

The Linkage Project

Early Identification, Prevention and Community Response



Early identification and referral for service



Case Study

1. Samantha and her children want to leave an abusive situation. A call is made to the local domestic violence organization, a CPPC partner, where the assessment includes questions about pets.
2. They are provided advocacy, support, and temporary shelter.
3. The domestic violence advocate completes an assessment of Samantha's family needs, including pet. Samantha is concerned about the family pet, which is often the target of family violence.
4. The domestic violence advocate and Samantha call a team meeting to assist Samantha in finding community resources.
5. A family case plan is developed and includes safety planning for the family pet.
6. The domestic violence organization contacts the local animal welfare agency, also a partner of the CPPC, to assist Samantha in establishing sole ownership of her pet, obtain a pet protection order, and locate a pet foster home while she and her family continue to reside at the shelter. All CPPC resources will continue to support the family, including pet, as they move back into the community.

State Policy Formation

3. Assessment
including pet questions

4. Family Team Meeting

5. Family Case Plan
The family case plan covers all members of the family, including pets and promotes best practice standards for animal/human bond, including safety, crisis, and therapeutic plans.

Practice & Process
Informs Policy Changes

State Policy Formation

6. Link Resources

- Training and awareness building
- Pet Protection Order law
- Cross Reporting laws
- Humane Education
- Multi-disciplinary response includes animal welfare
- Assessment includes pet questions
- Clinicians trained in Link standards, i.e.: Anicare.
- and others...



There are 35 organizations that have signed a CPPC partner agreement:

(These participants provide regular support through skilled personnel and in-kind services)

Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland	Spiral Arts
AVESTA Housing	Spurwink
Bayside Neighborhood Association	State of Maine, DHHS
Casey Family Services	The Root Cellar
Catholic Charities	The United Methodist
Children's Advocacy Council	Church Communities of Hope
Connections for Kids	Walker Memorial Library
Crossroads for Women, Inc.	Youth Alternatives Ingraham
City of Portland, Health and Human Services	Individual Partners
City of Portland Police Department	Cynthia Fitzgerald
City of Portland School Department	Connie Ostis
City of South Portland	Elise Wilson
City of South Portland School Department	
City of South Portland Police Department	
City of Westbrook	
City of Westbrook Police Department	
City of Westbrook School Department	
Community Counseling Center	
Day One	
East Bayside Neighborhood Organization	
Family Crisis Services	
First Jobs	
Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Organization	
KidsPeace	
The Linkage Project	
Preble Street	
PROP	
Sexual Assault Response Services	

State-wide Advisory Council:

(The Advisory Council was established in January 2006)

The Animal Welfare Program of Maine

Department of Agriculture

Maine Department of Public Safety

Maine Department of Health and Human Services:

- Child Welfare
- Elder Services/Adult Protective
- Mental Health

Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence

Maine Federation of Humane Societies and Humane Society of the United States

Ad Hoc Members:

Commissioner of Public Safety and the Legislative Director of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services- both have expertise in animal-human bond.