



**Adult Advocacy
Centers**

Frequently Asked Questions about Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs)

What is a multi-disciplinary team (MDT)?

At the Adult Advocacy Centers, a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) is a specialized group of agencies that work together to review cases, ensure continuity of care for a survivor of crime with disabilities, and work with law enforcement and prosecutors to provide information. MDTs are an essential part of the investigation, trauma-informed services and prosecution of crimes committed against people with disabilities.

What do multi-disciplinary teams do?

MDTs agree and work to assist adult victims of crimes with disabilities through the criminal justice journey. The Adult Advocacy Centers have regional MDTs that come together to serve victims of crime with disabilities. Different agencies will assist victims with different needs. Each agency devotes time and resources to help individuals access local resources and services, such as mental health services, follow-up medical services, advocacy services or support groups.

Why do we use a multi-disciplinary team approach?

The MDT approach is used to ensure that victims are provided comprehensive and trauma-informed services and supports that are needed during their journey of healing.

Who is on the MDT?

- Law enforcement agencies
- Expertly trained forensic interviewers
- Prosecutors
- AACs staff
- Victim advocates
- Disability specific investigative agencies
- Medical professionals
- Mental health professionals/counselors
- The victim
- Non-offending support people/guardian (when applicable)

How can MDTs assist victims and survivors?

MDTs assist victims by putting them in contact with representatives from community agencies that provide services. MDTs are a crucial part of the AACs, all working toward the same goal: serving adult crime victims with disabilities.

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