



## Point in Time Count: Script and Tip Sheet for Domestic Violence

*Use the following script in the event that the client has suffered from Domestic Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault.*

“Have you been a victim of domestic violence?”

--- If they answer *Yes*, ask the following....

“Are you currently fleeing? “

---- If they answer *No*, provide a Domestic Violence Resource Sheet.

----If they answer *Yes*, ask the following....

“Are you currently safe?”

---- If they answer *Yes*, provide a Domestic Violence Resource Sheet

---- If they answer *No*, choose the best option of the following:

- 1.) If the client is not safe emotionally or due to living conditions, offer to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline.
- 2.) If the client is actively being pursued and domestic violence just occurred, offer to call the police.

### **Tips:**

- Give them a resource sheet with local county resources: include food pantry, free medical/dental clinics if you have one, local hospitals, phone number to apply for food stamps/Medicaid, local law enforcement numbers, location of your county courthouse
- Embed somewhere on the resource page the local 24-hour crisis hotline for the domestic violence shelter serving your county. This can be found at [www.mocadsv.org](http://www.mocadsv.org). If you do not have a domestic violence shelter in your county, put the national domestic violence hotline number.
- Contact your local shelter a few days before the count. Let them know you have a team of volunteers going out for PITC. Inform them that the Unsheltered Count asks individuals if they have been victims of domestic violence. Ask what their procedures are for making referrals if they have transportation to help get someone to shelter, and what services they can or cannot provide. Ask if the shelter has an advocate who can be part of the team in case you come across survivors who need help.
- Call the shelter on the day of the count and check their bed status. Are they full? Do they have openings to accept people? If they are complete, still make the referrals as trained advocates will be able to safety plan over the phone.
- Can your team afford to purchase one or two track phones loaded with 60 minutes to give to survivors who may be fleeing and in need of a telephone for safety? The phone can be used to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline later. If not needed, they can always be donated to a local community organization for re-gifting