Best Practices Using Technology: Supporting Survivors & Their Advocates in Rural & Remote Communities

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CANADIAN DOMESTIC HOMICIDE PREVENTION CONFERENCE
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Agenda

- Introduction
- What we do
- What we’ve learned
- Discussion

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VAW sector: Using technology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women are using it</td>
<td>Not all women &gt; Digital divide</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Which technology? &gt; Cost</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Leaves a digital footprint &gt; Safety</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Abusive partners are using it &gt; Safety</td>
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<td>Community/connections</td>
<td>Privacy &gt; Safety &gt; Evidence</td>
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<td>Bridges distance</td>
<td>Not a replacement for in-person</td>
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<td>Access to information,</td>
<td>Make material accessible</td>
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<td>training, legal advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can be a cheaper option</td>
<td>Technical equipment &amp; skills cost</td>
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<td>than in-person</td>
<td>money constantly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence of abuse</td>
<td>Evidence against her</td>
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FCSW community of practice

Online training for service providers & lawyers

Effective Lawyering with Clients Leaving Abusive Relationships
http://lukesplace.ca/support-us/for-lawyers/accredited-training-for-lawyers/

Virtual Legal Clinic

Summary legal advice from family law lawyers to abuse survivors via web-conferencing
Audience: Survivors

What we know
Anyone can be subjected to abuse
Phones
At risk
Trauma impacts learning

Best practices
Inclusivity
AODA standards
Technical considerations
Plain language
Ease of use
Need to know
Make it safe(r)

Motivations: Client safety, justice
Technology: Cautious
Audience: Advocates
Learning style: Comfortable with grey
Work environment: Limited resources

Moving in-person content online
Need a very different approach
Complex/mixed topics better dealt with in-person
Need multiple formats
No room for discussion
Fast & simple

Ideal arrangement is online & in-person together

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Training formats

- **E-learning**
  - User-end bandwidth, software
  - Time available
  - Resources for clients

- **Blended learning**
  - Online: facts, processes
  - In-person: discussion
  - Tie closely together

- **Community of Practice**
  - In-person events essential
  - Respected moderator
  - Self-selection
  - Email reminders

Statistics

- 80% abusive partners admit to cyberstalking in last 12 months (US, 2017)
- 82% VAW clients are stalked via phone or social media (Australia, 2015)
- 55% VAW programs report clients were subjected to revenge porn (US, 2015)
- 60% VAW programs report children’s technology used to monitor woman (US, 2015)

Tech safety strategy

- It’s her right to use tech
- Ask her about tech abuse
- Know the warning signs
- Visit: TechSafety.org

Advocates: take care online too!
Collecting evidence

Valuable source of evidence:
- Is he stalking her online?
- Is there evidence of bad parenting or dishonesty in his financial statement/disclosure online?

Women need to protect themselves online as well

Contact

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References
