

Illinois Imagines



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Arc of Illinois Lunchtime Webinar
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www.thearcofil.org



Acknowledgements

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Before we begin,
let's create an environment
where we can all feel safe.





Prevalence - 1

People with intellectual disabilities are sexually victimized more often than others who do not have a disability.
(Furey, 1994)

49% percent of people with intellectual disabilities will experience 10 or more sexually abusive incidents during a lifetime.
(Sobsey & Doe, 1991)

Prevalence - 2

Any type of disability appears to contribute to higher risk of victimization but intellectual disabilities, communication disorders, and behavioral disorders appear to contribute to very high levels of risk, and having multiple disabilities result in even higher risk levels.
(Sullivan & Knutson, 2000)

Prevalence - 3

Researchers have found that men with disabilities are twice as likely to become a victim of sexual violence compared to men without disabilities.
(The Roeher Institute, 1995)

80% of women and 60% of men with developmental disabilities will experience sexual violence by age 18; of this number, only 3% of the perpetrators go to jail.

Prevalence - 4

Women with disabilities, compared to women without disabilities, are more likely to experience violence that is more severe victimization, experience it for longer duration, be survivors of multiple episodes of abuse, and be survivors of a larger number of perpetrators.

J. Schaller and J.L. Fieberg, "Issues of abuse for women with disabilities and implications for rehabilitation counseling," *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling* 29 no. 2 (1998): 9-17.



Prevalence - 5

Other studies have indicated that as many as 90% of people with developmental disabilities will experience sexual assault in their life time.

Vision/Goals - 1

○ Vision

- All people with disabilities will be guaranteed an environment free from sexual violence, where they are empowered to speak and act for themselves.
- Survivors of sexual violence will be assured a proactive, individualized, compassionate response to their experience.

Vision/Goals - 2

○ Goals

- Reduce the incidence of sexual assault and the threat of sexual violence against people with disabilities.
- Create a supportive, accessible environment for people with disabilities who choose to disclose sexual assault or the threat of sexual violence.
- Ensure survivors receive timely, relevant, survivor-centered services.



Guiding Principles

- Victim-Centered
 - Rape Crisis Center focus expanded to all
- People First
 - Nothing about us without us
 - People-First language
- Disability Humility
 - Shift the focus from worker as expert to the person with disability as expert



**“Diversity is being invited
to the party;
inclusion is being asked
to dance.”**

~ Vernã Myers



Background - 1

- OVW Grant
 - Began in 2007
 - Original stipulations (women, no criminal justice, etc.)

Background - 2

- Statewide Collaborative Team
 - Self-Advocates
 - Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)
 - Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA)
 - Disability Service Providers (DSPs)
 - Family Violence Coordinating Council (FVCC)
 - Centers for Independent Living (CILs)
 - Others



Process

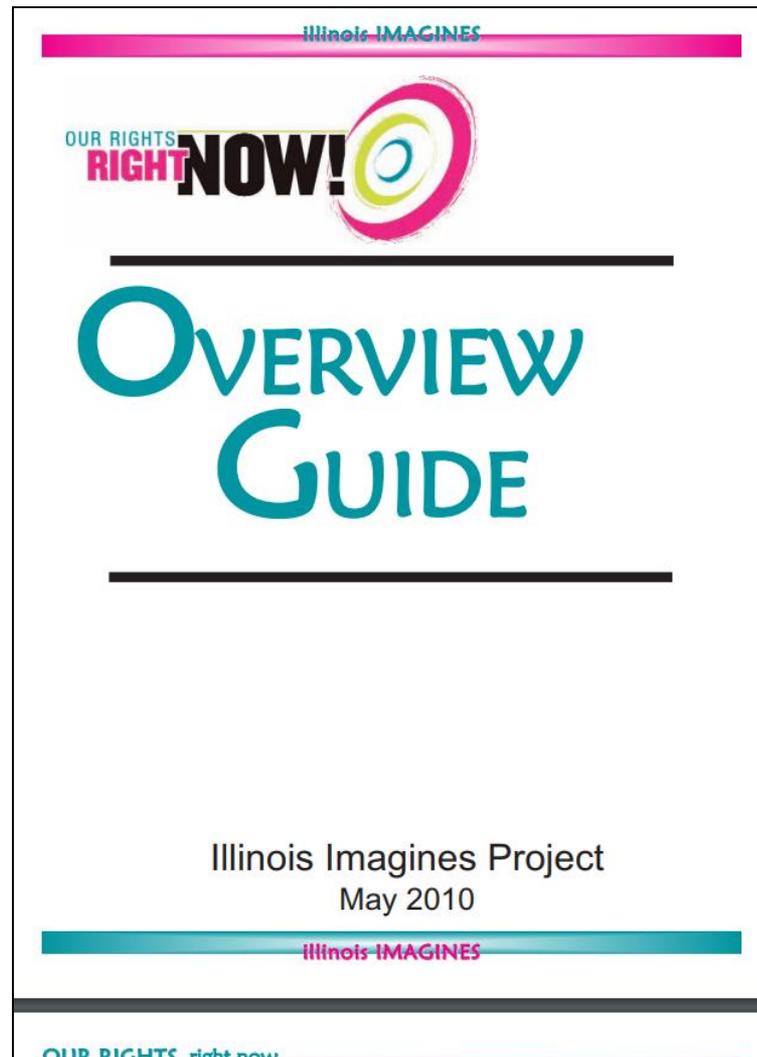
- Statewide Needs Assessment
- Strategic Planning
- Model Sites
- Sustainability



Lessons Learned

- Collaboration is good
 - Learning about each other has led to working together/helping each other
- Knowledge is good
 - Knowledge for people with disabilities
 - Staff knowledge
 - Referrals up
- Law and Policy
 - Institutionalize

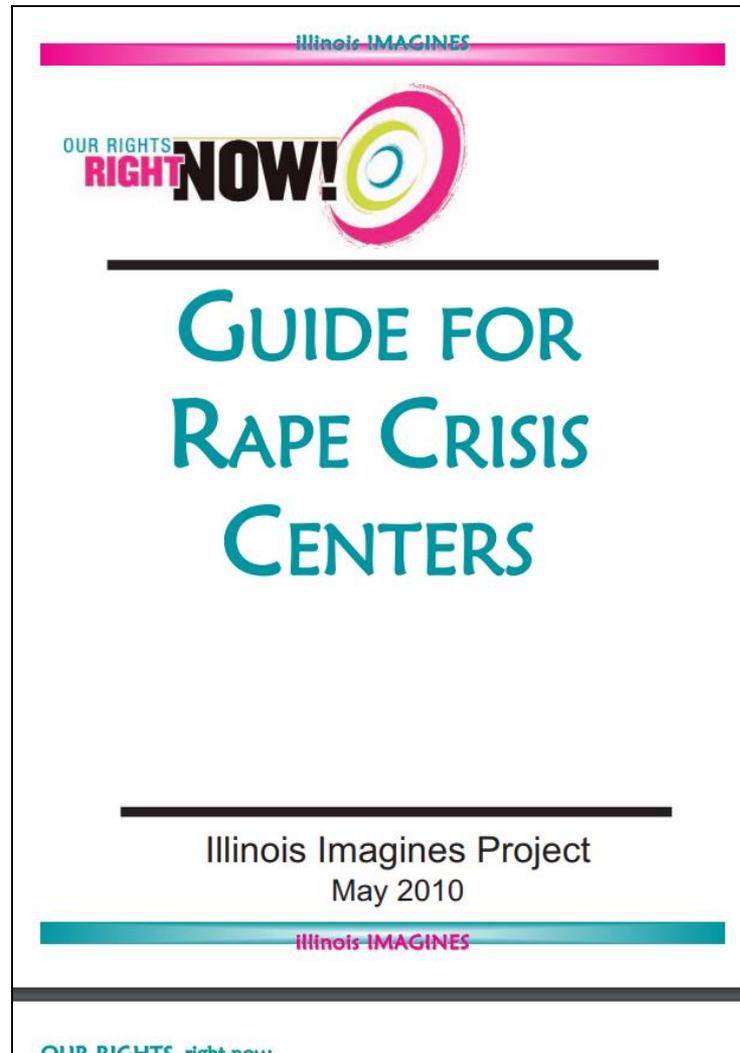
Original Toolkit



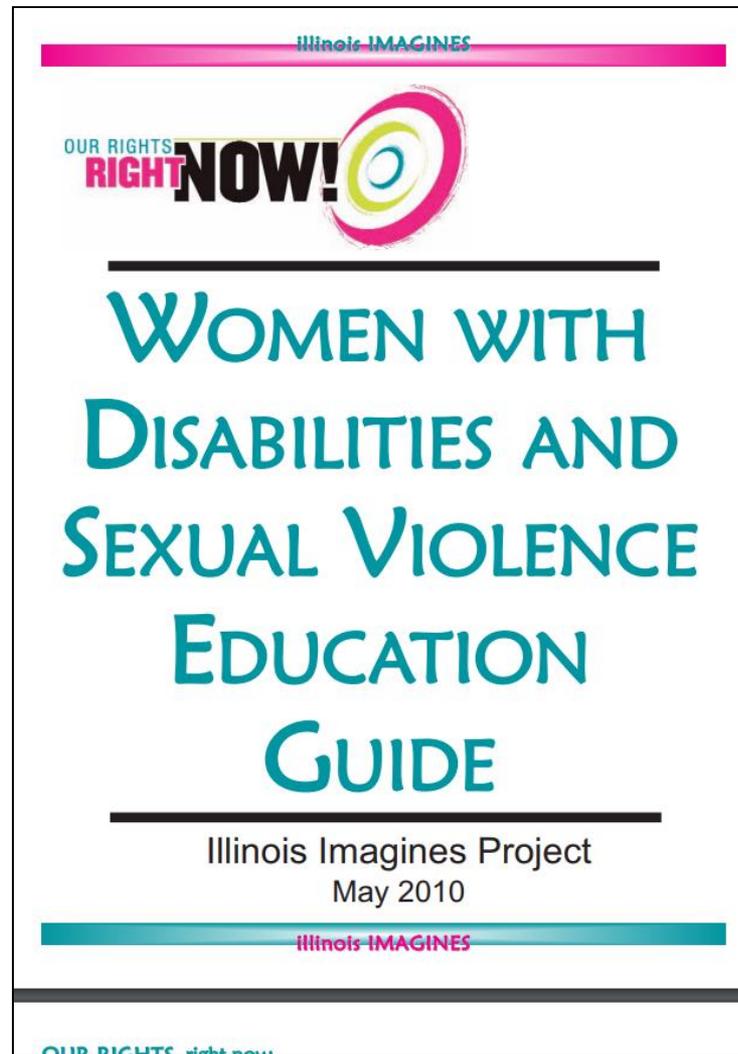
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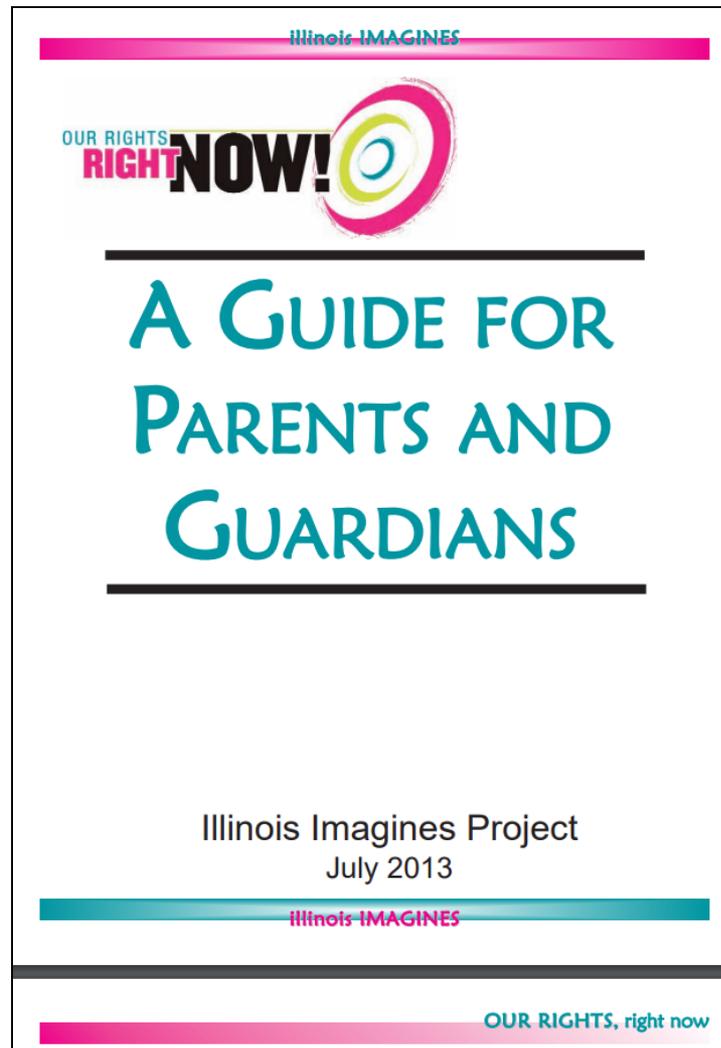
Original Toolkit



Original Toolkit



A Guide for Parents and Guardians



Guia Para Los Padres Y Familiares



PICTURE GUIDE To The Exam After Sexual Assault

PICTURE GUIDE To The
Exam After Sexual
Assault for Self-
Advocates



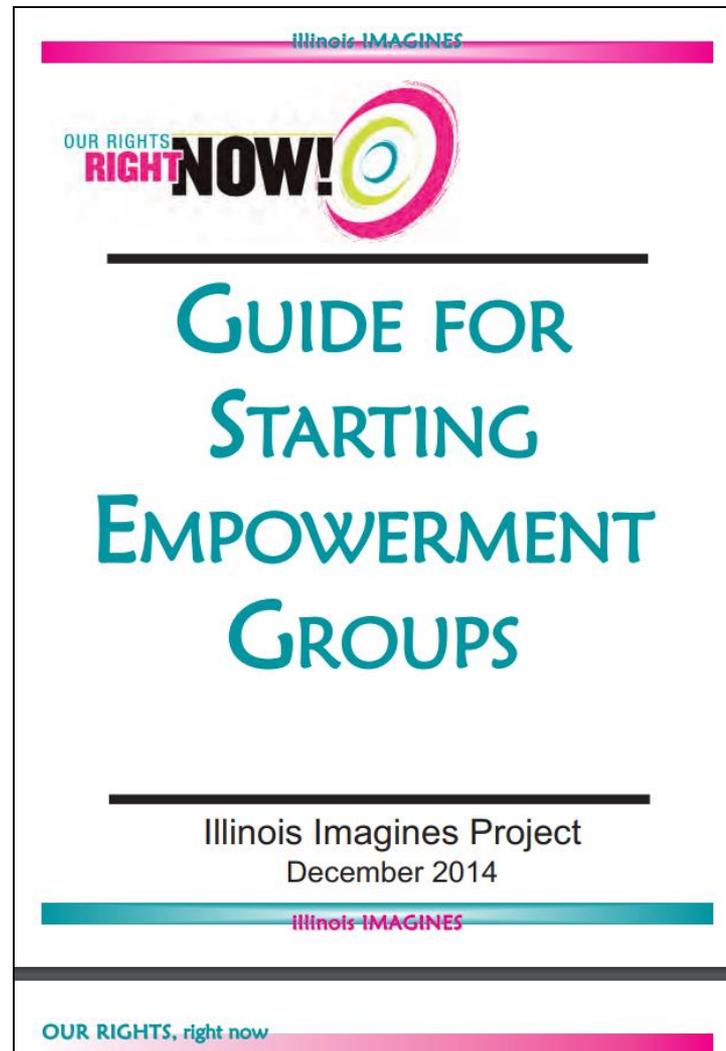
PICTURE GUIDE To The
Exam After Sexual Assault
for Advocates



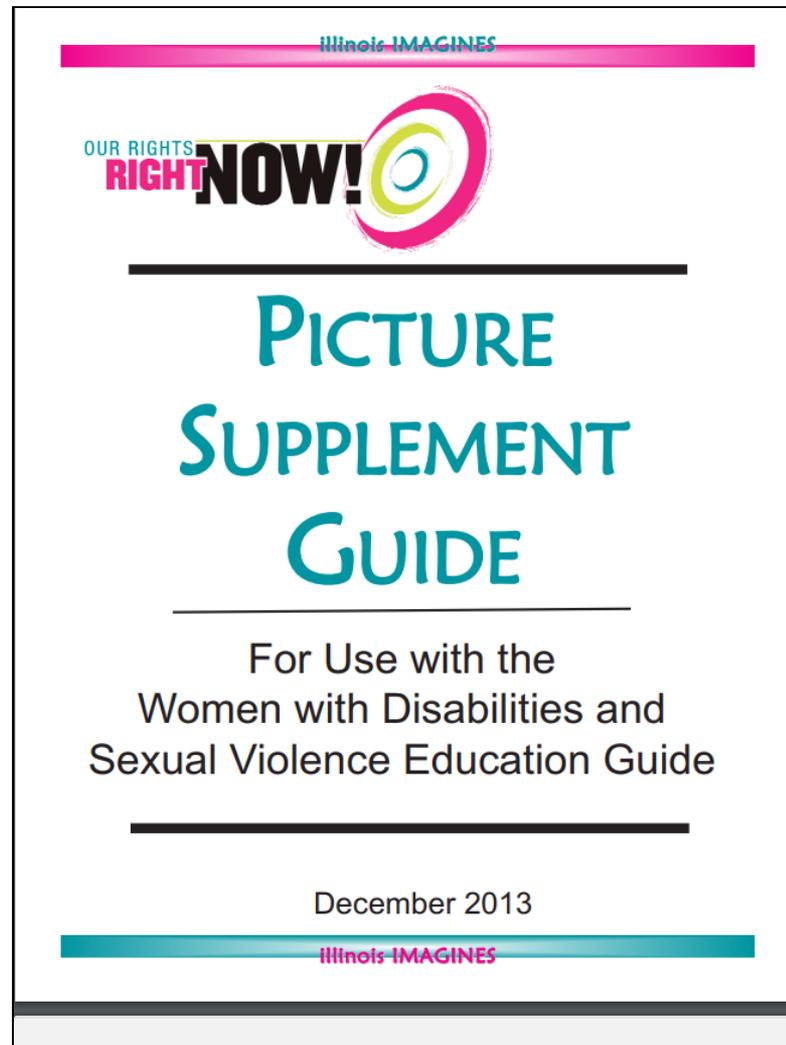
PICTURE GUIDE To The
Exam After Sexual
Assault for Medical Staff



Guide for Starting Empowerment Groups



Picture Supplement Guide





100 North 16th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217)753-4117

Illinois Imagines

- Home
- Crisis Centers
- Stats & Facts
- Publications
- Legal Issues
- Member Services
- Links
- Video ICASA
- Listen Up!
- Contact ICASA
- Español
- Illinois Imagines
- Donations
- Rape on College Campuses
- Funding Applications

What is Illinois Imagines?

Guide To This Website – What Is Here? And How To Find It



* Illinois Imagines Website Information/Site Map

Illinois Imagines is a statewide project to improve services to women with disabilities who have been victims of sexual violence. The project is directed by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois rape crisis centers, disability service agencies and self-advocates. Collaborative teams have been established in 30 communities across the state.

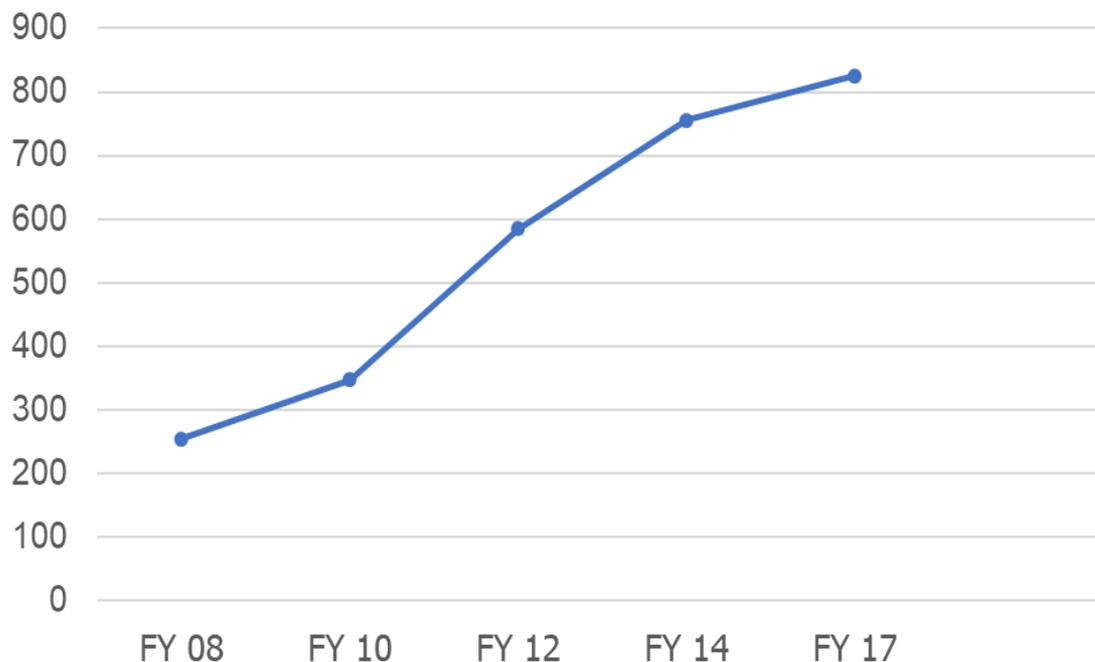
[Start Search](#)

- Materials - Toolkit and Other Material
- Collaborative Teams
- Resources
- Legal Information
- Get Help!
- Frequently Asked Questions

Survivors with Disabilities Served by RCC in Illinois

- FY08 – 254
- FY10 – 347
- FY12 – 585
- FY14 – 756
- FY17 - 825

Survivors served at RCCs in Illinois



When Someone Tells You About Sexual Violence...

START BY

believing

www.startbybelieving.org

Help! I've Had a Disclosure... What Do I Do?

- Take a deep breath
- Be present
- Believe what you hear
- Be quiet and let the person tell the story
- Do not ask questions
- Do not blame, judge, or punish



Help! I've Had a Disclosure... What Do I Say?

"I believe you."

"This was not your fault. You are not alone."

"You are so brave to tell. Thank you for trusting me with this."

"How can I help you? What do you need right now?"

"There is a crisis center in town that can help. Do you want help in calling/contacting?"

Trauma Responsive Assessment Tool - 1

OUR RIGHTS, right now

TRAUMA RESPONSIVENESS ASSESSMENT TOOL

ASSESSMENT DATE: _____

AGENCY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

STAFF INTERVIEWED: _____

INTERVIEWERS: _____

SEND REPORT TO: _____

CONNECTION AND READINESS SECTION

1. Describe the relationship and networking between your agency and the local rape crisis center. Describe any specific outreach efforts or networking agreements.
2. How does your collaboration with rape crisis centers improve your readiness to serve women with disabilities who experience sexual violence and the broader community (e.g., police, court)?
3. How would a woman with a disability who experienced sexual violence know she could safely disclose to staff in your agency? Describe any specific awareness efforts.
4. Describe how agency materials and environment make it known that the agency is a safe place for women with disabilities to talk about sexual violence.
5. How are staff prepared to respond to disclosures of sexual violence? Describe staff attitude regarding disclosures.

OUR RIGHTS, right now

6. Describe staff development opportunities regarding sexual violence. How much training is provided? How much is required? How are rape crisis centers included as trainers? Describe training approaches that enhance staff comfort and confidence in responding to sexual violence.

| Training Topics | | Number of Hours Per Year |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| Sexual violence and women with disabilities (incidence, impact, general information) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Impact of sexual violence, injury, trauma, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Responding to disclosures | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| System response/resources (emergency department, law enforcement, criminal justice system) to sexual violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Agency policies & procedures guiding service to women with disabilities who experience sexual violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

CONNECTION AND READINESS SUMMARY

○ Strengths:

○ Challenges:

○ Resources Needed:

Trauma Responsive Assessment Tool - 2

OUR RIGHTS, right now

POLICIES AND PRACTICES SECTION

1. How do you inform women with disabilities about healthy sexuality, sexual relationships and their rights to sexual safety?
2. Describe agency policy regarding personal boundaries among clients and between clients and staff. How does policy explain what it means to respect personal boundaries and the agency's response to boundary violations?
3. How does agency intake protocol include screening for history of sexual violence? How does ongoing service planning and delivery provide disclosure opportunities for women who experience sexual violence?
4. How do you inform women with disabilities about how to report if they experience sexual harassment or sexual violence? How do staff educate women with disabilities regarding required reporting (at point of intake and any point of potential disclosure)?
5. Describe immediate response to women with disabilities who disclose sexual violence (e.g., crisis intervention, medical care, reporting and safety planning). How does the response to disclosure support victim safety and healing?
6. How is privacy provided when a woman with a disability discloses sexual violence?
7. How does the woman participate in reporting sexual violence to others (e.g., family, rape crisis center, OIG, law enforcement)?
8. Describe the referral process and coordination of services with a rape crisis center. How would a woman be informed that she can use rape crisis services? Does the agency provide on-site space for rape crisis staff to serve women with disabilities?
9. How does the service plan incorporate a holistic response to the woman's sexuality, sexual orientation, sexual choices and safety?
10. How is understanding of and response to trauma integrated into the overall service plan (e.g., education, employment, counseling)?
11. How does the staff advocate for and/or arrange transportation and accommodations for individual women with disabilities in the agency and community settings (e.g., hospital, court)?

Illinois IMAGINES
Tool 1

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OUR RIGHTS, right now

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Tool 1

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**“I did then what
I knew then.
When I knew better,
I did better.”**

~ Maya Angelou





Questions
Comments
Considerations