

# **BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of February 4, 2013**

**Open session**

**Minutes Draft**

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

**Seats Not Represented (8): RI District Court; Office of the Attorney General; 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; Rachel Orsinger, RI coalition Against Domestic Violence.**

**Materials Distributed:**

**Meeting Agenda: February 4, 2013**

**Meeting Minutes: October 1, 2012**

**Meeting Dates 2013**

**Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:20 pm.**

### **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes from the meeting of October 1, 2012 were reviewed.**

**Deb DeBare made a motion to adopt the October 1, 2012 minutes. Mary Osborne seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.**

### **Review Subcommittee Report**

**Shelley reported that the Review Subcommittee is asking for a vote to extend the Certification for Tri-Hab. Emily stated the application package for Tri-Hab had not been sent out due to the Review Subcommittee updating and approving new Facilitator Qualification Forms. The forms are now complete and the application for Renewed Comprehensive Certification can be sent. In accordance with the rules of Practice & Procedure the program has three months to submit their application and the Review Subcommittee then has three months to review the material submitted and perform group observations and an on site file audit.**

**Deb DeBare made a motion to extend Comprehensive Certification to Tri-Hab until the August 5, 2013 meeting of the Oversight Committee. Elaine Dorazio seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.**

**Emily reported that the Review Subcommittee had met prior to this meeting with Mary Osborne of Bridgemark, George Sheehan of RI-BIP, and Marc Moraeu of FVI to discuss new facilitator qualification forms, training topics and the requirements outlined in the Standards.**

**Mary reported that the meeting went well. She stated she likes the updated forms. Mary stated the consensus of the Programs is that there is a lack of trainings in the area that are suitable for seasoned facilitators. Mary also stated that Program representatives had expressed frustration at committing time and resources to attend trainings to only have the hours turned down by the Review Subcommittee at the time of Re-Certification.**

**It was decided that Programs can submit training description/agendas to the Review Subcommittee for approval of continuing education hours prior to committing time and money to attend. Also, discussed was the possibility of the Programs collaborating on bringing in outside agencies/presenters to provide trainings if there is enough interest from the facilitators from all Programs; the Coalition has offered to provide space for these trainings. The Coalition also offered the resource of their training coordinator to assist in forming trainings covering topics submitted by Programs.**

## **Member Issues/Announcements**

### **Justice Assistance**

**Anthony Ward-Smith of Justice Assistance (JA) stated that JA continues to collect data regarding dismissals and to date there has been no change in the percentage of dismissals. Deb DeBare reported that when more data has been collected the Coalition is going to look at the areas with high percentages of dismissals and high rates of domestic violence arrests. The hope is to use this information to work with the police departments and/or solicitors in these areas to determine the cause of the dismissals and minimize obstacles to prosecution.**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

**Per today's discussion Rachel is going to draft a memo for the Programs detailing the credit hours for ongoing education hours for the RICADV trainings. This memo will be presented to the Review Subcommittee for approval at the next meeting and then forwarded to the Batterer's Intervention Programs.**

**The next Critical Case Review Team meeting is still to be determined.**

**Rachel and Emily have been discussing agencies they will reach out to requesting representatives to serve as members. Emily reported she spoke with Christine Imbriglio, Probation & Parole Supervisor of Kent County; Christine coordinates the South County Sex Offender Critical Case Review and provided very helpful information regarding member agencies and meeting content.**

**Beatriz stated she would be interested in being a member of the Critical Case Review Team and asked if the Team would review fatalities as well as critical cases. Shelley stated that the goal of the Critical Case Review Team was to identify high risk offenders and collaborate with law enforcement and victim service agencies to provide supervision to maximize victim safety.**

**Emily stated with the number of domestic violence fatalities in recent years the Team would be hoping to add discussion of the fatality cases that have been resolved/disposed. Shelley stated the Team could not serve as a formal Fatality Review as there is no legislation with regard to the parameters of confidentiality to create a Fatality Review in Rhode Island.**

**Review Subcommittee:**

**Thursday March 7, 2013 at 9:00am in Dix Building 2nd Floor**

**DV Critical Cases Review Team:**

**TBD**

**Oversight Committee:**

**Monday April 1, 2013 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.**

**Deb DeBare 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**