

# **BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of August 1, 2016**

**Open session**

**Minutes Draft**

**Voting Members Present (7): Shelley Cortese, RI Department of Corrections/Chair; Ian Colomer, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Veronica Hobbs, Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit; Anthony Ward-Smith, Justice Assistance; Judge Elaine Bucci, RI District Court; Jamie Oullette Morse, Governor's Office; Mary Osborne, Batterer's Intervention Program Representative.**

**Seats Not Represented (6): RI Department of Health; Office of the Attorney General; Urban League; RI Justice Commission; RI Police Chiefs Association; RI Supreme Court.**

**Additional Participants (4): Karen Lubo, Supervisor Probation & Parole; Debra Parente, RI Batterer's Intervention Program; Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Brendan Horan, Justice Assistance; Dan Dupuis, Probation & Parole; Kadeija Mendes, Probation & Parole intern.**

**Materials Distributed:**

**Meeting Agenda: August 1, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2016**

**Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.**

**Introductions: Jamie Oullette Morse introduced herself to the Committee. She has been appointed by the Governor's Office to serve on the Batterer's Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee. Jamie stated she does not work in the Governor's Office, she was selected based on her work with Governor's Office on domestic violence initiatives.**

### **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes from the meeting of February 1, 2016 were reviewed.**

**Mary Osborne made a motion to adopt the February 1, 2016 minutes. Judge Bucci seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.**

### **Justice Reinvestment Project**

**Shelley reported that although two-thirds of the recommendations by the Justice Reinvestment Project did pass the portion of the bill that earmarked money for use of evidence informed practices in batterer's intervention programs was not approved. Ian stated that money for domestic violence prevention in particular addressing the issues of "children who witness" was passed. Dan stated that Massachusetts provides money to batterer's intervention programs through their Department of Health because the legislation declared it a public health issue.**

**Mary asked how the process of obtaining any monies for evidence informed practice would be distributed and obtained. Shelley stated that once the money is approved the Oversight Committee would be given responsibility of conducting an RFP process.**

### **Review Subcommittee**

**Emily stated that the process for RI-BIP Renewed Comprehensive Certification is completed and the Review Subcommittee is recommending a vote to grant Renewed Comprehensive Certification to RI-BIP. Meeting attendees reviewed the Comprehensive Certification Summary. Judge Bucci asked group observers how they felt the group check-ins were run. Dan stated he felt the check-in was well run, that the facilitator elicited more detail and information from members than Dan had observed in other program reviews. Veronica stated she felt that the facilitator ran a group that**

encouraged members to challenge one another during check-in and throughout the group session.

Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to grant Renewed Comprehensive Certification to RI-BIP. Ian Colomer seconded the motion. Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.

Emily stated that the process for Tri-Hab Renewed Comprehensive Certification is in progress. Group observations and document audit are completed. The Review Subcommittee is waiting for the curriculum and facilitator qualification forms from Tri-Hab. Emily stated Tri-Hab recently had to move offices and director Jeff Weisinger has been delayed in submitting paperwork. The Review Subcommittee is requesting a vote to extend Comprehensive Certification to Tri-Hab until the October Meeting.

Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to extend Comprehensive Certification to Tri-Hab until the October meeting. Ian Colomer seconded the motion. Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.

Emily stated that the process for Bridgemark Renewed Comprehensive Certification is in progress. The curriculum and facilitator qualification forms have been submitted. Emily stated the group observations and document audit still need to be performed. These had been delayed due to Emily's medical leave in the Spring and then by Review Subcommittee member vacations during the

**Summer. The Review Subcommittee is requesting a vote to extend Comprehensive Certification to Bridgemark until the October Meeting.**

**Anthony Ward-Smith made a motion to extend Comprehensive Certification to Bridgemark until the October meeting. Judge Bucci seconded the motion. Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.**

### **Member Issues/Announcements**

**Emily announced that this will be Anthony's last meeting as the representative for Justice Assistance. Anthony stated he will be working for the Department of Labor & Training. Anthony introduced Brendan Horan as the appointee for Justice Assistance.**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

#### **Review Subcommittee:**

**Tuesday September 20, 2016 3pm in the Dix Building in Cranston, RI.**

#### **Rules & Standards Subcommittee:**

**TBD**

**DV High Risk/Critical Case Team:**

**Wednesday August 3, 2016 at 3:00pm in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.**

**Oversight Committee:**

**Monday October 3, 2016 at 2:00pm in Dix Building, 18 Wilma Schesler Lane, Cranston, RI 02920. (post meeting the October meeting was rescheduled to 10/17/2016)**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Antony 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 2:45 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole Officer**

**Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee**