



**DV Homicide Prevention  
via Systemic Continuum:  
*Acute Law Enforcement Intervention  
to Accelerated Service Access***



CPEDV Annual State Conference, May 3, 2016  
Presenter: Deborah Son, MSW  
STAND! For Families Free of Violence

# Workshop Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)
- STAND!'s LAP Protocols
- Training and Preparation for *Implementation*
- Preliminary Data
- High Danger Victim Engagement
- Systemic and Organizational Challenges
- Systemic and Organizational Successes and Learnings
- **Brief Team Q&A**

# Introductions

- **Reina Sandoval-Beverly**, Director of Client Services, STAND! For Families Free of Violence
- **Usha Ramachandran**, Residential Site Director, STAND! For Families Free of Violence
- **Carolyn Graham**, Community Services Manager, STAND! For Families Free of Violence
- **Devorah Levine**, Executive Director, Contra Costa County's Zero Tolerance for Domestic Violence
- **Caylin Patterson**, Project Consultant, Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Initiative, Contra Costa County's Zero Tolerance for Domestic Violence
- **Walter O'Grodnick**, LAP Coordinator and Police Sergeant, Brentwood Police Department
- **Matthew Stonebraker**, LAP Coordinator and DVSU Police Sergeant, Richmond Police Department
- **Heidi Stephenson**, LAP Coordinator and DVSU Police Sergeant, Concord Police Department
- **Deborah Son**, Crisis and Emergency Response Services Manager and LAP Lead, STAND! For Families Free of Violence

# The Lethality Assessment Program

## Overview

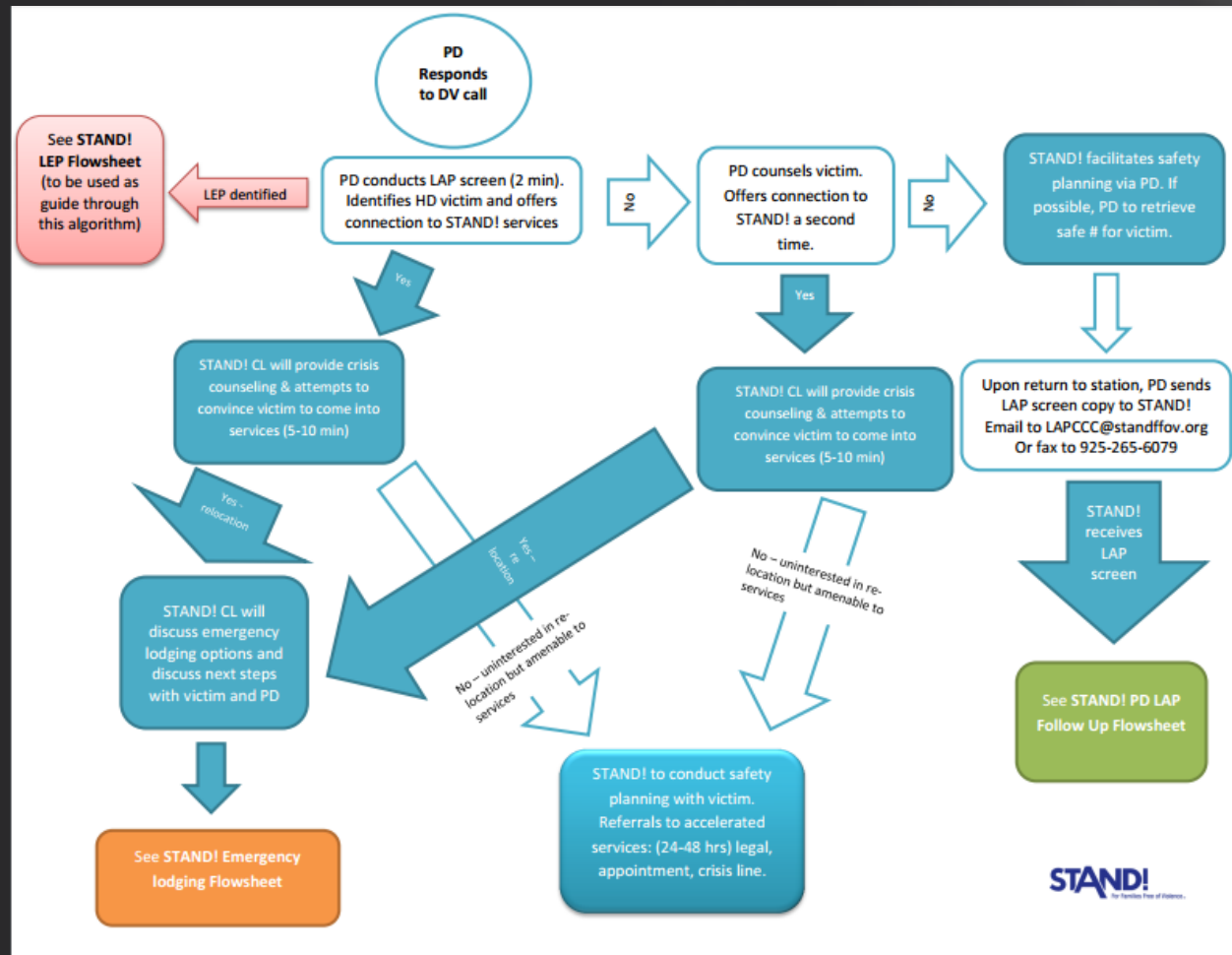
*Contra Costa County Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Initiative*

Partnership between Zero Tolerance, Brentwood PD, Concord PD, Richmond PD, and STAND!

- **Demonstration Initiative**, Funded by OVW
- **Technical Assistance**: Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence, National Latin@ Network, and Institute on Domestic Violence in The African American Community
- **Evaluation**: Yale University School of Medicine, Psychiatry
- **Implementation**: October 1, 2015

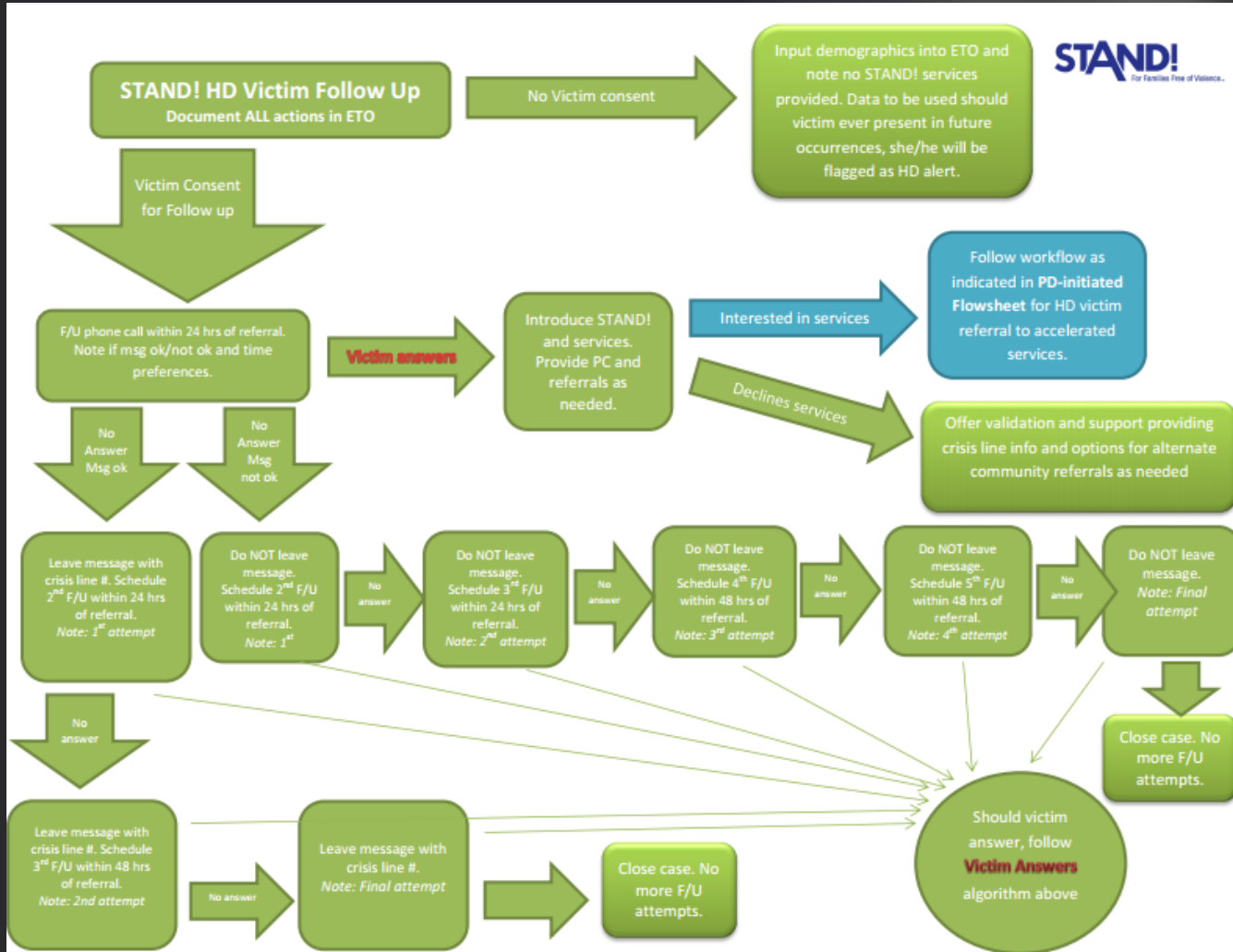
# LAP Workflow: *Differentiated Response*

LAP is Two-Parts: The evidence-based tool and the protocol

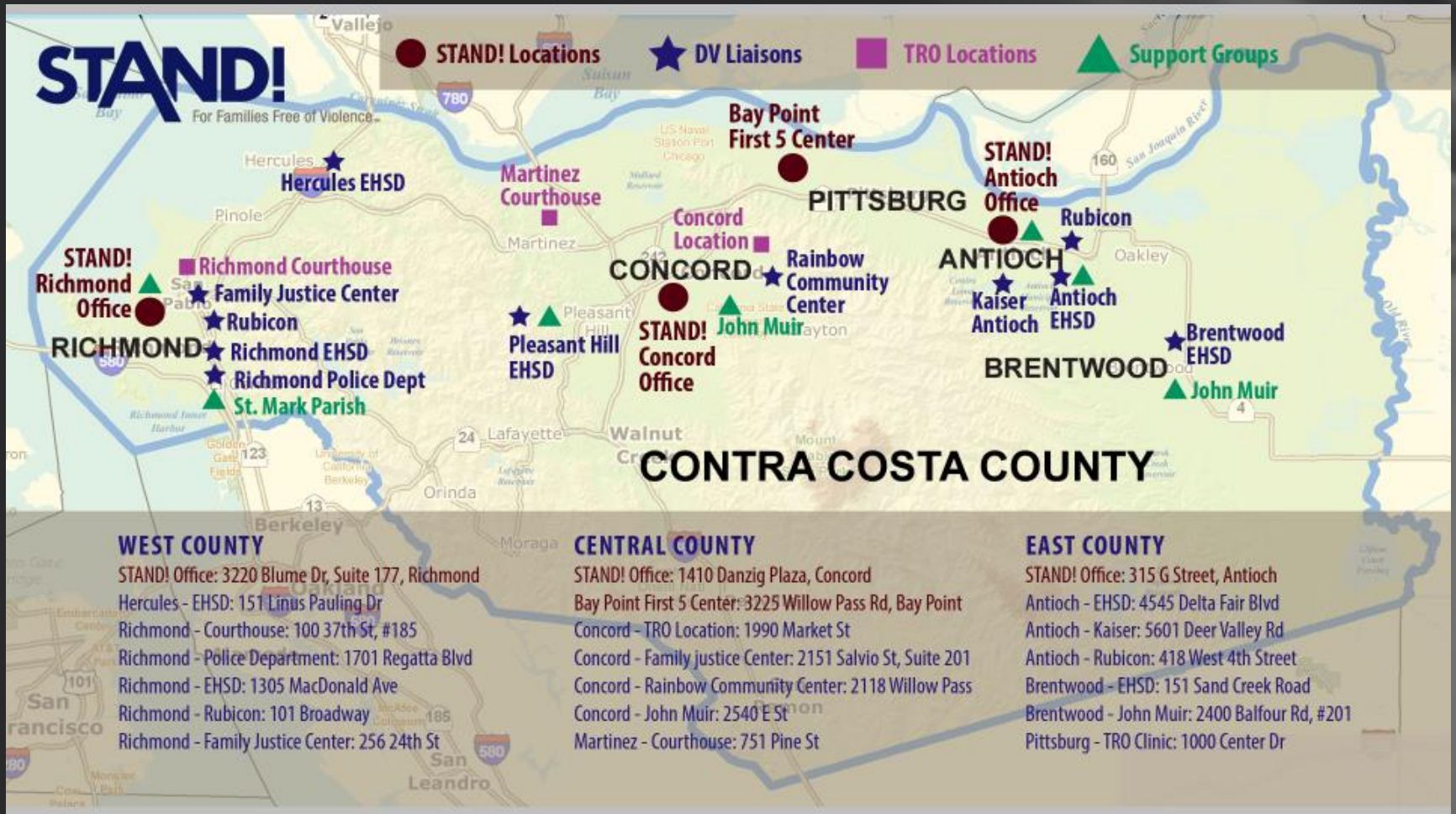


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# Service Workflow



# Accelerated Services



# Pre-Implementation

## Contra Costa Zero Tolerance for Domestic Violence Initiative



**Best Practice:** public/private partnership through Zero Tolerance for Domestic Violence Initiative

**Foundation of coordinated response system:** public policy established by Board of Supervisors through SB 968



Build Capacity  
Leverage Resources  
Incubate & Measure  
Advocate



DV Homicide  
Prevention  
Demonstration



Research & Training  
Small Pilot – DV High Risk  
Team



Needed Paradigm Shift  
Risk as a Defining Concept  
Across Systems



# Pre-Implementation (cont'd)

## DVSP Partnership Building:

- Family Justice Center Model
- Richmond Police Department Liaison
- Kaiser Model

## Internal Trainings and Cross-Trainings:

- Law Enforcement Trainings
- STAND!'s Tiered Approach for Internal Capacity Building



# Service Alignment : *Referral Workflow*



# Contra Costa County

## *Six months into implementation...*



- LAP Screens Administered: 614
- High Danger Victims Identified: 414
- High Danger Victims who went into **services**: 163
- Legal Services Accessed: 62
- Case Management Services Accessed: 99
- Emergency Housing Services Accessed: 61
- *61% of High Danger Victims identified had no history with STAND!*

# Preliminary High Danger Victim Data

**Hypothesis: High Danger victims because they are introduced to services earlier in their stage of readiness will be less likely to complete DV service programs successfully.**

13% of High Danger Victims who entered the emergency shelter program successfully completed it.

*Compared to last year:*

31% of victims who entered the same emergency shelter program with successful completion.



# High Danger Victim Data (cont'd)

Hypothesis: High Danger victims are introduced to STAND! services in the earlier stages of DV awareness.

*Since Implementation:*

Each **non-high danger** client served was provided, on average, 1.2 DV education sessions in community and residential programs.

Each **high danger** client served was provided, on average, 1.3 DV education sessions in community and residential programs.



# High Danger Victim Data (cont'd)

Hypothesis: High Danger victims have a higher likelihood of needing legal intervention given acuity of domestic violence incidents.

*Since Implementation:*

Legal Advocacy for high danger clients made up 83% of the clients who were provided legal services within STAND! in the past six months.



# High Danger Victim Data (cont'd)

Hypothesis: High Danger victims are less likely to engage in voluntary services due to lack of readiness toward change.

25% of high danger clients who came into shelter attended DV support group.

*Compared to Last Year:*

51% of shelter clients attended DV support group.



# HD Victim Engagement

*Focused Data in Richmond, CA*

88% of High Danger victims were responsive to phone call follow ups within 24 hours of missing their appointment with an advocate.

Of these clients, 57% engaged in STAND! services.

## Qualitative Strategy Points from LAP Advocates:

- Constant validation
- Emphasis on nonobligatory nature of services
  - Repetition of DV education
  - Reminder phone calls
  - Calls beyond the 48-hour window
- Legal services as focal point in 24-hour window





# HD Victim Engagement (cont'd)

## *Residential Services*

*87% of High Danger Victims who were housed in the emergency shelter reported value in "talking to someone who understands my situation."*



### Qualitative Strategy Points from Residential Case Managers:

- Additional sessions dedicated to peer counseling
- Repetition of DV education & consistency in language
  - Openness for deeper case participation
- Affectual distinctions of case and client presentations
- Protocol assimilation for situations without immediacy of danger

# Experience of a LAP Advocate

“Working with High Danger Victims is challenging and can be very stressful, but the reward could not be higher... The stories we hear in our shelter are horrific. Often I find myself saying to clients, “I am so glad you’re here, and I don’t just mean here in our shelter.” The LAP program has brought many people into our services who might not have reached out on their own, and who are clearly the most in need. We are so grateful our agency was chosen to implement this life-saving program.”

*- Diondra Holaday, Transitional Housing Coordinator*

# Challenges

- Protocol integration
- Readiness
- Uncertainty
- Sustainability
- Resources



# Successes

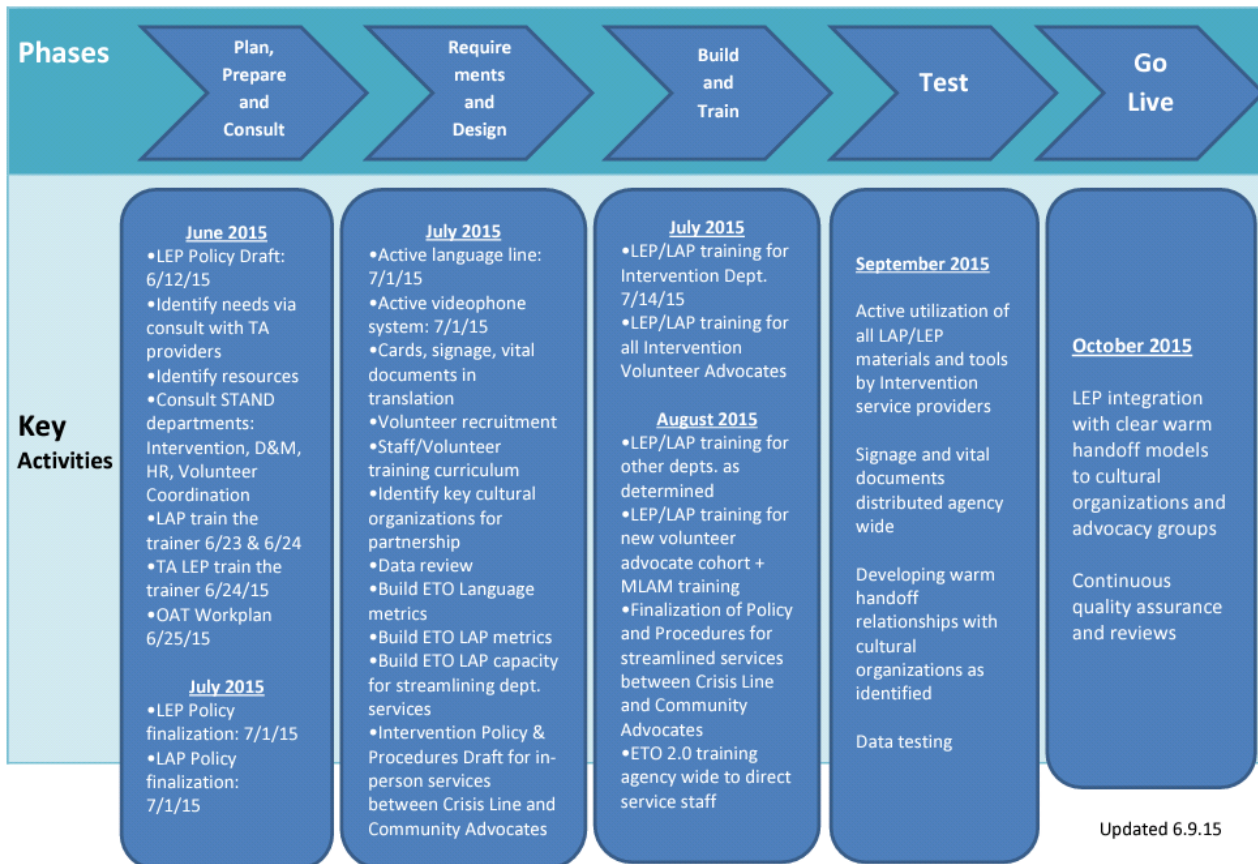
- Deepened community partnerships
- Community access
- Mutual benefit
- Enhanced Skill
- Prevention and Early Intervention



# Pre-Implementation Plan



## LAP/LEP Implementation Plan



Updated 6.9.15

# Questions?

Thank you to all the partners who made this project a success!

Zero Tolerance

Brentwood Police Department

Concord Police Department

Richmond Police Department

Contact:

Reina Sandoval-Beverly

[reinasb@standffov.org](mailto:reinasb@standffov.org)

Deborah Son

[deborahsmson@gmail.com](mailto:deborahsmson@gmail.com)

Devorah Levine

[dlevine@ehsd.cccounty.us](mailto:dlevine@ehsd.cccounty.us)

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