

Guiding Principles

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program



Principle I: Equal Regard for the Safety of Child(ren) and Adult Victims

Visitation centers should consider as their highest priority the safety of child(ren) and adult victims and should treat both with equal regard.



Principle II: Valuing Multiculturalism and Diversity

Visitation centers should be responsive to the background, circumstances, and cultures of their community and the families they serve.



Principle III: Incorporating an Understanding of Domestic Violence into Center Services

Visitation centers should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the nature, dynamics, and impact of domestic violence and incorporate that understanding into their services.



Principle IV: Respectful and Fair Interaction

Visitation centers should treat every individual using their services with respect and fairness, while taking into account the abuse that has occurred within the family.



Principle V: Community Collaboration

Visitation centers should seek to operate within a community collaborative which has as its goal to centralize safety of child(ren) and adult victims and hold batterers accountable. The community collaborative will strive (1) to ensure a holistic response to each family member's needs; (2) to stop continued abuse of child(ren) and adult victims; and (3) to eliminate the social conditions that cause intimate partner violence.



Principle VI: Advocacy for Child(ren) and Adult Victims

Visitation centers should work with the community collaborative to ensure that Child(ren) and adult victims have meaningful access to services and should actively link individuals to those services.

