

Batterers INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Meeting of October 2, 2017

Open session

Minutes Draft

Voting Members Present (7): Shelley Cortese, RI Department of Corrections/Chair; Deb DeBare, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Veronica Hobbs, Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit; Brendan Horan, Justice Assistance; Jolayemi Ilori, RI Department of Health; Mary Osborne, Batterer's Intervention Program Representative; Elaine Bucci, RI District Court.

Seats Not Represented (6): Governor's Office; 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; Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Jessica Austin, EBCC; Ian Colomer, RICADV.

Materials Distributed:

Meeting Agenda: October 2, 2017

Meeting Minutes: June 5, 2017, 2016

Revisions to Sections 5 & 6 of the Comprehensive Standards

Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of June 5, 2017 were reviewed.

Deb DeBare made a motion to adopt the June 5, 2017 minutes. Judge Bucci seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Legislative Updates

Disarming Dangerous Abusers: S0405 (Metts)/ H5510 (Tanzi)

Deb stated the law has been passed. The law requires those who are served with a temporary restraining order (TRO) or a conviction of misdemeanor under RIGL 12-29.5 must relinquish their firearms. The person required to relinquish their firearms can motion to have a hearing to have their firearms returned. Judge Bucci stated that there is no mention in the law of how a hearing to restore firearms would be

conducted. That the law does not mention if an attorney would be provided on behalf of the state, city or town. Also, there is no mention of how police departments are to seize or store the firearms. Deb stated that all involved; judiciary, police departments, and agencies will need to discuss protocols for seizure of, storage for, hearings to return and penalty for failing to relinquish firearms.

Justice Reinvestment: H5065-Batterers Intervention Programs and Probation Supervision

Shelley stated that the law had passed. She explained that this means there will be money for batterers intervention programs that propose implementing evidence informed programming. The money will be handled by the Public Safety Grant Administration Office with the Oversight Committee making recommendations to the Grant Committee. Mary Osborne stated she would recuse herself from becoming involved with any subcommittee formed or vote involving the recommendations of disbursement of money to BIP because of her role as Director of Bridgemark. Judge Bucci stated she too would recuse herself from any subcommittee or vote involving the disbursement of monies to BIP.

Review Subcommittee

Emily stated that Casey Taft has submitted a letter on behalf of

Strength at Home for civilians requesting an extension on Provisional Certification. The program's Provisional Certification was due to expire at the August Oversight Committee Meeting but due to that meeting being cancelled the certification was extended until today. The program is asking for an extension based on the fact that groups have not been able to start because the program is still in the process of gaining final regulatory approvals.

Jolyami Ilori made a motion to grant an extension on Provisional Certification to Strength at Home. Deb DeBare seconded the motion. Mary Osborne abstained. Motion carried.

Rules & Standards Subcommittee

Shelley stated that the subcommittee has begun working on the Comprehensive Standards and the proposed changes to sections 1,2,3,5 & 6 are ready for review. Shelley asked if the Committee members wanted to review all sections and have a vote to accept changes once the entire document has been reviewed or if the members prefer to vote on each section as it is reviewed. The consensus was to vote on each section as it is reviewed. Emily stated that sections 1 & 2 would be removed in their entirety and placed in a guidance document for programs.

Deb DeBare made a motion to accept the removal of sections 1 & 2

from the Comprehensive Standards and add to a guidance document. Jolyami Ilori seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ian Colomer stated that he and John Wesley worked on sections 3 & 5. Ian stated section 3 would now be section 1.

Deb DeBare made a motion to accept the proposed change in section 3. Mary Osborne seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ian Colomer explained the proposed changes to section 5. Discussion among the Committee suggested several modifications to the proposed changes.

Deb DeBare made a motion to accept the proposed changes with modifications in section 5. Jolyami Ilori seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Member Issues/Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

Review Subcommittee:

TBD

Rules & Standards Subcommittee:

November 20, 2017 at 2:00pm in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.

DV High Risk/Critical Case Team:

Wednesday October 18, 2017 at 3:00pm in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.

Oversight Committee:

Monday December 4, 2017 at 2:00pm in Dix Building, 18 Wilma Schesler Lane, Cranston, RI 02920. (This meeting has been changed to November 2, 2017)

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 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole Officer

Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee