

Focus Group Frequently Asked Questions

For Developing Centers

*****Some of these questions and others may be answered by viewing our recorded webinar on Focus Groups available in our Resource Library*****

1. What is the purpose?
 - a. The purpose of a focus group is to understand how to better provide services to victims of domestic violence and to address the questions and concerns of potential community partners
2. How many people are needed in each group?
 - a. 10 minimum for both groups
 - b. You need to work with your local community agencies to identify survivors and make sure your potential community partners are available for the date and time you set.
3. How long does each group take?
 - a. We recommend allowing for 1-2 hours per group so that there is sufficient time for comments and discussion.
4. Will these focus groups be done privately and confidentially, or will the groups be conducted in front of the larger audience?
 - a. We recommend that focus groups be conducted in a private group setting so that survivors and other participants feel comfortable expressing their opinions.
 - b. Notes can be taken to summarize the responses for others.
 - c. Make every effort to protect the survivor's identity. Their names should not be identified in any report or publication.
5. Should survivors provide consent to participate? Are their responses confidential?
 - a. Yes, the Alliance encourages the use of signed consent prior to participating. Client should be informed how their responses will be used. See attached sample consent form.
6. What about survivors with children?
 - a. We suggest providing childcare or a separate playroom that parents can watch while participating