



Batterer Intervention Program Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2021; 9:00 am to 11:30 am
Remote video meeting

In Attendance:

Amy Benedum, Vivien Bliss, Susana Escobedo, Nathaline Frener, Aaron Hartman, Chris Huffine, Maureen Lowell, Eric Mankowski, Shannon Sivell

Guests: Trista Davis, Victoria Easter, Vanessa Timmons

Absent: Steve Berger, Don Chapin, Melissa Erlbaum

Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Welcome/Opening

Eric welcomed the group and declared a quorum present. The group introduced themselves.

Susana Escobedo joined the Advisory Committee (AC) for her first meeting as a member. Formerly of Marion County Victim Assistance Program, where she worked as Director, Susana now works for Crime Victim and Survivor Services and serves the AC as an expert in the advocacy field with particular emphasis on racial equity.

Guests for the meeting included Trista Davis and Victoria Easter, of Solutions Domestic Violence Intervention Program, and Vanessa Timmons, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Executive Director. Vanessa also serves on the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Board of Directors. She visited the meeting to become familiar the work of the Oregon Batterer Intervention Program Advisory Committee.

Minutes Approval – The AC approved the minutes of the October meeting, with one edit. When corrected, the document will be posted to the Department of Justice (DOJ) website.

Solutions Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) Presentation – Trista Davis, Victoria Easter, Vivien Bliss – “Women Who Use Force”

Vivien and her staff, Trista and Victoria have many years of experience conducting domestic violence intervention classes with women who use force, as part of the professional service of Solutions DVIP. They presented information about how their program best accommodates the demographic of women who use force. It is based on years of experience and many layers of research, begun in the 1980’s and continuing currently. Theirs was one of the first Violence Intervention Program designed for women in the nation. They answered questions from the group following the presentation.

Group Updates

- Shannon received an inquiry for potential membership on the AC, referred by the Governor’s Office. The group decided a request for a resume would be the most appropriate place to start.
- Chris will present at a national Batterer Intervention Program (BIP) Conference in New Mexico in late June. An emphasis of the trainings will be placed on what has been problematic and helpful during the COVID lockdown time and how to proceed moving forward.
- During COVID restrictions, many BIPs have not had adequate space for groups to meet in person. There is some variation of when resuming in-person meetings will occur.



- Shannon received an email about a pilot program developing in Lane County for a Demonstration Project. It's called "Strength at Home." Eric asked the AC to familiarize themselves with it in preparation for discussion at the July meeting.

ACTION STEPS:

- Trista will forward the Power Point to Sherree to be distributed to the group.
- Shannon will reach out to request a resume from the potential AC member. She will suggest they reach out to Chris Huffine for more information.
- Eric will send out the Strength at Home information for review prior to the July meeting.

Upcoming meeting topics

- Report from New Mexico Conference – Chris Huffine
- Strength at Home Demonstration Project (if submitted)
- AC Membership
- COVID updates
- Subcommittee updates

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Remaining Scheduled 2021 Meetings:

- *Friday, July 23, 9:00-11:30*
- *Friday, October 22, 9:00-11:30*