

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Purpose of Application

Demographics, Target Communities and Population: The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) reports that the Bay Area is the home of approximately 7 million people who live in nine counties and 101 cities. The Bay Area is also the home of one of the most diverse regions in the country. This grant proposal covers services to be delivered in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. These counties are next to each other. While both of these communities are somewhat different geographically, they both share similar needs related to their diverse population, income, language disparities, and the need for supervised visitation services in cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

San Francisco is a densely populated city. The 2010 census shows that San Francisco in an area of only 49 square miles had a population of 805,235 residents. Of this population, the ethnic breakdown included 41.8% Caucasian (non-Hispanic) 267,915 (33.9%) Asian, 121,744 (15.4%) Hispanic/Latino, 48,870 (6.3) African American, 4.0% more than one race, .09% Alaskan/American Indian and 05% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders. Although San Francisco, in 2010, reported a median family income of \$88,266 for Caucasians, it reported a median income of \$57,113 for Asians, \$53,998 for Hispanics and \$31,000 for African Americans. The low-income population faces housing and living costs that are among the highest in the country, second only to New York City. While only 7.6% of the individual population lives below the federal poverty level, 12.7% of families and 32% of single women with children under 18 in San Francisco live below the federal poverty level. ABAG also reports

that 30% of the Bay Area residents are foreign born. The census data reveals that in San Francisco 38.2% of the total population's primary language is other than English; Chinese (26.6%) and Spanish (11.6%). These families are considered "linguistically isolated".

San Mateo County on the other hand, is a suburban community covering a total 741.01 square miles. San Mateo county census information in 2010 reported a total population of 718,451. Of this population the ethnic breakdown included 41.9% Caucasian (non-Hispanic), 182,502 (25.4) Hispanic/Latino, 178,118 (24.8%) Asian and 24,840 (3.2%) African American, 4.1 more than one race, 1.6 Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders and .09 Alaskan/American Indian. Although San Mateo County data reported a median income for Caucasian of \$93,000, Asians in the county had a higher income than whites with a median income of \$98,150. However Hispanics reported a median income of \$57,144 and African Americans \$51,907. Language disparities are comparable to San Francisco, where 36% of the total population reported speaking other than English as their primary language; Spanish (19%) and Chinese (17%).

The Need for Supervised Visitation: A continuation grant will assist the partners to expand and increase services to the most underserved sections of San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. These counties are next to each other and many families live on the border of both.

According to the California Partnership To End Domestic Violence, approximately 40% of California women experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime. Of those experiencing physical violence, 75% of the victims had children under 18 living at home.

Rally Family Visitation Services (Rally) is the only program of its kind delivering visitation services in three Bay Area counties (Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo). Often, women who

live in one county are forced, either due to their income or safety concerns, to move to another county while their services and/or court proceedings continue in their home county.

According to the figures released by the San Francisco Family Violence Council latest report (2011), domestic violence cases were on the rise. The Police Department received 7,510 domestic violence calls; an increase of 13% over the past three years. In addition, the District Attorney's Office saw a 10% increase in the number of domestic violence cases, Adult Probation saw a 17% increase in its general supervision cases, the domestic violence crisis lines fielded 47% more calls, and the domestic violence shelters provided 29% more bed nights to survivors. Most significant, was the 202% increase in the number of child support cases flagged with family violence.

On January 13, 2012, Ross Mirkarimi, newly elected Sheriff in San Francisco was charged with domestic violence battery and child endangerment (his son witnessed the abuse). This was a highly publicized case primarily because he initially denied the abuse and provided a statement where he indicated that "this was a private family matter". From January to June of 2012 La Casa de las Madres raised funds to launch a public service campaign through billboards to counteract any misconception that domestic violence is a "private matter". Following the release of the billboards, La Casa experienced an increase in calls to its emergency hotline. While the preceding October-December 2011, the hotline received a total of 1062 calls, between January and March 2012 there were 1346 calls and between April and June 2012 1402 calls. During fiscal year 2011-2012 La Casa experienced a 12% increase in the number of shelter beds and nights used. The Mirkarimi case also brought about several important issues for the court, among those issues was the focus this case had on the child who was present and the effects of violence on children.

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program
City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health
OVW Fiscal Year 2013

San Mateo County reports approximately 10,000 domestic violence cases per year. Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA) receives over 8000 crisis calls annually on the 24-hour hotline and through law enforcement referrals. An additional 800 calls are received annually through the Legal Line. Approximately 250 survivors of domestic violence take part in CORA's bilingual support groups per year, the majority of which have children in supervised visitation.

Current Services and Gaps: Overall, the families currently being served by Rally are representative of the Safe Havens target population. They represent a predominately diverse and underserved population. The client population, to be served by this grant, reflects a higher percentage of the low income, underserved, and limited English speaking families, than those reported by the census information. For instance, between 2011-2012, of all the families served by Rally in San Francisco 85% were due to domestic violence, 61% had income under \$20,000, 43% were Hispanic/Latino, 22% Caucasian, 15% Asian, 14% African American and 6% multi-racial. In addition, 49% reported speaking another language other than English as their primary language.

Rally San Mateo service data reflects a similar disconnect from the census data provided above. Ninety percent of the cases served in visitation services are due to domestic violence, 50% of the families have an annual income under \$20,000. Thirty percent are Caucasian, 30% Hispanics, 16% are Asian, 2% African American and 22% report being multi racial.

This data exemplifies that most families who call the police with domestic violence claims in San Francisco, press criminal charges, seek protective orders, go to family court on custody/visitation matters, and/or seek supervised visitation/ monitored exchange services are more likely to come from specific isolated diverse and low- income neighborhoods. Available

local statistics do not reflect domestic violence statistics related to separated families, or the risks to women leaving their abusive partners, especially when there are children involved. The San Francisco Unified Family Court receives approximately 500 new domestic violence cases per year. San Mateo County on the other hand, reports receiving 602 new domestic violence family law cases in 2012 alone. The number of families referred to visitation and exchange services is about 20%. Anecdotal data from advocates and attorneys indicate that judges are often reluctant to order supervised visitation and exchange services even when the victim or her attorneys asks for it. In addition, for a variety of reasons (including not increasing conflict with the visiting parent), victims choose or are ordered by the court to use traditional exchanges and visitation arrangements, such as in person or at a relative's home, police stations, restaurants or other "public" places. In these instances, the abuser retains a captive audience with the ex-partner and the child(ren). Supervised Visitation and monitored exchanges provide families with a safe environment for contact, while protecting all family members from exposure to conflict and abuse, especially for the at risk parent. Many of those who try traditional arrangements return to court and request supervised visitation or monitored exchanges.

Founded in 1991, Rally Family Visitation services is the only organization that provides safe visitation and exchange services in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties with an extended collaborative that includes adult victims and children services. In 2010-2013 OVW provided funding for Rally to conduct services in San Francisco, at its main location and at two part-time satellite centers. While the number of families served has stayed at about 150 per year (for all funding sources including OVW), the number of visits per family and length of each visit have increased. Rally presently has a waiting list of about 20 families for all of its locations. California Courts have faced major budget cuts in the last two years. Some courts such

as San Francisco and San Mateo counties provide small grants to Rally. However, due to budget cuts, these grants have not increased with the demand in services.

In 2012, Peninsula Family Services of San Mateo that originally started visitation services in San Mateo County decided to discontinue delivering these services. This program was one of the first demonstration grants under the OVW grant program in 2002. Their decision to close services was directly related to lack of funds. The San Mateo Court put out a Request for Proposals for the grant they provide. Rally applied and was given the contract with the expectation that Rally would seek other funding to fully fund program needs. The court grant and other in-kind assistance from various sources, including Rally's parent organization Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, has made it possible to begin services with basic resources. The number of families receiving and in need of services is comparable to San Francisco. The site however, lacks security systems presently available at other Rally facilities. This grant would provide additional resources and provide for a more secure environment, including security staff.

B. What Will Be Done

Integration of Guiding Principles: Rally policies and procedures clearly address the needs of families in cases of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and child abuse.

Principle I: Equal Regard for the Safety of Children and Adult Victims: Rally's Mission, Goals and Objectives went through a thoughtful process to ensure it is clear that the safety of children and adult victims is a priority for the program. It outlines that the safety of everyone in the program is the most important aspect of the services. The policies and procedures clarify the program's purpose to its staff and define terms to ensure its practices are within the spirit of Rally's mission.

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program
City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health
OVW Fiscal Year 2013

Rally staggered arrival and departure time traditionally have been applied based on whether parents are visiting or custodial. However, the policies have been reversed for families where safety requires a different approach and/or where parents have not followed the protocol and placed others at risk. Rally provides different entrances and waiting areas for parents. The staff calls the visiting parent if he or she is running late after 5 minutes to ensure the custodial parent can be called and asked to wait before arriving to ensure both parents will not come in contact with one another. Custodial parents can request to arrive early and or stay late if they think that the wait time would allow for more safety. Some parents who are ordered to monitor exchanges request and are allowed to stay onsite if they wish.

Rally's works with local police departments in order to familiarize them with Rally services and understand when and how they may be needed. Understanding that Rally is the only program of its kind, Rally very seldom rejects cases. However, if a case becomes too difficult to handle due to safety concerns, Rally will refuse to provide services. Staff is also authorized to end visits if the safety of the child and/or adult victim is compromised. Ongoing violation of security guidelines are grounds for termination. The program policies and procedures outline and parents are informed of the protocols related to confidentiality, especially as it relates to personal information gathered by the program.

Principle II: Value Multiculturalism and Diversity: Rally's cultural competency policy outlines clear understanding for the respect for individual and cultural diversity. It provides an understanding for the diversity of our client population including race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, language, age, socio-economic status, disability, immigration status, or religious affiliation factors. Rally's administrative and direct service staff, as well as interns, reflects this diversity and languages spoken. Presently, the breakdown for staff is: 45% Latino,

20% Chinese, 14% bi-racial, 7% Caucasian, 7% African American and 7% African native. The breakdown for interns is 28% African American, 28% Latino, 28% Asian and 16% Caucasian. Staff is usually recruited from the intern pool. Languages spoken at Rally are: Spanish, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Vietnamese, Burmese, Arabic and Tigrinya (language of Eritrea, Africa). In addition, 3 members of the staff identify as gay. The policies reflect a flexibility that ensures parents can communicate in the language of their choice as long as there is staff that understands such language to ensure everyone's safety. Parents are encouraged to include other cultural practices as food, music and religious traditions as part of their visits.

Rally provides ongoing training on cultural competence and all second language staff is required to be tested every three years to ensure proficiency in the language they have indicated to be proficient in. Rally's affiliation with Saint Francis Hospital provides for interpretation resources for all other languages that may not be available through the program. Rally's policy however, is to have enough staff in needed language to ensure they can communicate directly with parents.

The center visitation hours and sites account for parent's transportation, work schedules, cultural activities (such as religious practices) and children's activities. Therefore, while there are set time for visitation services, Rally staff will work with parents to accommodate visits and exchanges outside the regular visitation times.

Principle III: Incorporating and Understanding of Domestic Violence into Center Services: The safety and security guidelines include a focus on the dynamics of domestic violence and child abuse and the consideration of the welfare of everyone at all stages in the visitation process. Further, it outlines how risk assessment becomes an ongoing process throughout the entire time services are being provided, not just during visits. The policies emphasize the importance of

checking in with adult victims and children regarding their safety, in between visits. It further directs the staff to understand the difference between “high conflict” and “domestic violence” cases. Further, specific to domestic violence, the policy focuses on the importance of understanding the link between domestic violence and visitation services, as well as how it may impact the safety of adult victims and children and providing referrals when requested. In addition, Rally changed its policy to no longer limit the amount of time a family can receive services. The length of time for services is based on the safety needs of each family.

Rally believes that context is everything. Staff training focuses on how battering behavior may be evident during visits and how victims may continue to experience violence through the batterer’s communication with the children. Service guidelines are very specific about conversations that may require children to provide information about the other parent and or to speak negatively about the other parent. Victims are encouraged to let the staff know when they may feel unsafe due to the other parent not following safety guidelines. Security escorts are available to walk parents to their car or bus stop.

Documentation practices are primarily based on the reason the case was referred for visitation. Therefore, with the domestic violence focus, documentation will ensure that staff documents those behaviors that are related to the history of violence. The documentation only includes fact-based observations during the visits. All critical incidents are documented and Rally does not provide any recommendations in its documentations. Documentation is reviewed by a lead staff member before being sent to the court to ensure staff follows protocols during the visits and only documents observable behavior during the visits.

Principle IV: Respectful Fair Interaction: Rally’s policy for this principle is rooted in Principle II above of treating everyone with respect. It further outlines that everyone should be treated

respectfully and equally (not the same), ensuring that neutrality is not perceived as being neutral to violence and providing services in an unbiased manner while respecting individual and cultural differences. Rally staff receives training in understanding of the many concerns and difficulties that parents bring to the visitation center. This begins during intake, when parents are given the time and space to talk about the challenges they face in their lives. Based on the population served through Rally, parents are often unemployed, homeless, trying to overcome substance abuse; and other issues that may affect their behavior while using the visitation center.

Principle V: Community Collaboration: Rally would not have been able to operate its services, if it wasn't for the numerous collaborations in the community. The center's collaboration with partners offering services that are needed by the families being served is necessary to ensure the success of visitation services. In addition to the partners under this grant, the visitation staff maintains a referral service directory, compiled by Rally based on the needs of parents who receive services. Referrals are made after a parent has been asked to sign a release form to ensure that the parent authorizes the center for the referral and/or sharing of information. Parents are also given information of other services that they can contact when they are ready to do so.

Principle VI: Advocacy for Children and Adult Victims: Rally's primary goal around community collaborations has been to ensure that visitation services are integrated into the continuum of services in the field of domestic violence. Rally staff participates in the San Francisco Domestic Violence Council meetings. The Council's main focus is to provide awareness to City officials about Child abuse, domestic violence and Elder abuse. Its membership includes non-profit and governmental agencies focusing on these three areas. Rally is a member and active participant of the State Partnership to End Domestic Violence's Bay Area Public Policy and Judicial Committees. Both committees include domestic violence advocates and legal experts in family

law. At the present, the committee is working on a review of court practices related to domestic violence. This is also the best place to identify community resources, especially as it relates to legal advocacy and assistance. These collaborations have also enhanced Rally's ability to share information on the role of visitation services and gather feed-back from others regarding how services could best help survivors and their children.

This Continuation grant will assist to continue to meet the gaps outlined above. The proposal is to help two communities in the San Francisco Bay Area: San Francisco and San Mateo counties to continue to provide and expand visitation and safe exchange options to families with a history of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, child abuse, or stalking by providing the additional the necessary resources to run three centers at a minimum of 20 hours each.

San Francisco County – Rally will continue to provide services throughout its present primary location and one satellite facility. Rally-San Francisco is open for business Tuesday-Sunday. Both locations will be open for services Thursdays 5-8 p.m., Friday 5-8 p.m., Saturday 8:30-5 p.m., and Sunday 10:30-7 p.m. for a total of a minimum of 22 hours during the week. Under this grant the San Francisco sites will serve approximately 50-60 unduplicated families with a history of domestic violence per year or about 1300 hours of services per year. This translates to approximately 50-60% of the total number of families served by the San Francisco facilities.

San Mateo County – This facility is presently open Monday-Friday 12-8 p.m. Saturday 8:30-5 p.m. and Sunday 10:30-7 p.m. The grant will provide additional direct service staffing needed as well as add security systems and staff. Rally will provide supervised visitation and exchange services to about 50-60 unduplicated families per year or approximately 1300 hours of

services under the grant. This translates to about 50-60% of the total number of families served at this facility.

A total of 2600 hours of services per year will be delivered under the grant; serving between 100-120 unduplicated families per year. The number of families served will depend on the number of hours provided to each family.

Minimum Standards: Rally Family visitation services staff is required to receive training in domestic violence, cultural competence, child abuse and other related subjects. The majority of the staff has attended the 40-hours state requirement for advocates. Rally has developed additional guidelines with a focus on the dynamics of domestic violence. Staff is trained on how domestic violence behaviors may be demonstrated during visits, including awareness of the significance of a non-custodial parent's requests for information from children about the other parent's whereabouts or contact information.

Rally fees to parents are based on a sliding scale based on the income of each family member and it is assigned according to the court order. Rally works with these parents to ensure that the fee will not become an obstacle to receive services. **No fees will be charged to families for services covered under this grant.**

Rally provides enough staff for services to ensure that security is provided for everyone. The procedures are outlined in program guidelines and its policies and procedures. The centers' design ensure that entrances and exits, as well as proximity provide enough privacy for parents to have enough distance to ensure physical, auditory and visual separation.

The standards by which supervised and safe visitation exchange occurs at Rally are primarily based on ensuring safety for everyone. The organizational purpose states: "The welfare of everyone participating in our program is the primary consideration at all stages of the

visitation and exchange process.” This means that every part of the delivery service process ensures an environment where children, parents and staff are free of threats of violence and harm.

The court asks parents to prepare a domestic violence screening form. This allows Rally to determine an initial level of security needed by the family. With the focus on children’s safety, an orientation to supervised visits is conducted for children over 4 years of age to ensure rapport building, child-mastery of the environment and interactions that focus on decreasing or minimizing fears and anxieties. Children are given the opportunity to ask questions and receive developmentally age-appropriate explanations. Children and staff may mutually agree upon a non-verbal sign (e.g., tug on the ear) or verbal statement (e.g., "I need to use the restroom.") to communicate discomfort during visitation. Children participating in monitored exchange services are encouraged to attend a similar orientation, but custodial parents may decline if there is no reported concern for the children’s welfare. While these orientations are primarily required for children over 4 years of age, orientations are strongly encouraged for toddlers, preschoolers, and early school age children who may exhibit anxiety without their primary caregiver’s presence.

In addition to staggered arrival/departure times for parents and separate entrances, all parents are informed that security escorts are available at all Rally facilities and within a 5-block radius for any client who perceives a personal risk or risk to children or when a critical incident occurs. At the main hospital facility, parents or Rally staff may call for a security escort.

The security policies and procedures give specific directives on what constitutes a critical incident, as well as when internal security must be called and/or when police intervention is required. For instance, if a parent reports an altercation with the other parent outside the facility during service hours, Rally will notify security personnel and assist a parent in contacting the

Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program
City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health
OVW Fiscal Year 2013

police to file a report for violation of a protective order, if appropriate. Parents are warned that their services may be terminated if their adverse behavior continues to jeopardize the safety of children and/or the other parent.

Gaps in Services: The OVW grant has been a great source of financial support for supervised visitation services in San Francisco. These funds do not exist in San Mateo County at this time. Without the OVW funds, Rally would not be able to deliver the services it delivers today. This grant will cover approximately 50-60 percent of the domestic violence cases at three different sites. Most of these families, as outlined above, will be ethnically diverse and low income. For most of these families, if these visitation services are not available, they will opt for less secure environments to conduct visits and/or exchanges.

Under this grant, Rally will serve 100-120 unduplicated families per year and/or provide 2600 hours of services per year to these families at **three** separate sites in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. Each operated for a minimum of 20 hours. The number of families served will depend on the number of hours of services provided to each family.

In addition, La Casa and CORA, our domestic violence partners will work closely with the visitation center in both counties to provide specific tailored services that will address supervised visitation concerns. Rally has found that women with a history of domestic violence already in visitation services could be served well by discussing and or seeking help around their visitation services from a domestic violence advocate. Specifically tailored visitation services will be available at La Casa and Cora if victims wish to participate.

Safety Needs of Victims of Domestic Violence: Supervised visitation is probably the most secure service for visitation in domestic violence cases. Many victims, primarily women, exhibit trauma while participating in these services. Most of the time, they are afraid of what could

happen if they would run into the other parent, they are afraid that the service may switch to exchanges or unsupervised visitation as they know how the children feel about the other parent, as well as how they would react to an unsupervised environment with a person they fear. They are mostly afraid of losing their children in custody cases. So, they do everything possible to comply with the visitation order to ensure that will work in their favor. In the process, they may act out their fear and anger toward the other parent.

Courts continue to order exchanges in these cases primarily based on evidence presented in court indicating that the children were not abused by the batterer. However, once referred to visitation, both children and victims expressed their misgiving about unsupervised visits (exchanges) because they fear that the visiting parent's previous behavior may be repeated outside the center. Rally's experience is that often children come back from an exchange telling stories of parents leaving them alone, using drugs, witnessing violence of another spouse/partners and/or experiencing excessive discipline from that parent.

Barriers to Accessing Visitation Services: Most of the families served by Rally are low income, not represented by attorneys and are linguistically isolated. These families have to overcome many personal and institutional obstacles before they reach Rally services. Rally services are tailored to serve the most marginalized population in visitation services. The funds under this grant will target this population and no fees will be charged for services provided to families served under this grant. In addition, Rally insures that programs in the community serving families who may not have gone or want to go to court understand that the services are available to them without a court order.

2013-1016 Goals Objectives and Activities: The continuation grant will allow the partners to continue to provide safety to domestic violence survivors and their children by providing these services at three sites in two counties. The parents are committed to the following goals:

Goal 1- Increase supervised visitation and monitored exchange services in cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, dating violence or stalking in two counties. **Goal 2 -** Fully implement services and safety measures at all centers. **Goal 3 –** Continue on-going review of safety policies and protocols at all facilities to ensure the safety of children and at risk parents. **Goal 4-** Provide supervised visitation and monitored exchange services to 100 unduplicated families or 2600 hours of services per year to families with a history of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, child abuse, or stalking. **Goal 5-** Ensure the long-term viability of the services and their integration into the Bay Area domestic violence continuum of services.

2013-1016 Timeline and Measurable Objectives:

Year One -1) Fully establish the expansion of services in both counties; 2) Fully establish standard protocols for centers follow the OVW principles. 3) Establish security systems and hire security staff for the San Mateo County facility; 4) Train staff as needed; 3) Start development of a sustainability plan. Year Two - 1) As appropriate, monitor and revise policies and procedures to ensure maximum safety for parents at risk and their children; 2) Develop strong community relationships to integrate visitation services in the domestic violence continuum of services in both communities. 3) Complete a sustainability plan. Year Three- 1) All facilities are fully operational and providing all services; 2) Monitor effectiveness and adjust strategy as necessary; 3) Continue to develop community partnerships; 4) Sustainability plan is implemented.

Tasks and Activities of each Collaborating Partner: Under the oversight and coordination of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, the partners will work together to ensure all

goals are met to deliver safe visitation services and monitored exchanges to the target population. The courts and other service providers will make referrals to the visitation centers. Some of these sources send the referrals directly to the center and the center will call parents to set-up intake/orientation appointments. Other sources will provide the parents with the court order and the contact information to the center and have the parents contact the center directly to set up an appointment for an intake/orientation. La Casa de Las Madres and Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA) will develop and begin to provide specific services and groups for children and mothers who want to and/or are receiving supervised visitation services. This has never been provided before. La Casa will provide training to Rally staff as needed. Rally will provide supervised visitation and monitored exchange services to the families. The Child Abuse Prevention Center, SafeStart Initiative, will accept referrals for parents (visiting or custodial) and for children exposed to violence and will provide training to Rally staff as needed. All partners will also refer Families to Rally in need of Supervised Visitation who may not have a court order.

C. Who will Implement the Continuation Project:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) is the largest department in the City and County of San Francisco with the largest City department. DPH's mission is to ensure the health and well being for all San Franciscans. In this role, DPH works with other city departments and community partners to ensure it addresses the public health needs in the entire county. Domestic Violence has been identified as a public health problem in San Francisco. A recent citywide strategic plan includes violence prevention as one of three goals to be addressed during the next five years. The department has assigned a program supervisor, Alice Gleghorn, who is experienced in program planning and coordination and who

will be responsible for the overall coordination of the project, including, 1) Being the point of contact with OVW and technical assistance providers; 2) Convening consulting committee meetings; 3) Coordinating site visits and on-site technical assistance; 4) Participating in OVW meetings and trainings; 5) Ensuring that the project is in compliance with the statutory minimum requirements of the Supervised Visitation Grant Program; and 6) Completing any other tasks needed to ensure the success of the continuation project.

La Casa de las Madres is San Francisco's oldest and largest anti-domestic violence service provider. Founded in 1976 as California's first shelter dedicated to women and children escaping domestic violence, today La Casa remains a community leader. Through emergency residential and community-based support services, from crime scene response to ongoing counseling, legal assistance, and strength-based case management, La Casa serves more than 2,000 survivors and their children and siblings each year. La Casa responds to 5,000 24-hour hotline calls and provides issue education and training to an additional 10,000 community members. Their services, delivered through strength-based, client-driven empowerment models, prioritize victim safety and give survivors the tools to transform their lives. La Casa will assign a staff to provide specialized services to women ordered to visitation services in San Francisco.

Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA) started in 1977 as Casa de San Mateo with the county's only emergency shelter and transitional house for battered women & their children. In its 35th year as the only agency in San Mateo County solely dedicated to helping those in the community affected by domestic violence. Today, CORA serves more than 10,000 individuals each year using trauma-informed practices. Programs and services include: housing and shelter; 24-hour bilingual hotline; mental health and social support services; systems

advocacy and case management. CORA will assign a staff member who will provide specialized services to women ordered to visitation services in San Mateo County.

Rally Family Visitation Services of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has been providing supervised visitation and monitored exchange services to families in San Francisco since 1991. In 1997, Rally became a community program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital. This relationship has provided the program with the capacity to continue to provide supervised visitation services for over 20 years. Each year, the program provides over 3000 hours of visitation and exchange service to families in the San Francisco Bay Area. Rally's staff will be responsible for coordination and delivery of services supervised visitation and exchange program operations throughout all facilities.

San Francisco and San Mateo Family Courts (SFUFC) - The Family Courts determine and make referrals on cases with domestic violence history to visitation services. Referrals to Rally can be made by the court following mediation or by court order at a hearing. The court forwards the referral to Rally outlining as much information available to the court to ensure that the program conducts the necessary risk assessment.

San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center - SafeStart Initiative. The SafeStart Initiative (SafeStart) is a collaboration convened in 1999 to plan what has become a public/private partnership effort to reduce the incidence and impact of violence on San Francisco's children, from birth to six years old. The SafeStart Initiative will provide expert input regarding the effects of violence on young children from birth to age six and will accept direct referrals to provide services to families with young children exposed to domestic violence.