Promising Practices Guide

Lethality Assessment Protocol

What is it?

Assess and Connect

An easy and effective method for law enforcement and other community professionals to identify victims of domestic violence who are at the highest risk of being seriously injured or killed by their intimate partners, and immediately connect them to a domestic violence program.

Why is it important?

Evidence-based

The Lethality Assessment Protocol is one of two evidence-based practices recognized by the Department of Justice to reduce domestic violence fatalities.

Is this required?

Not yet (October 2021)

No funder or state agency currently requires use of Lethality Assessment Protocol. The Professional Standards do recommend coordinating services with law enforcement and other community agencies.

How do we make it happen?

Partnerships and ongoing training

Partner with local law enforcement to receive training on the LAP and implement according to the Maryland Model. Ongoing support is available from DCJS and the OAG.