

Batterers INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Meeting of February 5, 2018

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; Dan Guglielmo, Office of the Attorney; Brendan Horan, Justice Assistance; Jolayemi Ilori, RI Department of Health; Mary Osborne, Batterer's Intervention Program Representative.

Seats Not Represented (6): Governor's Office; RI District Court; Urban League; RI Justice Commission; RI Police Chiefs Association; RI Supreme Court.

Additional Participants (4): Lisa Blanchette Chamaro, Assistant Probation & Parole Administrator; Casey Taft, Phd., Boston VA Medical Center; Karen Lubo, Supervisor Probation & Parole; Daniel Dupuis, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole/BIPSOC; Jessica Austin, EBBC; John Wesley, RICADV.

Materials Distributed:

Meeting Agenda: February 5, 2018

Meeting Minutes: November 6, 2017

Revisions to Sections 4, 8, 9 of the Comprehensive Standards

2018 Meeting Dates

Strength at Home Civilian Pilot Study Referral Draft

Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of November 6, 2017 were reviewed.

Deb DeBare made a motion to adopt the November 6, 2017 minutes. Jolayemi Ilori seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Review Subcommittee

Shelley stated that Casey Taft Was present to discuss referrals for the pilot program of Strength at Home for Civilians. The program is ready to accept participants and begin groups. A referral draft was

distributed. Members discussed the \$25 fee; would there be confusion as to when the participant could pay the contribution to the victim indemnity fund, how do we assure the payment is not applied to court fines/fees. A suggestion to make the donation to the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence was made. This would enable participants to pay the fee directly to the agency without bringing the matter back to court. The proof of payment would need to be provided to the referring probation officer prior to enrollment in the study. Mary raised concern that the participants are being paid to attend the group. Casey clarified that they only receive incentives upon completion of follow up assessments for the purpose of research not for participation in the group. Dan asked how probation officers would be certain participants complete the assessments. Casey stated that follow up dates are set with the participants when they complete group. Karen asked that letters be sent to referring probation officers notifying them if the participant has failed to complete assessments and therefore failed to complete the program. Dan wondered if wording within the referral stating participants will be asked permission to contact the victim could be in conflict with the Comprehensive Standards that ask programs not to reach out to victims. (Following the meeting wording that asks the participant to give their permission to the study to contact the victim was removed. The referral was changed to notify the participant that the victim will be contacted.)

Dan Guglielmo a motion to accept the referral draft, with changes that

donations are to be made to RICADV and that donation must be made prior to referral. Veronica Hobbs seconded the motion. Mary Osborne and Deb DeBare abstained. No objections. Motion carried.

Rules & Standards Subcommittee

Veronica Hobbs presented the proposed changes to section 4 of the Comprehensive Standards. Consensus was reached that proposed changes be accepted with section 4.5.2 to include that the Oversight Committee can approve programs to contact victims at the request of the program. In addition, section 4.8.1 should be expanded to include all protected classes under RIGL and Federal Law.

Brendan Horan presented the proposed changes to sections 8 and 9. To be included in the changes is the removal of section 8.1.2.3.

Deb DeBare made a motion to accept section 8 & 9 as presented. Jolayemi Ilori seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Member Issues/Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

Review Subcommittee:

TBD

Rules & Standards Subcommittee:

TBD

DV High Risk/Critical Case Team:

Wednesday April 18, 2018 at 3:00pm in Dix Building, Cranston, RI.

Oversight Committee:

Monday June 4, 2018 at 2:00pm in Dix Building, 18 Wilma Schesler Lane, Cranston, RI 02920.

Meeting Adjourned

Veronica Hobbs made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Brendan Horan seconded the motion. All votes in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Daniels, Probation & Parole Officer

Batterers Intervention Program Standards Oversight Committee