# What is an FJC? (101)

National VOCA Conference
Natalia Aguirre and Raeanne Passantino *August 14, 2019* 



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## Why Do We Need FJCs?

- Candace/detective tried to seek services in Concord
- First, let's get a restraining order. It was daunting.
- Went to the wrong location.
- Missed the bus.
- Ran out of time to file the paperwork that day.
- Decided to try to get into a shelter.
- Shelter was full.
- Gave up by 3 p.m.
- Tired. Hungry. Cranky.



## What is an FJC?

The Short Answer



## What is an FJC?

- Survivors of family violence can receive most of the services they need from one place
- Co-located, multi-agency, multi-disciplinary services with coordinated service delivery
- Utilization and sharing of existing resources
  - Not a duplication of services





# AB 1623: Majority Leader Atkins (SB 557: Senator Kehoe)

#### Family Justice Centers Defined:

"Multiagency, multidisciplinary service centers where public and private agencies assign staff members on a full time or part-time basis in order to provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse or human trafficking from one location in order to reduce the number of times victims must tell their story, reduce the number of places victims must go for help and increase access to services and support for victims and their children."



# FJC is about Sharing Resources

- NOT replacing or duplicating programs
- Takes existing resources and puts them all together under one roof to eliminate the runaround
- Provides MORE access to services and MORE coordinated services
- Services provided by partners





# What is an FJC? A little background and history



# Vision for a Family Justice Center started in 1989



www.sandiegodvcouncil.org

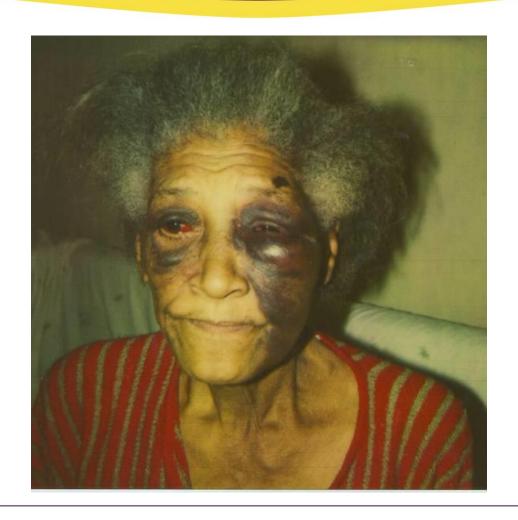


## The Original CA/DV Unit





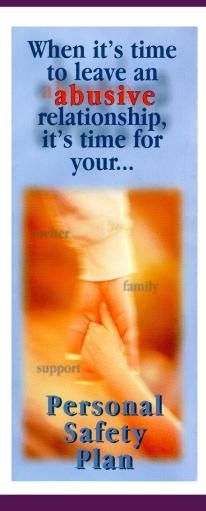
## **Elder DV Case**





## Solution: Brochure

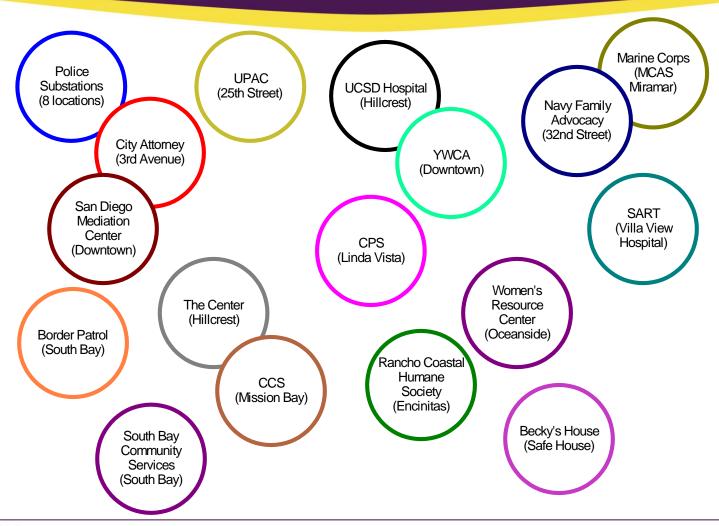




- Important Numbers & Referrals
- Checklist of what to take when you leave
- How to stay safe during an argument: at work, home & in public
- Protective orders



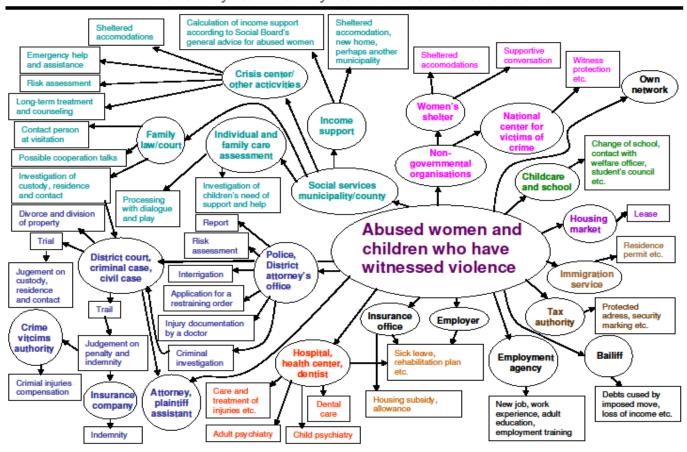
#### Discovered our services were all over





# Our System was Difficult to Navigate

The Municiplity of Hässleholm's chart for government contacts women may need when they become victims of domestic violence





## Focus Group Feedback

- Victims are fearful of systems and don't understand the process
- Court is the scariest place to seek help
- Shelters are the safest place
- Victims must go from place to place
- They must tell their story over and over
- Victims want all their services together in one place





# We were already paying for the lack of collaboration



#### **Cost of One Murder in 2010**

#### A study by Iowa State University found:

- 2010 cost of a murder was \$17.25 million
  - Actual cost with more than one conviction \$24
     million
- 2010 cost of a rape was **\$448,532**
- 2010 cost of aggravated assault was \$145,379





# Family Justice Centers have grown out of the... child abuse, women's, sexual assault, and domestic violence movements



## It Was a Long Journey

- Jan 1989 Idea was proposed by Casey Gwinn
- Jan 1990 Started co-location at the City Attorney's Office
- Jan 1997- SDPD and City Attorney's Office joined forces
- Jan 2000 One Stop Shop DV Council's Top Priority
- Feb 2001 SDPD completes Feasibility Study & Site Visits
- Oct 2001- PS&NS Approval to proceed
- Mar 2002 \$500,000 Cal Endowment Grant
- April 2002 Council Approval



#### What is the Plan?

- Phase I: Focus on domestic violence cases
- Phase II: Expand to include Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, Sexual Assault and possibly juvenile cases



# Finally, 2002...



## The San Diego Family Justice Center

#### **Grand Opening – October 2002**





### **How it Started**

- Public safety initiative led by Police Chief and City Attorney with the support from the DV Council and local officials
- Our goal was to bring as many professionals together to help victims of domestic violence and their children – under one roof
- To reduce the amount times and places victims have to go to tell their story and get the help they need
- "Where families come first and professionals come together"





## The Big Vision

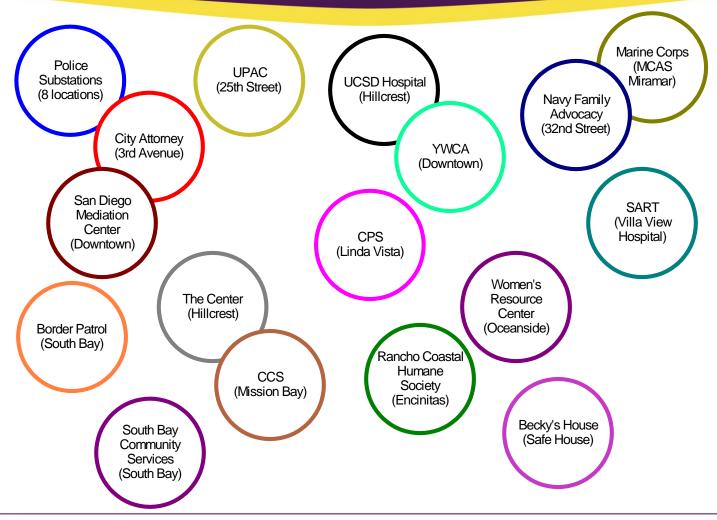
#### A future where...

- All the needs of victims are met
- Children are protected
- Batterers are held accountable
- Violence fades
- Economic justice increases
- Families heal and thrive
- Hope is realized, and
- We ALL work together





#### Move All the Scattered Services





#### With a Clear Mission

- To make victims SAFER
  - S = Provide consolidated services
  - A = Accountability
  - F = Friendly, family-centered facility
  - E = Early intervention/prevention programs
  - R = Relationship building and coordination in the community





How many brochures do you have?



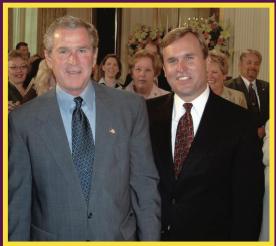
# Then, Oprah Winfrey endorsed our work in January 2003...



# USTICE CEZTED

# Then, President George W. Bush endorsed our work in October 2003...because...the President must have watched Oprah!







# And the "movement" continues to move!!!



# International FJC Movement







Croydon, England (First in UK) Government-Led FJC

# Mosaic Center Waterloo-Kitchener, Canada







#### Other Centers in Canada

#### **Pending**

#### Open

- City of Toronto, Toronto
- Richmond/Vancouver
- Calgary, Alberta,



- Driven: Durham,
   Ontario
- Safe Center: Peel, Toronto





## Amman, Jordan

- Queen Rania's Child Advocacy Center
- Dar Al-Wafq Shelter







## Project Karin in Sweden

- Launched in 2008
- They held a regional FJC conference in 2011







# Centros de Justicia para las Mujeres (2011)





## Family Justice Centers Europe

- Movisie.nl
- Bert Groen, Coordinator
- Six pilot Centers
- Netherlands (2)
- Belgium
- Germany
- Italy
- Poland
- European Union Funding
- EU Policy Position: "Establish Family Justice Centres"







# European Family Justice Center Alliance



There is A BETTER WAY to give extra hope to each victim of domestic violence...
The European Family Justice Center Alliance aims to develop and support local
Family Justice Centers all over Europe that help victims and their children find
all services they need in ONE PLACE: medical professionals, caretakers, counselors,
advocates, prosecutors, police officers and others.



ALLIANCE

WHAT WE DO

MEMBERSHIP

PRODUCTS

FJC

NEWS

INTRANET

CONTACT

ESCAPE

#### HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE 'ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN – TAKING STOCK AND NEXT STEPS' AT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S BERLAYMONT BUILDING

#### December 11, 2018

The Family Justice Center framework was recently profiled by Bert Groen and Pascale Franck at the European Commission on Justice and Consumer and Gender Equality in Brussels. This event combined practical lessons learnt from local projects with high-level policy and forward-looking discussions, with the aim of fostering links and collaborations between the different levels of action needed to combat gender-based violence.

During this conference participants had discussions on an equal footing and in an interactive manner how EU institutions, EU Member States,
International Organisations, NGOs, private sector and academics can contribute to combatting violence against women. Each session was introduced
by short "impulse statements" to trigger the discussion after which the floor was opened to the roundtable participants



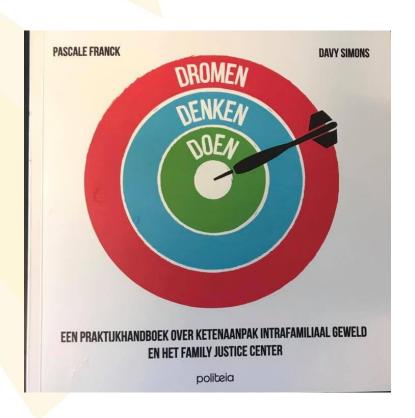


Thank you, Bert
Groen and Pascale
Franck!



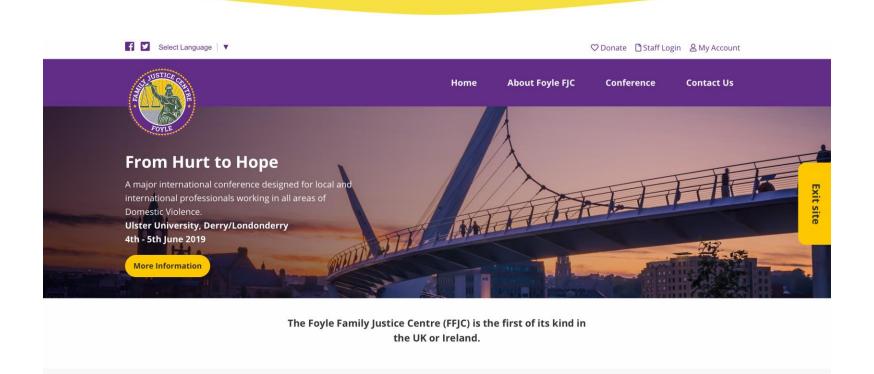
# FJC Antwerpen Congratulations, Pascale Franck!







### Now, **Northern** Ireland!





About the Family Justice Centre

Centralised service provision of 20+ public and charitable





# And in the United States, the dreams keep getting bigger...



## Original San Diego FJC Front Porch







# One Safe Place – Fort Worth Lobby





# The Dreams Are Getting Bigger







## One Safe Place













### Sojourner Family Peace Center Milwaukee, WI



FJC, CAC and Shelter



OSOJOURNER

# Sojourner Family Peace Center Milwaukee, Wi















## **Nashville Family Safety Center**







### Palomar FJC in Oklahoma City



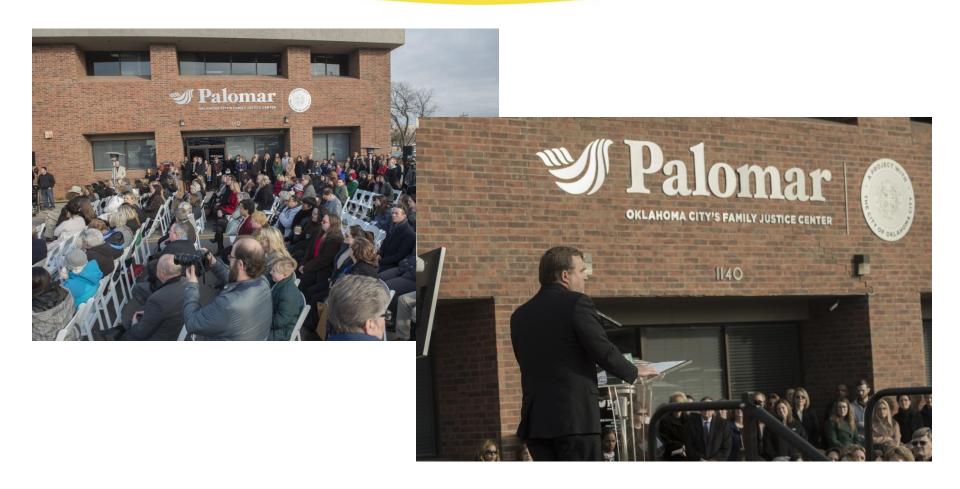


21,000 Square Foot Temporary Facility



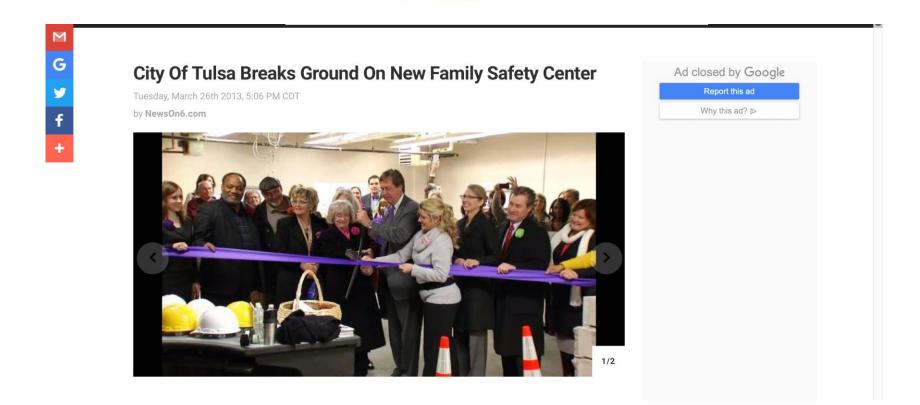


# Palomar FJC in Oklahoma City – Now planning more than 100,000 square foot campus!





### **Tulsa Family Safety Center**



And the pending vision? More than 100,000 square feet!



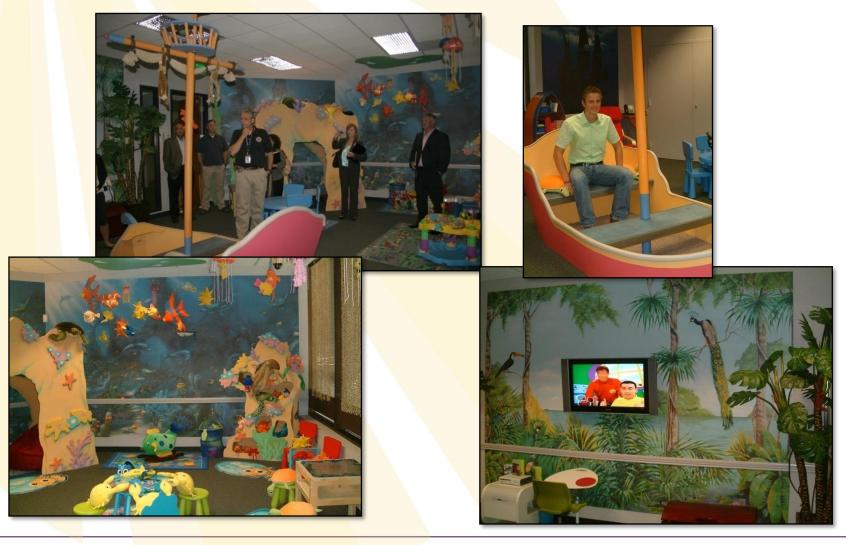
# Center for Solo Practitioners & Justice Legal Network







## Anaheim FJC - Children's Room





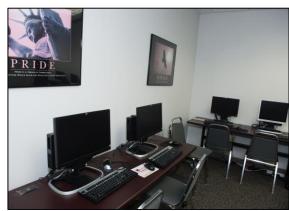
# Access to Computers and Learning Centers



Alameda County FJC



San Diego FJC



**New Orleans FJC** 



# **Video Streaming with Courts**

Orange County FJC (CA)



Clackamas FJC (OR)





Guilford County FJC (NC)







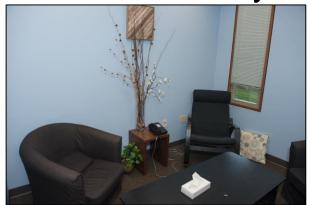
# Courtroom at One Safe Place (Fort Worth, TX)



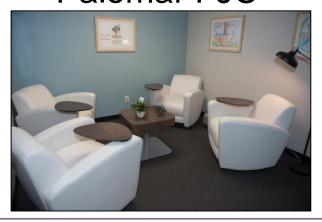


# Interview Rooms

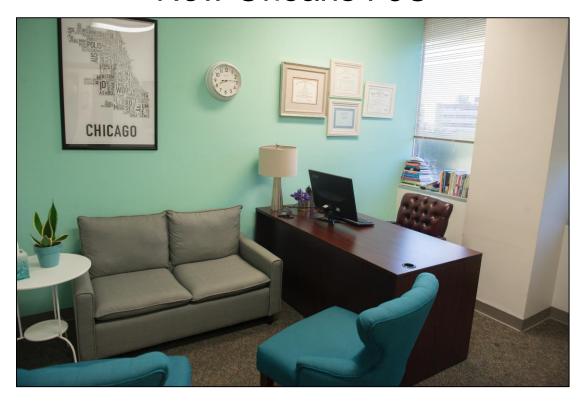
#### Clackamas County FJC



Palomar FJC



#### **New Orleans FJC**





## Montgomery County, Maryland FJC





County Executive Isaiah Leggitt – "Check Your Ego at the Door."

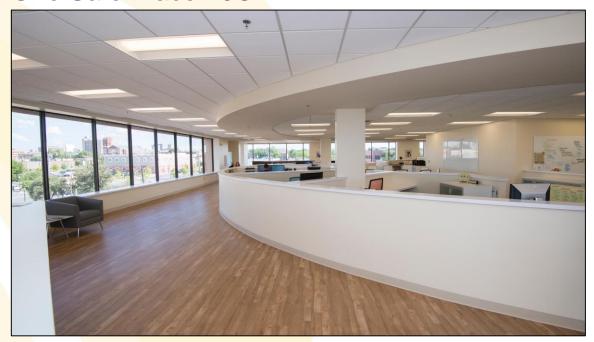


## **Open Floor Plans**

One Safe Place FJC









Sacramento Family
Justice Center

Sojourner Family Peace Center





# Large Conference Rooms

#### Fort Worth, Texas



#### Milwaukee, WI





## **Dress for Success Partnerships**



Boston Family Justice Center



Tarrant County
One Safe Place FJC



San Diego Family Justice Center



# Project Karin in Sweden

- Launched in 2008
- Will you have Viking appliances in your survivor accessible kitchen?!











# Research and Evaluation

Measuring Impact and Long-term Outcomes



### Informed by Evaluation

- Evaluation Committees
- Focus Groups
- Client Surveys
- Comparison Study Models
- Benchmarking
- Client Profile Studies
- FJC Snapshot Assessments
- Ongoing Research



### Informed by Evaluation

- 2004 PFJCI Assessment Study
- 2007 Alameda County 3-year Outcome Study
- 2007 San Diego FJC Study/Alliant Univ.
- 2008 Nampa FJC/Boise St.
- 2009 San Diego FJC Study/San Diego State
- 2009 NYC FJC Outcomes Study
- 2013 California Legislature Study (Petrucci)
- 2017 University of Oklahoma Study (Hope, Resiliency, Flourishing, Satisfaction of Life, and Survivor Defined Goal Achievement)



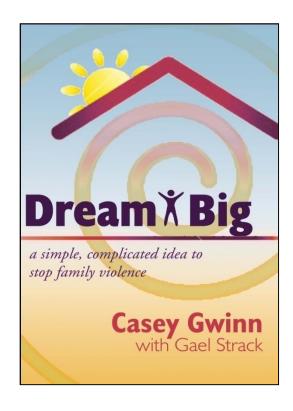
## Findings: Survivor Impact

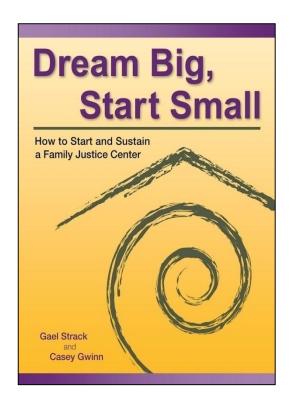
- 1. Receiving services is "easy",
- 2. Services are high quality,
- 3. Survivors feel supported,
- 4. Staff and referrals are knowledgeable,
- 5. Scope of services.

"I've been able to get over certain things. I no longer feel like a victim and [I'm] starting to build my selfesteem up once again. And little by little, I'm regaining the person that I used to be, not just for me, but for my son, so I can be a better mother."



### The Why and the How





Order online Today: www.familyjusticecenter.com



# Why? Benefits of FJC Framework

- Saves Time
- Improves attitudes of professionals
- Serves more victims and children
- Reduces homicides
- Reduces calls to the same residence
- Increases the scope of collaboration beyond domestic violence to include child abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse, and human trafficking
- Less Trials for Prosecutors longer life expectancies
- Less Calls to 911
- Better working relationships
- Satisfied victims, less recantation, more participation
- Increases Hope and Wellbeing in Survivors



# We have a BETTER attitude!





### We can save a lot of time.

#### JACKIE DIETZ

Before the FJC, it would take a week for a client to receive the services she needed. Now, she can access the same services, if not more services, in less than a day. We can also help more clients at the same time.





# Benefits of a Cross Sector Collaborative Model

- Before: Clients who don't have access to shelter services might not have a place where they have ongoing support in a safe and comfortable environment.
- Now: Clients are encouraged to visit FJC/MACs often for any reason and have access to client navigators, advocates, and a new community of supports.



## Benefits of a Cross Sector Collaborative Model (cont.)

- Before: Clients traveled all over town for multiple appointments. First three weeks were spent getting clients connected to resources.
- Now: Clients are able to receive many services in one place. Shelter time is now being spent rebuilding lives.



## Benefits of a Cross Sector Collaborative Model (cont.)

- **Before:** How long is your shelter stay? Traditionally clients and families had 30 to 60 days before having to leave the safe house.
- Now: Clients and families have ongoing support after they leave the shelter through the Family Justice Center and partner agencies. Programs like VOICES and Camp HOPE America continue to engage survivors to create community after the crisis.



## Benefits of a Cross Sector Collaborative Model (cont.)

- Before: Community based DV/SA organizations traditionally focus on intimate partner violence and sexual assault.
- Now: Offering ongoing support and additional services including: legal assistance, nonintimate partner TRO's, expanded senior services, priority responses from law enforcement, forensic evidence collection, services for trafficking survivors and more...

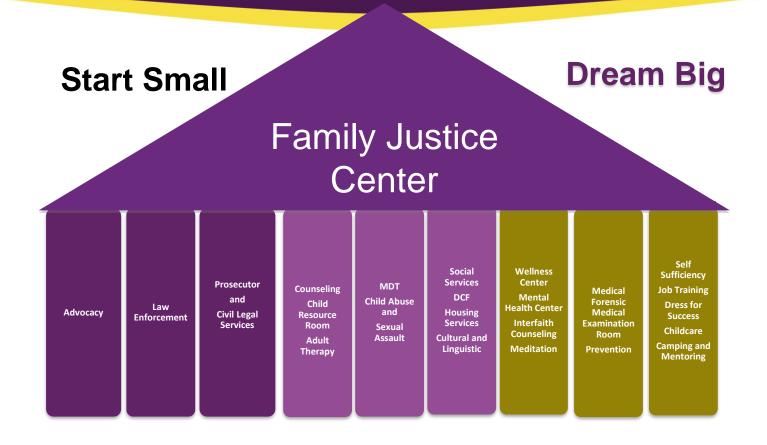


## Helping Children Caught in the Crossfire

- In America, we raise our criminals at home
- Human history makes our vision difficult
- Children's response to DV
- Pregnant teenagers show another side of the story
- Are Child Advocacy Centers enough?



#### Center for Family Justice Progression



168

The Center for Women and Families of Eastern Fairfield County, Inc.



## The FJC/Multi-Agency Model today



#### Guiding Principles













Transformative



Victim Centered





Kind Hearted & Hope-Centered

Empowered



Community Engaged



Safety Focused



Prevention Oriented Survivor Driven



Culturally Responsive Relationship Based

Offender Accountability

#### **Alliance's Four Strategic Directions**





## Strategic Direction: Accountability to Survivors

- Survivor Advocacy Group at each Center
- Work on various projects
  - Community outreach and awareness
  - Legislation
  - Evaluation and monitoring
- Not a support group
- Connects with the broader national VOICES movement
- Holds Centers and their partners accountable







#### FJC Movement Today

- More than 105 operating Family
   Justice/Multi-Agency Centers in the US
- ½ coordinated by shelters/communitybased DV/SA agencies or new 501c3s
- ½ coordinated by District Attorney's Offices or Police Departments or public agencies
- 50+ communities in active planning efforts
- First statewide initiative in California (22 open)

- Centers in 25+ countries
- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban
- Tribal
- Regional Training Centers
- FJCs are in VAWA (Title I)
- State FJC legislation developing
- Largest International FJC Initiative
  - Mexico



#### FJC Services Evolving...

- Easily accessible county wide resource network/locations
- Economic/financial assessments
- Financial literacy
- Credit repair
- Long-term spiritual care/connection to community
- Asset Development
- Education/Computer Training
- Personal Coaching
- Job Training/Job Placement
- Housing/Services Coordination Emergency, Transitional, and Affordable
- Campus approaches...developing across the U.S.



#### **Centers with FMUs**



FJCs & Forensic Medical Units							
Name of Center	City, State	DV	SA	Children			
Buncombe County Family Justice Center	Asheville, NC	Χ	Х				
Family Justice Center of Boston	Boston, MA			X			
Family Safety Center	Tulsa, OK	Χ	Χ				
Imperial County Family Justice Center	El Centro, CA			X			
Guilford County Family Justice Center	Greensboro and High Point, NC			X			
The Haven	Pontiac, MI		Χ				
Nampa Family Justice Center	Nampa, ID	Χ		Χ			
New Orleans Family Justice Center	New Orleans, LA		X				
One Safe Place Inc.	Shawnee, OK		Χ				
Palomar: Oklahoma City's Family Justice Center	Oklahoma City, OK	X					
Prince George's County Family Justice Center	Upper Marlboro, MD		Χ				
San Diego Family Justice Center	San Diego, CA	Χ	X	Χ			



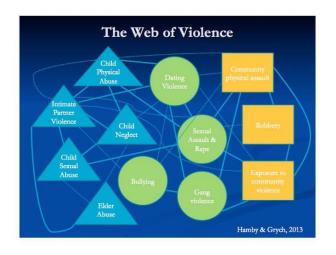
#### FJCs & CACs



Name of Center	City, State	CAC Onsite	Name
Alameda County Family Justice Center	Oakland, CA		CALICO, Inc.
Faces of Hope Victim Center	Boise, ID	X	St. Luke's Cares
Family Justice Center of Boston	Boston, MA	Х	CAC of Suffolk County
Family Justice Center of Memphis and Shelby County	Memphis, TN	X	Memphis Child Advocacy Center
Family Justice Center Sonoma County	Santa Rosa, CA	X	Redwood Children's Center
Guilford County Family Justice Center	Greensboro and High Point, NC	X	Family Services of the Piedmont, Inc.
St. Joseph County Family Justice Center	South Bend, IN	X	CASIE Center
The Haven	Pontiac, MI		Care House of Oakland County
Nampa Family Justice Center	Nampa, ID	x	Nampa Child Advocacy Center
New Orleans Family Justice Center	New Orleans, LA	Χ	New Orleans CAC
One Safe Place Family Justice Center	Shawnee, OK		Unzer Center
Sojourner Family Peace Center	Milwaukee, WI	X	Wisconsin Children's Hospital CAC
Stanislaus Family Justice Center	Modesto, CA	X	CAIRE CAC



# The Trend Toward Polyvictimization Screening and Services...



- OVC Initiative
- Intersections of Trauma
- Social Justice Focus



#### Substance Use & FJCs

- OVW Project
- Intersection of substance use and Family Justice Centers
- National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health



# FJCs are Holistically Addressing the Needs of Survivors and Their Children



## Camp HOPE San Diego has become Camp HOPE America

Giving Children Their Childhood Back in 41 Communities and 20 states in 2019!







## Lisbet: Nine years connected to the San Diego FJC Community



- Services in 2009/2010
- VOICES in 2011
- Micro-Loan to Start Business in 2014
- Kids to Camp HOPE San Diego since 2012
- Lisbet and Kids at Parent-Kid Camp Weekend since 2014
- Advocacy Job in 2015
- Interest Free Loans for Survivors



Lisbet's Children Now ALL Attend Camp HOPE





#### **VOICES Arts Projects**



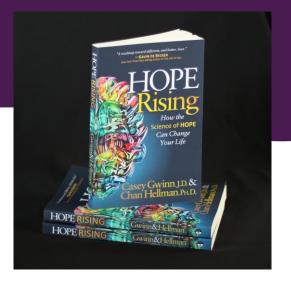


#### Our focus now...

Creating a culture of hope in all aspects of a Family Justice Center



## Hope Rising in our own lives must remain a priority...





RESTORED

#### Questions?

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Culturally-Responsive Transformative
Relationship-Based Safety-Focused
Empowered Softender-Accountability
Survivor-Driven
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