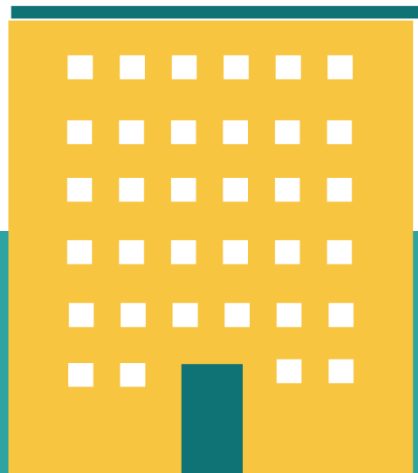


Rural Sexual Violence Response National Conference

Transforming—Ourselves. Our Community. Our Response.



Challenging Group Dynamics

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Scenario 1

You are working with your SART to identify new goals or projects to work on as a team. You bring the question, including a few ideas such as Case File Review, updating the protocol, or conducting a community needs assessment to the group and ask for more ideas. No one responds to your prompt.

Scenario 2

Your SART has identified a goal to increase team membership with more diverse community-based organizations. You suggest the idea of reaching out to a local trans women's support group, and a few team members seem uncomfortable. One team member, in attempt to be supportive, says that would be a good idea because they recently have had a few patients who were "males who identify as women".

Scenario 3

Your SART is talking about how to improve the overall time it takes to receive a forensic exam at the local hospital. Given that you are in a rural area, it can sometime take several hours for survivors to arrive at the hospital and then they wait another 1-2 hours for the forensic nurse to arrive. The nurse, a Latina woman with a slight accent, keeps trying to explain why the process works the way it does and suggest ways to improve it, but the prosecutor keeps interrupting and speaking over her to explain the process.

Scenario 4

Your SART has been around for a decade and has regular membership, however lately the meetings feel like they are just meeting to meet. You are hoping to do a few different projects to reinvigorate the SART and want to focus on learning more about ways to improve the team's response. You suggest doing a community needs assessment to identify any gaps and see how the team can improve their response. The prosecutor on your team says she does not think this would be a good idea and that the team is already very familiar with the community's needs.

Scenario 5

Your team is looking to do some more projects to engage the community and one idea is to do focus groups with survivors to learn about the SART's effectiveness. While everyone seems like they are interested in the idea, the community-based advocate is very against it, which surprises you. They are worried that it will be retraumatizing and not victim-centered for the survivors involved.