

# **BIPSOC: AD HOC LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Meeting of February 1st, 2007**

## **MINUTES**

**Present: (9) Maureen Keough, Attorney General's Office/Chair; Laura Jaworski, BIPSOC; Ed Degnan, Kent House; Michael DiLauro, Public Defender's Office; Dr. Kathleen Carty, Vantage Point; Jennifer Fiore, Vantage Point; Sisan Smallman, BIPSOC Chair/Probation & Parole; Micheline Lombardi, Probation & Parole/DVU; Sage Bauer, RICADV.**

### **Materials Distributed:**

- Agenda for February 1st, 2007 meeting.**
- Minutes from December 18th, 2006 meeting.**

**Maureen called the meeting to order at 1:20pm. Subcommittee members reviewed and approved the minutes from the December 18th, 2006 meeting.**

**Maureen updated Subcommittee members on the response generated from the letter she mailed out to Senator Charles Levesque and Representative Joseph Almeida regarding the revised legislative proposal. She received a response from Senator Levesque stating his appreciation for the work of the Subcommittee, and that he will submit the revision as a bill. Maureen has not received a response from Representative Almeida. Mike DiLauro reported that he sent a**

letter to both individuals as well. His observation is there appears to be a delay in the introduction of bills this legislative session; however, he tracks legislation on a daily basis and will volunteer to monitor the introduction/activity around these bills.

Maureen stated that the next step would be to look at the revisions that would be required for the Comprehensive Standards. A good starting point would be to utilize the “Standards Issues” handout that Sisan created in response to general BIPSOC consensus on various topic areas. Sisan stated that in her experience, it has been efficient for a small number of individuals work on the actual writing of the revisions, and then present it to the whole Subcommittee for feedback. Sisan suggested the Subcommittee explore the issues again conceptually for possible additional details to include in the revisions. Sage, Mike, and Laura volunteered to meet separately as a “working group” to develop possible draft revisions. Mike suggested reaching out to the currently certified batterers intervention programs for input related to the issues to be addressed in the revisions. Subcommittee members agreed that a more efficient process would be for the “working group” to first develop a draft which then could be distributed to the programs for feedback within a defined timeframe. Sisan reminded members that the Department of Corrections policy stands independent of the Comprehensive Standards; however, the Standards may allude to issues that are addressed in DOC policy. Kathy suggested that a timeline be given for feedback, particularly in light of the legislative schedule.

**Subcommittee members agreed that the “working group” meet in the next week to develop a draft (February 8th). This draft will be then sent out to the BIPs for feedback, with final revisions ready for Subcommittee review by the beginning of March.**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.**

**UPCOMING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:**

**Thursday, March 8th, 2007 at 1pm**

**RI Department of Corrections**

**15 Fleming Road**

**Bernadette Building-First Floor**

**Cranston, RI 02920**

**Minutes Prepared by Laura Jaworski**