


Thank you for joining us today!

Organizing and Developing a Batterers Intervention Program

February 21, 2017
2-3:30pm Central Time

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The materials are available on our website: <http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-organizing-developing-batterers-intervention-program.html>

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Organizing and Developing Batterers Intervention Programs

Melissa Scaia, MPA

Domestic Violence Turning Points
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Experience working in a BIP

- ▶ CCR Coordinator in St. Louis and Itasca Counties
- ▶ Co-facilitated BIP groups off and on for 17 years
- ▶ Co-facilitated groups for women who use violence
- ▶ Co-Author on "Addressing Fatherhood with Men Who Batter"
- ▶ Co-Author of "Turning Points: A Non-Violent Curriculum for Women"
- ▶ Former executive director of "the Duluth Model" - Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs

Shared Understanding of Three Types of Domestic Violence

- 1) Battering
- 2) Resistive
- 3) Non-Battering

Battering

An ongoing patterned use of intimidation, coercion, and violence as well as other tactics of control to establish and maintain a relationship of dominance over an intimate partner.

Battering is a systematic way utilizing various tactics to restrict an intimate partner's autonomy. It is much more than a simple attack.

Resistive violence

Includes both legal and illegal use of force in response to their abuser's coercive and controlling tactics or in reaction to other men's violence against them as women.

Non-Battering

- ▶ No pattern or on-going tactics in action or behavior
- ▶ No on-going FEAR
- ▶ Can be "situational"
- ▶ Anomie
- ▶ Chemical dependency ONLY
- ▶ Mental illness ONLY

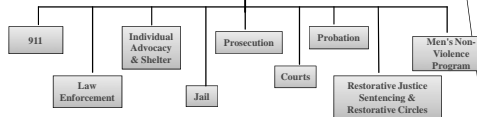
Coordinated Community Response (CCR)

- ▶ A CCR is an interagency and coordinated response to addressing domestic violence.
- ▶ Batterers Intervention Programs (BIPs) need to organize and develop institutional practices and procedures that centralize victim safety and offender accountability in domestic assault cases.

BIP: Social Service or Social Change organization?

- ▶ BIPs either approach domestic violence as a social problem or as a problem with an individual
- ▶ Social change organizations include those subject to the oppression in the organizing to change the conditions under which they live.

Coordinated Community Response (CCR) in a Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence



Batterer's Intervention Programs are one essential component to addressing domestic violence in a social change model

Essential components of organizing a Batterer's Intervention Program:

- ▶ The lived experience of victims of battering is centralized and the foundation of the frame work for the work conducted.
- ▶ The BIP must be linked to the work of the preceding and next agency processing the case.
- ▶ The focus is never on the individual worker in a BIP program. The focus is on the policies, protocols and practices that inform the staff of the BIP

BIP as Part of a CCR

- ▶ In what ways is your BIP not well connected to a coordinated community response?
- ▶ What ways is it well connected?
- ▶ What needs to be done to improve the interagency response to men who batter in your community?

Developing a Batterer's Intervention Program

BIP Guiding Principles and Purpose:

- ▶ is to increase the safety of women and children
- ▶ develop a process that deconstructs men's historical and socially constructed entitlement to be violent to women in the culture and community in which they live
- ▶ Create an ongoing, formal relationship with advocates

BIP Guiding Principles and Purpose

- ▶ Dialogue in facilitation is central to creating an educational process of change for men who batter
- ▶ Be responsive to the advocacy and safety needs of the women whose partners are in the program
- ▶ Co-facilitation by a man AND woman
- ▶ Integrated part of a community CCR

Who is in the room?

- ▶ Who are the facilitators?
- ▶ Who are the men in the room?
- ▶ What are disconnects between these two groups of people?
- ▶ What do we mean by a culturally responsible BIP?
- ▶ A few examples:
 - ▶ Hawaii Men's Program
 - ▶ Christian Men's Program
 - ▶ Fatherhood Programs

ACCOUNTABILITY as part of a BIP

- ▶ Facilitating a class / group in a way that allows for men to critically examine the beliefs that inform the men's violence, how they've been socially constructed to batter and nonviolent alternatives
- ▶ Developing and organizing a BIP that facilitates personal accountability as opposed to "oppressive" and "non-changing" accountability
 - ▶ MAKING men deconstruct the violent episode that got them there
 - ▶ COERCING men to talk about their use of violence
 - ▶ All in an effort for us to be able to say "He took accountability for his violence."

What Collusion Looks Like

- Facilitators who co-present as opposed to co-facilitate
- Facilitators as the cause of the resistance with the men
- Not addressing sexist and offensive clothing, jokes, and judgments about women
- Thinking of violence as a conflict and relationship problem
- Thinking of every type of domestic violence as battering
- Not committing ourselves to addressing our own entitlement we have and doing our own personal work

Questions / Comments

Resources

Battered Women's Justice Project
www.bwjp.org

Global Rights for Women
www.globalrightsforwomen.org

Domestic Violence Turning Points
www.dvturningpoints.com

Praxis International
www.praxisinternational.org

Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs
www.theduluthmodel.org
