

COLLABORATION (INTRA- & INTERDISCIPLINARY)

Collaboration

Healthy collaboration isn't just something to which SANE programs should aspire – it is a necessity for sustainability. SANE programs cannot operate in a vacuum. They need to work with other disciplines, as well as other healthcare professionals, to provide comprehensive care to sexual assault patients. Collaboration is a requisite component of SANE programming because it improves the experience of each patient – with benefits such as creating access to onsite advocacy, referrals to community resources and consultation with other clinicians to address specific healthcare challenges. But collaboration also has a macro level impact. It can provide a mechanism for feedback that can assist in quality improvement endeavors (see *Assessment and Evaluation* section for resources); allow for opportunities to more successfully secure support through the demonstration of existing relationships; and provide a road map for potential program expansion as gaps in services are identified at the community or even regional level.

SANE programs also should consider how they might collaborate with other SANE programs in their region. These types of collaborative relationships are often underdeveloped, to the detriment of SANEs and sexual assault patients. Creating strong collaborative relationships with other programs can allow for pooling of resources to provide training and education, create a support network for program managers to help reduce burnout, and potentially address challenges in getting new SANEs from preceptorship to independent team member. Even in cases where health systems are in direct competition, programs can informally collaborate to increase the currency and competency of all members of the teams.

Your state, territory or tribal **sexual assault coalition** also can support you in providing opportunities for developing connections with other programs in your region.

Online collaboration resources: Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART)

National SART Toolkit

http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/sartkit/

Sexual Assault Response Team Development: A guide for victim service professionals http://www.nsvrc.org/publications/articles/how-implement-institution-based-sexual-assault-response-team-sart



COLLABORATION (INTRA- & INTERDISCIPLINARY) Pg 2

National Sexual Assault Response Team Survey Report

http://www.nsvrc.org/publications/national-sexual-assault-response-team-survey-report-2009

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Implementation and Collaborative Process: What Works Best for the Criminal Justice System?

https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/243829.pdf

How to implement an institution-based Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

http://www.nsvrc.org/publications/articles/how-implement-institution-based-sexual-assault-response-team-sart

Sexual Assault Response Teams: Resource Guide for the Development of a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) in Tribal Communities

http://www.tribal-institute.org/download/SART_Manual_09_08.pdf

Online collaboration resources: General crime victim collaboration

Collaboration: A Training Curriculum to Enhance the Effectiveness of Criminal Justice Teams: Instructional Manual

http://www.collaborativejustice.org/docs/2005%20Collaboration%20Curriculum.pdf

Building Stronger Sexual Assault Survivor Services Through Collaboration

http://www.taasa.org/member/pdfs/bssasstc-eng.pdf

Forging New Collaborations: A Guide for Rape Crisis, Domestic Violence, and Disability Organizations

http://www.vera.org/pubs/forging-new-collaborations-guide-rape-crisis-domestic-violence-and-disability-organizations-1

Online collaboration resources: General collaboration tools

Collaboration Multiplier

http://www.preventioninstitute.org/index.php?option=com_jlibrary&view=article&id=44&Itemid=127

Collaboration Toolkit

http://thecne.org/sites/thecne.org/files/cne/Collaboration%20Toolkit%20Feb%208.pdf



COLLABORATION (INTRA- & INTERDISCIPLINARY) Pg 3

Online collaboration resources: Collaboration in nursing

Ten Lessons in Collaboration http://bit.ly/1qUwAxQ

About the author

Dr. Jenifer Markowitz is a forensic nursing consultant, writer, curriculum developer, and educator. She received her clinical doctorate in nursing from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and is board certified as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner – Adolescent/Adult. She spends a great deal of time on airplanes, on military instillations, online, and in court (in no particular order). You can find her at her website, Forensic Healthcare Online (www.forensichealth.com) or on Twitter: @ForensicHealth.

About this publication

This publication is part of the SANE Sustainability Education Project. For more information about this project visit http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/sane-sustainability

This project was supported by Grant No. 2011-TA-AX-K077 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice (OVW DOJ). The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this course are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the OVW DOJ.

© National Sexual Violence Resource Center and International Association of Forensic Nurses 2014. All rights reserved.