

Review of Interventions for Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (DV)

Linda Chamberlain, PhD MPH
for Futures Without Violence

Primary Objective

Identify wide range of evidence-based, emerging and innovative interventions for children exposed to DV that can be implemented in variety of community settings

Methodology

- Literature searches
- Online databases
- Published reviews
- Contacted leading experts in field

The more rigorous a study's design,
the more compelling the evidence

Professional insight,
understanding, & skill
accumulated over time

Whether strategy useful,
feasible to implement,
acceptable in community



Continuum of Evidence

RCT-Evaluated Interventions for Children Exposed to DV

- Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)
- Kids' Club and Mom's Empowerment
- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
- Project Support

All of these interventions work with the mother and child

Other Interventions

- Child Witness to Violence Project
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS)
- Seeking Safety
- Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
- Children's DV Response Team (CDVRT)
- Kennedy Krieger Institute
- Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents (SPARC)
- Vermont Child Trauma Collaborative

- Trauma Affective Regulation (TARGET-A)
- Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement (CARE)
- Child Witness Project
- Community Group Program for Children Exposed to Women Abuse
- A Peace-Learned Solution (PALS)
- Shelter-based group intervention
- Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value Their Children
- Christians as Family Advocates (CAFA)
- Connections and Breaking the Cycle (BTC)

- “Evidence-based” interventions for children exposed to DV work with mothers and their children
- Trauma-informed, collaborative programming between service agencies
- Wide range of community-based interventions and services provided by non-clinical staff

Key Findings

- Innovative and emerging practices include:
 - Integrated interventions for substance abuse and DV for adult caregivers & children
 - Therapeutic play and arts-based programs
 - Services for traumatized teens
 - Parenting interventions for perpetrators

Key Findings

Take-Home Messages

- Menu of effective & innovative interventions for DV-exposed children for different community settings
- Short-term/brief interventions
- Applying broader lens to look at other types of trauma
 - Home visitation
 - Wrap-around, multidisciplinary team case management
 - Integrated prevention and intervention