

PROVIDING RESEARCH AND EVALUATION SERVICES TO VENTURA COUNTY'S SAFE HARBOR PROGRAM

This project was a continuation of Project No. 161.

Safe Harbor is a multi-disciplinary interview and advocacy center operated by the District Attorney's Office of Ventura County and funded by The California Endowment foundation. Safe Harbor is a coalition of public and private agencies dedicated to serve child victims of sexual and physical abuse and adult victims of sexual assault. The mission of Safe Harbor is to establish and maintain a center that promotes dignity and respect while minimizing trauma and maximizing criminal prosecution.

The strategy of the center is to make a critical time in a victim's life easier by replacing the numerous government offices, interview rooms and police stations with a single, safe and friendly environment. It serves as a meeting place where all county agencies are brought together for the task of helping the victim and family obtain the psychological, medical and legal help when they need it most.

Sociometrics performed data analysis for Safe Harbor to evaluate its accomplishment of specific program objectives and goals. Sociometrics created data tables and wrote selected sections of the Ventura County Safe Harbor Final Report. The final report consisted of a four-year quantitative review of Safe Harbor's Ventura and Simi Valley center's operations from April 2002 to June 2006.

In addition, Sociometrics assisted Safe Harbor staff with the development and analysis of data from satisfaction surveys to be administered to victims and their families and to members of Safe Harbor partner agencies.

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