

WARM HAND-OFF RE-ENTRY PROJECT



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Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

- The primary innovation of this project is to identify the on-going impact of unresolved complex trauma as a barrier to success for formerly incarcerated women and men.
- Clients will have experienced family violence or historical trauma resulting from family and domestic violence, as well as other forms of violence leading to incarceration.

A Safe Place

Mission Statement

A Safe Place (founded 1976) exists to provide battered women and their children with transitional and supportive services to enable them to break the cycle of violence. Our clients regain a sense of self-esteem and personal power and create a community change in behaviors and belief which will help end domestic violence. We are the only shelter in Northern Alameda County offering a comprehensive shelter program to battered victims and their children.

Our typical client is a single woman between 20 and 40 years old with children. The children are most often abused mentally and/or physically. Some suffer from sexual abuse as well. Their experiences have been traumatic.

A Safe Place

History

1976: The idea of a domestic violence shelter serving the East Bay evolved when a San Francisco shelter, *La Casa de las Madres*, became concerned about the number of calls coming from victims of domestic violence in the East Bay area.

1977: A group of concerned volunteers offered crisis counseling, referral and information services from an office in Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Oakland.

1978: A shelter was opened in July of that year with the capacity of housing three families. The agency was run solely by volunteers until grants made it possible for A Safe Place to hire paid staff.

1991: the shelter moved to our current 20 bed facility, a beautiful house that serves as a safe haven for battered women and their children. The length of stay is eight weeks.

A Safe Place

Agency Profile

- The Domestic Violence Assistance Project offers these programs:
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Individual & Family Counseling
 - Domestic Violence Education & Outreach
 - Teen Violence Prevention Activities
 - Domestic Violence Training
 - Community Support Groups
 - Legal Assistance

Due to outreach in the Latina and Asian communities, there has been an increase in the number of monolingual women seeking shelter.

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

- A Safe Place recognizes some of the most significant barriers to successful re-entry, and the most significant risk factors for a host of health and behavioral problems including re-arrest is untreated trauma.
- A Safe Place will provide mental health services at the community-based organization's site.
 - On-Site services will enhance client participation
- By connecting their history in the criminal justice system, past behavior, and their current need for support, A Safe Place can address some of the gaps in currently available services.

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

- Trauma-informed
 - We acknowledge that early and on-going trauma can impede development and functioning
- Client Centered
 - We return control to the client
- Strength Based
 - We identify and build on client's strengths

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Case Management

- Participants require a variety of practical and logistical support to meet individualized designed case management goals.
- Case Managers will develop a comprehensive individual plan addressing needs for:
 - Mental and Physical Health
 - Substance Abuse Treatment
 - Reunification with children (Child Protective Services)
 - Safe Shelter
 - Identifying educational or vocational goals
 - Employment and job readiness

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

- Intensive Case Management
- Mental Health Service
 - Individual and Family Therapy. All clinical services provided by licensed clinicians.
- Peer Mentorship Program
 - Domestic Violence Counselors
- Basic Necessities

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Re-unifications:

- Parents reunifying and regaining custody of children
- Working closely with client and Child Protective Services around reunification

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Program Outcomes

- 100% of participants will experience and sustain a reduction in trauma systems over the course of their participation in the program services and actions.
- 100% of participants will secure safe housing for themselves and their children.
- 80% of participants will remain engaged with services for a minimum of 8 months, and successfully complete two thirds of the goals set in their individualized case management plan.

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services Peer Mentorship

Domestic Violence Certification:

- Participants will complete 40 hour State mandated certification.
- All trainings will be provided by certified domestic violence counselors and clinicians.

Mental Health Services

Treatment

- Trauma-focused behavioral therapy and other forms therapy designed for clients who have experienced historical trauma, substance abuse, and other behavioral issues post-incarceration.

Legal Services and Court Advocacy

- All clients will be assessed for legal needs. Free legal services are provided to assist clients.
- Court and Social Services Advocacy
- On-site Legal Services to community based organizations.

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Case Management:

- Mental and Physical Health
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Reunification with children(Child Protective Services)
- Safe Shelter (Free)
- Identifying educational or vocational goals
- Employment and Job readiness

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Basic necessities to assist clients in successful program participation:

- Transportation (bus tickets, BART , etc.)
- Gift Cards
- Food
- Toiletries
- Other basic necessities as needed

Warm Hand-off Re-entry Services

Goals:

- Ensure effective and supportive transitions from incarceration to the community
- Develop therapeutic support
- Develop Peer Mentorship Program
- Increase Mental Health services to local community-based organizations serving re-entry clients