

FACT SHEET

Origins and Purpose

The Federal Partners Committee on Women and Trauma was initiated in April 2009 by SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services as a workgroup within the Federal Partnership on Mental Health Transformation. The Federal Partnership was established in response to the President's Executive Order 13263 (2002) and the [President's New Freedom Initiative Commission on Mental Health](#). The Committee's work is guided by the recognition that the impact of violence and trauma on women is a public health problem with profound consequences for many different agencies. Initial activities focused on identifying the extent of the impact on each agency, developing a technical assistance agenda, and promoting evidence-based public health practices. The workgroup rapidly expanded in membership, coordinated two successful national roundtables, released two reports highlighting lessons learned, and gained the attention of the White House. In 2011, it became an ongoing committee.

Membership

The initial workgroup involved more than 25 representatives from six Federal agencies and several departments within those agencies. Membership has grown to more than 100 representatives from 40 different divisions of nine Federal agencies (Agriculture, DOD, ED, DHHS, HUD, DOJ, DOL, State, and VA) and two other groups (Peace Corps and the Office of National Drug Control Policy). Membership is open to any federal entity concerned with issues related to women and trauma. Current co-chairs are Carol Boyer from DOL/ODEP and Mary Blake from HHS/SAMHSA. A complete list of members is available at this [site](#).

Activities and Outcomes

Meetings take place from 3:00–4:00 pm (ET) on the second Tuesday of every month at the Department of Labor. Members who cannot attend in person call in.

Interagency collaborations involving member agencies are developed on an evolving, as-needed basis. Collaborations have resulted in outcomes such as joint training and curriculum development; re-examination and creation of new policies on workplace violence, bullying and health education; joint participation in international forums; changes in grant programs; joint research initiatives; the development of state coalitions; and technical guidance memoranda.

National roundtables were held in 2010 and 2011. Roundtables developed a common language, highlighted new developments in the field, and fostered cross-agency collaborations.

A webinar series initiated in 2014 is designed to highlight cross-agency solutions to issues involving women and trauma. For information contact Shawndell.Dawson@ACF.hhs.gov

Committee Publications

2011 Report <http://nicic.gov/Library/025082>

2013 Report <http://www.nasmhpd.org/content/federal-partners-committee-women-and-trauma-report>

Further Information

For further information or to become a member, contact Carol Boyer at boyer.carol@dol.gov.

