

**BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Meeting of June 3, 2013

Open session

Minutes Draft

Voting Members Present (5): Shelley Cortese, RI Department of Corrections/Chair; Deb DeBare, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Elaine Bucci, RI District Court; Anthony Ward-Smith, Justice Assistance; Mary Osborne, BIP Representative.

Seats Not Represented (8): Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit ; Office of the Attorney General; Urban League; RI Department of Health; Governor's Office; RI Justice Commission; RI Police Chiefs Association; RI Supreme Court.

Additional Participants (3):Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Dan Dupuis, Probation & Parole; Bryan Riley, FVI.

Materials Distributed:

Meeting Agenda: June 3, 2013

Meeting Minutes: February 4, 2013

Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of February 4, 2013 were reviewed.

Deb DeBare made a motion to adopt the February 4, 2013 minutes. Mary Osborne seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; Judge Bucci abstained. Motion carried.

Review Subcommittee Report

Emily reported the Comprehensive Certification process for Tri-Hab and RI-BIP are underway. The group observations for Tri-Hab are complete and the subcommittee is awaiting the submission of Tri-Hab's Application for Renewed Certification.

RI-BIP's Application for Renewed Certification is being reviewed and group observations are ongoing. The vote for Recertification will be at the August 5, 2013 Oversight Committee meeting.

Member Issues/Announcements

Driving Change Conference:

On April 10 & 11, 2013 in Boston, MA, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center

provided the Driving Change Conference Workshop. This Conference outlined the High Risk Team Model formed by the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center. This model is used to assess and monitor high risk cases of domestic abuse to increase offender monitoring and accountability while providing a safer environment for victims to continue their lives with the least amount of disruption possible. The conference outlined the model, implementation of the model and the best strategies for incorporating higher supervision into a current system.

Representatives from the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, RI Probation and Parole, and RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence member agencies were able to attend with funds provided by RICADV through VOWA grant monies.

DV High Risk/Critical Case Team:

A planning meeting for the High Risk/Critical Case Team took place on May 29th. Attendees were Daniel Ormond from Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center, Law Enforcement Advocate for Johnston & Cranston Police Departments. Stefanie Ragosta, Kim Ahern and Sara Tindall-Woodman from RI Attorney General's Office. Rachel Orsinger from the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Francine Bolarinho from Day One, Crime Victim Advocate/ VINE Program Manager for the RI Department of Corrections. Shelley Cortese, Karen Lubo, Sarah Parrillo, Paula Turcotte and Emily Daniels from Probation & Parole. Emily reported discussion at the planning meeting included current

high risk review meetings within the Department of Probation & Parole, the value and considerations in choosing and using an assessment tool to determine risk, and choosing a jurisdiction in which to start the process.

Family Care Community Partnership (FCCP):

FCCP is a community partnership that works with DCYF in cases where there has been an indication of need but there is not legal involvement. FCCP works with the families to assist in correcting family issues to avoid legal DCYF status. FCCP works with numerous family cases in which domestic violence is indicated. Due to the philosophy of service provided by FCCP they have found challenges in working with families where domestic violence is present. To help in navigating these issues FCCP formed a Domestic Violence Workgroup. As representatives of the Oversight Committee, Shelley and Emily were invited to join the workgroup. The work group was a total of five sessions from March to May of 2013. Though no concrete initiatives were put in place a better understanding of the roles of each agency and resources available were shared.

Case Dismissals:

Anthony reports that the percentages remain the same. Deb DeBare and Jon Houston have met and discussed continuing data gathering. Rhode Island dismissal rates are significantly higher than comparable

cities. Continuing to collect data will hopefully shed light on the differences between the rates in RI and those cities with lower dismissal rates.

On Friday, June 7, 2013, the Attorney General's Office is providing a training for city solicitors and prosecutors. The training will be a half day session held in the morning and afternoon to enable those with morning court schedules to attend.

Upcoming Meetings

Review Subcommittee:

**Tuesday June 18, 2013 at 9:00am in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.
(rescheduled for 7/17/2013)**

DV High Risk/Critical Case Team:

Wednesday July 17, 2013 at 3:00pm in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.

Oversight Committee:

**August 5, 2013 at 2:00pm in Dix Building, 18 Wilma Schesler Lane,
Cranston, RI 02920.**

Meeting Adjourned

Deb DeBare made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole Officer

Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee