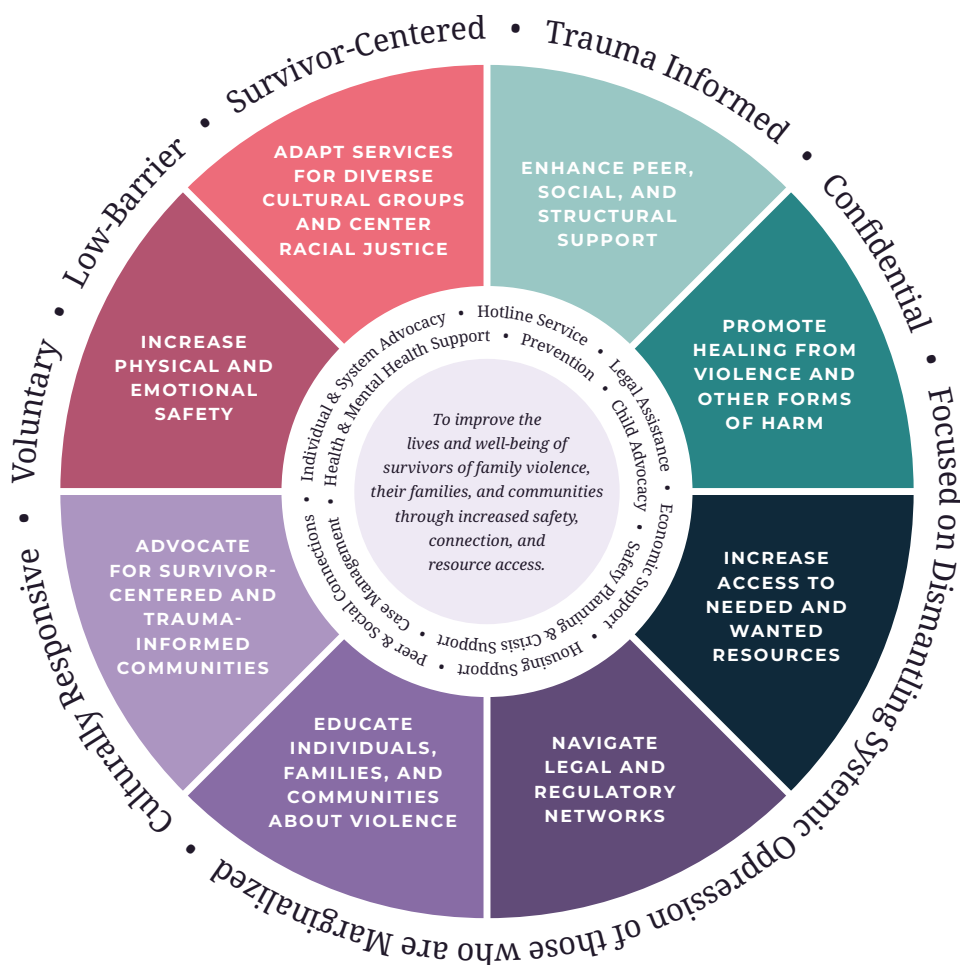


Creating A Safer Texas: A Family Violence Advocacy Service Model

This brief uses data from the “Creating A Safer Texas: Understanding Family Violence Non-Residential Service Use and Impact” report, a collaborative research project between Texas Council on Family Violence, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, University of Texas Medical Branch Center for Violence Prevention, and University of Texas Arlington School of Social Work.



The advocacy model depicted above, based on findings from the “Creating a Safer Texas” report, encompasses guiding principles of a service approach for family violence survivors and their children. It includes core service domains, key principles, and a logic model with eight interlocking goals that are matched with activities and short- and long-term outcomes. This model is meant to serve as a blueprint for providing family violence services and assessing impact. It is adaptable and flexible to community, cultural, and service variation. The approach is aspirational as it represents how services could be provided if adequate resources and supports are in place for family violence agencies to implement them.

Family Violence Advocacy Service Model Framework

Overarching Goal of Nonresidential Family Violence Services

To improve the lives and well-being of survivors of family violence, their families, and communities through increased safety, connection, and resource access.

The impact of family violence is far reaching, and impacts survivors and their and children, families, and communities over time. Family violence services aim to disrupt the impacts of previous violence as well as provide secondary and tertiary prevention benefits to survivors and their families.



Core Services / Service Domains

- *Individual & System Advocacy*
- *Hotline Service*
- *Legal Assistance*
- *Economic Support*
- *Housing Support*
- *Peer & Social Connections*
- *Health & Mental Health Support*
- *Prevention*
- *Child Advocacy*
- *Safety Planning & Crisis Support*
- *Case Management*



While community based family violence services vary by region, community, and size and type of family violence agency, eleven essential core non-residential services were identified that Texas family violence agencies are providing at some level. Advocacy within systems for survivors was highlighted by staff and survivors as an important core family violence service not currently recognized in state or federal statute. Please reference the full study report for definitions of each service domain.

Key Principles

- *Voluntary*
- *Low-Barrier*
- *Survivor-Centered*
- *Trauma Informed*
- *Confidential*
- *Focused on Dismantling Systemic Oppression of those who are Marginalized*
- *Culturally Responsive*



Seven key principles are used to promote equity, service access, and address survivor needs. Please reference the full study report for definitions of each key principle.

Goals, Activities, Outcomes

- Increase physical and emotional safety from individual and structural harm... *reducing violence across the social ecology.*
- Adapt services for diverse cultural groups and center racial justice in FV work... *making services equitable and accessible for historically oppressed and marginalized communities.*
- Enhance peer, social, and structural support... *creating a web of support.*
- Promote healing from violence and other forms of harm across developmental stages/ages... *improving physical and mental health.*
- Increase access to needed and wanted resources... *building economic security.*
- Navigate legal and regulatory networks... *promoting access and agency.*
- Educate individuals, families, and communities about violence and shared risk and protective factors... *facilitating primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.*
- Advocate for survivor-centered and trauma-informed communities... *networking to bring FV to the forefront across systems and in the community.*



Eight goals with corresponding activities and short- and long-term outcomes were developed. Please reference the full report for explanations of the eight goals and the activities and outcomes associated with each.