

**STATE OF NEVADA COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
(BATTERER'S TREATMENT CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE)**

TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 10:30a.m.

Public Access: **Via Teleconference**
Office of the Attorney General
5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202
Reno, NV 89511

Please Note: The Committee on Domestic Violence may 1) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Committee or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; 2) combine items for consideration by the public body; and 3) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Committee may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.030)

Public comment is welcomed by the Committee, but at the discretion of the chair, may be limited to five minutes per person. A public comment time will be available before any action items are heard by the public body and then once again prior to adjournment of the meeting. The Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Once all items on the agenda are completed the meeting will adjourn. Prior to the commencement and conclusions of a contested case or a quasi judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual the board may refuse to consider public comment.

***Asterisks (*) denote items on which the Committee may take action.
Action by the Committee on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or
table.***

1. Call to order, roll call of members, establish quorum.

Members Present
Sue Meuschke
Traci Dory
Tim Hamilton

Members Absent

Attorney General's Office
Jennifer Kandt
Kareen Prentice
Henna Rasul

2. Public comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

3. *Review, amend, and approve minutes of meetings.

a) August 30, 2011

Motion: Tim moved to approve. 2nd: Sue

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

4. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding preferred topics for formal training.

Tim presented a sample breakdown of formal training hours which maintained 30 victim related hours and 30 perpetrator related hours. Tim stated that he was not involved in the initial decision to equally split the hours between victim and perpetrator topics, but that he felt the equal split made sense.

Sue stated that she felt many topics crossed over into both categories, and that some were neither victim nor perpetrator, but were process issues. She said that group facilitation, and ethics and collusion would pertain to running groups and that there should also be DV101 with power and control, tactics, victim safety. Sue stated that she wasn't sure why substance abuse and domestic violence would only be under batterer issues. She said that she wasn't sure that categorizing training hours as batterer or victim was the best method. She also stated that she felt that a section on intake, assessment, and confidentiality needed to be included.

Tim stated that he felt that intake, assessment, and confidentiality was too basic and that anyone with licensure wouldn't need more training on those topics.

There was further discussion regarding some of the issues that come up during waiver of licensure interviews and how most applicants struggle with the questions regarding confidentiality.

Sue stated that she would like to make further changes to the breakdown that Tim drafted.

There was discussion on the possibility of adding a section on Nevada laws surrounding domestic violence.

5. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding observation hour requirements.

Sue stated that there was a request to reduce the observation hour requirements for people already in the field of counseling, as there were some who felt 60 hours was too onerous.

Traci stated that she felt the 60 hour requirement was fine as it was.

Tim stated that he agreed and even thought that 60 hours might not be enough.

Jennifer said she thought that part of this request came from rural areas who question how to get the 60 observation hours when there may not be a program in their area, or they may not be welcome to observe at another agency.

There was discussion regarding the ability for those programs to get the observation hours via distance media. There was also discussion regarding the similarity of sexual abuse and batterer groups. There was also discussion that observing drug and alcohol groups would not be a good option as the power dynamics are different.

6. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding bringing domestic violence training to the State of Nevada. This item may include proposed budget from Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman. This item will also include discussion on legal issues surrounding selecting and requiring training.

Jennifer stated that at the previous meeting Kareen had indicated that there was \$1900 available to conduct a training, but that it would be better to wait until training topics were in place before releasing an RFP.

There were questions on who would select the training program, and how the process would work. Henna stated that a solicitation would need to be done and proposals would need to be reviewed.

There was further discussion regarding the possibility of having an on-line training, and whether that would be a viable option for Nevada. There was discussion that further research would need to be done on various options. Kareen stated that an on-line POST training had been developed with a company in Idaho for a cost of \$20,000.

Jennifer stated that she had also previously talked with Daniel Sonkin about the possibility of developing an on-line training for Nevada and that he had indicated that if we did not need significant changes, that he could make the changes and offer the course to Nevada residents. Or, we could contract with him to develop a course that we would own and maintain.

There was general consensus that the training topics needed to be finalized prior to moving forward with this item.

7. Update from the Rural Issues subcommittee.

Kareen stated that John McCormick attended the meeting and would be working on information on the number of cases and convictions. She also stated that Traci Dory had reported that there were no options for batterers treatment within DOC. Kareen also reported that Walt Dimitroff had attended the meeting and reported that he submitted an application for a program in Pahrump, and that he

was closing the program in Fallon as he had gone from an average of 20 clients to average of 4 clients.

Jennifer stated that Walt had stated that if victims were unwilling to testify, then prosecutors were not moving forward with the cases.

Tim stated that was a problem in Las Vegas as well.

Sue requested that this issue be brought to the attention of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the Prevention Council.

8. Discussion regarding future agenda items and future meeting dates.

There was general consensus that the subcommittee continue to look at preferred topics, and continue discussion on training observation, but that no further discussion was needed on observation hour requirements at this time. Next meeting was set for January 26th at 10:30a.m.

9. Public comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

10. Adjournment