

# Enhancing Responses in Veterans Treatment Courts and Domestic Violence Courts

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# Overview

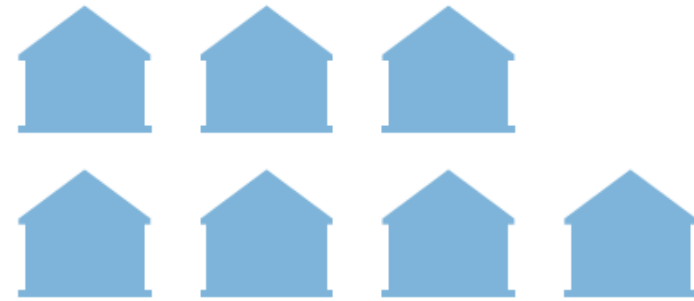
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- Introduction
- Domestic Violence Courts
- Court Models at a Glance: Veterans Treatment Courts & Domestic Violence Courts
- Reducing Information Gaps

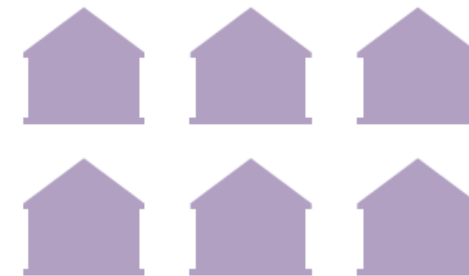
# IN THE UNITED STATES, THERE ARE...



...**18,931,395** veterans.



...over **350** veteran  
treatment courts.



...over **300** specialized  
domestic violence courts.

"Veteran Population," Department for Veteran Affairs, accessed August 15, 2013,  
[https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Profile\\_of\\_Veterans\\_2015.pdf](https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Profile_of_Veterans_2015.pdf)



# Domestic Violence Courts

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Overview of Domestic Violence Courts

# Domestic Violence Court Models

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- Civil Domestic Violence Courts
- Criminal Domestic Violence Courts
- Coordinated/Integrated Domestic Violence Courts

# Key Principles

## Victim Safety

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- Safe facilities
- Victim advocates
- Family Justice Centers
- Civil legal services (Civil DV Courts)

# Key Principles

## Offender Accountability

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- Compliance monitoring
  - Resource coordinators
  - Compliance review dockets
- Increased communication
- Collaborating with community service providers

# Key Principles

## Judicial and Court Staff Training

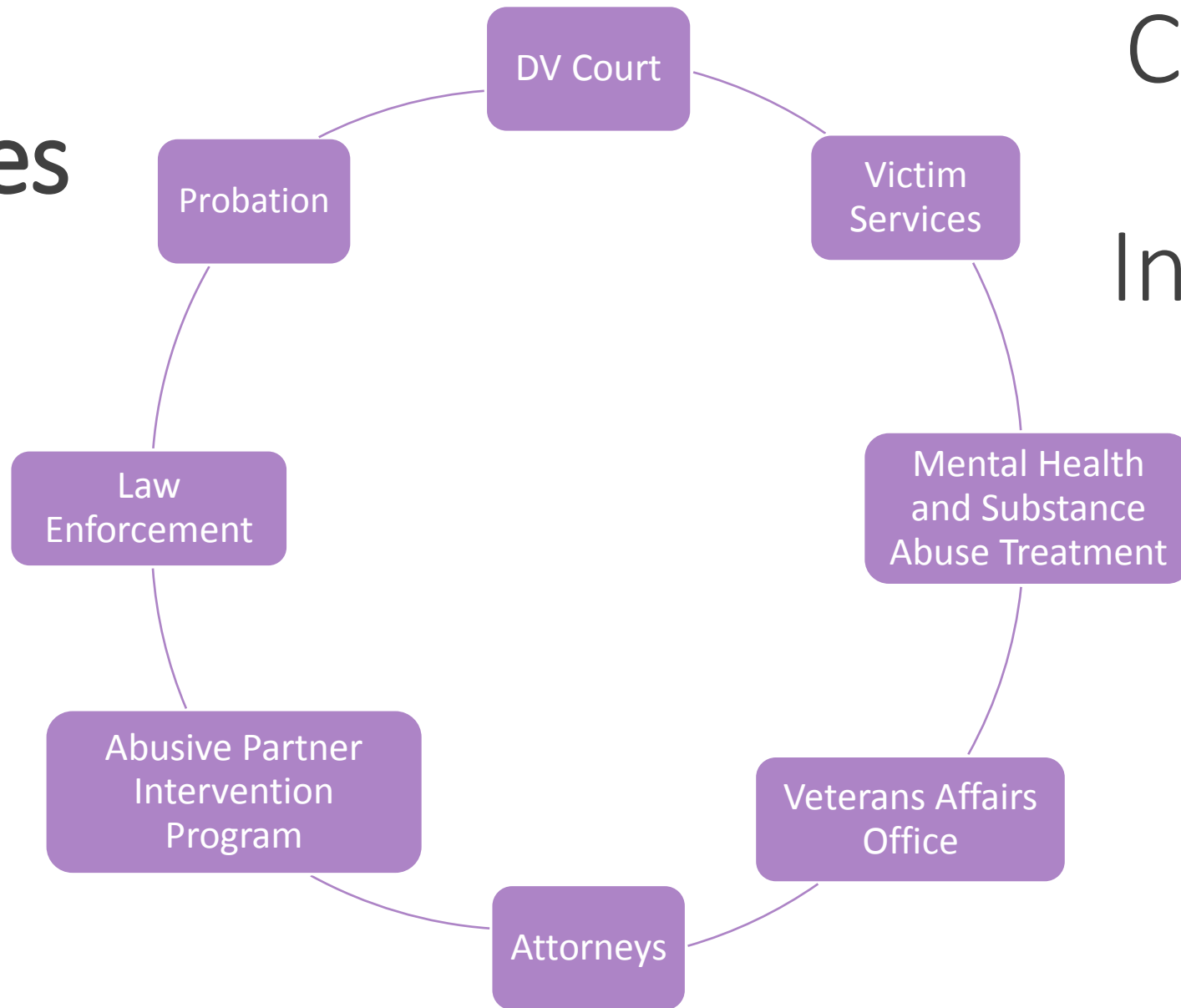
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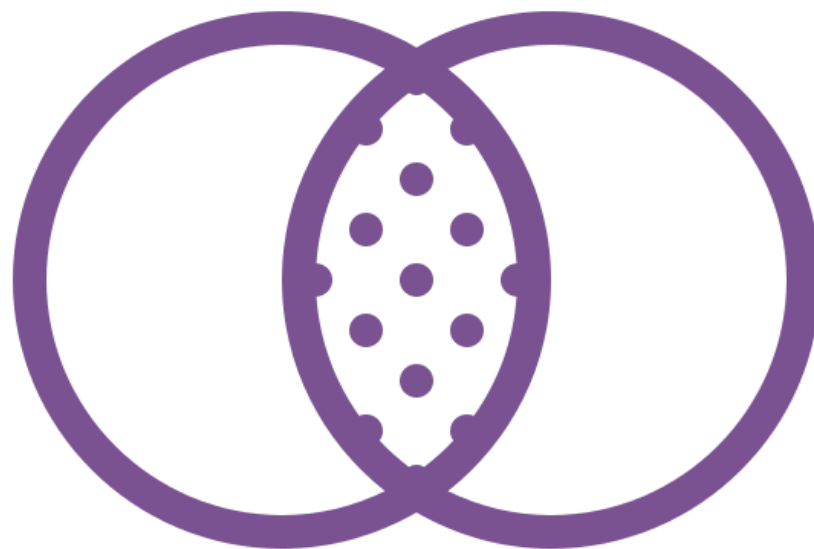
- Dedicated court stakeholders
- Training on:
  - Operational matters
  - Domestic violence dynamics
  - Impact of domestic violence on children



# Key Principles

# Community Partner Involvement





# Court Models at a Glance

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Key similarities and differences between  
Veterans Treatment Courts & Domestic Violence Courts

# Key Principles of Problem-Solving Courts

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- Connecting court participants to resources
- Promoting offender accountability
- Screening and identification of cases
- Trained, dedicated court staff

# Veterans Treatment Courts

Coordination with Veterans Affairs Office & Vet Centers

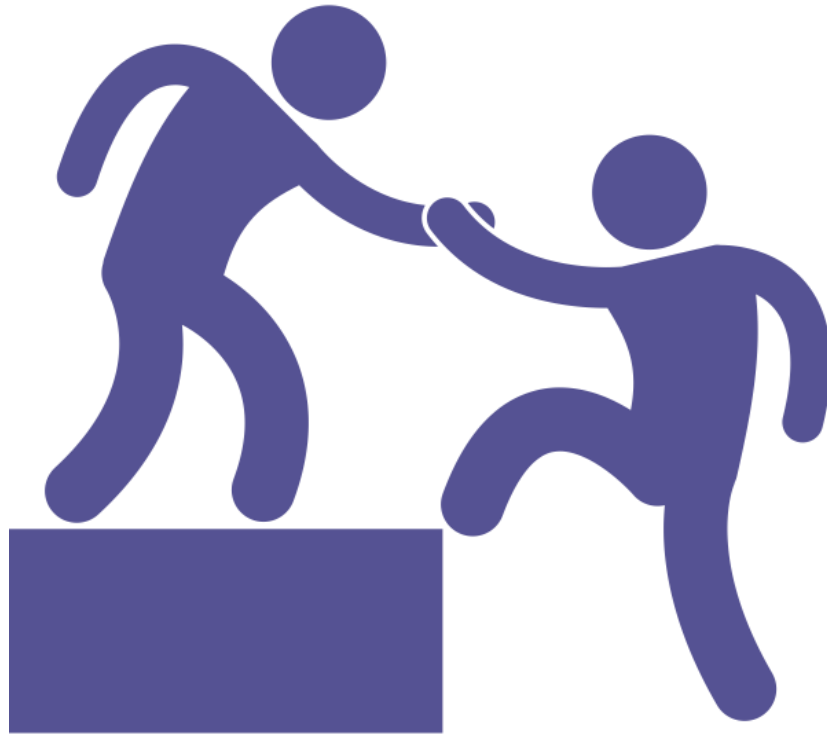
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# Veterans Treatment Courts

## Mentoring

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# Domestic Violence Courts Victim Services

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# Domestic Violence Courts

## Coordinated Community Response

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# Reducing Information Gaps

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Recommendations for enhancing  
court-based responses to domestic violence



# Reducing Information Gaps Screening

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- ❑ Screen defendants' domestic violence history
- ❑ Screen for military service

# Reducing Information Gaps Protocols

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- ❑ Enhance protocols to provide victim safety
- ❑ Enhance protocols to provide appropriate treatment for veterans

# Reducing Information Gaps

## Staff Training

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- ❑ Provide staff training on domestic violence
- ❑ Provide staff training on veterans and military understanding

# Resources

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**Breaking Barriers:** available on the Center for Court Innovation website.

[www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/documents/breaking\\_barriers.pdf](http://www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/documents/breaking_barriers.pdf)

## **Contact:**

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Thank you! Questions?

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