

BIPSOC RULES & STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting of February 28th, 2006

MINUTES

Present: (6) Sisan Smallman, Probation & Parole; Sandy McLaughlin, Probation & Parole; Sharon Schwartz-Vanderhoff, Probation & Parole; Kathy Carty, Vantage Point; Laura Jaworski, BIPSOC; Adrienne McGowan, Probation + Parole.

Materials Distributed:

- **Minutes from January 17th, 2006 meeting**
- **Agenda for February 28th, 2006 meeting**
- **Draft of Provisional Certification application**
- **Draft of Comprehensive Certification application**

Sisan called the meeting to order at 2:40p.m. No changes to minutes from the January 17th, 2006 meeting.

Sisan briefly reviewed some of the feedback on the latest draft revisions of the Comprehensive Standards that was obtained during the Oversight Committee meeting held on February 6th, 2006. Attention was specifically called to language related to Section VII.A., Program Responsibilities to Staff related to the recruitment of diverse

staff. Discussion centered on the role of the Oversight Committee to mandate, or even encourage, such practices. Sisan will take members suggestions into consideration for rewording of this provision.

Adrienne questioned the role of the Oversight Committee in regards to the conditions of a group meeting location. Sisan reported that this is beyond the scope of the Oversight Committee as “condition” is subjective; however, the best forum for discussion related to the matter would be at the Review Subcommittee meeting. Sisan also reported that a complaint process in place and could be handled by that Subcommittee.

Sisan asked members to review the Group Format Standards Section of Program Content (V.A.). In the current/original Comprehensive Standards, language was included that stated adults and juveniles are to be enrolled in separate groups at a program. This point had been deleted from the draft revisions of the Standards. The question of whether juveniles would even be enrolled in a batterers intervention program was raised. Group members agreed that unless the juvenile was adjudicated under RIGL§12-29-5, then it is beyond the scope of the Oversight Committee. Group members agreed to leave the language out of the draft revisions of the Comprehensive Standards.

Kathy Carty described a scenario that occurred recently at her program. A participant recently utilized information he obtained from

another group member to contact that member's ex-partner/victim. Kathy requested that language be added to cover confidentiality of information obtained as part of the group process. Sisan will draft a provision to address this issue in the Rules of Conduct for Group Participants (Section VI.F.).

Sisan reported that in the Client Records, Reports and Discharge Section (VI.G.), separate sections will be made related to successful and unsuccessful discharge. Information will be added regarding what exactly is to be included in separate sections of each.

Sisan asked group members to review the drafts of the Provisional and Comprehensive Certification applications. In re-working the applications, changes were made to information in the Rules of Practice and Procedure to more specifically address the certification process, whereas originally this was outlined in the applications. Each application has been condensed tremendously, and feedback is requested at the next Subcommittee meeting. Sisan will send out the revised draft of the Rules of Practice and Procedure for review by group members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

UPCOMING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS:

March 14th, 2006 @ 2:30-4pm

April 11th, 2006 @ 2:30-4pm

May 9th, 2006 @ 2:30-4pm

Sisan Smallman's Office

RIDOC-Cranston

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Minutes Prepared by Laura Jaworski