. The team discuss safety planning, the impact on children in the home, how to best hold the offender accountable for his behavior, victim outreach and services, and potential for offender counseling. A follow-up plan is formulated and the case is reviewed as needed.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have seen success in a variety of different ways including victims receiving much needed services, victims obtaining shelter, DCF opening a case and providing family services, batterers receiving lengthy jail sentences or ordered into batterer’s intervention programs, information sharing between police departments strengthening prosecutions, and safety measures being implemented.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

Each case is treated on a case by case basis and the follow-up depends upon the circumstances of the case.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Yes, we will train on our Program and no fee is charged.

Plymouth County

Index:

- Safety First

Name	Safety First
Contact	Kristen Cipullo
Phone Number	N/A
Email	kristin.cipullo@state.ma.us
Lead Agency	Plymouth County DA’s Office
Address	32 Belmont Street, Brockton, 02301

Program Description: *Safety First* was established in 1999. It is a community-based program whose mission is to reduce domestic violence within Plymouth County through identifying, tracking, and monitoring repeat, serial batterers/offenders classified to the program. The Program was developed in the city of Brockton, but has recently expanded to cover all 27 towns in the county. There are four *Safety First* Teams, one in each of our district court jurisdictions. Although *Safety First* is an offender based program, through our focus on these offenders, we are able to provide wrap around services to the victims and their children. Classified offenders are monitored through monthly review of their criminal records identifying new criminal charges and restraining orders, enhanced prosecution of ALL criminal charges, creating Offender Files that include all police reports and 209As that are kept at both the courthouse and police departments, contacting the Parole Board prior to hearings, and informing other DA’s Offices when these offenders have cases in another jurisdiction and providing them with a copy of the *Safety First* Offender File.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Plymouth County (27 cities and towns)

Members & Partnering Organizations: The District Attorney's Office, local police departments, probation, parole, court personnel, DCF, DTA, U.S. Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Family & Community Resources, A New Day, and South Shore Women's Resource Center

Funding & Staffing: *Safety First* was originally funded in 1999 for approximately 3 years. The Program continued without funding until we received a Department of Justice Grant to Encourage Arrest in October 2011. These monies fund a High Risk Grant Manager who oversees two of the Teams as well as coordinates the other goals and objectives in the grant. The District Attorney funds the *Safety First* Administrator who coordinates and oversees the entire Program. All other partners are in-kind.

Obstacles/Barriers: In the beginning it was difficult to get understanding of the program and buy in from all agencies (i.e. police, courts, etc.). It was also difficult to get the different Batterer's Intervention Programs in the county to the table. As we expanded across the county one thing we found difficult was getting detailed program information disseminated to all staff from the partnering agencies, not just the identified team member.

Success Factors: The creation of a strong working relationship and communication system between the partners that improves all cases involving domestic violence, not just *Safety First* cases. Offender accountability has risen as higher bails are set, longer sentences are given and parole is being denied on the majority of these offenders due to information sharing.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Continued collaboration with all key agencies and full attendance at meetings
2. Dedicated admin/coordinator for the program
3. To maintain the targeted prosecution of these offenders.

Key to Success: The success of this program is due to the members who take the time to both attend these meetings and focus their time and energy on monitoring these offenders and increasing access to services for the victims of these offenders.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Offenders are classified to the Program if they have repeat domestic violence cases/restraining orders with the same victim or multiple victims, and we look for use and threat of use of a firearm, violence in front of children, strangulation and recent escalation. Victims are not classified to the Program, but their abusers are. Recommendations for classification come from police, parole, probation, DA's Office staff and advocates at community domestic violence advocacy agencies.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

When an offender is classified to the Program, an Offender File is created including all police reports and restraining orders/affidavits. These files are kept at the DA’s Office in the district courts and the local police departments to be used by all Team members. Once classified, an offender’s record is run monthly to monitor new criminal charges and restraining orders. Any criminal case, not just DV, is prosecuted with heightened awareness, and offenders are visited before release from incarceration. Parole is provided Offender Files for any hearings, and Probation/Parole heightens monitoring of the Offender. Services to victims are also heightened by increased communication and work by each team member focusing on what each individual needs to ensure safety.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome? Determining success can be on a case-by-case basis when an offender is incarcerated or a victim receives all necessary services. Success can also be seen when Team Members successfully communicate with each other immediately when an offender commits a new crime or a victim needs services.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The Offender is classified to the Program for life and is monitored monthly for new activity.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We will train anyone about our program and there is no fee.

Suffolk County

Index:

- CASA Divert High Risk Team- Community Awareness to Stop Abuse, Domestic Violence Intervention and Emergency Response Team
- DV Program – no official name

Name	Casa Divert High Risk Team
Contact	Robin Reid
Phone Number	617-466-4830
Email	rreid@chelseama.gov
Lead Agency	Chelsea Police Department
Address	19 Park Street, Chelsea, 02150

Program Description: The team meets once a month and has been in place since 2010. The goal of the team is to monitor high-risk offenders. The team takes referrals from different agencies and provides communication between all agencies to monitor high-risk offenders. The team also ensures that safety planning is put into place for victims and victims are getting the services they need.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop

Members & Partnering Organizations: Harbor COV, DA's Office, Probation, Batterer Intervention Programs, Department of Children & Families, MGH Haven (hospital based victim services)

Funding & Staffing: The program is funded by a DOJ grant to fund the High Risk team coordinator positions as well as training and community outreach. If funding were not to continue, the team most likely would, all members except for the coordinator are in-kind from partnering agencies. Each agency is responsible for different aspects of monitoring. Probation supervises offenders and serves domestic violence probation warrants, as well as attempts weekly visits if possible. Probation also requests incarceration and batterer intervention programs at incarceration. The DA's office and the police departments have similar responsibilities by monitoring offenders to see if new charges appear, and they request reports and 209As from courts. Parole keeps offender files to present to the parole board. Victim service agencies provide safety planning to the victim and coordinate release forms for confidentiality purposes. Batterer intervention programs provide services to the offenders and recommend offenders for review. All members attend monthly meetings as well as occasional trainings to determine high risk.

Obstacles/Barriers: The program faces challenges in coordinating trainings for three different police departments, as it is difficult to get everyone together at once. The program is young, so members are still putting together policies and procedures as well as getting the mission statement in place. The team is also attempting to put together an electronic SharePoint file system so that all files can be accessed remotely by members, as information can get lost in email and affect efficiency of the team.

Success Factors: The team has been responsible for the incarceration of one offender and has another going to trial soon, so it has been successful in ensuring offender accountability. It also has provided opportunities for increased communication between partnering agencies.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

1. Funding for trainings
2. Being able to get the Sheriff's Department involved
3. Being able to get the judges to understand the team and what it is about, even if the judges can't be a part of the team

Key to Success: The communication between the agencies and the ability to keep victims safe.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

The program is predominately offender based with a strong emphasis on victim safety. The CASA Divert team uses the following criteria to determine who will be on the list.

CASA DIVERT HIGH RISK FACTORS

- ❖ Strangulation
- ❖ Possible homicide
- ❖ One/Multiple Victims
- ❖ Firearms
- ❖ Sexual assault
- ❖ Children Victim/Witness

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

More often the area police departments (Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop) make referrals with Chelsea being the predominant contributor. Once a team member identifies a potential CASA Divert offender, everyone votes to monitor the person or place them on a ‘watch list’ for future potential offenses. Once identified the Program Coordinator runs the offender’s criminal record, pulls every report and affidavit on the BOP/CORI before each monthly meeting, and continues to do so until case disposition. The Program Coordinator then contacts the Sheriff’s Department if necessary to check on the status of the offender. The Program Coordinator is in the process of contacting Parole to invite them to monthly meetings as well as providing the CASA Divert folders for the DA and Parole.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

The team has simultaneous goals of victim safety and offender accountability (i.e. incarceration, batterers’ intervention etc.).

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

See above

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

Yes, I would assist in training about the CASA Divert program without a fee.

Name	DV Program (No Official Name)
Contact	Amy Harris
Phone Number	617-884-6829
Email	aharris@baycove.org
Lead Agency	Bay Cove Human Services
Address	100 Everett Avenue, Chelsea 02150

Program Description: This program is integrated with the Batterer Intervention and substance abuse programs. Clients undergo both evaluations; it has been found that many perpetrators have coexisting substance abuse issues. This program uses a unique integration. It also has the largest Spanish speaking program and has been around for

twenty years. The HRT meets twice a month, unless a high risk case comes up then it will meet more frequently.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: The Batterer's Intervention Services provide services to Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, Lynn, Malden, Everett, Medford, and referring courts in the greater Boston area.

Members & Partnering Organizations: The Bay Cove/Chelsea ASAP Batterers Intervention Program is part of a Massachusetts network of Batterer Intervention providers.

Funding & Staffing: Participant fees and the Department of Public Health fund this program. An alternative way to fund this program is through the Department of Children & Families contract, because the state funds indigent patients. There are four funded staff positions. The staff positions are a PT partner contact, 4 PT co-facilitators that participate in HRT about 12 hours per month, 20 hours per month are funded for oversight, and support staff is funded for 15 hours per month.

Obstacles/Barriers: This program started out small and everyone was well trained. The program had to form alliances with other programs and create a culture of support, this took about a year. There was also a need to train support staff so that they were bilingual. Since the program has a substance abuse piece the staff needed to be cross-trained. Two years were spent on cultural training. Some obstacles to continuing the program result from judges referring men to anger management instead of BIP, when this happens there is no victim support. Another challenge is training DCF workers to understand that substance abuse and batterer intervention is integrated.

Success Factors: The program has high completion rates; it is one of the highest in the states. There is also a long lasting integration effect among Latinos.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success: Support at the state level with referrals and the criminal justice system (judges and DCF heads). To continue the program's success there is a need to work with all DV programs to understand the importance of integrating DV and substance abuse.

Key to Success: The community involvement, people see the program as part of the community and are less resistant to participate. There is a reduced stigma to attending the program and there is open space for the community members.

[Worcester County](#)

Index:

- Clinton District Court High Risk Response Team
- Fitchburg/Leominster District Court High Risk Response Team
- Gardner/Winchendon District Court High Risk Response Team

- Worcester High Risk Response Team

Name	Clinton District Court High Risk Response Team
Contact	Karen Riley-McNary / Amarely Gutierrez
Phone Number	508-767-2505 ext. 3075
Email	aoliver@ywcacentralmass.org ; krileymcnary@ywcacentralmass.org
Lead Agency	YWCA Central MA Domestic Violence Services; Co-Chair with Worcester DA's Office Ed Karcasinas Jr.
Address	54 Main Street Suite 001, Leominster, 01453 1 Salem Square, Worcester, 01608

Program Description: The Clinton District Court High Risk Team was established in 2011. The team provides a structure that delivers necessary services, identifies “high risk cases” and creates a vehicle for communication among disciplines to encourage an effective response to domestic violence. The team provides training to members on the High Risk model, as well as an environment for members to coordinate and communicate information. It also serves to provide appropriate intervention and to contain and monitor offenders to keep victims and their children safe.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Sterling, Lancaster, Harvard, Bolton, Berlin, Clinton, Boylston, and West Boylston

Members & Partnering Organizations: Local police departments, Clinton DC Probation, Worcester County DA's Office, YWCA Central MA DVS, Spectrum-P.A.V.E, DTA, Parole Victim Services

Funding & Staffing: We receive no funding. One to two employees are committed to assist and support this project at this time. Director of DV services oversees program and attends as needed. Manager of IS or designee attends all DVHRT meetings and coordinates with team directly providing notes and reminders of meeting times etc.

Obstacles/Barriers: No funding to get one employee fulltime and dedicated to assist with gathering data and outcomes for the team mentioned above. Presently we coordinate the meetings and update everyone involved via phone or email, but would like to focus on outcomes and data. While developing this program, some obstacles that arose were regular attendance at meetings, participation, use of forms, and overall communication throughout the month and receiving updated information for the coordinator. A current obstacle to maintaining the program is ensuring consistent participation.

Success Factors: This team has continued to provide support to each other and obtain feedback that can assist in holding the perpetrator accountable. Longevity, development of a cohesive team, and good tracking are the successes of this program.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

Need to follow up with police stations more than we have been doing in order to keep them engaged. Need to dedicate a fulltime employee to assist with data/outcome and coordination of the HRT. Need some sort of alternate funding for police to be able to attend. Presently they may have only one police officer available to attend court or HRT.

1. Continued commitment of members
2. Evidence of effectiveness
3. Submission/reporting to Coordinator of case updates

Key to Success: Consistent leadership and tracking of cases.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Criteria include indicators on the Risk Assessment Form as well as known history of offender. Most of our team members work in rural areas where offenders are well known to police.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

YWCA of Central Massachusetts DVS provides outreach to the victim. Local police coordinate response as many of the offenders cross jurisdictional lines (which is typical of rural areas), probation officers coordinate conditions of probation as often there are multiple offenses out of different courts.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have no quality outcome indicators set. We are working on how to determine measurable outcomes.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The perpetrator stays on our list until the case has been closed by DA’s office. We then place them on a different list but continue to follow. We work with victims for as long as they need us.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We can assist anyone in learning more about our Program at no cost.

Name	Fitchburg / Leominster District Court High Risk Response Team
Contact	Karen Riley-McNary / Amarely Gutierrez
Phone Number	508-767-2505 ext. 3075
Email	aoliver@ywcacentralmass.org ; krileymcnary@ywcacentralmass.org
Lead Agency	YWCA Central MA Domestic Violence Services; Co-Chairs with Worcester DA’s Office Ed Karcasinas Jr.

Address	54 Main Street, Leominster, 01453 1 Salem Square, Worcester, 01608
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Program Description: The Fitchburg/Leominster District Court High Risk Team was established in 2010. The team provides a structure that delivers necessary services, identifies “high risk cases” and creates a vehicle for communication among disciplines to encourage an effective response to domestic violence. The team provides training to members on the High Risk model as well as an environment for members to coordinate and communicate information. It also serves to provide appropriate intervention and to contain and monitor offenders to keep victims and their children safe.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Fitchburg, Lunenburg, Leominster, Holden and Princeton

Members & Partnering Organizations: Local police departments, Fitchburg and Leominster Police Department Domestic Violence Advocates, Fitchburg DC Probation, Worcester County DA’s Office, YWCA Central MA DVS, Spectrum-P.A.V.E, DTA, Parole Victim Services

Funding & Staffing: We receive no funding. One to two employees are committed to assist and support this project at this time. Director of DV services oversees program and attends as needed. Manager of IS or designee attends all DVHRT meetings and coordinates with team directly providing notes and reminders of meeting times etc.

Obstacles/Barriers: There is no funding to get one employee fulltime and dedicated to assist with gathering data and outcomes for the team mentioned above. Presently we coordinate the meetings and update everyone involved via phone or email, but would like to focus on outcomes and data. While developing this program, some obstacles that arose were problems with regular attendance at meetings, participation, use of forms, and overall communication throughout the month and receiving updated information for the coordinator. A current obstacle to maintaining the program is ensuring consistent participation.

Success Factors: This team has continued to provide support to each other and obtain feedback that can assist in holding the perpetrator accountable. Longevity, development of a cohesive team, and good tracking are the successes of this program.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

Need to follow up with police stations more then we have been doing in order to keep them engaged. Need to dedicate a fulltime employee to assist with data/outcome and coordination of the HRT. Need some sort of alternate funding for police to be able to attend. Presently they may have only one police officer available to attend court or HRT.

1. Continued commitment of members
2. Evidence of effectiveness
3. Submission/reporting to Coordinator of case updates

Key to Success: Consistent leadership and tracking of cases.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Criteria include indicators on the Risk Assessment Form as well as known history of offender. Most of our team members work in rural areas where offenders are well known to police.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

YWCA of Central Massachusetts DVS provides outreach to the victim. Local police coordinate response as many of the offenders cross jurisdictional lines (which is typical of rural areas) probation officers coordinate conditions of probation as often there are multiple offenses out of different courts.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have no quality outcome indicators set. We are working on how to determine measurable outcomes.

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person – either victim or offender?

The perpetrator stays on our list until the case has been closed by DA’s office. We then place them on a different list but continue to follow. We work with victims for as long as they need us to.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We can assist anyone in learning more about our Program at no cost.

Name	Gardner / Winchendon District Court High Risk Response Team
Contact	Karen Riley-McNary / Amarely Gutierrez
Phone Number	508-767-2505 ext.3075
Email	aoliver@ywcacentralmass.org ; krileymcnary@ywcacentralmass.org
Lead Agency	YWCA Central MA Domestic Violence Services; Co-Chairs with Worcester DA’s Office, Ed Karcasinas Jr.
Address	54 Main Street, Leominster, 01453 1 Salem Square, Worcester, 01608

Program Description: The Gardner/Winchendon District Court High Risk Team was established in 2010. The team provides a structure that delivers necessary services, identifies “high risk cases” and creates a vehicle for communication among disciplines to encourage an effective response to domestic violence. The team provides training to members on the High Risk model as well as an environment for members to coordinate

and communicate information. It also serves to provide appropriate intervention and contain and monitor offenders, to keep victims and their children safe.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Gardner, Winchendon, Westminster, Ashburnham, Royalston, Baldwinville, Templeton, Phillipston, Hubbardston, Petersham, and Barre

Members & Partnering Organizations: Local police departments, G/W DC Probation, Worcester County DA's Office, YWCA Central MA DVS, Spectrum-P.A.V.E, Mount Wachusett Community College PD, DTA, Parole Victim Services

Funding & Staffing: We receive no funding. One to two employees are committed to assist and support this project at this time. Director of DV services oversees program and attends as needed. Manager of Intervention Services or designee attends all HRT meetings and coordinates with team directly providing notes and reminders of meeting times etc.

Obstacles/Barriers: No funding to get one employee fulltime and dedicated to assist with gathering data and outcomes for the team mentioned above. Presently we coordinate the meetings and update everyone involved via phone or email, but would like to focus on outcomes and data. While developing this program, some obstacles that arose were regular attendance at meetings, participation, use of forms, and overall communication throughout the month and receiving updated information for the coordinator. A current obstacle to maintaining the program is ensuring consistent participation.

Success Factors: This team has continued to provide support to each other and obtain feedback that can assist in holding the perpetrator accountable. Longevity, development of a cohesive team, and good tracking are the successes of this program.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

Need to follow up with police stations more then we have been doing in order to keep them engaged. Need to dedicate a fulltime employee to assist with data/outcome and coordination of the HRT. Need some sort of alternate funding for police to be able to attend. Presently they may have only one police officer available to attend court or HRT.

1. Continued commitment of members
2. Evidence of effectiveness
3. Submission/reporting to Coordinator of case updates

Key to Success: Consistent leadership and tracking of cases.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Criteria include indicators on the Risk Assessment Form as well as known history of offender. Most of our team members work in rural areas where offenders are well known to police.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

YWCA of Central Massachusetts DVS provides outreach to the victim. Local police coordinate response as many of the offenders cross jurisdictional lines (typical of rural areas) probation officers coordinate conditions of probation as often there are multiple offenses out of different courts.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have no quality outcome indicators set. We are working on how to determine measurable outcomes

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person- either victim or offender?

The perpetrator stays on our list until the case has been closed by DA’s office. We then place them on a different list but continue to follow. We work with victims for as long as they need us to.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

We can assist anyone in learning more about our Program at no cost.

Name	Worcester High Risk Response Team
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Program Description: The Worcester High Risk Response Team was established in 2012. The team provides a structure that delivers necessary services, identifies “high risk cases” and creates a vehicle for communication among disciplines to encourage an effective response to domestic violence. The team provides training to members on the High Risk model as well as an environment for members to coordinate and communicate information. It also serves to provide appropriate intervention and to contain and monitor offenders to keep victims and their children safe. There is no funding for it. Meetings are held monthly, on the first Wednesday of each month, at the YWCA. There are formalized MOUs, signed by the Chief of the police department, the DA Supervisor, and the organization’s Executive Director.

Towns & Cities Covered by Program: Worcester

Members & Partnering Organizations: Worcester PD, WDC Probation Department, Worcester DA's Office, YWCA of Central Massachusetts/Daybreak, Spectrum-P.A.V.E. New Hope-RESPECT, DTA, Parole Victim Services

Funding & Staffing: This program is funded by the VAWA STOP grant (for the city). The program receives partial funding from these grants. There are two funded staff positions in the program; they are a DV advocate and sergeant-detective who supervise the advocate. The advocate provides short term support and crisis intervention in addition to court advocacy.

Obstacles/Barriers: There is no funding to get one employee fulltime and dedicated to assist with gathering data and outcomes for the team mentioned above. Presently we coordinate the meetings and update everyone involved via phone or email, but would like to focus on outcomes and data. While developing this program, some obstacles that arose were regular attendance at meetings, participation, use of forms, and overall communication throughout the month and receiving updated information for the coordinator. A current obstacle to maintaining the program is ensuring consistent participation.

Success Factors: This team has continued to provide support to each other and obtain feedback that can assist in holding the perpetrator accountable. Longevity, development of a cohesive team, and good tracking are the successes of this program.

Top 3 Things Needed to Continue Success:

Need to follow up with police stations more then we have been doing in order to keep them engaged. Need to dedicate a fulltime employee to assist with data/outcome and coordination of the HRT. Need some sort of alternate funding for police rep to be able to attend. Presently they may have only one police officer available to attend court or HRT.

1. Continued commitment of members
2. Evidence of effectiveness
3. Submission/reporting to Coordinator of case updates

Key to Success: Consistent leadership and tracking of cases.

Are there criteria to classify a victim or offender to your team? If so, what is it?

Criteria include indicators on the Risk Assessment Form as well as known history of offender. Most of our team members work in rural areas where offenders are well known to police.

When someone is added to your team, what specific actions do you take regarding that person – either victim or offender?

YWCA of Central Massachusetts/Daybreak provides outreach to the victim. Local police coordinate response as many of the offenders cross jurisdictional lines (which is typical of rural areas) probation officers coordinate conditions of probation as often there are multiple offenses out of different courts.

How do you determine criteria for a successful outcome?

We have no quality outcome indicators set. We are working on how to determine measurable outcomes

Once an individual has been classified, is there continued follow-up or a set period of time you work with this person- either victim or offender?

The perpetrator stays on our list until the case has been closed by DA's office. We then place them on a different list but continue to follow. We work with victims for as long as they need us to.

Will you train others interested in your program on the details of how your program works? If so, is there a fee?

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