

SART Basics for Large Counties

10:00 am, Tuesday, October 26, 2021



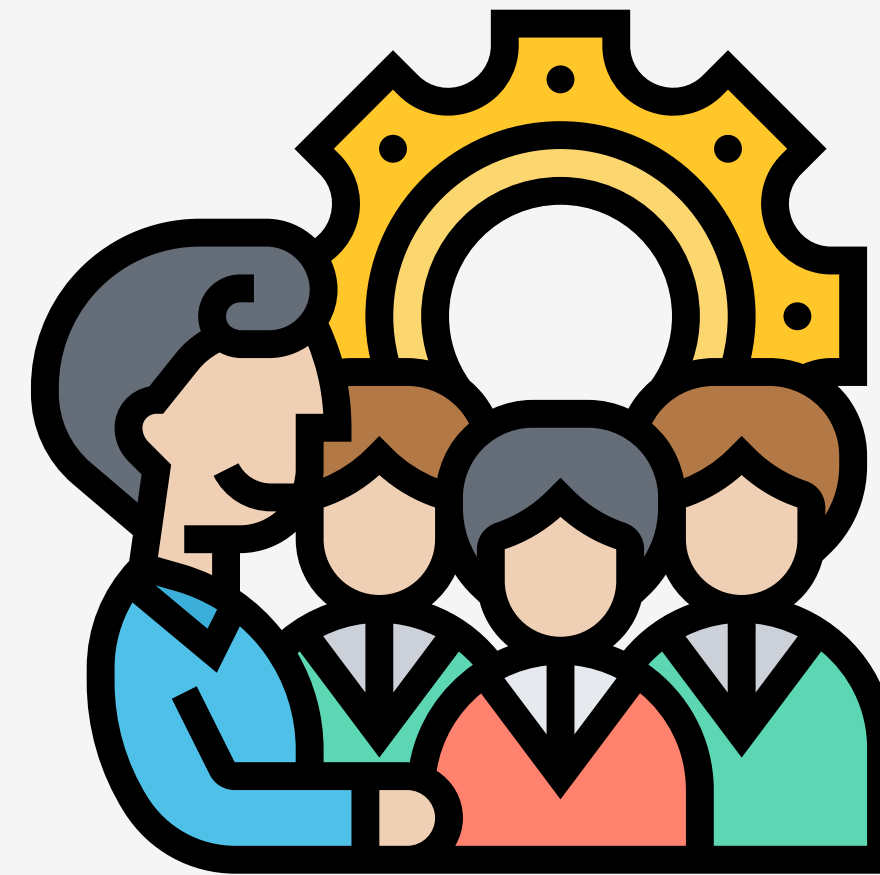
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UPCOMING EVENTS



Tomorrow | 10:00 AM

TDHCA Community
Resiliency Program



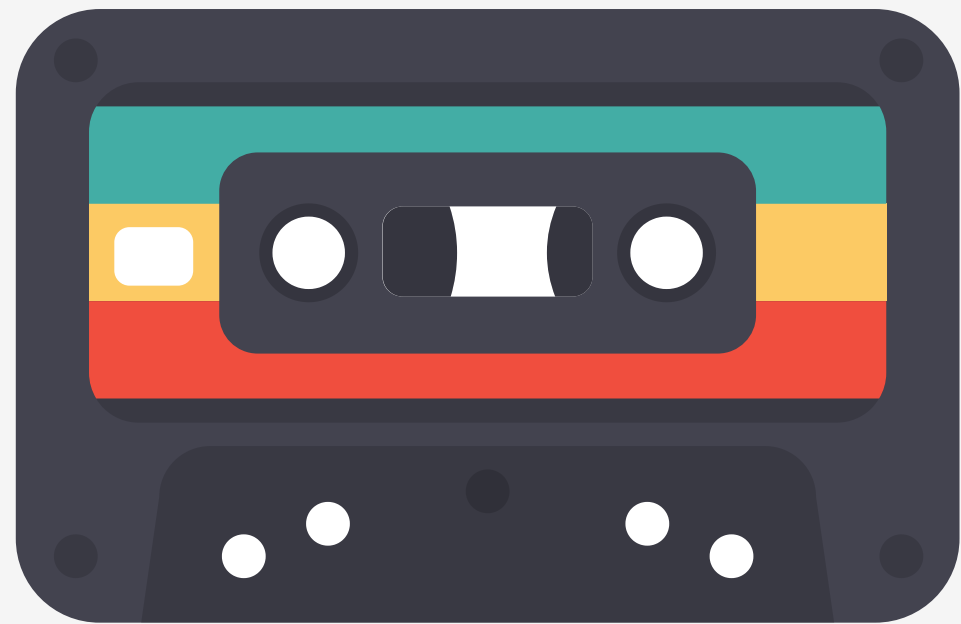
November 11, 2021

SART Basics for Counties
Interested in Regional
Response



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HOUSEKEEPING & REMINDERS



Recordings
Available

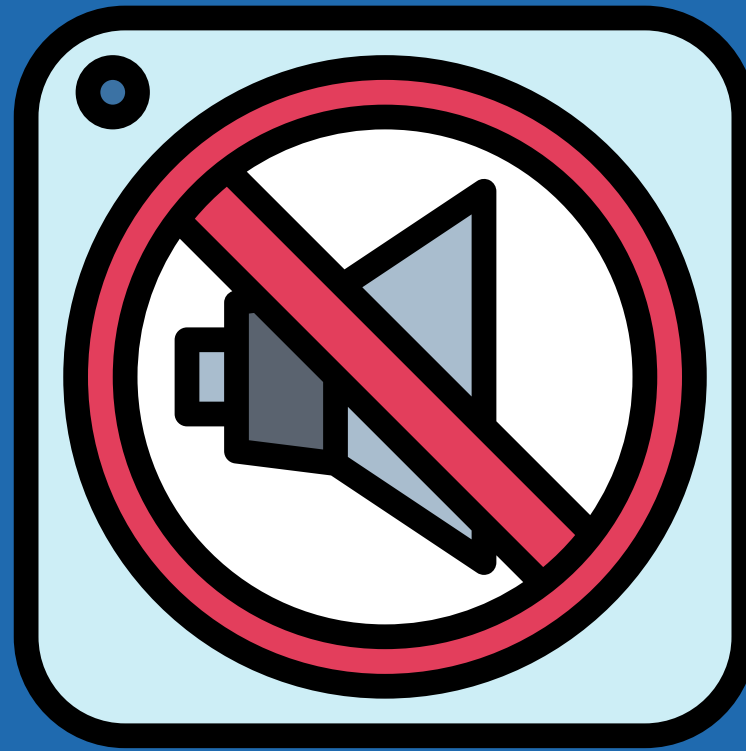


Share Your
Ideas

kliledowty@txregionalcouncil.org



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LISTEN ONLY MODE

Share your thoughts and questions in the chat box!



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MEET THE PRESENTERS



LIZ BOYCE

General Counsel &
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KRISTEN LENAU

Senior Policy Advisor



SARTs for Large Counties

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TAASA

TAASA is the unifying voice to eliminate sexual violence in Texas. As the statewide coalition of survivors, advocates, rape crisis centers, and allied professionals, we are committed to fostering a culture that respects the fundamental rights and dignity of all.

Public Policy

Prevention

Rape Crisis Center Support

Overview

- Adult Sexual Assault in Texas
- Texas SARTs
- Bill Structure
 - Membership
 - Resource mapping
 - Planning for protocol
 - Meetings
 - Leadership
- Q & A

Adult Sexual Assault in Texas

- Texas Penal Code 22.011
- UT Prevalence study -roughly 1/3 of Texas women experience sexual violence in their lifetime
- Reporting to LE
- Case outcomes for ASA

What is a SART?

- Formal, coordinated response to sexual assault by community stakeholders
- Evidenced based model of addressing interpersonal crimes of violence in a particular geographic area
- Public & private stakeholders
- Communication, evaluation, protocol development
- Victim safety, offender accountability & healing

Why SB476

Addressing a consistent and far reaching lack of:

- Communication
- Coordination
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Sensitivity
- Training

Within collective & systemic responses to adult survivors

Active Texas SARTs- Large Counties

- Bexar*
- Collin
- Dallas
- Travis
- El Paso
- Tarrant
- Fort Bend**
- Hidalgo
- Williamson
- Nueces**
- Montgomery**
- Webb

*New **Combined crime types

Texas SARTs

Lessons Learned

Commitment from agency leaders & succession planning

Real participation

Shared purpose

Write it down

Relationship building

Challenges reported: internal conflict, lack of prosecution and focus on CSA or DV

SB476 Structure

Over 250k- must convene their own team

Umbrella- County Commissioner's Court

- Establish a team and appoint statutory membership
- Receive reports every 2 years

Statutory membership_(1 of each-minimum)

1. A Sexual Assault Program that provides services in the county
2. A Prosecutor with jurisdiction over SA cases
3. A Sheriff or designee
4. Largest Municipal Law Enforcement Agency
5. A Mental Health Provider that provides services in the county
6. A Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner that conducts exams within the county
7. Other individuals or entities determined by the team

Resource Mapping

How many of **each** of these 6 entities do we have in our county?

Who is currently involved in Adult SA response?

How do these agencies respond by population or geography?

Has anyone reached out from these professions to get things rolling?

For new teams, start talking with the core group and then build out as needed

Resource Mapping Scenarios

What if our county has.....2 Sexual Assault Programs, 3 SANE programs, 6 MH programs....

Or 3 Sexual Assault Programs, 50 LE agencies, 2 Prosecutors.....



Planning for protocol

To develop an effective protocol, ensure you have the primary responding agencies at the table, or at least on board with what is developed for the community.

People are permitted to attend meetings at the team's discretion, even without being official members. This will allow time for new teams to figure out who else to invite and how to organize.

Potential Members/Attendees

- Domestic violence agencies
- Crime lab
- Survivors
- Campus personnel

Meetings- new teams

- 1st meeting to be held by December 1st, 2021
- Frontload infrastructure
 - Conflict resolution process
 - Schedule & leadership
 - Information sharing processes
 - Decision making

Meetings- existing teams

- Begin discussions with active members around integrating new requirements
- Ensure that meetings are happening regularly
- Appoint members and formalize the group as needed to comply with statute
- Team should have input on additional members or attendees
- Existing teams may not have a written protocol yet

Team Leadership

Large counties=higher population=more agencies=
more infrastructure

SARTs use a mix of leadership methods

- Steering committee
- Coordinator & Chair
- Co-Chairs/Co-Presiding Officers

Questions?

Contact us at policy@taasa.org

QUESTIONS?



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