

**BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM  
STANDARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of October 2, 2007**

**Open Session**

**Minutes**

**Voting Members Present (9): Shelley Cortese, RI Department of Corrections, Chair; Stephen King, RI Supreme Court/Co-Chair; Deb DeBare, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Honorable Elaine Bucci, RI District Court; Joseph Ben, Justice Assistance; Janice Dubois, Supreme Court Training and Monitoring Unit; Beatriz Perez, Dept. of Health; Judy Galmer, Urban League; Maureen Keough, Attorney General's Office**

**Seats Not Represented (4): Governor's Office; Law Enforcement; RI Justice Commission; BIPs Representative**

**Additional Participants (3): Micheline Lombardi, Probation & Parole; Patricia Markman, Probation & Parole; Sage Bauer, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Kathleen Carty, PhD., Vantage Point; Martina Romero, MAP Behavioral Service; Lionel Fernandez, MAP Behavioral Service; Paula Trice, MAP Behavioral Service; George Sheehan, RIBIP**

**Materials Distributed:**

## **Meeting Agenda:**

**Meeting Minutes: August 6, 2007 and August 22, 2007**

**Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee,  
Revised August 22, 2007**

**Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee, Rules  
of Practice and Procedure, Revised and Approved August 22, 2007**

**Steve King, Co-Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m., noting that the required quorum was present. He then introduced Shelley Cortese as Chair to conduct the meeting.**

## **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes from the meeting of August 6, 2007, were reviewed and adopted.**

**Deb Debare made a motion to adopt the August 6, 2007 minutes. Janice Dubois seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.**

**Minutes from the meeting of August 22, 2007, were reviewed and adopted.**

**Deb Debare made a motion to adopt the August 22, 2007 minutes.**

**Honorable Judge Bucci seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.**

## **Review Subcommittee Report**

### **„X Renewed Comprehensive Certification**

- o Extension needed for Kent House due to expiration date of 10/1/07.**
- o Micheline and Emily observed three groups on 7/30, 8/2/ and 8/6 but were unable to meet with Ed Degnan due to Emily's departure for maternity leave.**
- o Micheline Lombardi will schedule a meeting with Ed Degnan when he gets back into his office on 11/1/07.**

**Steve King made a motion to extend certification to Kent House. Deb Debare seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.**

### **„X Provisional Certification**

- o MAP ready for Provisional Certification. Minor program adjustments will be made along with Subcommittee follow-up prior to the December Oversight Committee.**
- o Lionel Fernandez spoke of revising the fee scale to better accommodate those in the community that are in need. MAP has residential, substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence programs. They receive grants to further help clients in need.**
- o Lionel Fernandez started with Brother to Brother; he facilitates**

**multicultural groups, Spanish and English. MAP will attempt to include Portuguese, Creole and Cambodian.**

**o Martina Romero offered that she has previously worked in the domestic violence field, primarily with offenders, since 1998. She facilitates male, female, Spanish and English groups.**

**o The Subcommittee recommended that the Oversight Committee approve Provisional Certification for MAP at this meeting so that they may begin receiving referrals as the delays in reviewing this program have been on our end due to shortages in staff, leaves and recent transitions. Emily Daniels will complete the remaining follow-up regarding the minor concerns noted at this meeting and submit the full write up for the next scheduled Oversight Committee meeting.**

**o Steve King stated that the Provisional Certification lasts 6 months, while the Program completes the remaining requirements needed to become eligible for Comprehensive Certification. If Provisional Certification is granted at this meeting MAP will receive an official notice. MAP will then need to forward scheduled group times and locations to Shelley so that she may add them to the Certified BIP Programs list.**

**Steve King made a motion to allow provisional certification to MAP. Janice Dubois seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.**

**o Agencies scheduled for upcoming certification renewal:**

**„X We just received the Kent Center’s application, therefore, an extension may be needed from the Subcommittee for them.**

## **Rules & Standards Subcommittee Report**

**„X Steve King spoke of need to have a Public Hearing, however, this would only be for clarification and not a „question & answer“ session.**

**o He asked for ideas regarding what date, time and place we should have this Public Hearing from the quorum.**

**„X Kathleen Carty suggested Arnold Conference Center, which was agreed upon. The group also agreed on evening being better than day time. Date of the meeting remains to be seen as it must be coordinated with the Arnold Center as well as the requirements of posting for a Public Hearing. This hearing could possibly be held in the first part of November.**

## **Ad Hoc Legislative Subcommittee**

**„X Shelley Cortese spoke with Ken Finley for an update on the RFP to provide Batterers Intervention services to offenders at the ACI. To date, the RFP is not listed on the purchasing website.**

**„X The current RFP ran out, however, the current vendor has been**

**extended in order to avoid a gap in services.**

## **Member Issues/Announcements**

**„X Kathleen Carty has finished an analysis of defendants and will be presenting the findings in Canada. She offered to give a presentation of the findings to the Committee at any time.**

**„X George Sheehan informed the Committee of a volunteer study being performed by Brown University and Butler PAs in which they provide a monetary incentive to defendants interested in participating in this study. The participants will be told of the study at their intake meeting with RIBIP to see if they are interested in participating. All who participate in the study will be given \$75 for their first meeting with the PAs; \$50 for the second visit; and \$100 at the final visit. These monies can be used to offset the cost of the DV program, but they are not restricted to use those monies for that purpose only. The idea is that this will give the defendant;s incentive to continue with their DV counseling while offering them help in paying for the required counseling.**

## **Upcoming Meetings**

### **Review Subcommittee:**

**„X TBA/ Awaiting receipt of an application for renewal**

### **Rules + Standards Subcommittee:**

**„X TBA/ Next month**

**DV Critical Case Review Team:**

**„X November 20th at 2:00 p.m. at the Coalition Against Domestic Violence.**

**Oversight Committee:**

**„X Monday, December 3, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at Bernadette Bldg. 1st Floor Conference Room.**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Judge Bucci made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shelley Cortese seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Trisha Markman**

**Community Corrections**

## **Attachment: Special Issues (Proposed Standards)**