



**COORDINATED COMMUNITY
RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE: A WORKSHOP IN
MINNESOTA (USA)**

April 2016



THE WORKSHOP IN BRIEF

Dates:

March 28 – April 5, 2016

Location:

Duluth and Minneapolis, Minnesota (USA)

Participants:

18 participants from six countries (Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Trinidad & Tobago)

Purpose:

Explore the key principles of coordinated community response (CCR) as an effective approach for the implementation of domestic violence laws

Partners:

Global Rights for Women (GRW), Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), World Future Council (WFC)

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Concept and objectives of the workshop

The World Future Council (WFC) was a funding partner of a nine-day workshop in Minneapolis and Duluth (Minnesota, USA) on “Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence”. The workshop was planned and hosted by Global Rights for Women, a Twin Cities based non-profit, and presented in partnership with Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP) out of Duluth, Minnesota. The workshop took place from 28 March to 5 April 2016.

The primary purpose of the workshop was to introduce and emphasize effective approaches to the implementation of domestic violence laws. Specifically, participants received in-depth training on Coordinated Community Response (CCR), a model of government intervention to domestic violence that originated in Duluth, Minnesota (USA). The “Duluth Model” of CCR prioritizes first, victim safety, and second, offender accountability, as the foundation for communities to build systems interventions in a way that is based on victims’ actual experiences. The Duluth model has gained international recognition and inspired policy-making around the world.

The workshop brought together 18 participants from six different countries. The delegations consisted of both government and civil society representatives, to enable communication and collaboration among them upon return to their home countries. This way of working together is at the centre of CCR. Experience in Duluth and beyond has shown that this approach will allow stakeholders to develop a common approach to violence that is essential to an effective response.

The objectives of the workshop included:

- exploring the key principles of coordinated community response (CCR) for protecting victims of domestic violence and holding perpetrators accountable;
- developing a common understanding and framework from which to respond to domestic violence in their communities;
- developing plans for implementation and next steps in participants’ home countries.

This training offered an excellent opportunity for government and civil society representatives to come together to learn the techniques of CCR from its “founders” - and in the community that has most successfully implemented it - so that they can apply them in their own countries.

Coordinated community response to domestic violence – the Duluth Model

Coordinated community response (CCR) is a strategy for the effective implementation of domestic violence laws as developed by the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (DAIP) in the 1980s. It constitutes a groundbreaking advancement in the understanding of domestic violence and the requirements for the successful implementation of legislation in this field.

The model promotes effective cooperation among all relevant actors playing a role in preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The goal is to use the full extent of the community's legal system to protect victims, hold perpetrators accountable, and enforce the community's intolerance of domestic violence. Actors involved in CCR include all relevant state agencies, including the judiciary, public prosecutors, probation, law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities as well as nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), particularly specialised victim support services.

The model requires law enforcement and interveners in the criminal and civil justice systems to follow written policies and procedures. A coordinating body is entrusted with overseeing, guiding, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the CCR and hence ensuring that the criminal justice system is held accountable. A key feature of the model is its victim-centred approach, which prioritises the voice and experiences of women who are victims of domestic violence throughout the creation, implementation, and evaluation of the policies and procedures.

FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2014

In 2014, the model was named the world's best policy to address violence against women and girls by the World Future Council (WFC), UN Women, and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The Future Policy Award is a WFC initiative to highlight the world's best policy approaches to the most pressing political challenges that the global community is facing today. In 2014, the award was dedicated to celebrate the best laws and policies that contribute to ending one of the most pervasive human rights violations of our time: violence against women and girls



Key features

- ❖ 18 participants from six different countries (Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Trinidad & Tobago), including NGO practitioners; police officers, supervisors, and trainers; a prosecutor trainer; a judge trainer; a parliamentary advisor and a justice ministry official.
- ❖ 68 hours of training, convening, observing and peer-to-peer exchange over 9 days
- ❖ Three days of intensive training by the staff at the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP) in Duluth (Minnesota). DAIP's expert trainers included NGO practitioners, police officers, prosecutors and probation officers, all involved in CCR in Duluth.
- ❖ Four days of training in Minneapolis (Minnesota), which included specialised sessions on international, regional and national best practices to respond to domestic violence led by GRW's legal experts, panel discussions with local experts involved in CCR, debriefing sessions, and group work in country delegations on building a CCR in their communities.
- ❖ Observation opportunities: Field visits were organized to allow the delegations to learn from practitioners involved in a CCR response. Participants visited a 911 emergency communications centre, shadowed police officers responding to calls, attended domestic violence court hearings, met with prosecutors and probation officers, and observed men's nonviolence group meetings.



- ❖ The workshop also included meetings with parliamentarians, representatives from local authorities, law enforcement entities, judges and prosecutors, service providers and civil society organizations.
- ❖ The workshop built in time for each delegation to convene to discuss how to build a CCR to domestic violence in their countries. Specifically, GRW's expert trainers coached the delegations to focus on *how* they were going to begin setting up a coordinated response.



Learning analysis

Altogether, the workshop provided participants with an intense overview of coordinated community responses to domestic violence. By combining expert presentations with direct observation opportunities of all the actors involved in a CCR response, the role of multi-agency cooperation in implementing domestic violence laws was underscored. The workshop offered a valuable platform for exchanging experiences and learning how non-governmental actors and governmental actors work together in Minnesota to protect victims from further violence and hold perpetrators accountable.

Delegates actively followed and participated in the working sessions and discussions. Furthermore, the workshop provided an important opportunity for country teams to convene and discuss the current status of the response to domestic violence in their communities, identify areas where further attention is needed, and plan next steps to build a CCR in their communities. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants walked away inspired by the new perspectives and innovative ideas gathered during the learning tour. The workshop also contributed to building networks between actors in the field and to paving way for continuous dialogue and experience sharing in the future.

Next steps

The World Future Council will continue to work with our partners to facilitate the transfer of knowledge between policymakers and their NGO counterparts and to support them in introducing the model in their communities.



Project partners

World Future Council (WFC)

The WFC is an international organisation representing the voice of future generations. The WFC's Ending Violence against Women and Girls team identifies and spreads policy solutions that are effectively addressing this pervasive human rights violation. Our goal is to facilitate the introduction and implementation of evidence-based legal and policy frameworks that effectively address violence against women and girls. To do this, we engage with policy-makers, parliamentarians and civil society partners to build capacity to prevent and respond to violence and to raise awareness of its causes and consequences.

Global Rights for Women (GRW)

GRW is a non-governmental organization that envisions a world where women's human rights to equality and freedom from violence are fully realized. GRW collaborates with partners around the world to promote women's human rights to equality and freedom from violence through legal reform and systems change. GRW influences law, policy and practice on women's human rights and violence against women and girls through speaking, writing, training, as well as assist in writing laws on violence against women. GRW works closely with partners to monitor the implementation of law, policy and practice on violence against women. GRW develops and presents sustainable training initiatives on violence against women for legal professionals, service providers and advocates. The goal of these trainings is to increase the capacity of participants to respond effectively to cases of violence against women, prioritizing victim safety and offender accountability.

The Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP)

In the 1980's DAIP started an initiative to reform the criminal justice system in Duluth, Minnesota. Throughout community support from eleven local agencies, The Duluth Model was born. Today, with worldwide partnerships the DAIP's mission continues to strive to end violence against women and promote victim safety through innovative training and institutional changes. The Duluth Model has evolved and changed over the last 30 years and has spread across the globe. DAIP continues to work toward ending violence against women through its programs in Duluth and in partnership with domestic violence practitioners around the world.



Annex I: Agenda

DAY 1: Monday, 28 March 2016

Arrival of participants in Minneapolis

6:00pm Welcome dinner

DAY 2: Tuesday, 29 March 2016

Inaugural Workshop, Venue: Winthrop & Weinstine LLP

9:00am Introduction by Global Rights for Women (GRW) & World Future Council (WFC), including logistics for the workshop

10:00am Participant introductions, current response to domestic violence in home countries

11:00am Break

11:15am Framework for response to domestic violence – international best practices, comparative practices in participants' countries, Minnesota legal framework (lecture & interactive discussion)

12:30pm Lunch break

1:30pm Framework (continued)

3:00pm Leave for Duluth, Minnesota (USA)

6:00pm Arrive in Duluth

6:30pm Dinner

DAY 3: Wednesday, 30 March 2016

First day of training at the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), home of the Duluth Model, Venue: DAIP office in Duluth

Trainer: Melissa Scaia (Executive Director, DAIP)

8:30am Registration and welcome, introductions, overview of the training
Brief history of the Duluth Model and coordinated community response to domestic violence

10:15am Break

10:30am Theories and types of domestic violence

12:00am Lunch break

1:30pm Interactive exercises on context of violence

3:00pm Break

3:15pm Women's perspective, first day wrap-up

4:00pm Observation opportunities:
- Visit to 911 Communications Centre
- Police ride-alongs (accompanying police officers from the Duluth Police Department while they respond to calls)

19:30pm Dinner

DAY 4: Thursday, 31 March 2016

Second day of training at the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), home of the Duluth Model, Venue: DAIP office in Duluth

- 9:00am** Morning session: law enforcement in CCR
Trainer: Marcus Bruning, retired police officer, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
- 12:00am** Lunch with Sheriff Ross Litman, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
- 1:30pm** Afternoon session: prosecutors' role in CCR
Trainer: Mary Asmus, Duluth City Attorney's Office
- 4:00pm** Observation opportunities:
- Tour of 911 emergency communications centre, observe emergency dispatch response and tracking of calls
 - Police ride-alongs, accompanying police officers from the Duluth Police Department while they respond to calls
 - Ride-alongs with St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
 - Men's Nonviolence Programs (Batterer Intervention Program, BIP)
- 19:30pm** Dinner

DAY 5: Friday, 1 April 2016

Third day of training at the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), home of the Duluth Model, Venue: DAIP office in Duluth

- 9:00am** Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP)
Morning session: probation's role in CCR
Trainer: Kay Arola, Executive Director Arrowhead Regional Corrections
- 11:00am** Meeting with Emily Larson, Mayor of Duluth, Mayor's Office
Proclamation of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, St. Louis County Courthouse
- 12:30pm** Lunch break
- 1:30pm** Afternoon session: men's nonviolence programs, CCR problem-solving
Trainer: Scott Miller (DAIP)
- 4:00pm** Observation opportunities:
- Police ride-alongs (accompanying police officers from the Duluth Police Department while they respond to calls)
 - Ride-alongs with St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
- 19:30pm** Dinner

DAY 6: Saturday, 2 April 2016

- 8:30am** Return to Minneapolis
Free day

DAY 7: Sunday, 3 April 2016

Debriefing sessions, Venue: Dorsey & Whitney LLP

- 10:00am** GRW & WFC comments on Duluth training, Q&A
- 11:00am** Debrief in country delegations
- 12:00pm** Lunch
- 1:00pm** Roundtable on implementation of lessons learned
- 3:00pm** Presentation on CCR curriculum
- 3:30pm** Opportunity for country delegations to meet individually with GRW & WFC staff
- 4:30pm** Review plans for Monday
- 6:00pm** Dinner at home of Judge Kathryn Quaintance (Fourth Judicial District judge for Hennepin County, Minnesota)

DAY 8: Monday, 4 April 2016

- 9:30am** Hennepin County Courthouse, Judge Elizabeth Cutter's courtroom
Welcome and presentation by Judge Cutter
- 10:00am** Observe domestic violence hearing
- 10:30am** Panel discussion by Minneapolis CCR agencies: Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence in Minneapolis & Hennepin County
Panel participants:
 - Michelle Jacobson – Prosecutor, Minneapolis City Attorney's Office
 - Catherine Johnson – Commander, Minneapolis Police Department, Violent Crimes Investigation Division
 - Janice Blackmon – Hennepin County Community Corrections & Rehabilitation
 - Carol Arthur – Executive Director, Domestic Abuse Project (retired)
- 12:00pm** Lunch in Government Center cafeteria
- 1:00pm** Board bus to travel to Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul
- 1:30pm** Meeting at the Minnesota House of Representatives with Rebekah Moses, Program Manager, Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women: session on Policy Advocacy & Ending Gender Violence, meeting several state legislators
- 3:30pm** Meet with Ramsey County Attorney John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney's Office
- 6:00pm** Dinner and program with Graham Barnes, Resource Specialist, Battered Women's Justice Project

DAY 9: Tuesday, 5 April 2016

Debriefing sessions, Venue: Dorsey & Whitney LLP

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|----------------|---|
| 9:00am | Debrief from Monday visits |
| 10:00am | Meet in country delegations to plan next steps |
| 11:30am | Lunch |
| 12:00pm | Lithuania delegation leaves for the airport |
| 12:30pm | Presentations from delegations on next steps |
| 2:00pm | Latvia delegation leaves for the airport |
| 2:00pm | Wrap up, closing remarks, handing out of certificates to participants |

DAY 10: Wednesday, 6 April 2016

Return of participants

End of workshop

Annex II: Additional resources

Council of Europe, [Effective Multi-agency Co-operation for Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence](#)

Futurepolicy.org, [Minnesota's 'Duluth Model': a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence](#)

Global Rights for Women, [Resources for Legal Reform on Violence Against Women](#)

The Duluth Model, [The Duluth Blueprint for Safety](#)

UN Women, [Essential services package for women and girls subject to violence](#)
(see [Module 5: Coordination and Governance of Coordination](#))

World Future Council, [Ending Violence against Women and Girls: The world's best laws and policies](#)