

# Background | Definition

#### • Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

- dentifying victims of domestic violence who are at he greatest risk of being killed,
- (2) for the purpose of getting them out of harm's way, if necessary, and
- (3) encouraging them to go into domestic violence services.

Overall LAP Objective: Get DV victims, especially high danger victims, into services.

# Background | Source

### • LAP was created on the foundation of:

- Research-based work of Dr. Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Johns Hopkins University
- Dr. Campbell's validated assessment instrument: Danger Assessment (www.dangerassessment.org)

# Background | Development

- Goal: to create a user-friendly instrument and a proactive protocol.
- Purpose: to enable field practitioners to identify domestic violence victims who are at greatest risk of being killed.
- LAP is simple and easy.
- Only 4% of victims who died had ever availed themselves of domestic violence services (Sharps et al., 2001).

32% of women sought help at Hospital Emergency Departments, Hospital inpatient units or ambulatory care settings for injures specifically resulting from the abuse (Campbell et al., 2005)



Lethality Assessment Program (LAP): The Maryland Model for Health Care Practitioners

A New Standard of Care!

### Implementation Readiness Checklist

- PARTNERSHIP with communitybased domestic violence program.
- Identify victims through universal screening questions.



• Identify Lethality Screeners: • Primary Nurses (also Charge Nurses, Triage Nurses, Sexual Assault Forensic Nurse Examiners)

## Implementing LAP in Hospitals **Hospital Expectations**

- Involvement of Hospital Administrators, LAP Coordinator, Domestic Violence Program, Nurses, and other Departments
- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- Domestic Violence 101 Training
- LAP Training
- Hospital Education
- Ongoing Training/New Staff Training

# LAP in Maryland Hospitals

January - December 2011				
Hospital	Lethality Screens Per Population (1 LS//Year)	"High Danger"	Met w./ Spoke w. Advocate	Continued in Services
Frederick Memorial	68 (1/1,777)	54 (79%)	29 (53%)	14 (48%)
Atlantic General	13 (1/2,692)	11 (85%)	04 (36%)	03 (75%)
Northwest	157 (1/395)	106 (67%)	106 (100%)	46 (43%)
TOTAL	239 (1/170)	171 (72%)	139 (81%)	63 (45%)

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Amy Johnson | Coordinator/Trainer Email: ajohnson@mnadv.org

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence 6911 Laurel Bowie Road, Suite 309 Bowie, MD 20715 Phone: 301-352-4574 Web: www.mnadv.org