



*Work with perpetrators*

*In the approach of the*

*Family Justice Center*





## *FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER: description*

A Family Justice Center model includes a co-location of a multidisciplinary team of professionals which work together, in 1 location, with the goal to provide integral care to clients confronted with domestic violence and child abuse.

Brings government and non-profit services together

Public and private agencies assign staff members in order to provide services to victims

and

Reduce the number of times/places victims must go, increase the access of services for victims and children



## *FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER: Features*

- All services under one roof
- Easy way of locating organizations and services
- Reduces travelling and waiting time
- Avoids repeated descriptions of the own situation
- Interdisciplinary cooperation on an individual case-by-case basis
- Combines security related information
- Quick convening of a security conference
- Improvement of the interventions

## *GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF A FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER*

- Victim-centered: co-location
  - Safety-focused
  - Survivor-driven: ask clients what they need
  - Empowered: offer survivors many services
  - Intervene & prevent: outreach & community education
  - Offender-accountability
  - Culturally competent
  - Relationship based: establish partnerships
  - Transformative: adjust services to best practices and survivor input
- Kind-hearted(to staff, clients and volunteers)

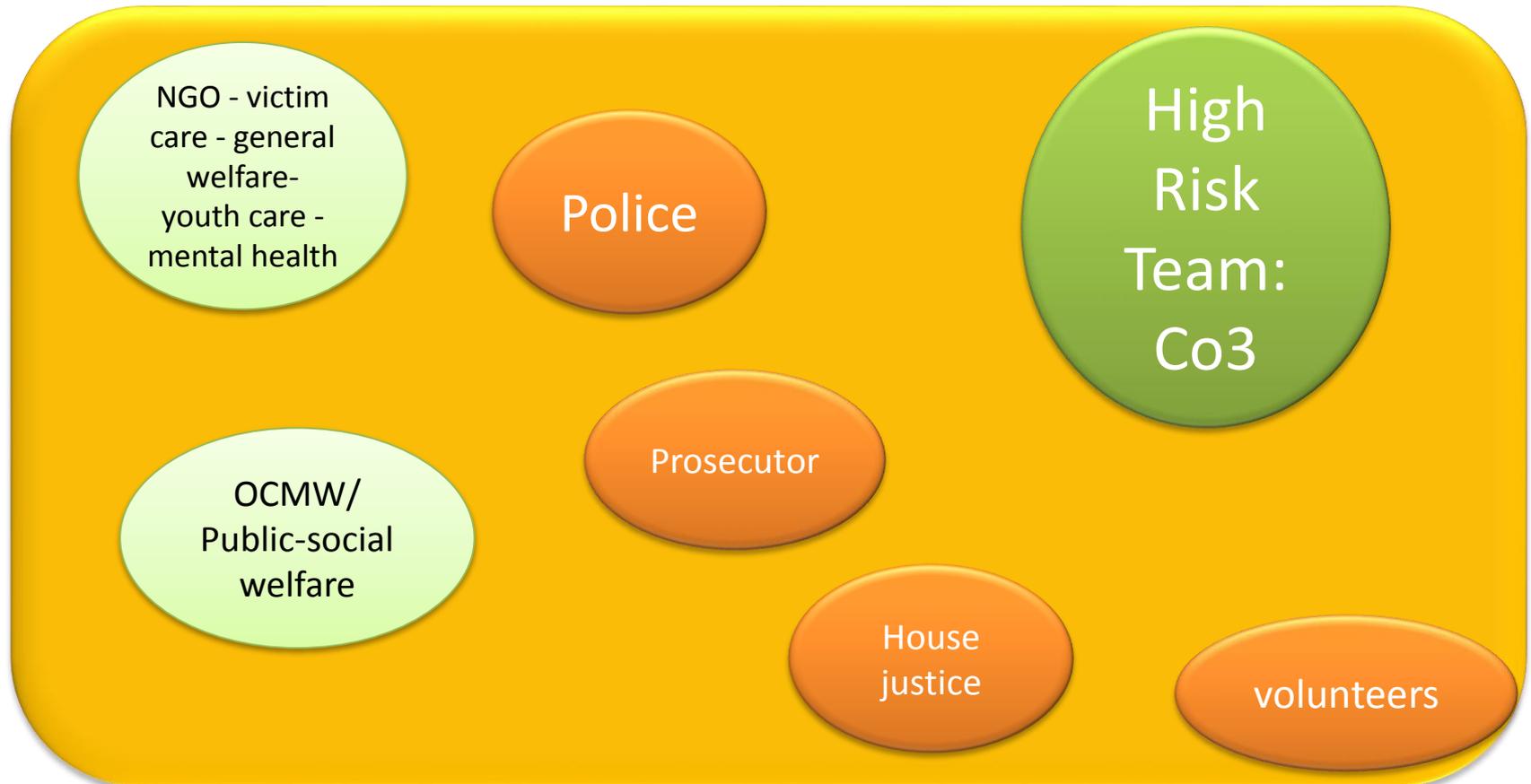


## *PARTNERS IN THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER*

- Local authorities
- Police
- Prosecutor
- Women's aid
- Shelters
- Services for child abuse
- Services for social welfare
- Counseling
- Medical services
- Services for housing
- Probation
- Perpetrator programs
- Services for migrants and asylum seekers
- Youth care
- Centre for mental health
- Services for job seeking...



# FJC Antwerp



## *WORK WITH PERPETRATORS IN FJC ANTWERP: CO3*

### **Safety first:**

- Interventions of police and justice
- Barring orders
- Detention
- Mental health care

**Work on the underlying problems:** social, health, mental health, housing, work, addiction, financial,...

**Perpetrator program:** program “Time Out”, perpetrator group, individual programs: juridical and voluntary

**Supervised contact with the children**



## *POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS*

In cases with intensive case management (CO3) and only after installation safety, checked intervention plan and monitoring by case manager, and only if possible (victim centered):

- Counseling on safe and respectful relationship (if staying together)
- Counseling divorce/separation (if separation)
- Parental training/guidance at home etc
- Parental visiting





## *ISTANBUL CONVENTION*

### Article 16 – Preventive intervention and treatment programmes

1 Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or support ***programmes aimed at teaching perpetrators of domestic violence to adopt non-violent behaviour*** in interpersonal relationships with a view to preventing further violence and changing violent behavioural patterns.

2 Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or support treatment ***programmes*** aimed at preventing perpetrators, in particular sex offenders, from ***re-offending***.

3 In taking the measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, Parties shall ensure that the safety of, support for and the human rights of victims are of primary concern and that, where appropriate, these programmes are ***set up and implemented in close co-ordination with specialist support services for victims***.



## ISTANBUL CONVENTION

### Article 18 – General obligations

...

2 Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, in accordance with internal law, to ensure that there are appropriate mechanisms to provide for ***effective co-operation between all relevant state agencies, including the judiciary, public prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities as well as non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations and entities***, in protecting and supporting victims and witnesses of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention, including by referring to general and specialist support services as detailed in Articles 20 and 22 of this Convention.

3 Parties shall ensure that measures taken pursuant to this chapter shall:

- be based on a ***gendered understanding*** of violence against women and domestic violence and shall focus on the ***human rights and safety of the victim***;
- be based on an ***integrated approach*** which takes into account ***the relationship between victims, perpetrators, children and their wider social environment***;
- aim at ***avoiding secondary victimization***;
- aim at the ***empowerment and economic independence*** of women victims of violence;
- allow, where appropriate, for ***a range of protection and support services to be located on the same premises***;
- address the ***specific needs of vulnerable persons, including child victims***, and be made available to them.



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Member of

**European Family Justice Centers Alliance**

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