blue 🗑 of california foundation

2015 - 2016 Community Health Center Core Support Initiative

Domestic Violence Focus

38%

By creating new access points for screening and services, and enlisting new partners within the healthcare safety net, the Foundation aims to create a more comprehensive system of support for <u>survivors of domestic violence</u>. In 2015, 201 California community health centers (CHCs) were awarded <u>general core operating support grants</u> to help ensure these frontline providers have the flexible funds they need to serve and respond to many of the most vulnerable Californians – including those experiencing abuse.

Analyses found some variations in response between the 13 organizations that participate in a <u>Domestic Violence Health Care Partnership</u> (DVHCP), compared to the 188 CHCs that do not participate in such a partnership, likely due to DVHCPs promoting strong cross-sector collaborations to create and spread more inter-connected systems of support.

Assessing Patient Exposure to Domestic Violence

Consistent screenings for domestic violence and standardized assessment instruments are essential first steps in addressing the mental, physical, and social service needs of patients. 44% of all CHCs screen <u>all</u> patients for possible exposure to domestic violence, with 76% using a standardized assessment instrument (either written, verbal, or via computer) to assess patient needs related to domestic violence. **All CHCs participating in DVHCPs use standard assessment instruments and are more likely to screen all patients (62% vs. 44%).**

Patient Screenings



- <u>All</u> patients screened for possible exposure to domestic violence (DV)
- Patients are always screened when clinician suspects exposure to DV
- Patients are sometimes screened when clinician suspects exposure to DV
- Patients are rarely or never screened
- Information not available/don't know

Use of Standardized Assessment Instruments



Staff Training to Recognize Domestic Violence

Staff who are trained to recognize domestic violence indicators and/or use the standard assessment instrument can take a proactive role in helping patients respond to domestic violence. Overall, 45% of CHCs reported that at least 75% of their administrative staff are trained to recognize domestic violence.

CHCs participating in a DVHCP are far more likely than non-DVHCP CHCs to say that nearly all administrative staff are trained in this manner (62% vs. 37%).

