

Transitioning from Separation to Expansion: Working with Survivors and Persons Causing Harm—Same Movement or Opposing Movements?

Em Alves and Michele Richard, LEAP Cohort 9 Fellows

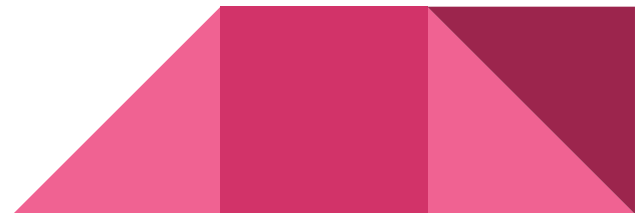
Thank you to LEAP!

For over 10 years, the Leadership Education and Advancement for Professionals (LEAP) Project has created space for over 100 advocate-leaders and women of color in leadership positions to build their executive-level skills, “pay it forward” to leaders of color in their community, and ultimately, strategize toward equitable and inclusive workplace cultures, service provision, and education to communities of color across the United States and Territories.

Panelists:

Pamela Andrews

Carol Grannum



A Brief History of the Movement towards Restoration

Inception

- “Batterer’s” Intervention movements
- Entertwined with the legal system

Shifts Since Inception

- Often still using the term “batterer”
 - Not necessarily using it in practice, see APIP resource list
- Shifting to “Persons Causing Harm” (PCH)
 - Humanistic
 - Trauma-informed space and practice

Current Perspectives

- Based heavily in collaborative, community work
- Lack of single recognized models necessitates tailored implementation supported by current research



The Convergence

Survivors have long been asking for and seeking this type of “alternative” accountability

- Support mechanisms are very clearly needed for behavioral change, and long-term safety of survivors
- Survivor feedback combined with increased published research
 - Required and requires careful strategic planning with survivor safety and risk management in mind



POLL: Roadblocks

What are your roadblocks to the overlap?

- A. Survivor Safety Concern
- B. Fear
- C. Burnout
- D. “People don’t change”
- E. “They’re just learning to hide it better”
- F. Lack of information
- G. Competes with survivor resources
- H. Other



Roadblocks to Working with PCH: Individual and Movement Concerns

- Fear
- Safety
- “Hard No”
 - Resource Competition
 - Emotionally difficult
 - Population-specific
- Funding
- Staff and Expertise Deficits
- Formal Educational Settings for Advocates and Facilitators
 - Limited opportunities, no national/state model
 - Emerging Strength: Growing Communities of Practice

“BATTERER INTERVENTION” MOVEMENTS

- Based in criminal legal system historically
- Often Mandated

RESTORATIVE APPROACH

- Survivor Led
- Trauma-informed
- Safety-Focused
- Adaptive to evidence and individual needs
- Desire for greater systemic change

IPV SURVIVOR ADVOCACY

- Typically grassroots
- Non-mandated
- Often excludes direct work with PCH

Collective Impact

Even if the primary goal doesn't align, the overall goals can

Safety and healing for all is the goal


Survivors are so often asking for the relationship to improve not end, and if we can support that for behavior change and bring in the whole community we can co-create true collective impact



What we know

- Accountability is often framed through the criminal legal system, but the vast majority of IPV-related crimes do not meet the legal definition.

Criminal Legal System ≠...

- ... justice
 - ... safety
 - ... accountability
 - ... behavior change
- 

Panelists



Pamela Andrews



Carol Grannum



Participant Quotes

“The classes that she gives me, right? [Case Planner] gives me classes, but on top of that, I will say on her own end she gives me good examples. And she’s a great listener. So every time I speak to her, that I express myself to her, she always gives me good advice. So I think that that’s one of the most things that helped me.” - PCH

“I felt like working with Safe Way Forward, they helped me identify the pain of my past, childhood abuse. And it opened up a whole new world for me. Now, I’m more patient with my daughter. I’m more understanding. I’m definitely more loving to her.” - Survivor

“I’m much more focused on him now. How can I put this? Basically...every time I look at my son now as like a more important thing to deal with than when he was living with me...” - PCH

