

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/publications/measuring-capacity-to-serve-survivors-with-disabilities>

Policy Issue Resources

Publication

Using performance indicators, this one-of-a-kind resource relies on Veras Center on Victimization and Safety's 10 years of experience at the intersection of violence and disability to help practitioners from disability organizations, domestic violence programs, rape crisis centers, and dual agencies measure their organizations capacity to serve survivors with disabilities against field standards. The indicators help practitioners track progress towards specific goals and refine their capacity-building efforts to better meet those goals over time. They also draw upon data and resources that organizations typically have access to and provide step-by-step information on implementation, including how to collect, analyze, and interpret their data.

This practical tool meets the growing need for straightforward and cost-effective ways for disability organizations, domestic violence programs, rape crisis centers, and dual programs that address domestic and sexual violence to track their progress in serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence who have disabilities.

The indicators in this guide give organizations a first-of-its-kind comprehensive tool to track and improve their capacity to serve people with disabilities who have experienced domestic and sexual violence, as well as step-by-step instructions for implementing the indicators.

The indicators measure an organizations level of commitment to addressing domestic and sexual violence against people with disability and to what extent it has the capacity (knowledge, skills, and resources) required to do so.

The indicators are designed to be measured every six months so providers can track their progress and make adjustments as needed to maximize the impact of their capacity-building efforts.

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