

# Earlene Burdess

CENTER FOR PREVENTION OF ABUSE

Time at Agency: 12 Years

Position: Medical & Legal Advocate & PAIP  
Facilitator

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Commitment to advocacy on behalf of those affected by DV: *Earlene is a lifelong learner, always seeking new information through trainings, webinars, and written material. Her tenure and experience have established Earlene as an agency-wide resource to those affected by domestic violence as well as to other staff members. Earlene is knowledgeable and compassionate when meeting with survivors in the hospital emergency departments and shelter settings, adept at working with survivors in the Order of Protection offices and masterfully assists survivors through the complex criminal justice process.*

Personal qualities that reflect in their ongoing commitment to ethical, peaceful and respectful work with others: *Earlene is highly dedicated and compassionate, routinely going above and beyond for those she serves. She is always positive and upbeat, willingly stepping in to do any task that is asked of her. Her calm demeanor helps those in crisis to feel comforted and safe. Earlene is also known for her humor and grace which is so helpful to survivors and co-workers alike.*

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Ways in which they instill a spirit of advocacy in others: *Earlene is a true team player who is willing and able to work in any setting needed. She uses her knowledge to model and train newer staff, demonstrating a “never give up” attitude to ensure the safety of those we serve.*

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Experience that demonstrates a broad commitment to social justice: *Earlene recognized the importance and vitality of creating wrap-around services for survivors and their children including establishing support*

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*services with the local Child Advocacy Center, the Miller Center for Senior Services, and the Pekin Housing Authority. In an effort to make a broader impact, Earlene became Partner Abuse Intervention Professionals trained, facilitating groups with individuals who batter, striving to make a difference in the lives of survivors.*

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Creativity in building the domestic violence movement within a social framework: *Earlene's actions to create and maintain relationships with agency leaders truly enabled those survivors to have their needs met during times of crisis. Her education and networking with agency leaders helped pave the way for those agencies to understand the unique needs of domestic violence survivors in their communities.*