

**BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of October 1, 2012**

**Open session**

**Minutes Draft**

**Voting Members Present (5): Shelley Cortese, RI Department of Corrections/Chair; Zulma Garcia, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Elaine Dorazio, Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit; Anthony Ward-Smith, Justice Assistance; Mary Osborne, BIP Representative.**

**Seats Not Represented (8): RI District Court; Office of the Attorney General; RI Department of Health; Urban League; Governor's Office; RI Justice Commission; RI Police Chiefs Association; RI Supreme Court.**

**Additional Participants (6): Anita Corley, EBCC; Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Karen Lubo, Probation & Parole Supervisor; Bryan Riley, FVI; George Sheehan, RI-BIP; Ingrid Siliezar, Probation & Parole.**

**Materials Distributed:**

**Meeting Agenda: October 1, 2012**

**Meeting Minutes: August 6, 2012**

## **Summary Comprehensive Re-Certification: Family Violence Intervention**

### **Materials Made Available:**

**Family Violence Intervention Application for Renewed Comprehensive Certification\***

**\*for review only; in accordance with the Rules of Practice & Procedures**

**Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm.**

### **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes from the meeting of August 6, 2012 were reviewed.**

**Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to adopt the August 6, 2012 minutes. Elaine Dorazio seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.**

### **Review Subcommittee Report**

**Shelley reported that the review process for FVI's Renewed**

**Comprehensive Certification is complete; a copy of the summary was distributed. Emily reported on the FVI summary. Emily went over the main points of the summary including the facilitator qualification training submissions. Emily met with Bryan on 9/24/2012 and Bryan explained in detail how the trainings fulfilled the requirements set by the Standards. Emily reported that on 9/25/2012 the Review Subcommittee met and approved training submissions from FVI. The Review Subcommittee is asking for a vote granting FVI Renewed Comprehensive Certification.**

**Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to grant Renewed Comprehensive Certification to Family Violence Intervention. Elaine Dorazio seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.**

**Emily reported that the Review Subcommittee would like to meet with a representative from each Program to discuss new facilitator qualification forms, training topics and the requirements outlined in the Standards. Mary and Bryan noted trainings submitted had not been credited to fulfill requirements. Shelley stated that because there is ongoing new information, approaches and research in the field many topics would qualify toward the required hours. Emily**

**stated what was important is not only the description of the training but the facilitator explaining how information gained in the training influences and is implemented into their work with batterer's intervention groups.**

## **Member Issues/Announcements**

### **Justice Assistance**

**Anthony Ward-Smith of Justice Assistance (JA) discussed the agency's data regarding the number of domestic violence cases arraigned in the District Courts and the percentage of dismissals, which JA estimates to be between 58-65%. Anthony stated Jonathon Houston, director of Justice Assistance, has met with the Police Chiefs Association regarding the percentage of dismissals. Elaine stated she has spoken with the Attorney General's Office regarding the possible need for training for town solicitors/prosecutors specifically addressing the prosecution of domestic violence cases. Zulma reported that Deb DeBare has met with Jon Houston of JA and the Coalition is also going to meet with the Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center. The meetings are an effort to coordinate more collaboration between advocates, probation and solicitors.**

### **Batterer Intervention Programs**

**Emily reported she has not yet received any information from**

**Programs regarding whether or not there is a plan to move forward with a request for a variance of the Standards with regard to group size.**

## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Review Subcommittee:**

**TBD**

**DV Critical Cases Review Team:**

**TBD**

**Oversight Committee:**

**Monday December 3, 2012 at 2:00pm in Dix Building 2nd Floor Conference Room, 18 Wilma Schesler Lane, Cranston, RI 02920.**

## **Meeting Adjourned**

**Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Mary Osborne seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed;**

**no abstentions. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole Officer**

**Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee**