

Questions Social Workers Can Ask Providers

1. Can you tell me about your background working with (domestic violence perpetrators; survivors; children who have been exposed to batterer behaviors)?
2. What model do you use to work with (domestic violence perpetrators; survivors; children who have been exposed to batterer behavior)? How does that model address coercive controlling behaviors that may not involve physical violence or even threats of violence?
3. (Children and Perpetrators) What emphasis do you put on having collateral information about the perpetrator's pattern as part of your foundation for working with the (child, perpetrator)?
4. What steps do you take to assess the current safety of the family?
5. (Perpetrator) Can you describe the goals of your work with the perpetrator? How will you be measuring how these goals are being achieved? Will gathering information from collaterals including the children, survivor and/or the social worker be part of that measurement?
6. (Perpetrator) What does he describe that he believes he is responsible for? What is his current understanding of how his behavior has impacted his family? Has he identified concrete specific strategies for preventing future acts of violence? What is your assessment of these strategies?
7. (Survivor) What can you tell me about her day-to-day strengths related to safety and well being of the children?