

# Advocating for Advocacy

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# Objectives

- Define Advocacy and Direct Services
- Develop concrete strategies on how to do advocacy work that promotes safety beyond leaving.
- Identify the intersections of oppression that are critical to understand in order to provide culturally relevant advocacy and services.

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# Group Exercise

Through your work you have noticed the difficulties that survivors experience when it comes to economic self sufficiency. Often the barriers are greater than the resources and you are interested in working on this cause.

# Group Exercise

What can you do?



What will you do?

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*When you start with problems...you  
get programs.*

*When you start with strengths...you  
get possibilities.*



Lupe R. Serrano

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# What is Advocacy?

**Advocacy** by an individual or by an advocacy group normally **aims to influence** public-policy and resource allocation decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions; it may be motivated from moral, ethical or faith principles or simply to protect an asset of interest. Advocacy can include many activities that a person or organization undertakes including media campaigns, public speaking, commissioning and publishing research or poll or the 'filing of friend of the court briefs'.

# What is a Public Service?

**Public services** is a term usually used to mean services provided by government to its citizens, either directly (through the public sector) or by financing private provision of services. The term is associated with a social consensus (usually expressed through democratic elections) that certain services should be available to all, regardless of income. Even where public services are neither publicly provided nor publicly financed, for social and political reasons they are usually **subject to regulation going** beyond that applying to most economic sectors. Public services tend to be those considered as so essential to modern life that for moral reasons their universal provision should be guaranteed. They may be associated with fundamental human rights .

# Impact

- Direct Services-fulfill an immediate need for individuals.
- Advocacy-fights the root cause of a societal problem.



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# What Does it Take to Be an Advocate?

- Listen, learn, and respond in relevant ways.
- Keep an open mind-thinking outside of the box.
- Be willing to try new things.
- Believe that others can do what you do.
- Remember that services are pre-determined and true advocacy is not