

DVHRT: Domestic Violence High Risk Team

DVHRT is a homicide reduction framework with four core components:

1. Early identification of the most dangerous cases through evidence-based risk assessment
2. Increased access to supportive services for high-risk victims
3. Increased offender monitoring and accountability
4. Coordinated response to high-risk cases through a multidisciplinary team

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What does it do?

Brings stakeholders together to share information on high-risk cases and coordinate efforts to mitigate risk. DVHRTs also identify and close systemic gaps. It is designed to be customized to meet local needs.

What does it involve?

Integration of risk assessment into the DV response. DVHRTs share information and coordinate to improve safety and accountability. Data and case review is used to inform system improvements.

Who should use it?

As DVHRTs are multidisciplinary, support for the model is required from advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, probation, corrections, and community organizations.

When should it be used?

DVHRTs focus their resources and efforts on cases identified as high risk for lethal violence. Risk assessment is used by law enforcement & advocacy organizations. Cases are monitored until a reasonable level of safety is reached.

How does it work?

DVHRTs review cases, develop proactive responses, coordinate services and implement strategies to interrupt the escalation of violence. Data is used to inform system change & increase transparency.

Is training needed?

Trainings are customized to meet a community's needs. Typically, training is provided on IPH prevalence and patterns, Danger Assessment for Law Enforcement, IPH prevention strategies and DVHRT operations.

Can it be used with diverse communities and relationship types?

The DVHRT model can be applied to different relationship types and individuals of diverse backgrounds. However, the most successful DVHRTs are community driven projects that reflect the unique needs of their population and should include culturally specific and other relevant community based organizations.