

Appendix 3: First Steps Toward a Military-Civilian CCR: A Self-Assessment

[Adapted from “Getting Started with the Safety Audit Process: Assessing Your Community’s Needs,” Praxis International, Inc., 2009; available at www.praxisinternational.org.]

Who should complete the questionnaire?

Those who are interested in building a military-civilian coordinated community response to domestic violence (CCR) can use the questionnaire early in their planning. It will help organizers take stock of the environment, participants, and likely resources. In addition, the questionnaire will be useful in gauging the readiness of any existing civilian CCR to play a pivotal role in the common effort.

There may be several questions that cannot be answered without gathering more information about the community and the military installation. Complete the self-assessment prior to or in conjunction with the Community Portraits (see Appendices 4 and 5).

Consider using the self-assessment as a framework for initial discussions among key organizers from the civilian and military sectors. Here are options for working with the self-assessment tool

Option 1: (For key organizers in the civilian sector.) Complete the self-assessment to help identify where and how you are ready or not ready to proceed in approaching likely partners in the military sector. Use this information, and that gathered via the Community Portrait, to help build relationships with military partners and address possible barriers to those relationships and the overall joint CCR.

Option 2: Convene a series of brief breakfast or luncheon meetings with key civilian and military organizers to address the questions under each heading. Working in pairs or small groups, discuss the questions and then debrief with the larger group.

General

1. What first interested you about establishing a military-civilian coordinated community response?
2. What do you think can be accomplished in relation to victim safety and offender accountability through a military-civilian CCR?
3. Who has been involved thus far in discussions about the feasibility of establishing a military-civilian CCR?
4. What aspects of the existing civilian coordinated community response are working well?
5. Where is the existing civilian coordinated community response having difficulty?

Environment

1. Who are the key players and policymakers (civilian and military) that are interested in establishing a military-civilian CCR?
2. Who are the key players and policy makers (civilian and military) that may not be interested in participating in a military civilian CCR?
What do you anticipate their concerns will be?
3. How are independent advocacy groups involved in CCR monitoring and accountability efforts?
Are they supportive of a military-civilian CCR?
4. Has the civilian community implemented any specialized legal system response projects (e.g., DV courts, specialized DV police response or investigation units, intervention projects, protection order support)? How is it working?
5. Has the military installation implemented any specialized legal system response projects (e.g., DV courts, specialized DV security response or investigation units, intervention projects, protection order support)? How is it working?

Participation

1. Who has agreed to participate in the military-civilian CCR thus far?
2. Is there representation from each civilian agency or process that becomes involved in a domestic violence case?
How will you secure such representation?
3. How will victims of domestic violence and their advocates be involved in establishing and guiding the work of the military-civilian CCR?
4. To what extent have organizers or likely participants worked on a joint project before?
5. What do you anticipate as being the strengths of the military-civilian CCR?
6. What obstacles do you anticipate that the CCR will have to overcome?

Resources

1. What financial resources are available to support building and maintaining a military-civilian coordinated community response? What personnel resources are available?
2. What non-financial resources are available to support a military-civilian CCR (e.g., volunteers, pro bono resources, meeting spaces)?